

REEDVILLE FISHERMEN'S MUSEUM

STARRY BANNER

www.rfmuseum.org

Dear Members,

As February settles in along Cockrell's Creek, with its cold days and icy stretches, we hope you're all staying safe and dreaming—like we are—of warm breezes and milder days ahead. Even in the quieter season, there's plenty happening at the Reedville Fishermen's Museum, and we're excited to share it with you.

Please be sure to mark your calendars and plan to attend our Annual Open Membership Meeting on Sunday, February 22nd at 3:00 p.m. at the Fairfield's Fire Department.

At the meeting, we'll take time to look back and officially close out 2025 with final updates and our Treasurer's Report, while also sharing our vision for what's on deck for 2026. We'll proudly recognize our most distinguished volunteers, whose dedication keeps our mission thriving, update everyone on our Festival Halle progress, and we'll present and vote on the new slate of executive officers and board members.

Your voice and presence matter, and we truly hope you'll join us as we gather and look ahead to another fun-filled year on Main Street! Members are welcome to email the board with any questions in advance of the meeting at ec@rfmuseum.org.

We look forward to seeing you there as we celebrate our shared commitment to preserving Reedville's rich maritime history and charting our course for the future...an exciting year for RFM is just around the point!

With gratitude,



The Reedville Fishermen's Museum Board & Staff



2026 Lecture Series

War on the Inland Sea-Tom Briggs & The ABC's of Oystering-Susan Swift and Heather Cockrell

Book Talk and Signing

March 2nd @ 6:30 p.m.

The Museum's own Tom Briggs has written a novel of historical fiction set during the French and Indian War. This book is a tale of naval adventure, loss and deprivation and is written from three perspectives.

From the creators of *ABC's of Crabbing* comes a new, children's book that explores the world of oystering on the Chesapeake Bay. Join author Susan Swift and illustrator Heather Cockrell as they share their upcoming release

Menhaden-Joseph W. Smith

Book Talk and Signing

March 2nd @ 6:30 p.m.

Menhaden: A Biologist's Thirty-Two Year Journey with the Fish and Fishery blend science, history, and personal experience to chronicle the menhaden industry and its ecological importance. Drawing on his 32-year career as a federal biologist, Smith explores the balance between conservation and commerce while offering an insider's view of this vital fish and the people who study it.



NEW
UPDATE

**Both lectures and book signings have
been rescheduled to MARCH 2nd**

This includes:

- War on the Inland Sea- Tom Briggs
- The ABC's of Oystering-Susan Swift & Heather Cockrell
- Menhaden-Joseph W. Smith

Cocktails on the Creek

An event celebrating art, creativity and community

MARCH 27 | 5:30 | Watermens Gallery



Signature Cocktails
by the Creek



Unveiling of the
Painted Boots Project



Photography Exhibit
by Mike Fontaine



Meet the artists
behind the work

Meet the
Exhibitor



MIKE FONTAINE

Photographer Mike Fontaine brings a powerful visual perspective to the museum through his exhibit of photographs highlighting moments, landscapes, and stories connected to our region. His work invites visitors to pause, reflect, and see familiar places through a fresh lens.

Meet the
Artist



MK HALL

MK is a local artist whose work is inspired by community, coastal life, and meaningful storytelling. Her painted boots will celebrate the spirit of Reedville and the people who help preserve its maritime history. This project reflects watermen, RFM, and the joy of bringing art into shared public spaces.

JOIN US AS WE UNVEIL
NEW ARTWORK AND
EXHIBITIONS DURING
THIS SPECIAL EVENING
ON THE CREEK!

MARCH 27TH @ 5:30



Dear Reedville Fishermen's Museum Member:



This letter serves as official notification of the Greater
Reedville Association dba the Reedville
Fishermen's Museum's **Annual Meeting scheduled for
Sunday, February 22, 2026 at 3:00pm.**

The meeting will be held at **Fairfield's Fire Department, 119 Main Street, Reedville.**

The meeting agenda will include the State of the Museum address, the Treasurer's Report, the Membership Report, the ratification of the current membership, election of new members to the Board of Directors, and the election of Officers

The slate of the new Board nominees are as follows to commence in March 2026:

- Wylia Holbrook
- David Huff
- Nadine Liesz

The slate of Officers for the 2026 term is as follows:

President - LeeAnn Scanlon

Vice President - Gayle Sterrett

Interim Treasurer - Bruce Samuelson

Secretary - Emily Fisher

The election of new members to the Board of Directors and Officers requires we have a quorum of members in attendance for in-person voting. Proxy voting was eliminated by the Board of Directors at their November 2023 meeting. A quorum is defined as the lesser of 1/20th of membership 734 or 37 members in person. Thus, **your participation is very important** so please **RSVP to the office at office@rfmuseum.org or call 804-453-6529 by February 12th** to ensure a quorum. Each membership level in good standing is entitled to one vote. The Annual Meeting provides us with the opportunity to look back and celebrate our 2025 achievements and share our vision for the future. If you have questions, please feel free to call the Museum at 804-453-6529.

Sincerely,
Kimberly Hampton
President, RFM Board of Directors

Heritage Society Spotlight:

Smart ways to give back to RFM

Meaningful giving options that can benefit you and the Reedville Fishermen's Museum.

As the year draws to a close, many members look for meaningful ways to support the Museum. Here are two simple, tax-wise ways to make a lasting difference for RFM:

Appreciated Stock Gifts

-You can donate appreciated stocks and **avoid capital gains tax.**

-The Museum sells the shares and uses the proceeds to support operations.

Ask your financial advisor for details and to begin the process.

Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)

If you're 70½ or older, you can make a gift **directly from your IRA** to RFM

This helps meet your **Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)** and **reduces taxable income** – one of the most **tax-efficient** ways to give!

How to Make a QCD:

1. Contact your **IRA administrator** and direct them to make the check out to **Greater Reedville Association dba Reedville Fishermen's Museum** P.O. Box 306, Reedville, VA 22539 (Tax ID available upon request)
2. Specify your gift amount.
3. Notify the Museum so we can properly thank you.

"Your generosity helps the Reedville Fishermen's Museum preserve the history of our watermen and serve our community. We couldn't do it without you!"



Dear Members,

We are excited to extend a special invitation to you for a memorable naval tradition: **The Commissioning Ceremony of the USS Harvey C. Barnum Jr. (DDG 124)**, an Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer.

This event marks the **official entry of the ship into active U.S. Navy service**, honoring Medal of Honor recipient and living namesake Colonel Harvey C. Barnum Jr., USMC (Ret.). Sponsored by Martha Hill, the ship will be homeported at NS Norfolk and represents a significant addition to the fleet.

The ceremony is scheduled for April 11,
2026, at Naval Station Norfolk.

If you are interested in attending email MarthaeHill1@gmail.com

Please include:

- **Full legal name**
- **email address**
- **mailing address**

Space is limited and coordinated through official channels, so early response is greatly appreciated to ensure your inclusion.

Martha will forward your information to the Navy, who will issue official invitations via email. Once you receive your invitation, you will have the opportunity to add additional guests (such as family members or friends) as permitted.

We look forward to the possibility of sharing this proud moment with you—celebrating our nation's Navy, its heritage, and the dedicated men and women who serve.

Regards,

Martha & Barney

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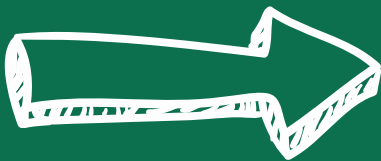
Discover RFM on YouTube!

Your New Way to Explore Local History-Anytime, Anywhere!

We're excited to share that our YouTube channel has been refreshed and reorganized. With the help of a dedicated volunteer, all of our videos—lectures, boatbuilding features, historic footage, and more—are now sorted into **easy-to-find** playlists.

Scan the QR Code to watch this months video!

"A Salute to the Women of Reedville"



or visit our website>more>YouTube featured video

LIKE . COMMENT . SUBSCRIBE .
TO GET NOTIFICATIONS FOR NEW VIDEOS EACH MONTH



@rfmvideos8912



Winter Hours

The Museum & Gift Shop

Closed until April 2nd

Office:

Monday – Friday

8a-4p

(except Holidays)

Wednesday

Appointments Only



**Have you visited our
Volunteer River Counties
webpage?**

**Volunteer River Counties is a shared hub for connecting
volunteers with organizations across our region-including
the Reedville Fishermen's Museum!**





**SCAN TO FIND OPPORTUNITIES,
SIGN UP, LOG YOUR VOLUNTEER
HOURS ONLINE AND BECOME A FAN!**

We appreciate our volunteers!

FEBRUARY 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 6:30p War on the Inland Sea- Tom Briggs & The ABC's of Oystering- Susan Swift and Heather Cockrell	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Gentle Flow Yoga 9:30a - 10:30a	11 OFFICE CLOSED TO MEMBERS AND PUBLIC BY APPOINTMENT ONLY	12 Gentle Flow Yoga 9:30a - 10:30a	13 Cocktails on the Creek	14 Valentine's Day
15	16 Presidents' Day  Office Closed	17 Gentle Flow Yoga 9:30a - 10:30a	18 OFFICE CLOSED TO MEMBERS AND PUBLIC BY APPOINTMENT ONLY	19 Gentle Flow Yoga 9:30a - 10:30a	20	21
22 ANNUAL MEETING 3:00 FAIRFIELDS VOL FIRE DEPARTMENT REEDVILLE	23	24 Gentle Flow Yoga 9:30a - 10:30a	25 OFFICE CLOSED TO MEMBERS AND PUBLIC BY APPOINTMENT ONLY	26 Gentle Flow Yoga 9:30a - 10:30a	27 Cocktails on the Creek	28

March 2026

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22	23	24 Gentle Flow Yoga 9:30a - 10:30a	25 OFFICE CLOSED TO MEMBERS AND PUBLIC BY APPOINTMENT ONLY	26 Gentle Flow Yoga 9:30a - 10:30a	27 Cocktails on the Creek: Meet the Exhibitor/Artist	28
29	30	31				



2026

FEDERAL HOLIDAYS

WEEKDAY	DAY	MONTH	YEAR	FEDERAL HOLIDAY
Thursday	1	January	2026	New Year's Day
Monday	19	January	2026	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday	16	February	2026	Presidents' day
Monday	25	May	2026	Memorial Day
Friday	19	June	2026	Juneteenth
Saturday	4	July	2026	Independence Day *
Monday	7	September	2026	Labor Day
Monday	12	October	2026	Indigenous Peoples'/Columbus Day
Wednesday	11	November	2026	Veterans Day
Thursday	26	November	2026	Thanksgiving Day
Friday	25	December	2026	Christmas Day

* Independence Day is observed on Friday, July 3, 2026

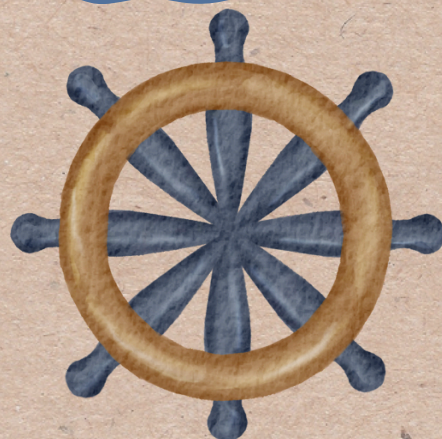
SMALLER CATCHES

SAVE THE DATES

- February 13th - Cocktails on the Creek
(Valentines Day Themed) 
- February 22th - ANNUAL MEETING 3:00
- February 27th - Cocktails on the Creek
- March 2nd - Lecture Series
- March 13th - Cocktails on the Creek
(St. Patricks Day Themed) 
- March 21st - Campus Spruce up Day
- March 27th - Cocktails on the Creek
(Meet the Exhibitor/Meet the Artist)

Please visit our website for All Events!

WWW.RFMUSEUM.ORG



NOW ACCEPTING, CAR DONATIONS!

The majority of the museum's operating budget comes from the sale of donated boats and other items. This year we have expanded our program to include cars! Our inventory is low. Please consider the museum when deciding how to dispose of a boat or vehicle that you no longer need. We can pick up the vessel or car and provide the necessary paperwork for tax purposes. Your contributions greatly help the local community and our beloved museum. Please email us at donations@rfmuseum.org for more information on how to donate or to inquire about our current inventory!

SALE



SALE



*See the website
for full inventory*

donations@rfmuseum.org

CURRENT INVENTORY
WWW.RFMUSEUM.ORG

RFM'S NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

Jennifer Adams
Cheryl & Jeffrey Ambrose
Clif Ames
Claire & George Ames
Nancy & Doug Burford
Bootsie & Billy Burgess
James Christoferson
Kim Connolly
Bill Cowardin
Doug Coyne
Mr. & Mrs. Coyne
Anne & Beale Delano
Elizabeth & Robert Fidler
Marnie & Rob Fohl
Christina & Edward Gibson
Robert Hathaway
Lynne & Russel Haynie
Lucy & Frank Martin

Donald Melanson
Cindy & Ralph Miller
Lynne & Russel Haynie
Lucy & Frank Martin
Donald Melanson
Cindy & Ralph Miller
Martha & Mike Murphy
Debbie & Lonnie Ott
Sandra Sarnac
Chelly & Steve Scala
Ellen Shuler
Joseph Smith
Dana & Don Stone
Lisa Szumigala
Emily & Ben Thompson
Carol & Richard Young
Shelli & Dennis Zahorchak

Thank you for your memberships!

FOLLOW US!

Facebook: facebook.com/ReedvilleFishermensMuseum

instagram: [@reedvillefishermensmuseum](https://instagram.com/reedvillefishermensmuseum)

www.rfmuseum.org



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS
and BLUE STAR FAMILIES present
arts.gov/bluestarmuseums
BLUE STAR MUSEUMS

CAMM