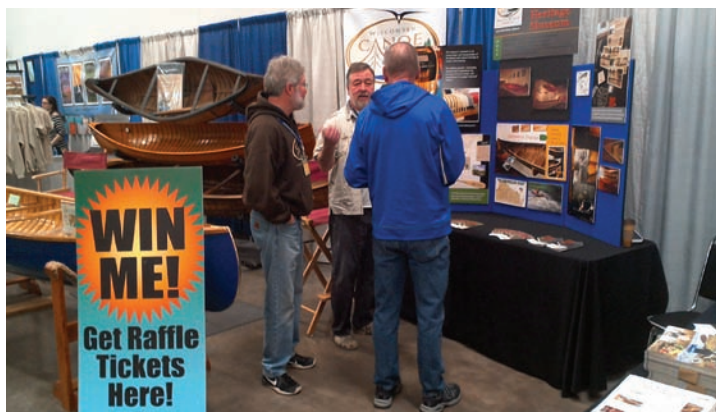




WCHM News

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Museum



Get Ready For 2021 WCHM Canoe & Wooden Boat Show on Sat May 29

Yes, there will be an 11th annual Canoe & Wooden Boat Show on Saturday May 29, 2021. Cancelled in 2020, this one day free event typically includes museum tours and open house, the unveiling of new displays, workshops in the canoe shop, and live music and food and beverage in the beer garden. “We may have to re-design some of the components of the event,” says WCHM Executive Director Jed Malischke, “but since the event is primarily an outdoor event anyway we believe we can produce it safely.”

WCHM Will Have Booth at 2021 Virtual Canoecopia March 12-14

The Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Museum will have a booth at the 2021 virtual Canoecopia on March 12-14. Usually held in Madison (WI), Canoecopia claims to be the largest canoe and kayak exhibition in the world. This virtual version will be a great opportunity for members to attend an event that may have been too far away for them in the past. And while you are there taking advantage of this virtual opportunity, you’ll also be able to visit the WCHM booth.

What can you expect at a virtual Canoecopia? First, there will be over 80 presentations. Room sizes are now unlimited and most presentations will be available up to 60 days after the event, so there is no need to miss a speaker. You’ll be able to live text chat, direct message, and in some cases partake in live Q&As with speakers during and after their presentations.

Second, you can take in the more than 70 exhibitor booths, where you can text chat with exhibitors, watch product demos and see presentations from their shops, galleries, and factories. Due to continuing supply issues and increased demand, some items may be in limited supply this year, so here is a good opportunity to take advantage of the best gear selection and availability of the year. There will also be special deals and incentives for ticket holders.

Other perks? No crowds, no parking fees, and you can wear your pajamas! For more information visit www.rutabaga.com/canoecopia. We hope to “see you” there!

One thing that will not change is the opportunity for exhibitors to display their treasures. Exhibitors can include individuals, commercial entities, non-profits, authors, government agencies, educators, and crafters with items relevant to boaters and wooden boats and canoes. Now is the time to plan your project or item. We’re looking for canoes and wooden boats of all shapes, sizes, and designs, both classic and modern, as well as all kinds of classic and vintage water and paddling related items. Whether you have items to sell, or you just have something to show off, there will be many interested folks attending this free event.

Booth space is free, and reserving a space is easy. You can access a booth reservation form from the WCHM website at www.WisconsinCanoeHeritageMuseum.org, or request one at info@wisconsincanoeheritagemuseum.org.



Cedar Strip Canoe Building Class Rescheduled For 2021

Two Options: May 19-28 and September 17-26



Josh Tolkan, graduate of the Northwest School of Wooden Boat Building in Port Townsend, Washington, and Artisan in Development at North House Folk School in Grand Marais, Minnesota, was scheduled to teach a class in cedar strip canoe building at WCHM in 2020, but the class was canceled due to the pandemic. The class has now been rescheduled for 2021 with two options, one in the spring and one in the fall. These are great introductory classes because they will teach traditional boat building techniques, modern composite techniques, and produce an amazing canoe for you to take home.

The first class is scheduled to start on Wednesday May 19th and continue daily through Friday May 28th. The second class will be September 17th to 26th. These are ambitious ten-day projects, and you will need a team of two to four people to work with, so plan to bring a partner or two. Each class is limited to two teams. Canoes will be constructed of clear Alaskan yellow cedar and red cedar from the West coast shipped in specifically for this class. The cost for each team is \$3,550 (includes all materials for each team to build and take home one cedar strip canoe). For more information or to register call 715-635-2479 or email info@WisconsinCanoeHeritageMuseum.org.



Thank You to Our 2021 Business Supporters

Crystal Creek Natural, Spooner WI
Shell Lake State Bank, Shell Lake WI

Spooner Riverplace Motel, Spooner WI
Border Lakes Guide Service, Grand Marais MN
Red Cross Pharmacy & RC Gifts, Spooner WI
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Tim Reedy Insurance, Spooner WI
Northwind Book & Fiber, Spooner WI
St Croix River Association, Saint Croix Falls WI
Myka Canoe Loaders, Sheboygan WI
Northwest Canoe Company, Clearwater MN
Schmitz's Economart, Spooner WI

News Briefs & Upcoming Events



2021 Raffle Canoe Under Construction

Work has begun in the WCHM Canoe Shop on a new canoe for the 2021 raffle. Mike Johnson and Jamie Dunn have begun the process of milling ribs and planks and bending rails for a 16 foot cedar canvas canoe to be built on a Jerry Karbon mold following a Rushton Indian Girl design. "This will be a fast, shallow-arch canoe," Johnson says, "maybe not the best for beginners but great fun overall." Completion of the canoe is expected sometime this spring. Tickets are expected to be available by March 1 with a final drawing at the end of September 2021.

Restoration Complete: War Canoe Heads Home

Wrapped in plastic covering to protect the new bright red finish, and securely fastened to a six-canoe trailer repurposed to carry just one, a 25 foot 1925 Old Town War Canoe recently departed WCHM. The canoe is returning to its owner Mike Cichanowski, founder and CEO of Wenonah Canoes. It had been received by the museum on loan for restoration in the summer of 2019. Over the past year restoration in the museum workshop has quietly progressed during the pandemic.



Have A Canoe in Need of Repairs?

Northwest Canoe Company is a genuine canoe building and repair shop in Clearwater MN. They offer repairs and refurbishing of various types of canoes, kayaks and stand up paddle boards. If you are looking to get repairs done, send them an email to info@northwestcanoe.com with details (and pictures if possible) to see what prices and timing look like. And if you're looking to make that cedar strip canoe building dream a reality, they have you covered with plans, materials, videos, information and the expertise to assist where needed. By offering inexpensive plans of various tried and true NorthWest Canoe original cedar strip designs, both solo and tandem, they hope that you will look to them for all your building needs. www.northwestcanoe.com.

WCHA 2021 Annual Assembly July 13-18

The Wooden Canoe Heritage Association (WCHA) is planning their Annual Assembly for July 13-18, 2021, to be held at Paul Smith's College in Paul Smiths, New York. A companion event, the Adirondack Canoe Symposium, will be concurrently held at the same location. The theme of this year's event, "Solo Canoes and Remembering Tom Mackenzie," is a carryover from last year's cancelled assembly. WCHM is planning to attend and contribute to the program with some of its Tom MacKenzie display materials. More information about the event will soon be available on both the WCHA.org and WisconsinCanoeHeritageMuseum.org websites.



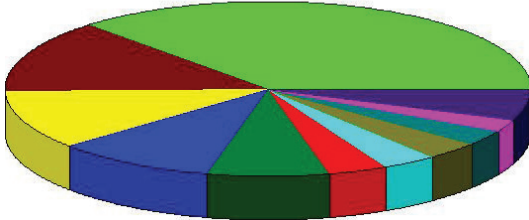
WCHM Continues Building Expansion Planning

The WCHM Board of Directors Building & Facilities Committee has produced a short animated video to stimulate discussion and ideas for its long range building expansion planning. The video is available for viewing only through this link: <https://youtu.be/ov-6fzaCASA>. "This is just a rough video designed to foster discussion," explains project manager Jamie Dunn. "The general idea is to best utilize the property footprint as well as fit in with the existing building, but it's anybody's guess what it will actually look like." WCHM members are invited to view the video and send their comments and suggestions to info@wisconsincanoeheritagemuseum.org.

WCHM Finishes Challenging Year With Good Financial Results

The pandemic of 2020 has caused financial stress for many museums and non-profits that have been forced to remain closed for most of the year. The Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Museum (WCHM), however, has come through the year in good financial shape. In fact, through a combination of cutting or delaying expenses, and shifting to alternative sources of revenue, it has had a remarkably good year financially.

Expense Summary
January through December 2020

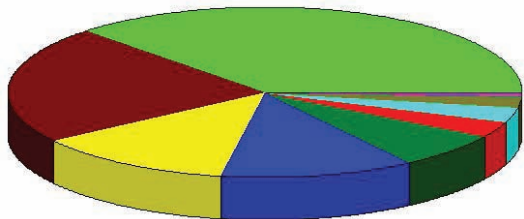


6500 - Administration	37.04%
7500 - Shop	13.68
6280 - Building and Facilities	11.05
7600 - Collections Expense	9.93
7000 - Advertising & Promotions	7.63
6510 - Other Types of Expenses	3.77
6300 - Membership Services	3.38
6210 - Contract Services	3.38
50000 - Cost of Goods Sold	2.98
7100 - Fundraising	2.32
Other	4.84
Total	\$50,353.84

Expenses for WCHM in 2020 totaled about \$50,000, about \$10,000 less than budgeted. “Not being able to hold our usual fundraising events was certainly a hit to our pocketbook,” explains WCHM Executive Director Jed Malischke, “but we kept that damage to a minimum by eliminating the associated event and advertising costs early on. That saved us considerably.”

Revenue such as admissions and store sales were lost since the museum was closed most of the year, but WCHM still recorded over \$71,000 in revenues, about \$10,000 more than expected. “Admissions to the museum are not really a big revenue source for us anyway,” Malischke continues, “So being closed throughout the year did not really hurt us financially.” Instead the organization focused on applying for a couple new grants (one through the first Covid relief bill), and using some innovative sales methods for its annual canoe raffle, which for the first time sold all of its tickets (only 500 tickets are printed each year). Revenues were also boosted due to the strong stock market which resulted in an increase in value of the WCHM Endowment Fund of about \$5,000.

Income Summary
January through December 2020



4340 - Direct Public Support	37.28%
4710 - Membership Dues	22.49
4640 - Grants	12.61
4650 - Raffle	12.31
4350 - Endowment Investment Changes	6.88
4750 - Shop Revenue	3.12
4730 - Store	3.01
4660 - Event Revenue	2.05
4700 - Program Revenue	0.18
4740 - Admissions	0.07
Total	\$71,332.41

“Most importantly, our members really came through for us,” says Malischke, “Without our fundraising events we were more dependent on the continuing support of the canoeing community, and we’re extremely grateful for that support.” Memberships were about \$4,000 higher than expected and individual donations were \$11,000 more than expected. “We had several large donations that were for specific projects, some we were still able to do, but others that we have had to put off. So we will need to save some of that surplus to complete those projects in the future.”

That leaves a surplus for 2020 of almost \$21,000, in a year when the plan was to merely break even. “We feel really good about these results, and we’re really looking forward to the new year so we can complete some of the things we have had to put off, and also work on our new goals for 2021.”

Contact WCHM

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 715-635-5002, 715-635-2479

Thank You to These Supporting Members

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James & Nancy Baxter, Dane WI

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Roy & Margaret Ivey, Anderson SC

Dan Miller, Cape Vincent NY

Bob & Pam Buss, Waupaca WI

Jerry Fruetel, Bloomington MN

Kurt & Susan Sroka, Somerset WI

Steve & Mary Hemsbrot, Shell Lake WI