We exist to benefit our community through education, impactful experiences and by sharing access to maritime resources.

Annual Report FY17

Nauticus

Featuring the Battleship Wisconsin

Explore the Nautical, Naval and Natural Wonders of our Waters
Message from Our Chair

Welcome to Nauticus’ FY17 Annual Report. Although this is my last message as board chair, I had an especially easy task writing this year’s message because Nauticus has just completed one of its very best years ever! In FY17, more than 338,000 guests visited the campus, which includes Nauticus, the Battleship Wisconsin, Sail Nauticus and the Peter G. Decker, Jr. Half Moone Center, making it one of the best fiscal years for visitation in our 23-year history. Paid attendance was 179,000, representing a 13.5% increase in paid attendance over FY16.

This is a direct result of our incredibly dedicated, hard-working staff and volunteer efforts. We are very lucky to have such a talented group of people committed to our success.

We can attribute these amazing numbers in part to fun and innovative programming that provided new and different experiences for our guests. Dickens’ Christmas Towne offered a brand-new lineup of entertainment and activities last November and December and attracted nearly 25,000 attendees over its six-week run, the best attendance since it first began in 2014. In May, ARBORIA, a walk-in sculpture created by UK-based Architects of Air, drew nearly 6,500 people to Town Point Park over the course of only four days. Escape Ship: Captain’s Challenge premiered in June of 2016 and was the first escape room concept ever developed on a battleship. Its popularity led us to create a second experience, Escape Ship: Saving Bobby Wilder last July. Additional activities—including Sail Nauticus sailing center events, kayaking opportunities on the waterfront, special event rentals and cruise ship activity—also contributed to the visitation increase.

As always, thank you for your support, and enjoy this annual report.

We couldn’t have done it without you!

All the best,

Maryellen Baldwin
Education

Camp Young
This year marks the tenth anniversary of Nauticus’ outreach partnership program with Norfolk Public Schools at Camp E.W. Young. Throughout the school year, Nauticus educators visit this scenic, 30-acre site to provide environmental education to all Title 1 first through fifth graders.

Nauticus Scout Days
This past year, Nauticus hosted three events for our local scouts: Girls in STEAM Night, Cub/Boy Scout All Hands-on Deck Day and Women in STEM Day. More than 1,200 scouts and leaders built underwater robots, participated in shipboard communications with the Wisconsin Ham Radio Club, and got important career advice from local professionals.

Junior Science Club
Nauticus’ after-school science program, another successful partnership with Norfolk Public Schools, continues to rack up awards! In September 2016, the group received the Norfolk Environmental Commission Youth Award of Excellence as well as the Elizabeth River Project Model Level RiverStar School Award. Both awards recognized the program’s environmental science stewardship efforts involving oyster floats, water quality, marina trash skimmer, Clean the Bay Day and shoreline grass planting.

AWARDS
Norfolk Environmental Commission Youth Award of Excellence
Elizabeth River Project Model Level RiverStar School Award
Experiences

The Wall That Heals

Nauticus was privileged to present The Wall That Heals, a deeply moving, half-scale replica of the Vietnam Memorial in April, 2017. Honoring more than three million Americans who served in the U.S. Armed forces in the Vietnam War, it bears the names of the more than 58,000 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice. The mobile Education Center included touching photos, letters, and an overview of the Vietnam War. The Wall That Heals was presented locally in part by GEICO.

ARBORIA

In May, Nauticus brought an entirely different experience to the downtown Norfolk waterfront timed to coincide with the opening of Waterside District. ARBORIA, designed by UK-based Architects of Air, was a massive “luminarium” in which visitors could wander through an immersive labyrinth of light, shapes and design. Sponsored by ADP and other community partners, ARBORIA drew nearly 6,500 visitors in four days.
Dickens’ Christmas Towne

In November/December 2016, Dickens’ Christmas Towne introduced an entirely new entertainment line-up to more than 25,000 visitors. This “Bigger, Bolder, Brighter” approach included an elaborate puppet theater, juggling and magic acts, musicians, an indoor snowball challenge, and a talking Christmas tree! Our sincere thanks go to Captain Bill Cofer, whose elaborate indoor train display has become a favorite holiday tradition for thousands of Hampton Roads families.

EPIC YEAR
25,000 visitors
Battleship Wisconsin

Fourth Annual Gettin’ Frisky on the WISKY

Nearly 500 revelers danced and socialized at the Fourth Annual Gettin’ Frisky on the WISKY event on May 20, raising nearly $50,000 for Sail Nauticus.

USS Wisconsin Association Reunion

Nearly 300 battleship veterans and their families attended an emotional reunion aboard the Wisconsin in July, 2016. The event brought together veterans from WWII, the Korean Conflict, and the Persian Gulf War. In conjunction with their visit, a new exhibit, Alan Dean: Rising Above Bias, opened to the public in the Wisconsin’s Wardroom. Dean, a member of the Association, served as an ensign on the battleship from 1951 to 1953. He was the Wisconsin’s first African-American officer and one of only six commissioned black officers in the U.S. Navy at the time. The event was so successful the Association decided to make the Battleship its permanent biannual reunion site and will be returning in September 2018.
Schooner Virginia

Mission Statement: Schooner Virginia serves the Nauticus Foundation’s effort to engage the Hampton Roads community, with a focus on delivering transformative maritime experiences to our underserved youth.

In 2016, the Nauticus Foundation purchased the schooner to ensure it could continue to grace Virginia waters and serve as a teaching platform for Norfolk’s youth. Proudly, the schooner led Harborfest’s Parade of Sail in June, 2017.
Sail Nauticus

Now in its fourth year, Sail Nauticus continues to grow its membership program and summer camps. The Sail Nauticus Academy is enriching the lives of hundreds of Hampton Roads children – most from underserved communities – with programs that develop leadership skills and confidence. The “after school” program gives Norfolk middle school students an opportunity to sail and swim. The education team is comprised of staff, volunteers and skilled sailors.

During the winter months, boatbuilding and swimming are vital parts of the program. Working with Tidewater Wooden Boats, students construct (and test out) rowboats and oars. This requires that they learn how to use a variety of power and hand tools, all of which require both focus and precision to use safely and properly.

Niare Patton, an eighth grader at Rosemont Academy, guides a block of wood through a band saw.

Swimming lessons are a vital part of Sail Nauticus Academy’s winter months.

Sail Nauticus Academy students liked these things best about the program

- 3 out of 4 say “this program makes me more interested in science, math and engineering”
- 4 out of 5 say “this program makes me want to learn more”
- 9 out of 10 say “this program makes learning fun”
- 9 out of 10 say “this program has helped me learn how to get along with people who are different from myself”
SURVEY RESULTS
Sail Nauticus Academy students say this program has increased their confidence, made them more interested in STEM subjects, and made learning fun.

Numbers:

Retention Rate:
- 6th - 7th grade: 54%
- 7th - 8th grade: 85%

Summer Camp Partner Campers: 112
Total Summer Campers (including partners): 309

2016-17 Academy attendance final: 108 with a 90% average attendance rate.

Notably, Sail Nauticus Academy retention rates are significantly higher than those of other year-round, youth sailing programs.

"Learning how to sail independently while making great friends along the way."
"Seeing dolphins while in the middle of racing sailboats."
"Sailing comfortably with people I enjoy and sharing nice times with my group."
"Sailing and meeting new people."
Our Amazing Donors

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Alan & Esther Fleder Foundation
Mr. Charles I. Allred
Amazon Smile Foundation
Ms. Sylvia Anderson
ASME- American Society of Mechanical Engineers
Atlantic Foundations
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Marine Technology Society
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Mr. Mynot Moule
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Naval Civilian Managers Association
Navy Supply Corps Foundation
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Norfolk Naval Shipyard
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TowneBank Foundation
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Virginia Maritime Association
Virginia Pilot Association
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The Honorable Barclay C. Winn
Wolcott, Rivers, Gates
WVEC
Stacy Zep
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Zito
Captain Channing M. Zucker
## Nauticus Foundation
Statement of Financial Position
Year Ended June 30, 2017

### ASSETS

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<tr>
<th>Current assets:</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
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<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>6,292</td>
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<td>Current promises to give, net</td>
<td>399,000</td>
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<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>48,217</td>
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<td>Due from City of Norfolk</td>
<td>220,720</td>
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<td>Total current assets</td>
<td>2,757,354</td>
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<th>Other assets:</th>
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<td>Long-term promises to give, net</td>
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<td>Deposits</td>
<td>1,500</td>
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<td>Property and equipment, net</td>
<td>1,878,512</td>
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<td><strong>$4,674,366</strong></td>
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### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

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<th>Current liabilities:</th>
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<td>Accounts payable and accrued expenses</td>
<td>$35,465</td>
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<td>Due to City of Norfolk</td>
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<td>Deferred revenue</td>
<td>6,697</td>
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<td>Total current liabilities</td>
<td>42,162</td>
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<th>Net assets:</th>
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<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>3,923,836</td>
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<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>708,368</td>
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<td><strong>$4,632,204</strong></td>
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**Remembering Bob Taylor**

Nauticus lost a dear friend and supporter last November with the passing of Robert “Bob” Taylor, who joined our board in 1997 and served as board chairman for over a decade. Under his leadership, Nauticus underwent many pivotal changes, including the acquisition of the Battleship Wisconsin in 2000. Bob’s support and encouragement continually sustained our organization.

The Norfolk waterfront and the Taylor family are intrinsically linked. At a time when the site on which Nauticus now stands bustled with ships transporting coal, cotton, seafood, and fruit, it became known as “the Banana Pier.” After moving to Norfolk from North Carolina, Bob’s family took ownership of the pier and from it, launched a successful banana and salt shipping company. In 2011, the theater which provides visitors with an introductory experience to the Battleship Wisconsin was renamed The Taylor Theater in recognition of Bob and his wife Margo’s tireless commitment and tremendous contributions over the course of many years. We are grateful to have known Bob. He is greatly missed.
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