

Rest In Peace Lorraine Freeman



The Chicago Maritime Museum collectively mourns the passing of our dedicated brand manager and graphic designer Lorraine Freeman. Lorraine passed away on July 14 surrounded by family and friends after a brief illness.

Lorraine's keen, artistic eye has enhanced CMM branding with everything from newsletter design to signage to advertising. More importantly, Lorraine was a loyal friend and enthusiastic mariner.

Years ago, when Lorraine was tasked to design the museum's logo, she pondered the

With the eye of a seasoned graphic designer, Lorraine considered a simple, yet compelling illustration that could incorporate all three elements. A schooner passing the Chicago Harbor Light on Lake Michigan.



In addition to her professional expertise, Lorraine was an experienced sailor who once owned a forty-foot sailboat custom-made in Hong Kong. A member of the Columbia Yacht Club, she was also the first female member of the Chicago Yacht Club.

importance of bringing together three important elements: the City of Chicago, our waterways, and our history. Fair winds and following seas Lorraine. You will be deeply missed by your friends and colleagues.

Read Lorraine's full obituary here.

2021 CMMFestival "Waterways for All" Launches New Ad Campaign



Meet 16-year-old Tyler Moore, a triplet who was uninterested in the typical youth sports his two brothers enjoyed. Instead, Tyler's mother, Aja, started a chapter of the Bassmaster, Off-the-Hook



Club (South), a competitive youth fishing club in the South Suburbs that nurtures the love of bass fishing for middle school and high school anglers. Tyler took to it immediately and this year he both qualified and placed in the top 25 at the Illinois Bass Nation State Championship at the Des Plaines River.

Save the Date: October 21, 2021 7:00 p.m.

PARTNER WITH US TODAY!! chicagomaritimemuseum.org



Following a successful inaugural event last year, the museum renews its efforts to engage key audiences to connect with CMM's mission. "Waterways for All" will be the theme of the 2021 festival.

The October 21st event will be promoted by a compelling ad campaign featuring the many ways a diverse Chicago population engages with local waterways. From fishing to sailing to diving to swimming, Chicagoans from all walks of life take pleasure in the area's abundant lakes and rivers.

"This year, we hope to acknowledge and celebrate the many ways diverse and overlooked groups interact with our waterways," says CMM Vice-Chairman and president emeritus Jerry Thomas, who is leading the benefit. "With this innovative ad campaign, we hope to convey just how much our shorelines are revered and enjoyed in Chicago."

The CMMFestival committee is busy planning an event that will include engaging video, lively maritime folk music, and a chance to partner

with, and support, the museum. More details to come

the Curator's Corner by Dylan Hoffmann

Check Out the Old Town Canoe First Owned by Cyrus McCormick



CMM's 17-foot wood and canvas Old Town OTCA canoe is in original condition and has never been restored. The canoe was originally purchased from a high-end sporting goods store in Chicago by inventor and industrialist Cyrus McCormick in 1936.

Frank Buttaert of Ishpeming, Michigan purchased it in 1967 from the foreman and caretaker of the McCormick Tract, a federally protected wilderness area comprising about 17,000 acres of rugged wilderness in northern Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The McCormick Tract was willed to the U.S. Forest Service, now called the McCormick Wilderness.

The canoe became a part of the Ralph Frese canoe collection in 1997, which was then donated to the Chicago Maritime Museum. The McCormick Tract guest logbook includes the names of frequent visitors, such as Henry Ford, Thomas Edison, and Harvey Firestone. They may have used this canoe for trout or bass fishing on White Deer Lake.

"This is an interesting one," said Ralph Frese in a 2008 interview. "There is a little oval brass plate on the deck that reads VL & A. "That stood for VonLengerke and Antoine (sporting goods store). They were at 335 Wabash, and they were the place you went to get an elephant gun for a safari, handmade split bamboo fly rods for the serious fisherman, and so on. That was the place to go into when I was a kid. It smelled of adventure the minute you walked in the door."

The McCormick Old Town canoe is currently on display at the Chicago Maritime Museum.

CMM Invited Again to Open House Chicago in October



Once again, the Chicago Maritime Museum is a featured venue in the Chicago Architecture Center's Open House Chicago, a free public festival on October 16-17 that offers behind-the-scenes access to over 350 buildings across Chicago.

Here's a chance to experience CMM's newly renovated museum, including an interactive lobby featuring key figures in Chicago's maritime history and our new WPA mural. Also, explore the Bridgeport Art Center (the former warehouse for hotel supplier Albert Pick) while you're here.

More information to come.

Thank You for Five Constructive Years Supporting the CMM Veronica Caminiti



CMM's administrative assistant and

In addition to her administrative roles, Veronica

membership specialist, Veronica Caminiti, is leaving the museum on August 7 for a full-time position at Rush University Medical Center.

Veronica joined the museum in 2016 when CMM first opened in the Bridgeport Art Center. She has been instrumental in the development of communications platforms including the museum's Constant Contact e-mail system and Flipcause-designed website. Veronica has also helped develop streamlined systems for membership sign-up and renewal.

"We are happy for Veronica and her new job but sad that she is leaving," says Jerry Thomas. "She's been a tremendous asset for the museum and will be missed on the staff. As she transitions out of her staff role with the CMM, Veronica plans to volunteer on the Operations Committee and help out in any way she can. Her continued enthusiasm and support will be invaluable." has been receiving visitors to the museum with her personal, warm welcome as the CMM receptionist.

"My experience at CMM this past five years has helped me become a better communicator and problem-solver," says Veronica. "I'm grateful for the hands-on responsibilities I was given, which have taught me the value of persistence when facing challenging tasks."

Veronica will take on the new role of full-time administrator at Rush Fetal & Neonatal Medical Center.

Best of luck to you Veronica!

Slow Race to Mackinac



The Chicago Yacht Club's 112th Race to Mackinac was a slow race along its 289 nautical mile course with primarily upwind angles that saw breeze going from decent at the starts to completely dead as some points near the Manitou Islands. <u>Read more here.</u>

Fishing on the Chicago River



"Fishing at the Jetty" is back and drawing people to experience fishing at the Riverwalk along the Chicago River, with some surprising results. <u>Read more here.</u>

Boat Designer Bruce Kirby Dies



Sailboat designer, whose Laser dinghy became a global phenomenon, dies at 92. <u>Read more here.</u>

Maritime Event Calendar

Check out local maritime events at the Chicago Maritime Museum website calendar page.

Submit maritime events in the Chicagoland area or story ideas to Mary Ann

