

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



(ST MICHAELS, MD – October 13, 2011)

## Mid-Atlantic Small Craft Festival winners announced

The Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum (CBMM) has announced the winners of the 29<sup>th</sup> Mid-Atlantic Small Craft Festival in the judged awards and the sailing and rowing/paddling races. The event was held October 1 & 2 in St. Michaels, MD, with more than 170 boats participating and more than 1,000 in attendance of the weekend festival.



First place winners of the judged categories include Barry Long, with his Melonseed *Aeon* in the traditional-contemporary class; Ron Gibbs, with his sailing canoe *Seven Stars* in the contemporary class; Joe Manning, with his Old Town Canoe in the restoration class; and Bob Golembicki, with his kayak *Bark 3* in the paddling class. Other winners include People's Choice awardee Rob Gibbs, with his sailing canoe *Seven Stars*; Broken Oar awardees Pete Leshner, with the Drascombe Lugger *Dolly H.*, and Ron Gibbs again with his sailing canoe; Fish-in-the-Boat awardee Chris Smith with his Sunfish; and the Joe Liener awardee Brian McCandless with his Beetle Cat *Aubrey*.

The Joe Liener Award was created by CBMM Assistant Curator of Watercraft Richard Scofield to honor his mentor and former museum volunteer, Joe Liener. Before retiring to Pot Pie, MD, Liener headed Philadelphia's Naval Shipyard's wooden boat shop for

nearly 40 years. “Joe was an absolute expert on traditional Chesapeake Bay watercraft,” commented Scofield.

“Liener remains the best boat builder I’ve ever known, and is a founding father of the small craft festival.” Scofield has given the award for the last ten years to recognize the type of boat building Liener would have appreciated.

This year’s Joe Liener Award was presented to Brian McCandless, after Scofield saw how beautifully restored his Beetle Cat *Aubrey* was. “Last year, the boat was in a trailer, unfit for the water, and this year she came back beautifully restored and sailing—something Joe would have appreciated.”

On Saturday, October 1, the day’s air made for fast-paced races along the Miles River. The sailing race’s overall winner was Chris Smith, who also placed first in the high performance race with his Sunfish. Other first place winners include Lawrence Haff with *Red Dragon* in the sailing canoe race; Harold Bernard with *Annalie* in the two-or-more-sails race; Pete Peters in his catboat *Obadiah* in the one-sail race; and Marie Cobb with *Bonita* in the smaller boat race.

In the rowing/paddling races, first place winners include Lucas Reopel and Megan Tweed in kids paddling; Lacey England in women’s rowing; Destiny Lavertue in women’s paddling; Peter Byar in men’s kayaking; Steve Layden in men’s oar on gunwale, Brady Parlin in men’s 12 to 18; Carol and Brian Schecksnider in men’s sliding seat; and Tim Shaw in men’s paddling.



The Mid-Atlantic Small Craft Festival is held annually the first weekend in October at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St. Michaels, MD and draws family participants and visitors from throughout the United States. The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Mid-Atlantic Small Craft Festival is scheduled for October 5-7, 2012. For more information, visit [www.cbmm.org/mascf](http://www.cbmm.org/mascf) or call 410-745-2916.

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