



## ORLEANS HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

OrleansHistoricalSociety.org  
3 River Road, P.O. Box 353, Orleans, MA 02653  
508-240-1329

*By bringing history and culture to life, the Orleans Historical Society will inspire a shared sense of community and pride in the rich heritage of the Town of Orleans.*

SPRING 2016

### CG36500 APPEARANCE SURPRISES MOVIEGOERS

There she was...right in front of surprised guests as they left the Orpheum Theater in Chatham after a special screening of Disney's *The Finest Hours* on January 28. Many went up to touch and photograph her, the famous CG36500 lifeboat that helped save 32 crew members from the broken tanker *Pendleton* during a ferocious winter storm in 1952. The movie retells the heroic story of what is still known today as the greatest small-boat rescue in Coast Guard history.

The special screening was just one of several events sponsored by the Chatham Bars Inn and others that night, held to benefit the Orleans Historical Society (OHS) and the Coast Guard Heritage Museum in Barnstable. Tickets were offered to the public earlier in January for \$95 each, and sold out within hours. Simultaneously,



*Visitors take photos of CG36500 outside Chatham Bars Inn.  
Photo by Marcia Bromley.*

### OHS RECEIVES \$10,000 GRANT

Trustees of the R. K. Mellon Family Foundation in Ligonier, Pennsylvania, have approved a grant of \$10,000 to the Orleans Historical Society toward the "Save the CG36500 Fund." The Foundation's grant programs support charitable activities with primary emphasis in Western Pennsylvania. It is interested in a broad range of activities focusing on the fields of education, health care, social and human services, and conservation.

OHS has conveyed its deep appreciation for the grant, and is proud to be recognized for its decades of volunteer work in restoring and preserving the famed lifeboat known for its 1952 rescue of 32 *Pendleton* crew members, and recently the focus of Disney's film *The Finest Hours*.

Disney was holding premiers and advanced screenings of the movie all over the country, and some Orleans Historical Society members and major supporters attended the Boston event.

"Building on all the publicity surrounding the movie, we issued a national press release to emphasize that the legacy of the actual lifeboat involved in rescue continues beyond the movie theaters," said Gail Nessell Colglazier, OHS executive director. "We wanted everyone to know that the fully restored and operational CG36500 is owned and preserved by us and still plies its home waters of Cape Cod more than 60 years later."

In addition, a special "mini-museum" made its debut at the Chatham Bars Inn on January 28 during the "after-party" for guests attending the special movie screening, and remained open to the public through most of February (see photos on p. 6). The mini-museum consists of 11 door-sized panels on which a complete narrative of the *Pendleton* rescue, a number of photos, and various artifacts are displayed. The exhibit will be set up at the OHS Meetinghouse Museum on River Road in Orleans, where it is expected to be available for viewing through the summer.

(cont. page 3)

Letter from the Executive Director

Spring 2016

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Executive Director  
Gail Nessel Colglazier

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As I write this, the sun is shining brightly on a new dusting of snow on a bitterly cold morning. Winter in Orleans is beautiful, but even as I am enjoying it I am looking ahead to the summer season here at OHS.

My first two months on the job have been a whirlwind of activity. As you might guess, with the opening of the Disney movie *The Finest Hours* at the end of January, our organization and our historic motor lifeboat, the CG36500, have received a lot of attention recently. We've been featured in local and national media, and a steady stream of visitors has come in or called to ask where they can see the 36500 in person. The answer, in case you would like to visit her, is at Nauset Marine East off Barley Neck Road in East Orleans.

Now that the excitement is dying down just a bit, we are starting to plan our summer season, which will focus on the CG36500. A highlight will be a special exhibition about the 36500's historic rescue of 32 sailors from the stranded oil tanker *Pendleton*. Visitors to the Chatham Bars Inn during weekends in late January and February got a preview of the exhibit, which was organized by us and the Coast Guard Heritage Museum, and includes items from their collection as well as ours.

In addition we will host the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Spring Antiques Show on June 18, (for details see p. 5). On June 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> the Yarmouth Minutemen will hold an encampment on the Orleans Village Green. We will also offer a series of historic walking tours, our *Music at the Meetinghouse* concerts, and a celebration of Orleans history in conjunction with the Orleans Community Partnership at the Old Firehouse Gallery in August.

Behind the scenes, we are planning a review of our membership program so that we can offer our members the benefits that they would most like to see. Watch for a membership survey soon. We also plan an upgrade of our information technology systems so we can provide a more user-friendly online experience. As a start, we have launched a new Facebook page, so be sure to "like" us so you can get all the latest information on events and activities.

I'll end by saying how welcome everyone has made me feel in my first two months with OHS. Members have called to say hello or come in to introduce themselves, people in town have congratulated me when I have mentioned who I am and what I am doing, and we have received a very generous response to our 2016 annual appeal. Thank you, one and all, for your kind welcome and continued support of the OHS. I look forward to meeting more of you in the coming months.

Gail Nessel Colglazier  
Executive Director

(CG36500 -cont.) “We also honored our many CG36500 volunteers – past and present – with a block of tickets for the movie at the Orpheum that opening weekend, followed by a private reception at the Chatham Squire,” Colglazier said. “Our volunteers have played an important role in restoring and preserving the boat for more than 35 years, and we wanted to thank them for their incredible dedication and commitment.”

As for the star of the movie, Colglazier said OHS is expecting a large number of visitors at Rock Harbor this summer to see the CG36500, as a result of all the publicity. But area residents don’t have to wait for the crowds, she added, they can view the boat now through about mid-May at Nauset Marine East on Meetinghouse Pond.

*For more information, directions and the opportunity to support the CG36500’s continued preservation, go to [www.CG36500.org](http://www.CG36500.org).*

**CBS THIS MORNING AIRS FOLLOW-UP  
CG36500 SEGMENT**

The famed CG36500 again made national news on the January 30 edition of *CBS This Morning*, marking the release of *The Finest Hours* movie. In the new segment, correspondent Mark Albert interviews the only surviving 36500 crew member from the rescue, Andy Fitzgerald, and another retired Coast Guardsman, Mel “Gus” Gouthro, who was too sick to go on the rescue but was sent to the grounded bow section of the *Pendleton* two days later to search for survivors (there were none). The correspondent also refers back to his original October, 2015 segment in which he rode in the boat and interviewed OHS board member Dick Ryder. Links to both broadcasts can be found on [www.OrleansHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.OrleansHistoricalSociety.org).

**ADDISON GALLERY HOSTS BENEFIT**

Friends and guests gathered on February 6 at Nauset Farms to watch popular artists from the Addison Gallery recreate scenes from in- and outside the iconic market in East Orleans. Later that afternoon, a catered exhibition of those paintings (with paint still wet) was held at the Gallery on Rte. 28. The events were held by Nauset Farms catering and Addison Art Gallery to benefit the Orleans Historical Society.

Shown is painting *Nauset Farms* by Susan Overstreet.



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**The star of Disney’s *The Finest Hours* is right here in Orleans... see page 4!**

**It’s Not Too Late!**

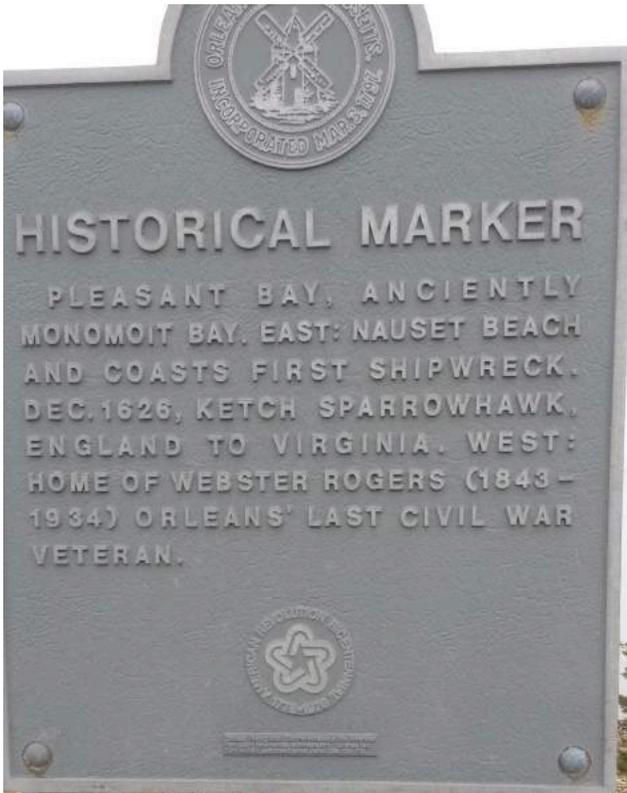
Join your many neighbors who responded to our Annual Appeal and are helping to support the Orleans Historical Society and its important programs, including the famed CG36500.

Go to: [OrleansHistoricalSociety.org](http://OrleansHistoricalSociety.org)

**Pleasant Bay: What's In a Name?**

by Ron Petersen

From time to time, OHS members have asked, "How did Pleasant Bay get its name?" There is no doubt that the name is a fitting description for this dramatic and incredible treasure in our midst, but alas, the story behind the name is not so dramatic. According to the papers of W. Sears Nickerson, the name evolved over a period of time.



The Bay was known as Monomoyick to the local Native Americans, which likely meant "Great Bay" in the native language. Captain Thomas Dermer was the first European of record to enter the Bay, and he spelled it "Manamock" in letters he wrote in 1619. In 1621, the Pilgrims journeyed down from Plymouth to recover a lost child (the Billington boy). Governor Bradford refers to the Native American that they met on this trip as "an Indian from Manamoyake." In 1622, Bradford led a corn-buying expedition to "Manamoyake Bay." In 1626, he returned again as the head of a rescue party that aided the distressed crew of the Sparrow-Hawk shipwreck. Bradford described the site of the wreck as "right before Manamoyack Bay."

As the years went by, the Indian word evolved into Monomoit, and finally Monomoy (not to be confused with present day Monomoy Point). Area residents adopted the literal English translation of the Indian word, calling it "The Great Bay" until it became known as Pleasant Bay at some unknown point in the eighteenth century. The name "Pleasant Bay" first appeared on a map of Eastham dated May 22, 1795.

Thanks to Delores Bird Carpenter for her wonderful presentation of the Nickerson Papers and to Marcia Monbleau for her comprehensive work on Pleasant Bay, both of whom were sources for this article. Also see William Bradford's *Of Plymouth Plantation* for more information.

**ORLEANS HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL APPEAL**

Here is my gift of:  \$500  \$250  \$100  \$50  \$25  Other

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address, City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail (We won't share/sell it) \_\_\_\_\_

*P.S. Does your employer match your donations to non-profit organizations?  
You can double your impact by using your employer's donation matching program.*

**NEW DATE, LOCATION FOR OHS ANTIQUES SHOW ANNOUNCED**

by Charlene Dixon

The Orleans Historical Society's 4th Annual Antiques Show has a new date and location. We have moved the show to **Saturday, June 18**, and to the front lawn of the Nauset Middle School. The event will run from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and admission will be \$5.00 with show coupon. As usual, children will be free.

By holding the event later in June, we will be able to take advantage of the start of the summer vacation season and, hopefully, better weather conditions. We are hoping that it will draw even more than the 500+ visitors we had last year. Changing the venue to the front lawn of the school will ensure much greater visibility in an inviting tree-lined setting.

Our show has developed an excellent reputation among dealers as well as the general public. We have 35+ quality dealers who will offer a great variety of antiques including: vintage jewelry, nautical- and country-style items and furniture, stoneware, and more.

So mark your calendar and plan to spend your Saturday visiting the Antiques Show, as well as the military encampment being held right next door (see Upcoming Events).

**Music at the Museum: Spring 2016**

**Saturday, March 26 at 7:30 pm.** Pianist **Alon Goldstein** returns with a program of works by Bach, Schubert, Debussy and Ligeti. (Sponsored by the Russell-Davidson Foundation).

**Tickets: \$18 members (\$20 non-members)**



**Friday, April 15 at 7:30 pm.** Kaeza Fearn and Kenneth Fearn will perform works for piano-four hands by Brahms, Bernstein, Bolcom and Fearn including "Overture to Candide."

**Tickets: \$18 members (\$20 non-members)**

**Wednesday, June 1 at 6:00 pm.** Students and faculty of the Cape Conservatory CJazz class present a recital of jazz standards.

**Admission Free**

**Saturday, June 4 at 7:30 pm.** Sandy and Richard Riccardi return for a rollicking cabaret evening of music and comedy.

**Tickets: \$25** (member discounts not available for this event) *Complimentary refreshments.*

**Upcoming Events at the OHS:**

**May, June**

**Orleans Historical Society Museum open** Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9:00 – 12:00 and 1:00 – 5:00  
3 River Rd. Exhibits on the history of the town and on the historic lifeboat CG36500.

**Mid-May, June**

**Famed Lifeboat CG 36500 Docked at Rock Harbor.** The 36500 is owned by the Orleans Historical Society and was the focus of the Disney movie *The Finest Hours*.

**June 18**

**4th Annual Antiques Show**, sponsored by Orleans Historical Society. On the green at Nauset Middle School, 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (rain or shine).

**June 17 – 19**

**Yarmouth Minutemen Encampment**, sponsored by Orleans Historical Society, Orleans Village Green. Militia members will interpret 18th century life through demonstrations, cooking, and militia maneuvers.

**June 24**

**Historic Cemetery Walk**, sponsored by Orleans Historical Society. 10:00 a.m. Tour the Orleans Cemetery with historian Bonnie Snow and learn about the town's early residents. Meet at the OHS Meetinghouse, 3 River Rd.



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## “GALA” Event at Chatham Bars Inn Benefits OHS



Guests attending *The Finest Hours* “Gala” event at Chatham Bars Inn talk about the movie and the special *Pendleton* mini-museum on January 28. Photos by Marcia Bromley.

