



# THE OVERFALLS BEACON

The Newsletter of the Overfalls Foundation

Volume 10 - June/July 2021

## From The Crows Nest

Michael Safina, President

Title	Page #
From the Crows Nest	1
Induction Ceremony	2
Family Fun Days	3
Upcoming Events	4

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**W**ow! What a way to start the season. We had nearly 150 members and guests show up for our Opening Ceremony and Delaware Maritime Hall of Fame Induction on May 21st. We couldn't have asked for better weather and everyone was excited to be outside and at the Lightship Overfalls again. The icing on the cake was when State Senator Ernie Lopez announced to the crowd that we were approved for a \$10,000.00 grant from the State this year. Those are funds we desperately needed since our revenue has been lacking due to the ongoing pandemic. Our seasonal tours resumed the next day and the ship, our Museum and Ship Store are now open Thursdays through Sundays for the season. I'd like to see us add Mondays back in so if you are interested, please contact Dave Beck if you can help us out with tours or Sue Tolbert if you can help with the store. And speaking of cake, on Friday, June 4th we celebrated the ship's "birthday," otherwise known as



the anniversary of the LV118 Christening at Rice Brothers Shipyard in East Boothbay, Maine in 1938. We had birthday cake at the ship and free tours all day. We had another great turnout as we had plenty of kids and their families show up to keep our guides and store operators busy.

We have a great program lined up for our summer events. Our family programs resumed on Wednesday morning, June 23rd with an introduction to signal flags. Geared more towards younger kids, older siblings and parents are welcome too. We had our first Happy Hour on Saturday, June 26th and featured the music of Cathy Gorman. Cathy will sing for our next

**(SAFINA - continued on page #3)**

# Delaware Maritime Hall Of Fame Induction Ceremony

Elaine Simmerman, Co-Chairperson

To celebrate Maritime Day weekend on a lovely spring day on May 21st three combined events were held outside on the starboard side of the Lightship Overfalls near the Hall of Fame monument in front of a crowd of 150 people.



The Delaware Maritime Hall of Fame held its induction ceremony outside at this new venue. The organizers emailed invitations, held zoom meetings, and adhered to the Covid 19 requirements. The event was free of charge.

Some things did not change. Dennis Forney was the Hall of Fame master of ceremonies. Senator Ernie Lopez led the group in singing "God Bless America." A

large group of former inductees attended and were recognized. Information about how to nominate someone and summaries of the sixty members of the Hall of Fame are available on the Overfalls Foundation [website](https://www.overfalls.org/). The 2021 inductees are:



**Carolyn H. Benko** – Educator & maritime tour organizer for the Lewes Historical Society



**Leland C. Jennings** – Fort Delaware and Fort Miles historian



**James M. Falk** – Leader and visionary of the University of Delaware's Sea Grant Program



**Michael J. Morgan** – Delaware maritime history author and teacher



**Lisa B. Himber** – Delaware River maritime business promoter

# Family Fun Days

Sue Tolbert

**O**n Wednesday June 23 the Overfalls Foundation hosted the first Family Fun Day the 2021 season – Flag Fun. We looked at the ship for the flags that were flying, talked about them and then found the nautical flags in a book Alpha, Bravo, Charlie and what they meant. Using templates of the flags the children painted boards with either their names or initials on them. Of course the program included a tour of the ship.



The next Family Fun Day will be July 21, "Why Knot" (9:30am-noon), where we will learn to tie some knots sailors need. Our last Family Fun Day will be on August 18 (9:30am-noon) where we will learn all about "Navigation." For details or to register, contact Sue Tolbert at 302-947-2269 or go to [overfalls.org](https://www.overfalls.org).



## (SAFINA - continued from page #1)

"Canalside Cocktails at Overfalls" on July 24th – her uncle served on lightships in the Coast Guard, so when you come, be sure to ask her his story. We will also have a dog adoption event on the 24th sponsored by the Delaware Humane Association.

The Lewes Boat Parade is on! July 4th will bring the return of the Lewes Boat Parade and the Monomoy will be wet again. Bill Schmidt is organizing a rowing team so if you, your family members and friends are interested, please contact Bill at [gailbill-schmidt@gmail.com](mailto:gailbill-schmidt@gmail.com).



Did you know we're running monthly specials? For the entire month of June, anyone who showed us their COVID -19 Vaccination Record Card received a free tour. In July we are offering free tours to college students and in August, free tours to first responders, health care workers and their families.

The latest list of events is in this newsletter and is also posted on the bulletin board outside the store. Our Overfalls.org website page and

Facebook page also keep a list of upcoming events and are always the best place to check for the most current information. This is updated as new events are added or others are changed. We hope to see you throughout the summer and please, don't forget to bring your families, coworkers, neighbors, and friends!

## Upcoming Events

- July 4, Sunday, 1:30pm. Lewes Boat Parade—(Monomoy Rowers Needed!)  
Fireworks Viewing – 8:30 pm
- July 21, Wednesday, 9:30am—noon  
Overfalls Family Program—“Why Knot”
- July 24, Saturday, Time to be Announce  
“Adopt-a-Mate” dog adoptions by the Delaware Humane Association at the Lightship Overfalls
- July 24, Saturday, 5:00-7:00pm  
**FREE** Canal Side Cocktails featuring songstress Cathy Gorman
- August 18, Wednesday, 9:30am-noon  
Overfalls Family Program—“Navigation”
- August 28 , Saturday, 5:00-7:00 pm.  
**FREE** Canal Side featuring songstress Cathy Gorman
- September 11 , Saturday, Patriots Day, **FREE** Tours  
LV118 Commissioning Anniversary
- September 25 , Saturday, 5:00-7:00pm  
**FREE** Overfalls Closing Party Social Event
- November 11, Thursday, **Free** Tours For Veterans  
Veteran’s Day Tours/Open House
- December 4, Saturday, 10:00am-4:00pm  
Annual Lewes Christmas House Tours
- December 31, Friday, 11:30pm-12:30am  
New Year’s Eve Anchor Drop