



A National Historic Landmark

# Cabin Notes

Friends of the Governor Stone, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 4716  
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 850-621-0011  
 www.GovernorStone.org

August 2012

## Meet the Board

President Harry Dennard Woodmen of the World	Secretary/Treasurer Carol Visalpatara Historical Interpreter
Kristin Anderson Artist, Silversmith Kristinworks	Capt. Bill Hamilton Retired IBMer Master Captain
Jon Hill Executive Director Pensacola Lighthouse	Ray Mansfield Corporate Pilot Flight Instructor
Dean Covey Retired Chemical Engineer Community Advocate	Cal Allen City Commissioner City of Carrabelle
John Darrah Developer Businessman	

## Argh!

The Governor Stone made her fourth annual appearance at the Billy Bowlegs Festival this June. She joined Special Ops forces from Hurlburt Field in defending Ft. Walton Beach against dastardly pirate Billy Bowlegs.



was built in 1877.

## A Brand New Old Flag

Woodmen of the World Area Manager Lance Mayers and family were at the Panama City 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities to present a 38 star American flag to the Friends of the Governor Stone, Inc. There were 38 states when the vessel

## Crab Shack Fundraiser and Good Time

July 10 and 11 the Original Waterfront Crab Shack in Fort Walton Beach hosted the Governor and donated a percentage of their proceeds to preserving the vessel. The Ahoy group of the Fort Walton Sail and Power Squadron did lunch and had a short motor tour on the vessel. Thanks for their kind donations as well.

## Captain Dick Gercak Retires



S/T Carol Visalpatara represented the Board of the Friends of the Governor Stone, Inc. presenting a plaque to Captain Gercak with the following heartfelt

sentiment:

**THE FRIENDS OF THE GOVERNOR STONE HONOR**

**CAPTAIN DICK GERCAK**

with this token of gratitude for his service in preserving and promoting the **1877 GULF COAST SCHOONER GOVERNOR STONE** and with sincere appreciation we acknowledge his leadership and vision as a member of the board of directors, and further express our respect and admiration for his command and maritime skills during his nine years as

**CAPTAIN OF REGISTER**

## Apalachicola Memory

On Wednesday, [April18] at 09:00, Governor Stone departed the Riverfront Park dock with 3 crew, 7



students, 1 teacher and 2 chaperones on a 2 hour sail out into the Apalachicola Bay. It was a beautiful, partly cloudy day with 6-8 knot winds. We motored out the

channel to the #10 nun buoy where we set the main, fore, and stay sails. We then came about and sailed back to town with a following breeze, staying in the narrow channel. The students were a diverse group, ranging in age from 10 to 15 years old. I was quite surprised and pleased with their enthusiasm. The teachers at Project Impact are really making a difference in these kids' lives, and it shows in their inquisitiveness. They were not shy about asking questions and lending a hand. Usually, youngsters are about jumping off a boat after half to three quarters of an hour. But, after a two hour sail, it seemed that they left the Governor Stone wanting more. I hope they told their friends of their experience. I wondered how those conversations would go. After we docked and the youngsters departed the vessel, we all had a good feeling of camaraderie, sadness that the trip was over so soon, and hope to meet again. Thus began the Governor's duty in the eastern part of the panhandle, every trip concluding with such warm feelings.

-----Captain Greg LaSchum

### Welcome New Board Members

Cal Allen of Carrabelle, Dean Covey of Ft. Walton Beach and John Darrah of Panama City joined our Board on July 14<sup>th</sup>.

### Vintage Sail

Catch the Governor Stone at new Vintage Market at the Panama City Marina August 11<sup>th</sup>.

### New Dues Schedule

**Encourage your friends to join in the fun and to support the Gov**

- \_\_\_ \$10 ~ Friend (supporter)
- \_\_\_ \$25 ~ Steward Member (individual)
- \_\_\_ \$50 ~ Cabinmate Members (family)
- \_\_\_ \$250 ~ Seaman Donor
- \_\_\_ \$500 ~ Staysail Donor
- \_\_\_ \$1,000 ~ Foresail Donor
- \_\_\_ \$5,000 ~ Mainsail Donor
- \_\_\_ \$10,000 ~ Commodore Donor

All levels receive email newsletter. Memberships are tax deductible per federal tax laws. New members at each level will receive a certificate and keepsake of the Governor Stone. Some premiums are awarded at the Annual General Meeting.

**Stay tuned for the John Curry \$100,000 Fundraising Drive.**

### Your donations of funds and services are tax deductible.

The Friends of the Governor Stone, Inc. is the 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization that maintains this classic National Historic Landmark schooner. Keeping a wooden vessel seaworthy, safe and a beautiful sight to see is costly. The Friends welcome all manner of assistance in the endeavor. **Call 850-621-0011 or email info@GovernorStone.org. Mail contributions to P.O. Box 4716, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549 and keep coastal history afloat.**

### Commodores on Board

The *Governor Stone* sailed to the Ft. Walton Beach Yacht Club the end of July for the annual meeting of the Commodores of the Florida State Yacht Clubs. The Commodores attended a presentation on the history of the vessel then took a tour of the schooner herself.

### Many thanks to:

#### Sponsors over the past 6 months

Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce  
 City of Carrabelle  
 Franklin County Tourist Development Council  
 St. Andrews Community Redevelopment Council  
 Okaloosa County Tourist Development Council  
 The Original Crab Shack  
 Ft. Walton SPS Ahoy Group  
 FWYC Chapter, Florida Commodore Association  
 Cities of Fort Walton Beach, Panama City and Freeport  
 for designated docking  
 Leeward Times, Inc. for sail cover repairs  
 Bay County Boatyard for help with rigging repair  
 Flamingo Graphics for replacing our banner  
 The Boat Marina for providing slip usage

#### Donor level members

John & Mary Darrah  
 Harry & Sandra Dennard  
 Kristin Anderson  
 Carol Visalpatara  
 Carl Updyke

### Volunteer Opportunities Remain Endless

Get involved and join a committee!

Membership, Ray Mansfield chair  
 Operations/Scheduling, Capt. Bill Hamilton chair  
 Education/Culture/History, you could be the chair  
 Public Relations, Kristin Anderson chair  
 Fundraising, Jon Hill chair  
 Finance and Budget, Carol Visalpatara chair  
 Nominating, Kristin Anderson chair

**Email info@GovernorStone.org or call 850-621-0011 to sign on.**

### Needs

Wooden kegs or small barrels  
 Boarding Ladder  
 Bosun's chair