Executive Director’s Message

The mission of Captain Avery Museum is to celebrate the diversity of our community and engage it in activities that explore connections to the Chesapeake Bay through the prism of our historic home and waterfront property. Our vision is to be a community center celebrating the culture of the Bay – past, present and future – around three themes: Water as Livelihood in the 19th Century; as Recreation in the 20th Century; and as a focus for Environmental Stewardship in the 21st Century.

During FY20 we completed extensive renovation at the museum, especially in our Great Room where the center columns were removed to improve traffic flow and visibility for our presentations. A new portico and waterside ramp provide easy access to the museum from our parking lots and lawn. New doors section off our kitchen for safety and allow access to the Great Room directly from the museum rooms.

In FY21 we are on track to put the excellent work of our Interpretation Committee into redesigning and installing our museum rooms to tell the stories of the Averys, the journey from The Swamp to Shady Side, and the future of our precious resource, the Chesapeake Bay.

Events are how the Captain Avery Museum provides an important service to the community. Unfortunately, the fall weather and a pandemic that began in the spring seriously affected our ability to present programs and welcome guests. In October 2019, our annual Oyster Festival was washed out in a tropical storm resulting in light attendance and little revenue. Our Winter Luncheon Series in January and February, however, was sold out and featured six wonderful talks accompanied by delicious lunches courtesy of our generous sponsors: Christopher’s Fine Foods and Skippers Pier Restaurant and Dock Bar and Ledo Pizza Deale.

PARTNERS


SPONSORS

We also appreciate our partners in the community including the Deale Elks, Anne Arundel Waterman’s Association, the Anne Arundel Watershed Stewards Academy, South County Chamber of Commerce, Community Alliance of South County, National Ballet Company, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, CPASC, Lula Scott Head Start, and the Deale Historical Society.

GRANTORS

Our grantors invest in our museum and our community. The funds we receive from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority/Maryland Historical Trust, Four Rivers, and the Arts Council of Anne Arundel County enable us to accomplish so much by leveraging our volunteers and resources. The Arts Council and Maryland Heritage Areas Authority/Maryland Historical Trust also provided emergency funding to help Captain Avery Museum stay “afloat” in these difficult times. We also benefitted from a grant from the Payroll Protection Plan funds. We appreciate the support of all our funders and their confidence in us as a partner.

Deborah Gangloff
Executive Director, Captain Avery Museum
MEMBERS, DONORS AND OUR PRECIOUS VOLUNTEERS
We owe a debt of gratitude to our members, donors, and volunteers without whom we could not provide service to our community. We look forward to reopening our doors to our new museum and welcoming you all to new events and programs soon!

OUR GARDENS & OUR MUSIC
We are very grateful to Bill Mitchell - The Minimalist Gardener and his many garden volunteers.
Many thanks also to our Executive Music Director Bob Israel and his talented musicians.

We welcomed new board and staff members in FY20 and bid a fond farewell and to others with our thanks.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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