



**Wild Country Seafood
Opens in Eastport**

In this photo taken in 1986, Patrick Mahoney and Patrick Jr. tilt a bushel of plump crabs on their Deltaville deadrise *Baby Boy*. Patrick Jr. continues to work on the water alongside his father as the second and third generations of family watermen. As far as we know, they are the only remaining commercial fishermen/crabbers based out of Eastport or Annapolis.

In 1997, the family acquired a second cedar-planked deadrise fishing boat. This one was built in 1983 by a man named Hughes in Cambridge, MD. They named her *Wild Country*. She plies the channel edges for fresh Bay food alongside *Baby Boy* year-round. This summer, the family opened Wild Country Seafood, a retail shop next to the Annapolis Maritime Museum in Eastport, with the concept of bringing fresh seafood directly to customers. The place is open Tuesday-Thursday from 3 to 7 p.m., Friday from noon to 7 p.m., Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. ((410) 267-6711). —by Joe Evans/*SpinSheet*

Twenty Years of Bay Schooner Racing

More than 50 schooners will gather for the 20th Anniversary Great Chesapeake Bay Schooner Race (GCBSR) October 11-18 to help save the Bay. Race week begins with schooners docked off Fells Point, moves to Annapolis for the race start, and ends with awards in Portsmouth, VA October 17. At press time, *Farewell, Heron, Island Time, Martha White, Mistress 77, Pirates Lady, Quintessence, Sally B, Spirit of Independence,* and *Woodwind* have signed up to race down the Bay. These 44- to 77-footers hail from Baltimore, Chestertown, Forked River (NJ), Galesville, North East (MD), Portsmouth, Solomons, and Key West.

Jen Brest of Schooner Woodwind Cruises says, "This is our 17th year doing the race. Since my family and I started Woodwind Cruises out of Annapolis, we've met so many wonderful people and turned lots of them onto sailing and racing. But, the GCBSR people top even them. We come back each year for the camaraderie and the competition. It's fun to stretch Woodwind's legs and to sail overnight. The event always is the pinnacle of our sailing season."

Cheer your peers in the annual Dinghy Race FUNdraiser October 11. Groove to the tunes during a free outdoor concert with Schooner Time (the bluegrass band from the Schooner *Martha White*), Them Eastport Oyster Boys, and Inishewon (seafaring music) October 13. Tour some schooners and see the 5 p.m. Parade of Sail to the Inner Harbor October 14. The schooners will leave Fells Point at 9 a.m. October 15 for the 1:30 p.m. race start off Annapolis. The race sails 127 nautical miles to Thimble Shoals off Hampton, VA. Once in Portsmouth, schooner sailors will party, give tours, enjoy a pig and oyster roast and sing-along, and tell tall tales.

Proceeds of the race support Bay preservation through youth education programs. To date, the race has donated \$114,600 to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, providing more than 2000 children with on-water educational experiences. GCBSR originated as a personal challenge between Captain Lane Briggs's Tugantine *Norfolk Rebel* and the *Pride of Baltimore II* (2008 winner in class). Captain Briggs (1932-2005) was committed to the Bay's maritime heritage and loved schooner-rigged sailboats; he founded and kept the race going strong. schoonerrace.org

Brest adds, "If you missed the race, you still can join us on our five-day return adventure from Portsmouth to Annapolis October 19-23. It's a sail of a lifetime!"

**Schooners Rendezvous
in Cambridge**

Many GCBSR schooners and sailors will join tall ships and other historic vessels for the fourth annual Schooner Rendezvous at Cambridge's Long Wharf Park October 23-25. The Richardson Maritime Museum is a proud sponsor of this maritime festival. The weekend will be full of people enjoying live music, local delicacies, dockside tours, exhibits, and vendors. schoonerrendezvous.com

GCBSR's annual Dinghy Race FUNdraiser off Fells Point. Photo courtesy of GCBSR

