

Historic Port of Washington Project and Museum

From the Wheelhouse - November 15, 2016

Ahoy Members and Friends,

We had a fun first annual meeting of HPOW volunteers, officers, directors, members, and guests at the Turnage Theater Gallery on October 26th, 2016. More than 50 history buffs and museum supporters enjoyed a brief business meeting and elected officers and directors for the coming year, an HPOW's history presentation, the results of our on-line survey on projected museum operations, and two very informative presentations by local boat building businesses; www.shipinabottle.com, and, www.pacificseacraft.com. Many thanks to those who became new or renewed members, purchased T-shirts, and made donations; totaling \$629.00 - another month's rent.

Our all volunteer team displayed a variety of artifacts from your museum including an 1800-1900 era Washington Ocean Fire Company leather fire helmet, ladies leather shoes and other clothing items, period boat models, household items, and a 45 star U. S. flag. Many of the artifacts were graciously donated by the Elizabeth "Bee" Fowle Morton estate, and will be on display each Saturday at your museum on 132 S. Market St. 9:30 am-1:30 pm.

I think we are demonstrating that we are in it for the long run to bring a valuable historic program to the city to present its fascinating, and slumbering history to current and future generations, and to increase heritage tourism to benefit our local businesses. To achieve these goals we need your support of time, talent, and treasure more than ever;

- **Time** to volunteer at your museum and guide visitors through our history - just a few hours a month - its fun. Also to plan and implement fun history learning and fundraising activities
- **Talent** to help us properly preserve and display our increasing artifact donations, and prepare and present local history presentations to our schools, service organizations, and businesses
- **Treasure** to pay the rent, keep the lights on, purchase necessary supplies and equipment to preserve and protect artifacts, and keep Washington's history in Washington. We need donations of good used glass display cabinets that open in the front and are lockable to display artifacts. A nicely painted sign across the front of the museum would help visitors find us.

We only have about \$1,500 in the bank - barely 3 months' rent. Hopefully everyone that can, individuals and businesses, will soon step up and support your museum. All donations of dollars and non-monetary goods are tax deductible, through Arts of the Pamlico's 501(c)3 status, and all funds go into our programs. Donations can be made out to HPOW, and sent to PO Box 171, Washington, NC 27889. Now that we have formalized our organization we will begin applying for grants, but they will probably not materialize for 6 months or more - unless you know of a readily available funding source. I will be pleased to chat with anyone who would like to contribute in any way to our program, 252-945-4472. Thank you very much for your support in the past and any help you can contribute in the future. Be sure to visit your

museum whenever you are in town to share history with us, and especially to see our planned Christmas Holiday model train display depicting the first railroad to serve Washington, the little Jamesville “Jolt” & Washington “Wiggle” Railroad.

Wishing you all a fun and safe Thanksgiving Holiday,

Rick Zablocki, Chair, Historic Port of Washington Project and Museum

www.hpow.org, contact@hpow.org