

Soundside Learning

This Week On The Sound

An End To The Weekend

Waterfowl Weekend A Huge Success!

We served up a mountain of Sweet Puppies, auctioned off some beautiful decoys, tonged some oysters, and welcomed a wonderful crowd folks from all over our state and beyond, but alas Waterfowl Weekend has once again come and gone. We want to thank all of *you* for coming out to the museum and taking part in the festivities of the weekend because without you, none of what we do here at Core Sound would be possible. Thank you.

To our dedicated volunteer staff who stuck with us through the preparation and cleanup, we are eternally grateful for all you do. The success of this weekend was truly a team effort.



A young man learns how to tong oysters at Waterfowl Weekend, 2021

Photo: CSWM&HC Collection



Our 2021 Waterfowl Weekend was topped off with a beautiful performance from the United States Marine Corps 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing Band in remembrance of our World War II veterans and the attacks on Pearl Harbor, December 7th, 1941.

Photo: Gordon Allen



Sound Reading Material For You & Your Child

Rescue on the Outer Banks

By: Candace Ransom

On October 11, 1896, 10-year-old Sam Deal and his horse, Ginger, watch as the brave surfmen of Pea Island struggle to save the lives of nine people stranded on a shipwreck. Sam has dreamt of becoming a surfman just like the all-African-American crew, and this is his chance. Can he and Ginger help the crew rescue the victims, or will they be lost forever?

Did You Know?

In 1915 the U.S. Lifesaving Service merged with the Revenue Cutter Service to create the U.S. Coast Guard.

Our Core Sound Christmas

Harkers Island's Lights Make a Comeback!

Last night my wife and I decided that we would take our children, Annie (2 years) and Larson (9 months) on a car ride to look at Christmas lights. Annie is at the perfect age, as she nears her third birthday in January where Christmas is becoming the most magical time of year. I have found that her delight and wonder at the many wonders of the season has rekindled my love for the season as well, leading me to think back to the days of my youth and many wonderful holiday traditions.

As we drove around the community last night I could not help but think about how wonderful it is that I am able to share the wonderful traditions and culture of Down East with my family. Having grown up on Harkers Island I have seen first hand the withering away of Christmas lights that have occurred over the years and which seemingly accelerated in the early 2000s as many of the islands local residents have passed away or moved away, leaving summer homes in place of what were previously vibrant family dwellings. In recent years, however, Harkers Island's lights have made a big comeback and the future of Christmas on Harkers Island has never been brighter.



The My Lady Pat

Photo: CSWM&HC Collection

Thanks to Bring Back The Lights to Harkers Island, an organization formed to reinvigorate Harkers Island's holiday season, Christmas decor on the island has made a marked return. In partnership with the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum & Heritage Center, Bring Back The Lights has spread the now instantly recognizable Island Anchors, a symbol of our communities steadfastness in the face of change, across eastern North Carolina and beyond.

Our car ride last night concluded at Shell Point as we entered the Core Sound Museum's display of Core Sound Christmas. The Museum's staff and volunteers have gone above and beyond this year with a Christmas display that celebrates our local past, present, and future. The *My Lady Pat*, a true Harkers Island workboat built by Jamie Lewis, is lit up and on display in honor of the boat's late captain, Mr. Stephen Gaskill of Harkers Island. The boat's display is complete with a Channel Net and tail-bag, highlighting a true Harkers Island fishery. As you exit the Museum you are escorted out by Santa and his geese-drawn skiff, followed by a school of jumping mullets! If you have not made it down to "the end of the road" to see these geese fly, you are missing out. It is no wonder after experiencing this display that the Core Sound Museum's display was honored with FIRST PLACE in the Cab and Barbara Ramsey Harkers Island Christmas Decorating Contest, an honor we here at the museum truly covet.

To everyone who has helped to bring these lights back to Harkers Island, Thank you! Last night with my family was a true reminder of the magic that is Christmas on Core Sound. To see my daughter's eyes light up with each passing light display was priceless and something that I will never forget. I am grateful that she will know what a Harkers Island Christmas is all about.

-Tanner M. Lynk

Education Coordinator, CSWM&HC