

History

Nautical Adventures was established in 1975 by a group of individuals with the foresight to recognize the value of promoting the Norfolk waterfront. Coupled with a resurgence of popularity at the waterfront area, a legacy was born to foster the education and enjoyment of waterborne activities along the Elizabeth River and its estuaries. Nautical Adventures continues this effort today by supporting many activities geared primarily towards youth involvement with local waterfront history, marine environmental preservation and awareness, and traditional small craft construction and restoration.

Nautical Adventures organized the first Harborfest Celebration which has grown into a long-standing Norfolk tradition. Today, Harborfest is one of the most popular and widely attended festivals along the east coast. A year later in 1976, Nautical Adventures was instrumental in organizing the Tall Ship visit of OPSAIL 76. Now the Norfolk/Portsmouth waterfront is a major port-o-call for all the Tall Ship Fleet. Soon after, Nautical Adventures took over the administration of the Norfolk School of Boat building. The school was a valuable instrument in the education of the city's youth. Not only did the school teach basic boat building skills, but the school trained young boys and girls in the meaning and value of hard work, leadership and self-reliance.

Membership

There is nothing...absolutely nothing have so much worth doing, as simply messing about in boats. — from the Wind and the Willows

Membership in Nautical Adventures is open to anyone who shares a love and respect for water-related activities, traditional watercraft and a desire to preserve the historic nature of the Elizabeth River, its estuaries and the Chesapeake Bay. The Club holds its general membership meeting on the third week of each month, and members get together many Saturday mornings for repairs and restoration sessions and teaching and mentoring interested youth in traditional boat building methods. This is a remarkable opportunity to make a lasting positive impression on a young person's life. The only requirement is a desire to get involved in what may be the most rewarding volunteer effort you may ever experience.

The York Spit

Nautical Adventures received the *York Spit* as a generous donation from the Richard Miles Family. The *York Spit* was built in Deltaville, Va. in 1947 for the J.H. Miles & Company oyster plant as a "watch boat" to patrol the oyster beds of the Chesapeake Bay against illegal poachers. She is the last remaining vessel of thirteen commercial oystering vessels that were built shortly after World War II. The *York Spit* was retired from commercial service in the early 1960's and became the Miles' family private boat. The other sister ships have either sunk or been destroyed. **The *York Spit* is a vital link in the history of the Chesapeake Bay oystering industry and now serves as the flagship for Nautical Adventures.**

However, funds are needed for several repairs on the vessel before it can embark on its valuable new mission.

Supported Activities

Nautical Adventures continues these same efforts today by supporting the following activities:

Beauty & the Beef

Blackbeard Festival

Wish-A-Fish Foundation

St. Jude's Children's Hospital

Elizabeth River Project

Hampton Roads Rowing Center

Norfolk Marine Institute

Tidewater Maritime Living History Association

Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Safety at Sea

Seas Scouts

Harborfest

OpSail 76

Norfolk School of Boatbuilding

Nautical Book Collection at the Kirn Library

Maury High School Regatta

Lafayette River Raft-up & Rendezvous



Donation Programs

Nautical Adventures will graciously accept your tax-deductible contribution of your boat or vessel. The proceeds of your generous donation go to support educational projects that many youth would not ordinarily be able to participate in. A structured buy-out of your old boat can also be arranged which would give you nearly the same tax-deductible benefits as an outright donation. Please consult your tax advisor on how your contribution can best benefit your tax situation.

For those looking for a boat, whether it be a sailboat, powerboat or traditional rowing or paddling craft, Nautical Adventures has several boats available for purchase at very reasonable prices. Nautical Adventures members are always available for technical assistance as well. Our membership is made up of craftsmen with over a century of combined experience in small boat repair and restoration.

Officers

Carl Meredith
President

Betsy Portner
Vice President

Linda Pirkle
Treasurer

Charlie Portner
Recording Secretary

Vacant
Corresponding Secretary

Lola Howard
Donations & Membership Director

Mission

Nautical Adventures is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational organization.

Our focus is to promote the education and enjoyment of water-related activities along the Elizabeth River. These activities are funded solely through private contributions and the members' fundraising efforts. There is no paid staff or administrators. All our members are volunteers who generously give many hours each year to teach and mentor local boys and girls of all ages.

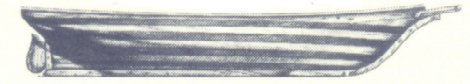
**Nautical Adventures, Inc.
P.O. Box 6347
Norfolk, Virginia 23508**

(757) 623-5818

www.nauticaladventures.org

3-09

Nautical Adventures, Incorporated



***Dedicated to supporting
water-related activities
in Hampton Roads***

Established in 1975