



Lake Champlain

MARITIME MUSEUM *Preserving and sharing the history of Lake Champlain*

Lake Champlain Maritime Museum Volunteer Descriptions

For information contact:

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1) Accessibility Volunteer:

Goal: Work with LCMM Facilities Manager, Curator, and Educators to Improve Accessibility to LCMM site and Interpretive Content for People with Disabilities

- a) Survey physical site for:
 - i) Obstacles to movement from building to building
 - ii) Obstacles for access to buildings and movement within buildings
- b) Investigate alternative options including, but not limited to, technological improvements or additions to new and existing displays
 - i) Visual alternative displays for the hearing impaired
 - ii) Auditory alternatives for visual displays
- c) Create implementation plan for overall site accessibility or for individual buildings and interpretive topics
- d) Create metrics for evaluating effectiveness of accessibility adaptations

2) Communications and Marketing Volunteer: Social Media Coordinator and “resident blogger”

Goal: Work with LCMM’s communications staff, curators and educators to provide current content for our social media presence. Work within our cutting edge inbound marketing software, Hubspot.

- a) Interview staff, volunteers, special events participants to provide content for advance, near real time, and post event, blogging, community calendar listings and social media interaction.
- b) Review long term museum activities for content driven marketing opportunities.
- c) Work with staff to create website content
- d) Monitor and report on LCMM’s online presence and draft responses, updates, and corrections as needed

3) Collection Management Volunteer

Goal: Work with Nautical Archaeologists, Curator and Educators to develop reference and access systems for historical and archaeological collections, such as the Scott McLaughlin and Peter Barranco collections.

- a) Review collection content and create Scope and Content listing
- b) Develop finding aids
- c) Digitize collection materials
- d) Build search lexicon
- e) Respond to reference requests from staff and researchers

4) Archival/Artifact Collections Assistant Volunteer

The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum in Vergennes is a repository for historical articles, documents, prints, paintings, artifacts, and more. Proper storage, documentation and organization is crucial to the safety of these historic pieces. Volunteers will assist with organizing and systematizing collections records & archives, moving and inventorying collections to new storage space, upgrading and updating archival system, and recording and photographing artifacts and records. 4 hours/week, weekday or weekends from May through October. Weekdays through the winter.

5) Conservation Lab Interpreter/Assistant Volunteer

The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum in Vergennes has a unique interpretive and educational program that allows public access to recently recovered artifacts. Artifacts require certain physical and chemical processes to prevent their deterioration. This is carried out in public in our laboratory and a volunteer is needed to assist the full-time conservator. Volunteer must be personable and enjoy talking with people, be good at working with old and delicate objects. Experience in conservation a plus but will train. One or two volunteers, 4 hours per week. Weekdays from May through October.

6) Special Project Coordinator for Executive Director

Work with the Executive Director in one-on-one meetings with variable assignments and a range of projects from financial modeling to partnerships and from real estate analysis to vessel projects. Requires a one-hour per week minimum commitment.

7) Ecology Program Assistant Volunteer

Work with the Ecology Program Director on preparation and execution of on-water ecology programming for school groups. Duties may include lifting and carrying canoes and other gear, assisting with supervision of Grade K-8 students on land and in canoes or longboats, cleaning and storing equipment, writing brief trip summaries and assisting with program evaluations. Programs are 3-5 hours in length. Some training is required. Hours are typically 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. M-F, 1-3 programs weekly. Prefer a commitment to 3 or more program days. This opportunity is expected to continue into 2016 spring season

8) Wooden Boat shop volunteer

Work with boat shop staff and other volunteers to build or repair museum boats.

- a) Maintain existing boats in the museum fleet
- b) Repair donated vessels for resale. Increase the value of donated vessels with minor repairs
- c) Assist in creating ads for resale vessels for museum website, brokers, and Craigslist
- d) Assist youth programs in building a new wooden vessel. The program runs five afternoons per week from January to May.
- e) Work with the museum curator to document boats in the museum collection

9) Gardening Volunteer

Work independently to maintain and improve several perennial gardens around the museum grounds. Weeding, transplanting, pruning, and edge trimming activities are needed on a weekly basis.

10) Construction & Maintenance Volunteer

The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum in Vergennes has expanded to incorporate over 12 buildings, dozens of vessels both in and out of the water, and complex exhibits--all set on 2 1/2 acres of grounds. Volunteers are needed to assist in the construction and maintenance of the buildings, exhibits and grounds. No experience is necessary for some projects, however, carpentry, painting and landscaping experience is a plus. Flexible schedule weekdays from May through October.

Summer 2016 opportunities

Tour guide/Docent May to October

We are looking for people who would like to jump in and help bring Lake Champlain boats, history, and culture alive! Join the fun helping visitors understand the history and people of the region at our campus in Vergennes and onboard our full scale replica vessels the Philadelphia II and the Lois McClure.

Engage museum visitors and make exhibits at the museum interesting and relevant to the visitor's own experience. Volunteers needed 4 hours or more one day/week. Volunteer should be friendly and helpful and willing to learn, training provided. Museum is open late May through mid-October, 7 days a week. We provide training booklets, interpreters (docents) guidelines, and opportunities to shadow experienced docents, before you strike out on your own.

This opportunity is water based. The boats are real and they are at floating docks with stairway, wooden ramp or gravel ramp access. Not everyone will be able to access the vessels and provide the basic water safety response that could be required.

Special Events

During the season we hold several special events that require many hands. Each individual event requires different tasks, but they all require lots of preparation and personnel to implement the plans. Our annual Golf Tournament, Kids Pirate Festival, The Big Shebang!, Abenaki Heritage weekend, Rabble in Arms and more are always in search of assistance with everything from parking direction to waterfront safety, and gift bag preparation to kid's craft direction.