

# The MAST Surveyor

Maritime Archaeological Survey Team

P.O. Box 93352 Cleveland, OH 44101-5352

The MAST Surveyor Summer 2006

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## Welcome Aboard!

The Maritime Archaeological Survey Team (MAST) is “*preserving Great Lakes history one shipwreck at a time.*”

Formed in March 2000, MAST is a nonprofit organization composed of volunteer individuals participating in education, underwater archaeology workshops, and surveys. Volunteers are comprised of divers, boaters, historians, archaeologists, teachers, authors, and other diversified backgrounds and skill sets.

MAST is headquartered at the Peachman Lake Erie Shipwreck Research Center (PLESRC) adjacent to

the Great Lakes Historical Society in Vermilion. Meeting locations vary, but are typically held at the Great Lakes Historical Society.

For additional MAST information, visit our web site at

<http://www.ohiomast.org>

### **MAST Mission Statement:**

MAST, the Maritime Archaeological Survey Team, Inc., is a nonprofit avocational group dedicated to documentation, scientific study and education pertaining to underwater archaeological resources.

## Welcome from our MAST Chair

Welcome to the second issue of the MAST Surveyor for 2006. We have settled on a new quarterly publishing schedule of March, June, September, and December. Our goal is to get you information ahead of upcoming events. The March issue will contain information on the Spring Workshops and the Annual Dinner. The June issue will contain a wrap-up from those activities plus information on the summer archaeology project and how to get involved. The September issue will wrap up our summer activities and preview any fall/winter activities. The December issue main topics are still open but we're leaning towards “special interest

areas” and other educational information. We're going to try and include a blurb from all of our sub-committees in each issue. If you are interested in a particular area, please contact the committee chair and see what you can do to help. I want to thank Annette Soule for being editor and copy layout of the Surveyor. I appreciate everyone's support during MAST's growth. I think we're doing a great job for an all volunteer organization with no employee's. Just look inside and see...

Ken Marshall  
[chair@ohiomast.org](mailto:chair@ohiomast.org)  
[kmarshall@core.com](mailto:kmarshall@core.com)

## Letter from the Chair

Dear fellow MAST members,

Several recent events have brought to my attention that MAST's position in the local archaeological/historical community is not well understood. I would like to more clearly define our position and relationships on certain key activities.



Ken Marshall, MAST Chair

First, it is extremely important to understand that MAST, Great Lakes Historical Society (GLHS), its Peachman Lake Erie Shipwreck Research Center (PLESRC), Cleveland Underwater Explorers (CLUE), Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Office of Coastal Management (ODNR-OCM), Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's Ohio Lake Erie Commission (OEPA-OLEC), and Ohio Historical Society (OHS), are all completely separate organizations each with their own management and/or board of directors and separate finances. ODNR-OCM and OEPA-OLEC are government offices and primarily provide funding and disseminate results. GLHS/PLESRC and OHS are historical societies and primarily receive grant funding, conduct or manage projects, compile results and provide those to the grant supplier. CLUE is a private independent research group. MAST is a specialized group focused on underwater cultural resources, most notably shipwrecks, and also receives grant funding and runs projects.

Each of these organizations conducts many different projects. Some are totally independent of

each other and some are collaborative. In any collaborative project, there must be a primary partner. This is usually defined as the organization that applied for/received the grant. They are the "responsible" partner in the grantor's eyes and carry most if not all of the liability for completing the project. Here are some specifics relating to the above organizations and existing grants/funding:

1. GLHS staff archaeologist/MAST coordinator. GLHS provides funding to hire a staff archaeologist for PLESRC. The staff archaeologist is a GLHS employee. ODNR-OCM provides grant funding to PLESRC to assist in the Spring Workshop and Shipwreck Survey. Part of the grant covers the archaeologist's time on those projects and some additional coordination work with MAST in the areas of planning and community outreach (traveling display). Also, because MAST is all volunteer with no employees and no buildings, GLHS sponsors us by allowing use of the PLESRC facility as a "headquarters" and use of the PLESRC telephone extension so callers can get a live person (the MAST coordinator).

*MAST is a specialized group focused on underwater cultural resources, most notably shipwrecks, and also receives grant funding and runs projects.*

*It is important for us to remember that each group is a separate organization and only through mutual respect and collaboration can we continue to generate the results that will allow additional projects.*

*If you are receiving the Surveyor newsletter by postal mail and would like to receive it by e-mail, please let Carrie Sowden know at [shipwreck@inlandseas.org](mailto:shipwreck@inlandseas.org)*

### **Letter from the Chair continued**

2. Spring Archaeological Workshop for Divers. ODNR-OCM provides grant funding for this activity. GLHS/PLESRC is the recipient of the grant, sponsor of the event, and provides additional funding. MAST collaborates by providing support personnel to help GLHS/PLESRC run the event and then offers MAST membership to people who successfully complete the workshop.

3. MAST annual banquet. This is primarily funded by MAST through sponsorships and ticket sales. GLHS is considered one of our sponsors (see above). GLHS members are invited to purchase tickets and attend.

4. Shipwreck Survey. ODNR-OCM provides grant funding for this activity. GLHS/PLESRC is the recipient of the grant, sponsor of the event, and provides additional funding. MAST collaborates by providing divers and support personnel to help GLHS conduct the survey. (Note: The ODNR-OCM grant to PLESRC is a matching grant where they provide 41% of the funding, GLHS matches with in-kind contributions and cash for 52% of the budget, and MAST adds to the match with volunteer hours for 7% of the budget. In reality, the MAST volunteer hours are much more than 7% - probably closer to 15%, but that is all that is required for the grant)

5. Shipwreck Mooring Buoys. ODNR-OCM and OEPA-OLEC are the primary funding sources. MAST is the recipient of the grant and sponsor of the project. GLHS provides storage space for the buoy hardware and winter storage for the buoys but is not involved in the project.

6. Cortland artifact recovery. CLUE discovered the shipwreck and has shared some site information. GLHS is considering recovery and preservation of some potentially "at risk" artifacts. GLHS is pursuing the appropriate permits through the state. MAST is not involved with the recovery project. The Cortland, like any Ohio shipwreck, is a possible site for a future MAST survey.

MAST has a very good working relationship with the GLHS and its PLESRC. We share a common goal of preserving history and educating the public. For GLHS this encompasses much more than the underwater resources that MAST focuses on. Likewise, we delve deeper (pun intended) into shipwreck access than GLHS by working on the buoys.

It is important for us to remember that each group above is a separate organization and only through mutual respect and collaboration can we continue to generate the results that will allow additional projects. It's also important that we acknowledge all the partners in each project we are a part of. Without grants (money), nothing will happen. Without a grant recipient (accounting, reporting, professional staff), nothing will happen. Without participants (divers, boats, etc.), nothing will happen.

It's natural for each of us to think of or list MAST with all the above activities since that is who we are. However, it is customary to first acknowledge the grant recipient and the funding organization, then any collaborative partners. The best thing about a volunteer organization is the enthusiasm of its volunteers. Sometimes our enthusiasm gets us talking about MAST without recognizing our partners in the many activities in which we are involved. I'll include myself as one who has done this.

Thank you to the Great Lakes Historical Society, the Peachman Lake Erie Shipwreck Research Center, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Office of Coastal Management, the Ohio EPA's Ohio Lake Erie Commission, the Ohio Historical Society, and the Cleveland Underwater Explorers for all their support and collaboration with MAST.

Sincerely,

Kenneth S. Marshall, P.E., Chair

# Committee Reports

## Executive Committee:

MAST is working to allow more members to get involved and help in all aspects. We now have several standing committees which you will see listed here along with contact info for the chair of that committee. If you are interested in helping, please contact the committee chair. If you are interested in the Board of Directors, please contact the Governance Committee chair for further details. Like any organization, we will be as strong as our members make us.

Ken Marshall, Chair

[kmarshall@core.com](mailto:kmarshall@core.com)

## Fundraising Committee:

The MAST buoy project has been funded by several government agencies. This support was used to acquire six buoys and all the associated hardware necessary for their attachment to shipwrecks in the Ohio waters of Lake Erie. Continuous funding will be needed to maintain the buoys due to the inevitable need to replace hardware, lights and other components. The MAST Fundraising Committee is seeking additional support for our buoy project in the form of private and government grants. These monies will be earmarked for the maintenance of our six current buoys and the additional four buoys that we hope to acquire this year. Through this effort we hope to maintain the buoys for years to come

for all shipwreck enthusiasts to enjoy.

John Koch

[Corereslab@aol.com](mailto:Corereslab@aol.com)

## Governance Committee:

The MAST officers for 2005-2006 are Chair, Ken Marshall; Vice Chair, Scott Pansing; Treasurer, Georgann Wachter; and Secretary, John Hoyt. Our new Board members for 2006 are Ann Stephenson, Patrix Heschel and Dick Colwell.

Our Board volunteers come from all walks of life and bring to the Board a keen interest of what they can do to help MAST. These members also serve on various committees within MAST. As with all MAST members, they are vital to the ongoing operation of workshops, survey projects, banquets and education seminars that MAST offers to the public.

The MAST Board meetings are open to all MAST members. It is our goal to publish those dates on the web page in order to encourage member participation. If you are interested in serving on a committee or becoming a potential board member, please contact me.

Scott Pansing

[spansing@verizon.net](mailto:spansing@verizon.net)

*Thanks to all our committee chairs for your reports and all of your volunteer efforts!*

## MAST Officers & Terms:

### *April 2004 thru April 2007*

*Joyce Hayward*

*Ken Marshall (Chair)*

*Linda Pansing*

*Scott Pansing (Vice-Chair)*

*Georgann Wachter*

*(Treasurer)*

*Mike Wachter*

### *April 2005 thru April 2008*

*Judd Clover*

*John Hoyt (Secretary)*

*John Koch*

*Jeff Malcolm*

*Jack Ott*

### *April 2006 thru April 2009*

*Dick Colwell*

*Patrix Heschel*

*Ann Stephenson*

### *Non-voting members*

*(Advisors)*

*Carrie Sowden (GLHS/*

*PLESRC Archaeological*

*Director & MAST*

*Coordinator)*

*Capt. Wayne Bratton*

*(GLHS board member,*

*PLESRC sub-committee)*

### **General Notes:**

- 1. Terms for elected directors are three years.*
- 2. Directors may be elected to a maximum of three consecutive terms.*

# Buoy oh Buoy oh Buoy!

## Lake Erie Moorings Up and Operating

The six approved permanent moorings were all in place on May 9, 2006. The sites are the wrecks of the: Morning Star (41.36.813 82.12.53), The Craftsman (41.31.942 82.00.375), Sand Merchant (41.34.428 81.57.524), Admiral (41.38.244 81.54.197), Dundee (41.41.330 81.50.634), and Queen of the West (41.50.768 81.23.135).

At this time the mooring are attached directly to the wreck. Over the course of the summer, we will be placing 6,000 pound anchor blocks next to the wrecks to eliminate the possibility of our moorings doing damage to the wrecks.

## New Mooring Status

As we announced in the last news letter. we have applied to set four additional moorings on the wrecks of the: Prince, City of Concord, Hickory Stick, and North Carolina. Approval for these moorings is still working its way through the system but appears to be on track for a mid season deployment.

## Please Use Respect

We have been very pleased with the reception to the moorings and have heard no complaints from anyone. This is in large part due to the respect divers have shown to fishermen, commercial vessels and others using the lake. As divers, we need to be sure we continue to accommodate the rights and needs of commercial shipping, diving, and fishing.

If there are fishermen over the wreck when we arrive, we always pull up slowly, explain that we want to tie into the moorings and dive the wreck. We then ask if they mind moving off. This always stars a conversation about, "What kind of fish do you see in the wreck?" We swap a few stories and the fishermen move off to let us dive. On the way off the wreck we always swing by to say thank you and tell them what we saw! We have never had any problems using this approach.

*Over the course of the summer, we will be placing 6,000 pound anchor blocks next to the wrecks to eliminate the possibility of our moorings doing damage to the wrecks.*



Shipwreck Mooring Buoys in Lake Erie

## Education Workshops/Programs

Congratulations to all of the Basic and Advanced Students for creating such a wonderful site map of the shipwreck S. S. Vermilion!

The workshop weekend started out with a boat ride, that's right, a boat ride. On Saturday morning the Advanced (40) and Basic (15) students were taken to the Vermilion Yacht Club (VYC) from the Inland Seas Museum (ISM) on the Mystic Belle to hear Ken Cassavoy's presentation called "Don't bring up the boat". It revolved around his excavation of the General Hunter, located in Lake Huron on Southampton beach in Ontario Canada, and the issues related to preservation of artifacts from various shipwrecks. After that the Advanced students went back to ISM to continue their sessions while the Basic remained at the Yacht Club. The Basic students were introduced to presentations on subjects covering an overview of the survey process, the law and scuba divers, and beginning research, The Advanced Students workshops focused on actual survey logistics, creating on a report; converting raw data to a finished site plan.

After lunch at the VYC the students returned to their perspective facilities for the second half of the day The Basic students presentations were on different style of vessels and their parts; boat and diving safety, trilateration as a method of underwater data collecting equipment, drawing techniques and survey equipment. Advanced Students afternoon was filled with information on researching shipwrecks, managing marine archaeological resources in Canada, and information on how they were going to run their own project on the S. S. Vermilion the next day.

The next morning, after the Basic students received information on the shipwreck of focus in this years field season, the Dundee, and Advanced

students were treated to information on the newly discovered Cortland, the investigation of the S.S. Vermilion commenced. Project leaders (Advanced students) instructed the surveyors (Basic students) on tasks they needed to complete. They covered information on safety procedures such as following the buoy line down to the vessel, buddy diving and safety stops on ascent. Instruction was also given on how to measure objects into the base line, do detailed drawings of objects, and transferring their raw data onto graph paper.

At the end of the day the individual team sections were taped together and the whole wreck appeared before our eyes! Great job everyone! We want to thank the many people who helped make the whole event a great success: The Great Lakes Historical Society, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, *Mystic Belle*, Martino's International Grill, and anyone else we may have forgotten.

Thanks,

Carrie Sowden, MAST Coordinator

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Ken Cassavoy, Marine Archaeologist and project director for the Southampton Beach Shipwreck Project also presented at the Second Annual MAST Dinner. Approximately 90 people were in attendance to hear the Canadian archaeologist speak about a wreck buried on a Southampton, Ontario Beach, that turned out to be the remains of the *General Hunter*. The *General Hunter* was built for the British and lost in the battle of Lake Erie in 1813 to the American forces. The US Army shortened the name to *Hunter* and used her as a transport until she came ashore in a storm in 1816. Her remains, that included military buttons and a small cannon, were excavated in 2004.

*Congratulations to all  
of the Basic and  
Advanced Students for  
creating such a  
wonderful site map of  
the shipwreck S. S.  
Vermilion!*

## Underwater Archaeology

Our survey season is quickly approaching! Many boats are in the water and several MAST members have already been out to buoy shipwrecks and sent in dive reports. This year, as many of you know, we are planning on continuing and finishing the site plan of the *Dundee*. Here at the Peachman Lake Erie Shipwreck Research Center, we are busy going over last year's data and drawings, making notes and plans for our work this summer.

We have two scheduled weekends aboard the fabulous boat *Holiday*. We were able to use this boat one weekend last year and it was wonderful. It is a large platform that can carry all the divers needed with space for drafting between dives. Being able to put data on a plan between dives gives the surveyors a good idea of what needs to be accomplished in their second dive of the day.

The four scheduled days are Saturday, June 24, Sunday, June 25, Saturday, July 8, and Sunday, July 9. Please call Carrie Sowden to sign up. Each MAST member can sign up for up to two days. We can take about 20 divers out each day and sign up will be a first come first serve basis. Please note, we will most likely be planning a third weekend in either late July or August. There is a lot left to accomplish on the *Dundee* and we will need all the time we can get out there.

Signing up for a survey date is a full day commitment. In the past, we have not been back to the dock until 5 pm. If you have another event on one of these days, please do not sign up to go out and survey. Contact Carrie by phone at 440-967-3467 ext. 6 or email [shipwreck@inlandseas.org](mailto:shipwreck@inlandseas.org).

Happy diving!

Carrie Sowden, MAST Coordinator

*Many boats are in the water and several MAST members have already been out to buoy shipwrecks and sent in dive reports.*

*The four scheduled Dundee survey dates are Saturday, June 24, Sunday, June 25, Saturday, July 8, and Sunday, July 9. Please call Carrie Sowden at 440-967-3467 ext. 6 to sign up, or email her at [shipwreck@inlandseas.org](mailto:shipwreck@inlandseas.org) as soon as possible.*

## Help Wanted: Media & Public Relations



As most of our newsletter readers know, MAST has a lot to crow about. However, bragging has not been one of the things we do well. Considering our success in surveying shipwrecks, educating divers in underwater archaeology, and providing access to shipwrecks via our mooring program ... we really don't get a lot of press.

The Board of Directors has established a media committee to begin to remedy that issue. If you have expertise/interest in the area of media relations or public relations and want to get more actively involved with MAST, we need you! The pay is lousy because we're all volunteers. The hours are very flexible. The people you get to work with are GREAT!! So, if you want to be part of our media committee, Contact Mike Wachter at 440-930-2477 or email him at

([m.wachter@eriewrecks.com](mailto:m.wachter@eriewrecks.com)) or Carrie Sowden at 440-967-3467 ext.6 ([shipwreck@inlandseas.org](mailto:shipwreck@inlandseas.org)). Also, anyone can attend the BOD meetings. Meeting notices are posted at:

<http://www.ohiomast.org>

## Treasurer's Report

Thanks to the many organizations and individuals who have donated to MAST we now have \$8454.25 in our treasury. Much of this money will be used to set six concrete mooring blocks this year and moor four additional shipwrecks. We appreciate our sponsors Great Lakes Historical Society, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio Lake Erie Commission, Norwalk Concrete Industries, Aqua Masters, Lake Erie Wreck Divers, Aqua Amigos, Bay Area Divers, Columbus Sea Nags, Ohio Chapter Save Ontario Shipwrecks, Panzo International and Trident Marine. In addition we collected \$582 from attendees at our Second Annual Banquet. Sales of MAST gear (t-shirts, polos etc.) brought in \$414.

Georgann Wachter, Treasurer

[treasurer@ohiomast.org](mailto:treasurer@ohiomast.org)

### Funding Note:

Volunteer hours are logged and accepted toward matching grant dollars in some cases. Volunteers are reminded that tracking their hours is very important!

Volunteers can call 440-967-3467 ext. 6 or forward their hours to MAST Coordinator, Carrie Sowden, at:

[shipwreck@inlandseas.org](mailto:shipwreck@inlandseas.org)

Your donations also help to fund projects and purchase needed supplies. If you are interested in making a donation, please contact Carrie Sowden, MAST Coordinator, or email:

[donation@ohimast.org](mailto:donation@ohimast.org)

### Questions? Contact

Carrie E. Sowden  
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Peachman Lake Erie Shipwreck  
Research Center  
Great Lakes Historical Society  
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Vermilion, OH 44089  
440-967-3467 ext. 6  
[shipwreck@inlandseas.org](mailto:shipwreck@inlandseas.org)

Your donations help to fund projects and purchase needed supplies. If you are interested in making a donation, please email us at:

[donation@ohiomast.org](mailto:donation@ohiomast.org)

## 2006 Calendar of Events

April 29	Annual Dinner – Guest, Ken Cassavoy
April 29	Spring Workshops – Dry coursework
May 9	Final Mooring Buoy Placement
May 20	MAST Board Meeting @ White Star Quarry
May 20 & 21	Spring Workshops – Wet coursework
June 24 & 25	Underwater Survey – Dundee aboard the <i>Holiday</i>
July 8 & 9	Underwater Survey – Dundee aboard the <i>Holiday</i>
July 12-16	Tall Ships PortFest @ Cleveland Harbor



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