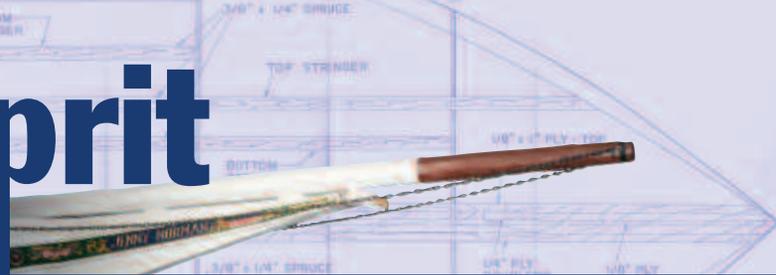


Aft of the Bowsprit

SPRING 2009



THE JAMES B. RICHARDSON FOUNDATION, INC.

Richardson growth prompts reorganization

The Board of Trustees of the James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc. recently restructured the Foundation to better represent current operations. The Richardson Maritime Museum, Ruark Boatworks, and Brannock Education and Research Center (BERC) are separate entities that are united in the fulfillment of the Foundation's Mission. Volunteer managers are Herm Kramer, Richardson Maritime Museum; Dan Cada, Ruark Boatworks; and Earl Brannock, BERC. A review by the managers for 2008 is found on the inside pages.

James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc.

Richardson Maritime Museum
Preserves maritime heritage

Ruark Boatworks
Builds and restores traditional wooden vessels

Brannock Education & Research Center
Maritime Collection & Archives

FROM THE ACTING PRESIDENT

Expanding our focus

With the support of you and many others over the last 12 years, the James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc. has expanded its focus while carrying on its original mission of sharing with the world the works of Jim Richardson and preserving our region's wooden boat-building heritage. This newsletter, long overdue, is a great way to share the latest happenings with you.

In the last 18-24 months, many projects have been launched to further our cause, from the restoration of the draketail *Hilda* to updates at the Richardson Maritime Museum, from the acquisition of the Brannock Maritime Museum Archives and Collection to our outreach to the Eastern Shore community. And on March 21 we will break ground on the new Ruark Boatworks building, the first step in developing the Richardson Maritime Heritage Center.

For all this effort and growth we are grateful to all the volunteers, contributors, membership, sponsors, and the general public. In the next 12 months, progress will become quite obvious to many who have pondered the efforts on the pristine four acres on Cambridge Creek. We encourage those who can, to help us 'Put History on the Water' in any way possible. Please join in and give your time and financial support. Become a part of what's to come!

Paul Myers, Acting President



Groundbreaking

at the Richardson Maritime Heritage Center
Maryland Avenue & Hayward Street
Cambridge, Maryland
Saturday, March 21, 2009
at 10 a.m.

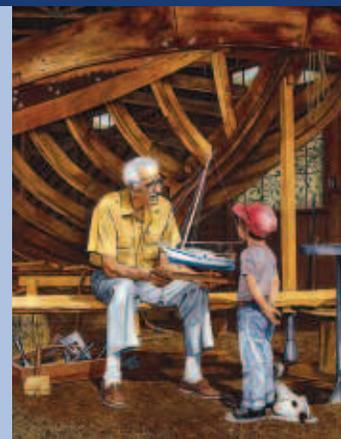
Join us as we move forward
"Putting History on the Water"

RICHARDSON MARITIME MUSEUM

401 High Street

New exhibits, renovations and bowsprit

Since no museum can remain static, starting in 2006 we began a major redo of the floor space, the exhibits, and lighting. Also, we have recaulked and painted the outside woodwork, windows, and the covered walkway to continue the upkeep of this historic building. The inside renovations include the new Model and Watermen's Rooms, the Ships Store, and new lighting that will reduce power usage by half. The new displays include relocating Mr. Jim's area to the front entrance complete with a *Jenny Norman* bowsprit (pictured below), a first-time Cambridge Powerboat Regatta exhibit, additions to the wooden boat builders of the area and the acquisition of models, pictures, and artifacts from the James Calvert Evans and the James Martin Stob estates. The Conway Schooner exhibit from the Evans estate is located at the side entrance and the 10 Stob models of wooden workboats are a welcome addition to the Watermen's Room. Our library has grown (now we need an interested volunteer to catalog and sort the books onto the shelves). We intend to set up a reading and research corner by the fireplace in the Watermen's Room.



Master Boatbuilder by local artist George Wright. Signed prints are now available in the Ships Store for \$100 each. Artist Proof, Signed, Numbered and Remarque of your choice by George Wright are available for \$250.



RUARK BOATWORKS

Maryland Avenue & Hayward Street

Preserving boat-building traditions

Highlights at the Ruark Boatworks—consistent with our mission to preserve the traditional skills and boats of the Chesapeake Bay—include:

- As in past years, we mentored girls from the Philadelphia Springside School in learning the features and history of a skipjack. Each girl completed a model and took it home.
- The 37-foot long dovetail *Hilda*, originally built by Reese Todd in 1952, was restored (hull, cabin, and engine). She's gone to go crabbing for her new owner near Kent Island.
- Harold Ruark's 14-foot rowing skiff was restored and awaits a new owner.
- The Chincoteague Skiff *Mary*, built by Ed Stewart, was restored and has become our signature boat used for local community events.
- A new 14-foot skiff is currently under construction under the direction of Mike Moore, as a building experience with a local resident. We hope that this will become an ongoing teaching event for many interested people.



The 63-foot bateau in mid-flip.

Jolly Dolphin being restored

Our most visible project, restoration of the Jim Richardson-built boat *Jolly Dolphin*, is under way. She's a 63-foot three-sail bateau who started her restoration with a spectacular experience of being turned over. This allowed the team of volunteers, led by "Mac" McGlaughlin, to properly find all the deteriorated parts and begin the restoration effort. She's under a temporary roof to protect her from winter's blasts.

Schooner Rendezvous

SAVE THE DATE!

October 23, 24, 25, 2009

More information to come.



BERC adds a treasure trove of maritime history

The James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc. acquired the collection and archives of the Brannock Maritime Museum in 2007 in order to develop the Brannock Education and Research Center (BERC). The collection has been appraised at more than \$100,000 and some of the rare books are worth as much as \$1,900 per copy. There are papers signed by early U.S. presidents and leaders of our country; many historic documents from Cambridge date back to 1685. There is a complete record of the Cambridge Shipyard, which occupied this property, through the end of WWII. The collection and archives are a tremendous addition to the Foundation. A portion of the collection and archives has been moved to the second floor of the existing Ruark Boatworks building. Upon completion of a new post-and-beam structure, the Ruark Boatworks operation will be transferred to this custom building to continue the program of teaching wooden boat-building and restoration of wooden boats. The renovation of the first floor of the existing building will then begin and upon completion will house the Brannock Education and Research Center; the museum collection on the first floor and a research library and archives on the second floor.

RICHARDSON MARITIME HERITAGE CENTER

Maryland Avenue

Putting history on the water on Maryland Avenue

The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that on March 21, ground will be broken on the new Ruark Boatworks facility—a pivotal building in the development of the Richardson Maritime Heritage Center at Maryland Avenue and Hayward Street.

In November 2004 the Board of Trustees of the Foundation approached architect Jay Corvan to prepare preliminary design plans for a new Boatworks and Museum on the Cambridge Creek property. A 35,000-square-foot facility was designed to accommodate: large ship construction, shop and material storage facilities, archival areas, research facilities, museum display areas, and educational interpretive spaces. The point of this exercise was to establish a vision of what could be constructed on Cambridge Creek. The project was expected to be completed in three stages.

Summer of 2007 brought two valuable gifts to the Foundation. First, a post-and-beam structure, slated for demolition, was donated. Second, archives and collections were acquired from the Brannock Maritime Museum. The Foundation seized the opportunities and brought forward a revised design for Stage 1 that would allow for the expansion of the workspace of the Ruark Boatworks operation in the modified post-and-beam structure, allowing the present brick warehouse to become the Brannock Education and Research Center. An interpretive trail will be created to link activities within the property as well as link with other strategic sites within the city of Cambridge.

The commitment of funding, materials, and in-kind professional services received to date allows for work to begin on Stage 1. However, our needs are greater than current resources in hand. The completion of the Richardson Maritime Heritage Center is expected to take a number of years. As each stage progresses, the Foundation remains steadfast in its mission to promote and preserve the maritime heritage so abundant in Maryland, and specifically in Dorchester County, for all to view and experience.

We need volunteers!

To volunteer, call us at 410-221-1871 (Museum) or 410-221-8844 (Boatworks).

With the exception of one part-time paid administrator, Gladys Taylor, the James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc., is a volunteer-run organization that supports the Richardson Maritime Museum, the Ruark Boatworks, and the Brannock Education & Research Center. We need docents, researchers, exhibit designers/builders, and modelers for the Museum and the

Research Center; woodworkers, restorers, and researchers for the Boatworks; and all-around assistance in maintaining the buildings and the properties. Learn for free, meet interesting people, and have fun while helping to preserve the heritage of wooden boat-building and the maritime history of Dorchester County. Come and spend a few hours with us each week!

James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Victor H. MacSorley,
Chairman

Sewell "Toby" Frey

Rufus M. Todd

Dan Shoemaker

Jay Corvan

Harold Ruark

Virginia "Ginger"

Brannock

Joe Tydings

Steve Disharoon

Tom Gasper

James W. Meredith

Teri L Belcher

EMERITUS BOARD MEMBERS

Mike Starling

Scott Todd

RMM CURATOR

Melvin Hickman

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc. needs volunteer help for:

Docents

Exhibit Designers/

Builders

Model Makers &

Restorers

Librarian

General Maintenance

Contact Herm Kramer:

410-221-6294

hermkram@verizon.net

Go digital!

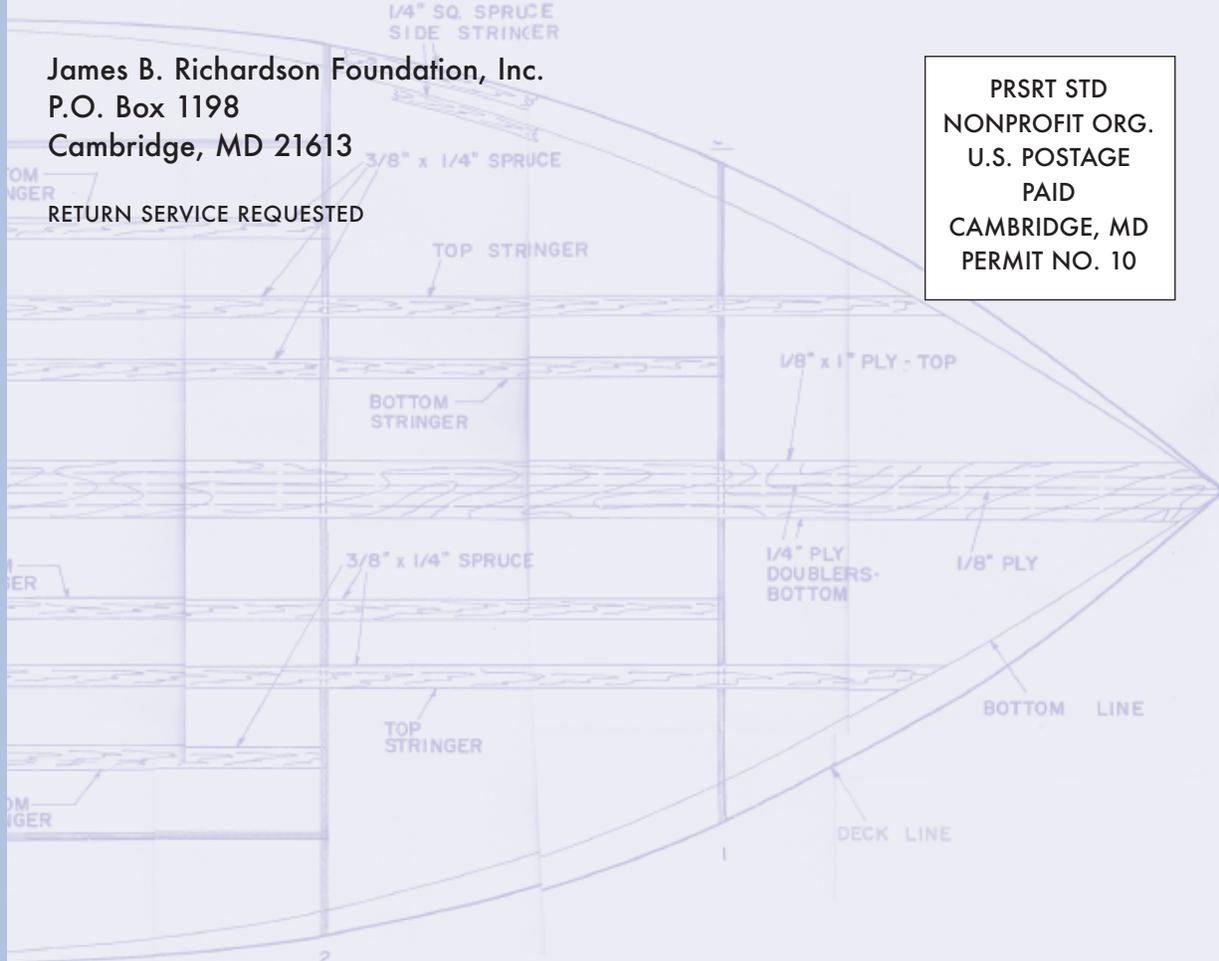
We have added a sign-up on our website at www.richardsonmuseum.org. If you'd like to receive future newsletters or news of upcoming events by e-mail, please go to our website to sign up.

James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc.

P.O. Box 1198

Cambridge, MD 21613

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



PRSRT STD
NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CAMBRIDGE, MD
PERMIT NO. 10

Membership Drive

Yes! I want to become a member of the James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc. and become a part of "Putting History on the Water."

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Yes! I would like to volunteer! Please contact me with information.

Membership Levels:

- Individual: \$25
- Family: \$50
- Life: \$300
- Corporate: \$500 & Up
- Benefactor: \$1,000
- Additional Donation:
\$ _____

Payment Type: _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____

CHECK payable to James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc.

CREDIT CARD: VISA MasterCard

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

We also accept PayPal. Go to www.richardsonmuseum.org.

Mail to: James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 1198, Cambridge, MD 21613

The James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) organization and contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.