



Maine Sea Coast Mission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Events to Mark Mission's Centennial

BAR HARBOR—To celebrate its 100 year history of serving residents of islands and coastal communities of Down East Maine, the Maine Sea Coast Mission has planned numerous events, including a Centennial Speakers Series, tours of the *Sunbeam V*, two storytelling performances, the second annual Sunbeam Awards Gala, and its annual meeting featuring the premier of the documentary “Century of Hope on a Sea of Change.”

The six-part speakers' series, which is free of charge and open to the public, begins at the Mission at 4:30pm on June 16 with Richard Savage presenting his research on Champlain and the early history of Mount Desert Island. Other speakers include Rev. Theodore Hoskins discussing the relationship between healthy communities and healthy fisheries; John Bryan, author of *Maine Cottages: Frederick Savage and the Architecture of Mount Desert Island*; Dean Lunt, author of *Hauling by Hand*; Roxanna Robinson author of, *A Perfect Stranger*; and boat builder Ralph Stanley telling island stories. Following each presentation, refreshments will be served.

Between July 12 and September 28, the *Sunbeam V*, will be available for tours. The 75-foot boat was built in East Boothbay and launched in January 1995. The tours will include demonstrations of the advanced telemedicine equipment which allows Sharon Daley, R.N. to bring much-needed medical care to residents of offshore islands. Four of the tours will be in Northeast Harbor and two in Bar Harbor.

On July 17, the Mission will present two storytelling performances. At 2:00pm Jackson Gillman will entertain younger audiences, while at the 7:00pm performance he will be joined by award winning storytellers Sherry Geyelin and Dennis Damon. Tickets for these events are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12 when purchased in advance and \$12 for adults and \$6 for children when purchased on the day of the performance. Call Molly Hamor at the Mission (288-5097) to purchase tickets or visit their web site at www.seacoastmission.org.

On August 26, the Mission will hold its second Sunbeam Awards Gala to honor those who have distinguished themselves in serving local communities or, through their philanthropy, have improved those communities. This year's honorees are Sonny Sprague of Swans Island and Bar Harbor summer residents Ruth and Tris Colket. The gala will be held at the Bar Harbor Club beginning at 6 p.m. Space is limited and tickets can be purchased by calling the Mission.

In the making for over a year, the documentary "Century of Hope on a Sea of Change" will be premiered as part of the Mission's annual meeting which will be held this year at 4:00pm on July 11 in College of the Atlantic's Gates Auditorium. In addition, board president Fred Hutchinson will make a major announcement at the meeting and executive director Gary DeLong will highlight significant accomplishments during the past year. Following the meeting, refreshments will be served in the Newlin Garden.

While the tours, speakers' series and annual meeting are all free of charge, the storytelling performances and the Sunbeam Awards Gala are fundraising events that help defray the cost of the Mission's many endeavors to improve life for those living on offshore islands or along the Down East coast, said Rev. DeLong.

For more information on individual events, check the calendar section of your local newspaper or community calendar. Information may also be obtained by calling Molly Hamor at 288-5097 or by visiting the Mission's web site at www.seacoastmission.org.