



THE AGE OF SAIL MARITIME ALLIANCE



A not-for-profit historical association formed to promote sailing, seamanship and the maritime arts.

TREASURY REPORT

As of this publication, the ASMA has in its treasury a sum of \$402.35. These funds reflect dues paid by the membership in 2008 and private donations. Membership dues are paid on a yearly basis starting June 30th. ASMA Groups pay \$20/year and individual members who are not part of an ASMA group pay \$5/year.

501C3 TAX EXEMPT STATUS

The ASMA is currently a non-profit corporation in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, however it does not yet have federal tax exempt status as a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation. The application fee can be as high as \$500, and once this status is obtained the ASMA can operate as an organization with all the benefits of tax exempt status such as applying for grants to pay for educational programs and providing letters of receipt for donations that can be used for potential tax credit. The ASMA is currently working to raise the funds to pay for this application, and hopes to do so with the collection of 2009 membership dues.

ASMA EVENTS for 2009

The ASMA has sanctioned four events as part of the 2009 season. The events and contact information for each are:

The Grand Encampment at Old Fort Niagara, NY
(F&I)
July 2-3-4
Info: Kevin Richard-Morrow / sschuyler59@aol.com

The 250th Founding of the Royal Navy Dockyard in
Halifax, Nova Scotia (F&I)
July 17-18-19
Info: Victor Suthren / suthren@magma.ca

The Battle of Plattsburgh, NY (War of 1812)
September 11-12-13
Info: Don Craig / dcraig@westelcom.com

The Burning of Kingston, NY - ASMA Annual
Meeting (Rev War)
October 16-17-18
Info: Gene Tozzi - HD18thCent@aol.com

MEMBER LAUNCHINGS

In March of 2009 Rob Friar and the crew of the HMS OTTER/VSN launched their first ship's boat they call "RENASCENT."



"RENASCENT" riding high after being launched in March, 2009.

The 16' cedar-on-oak boat, known as a "Sea Bright Skiff" was originally built by Charles Hankins in 1972 as a lifesaving beach boat for the town of Deal, NJ. It was acquired by Damian Siekonic in October of 2004 and in early 2005 it was resold to the Virginia State Navy (HMS OTTER) where over the next few years it underwent a complete restoration.



A photo of "RENASCENT" when it was rescued in October, 2004.

"RENASCENT" was used on the Potomac River at Mount Vernon this past April where it performed flawlessly as part of the site's historical programming. It mounts an iron swivel gun on a king post stationed in the bow, and can comfortably carry a crew of six.

In April of 2009 another Charles Hankins boat was re-launched, this one by Privateer Media. Damian Siekonic found the 20' cedar-on-oak cutter in June of 2008 in a southern NJ barn where it sat unused for the past eighteen years. Called "PERSEPHONE," the boat underwent a complete restoration in the winter of 2008/2009. The paint was stripped off the outside of the hull and the planks were inspected, patched & sanded, the seams re-caulked, and then the hull repainted.

New thole pins were fashioned from oak and the rigging was retro-fitted using manila cordage, oak mast hoops and wooden deadeyes for the stays.

Peter Marques from Tentsmiths made the cotton canvas sails using the boat's original Dacron sails as a pattern. Having a single-masted sprit rig, "PERSEPHONE" carries 167 sq. ft. of canvas and can carry a crew of ten.



"Persephone" launched at Lake Nockamixon, PA in April, 2009.

October of 2007 saw the launching of the 24' Pettiauger "MERCURY" by the Ulster County Militia. Based on the Hudson River in NY, this spring the "MERCURY" was fitted out with new masts and her sail rig is soon to follow. "MERCURY" and her crew are planning to take part in the 250th Founding of the Royal Navy Dockyard in Halifax, Nova Scotia.



The Pettiauger "MERCURY" shows off her new masts.

In November of 2008 Frank Rodriques purchased from Damian Siekonic one of the last wooden Atlantic City lifesaving boats. Built by Van Sant in 1982, this 18' South Jersey Sea Skiff is now being restored by Frank to serve as a yawl for the crew of the HMS SOMERSET.

Constructed using cedar plank over white oak, the lines of the South Jersey Sea Skiff are very similar to the Whitehall style boats and shares many of the same hull characteristics of the Sea Bright Skiff built by Hankins.



The Van Sant boat in June, 2008.

HELP NEEDED

The ASMA has an opening for 1812 Department Head. The organization needs someone who is plugged into the 1812 reenactment and event community and can inform the membership about opportunities where maritime groups can participate. Anyone interested is asked to please contact the ASMA board.

ASMA BOARD

Howard Helmer ~ President
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Gregg Champlin ~ Vice President
Gregg.Champlin@hsem.nh.gov

John Taylor ~ Secretary
johnataylor1@yahoo.com

Damian Siekonic ~ Treasurer
damian@privateermedia.com

ASMA DEPT. HEADS

F&I ~ Scott Padeni
Rev War ~ Gene Tozzi
1812 ~ vacant

MAILING ADDRESS

ASMA
P.O. Box 66
Center Valley, PA 18034

2009 dues should be paid by June 30th. Please make checks/money orders out to "ASMA" and mail them to the address shown above. Dues are \$20/group for member groups, or \$5/person for those who are individual members and are not part of a group.
