

SULTANA PROJECTS



DOWNRIGGING WEEKEND

THE TALL SHIPS VISIT CHESTER TOWN

OCTOBER 28 - 31, 2010

PRESS ADVISORY

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Sultana Projects Announces Plans for Downrigging Weekend – The Tall Ships Visit Chestertown

October 28 – 31, 2010

Chestertown, Maryland: A fleet of more than 30 Tall Ships, schooners, buyboats, skipjacks, log canoes and more will be on display in Chestertown, Maryland, on October 28-31, 2010, for what's been called the Chesapeake Bay's best waterfront festival - Sultana Projects' annual Downrigging Weekend. Established in 2001, Downrigging has grown to become one of the largest annual Tall Ship events on the East Coast, attracting over 10,000 visitors to Chestertown each fall. Downrigging 2010 will feature opportunities for visitors to sail down the majestic Chester River aboard a 200' Tall Ship, tour an enormous fleet of schooners and historic boats visiting from up and down the East Coast, watch fireworks over the town's 300 year-old harbor, and see wooden boats being built right down on the waterfront. The weekend will also feature an evening with New York Times best selling author Caroline Alexander, performances by multiple musical groups, including Them Eastport Oyster Boys, and a special appearance by the 1812 privateer LYNX, based out of Long Beach, California.

For detailed information about Downrigging Weekend visit www.sultanaprojects.org/downrigging/index.htm

About Sultana Projects: Each year more than 15,000 students of all ages take part in a unique educational experience with Sultana Projects. Whether sailing the Chesapeake on the decks of the 1768 reproduction schooner Sultana, exploring the world of the early Chesapeake through Sultana's John Smith Trail Expeditions program, learning about the life of an 18th century sailor in a classroom outreach program, burning an Indian dugout canoe at the Sultana Shipyard or studying the Bay's incredible history and environment through one of Sultana Projects' classroom curriculum units, students gain a greater appreciation for the national treasure that is the Chesapeake Bay

PARTICIPATING PASSENGER CARRYING VESSELS



KALMAR NYCKEL, *Wilmington, Delaware*
Full-rigged ship, 141' sparred length, 25' beam, 168 gross tons
Owner - Kalmar Nyckel Foundation, www.kalmarnyckel.org

The Kalmar Nyckel is a re-creation of the first colonial Swedish settlement ship to arrive in America at what is now Wilmington, Delaware. Launched in the Fall of 1997, this ornately carved 17th century reproduction ship sails seasonally, carrying out her mission of goodwill, providing hands-on educational opportunities for school children and serving as Delaware's official tall ship ambassador.



PRIDE OF BALTIMORE, II, *Baltimore, Maryland*
Square topsail schooner, two masted, 170' sparred length, 26' beam, 97 gross tons
Owner - Pride of Baltimore, Inc., www.pride2.org

Pride of Baltimore, II was commissioned in 1988 two years after the original Pride of Baltimore fell victim to a violent squall and was lost along with her captain and three crew members. Modeled after the famous Baltimore clippers, Pride II sails the globe as Maryland's goodwill ambassador.



LYNX, *Newport Beach, California*
Square Topsail Schooner, 122' sparred length, 23' beam, 94 gross tons
Owner - Lynx Educational Foundation

The square topsail schooner Lynx has been designed and built to interpret the general configuration and operation of a privateer schooner from the War of 1812. Lynx sails as a living history museum, and as a floating classroom for the study of historical, environmental and ecological issues. This is Lynx's first visit to Chestertown and Downrigging Weekend



A.J. MEERWALD, *Bivalve, New Jersey*
Two masted Oyster Schooner, 115' sparred length, 22' beam, 57 gross tons
Owner- The Bayshore Discovery Project

Built in Dorchester, New Jersey in 1928, the A.J. Meerwald is an authentic, restored Delaware Bay oyster schooner built specifically for that industry. Named New Jersey's official Tall Ship in 1998, the A.J. Meerwald promotes Delaware Bay's oystering history and offers experiential educational opportunities throughout Delaware Bay and the Mid-Atlantic region.



SULTANA, *Chestertown, Maryland*
Square topsail schooner, two masts, 97' sparred length, 17' beam, 43 gross tons
Owner - Sultana Projects, Inc., www.schoonersultana.com

Sultana is a reproduction of her 1768 namesake used by the British Royal Navy to enforce the notorious tea taxes in the years preceding the American Revolution. Built in Chestertown and launched in 2001, the new Sultana's mission is to educate students of all ages about the history and ecology of the Chesapeake Bay.



SKIPJACK ELSWORTH, *Chestertown, Maryland*
Two-sailed bateau (skipjack), 72' sparred length, 18' beam, 23 gross tons
Owner - Echo Hill Outdoor School, www.ehos.org

Owned and operated by Echo Hill Outdoor School in Worton, Maryland, the 1901, 72-foot oyster-dredging skipjack Elsworth is one of a handful of skipjacks remaining on the Chesapeake Bay. The Elsworth is currently used to provide live-aboard educational programs in environmental science and Chesapeake history.

PARTICIPATING EXHIBIT VESSELS



ELF

*Earleville, MD
1888 Cutter, 68' sparred length, 12' beam
Owner - Classic Yacht Restoration Guild*



BESSIE L.

*Rock Hall, Maryland
Chesapeake Bay Buyboat, 50' loa, 13' beam
Builder - Linwood P. Price - 1923
Owner - Andy Newman (Maryland)*



MURIEL EILEEN

*Georgetown, Maryland
Chesapeake Bay Buyboat, 65' loa, 20' beam
Builder - J. W. Smith - 1926
Owner - David M. Cantera [Delaware]*



NELLIE CROCKETT

*Georgetown, Maryland
Chesapeake Bay Buyboat, 70' loa, 20' beam
Builder - Charles A. Dana - 1925
Owner - Ted Parish (Maryland)*



P.E. PRUITT

*Rock Hall, Maryland
Chesapeake Bay Buyboat, 60' loa, 16' beam
Builder - Howard & Smith - 1935
Owner - Kevin D. Flynn (Maryland)*



THOMAS J.

*Rolph's Wharf, Maryland
Chesapeake Bay Buyboat, 50' loa, 16' beam
Builder - J. S. Jenkins - 1948
Owner - Tom Parker (Maryland)*

SCHEDULE SUMMARY

Thursday, October 28

Ships Arrive in Chestertown

All Day

Opening Cocktail Party

7:00 - 8:00pm, Massoni Art, 103 High Street, Chestertown / \$5 donation /Cash bar

Film – “The Endurance - Shackleton’s Legendary Antarctic Expedition”

8:00pm – The Prince Theater, Chestertown / Free

Friday, October 29

Educational Sails

All Day On the Chester River

An Evening of Music & Candlelight in Chestertown

5:00-8:00pm, Various Locations in the Historic District / Free

Tall Ships Illuminated

Ships Illuminated 6:00-9:00pm/ Chestertown Waterfront / Free

Lecture: “Shackleton & Bligh - Two Legendary Open-Boat Voyages and a Contrast in Leadership Under Crisis” with New York Times Best Selling Author Caroline Alexander

7:00pm, The Prince Theatre, Chestertown /Free

Saturday, October 30

Downrigging Weekend Wooden Boat Show

The Downrigging Pavilion at the Foot of High Street, Chestertown

9:00am-5:00pm / free

Public Sail on the Ships #1 – Battle Sail

10:00am-12:30pm, Chestertown Waterfront / \$25-\$55 depending upon choice of vessel

Public Sail on the Ships #2 – Music Sail

2:00-4:30pm, Chestertown Waterfront / \$25-\$55 depending upon choice of vessel

Tall Ships Illuminated & Fireworks

6:00-9:00pm, The Chestertown Waterfront / Fireworks at 7:00pm / Free

Downrigging Weekend Concert Featuring “Them Eastport Oyster Boys”

8:00pm, The Prince Theatre / \$15

Sunday, October 31

Public Sail on the Ships #3 - Music Sail

11:00am-1:30pm, Chestertown Waterfront / \$15-\$55 depending upon choice of vessel

Family Day on the Waterfront

The Downrigging Pavilion at the Foot of High Street, Chestertown / Noon - 4:30pm / free

Deck Tours and Trick-or-Treating on the Ships

2:30-4:30pm, The Chestertown Waterfront/Chester River Yacht & Country Club / Free

Captains’ Forum - Interviews With the Ship Captains – Moderator Michael Buckley

2:30pm, The Washington College Custom House, 101 South Water Street / Free

DETAILED SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28

Ships Arrive in Chestertown

Opening Cocktail Party

7:00-8:00pm / Massoni Art, 203 High Street/ \$5 donation / Cash Bar

Help kick off Downrigging Weekend 2010 at the official Opening Cocktail Party at the Massoni Art Gallery (203 High Street) on Thursday, October 28 at 7:00pm. Mingle with the visiting crews, enjoy refreshments (cash bar) and get a sneak peak at noted maritime artist Marc Castelli's fall show. Following the Cocktail Party, you are invited to walk across the street to the Prince Theatre to see a free screening of the film, "The Endurance," starting at 8:00pm.

Film – "The Endurance – Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition"

8:00pm, The Prince Theatre/ 97 minutes / free

Join us at the Prince Theatre for this incredible film about what is rightfully called, "the greatest survival story ever told." Based on Caroline Alexander's acclaimed book of the same name, *The Endurance* chronicles the astonishing events of 1914-16, when explorer Ernest Shackleton and 27 crewmen survived against all odds after their ship was crushed in the polar ice floes. Narrated by Liam Neeson, the film incorporates new footage, expert interviews, dramatic re-creations, and expedition photographer Frank Hurley's archival film and photographs. The film is a great primer for those who plan to attend the lecture by Caroline Alexander on Friday evening.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29

Educational Sails -All Day, On the Chester River

An Evening of Music and Candlelight in Chestertown

5:00-8:00pm Various Locations in Chestertown / free

Stroll Chestertown's nationally renowned Historic District and stop along the way to listen to intimate concerts in one of several of the town's most beautiful architectural landmarks. The historic district will be illuminated by candlelight after dusk making for a very special evening. Wine and other refreshments will be available at most of the concert locations.

Tall Ships Illuminated

Ships Illuminated 6:00-9:00pm

At dusk, the entire Downrigging Weekend fleet will be illuminated by more than 1 million watts of theatrical lighting. Stroll the Chestertown Waterfront and enjoy the music as you take in this truly impressive site.

Lecture: "Shackleton & Bligh – Two Legendary Open Boat Voyages and A Contrast of Leadership Under Crisis" with New York Times Best Selling Author Caroline Alexander

7:00pm – The Prince Theatre / free

Sir Ernest Shackleton and Captain William Bligh - legendary figures and leaders of what are arguably the most remarkable small-boat voyages in history. Perhaps no one is better suited to compare the accomplishments of these two fabled men than Caroline Alexander, author of the international bestsellers *The Endurance* and *The Bounty*. Recounting the stories of Shackleton's 1916, 600-mile voyage across the icy South Atlantic and Bligh's epic 1789, 3,600-mile trek through the South Pacific, Alexander will explore how these two very different leaders held their men together through extraordinary circumstances.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30

Downrigging Weekend Wooden Boat Show

9:00am-5:00pm / free

The Downrigging Weekend Pavilion at the Foot of High Street in Chestertown

Joining the fleet of Tall Ships assembling in Chestertown for Downrigging weekend will be a small armada of mid-sized and smaller wooden boats participating in the first ever Downrigging Weekend Wooden Boat Show. More than two dozen small craft will be housed in the 3,200 square foot "Downrigging Pavilion" located at the foot of High Street on the Chestertown Waterfront, while larger vessels will be displayed in the water at various locations along the Chestertown Waterfront.

Public Sail on the Ships #1 – Battle Sail

10:00am-12:30pm, Chestertown Waterfront, \$25-\$55 per person

Join us for a public sail on the assembled Downrigging Weekend fleet. This sail will feature an epic cannon battle on the Chester River between the tall ship KALMAR NYCKEL and the schooners PRIDE OF BALTIMORE, II, LYNX, SULTANA and A.J MEERWALD. Come prepared for battle!

Public Sail on the Ships #2 - Music Sail

2:00pm-4:30pm, \$25-\$55 per person

Join us for a public sail on the assembled Downrigging Weekend fleet. This sail will feature a unique on-the-water musical performance by the "Clipper City Brass" – one of the mid-Atlantic region's most renowned brass quintets. Sailing onboard the 1901 skipack Elsworth, Clipper City Brass will make its way through the Downrigging Weekend fleet, stopping alongside each of the tall ships to provide an incredible under-sail concert.

Tall Ships Illuminated & Fireworks

6:00-9:00pm, The Chestertown Waterfront /Fireworks at 7:00pm

At dusk, the entire Downrigging Weekend fleet will be illuminated by more than 1 million watts of theatrical lighting. Just after 7:00pm there will be a 25-minute fireworks display on the Chestertown waterfront, originating from Wilmer Park. The fireworks will be visible from across the Chestertown waterfront.

Downrigging Weekend Concert

Featuring "Them Eastport Oyster Boys"

8:00-10:00pm, The Prince Theatre, \$15 per person

Bluegrass favorites, "Them Eastport Oyster Boys" were such a hit at Downrigging Weekend 2009 that we are having them make a special encore appearance for Downrigging 2010 on Saturday, October 30 at 8:00pm at the Prince Theatre. A centerpiece of the Annapolis, Eastport music scene, the Oyster Boys provide a knee-slapping, toe-tapping, comical musical history tour of Annapolis, Eastport and the Chesapeake through original songs and stories. Tickets are \$15 per person and can be purchased through the Sultana office at 410-778-5954 or at the door if still available.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

Family Day on the Waterfront

Noon-4:30pm / free

The Downrigging Weekend Pavilion at the Foot of High Street in Chestertown

Not only is Sunday Halloween, it's also "Family Day" at Downrigging Weekend. Between Noon and 4:30pm there will be loads of things for children to see and do on the Chestertown waterfront. The Downrigging Weekend Pavilion at the foot of High Street will host a variety of great exhibits and activities for children, including:

- Model Boat Building
- Buoy building
- Raptor and Bird Exhibits
- Fish Touch Tank
- Colonial Games
- Making a Dugout Log Canoe
- Colonial Medicine with Dr. Bill
- Face Painting
- Trick-or-Treat
- Halloween Costume Contest
- Kids Musical Groups
- Coloring and Painting

Public Sail on the Ships #3 – Family Sail

11:00am-1:30pm, \$25-\$55 per person

In honor of Halloween, all children participating in this sail who are 12 and under and in appropriate Halloween costume will receive a special gift bag and be eligible to win one of several fun prizes as part of a Halloween Costume Contest to be held at the foot of Cannon Street immediately following the sail.

Open-House and Trick-or-Treat on the Ships

2:30-4:30pm, The Chestertown Waterfront

On Sunday afternoon there will be free deck tours on all of the visiting ships from 2:30-4:30pm. The public is welcome to come down and inspect the entire Downrigging Weekend Fleet. Children in costume are encouraged to trick-or-treat onboard as they tour the vessels. Several of the ships will be outfitted as floating "haunted ships" to make things even more interesting!

Captain's Forum - Interviews With the Ship Captains

2:30-4:30pm, The Washington College Custom House

On Sunday afternoon Michael Buckley, program manager with the C.V. Starr Center for the Study of the American Experience at Washington College and host of the popular radio show, "Voices of the Chesapeake Bay," will moderate an informal forum with several of visiting ship captains in town for Downrigging Weekend. The public is invited to attend, ask questions and learn a little more about what it's like to command a tall ship in the 21st century. The forum will take place beginning at 2:30pm in the Washington College Custom House and will be recorded for the Voices of the Chesapeake Bay radio series to be broadcast the following Sunday between 7:00am and 10am on 103.1 WRNR-FM and on www.wrnrr.com.