

THE SHIP'S LAMP

A MICHIGAN MARITIME MUSEUM PUBLICATION

FALL 2020

VOL. 37 NO. II

*Museum Purchases
Historic Jensen Property!*



MICHIGAN MARITIME MUSEUM
South Haven, Michigan 49090

Date: October 1, 2020

PAY TO THE ORDER OF *Jensen's Docks, LLC* \$1,350,000.00

One Million Three Hundred Fifty Thousand 00/100 Dollars

*Michigan Maritime Museum
Launching A Legacy Campaign*

Purchase of Historic Jensen Property

101020 234567890 23456 345678





BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Brian Bosgraaf - *President*
Andrea Olson - *Vice President*
Mike Smith - *Secretary*
Bob Hoppes - *Treasurer*
David Bergman
David Campbell
Brian deBest
Jan Frizzo
Larry Gignac
Dave Knight
Lisa Kozicki
Jim Spiegel
Dan Thompson
Mike Winkel
Ruth Wiser
Jim Woodruff

STAFF

Patti Montgomery-Reinert
Executive Director

Ashley Deming
Director of Education & Administration

Capt. Bob Harnish
Commander of the Fleet

Maxine Horton
Capital Campaign Administrative Asst.

MISSION STATEMENT

Volunteers and staff welcome members and the public to experience and appreciate Great Lakes maritime history in a unique, exciting and thought provoking manner.

VISION STATEMENT

The Michigan Maritime Museum, as a premier destination, will preserve and interpret the rich heritage of the Great Lakes while enhancing the South Haven Maritime District.

MICHIGAN MARITIME MUSEUM
www.michiganmaritimemuseum.org
(269) 637-8078

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Patti Montgomery
Reinert
Executive Director

What will people remember about this year? A picture is worth a thousand words. I think our cover photo of the fall *Ship's Lamp* has captured the essence of 2020!

A year ago, who would have ever imagined we would have experienced a year like this? We had finished another great season at the Museum and our Launching a Legacy campaign was pretty much on target. We were planning to complete phase one of the project and break ground for the new Maritime Heritage Center by the end of September, just a little over four weeks ago. That did not happen, but as you look at the cover photo on this issue and you turn the pages one by one, you will see what did!

The pandemic changed our lives, changed our normal operations as a Museum, and changed our timeline for Launching a Legacy. As many, we were fearful, but we were also determined to not throw in the towel, but roll up our sleeves, go to work, and operate in the safest possible manner. We did, and our success was measured in the little things.

The Museum celebrates our 45th birthday in a few short months. We have experienced and grown so much over those 45 years and have so many individuals to be grateful for and should take time to admire the wisdom and foresight it took to establish this great organization. We should all feel proud of the role we have played in helping it flourish and grow along our voyage.

Even with the challenges of 2020, that have truly been like no other, we have made history! We faced COVID-19, we faced record-breaking high water levels, and we faced the reality that we had to respectfully pause our Launching a Legacy campaign as we weathered the storm. Then on October 1, 2020, we purchased the historic Jensen property as we had planned three years ago and doubled the size of our waterfront campus! What a proud day that was for all of us!

We know the challenges moving forward are not necessarily easy, and some may feel impossible, but as we have experienced this year... anything is possible. As you look at this cover, this issue, this challenge, I hope that you see what I see and what so many others before us have seen. We have tremendous opportunity! We have determination, pride, respect, and a community with a Maritime District that celebrates our maritime assets and our history.

We hope you will join us in the challenge we face. Masks and boots may be part of our future for a while, but not forever. Let us together make the Michigan Maritime Museum the very best it can be! We need you...now more than ever. The next generations are counting on us!

Stay safe, stay healthy, stay optimistic!

Patti

Success is Measured in the Little Things

"We kept our boat at the Yacht Club this year so had a great view of the river and all its happenings. I don't think I've ever seen the Coast Guard boat out so much. That was really cool to see!" - Pam U.

ONE
group at a time in exhibit space

"First time on the water and was a blast! You guys are doing a fantastic job." -Kendra W.



"Very clean and observing Covid precautions. This museum does a fantastic job of telling the story of Michigan's maritime history. Great displays and information presented in a clear, concise manner." - Murry W.

"Ultimately, in a year where large groups were discouraged, events were cancelled, many places never opened, and others could do nothing, this museum did something. And that is everything."
- Ashley Deming, MMM Staff



"Lots to see and do. Reasonably priced. Safe COVID 19 practices. Kind museum guides."
- 2020 Google Review



"Just wanted to thank you for helping us accomplish our renewal wedding vows cruise on the Lindy Lou last week. The experience was one we will never forget!" - Jim & Kathy B.

"This is truly an historic day for the Museum and for South Haven. We could not be more excited to be purchasing this historic property. This purchase has been a dream for many people involved with the Museum for a very long time. The process has been three years in the making and now the dream is coming true. I feel it is an honor and a privilege to be a part of this special day."
- Patti Reinert, MMM Executive Director

"We were so impressed with the safety protocols that everyone is taking. It's spectacular!"
-Pure Michigan

"After reading the Maritime Museum still offers tours on their historic boats amid COVID, and seeing the affordable pricing, we booked our cruise."
- From Michigan With Love Travel Blog



"It's incredible. Kids liked it. A lot of fun." -Tom Barnas, The Chicago Scene

"We had a great time! Crew was so engaging and experienced! You can never tire of watching the synchronization of a well-trained crew!"
-The Zafarana Family

"I have received lots of positive feedback from passengers on Lindy Lou who have appreciated the way the Museum has handled this year's unique situation. The more intimate experience of the private charters this season and the quiet beauty of the Black River have combined to make good memories for many of the Museum's visitors." - Capt. Nick.

STOP

Read before entering the Museum

The Museum's first priority is to the safety of its visitors, volunteers, and staff. We are currently following CDC recommendations for healthy and safety on our campus and vessels. Please help by doing your part.

Museum Health & Safety Rules

- Masks must worn at all times in ALL areas of the Museum Campus and aboard vessels.
- Sanitize hands upon entry to campus or vessels.
- Send only (1) representative at a time to our front desk to check in for boat ticket reservations.
- No individual ticket sales (private charters only)
- All visitors must check in at the front desk.
- Museum exhibits and spaces have limited capacity. Maintain at least 6 ft. of distance between groups and follow instructions provided.

WE WEATHERED THE STORM!

Hands-on. Interactive. Fully immersive. These are the ways we describe who we are. COVID-19 completely changed the way we have had to operate and the things we have prided ourselves on were no longer possible. At the MMM we asked ourselves what we could do to confront the concerns we would face and still remain true to who we are and who we want to be as a museum. The first thing we did was take serious measures to ensure health and safety for everyone. We changed our on-water operations to private charters only, we offered socially distanced and virtual events, we maintained collaborations wherever possible, and provided new educational opportunities. We got creative and came up with solutions to tackle these challenges in fun and engaging ways. Most importantly we stayed positive.

Safety First!



Health and safety for our guests, volunteers, and staff was paramount this season. We placed restrictions on spaces, put up barriers and hired staff to clean and sanitize surfaces throughout the Museum.



On-Water Fleet Operations



While our on-water season looked very different this year, we felt we operated in the safest way possible and still managed to give our guests a wonderful and educational experience. We had lots of positive feedback from our passengers, volunteers, and captains.

Education Programs



We may have missed all of the school groups that normally arrive in the fall to experience hands-on education on our campus and vessels, but in the time of COVID, we got creative. We came up with new programs for our on-water fleet to encourage homeschool groups, small class sizes, and families to experience unique, outdoor education.

Our Fish Boil is one of the largest fundraisers we hold on our campus each year, serving up to 500 people and raising around \$5000. While the in-person event was cancelled, we were able to raise \$2000 by taking this fundraiser virtual. A huge thank you to all of our donors for their support!

Virtual FISH BOIL Fundraiser

Richard & Rosalie Allen	Tom & Rena Jett
Jeff Anchor	Lori Krieger
Marie & Sean Barr	Jan Leksich
Joan Bauer	Maureen Lewandowski
Patrick Brown	Tom Meldrim
Dick & Lois Brunvand	Brent & Amy Nichols
Bill & Tory Burrows	Birger & Sandra Olsen
Ray DeHaan	Steve & Sylvia Paddock
Brittany DePriest-Smith	Tony Pellerito
Allen & Susan Deming	Scott & Patti Reinert
Brian & Connie Eipperle	Alan & Judi Silverman
Larry & Samantha Gignac	Maria Simon
Gerry Gillis	Tom & Laurel Smith
Jay & Cindi Gooch	Eli & Hilde Thomssen
Austin Herman	Bob & Bridget Tolpa
John H. Hinz & Emily Garber	Michael & Mary Vosovic
Kirk & Jeanine Hoffman	Jim & Maggie Woodruff
Mark Holbien	Ruger & Susie Yule

Going Virtual!



Between the high water and COVID-19, our annual Boat Walk wasn't looking like it would happen. Undaunted, we took our Boat Walk LIVE (albeit much smaller) on social media this season and over 3000 people took captain guided virtual tours of FGW, USCG Motor Lifeboat 36460, and Elsie J.

Social Distance Fun



No 4th of July Parade?! We couldn't have that! So we arranged for a socially distanced boat parade featuring FGW, Lindy Lou, 36460, Elsie J., and Motley Crew to give everyone a little something to look forward to and smile about.



Our Make a Splash with Trash collaborative event with the South Haven Center for the Arts encouraged Great Lakes stewardship and art appreciation through family beach clean ups, educational posts on social media, and a Facebook Live art event.

South Haven's splash pad was opened this summer. The pad is modeled after our very own Friends Good Will! It was such fun for our captain and crew to wave from the real FGW at all the kids enjoying the new splash pad in our harbor.



Our only in-person event this year, the Black River Open Paddle, hosted 25 paddlers who enjoyed a beautiful paddle to honor the life of river lover Ronnee Harrell. A trail marker was unveiled in her honor at a ceremony held prior to the paddle.



HISTORY IN THE MAKING

History has been made! The Museum now owns the historic Jensen Property. This is a monumental accomplishment for the MMM and the ongoing capital campaign. It was made official October 1, 2020, with a small celebration ceremony on the property at 2pm. In true 2020 fashion, the celebration was met with lots of rain and high water. However, that didn't deter the excitement or significance of the day to those in attendance who donned their rain boots, coats, and facemasks to be a part of the ceremony. Thank you to all of those who have invested in us and got us to this point. We have big plans for the property and we will need support from everyone to realize this legacy. Please consider making a donation to the Launching a Legacy capital campaign and leaving your own legacy.

The ceremony was small due to COVID-19. Museum staff, Board members, campaign committee members, State and City officials, and the Jensen Family were in attendance. The Jensens were presented with a check for \$1,350,000 to complete the \$1,600,000 total payment.



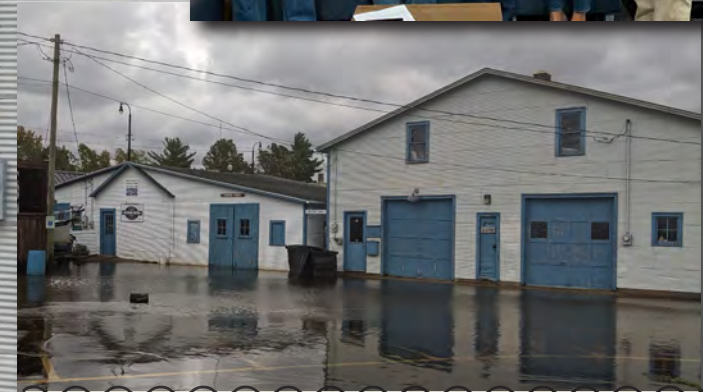
Karl, Bob and Kathy Jensen with MMM Executive Director Patti Reinert and Board of Trustees President Brian Bosgraaf following the transfer of ownership.



MMM Board of Trustees President Brian Bosgraaf signs the property closing documents on October 1, 2020.



When asked how they felt about the sale of the property that has been in their family for three generations, the Jensens said, "We knew we wanted the property to go to the Museum when we decided to sell it. The Museum will take good care of the property and keep our family's history of commercial fishing alive long after we're gone. We think our father and grandfather would be proud of what we've done." The Jensen legacy will live on!



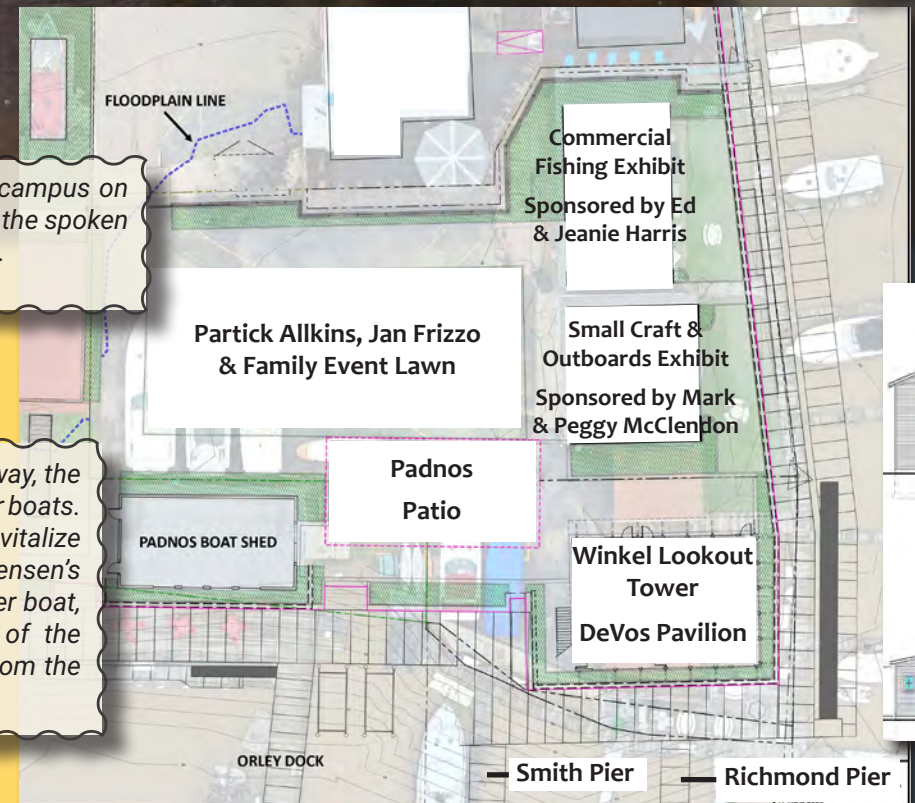
The next steps for the Museum will be to combat the high-water issues that have created challenges across the Great Lakes for the last couple of years. Rising water levels have significantly flooded areas of the property making them unusable. A High Water Task Force has been assigned the job of finding ways to help address this issue.

"The Museum has, for decades, one of its core values to protect the harbor's scenic beauty. With this acquisition of the Jensen property and water frontage, the Michigan Maritime Museum is going to restore this historic fishing operation point into a sustainable working waterfront while keeping it open and real. I believe that the view from our City's drawbridge will become an iconic image enjoyed for generations." - Brian Bosgraaf



The Museum plans to raise the property levels out of the floodplain as well as make significant improvements to the shoreline. Property drainage is being addressed as well. The new planned docks were also modified so as not to extend beyond the City's harbor lines.

Layout of new Museum campus on the Jensen property with the spoken for naming opportunities.



While the Museum project is underway, the existing docks will not be suitable for boats. The Museum plans to completely revitalize the waterfront. Elsie J., the Jensen's historic fish tug they run as a charter boat, will remain under the ownership of the Jensens and continue to operate from the Museum docks in the future.



Renderings of the front and back of the historic Jensen sheds. The sheds will house exhibits on commercial fishing and the MMM's collection of antique outboard motors and small craft.





MARITIME DISTRICT
SOUTH HAVEN

Our Voyage



1982
The first Wooden Boat Gathering held at the Museum. The Boat Show will celebrate the event's 39th anniversary in 2021.



1976 1978 1980 1983 1985 1988 1991 1997 2000 2005 2008

Museum signs 20 year lease for the property with the City of South Haven.

The Marialyce Canonie Great Lakes Research Library is established.

Financial crisis hits the MMM and the Museum is almost forced to close its doors.

Lake Michigan Maritime Museum founded by Rowland Sylvester



Museum Center Building opens on property in the old Palisades visitor center building after 2 years of renovations.

Orley's Dock completed and becomes permanent home for Friends Good Will.

First boardwalk built along property leased from Horan Redi-Mix Company.

The Rockaway shipwreck is discovered and the Museum's underwater archaeology project begins.



USCG boathouse was built to house Museum Coast Guard vessels.



Lightkeeper's House turned over to the City of South Haven and leased to the Museum for \$1 per year.



Houseboat *L. Samuel* becomes floating Museum and office.

Lake Michigan Maritime Museum changed the name to Michigan Maritime Museum.

State budget cuts prevent the Museum from becoming part of the State museum system.



Padnos Boat Shed built on Museum campus to function as a workspace for boat building and repair.



1981
Evelyn S. arrives in South Haven in 1975. She is donated to the MMM in 1981 by Museum founder Rowland Sylvester.

1994

The 1st annual Coast Guard Cleanup is hosted. This annual event brings together USCG, Auxiliary, and Sea Cadets to honor USCG heritage.



1997

The MMM hosts the first Fish Boil with help from the Sea Scouts. This fundraiser normally feeds ~500 people each year.



2014

The 1st Boat Walk fundraiser was started by the MMM. Like a home tour, privately owned boats around the harbor are opened to the public.

2012

MMM builds new deck space in front of Padnos building connecting the main campus to Orley's Dock.

2013



1929 Chris Craft Cadet *Pouf* (later renamed *Merry Time*) donated to the MMM as on-water exhibit.

2016



USCG 36' Motor Lifeboat 36460 arrives at the MMM and enters into a long-term loan agreement with owner Jeff Shook.

2018



The MMM participates in Tulip Time for the first time with FGW. In 2019 FGW and *Lindy Lou* are featured.

2020



The MMM secures ownership of the historic Jensen Property and doubles the size of the campus.

2023

MMM completes Launching a Legacy campaign and opens new campus to the public with new 2-story Maritime Heritage Center, developed Jensen Property, new docks, and improved shoreline.



The MMM acquires historic champion R Class racing sloop *Bernida* and adds her to the on-water fleet.



Historic South Haven tug Wilhelm Baum is donated to the Museum through SHOUT.

MMM hires first ever year-round Commander of the Fleet.



2004

Friends Good Will construction is completed and she made her way by water from Albany, NY to South Haven with staff and volunteers aboard rigging the boat as they went.



2011

Lindy Lou's hull arrives at the MMM. The replica Truscott river launch was completed by staff and volunteers in the Padnos Boat Shed.

Our Gratitude & Thanks



This year would not have gone as well as it did without the support of our wonderful volunteers. While we were unable to host our Volunteer Awards due to COVID-19, we wanted to showcase several volunteer who showed their continued support throughout 2020.

WINTER WORK SESSIONS

Attended 10+ sessions

Eric Standen	Steve Roellick
Al Baerren	Dave Spooner
Charlie Livingston	Barb Hogarth
Dave Murphey	

FGW CREW

10+ sails out of 112

Eric Standen (62)	Jeff Anchor (18)
Tom Askew (51)	Charlie Livingston (16)
Tom Jett (21)	Al Baerren (14)
Dan Hyde (21)	Phil Nager (10)

36460 CREW

20+ runs out of 151

Charlie Livingston (58)
Terry Hogan (23)
Dede Ford (22)

HONORING A LEGACY

Long-time supporter Seymour Padnos passed away this year. He will be truly missed; however, his legacy will live on at a place he loved and helped to flourish tremendously over the years. Seymour's love of sailing and Michigan history has so greatly impacted the Museum and will live on through the Padnos name on our campus for generations to come. The Padnos Boat Shed is a busy, hands-on

exhibit that is enjoyed and used year round. He and his family's recent commitment to our Launching a Legacy campaign will help us to break new ground and double the size of our waterfront campus. We are so grateful for all of the donations we received this year in his memory. We were also honored and very pleased that he and Esther were able to visit us once again just last year. Yet another gift we will treasure. We are proud to have the Padnos name on our campus. Thank you for everything you have done for this museum. Fair Winds, Seymour (1920-2020).



Mr. Padnos giving the dedication speech for the Padnos Boat Shed at the opening ceremony in 1997.

COMMITTED TO LEAVING A LEGACY

The MMM is the heartbeat of the Maritime District. It is an important asset of the community and its presence adds value to the entire lakeshore.

The Launching a Legacy campaign is a wonderful project which will have a profound impact stretching far beyond the shores of South Haven. It will serve to protect, preserve, and enhance the Scenic Built Environment.

Looking ahead to the future, many will marvel at, and deeply appreciate, the role this campus plays, where the question will be begged, "How on earth did this historic area stay underdeveloped and unutilized?" They will not fail to recognize the incredible value in this waterfront gem.

My hope is that thousands of Michigan residents and millions of visitors will appreciate this place for the next hundred years. I want them to have outstanding experiences and make lasting memories, whether on the water, the dock, or in one of the many exhibit buildings. I predict that the view from the Dyckman Bridge of the new MMM will become one of the most iconic images of the area in the future. I am committed to leaving a legacy because it is leaving beauty, authenticity, and value to be appreciated for generations.

-Brian Bosgraaf

MMM Board President & Campaign Steering Committee Chair



Brian Bosgraaf

We Will Move Forward!

As most of you know, our Launching a Legacy Campaign was well under way and we were experiencing a very positive momentum about the time that the pandemic hit, and we were all facing a shut down. Also, about that same time, our water levels were reaching an all-time high, threatening the Museum campus, and most critically, threatening the very property we were to take ownership of in the fall of this year. As spring turned to early summer, we found ourselves opening the Museum much later than normal, shorting our already too short summer season. With restrictions in place for all businesses, we opened with the safety and well being of our guests, volunteers, and staff first and foremost in our minds. Our on-water fleet operated much differently this season, with good reason, but our bottom line was hit substantially!

So now we face the challenge of regrouping and moving forward. And we WILL move forward. Please consider supporting either one, two, or even all three of the goals the Museum has set to overcome the challenges of 2020 and welcome 2021 with the same determination and generosity that led us, to just a few weeks ago purchasing the historic Jensen property as planned!

We know it is a lot to ask, but we do so because we need you. This was not a normal season, this was not a normal year, this is not our normal situation! A typical year the MMM earns over 85% of our income. That was just not possible this year. However, we can and will bounce back with your help!

CLOSE THE GAP COVID-19 RELIEF

COVID-19 changed this year completely. With restrictions to open, limited capacities, events canceled, schools closed and our concern for the safety of our visitors, volunteers, captains, crew, and staff, we were forced to operate in an entirely different manner. Bottom line, we suffered an absorbent amount of lost income. Help us to recover from the economic impact of this global pandemic and choose to support operational costs for the Museum.

GOAL \$100,000



HIGH WATER DAMAGE ACTION PLAN



Beginning last year, 2019 water levels were on the rise. For those who have long experienced lake shore living, high and low water levels are part of the norm. This year proved to be much more challenging than most, recalling the nearest levels of this magnitude experience back in 1986. We must preserve and protect this precious waterfront by raising it out of the floodplain and building up and reinforcing the water's edge. Help us prevent further damage from high water and save this historic property for future generations.

GOAL \$500,000

LAUNCHING A LEGACY TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT GOAL \$3.7 MILLION

The campaign was well on its way raising over \$4.3 million of our \$8 million goal. The pandemic hit and suddenly we all became focused on the wellbeing of our families, our loved ones, our students, and quite honestly ourselves. There was fear, concern, and uncertainty for several months. Our team stepped back, we learned how to zoom, we talked... and we decided to pause. It was the right thing to do at that time. Now it's time to pick up where we left off. Help us reach our goal and break ground in the fall of 2021 for new facilities.



PLEASE CONSIDER GIVING TO ONE OR MORE OF THESE OPTIONS. LET'S MOVE FORWARD TOGETHER TODAY!

WWW.MICHIGANMARITIMEMUSEUM.ORG/DONATE



MARITIME DISTRICT
SOUTH HAVEN

260 Dyckman Avenue
South Haven, MI 49090

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
South Haven, MI
Permit No. 24

Current Resident Or:

WWW.MICHIGANMARITIMEMUSEUM.ORG



LEAVE YOUR MARK ON THE NEW CAMPUS!

We are building a legacy one plank at a time! Starting at the corner nearest to the drawbridge on the Historic Jensen Property, the new boardwalk will wrap around the entirety of the Museum's waterfront. Together each plank will help in creating a boardwalk which will link the campus, exhibits and waterfront, expanding the Museum campus and giving all visitors safe accessibility. There's a lot of shoreline to cover and it will take 1400 planks to complete the boardwalk. Each plank is a \$1000 donation. That adds up to a whopping \$1.4 million raised for the project! When buying a plank, an engraved plaque will be fastened to the board and serve as a legacy marker for you, your family, your business, your favorite boat, you name it! With your support, the Buy a Plank program will help to create a boardwalk that will stand for generations to come!

