

SULTANA PROJECTS



# DOWNRIGGING WEEKEND

THE TALL SHIPS VISIT CHESTER TOWN

OCTOBER 28 - 31, 2010

**FINAL PRESS  
RELEASE**

SEPTEMBER 2010



*“A Weekend of Sailing and Tall Ships in  
One of America’s Great Historic Seaports”*

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 15, 2010

Sultana Projects, Inc. / P.O. Box 524 / Chestertown, Maryland 21620

Contact: Drew McMullen, 410-778-5954, 410-829-4380(mobile),

dmcullen@sultanaprojects.org

## Sultana Projects Announces Plans for “Downrigging Weekend – The Tall Ships Visit Chestertown” October 28 – 31, 2010

Chestertown, Maryland: A fleet of more than 30 Tall Ships, schooners, buyboats, skipjacks, log canoes and more will be on display in Chestertown, Maryland on October 28-31, 2010 for what's been called the Chesapeake Bay's best waterfront festival - Sultana Projects' annual Downrigging Weekend. Established in 2001, Downrigging has grown to become one of the largest annual Tall Ship events on the East Coast, attracting over 10,000 visitors to Chestertown each Fall. Downrigging 2010 will feature opportunities for visitors to sail down the majestic Chester River aboard a 200' Tall Ship, tour an enormous fleet of schooners and historic boats visiting from up and down the East Coast, watch fireworks over the town's 300 year-old harbor, and see wooden boats being built right down on the waterfront. The weekend will also feature an evening with New York Times best-selling author Caroline Alexander, performances by multiple musical groups, including Them Eastport Oyster Boys, and a special appearance by the 1812 privateer LYNX, based out of Long Beach, California.

For detailed information about Downrigging Weekend visit

[www.sultanaprojects.org/downrigging.htm](http://www.sultanaprojects.org/downrigging.htm).

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*Sultana Projects would like to thank our generous sponsors without whose support Downrigging Weekend would not be possible.*

THE VAN DYKE  
FAMILY FOUNDATION



PNC

Chestertown Marina

*Downrigging Weekend Program Partners*



The Center for the  
Environment and Society  
at Washington College



The C.V. Starr Center for the Study  
of the American Experience  
at Washington College



KENT COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL, INC.

# ABOUT SULTANA PROJECTS



*Each year more than 15,000 students learn about the Chesapeake Bay through an outdoor experience with Sultana Projects.*

In 1997 a handful of educators from Maryland's Eastern Shore joined together to create an educational resource that would help students better understand and appreciate the natural treasure that is the Chesapeake Bay. Four years later, after a tremendous community effort, the schooner SULTANA was launched into the waters of the Chester River. A full-scale reproduction of a vessel that sailed the Chesapeake in the years before the American Revolution, SULTANA now voyages as the "Schoolship of the Chesapeake." Since her launch in 2001, more than 50,000 students and teachers have sailed on Sultana's decks, learning about the history, culture and natural environment of North America's largest estuary.



The schooner SULTANA is owned and operated by Sultana Projects, Inc., a non-profit organization based in Chestertown, Maryland. In the years since SULTANA's launch, Sultana Projects has continued to grow by developing new programs for students and teachers that help them discover and understand the Chesapeake Bay. Sultana Projects now provides teacher training, classroom and curriculum programs, canoe and kayak programs, under-sail programs and wetlands programs for more than 15,000 students each year.

*For more information about Sultana Projects visit*  
**WWW.SULTANAPROJECTS.ORG**



2009 RECIPIENT:  
*Sea Education  
Program of the Year*  
FROM THE AMERICAN SAIL TRAINING ASSOCIATION

2004 & 2007 RECIPIENT:

*Walter Cronkite Award for Excellence  
in Maritime Education*  
FROM THE NATIONAL MARITIME HISTORICAL SOCIETY





# PARTICIPATING VESSELS

## PASSENGER CARRYING



**KALMAR NYCKEL**, *Wilmington, Delaware*  
*Full-rigged ship, 141' sparred length, 25' beam, 168 gross tons*  
*Owner - Kalmar Nyckel Foundation, [www.kalmarnyckel.org](http://www.kalmarnyckel.org)*

The Kalmar Nyckel is a re-creation of the first colonial Swedish settlement ship to arrive in America at what is now Wilmington, Delaware. Launched in the Fall of 1997, this ornately carved 17th century reproduction ship sails seasonally, carrying out her mission of goodwill, providing hands-on educational opportunities for school children and serving as Delaware's official tall ship ambassador.



**PRIDE OF BALTIMORE, II**, *Baltimore, Maryland*  
*Square Topsail Schooner, two masted, 170' sparred length, 26' beam, 97 gross tons*  
*Owner - Pride of Baltimore, Inc., [www.pride2.org](http://www.pride2.org)*

Pride of Baltimore, II was commissioned in 1988 two years after the original Pride of Baltimore fell victim to a violent squall and was lost along with her captain and three crew members. Modeled after the famous Baltimore clippers, Pride II sails the globe as Maryland's goodwill ambassador.



**LYNX**, *Newport Beach, California*  
*Square Topsail Schooner, 122' sparred length, 23' beam, 94 gross tons*  
*Owner - Lynx Educational Foundation*

The square topsail schooner Lynx has been designed and built to interpret the general configuration and operation of a privateer schooner from the War of 1812. Lynx sails as a living history museum and as a floating classroom for the study of historical, environmental and ecological issues. This is Lynx's first visit to Chestertown and Downrigging Weekend.



**A.J. MEERWALD**, *Bivalve, New Jersey*  
*Two-Masted Oyster Schooner, 115' sparred length, 22' beam, 57 gross tons*  
*Owner- The Bayshore Discovery Project*

Built in Dorchester, New Jersey, in 1928, the A.J. Meerwald is an authentic, restored Delaware Bay oyster schooner built specifically for that industry. Named New Jersey's official Tall Ship in 1998, the A.J. Meerwald promotes Delaware Bay's oystering history and offers experiential educational opportunities throughout Delaware Bay and the Mid-Atlantic region.



**SULTANA**, *Chestertown, Maryland*  
*Square Topsail Schooner, two masts, 97' sparred length, 17' beam, 43 gross tons*  
*Owner - Sultana Projects, Inc., [www.schoonersultana.com](http://www.schoonersultana.com)*

Sultana is a reproduction of her 1768 namesake used by the British Royal Navy to enforce the notorious tea taxes in the years preceding the American Revolution. Built in Chestertown and launched in 2001, the new Sultana's mission is to educate students of all ages about the history and ecology of the Chesapeake Bay.



**SKIPJACK ELSWORTH**, *Chestertown, Maryland*  
*Two-Sailed Bateau (skipjack), 72' sparred length, 18' beam, 23 gross tons*  
*Owner - Echo Hill Outdoor School, [www.ehos.org](http://www.ehos.org)*

Owned and operated by Echo Hill Outdoor School in Worton, Maryland, the 1901, 72-foot oyster-dredging skipjack Elsworth is one of a handful of skipjacks remaining on the Chesapeake Bay. The Elsworth is currently used to provide live-aboard educational programs in environmental science and Chesapeake history.

# PARTICIPATING VESSELS

IN-WATER EXHIBIT ONLY - NON PASSENGER CARRYING

*(ADDITIONAL VESSELS TO BE ADDED)*



**BESSIE L.**  
*Rock Hall, Maryland*  
1994 Chesapeake Bay Buyboat, 50' LOA,  
Owner - Andy Newman



**EAST HAMPTON**  
*Chestertown, Maryland*  
1925 Chesapeake Bay Buyboat, 65' LOA  
Owner - The Buckley Family



**ELF**  
*Earleville, Maryland*  
1888 Cutter, 68' LOA  
Owner - Classic Yacht Restoration Guild



**FAREWELL**  
*Baltimore, Maryland*  
Topsail Schooner, 47' LOA  
Owner - Linda Gunn



**HOWARD BLACKBURN**  
*Baltimore, Maryland*  
1940 Schooner, 58' LOA  
Owner - Mark Roesner



**KOCHAN WHALEBOAT**  
*Frederick, Maryland*  
Replica 19th Century Whaleboat, 28' LOA  
Owner - James Kochan



**JAMES A. WAGNER**  
*Chestertown, Maryland*  
Replica 18th Century Cutter, 18' LOA  
Owner - Sultana Projects



**JOHN SMITH SHALLOP**  
*Chestertown, Maryland*  
Replica 17th Shallop, 28' LOA  
Owner - Sultana Projects



**LADY HELEN**  
*Chestertown, Maryland*  
Cruising Skipjack, 60' LOA  
Owner - Captain Michael Gosman



**LITTLE KEY**  
*Wilmington, Delaware*  
Replica 17th Century Shallop, 28' LOA  
Owner - Kalmar Nyckel Foundation



**MARTHA WHITE**  
*Chestertown, Maryland*  
1973 Bluenose Schooner, 46 LOA  
Owner - Bob Kay



**MURIEL EILEEN**  
*Georgetown, Maryland*  
1926 Chesapeake Bay Buyboat, 65' LOA  
Owner - David M. Cantera



**NELLIE CROCKETT**  
*Georgetown, Maryland*  
1926 Chesapeake Bay Buyboat, 70' LOA  
Owner - Ted Parish



**PATIENCE**  
*Bohemia, Maryland*  
1898 Crosby Cat Boat, 20' LOA  
Owners - Guy Beckley, Bob Jones and Charlotte Howard



**P.E. PRUITT**  
*Rock Hall, Maryland*  
1935 Chesapeake Bay Buyboat, 60' LOA  
Owner - Kevin D. Flynn



**THOMAS J.**  
*Rolph's Wharf, Maryland*  
1948 Chesapeake Bay Buyboat, 50' LOA  
Owner - Tom Parker

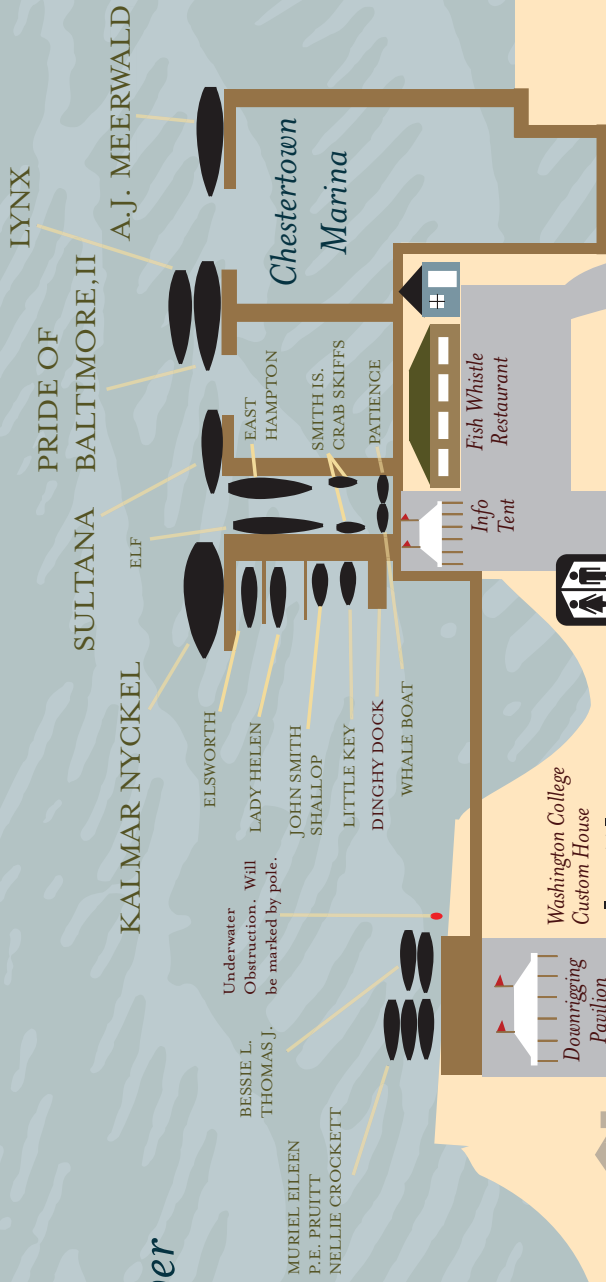


**SMITH ISLAND CRAB SKIFFS**  
*There will be up to five Smith Island Crab Skiffs at Downrigging Weekend.*

# THE PORT OF CHESTERTOWN

## DOWNRIGGING WEEKEND 2010

*The Chester River*



*Water Street*

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# DOWNRIGGING WEEKEND SCHEDULE

## OCTOBER 28-31, 2010

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28



#### **OPENING COCKTAIL PARTY**

7:00-8:00pm / Massoni Art, 203 High Street  
\$5 donation/ Cash Bar

*Help kick off Downrigging Weekend 2010 at the official Opening Cocktail Party at the Massoni Art Gallery. Mingle with the visiting crews, enjoy refreshments (cash bar) and get a sneak peak at noted maritime artist Marc Castelli's Fall show. Following the Cocktail Party, you are invited to walk across the street to the Prince Theatre to see a free screening of the film, "The Endurance," starting at 8:00pm.*



#### **FILM: THE ENDURANCE**

*Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition*  
8:00pm / The Prince Theatre / free / Cash Bar

*Join us at the Prince Theatre for this incredible film about what is rightfully called, "the greatest survival story ever told." Based on Caroline Alexander's acclaimed book of the same name, The Endurance chronicles the astonishing events of 1914-16, when explorer Earnest Shackleton and 27 crewmen survived against all odds after their ship was crushed in the polar ice floes. Narrated by Liam Neeson, the film incorporates new footage, expert interviews, dramatic re-creations, and expedition photographer Frank Hurley's archival film and photographs.*

# FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29

## AN EVENING OF MUSIC & CANDLELIGHT IN CHESTERTOWN

5:00-8:00pm / Co-Sponsored by the Kent County Arts Council

*Stroll Chestertown's nationally renowned Historic District and stop along the way to listen to intimate concerts in one of several of the town's most beautiful architectural landmarks. The historic district will be illuminated by candlelight after dusk making for a very special evening. Refreshments will be available at most of the concert locations.*



<u>Location</u>	<u>Artist</u>	<u>Times</u>
Foot of Cannon Street	The Lions of Bluegrass	6:30-8:00pm
Charles Sumner Post	Sylvia Frazier & The Anointed Vessels	5:30-6:30pm
White Swan Tavern	Shore Strings Trio	5:00-6:30pm
Sultana Center	A.J. Kolodziejwski	5:30-6:30pm
Play it Again Sam	Rebecca Pitre & Whoa Buddy Band	6:30-8:00pm
Robert Ortiz Studio	Bob Ortiz & Friends	5:30-7:00pm



## LECTURE: SHACKLETON & BLIGH

*Two Legendary Open-Boat Voyages and a Contrast of Leadership in Crisis*  
/With New York Times Best-Selling Author Caroline Alexander

7:00pm / Prince Theatre / free

in partnership with the Center for the Environment & Society

*Sir Earnest Shackleton and Captain William Bligh, legendary figures and leaders of what are arguably the most remarkable small-boat voyages in history. Perhaps no one is better suited to compare the accomplishments of these two fabled men than Caroline Alexander, author of the international bestsellers, "The Endurance" and "The Bounty." Recounting the stories of Shackleton's 1916, 600-mile voyage across the icy South Atlantic and Bligh's epic 1789, 3,600-mile trek through the South Pacific, Alexander will explore how these two very different leaders held their men together through extraordinary circumstances.*

## TALL SHIPS ILLUMINATED

6:00-9:00pm

*At dusk, the entire Downrigging Weekend fleet will be illuminated by more than 1 million watts of theatrical lighting. Stroll the Chestertown Waterfront and enjoy the music as you take in this truly impressive site.*



## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30



### DOWNRIGGING WOODEN BOAT SHOW

9:00am-5:00pm / Downrigging Pavilion / free

*Joining the fleet of Tall Ships assembling in Chestertown for Downrigging Weekend will be a small armada of mid-sized and smaller wooden boats participating in the first ever Downrigging Weekend Wooden Boat Show. More than two dozen small craft will be housed in the 3,200 square foot "Downrigging Pavilion" located at the foot of High Street on the Chestertown Waterfront, while larger vessels will be displayed in the water at various locations along the Chestertown Waterfront.*

### PUBLIC SAIL ON THE SHIPS - "BATTLE SAIL"

10:00am-12:30pm / \$25-\$55

*This sail will feature an epic cannon battle on the Chester River between the schooners PRIDE OF BALTIMORE, II; LYNX; and SULTANA.*

### CLIPPER CITY BRASS

1:00-1:45pm / Performance at the Foot of Cannon Street

### PUBLIC SAIL ON THE SHIPS - "MUSIC SAIL"

2:00-4:30pm / \$25-\$55

*This sail will feature a unique on-the-water musical performance by the "Clipper City Brass" – one of the mid-Atlantic region's most renowned brass quintets.*

### TALL SHIPS ILLUMINATED/FIREWORKS

6:00-9:00pm / Fireworks at 7:00pm

*At dusk, the entire Downrigging Weekend fleet will be illuminated by more than 1 million watts of theatrical lighting. Stroll the Chestertown Waterfront and enjoy the music as you take in this truly impressive site.*



### THEM EASTPORT OYSTER BOYS

Concert / 8:00pm / Prince Theatre / \$15

*Bluegrass favorites, "Them Eastport Oyster Boys" were such a hit at Downrigging Weekend 2009 that we are having them make a special encore appearance for Downrigging 2010. A centerpiece of the Annapolis / Eastport music scene, the Oyster Boys provide a knee tapping, toe-slapping, comical musical history tour of Annapolis, Eastport and the Chesapeake through original songs and stories.*

# SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

## FAMILY DAY ON THE WATERFRONT

11:00am-4:30pm / Downrigging Pavilion / Free

*Not only is Sunday Halloween, it's also "Family Day" at Downrigging Weekend. Between Noon and 4:30pm there will be loads of things for children to see and do on the Chestertown Waterfront. The Downrigging Weekend Pavilion at the foot of High Street will host a variety of great exhibits and activities for children, including touch tanks, model boat building, pumpkin painting, coloring, live hawks and owls and more . . .*



## PUBLIC SAIL ON THE SHIPS - "FAMILY SAIL"

11:00am-1:30pm / \$25-\$55

*In honor of Halloween, all children participating in this sail who are 12 and under and in appropriate Halloween costume will receive a special gift bag and be eligible to win one of several fun prizes as part of a Halloween Costume Contest to be held at the foot of Cannon Street immediately following the sail.*

## SHIP TOURS & TRICK-OR-TREAT

The Waterfront / 2:30-4:30pm / free

*On Sunday afternoon there will be free deck tours on all of the visiting ships from 2:30-4:30pm. The public is welcome to come down and inspect the entire Downrigging Weekend Fleet. In honor of Halloween, children in costume are encouraged to trick-or-treat onboard as they tour the vessels. Several of the ships will be outfitted as floating "haunted ships" to make things even more interesting!*

## CAPTAINS' FORUM

The Custom House / 2:30pm / free  
in partnership with the C.V. Starr Center

*On Sunday afternoon Michael Buckley, program manager with the C.V. Starr Center for the Study of the American Experience at Washington College and host of the popular radio show, "Voices of the Chesapeake Bay," will moderate an informal forum with several of visiting ship captains in town for Downrigging Weekend. The public is invited to attend, ask questions and learn a little more about what it's like to command a tall ship in the 21st century.*



## PHOTOS AND ADDITIONAL PRESS INFORMATION

**STOCK PHOTOS:** High resolution stock photos of Downrigging Weekend are available for download at <http://www.sultanaprojects.org/pressphotos.htm>.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Members of the press who are interested in obtaining additional information should contact Drew McMullen, President, Sultana Projects, Inc., at [dmcmullen@sultanaprojects.org](mailto:dmcmullen@sultanaprojects.org) or 410-778-5954.

**COVERAGE DURING THE EVENT:** Members of the press who wish to cover the Downrigging Weekend in person are encouraged to contact Drew McMullen - [dmcmullen@sultanaprojects.org](mailto:dmcmullen@sultanaprojects.org) / 410-778-5954 - in advance of the event. Opportunities are available for members of the press to sail onboard the visiting ships free of charge.

