



Cabin Notes

Friends of the Governor Stone, Inc.

P.O. Box 4716

Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549

info@governorstone.org

850-621-0011

www.GovernorStone.org

AUGUST 2011

Meet the Board



Acting President
Harry Dennard
Woodmen of
the World



Captain of Register
Dick Gercak
Leeward Time, Inc.
Master Captain



Secretary/Treasurer
Carol Visalpatara
Historical Interpreter



Kristin Anderson
Artist, Silversmith
Kristinworks



Capt. Bill Hamilton
Retired IBMer
Master Captain



Jon Hill
Executive Director
Pensacola Lighthouse

Nancy Wengel Resigns as President of FOGS



Friends of Governor Stone reluctantly accepted President Nancy Wengel's resignation, prompted by her desire to spend more time with family. We are grateful she will remain a member of FOGS. Nancy will always have a berth on the *Governor Stone* and a special place of appreciation in our hearts. Because of Nancy we have a strong foundation, from which to move forward preserving and sharing this historical vessel throughout the Gulf. We thank you Nancy for sharing with us in this noble mission. "Catch you again when the stars are right" - Harry Dennard, Vice President

Apalachicola Antique Boat Show

The GS was again invited to this April event. Gibby Conrad, nephew of a previous owner gave a talk on the vessel history and his memories of the schooner he knew as the Sea Bob. It was a special return to Apalachicola.

A Happy Stern Repair



Many thanks to Brian D'Isernia and Easter Shipbuilding Group for the repair of the deterioration in the stern area of the *Governor*. Eastern provided the materials and Project Manager and master ship carpenter Justin Smith to lead volunteer carpenter assistants in the rebuild. Justin and volunteer coordinator, Captain Bill Hamilton worked through most of May with Jeff Lawson, Greg Holbrook, Harry Dennard and Carol Visalpatara also assisting. We are indebted to Bill for organizing it all and for all the knowledge he absorbed from Justin.

Uncle Ernie's Meets the Governor

Erin Pigneri and Shawn Lyons of Uncle Ernie's Bayfront Grill & Brewhouse generously donated to the Friends of the Governor Stone a percentage of their proceeds for May 31st. The vessel was available for tours at the dock of this popular St. Andrews restaurant and drew quite a crowd.

An Eventful Ft. Walton Beach Stay

The *Governor Stone* docked at the Fort Walton Beach Landing from June 1 to July 29 this year. Volunteers were on board each Sunday, Monday, and Friday from 5 to 7 pm and over 400 people visited for tours.

The vessel defended the City against notorious pirate Captain Billy Bowlegs during the Festival June 3 and 4, provided a hands-on block and tackle activity for the City-sponsored Kids Day in the Park June 24th, taught schooner and sailing lore to the Archaeology Summer Campers from Heritage Park and offered the public a view of the July 4th fireworks over her bowsprit. On July 24th the FWB Sail and Power Squadron held a rendezvous at the *Governor Stone* and the Woodmen of the World presented an American flag to Captain Gercak to be flown on the vessel. The FWB Police Honor Guard escorted the flag to the vessel where it was raised on a halyard and honored with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Thanks to students from AMikids Emerald Coast for monitoring the Governor Stone while docked in FWB.



A Date in St. Andrews



Ray Mansfield caught up with the *Governor Stone* as she motored thru Choctawhatchee Bay August 29th and got great photos. The trip from Ft. Walton to St. Andrews was uneventful and too soon over.

The *GS* is scheduled to be in Panama City through this October. While at her slip in St. Andrews Marina she

will be open for tours Tuesday and Thursday evenings 5-7 pm. Check the website or call for current schedule, as she will be sailing and participating in events as well.

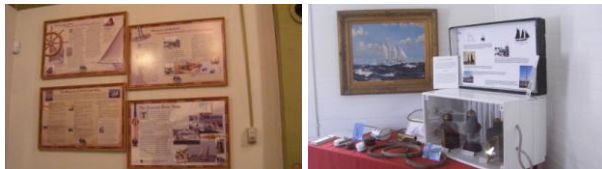
Wreath Laying

Saturday morning, August 27th at 9:00 the *Governor Stone* will lead a flotilla from Panama City Marina to near Lake Caroline where memorial wreaths will be laid. Co-sponsor St. Andrews Presbyterian Church will lay a wreath in honor of the heritage of the church, 125 years old this year. A wreath honoring those lost on 9/11 will be laid by City Commissioner Mike Nichols. Private vessels are welcome to join the flotilla and all are invited to ride the St. Andrew Bay Ferry on the trip which concludes at St. Andrews Marina. Call 850-615-1477 to reserve. Half the \$10 fee will be donated to the *Governor Stone*.

Displays

The Friends have two displays about the *Governor Stone* and the role of coastal schooners along the upper Gulf coast. Four panels describe the history of the *GS* and the socio-economic impact of vessel like her. A collection of *GS* artifacts, photos and memorabilia is displayed from two of the vessel deck boxes. Either is a stand-alone display, or they can be used together. Museums, libraries, etc. are invited to use these educational resources.

Both displays are presently viewable at the Pensacola Lighthouse & Museum, NAS, Pensacola.



Work Day Saturday, August 20th 3pm

at St. Andrews Marina, a fun and productive afternoon. All are welcome to visit and/or labor.

We welcome new memberships Invite your friends

- _____ \$50 ~ Deckhand (individual)
- _____ \$75 ~ Cabinmates (family, up to 4)
- _____ \$250 ~ Seamen
- _____ \$500 ~ Staysail Sponsor
- _____ \$1,000 ~ Foresail Sponsor
- _____ \$5,000 ~ Mainsail Sponsor

The amounts are minimums per category
Dues and donations are tax deductible

Volunteer Opportunities

Endless. Here are a few that come to mind.

Tour Guides in St. Andrews – 5-7 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays and some Saturdays 10-12. Materials and information provided. Sharing the vessel with the public is extremely rewarding.

Researcher-Interviewer – This has two parts. We have relatives of past owners to be interviewed. We also would like to get a history of repairs and changes to the vessel by talking to those who did them.

Demonstrator – Take display and block and tackle demo to events in the area.

Painter – Certainly endless opportunities here - this is a mindless and rewarding way to extend the vessel's life.

Needs

Bosun's Chair – Anyone have one tucked away somewhere?

Boarding Ladder - Here is a good project.

Sails -- The present sails were made in 1991 and are nearing retirement. We are getting an estimate of replacement cost. Donations earmarked for sail replacement greatly appreciated. Further on this fundraiser in the near future.

Shipmates Status

FWB Shipmate secured funding from the Okaloosa County TDC for the year.

Panama City is gearing up for more sailing and more event participation now that major repairs are complete. Apalachicola is planning to convert from a one day a year Host to full Shipmate for the coming year.

Note Our New Phone Number

Calling **850-621-0011** will connect you with a Friend of the *Governor Stone*.

Many Thanks to:

Azalea Court Inn in St. Andrews

Seamen member of the Friends of the *Governor Stone*

St. Andrews Community Redevelopment Council

Sponsor of the *Governor's* stay in St. Andrews

Okaloosa County Tourist Development Council

Sponsor of the *Governor's* stay in Ft. Walton Beach

Ship Schedule:

Guides will provide tours of the Governor Stone Tuesdays and Thursdays 5-7 pm from August 23rd through September, weather permitting.

Wreath-laying Saturday, August 27, 9:00am. Further schedule on website when confirmed

New Ship Schedule:

Shipmates and potential hosts are invited to submit to the Scheduling Committee all requests for the vessel for November and December of 2011 and for 2012. Email or call.