

N E W H A M P S H I R E BOAT MUSEUM

Media Contact: Martha Cummings at 603.569.4554 or martha@nhbm.org

For Immediate Release

NHBM preparing for 2020 Season

Wolfeboro, NH-- March 26, 2020--While COVID-19 has effectively shut down many sectors of industry, it has not reduced the need to plan for the 2020 season at the New Hampshire Boat Museum (NHBM).

"Dates for some of our events are a moving target, but we are doing all we can to prepare for a wonderful 2020 season," said NHBM Executive Director Martha Cummings. "I think the museum's programs and events this summer can help bring our communities together."

Cummings said part of the optimism she feels related to the upcoming season stems from support NHBM has received from various corporate sponsors.

"We are so fortunate to have the support of so many local businesses that believe in what we do," she said.

John Spooner, owner of Diamond Shine Boat Detailing, which is lead sponsor of NHBM's annual Ice Out Dinner & Auction, said he is "proud" to support the museum.

"The New Hampshire Boat Museum is a great organization that respects New Hampshire's rich boating history," he said. "Their mission to preserve the heritage of boating on our state's lakes is something we are proud to support."

Founded in 1992 by antique and classic boating enthusiasts, NHBM is committed to inspire people of all ages with an understanding of, and appreciation for, the boating heritage of New Hampshire's fresh waterways.

Noting NHBM has historically been referred to as the "boat museum," Cummings said the current crisis may help to illuminate its "deeper purpose."

"We offer hands-on learning programs and opportunities that dig deeper into our heritage and who we are in and around the Lakes Region of New Hampshire," she said. "My hope is we can expand access to our programs and exhibits this summer so more people of all ages can enjoy themselves. We need to reconnect as a community."

In looking ahead to the 2020 season, Cummings said the only changes in their event calendar include postponing their spring Opening Reception and rescheduling their

annual Ice Out Dinner & Auction to Friday, June 19. Ice Out had been scheduled for Friday, April 17.

“We will monitor COVID-19 to ensure the safety of staff, volunteers and visitors, but we are hopeful we can still open Memorial Day weekend,” she said. “It will be wonderful to be able to go out, be social and get together in person again, so Ice Out has taken on special meaning.”

In addition to food and drink, the auction part of Ice Out Dinner & Auction will feature various boating excursions, Red Sox tickets, vacation getaways, including a trip to Mexico, and more.

“Even though Ice Out will be later than usual, it still serves as our kick-off event,” said Cummings. “We hope people will see the event as a way to re-engage with the community, friends and family.”

NHBM’s annual Ice Out Dinner & Auction is sponsored by Diamond Shine Boat Detailing, Rourke Fine Home Building, Faye's Boat Yard and Maxfield Real Estate.

To learn more about the event or NHBM, visit nhbm.org.

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