



June 2022

# on the Move

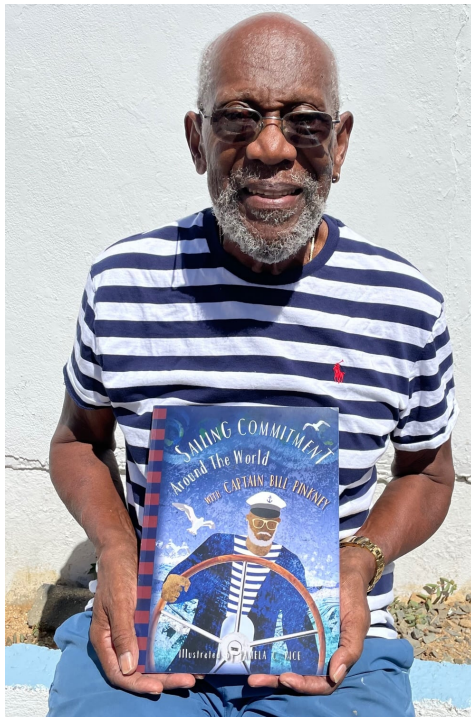
*Local maritime news, events and history from the Chicago Maritime Museum*

## **Chicago Native, Hall of Fame Sailor and Author Captain Bill Pinkney Launches New Book for Young Readers**

### ***Book Signing at Chicago Maritime Museum Rescheduled for June 8th***

A new children's book written by Captain Bill Pinkney and illustrated by noted Chicago artist Pamela C. Rice, tells the story of Captain Bill's historic solo sail around the world in 1990.

*Sailing Commitment Around the World* aims to inspire readers from 8 to 12-years-old with stories, adventures, and sights of the voyage and the lessons Captain Bill learned at sea: dream big, persevere and don't be distracted by hurdles that come with moving forward.



"From first page to last, Captain Bill Pinkney's captivating children's book, *Sailing Commitment Around the World*, is nothing less than a delight," says *Cruising World Magazine's* executive editor, Herb McCormick. "Beautifully illustrated with full-color paintings by noted artist Pamela C. Rice, the book is most certainly a true-life adventure tale, but it's also something even better: an inspirational story about a kid with a dream -- like all kids -- who ultimately had the courage and drive to fully realize it. With simple but memorable prose, and a message with lessons learned that will resonate with readers young and old, Captain Pinkney's *Commitment* wasn't just the name of his boat, it was the driving force behind a historic, once-in-a-lifetime voyage. Bravo."

A product of the Chicago Public Schools, Captain Bill's solo efforts were tracked

and used in Chicago and Boston public schools during his voyage. Gaining his sea legs on Lake Michigan, Captain Bill is proud to say he is a freshwater sailor who turned "salty." Though his book is focused on youngsters, adults will enjoy following the adventures that took place during this South Sider's middle-age years.

Captain Bill is both the first Black man to solo sail around the Earth via Cape Horn, and to receive the "Lifetime Achievement Award" by the National Sailing Hall of Fame in Newport, Rhode Island. He is the author of two other books: *Captain Bill Pinkney's Journey*, a Basal reader for first graders and his autobiography, *As Long as It Takes*. The documentary of his voyage won the George Foster Peabody award for children's programming. This fall, Mystic Seaport Museum will present Pinkney with the "America and the Sea" award at a gala in New York City.

An exhibit of his artifacts and audio-visual presentation is being planned by the Chicago Maritime Museum for later this year.

Pinkney will be signing his book and telling stories of his adventures on Monday, May 16 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the Chicago Maritime Museum in the Bridgeport Art Center at 1200 West 35th Street. Children are welcome and will be seated in a special reading circle to hear Captain Bill read from his book and participate in a question-and-answer session.

[Register for the event and/or pre-order the book here](#)

## **On 30th Anniversary of his Homecoming to the US from Solo Around-the-World Voyage Captain Bill to be Honored as Hero of the Game at June 9 White Sox/Dodgers Game**

Captain Bill will be honored as Hero of the Game at the Chicago White Sox Game on June 9 – the 30th anniversary of his return to the U.S. after 22 months at sea. The White Sox honor a member of the military during a designated half-inning break at each home game. Captain Bill will be honored on the field and featured live on the centerfield videoboard as the public address announcer reads a brief biography regarding his service to our country and his ventures.

Bill served in the US Navy from 1953 to 1961, becoming active in 1956. He served between the Korean War and the start of the Vietnam War on several battleships including the *USS Iowa* and the *USS Franklin Delano Roosevelt*, as a hospital corpsman specializing in X-ray.

At 86, Bill is currently active with the U.S. Merchant Marine in Puerto Rico, where he is a licensed Captain for vessels with up to 200 gross tons.

---

**Curator's Corner**  
**By Dylan Hoffman**

# Cultural Heritage Collaboration at CMM



The Chicago Maritime Museum welcomed representatives from federal, state, and local organizations on May 24th and 25th to identify priorities for cultural and heritage resources in the Illinois coastal area. The workshop was sponsored by the Illinois Coastal Management Program and the Illinois State Archaeological Survey in conjunction with the Prairie Research Institute.

Participants gathered with a purpose to not only identify priorities, but to increase communication and understanding among agencies, tribal nations, and stakeholder organizations vested in the management and preservation of cultural resources in the Illinois Coastal Area as well as to set goals for project enhancements. Attendees reviewed historic preservation laws and presentations of recent research conducted by local archaeologists. Tribal nations, museums, and educators shared interests and concerns. The Chicago Maritime Museum is proud to have served as the host for this meaningful collaboration event. Community engagement, education, and the preservation of resources are at the core of the museum's mission.

We would like to thank the sponsors and participating organizations for their involvement.

## Organizations in Attendance:

- Illinois Coastal Management Program
- Prairie Research Institute at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- Illinois State Historic Preservation Office
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- Illinois State Archeological Survey
- Illinois State Geological Survey
- Illinois State Water Survey
- Illinois Sustainable Technology Center
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Underwater Archeological Society of Chicago
- City of Chicago, Bureau of Planning, Historic Preservation and Sustainability
- Loyola University

- Field Museum
  - Argonne National Laboratory
  - Lake County Forest Preserve District
  - Forest County Potawatomi Community
  - Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians
  - Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska
  - Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska
  - Gun Lake Tribe - Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Potawatomi Indians
  - Wisconsin Historical Society
- 

## **S.S. Badger to Ditch Coal**



Lake Michigan Carferry, Inc. is in the early phases of looking for alternative solutions to the coal that currently propels the 410-foot historic ship across Lake Michigan.

[Read More Here](#)

---

## **Charlevoix Couple Believe They've Discovered Great Lakes' Oldest Shipwreck**



Loaded with furs in what is now Wisconsin, the *Griffon* was said to have sunk somewhere in northern Lake Michigan in 1679. A couple in Charlevoix think they have found it.

[Read More Here](#)



The Chicago Maritime Museum's model shipbuilder, Glenn Braun, finished his model of *Le Griffon* in 2012. With the help of historical illustrations, size information and the recent discovery of the wreck of a contemporary ship, *La Belle*, Glenn was able to

outline his design for *Le Griffon*. He also received some help from William Ballinger, who provided Glenn with photos of his own model of the ship.

## 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 O'Rourke at [maorourke58@gmail.com](mailto:maorourke58@gmail.com).

**Ready to join or renew your membership?**

Information about our membership offers can be found [here](#).  
If you need further membership support please email us at  
[cmm@chicagomaritimemuseum.org](mailto:cmm@chicagomaritimemuseum.org)

---

*We hope you've enjoyed our monthly e-newsletter, On the Move.*

