



COPPER NAIL

The Journal of the Finger Lakes Boating Museum

Cheers to 10 Years!

2014-2024



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For this special edition of The Copper Nail, Board President Allyn Hetzke and Executive Director Kara Calder enthusiastically yield space for the reprint of an exceptional President's Message from June 2014.

From the President

Ed Wightman



On February 28, 2014, the Museum took ownership of the 14-acre parcel that was formerly the Taylor Wine Co. Since January 4, volunteers have been hard at work to prepare the main building for re-use as a museum. The heavy lifting is pretty much complete and we will soon start filling the rooms with exhibits in preparation for going public.

The Museum is opening its doors, first to the Membership and then to the general public on Saturday, June 21. This is exactly sixteen years and six months after receiving the Museum's charter from the NYS Department of Education. Museum members and invited guests will be honored at the Saturday morning opening. It is most appropriate that you, the membership, be the first to experience our new home. You have been incredibly supportive, and many of you for all of these past sixteen and a half years. The officers, trustees and staff are looking forward to the Saturday morning program and having you there to enjoy this historical moment in the Museum's life.

So, at last we have a home, a place where we can teach the craft of boat building and exhibit the rich boating history of these wonderful Finger Lakes. By the time this issue reaches you, we will have already taught four boat building courses. This is a series of courses that teach: documenting a boat (taking-the-lines), drawing the "lines" in full size (lofting), building the mold upon which the boat will be built and lastly, building the 9' Penn Yan Aerodringhy. All of this will be exhibited in the restoration shop for you to enjoy.

On your tour, you will see examples of the Finger Lakes signature boat, the 12' trout boat, the Steven Harvey Collection of model steamboats, choice Penn Yan inboard motor boats, outboards and outboard motors, the Children's Museum, and much more. Part of the 'much more' will be some of the history of the Taylor Winery itself, including a visit to the stone domed cask and tasting rooms that lay behind those beautiful arched oak doors.

See you at the launching,

Ed

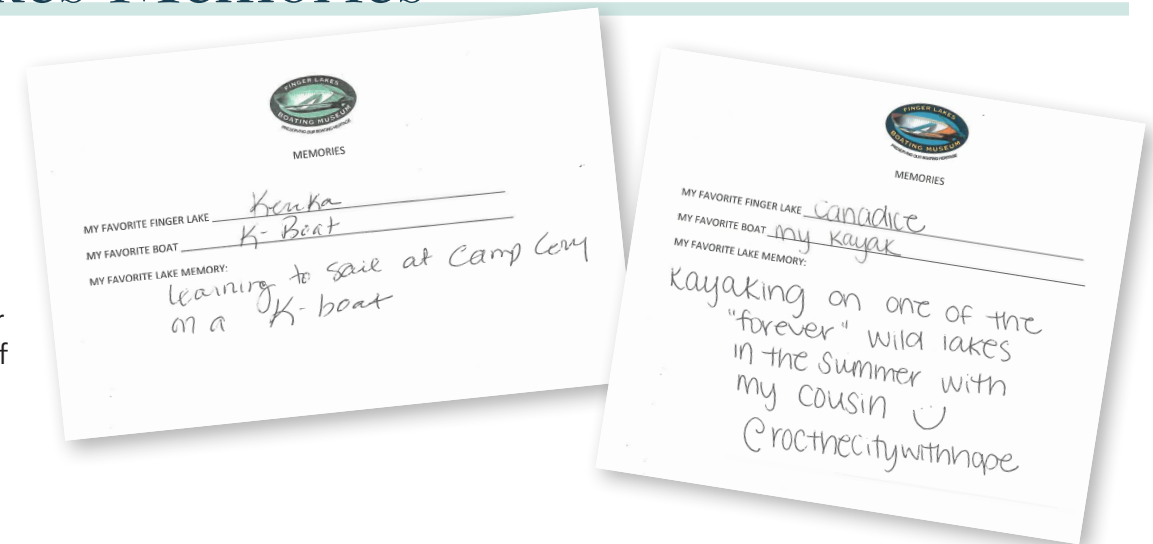


On the Cover: Ten Years in Hammondsport!

On June 21, 2014, Finger Lakes Boating Museum opened to visitors for the first time in our permanent home in Hammondsport, NY. Over the next ten years the organization went from zero to over 100,000 square feet of exhibit, storage, restoration, and education and programming space; an average of over 5,000 visitors annually; over 100 boats and thousands of boating history items on display; over 700 students and adults served in education and Boating Museum Academy programs annually; and the impressive commitment of time and talent of over 100 volunteers.

Finger Lakes Memories

Our Board of Trustees President, Allyn Hetzke, has been a champion of keeping us relevant by engaging visitors to share memories that connect them to our amazing Finger Lakes. Here are just a few of the many we receive.



Cheers and Fair Winds!

On May 18, 2024, over 300 supporters attended our 100th birthday celebration for The Pat II — and surprised Ed Wightman with birthday wishes as well!



All Hands On Deck!

Salute to our Captains and Crew! The Pat II got underway for the season Memorial Day weekend. But for weeks prior, our volunteer Captains and Crew were making ready with training off and on the water and generally getting everything ship shape. We are grateful to 2024 volunteer Captains and Crew: **Brian Eshenaur, Craig Gallagher, Dave Galleher, Murray Hestley, Jim Horner, Peter Hutchings, Dave Rockwell, Doug Vittum, Michael Wawrzyk, David Westcott, Rob Whitcomb, Scott Williams, Ellen White,** and to **Thom Love** and **Ed Wightman** for helping manage the team and our tour program.

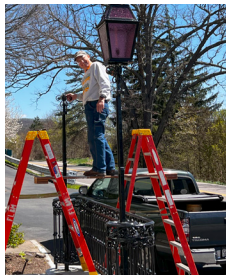


Our Front Desk & Ship's Store volunteers help us put our best face forward seven days a week, all year round! Our volunteers greet visitors, give them an overview of our campus and exhibits, process membership applications and donations, and even encourage guests to buy a keepsake. Three cheers to: **Judy Cranston, Russ Cranston, Paul Danielson, Donna Gallagher, Angela Gonzalez, MaryJo Hanna, Mary Claire Krebbs, Karen Love, Janet Nykiel, Jackie Saunders, Anita Skinner, Carin Tobin, Marion Tunney, Ellen Venema, Ernie Warren, Ellen White,** and **Joyce Witkowski.**



Seeking and keeping “treasure” is a critical role in any non-profit organization. We are grateful for the members of our Resource Development and Finance committees, and especially for the incredible behind-the-scenes accounting skills — and patience and kindness — of **Judy Withers.**

Dynamic Duo of the quarter! Many of our volunteers share their time and talents in pairs. This spring we were excited to welcome **Donna and Craig Gallagher** back from wintering in warmer weather. Within one day of their return, they tackled our spring spruce-up checklist, and Craig, along with **Dave Wescott,** completed the restoration of the stained glass lamps at the entrance to the former Taylor welcome area.



Many, many helping hands continue work on the Taylor Barrel Room, and we will have a full update in the fall. For now, a very special shout-out to **Steuben County Mobile Workforce crew members.** Their hard work and good humor helped us demo the old flooring and closets and remove years of debris from around the massive barrels to make way for a new floor, improved storage, and set the stage for new lighting and interpretive signage that will share Taylor Wine Company history.



Critical Volunteer Needs:

- Visitor Services Volunteers:** greet guests and orient them to their self-guided Museum experience, help them with Ship's Store purchases, and answer the Museum main phone line. Morning and afternoon slots are available, with our greatest need from 1:30 to 5 p.m. Volunteers help us open and close the Museum, assisted when needed by Museum staff. Email Nancy at info@flbm.org
- Volunteer Ambassadors:** distribute flyers, share your enthusiasm for the Museum at community events, help greet and guide large groups of guests at the Museum, and much more. We are seeking to create a roster of about 25 to 30 volunteers from around the region to call upon as needed. Email Kara at executivedirector@flbm.org

New Acquisitions

We continue to welcome unique items with great Finger Lakes boating stories to tell!

In May, we received one of the last vessels manufactured by Penn Yan Boats. It was special-ordered by former Yates County Sheriff Ron Spike for their Marine Patrol unit and served on Keuka, Canandaigua, and Seneca Lakes in the early 2000. Prior to his retirement last fall, Sheriff Spike put the donation to FLBM in motion, knowing that the Museum would support and promote its important connection to boating history in the heart of our Finger Lakes community. Sheriff Frank Ryan completed the donation just in time for us to display the boat with five others from our collection at our celebration for The Pat II on May 18. Steadfast supporters and Museum enthusiasts will recognize that this is one of the Museum's first molded fiberglass boats and the only one manufactured in the 1990s.



A few of our newest items are proof positive that frequent visits to the Museum will be rewarded with new things to discover. In April, we received an extensive collection of Lightning sailboat original artwork and posters. Exhibit volunteer team Beth and Jack Lucek designed a place to showcase this new collection in Wightman Hall in the Museum's main building where a 1939 Lightning (#167 from the first year of production) and Lightning boat mold are already on display.



In early May, we received an antique bellows fog horn, now on display in the Finger Lakes Steamboats exhibit. Foghorns were used during the later half of the 19th century and early 20th century. We will work with steamboat historian Don Quant to better understand the connection to Finger Lakes boating. In the meantime, it is a fun addition to our exhibit.

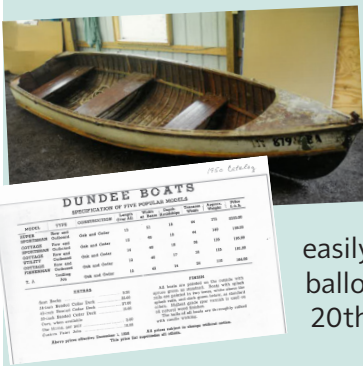


As we look back at the Museum's ten years in Hammondsport, let's go all the way back to the beginning. Finger Lakes Boating Museum was founded in 1997. Here are a few of the very first items in our collection:

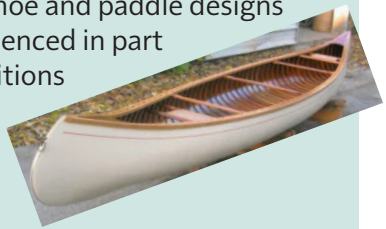
1939 Penn Yan Ro-Mo-Sail, donated in 1997. As the name suggests and the catalog page pictured here confirms, this little boat was an innovative utility boat marketed as a row, motor, and sail boat combo.



Dundee Boats row/outboard motor boat dating to the late 1940s/ early 1950s, donated in 1998. Rowboats and trout boats were the bread and butter of Finger Lakes builders' production and sales, providing affordable and simple access to the water for fishing and fun. Use of these small, easily maneuvered boats ballooned in the early-mid 20th century.



Penn Yan Boats 18' Guide canoe dating to the mid-1940s, donated in 1998. Canoes and their paddles are the oldest form of human made water transport in the world, dating back to the Neolithic Stone Age. In the 19th and 20th centuries, canoe and paddle designs in our region were influenced in part by the history and traditions of Indigenous people of New York State and French Canadian explorers.



Ten Years in Hammondsport

OCTOBER 28, 2013

Finger Lakes Boating Museum announces that the 19-building, 14-acre former Taylor Wine Company campus on Pleasant Valley Road will be donated to the Museum by Mercury Aircraft, Inc. The Museum officially takes ownership on February 28, 2014.

DECEMBER 2013

First grant of \$100,000 from the Meade Foundation, Inc., to develop the newly-acquired site into a successful operation.

JANUARY 4, 2014

Over 60 volunteers begin renovating the main building, contributing thousands of hours over six months to install sheet rock, paint, sand floors, construct bathrooms, and install lighting.

APRIL 26, 2014

First-ever class held at new location — session one of a four-part Penn Yan Aerodginghy® replica boat building class. In celebration of Ten Years in Hammondsport, this workshop is being offered again in 2024 and runs through August.

JUNE 21, 2014

Finger Lakes Boating Museum opens its doors to Members and the public for the first time. On September 13, about 250 people attend the Museum's Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening Celebration.

AUGUST 2014

FLBM adopts The Pat II.

WINTER 2014-2015

In the six months since opening, over 3,000 visitors from 42 states and six countries visit the Museum. In one year, donations include furnaces, gas line pipe, wall board, carpeting, commercial sinks, a septic pump, entrance signs, and flags and a boat-themed front desk complete with navigation lights that greets visitors.

2016

Buildings #5, #42 and Main Building get new roofs; the temporary rental furnace is replaced with new grant-funded heating system; and Taylor Room is remodeled.

JULY 21, 2016

About 150 people attend the first Taylor Wine Company Employee reunion at the Museum.

SEPTEMBER 2016

New exhibit space totaling over 4,000 square feet opens and is dedicated in honor of Ed Wightman.

JUNE 2017

Wightman Hall Mural and Cottage completed, followed by completion of murals in the Main Floor exhibit hall and Al Wahlig Education Center in May and September of 2018.

SEPTEMBER 2017

Grand opening of Al Wahlig Education Center (Building #5) after speedy renovation and successful fund campaign.



NOVEMBER 2021

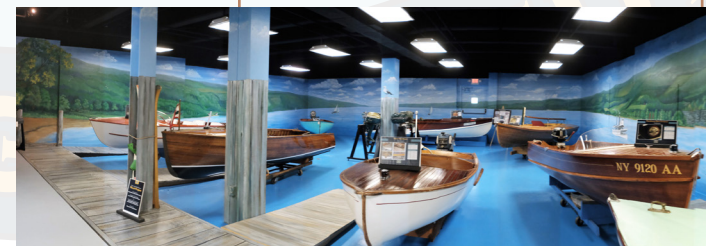
Mercury donates three more buildings doubling the size of FLBM's presence on Pleasant Valley Road.

SEPTEMBER 28, 2019

FLBM celebrates five years in Hammondsport.

APRIL 2021

Partnership with Art Cohn to support underwater exploration of Seneca Lake and the connection to scuttled and sunken steam boats and canal boats.



MAY 2024

Receive grant from NYS Maritime Heritage Regrant program for exhibit that connects the Finger Lakes to the 200th anniversary of the completion of the Erie Canal in 2025.

JUNE 2023

Launches and Runabouts exhibit opens in Building 10 just in time to receive donation of Fay & Bowen 1914 luxury launch "Shrike" from Tacoma, WA.



JUNE 2022

Rowboats and Troutboats exhibit opens in Building #9 doubling the size of the collection on display.

OCTOBER 2022

Receive donation of a complete machine shop to support operations, exhibits, and collections.

DECEMBER 2022

Finger Lakes Boating Museum holds a 25th Anniversary Celebration commemorating the provisional charter received in 1997.



MAY 18, 2024

The community celebrates the 100th birthday of The Pat II, Finger Lakes Boating Museum's flagship tour boat.

NOVEMBER 2020

The Pat II rebuild is complete after dedicated volunteers donate over 8,000 hours.

JUNE & JULY 2021

The Pat II launched and then returned to Skaneateles Lake for reunion and antique boat show.



2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

2023

FLBM Almanac: Upcoming and Good to Know

Finger Lakes Boating Academy

Boatbuilding Workshop

Build a Penn Yan Boats Aeordinghy. There is still time to join this workshop that meets two days each month through August! Register now for remaining sessions.

Earn your Safe Boating Certificate

By 2025, New York State will require anyone operating a motorized boat to earn a safe boating certificate. FLBM offers courses monthly through August.

Canoe Seat Caning Workshop

September 28, 2024,
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
FLBM Members \$30, Nonmembers \$35.

Motor Restoration Workshop

October 19, 2024
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
FLBM Members \$30, Nonmembers \$35.

Motor Winterizing Workshop

November 9, 2025
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
FLBM Members \$30, Nonmembers \$35.



Out and About with FLBM

During the “on-water” season, you can catch FLBM staff, volunteers, and supporters out in the community at boat shows and festivals. We are always looking for FLBM volunteer “Ambassadors” to help out at these events — give a call or send an email to info@flbm.org!



Wine Country Classic Boat Show
July 20 & 21, Depot Park, Hammondsport

Skaneateles Annual Antique and Classic Boat Show
July 26 to 28

Hammondsport Festival of Craft
August 17 & 18, Village Square, Hammondsport

FLBM DAY CAMP

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

\$250 FOR FLBM MEMBERS
\$275 for nonmembers

August 13-16
10 AM - 4 PM

Located at
Finger Lakes Boating Museum & Depot Park
8231 Pleasant Valley Rd,
Hammondsport, NY 14840

INCLUDES
A NYS BOATER
SAFETY COURSE
ON AUG. 11TH!

Smoke on the Water
August 24, Champlain Park, Hammondsport

Niagara Frontier Antique & Classic Boat Show
September 7

Wings and Wheels
September 21, Depot Park, Hammondsport

Teaching and Learning Update

Our March issue featured the Museum’s partnership with two professors from Cornell University. Their students designed programs and exhibits to expand Museum audience engagement.

Students from **Professor Trent Preszler’s “Grand Challenges” Dyson School course** designed two programs to help FLBM better connect with students and open up access to boating. Both programs were held on site at the Museum. The “Learn to Row” project team welcomed 9th graders from Hammondsport to try rowing and learn more about the sport first-hand from a current Cornell Rowing crew member. Special guests US Rowing and Olympic medalists Maggie and Cal Coffey, who are also parents of 2024 US Olympic rower Olivia Coffey, were on hand as well. Students talked with the Coffeys about their experience and tried out their Coffey SimulatOar™ — a rowing machine experience that is a great match for the real thing.



continues on page 10

Tee up, Golfers!

The Fifth Annual FLBM Golf Tournament

The FLBM Golf Tournament is one of the Museum’s most important fundraising events of the year. Save the date and join us on **Monday, September 9, 2024, at Bath Country Club!**

Monday, September 9, 2024!
9 a.m. registration / 10 a.m. tee off

- » Prizes and contests, a raffle with dozens of options, and a 50-50 drawing!
- » Continental breakfast and picnic lunch by FLBM Hospitality Committee and Museum Trustees
- » Post-tournament light fare by Timber Stone Grill
- » Plus - cold beverages at two places on the course, and drink tickets for that tee-off bloody Mary or “19th hole” brew!

Sign up Today!



Thank you to our sponsors to date:

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We are still looking for that very special Title Sponsor, and Business Sponsorships are still available!

(As you can see, we do a great job of promoting your partnership!)

Thank you so much to our 2023 tournament supporters!



continued from page 9

The “Mental Health Day” project team welcomed 8th graders from Prattsburg to take a break during academic testing season to support well-being through hands-on activities. Students had fun with activities like knot tying and the Penny Boat Challenge. Special guest and Museum Volunteer Chief Boatwright Ed Wightman helped students try woodbending — a skill that requires patience, technique, and tenacity to master... not unlike in life.



Program coordinator Nicole Katsur was the Museum’s champion throughout the semester, guiding Dyson School students and making another great connection with our community schools.



After exploring the Museum in January, students from **Professor Rhonda Gilmore’s Human Centered Design class** presented full proposals for engaging, accessible

exhibits for Building #11 to Museum team Beth & Jack Lucek, Nicole Katsur, and Kara Calder. The students’ designs supported the display of rowing shells, motors, and motor boats in amazing ways. Ideas included suspending rowing shells from the ceiling upside down; displaying motorboats on an angle both horizontally and vertically; immersive boating and rowing experiences supported by video, wind, and interactive boat installations; a deconstructed motor display, and much more. They incorporated physical accessibility, learning design, wayfinding, and even budget considerations into their proposals.



In 2022, Rhonda’s students offered creative ideas that influenced the Launch and Runabout Exhibit Hall (Building #10) which is reminiscent of a waterfront dock experience. We anticipate this year’s projects will inspire exhibits and programs in building #11 and throughout the Museum.

Donors Make a Difference!

Thank you for your generosity.

Through a special giving program, **Hammondsport teachers** give regularly to FLBM. Their contributions totaling over \$800 per year allow us to offer all Hammondsport students field trip admission at no cost. Thank you for your generosity and partnership!

Corporate giving programs are also a significant source of support for the Museum. A few of our volunteers’ current and former employers match their cash donations or make a contribution based on their volunteer hours served. We encourage you to check with your employer about programs that might support Finger Lakes Boating Museum - or any of the causes that are dear to you.

In the first few months of the year, we wrapped up our 2023 Annual Appeal. Thank you to the following for your contributions:

Dave and Nancy Drum
George Miller
Gregory Hintz



We are humbled and grateful to celebrate and honor the memory of the following through the generosity of their loved ones:

In February, the Museum lost a friend and valued front desk volunteer — **Kathy Leonard**. Her practical good humor and professional grace were the perfect combination for the role, and we miss her. Thank you to Thom & Karen Love and Kay & Stan Martin for making contributions in her memory.

Thank you to Carolyn & Peter Calkins and Thom & Karen Love for their donation in memory of **Richard Darrone**.

Ahoy! New and Renewing Members

February through April 2024

Representing 12 states and dozens of places throughout NYS! Thank you for your partnership!

Admirals

<i>Welcome to the ranks:</i> Meg & Tom Cole	<i>Thank you for your continued Admiralty:</i> Robert Astrove Tom & Barbara Blumer John David Chervenik	Wayne Klug & Wendy Farrow Kevin Barry Nerios John Rudd Bill & Barb Smith John M. & Sue Young	And a very special thank you to our newest Three-Star Admirals Tom Snow & Karen Meriwether
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George Buchholz & Paula Loskamp	Heidi Szonn & Randy Fletcher	Duane Gardner	Joyce Wahlig
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Diane Albright Bill & Nancy Bragg Wesley Buth Dan & Nancy Campi James & Marilyn Conklin Brian & Denise Eshenaur Mike & Meredith Hurley	Nancy & Dave Kallenborn Furman Kendall Dorothy Lutz Lorraine Manelis Margo & Fletcher McTaggart Bill Oben Lynn Oxenford	William Payne, Jr. Robert Plummer Karen Q. Reed William & Laurie Reed Benjamin Sackett Joseph Sanderl Alan Seacat	Jennifer Frazer & Steven Slade Bill & Peggie Spies Mark E. Stephany Leroy & Alzina Turner Nancy & Joe Tuttle Elizabeth Witt
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Dragon Boat Club

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COPPER NAIL

The Journal of the Finger Lakes Boating Museum

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DONATION MATCH

Challenge
Donations made now through October 2024 will be matched up to \$10,000!

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BULLY HILL®
VINEYARDS



SCAN QR CODE
TO DONATE!



Cheers to the Next 10 Years!

In celebration of Ten Years in Hammondsport, **Bully Hill Vineyards** has issued a **\$10,000 Donation Match Challenge** that runs through October. Our goal is to inspire new donors and stakeholders to give, and together with Bully Hill show how we all can grow! We are grateful for the Bully Hill team and all of the wonderful and supportive friends we've made in our "home port" community!