



COLD SPRING HARBOR
SEA | REFLECT | EXPLORE | PROTECT

Museum Background

Long Island boasts a particularly vibrant whaling heritage. Historically, whaling was one of Long Island's most important commercial industries, significantly shaping the economic development and social foundation of the region, as well as contributing to America's emergence as an international power in the 19th century. One of the three whaling ports on Long Island, Cold Spring Harbor offers a microcosmic view of the quintessential 19th century American whaling town.

Mission

The mission is to explore the ever-changing relationship between humans and whales through inquiry-based education and interpretation of artifacts that emphasize the cultural, scientific and environmental significance of Long Island and the Sea. We help members and visitors make informed decisions about our marine environment.

Who We Serve

The Museum reaches 20,000 visitors annually, reaching primarily residents in Nassau and Suffolk counties, but also welcoming a wider demographic. The Museum runs an extensive education program for preschoolers through seniors in art, culture, history, and science. The organization has an operating budget of \$550,000, and is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. The Whaling Museum Society was founded in 1936, with the Museum opening its front doors in 1942. Current exhibit space is 2,500 square feet, which includes an educational workshop. The Museum is the only facility in New York State open year-round which focuses on the prominent whaling history of the region and its meaningful applications in today's world.

Collection

The Museum's collection provides the community with a significant link to the understanding of one of Long Island's earliest major industries. The collection was formed by the local community who recognized the need for a repository to preserve the region's local maritime history. The Museum's object and archival holdings of 6,000 artifacts document the whaling and general maritime history both of Cold Spring Harbor and Long Island in general. Over the past 80 years, the Museum has steadily acquired an extensive and varied collection which, when possible, are integrated into the Museum's public programming. Highlights of the collection include New York State's only fully-equipped 19th century whaleboat with original gear and one of the most notable scrimshaw collections in the northeast. Additional objects include whaling implements, ship's gear, navigational aids, ship logbooks and records, ship models and maritime art.





Benefit Information

Fundraising Goal

All proceeds to support the Museum's mission in education and preservation.

Date

Thursday, October 13th, 2016

Location

Pine Hollow Country Club | 6601 Northern Blvd | East Norwich, NY

Theme

Whalers doubled as explorers as they journeyed to every ocean and every continent. In honor of the Whaling Museum Society's 80th anniversary this year, the organization is launching a *Ports of Call* series, spotlighting a distinctive port of call each year.

The first *Ports of Call* destination will be The Azores, where American whaleships stocked provisions and hired crewmembers. The evening will invite friends of the museum to experience the food, music and culture of the Azores, as well as its maritime heritage.

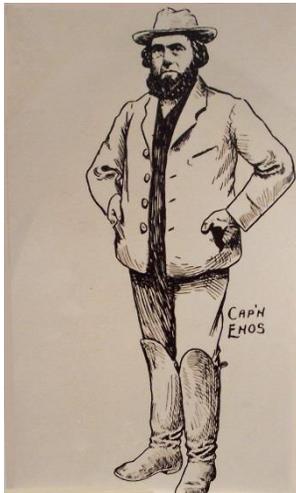
This direction follows the Museum's recent initiatives to better serve the rich diversity inherent in the whaling industry. One example is *The Untold Stories of Whalers*, an exhibit installation in fall 2016 which will include the unique perspectives of minorities told from a first-person perspective (including bilingual signage).

Beyond the benefit, an exchange of our shared history, stories and artifacts would create an opportunity for the museum to engage and enrich the local community through a special temporary exhibit. It is our hope to connect with the Azorean/Portuguese community and exchange ideas on how we can share our maritime heritage.



Background on Azorean & Portuguese in American Whaling

Portuguese Islanders played a critical role in the American whaling industry. The Azores and Cape Verdes were often the first ports-of-call for outward-bound whalers, providing provisions and services to support the industry. Islanders also took advantage of the meritocracy-based business by adding to the labor pool, which contributed to settlement patterns of the Portuguese in the US, especially in New England.



Captain Manuel Enos (1827-1915), known as Big Manuel, was born on the Azores Islands. He rose through the ranks as he sailed on Cold Spring Harbor's *Huntsville* and *Sheffield*, and later as Captain of New Bedford's *Java*. His house in Cold Spring Harbor still stands today. He was thought lost at sea until recently (discovered to have started a new life in Chile!).

Enos is considered one of the best scrimshaw artists in whaling history. To the right is an example of one of his creations on a walrus tusk in the Museum's collection. The woman is believed to represent his wife, and she holds a sheet that says *Java, Capt. Enos*, referring to the ship he commanded. The little girl at her skirt is his daughter, Melva, who unfortunately passed away



while he was at sea.



Born in 1839, Portuguese whaler Manuel Claudio sailed from the Azores at the young age of 12. He first visited Greenport in 1854 and saved his earnings to open Claudio's Tavern in 1870, which remains a family business today – in fact, the oldest family-owned restaurant in the US! He was successful and well known in the community.

Sag Harbor, the 5th largest whaling port in the nation, had Azoreans and Cape Verdeans on the majority of voyages, and among them were a good number of boatsteerers. Joseph De Castro was one well-known and successful settler from his native island of Pico, beginning his career as a cabin boy.

More Info:

So Ends This Day: The Portuguese in American Whaling, 1765-1927 by Donald Warren (2010)

