

# SAILGLOUCESTER

## Press Release

### **Sail Gloucester and the Office of Mayor Carolyn A. Kirk Welcome Tall Ship Adventures & Tall Ship Spirit of Massachusetts On Board the Fourth of July Celebrations, July 4-7, 2009**

*Gloucester, MA; Tall Ship Adventures and Tall Ship Spirit of Massachusetts accept invitation by the Office of the Mayor to join SailGloucester's The Fourth of July Celebration, July 4-7, 2009.*

#### **About Sail Gloucester Fourth of July Celebration**

Launched from the Office of the Mayor of Gloucester's City Hall, Sail Gloucester's goal is to partner with the regional chambers, DMOS (Destination Marketing Organizations) and the government funded agencies of the state already dedicated to promoting tourism and awareness for sailing vessels as well as sailing education.

"Our first celebration is really shaping up with interest in the celebration, unparalleled sponsorship and support by the team at Cruiseport Gloucester and significant real time participation by the City of Gloucester Tourism Commission, Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce, the Seaport Gloucester Destination Marketing Organization, the North of Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau, Schooner *Adventure*, *The Schooner Thomas E. Lannon*, and the faithful hardworking volunteer Gloucester citizens on our committee," says Sail Gloucester's Executive Director Ally O'Connor. "Today, we are ecstatic that in our earliest stages, we can partner with Tall Ship Adventures / The Gloucester Museum School Project and Tall Ship Spirit of Massachusetts to support the initiative of bringing tall ship sail training and education into America's Oldest Seaport. Next week, we hope to be announcing a more formal plan with Sail Boston and the American Sail Training Association.

"The schedule of events will be released as soon as possible. Some of our plans are hinging on the final schedule of events for Sail Boston," says O'Connor. The host committee of SailGloucester are planning on including the following in the schedule of events:

- Welcome Parade of All Participating Ships and Vessels, including the for Barque Picton Castle
- Invitation Only SailGloucester Welcome Reception for Barque Picton Castle and other Tall Ships at the Cruiseport Terminal
- Tall Ship Dockside and Deck Tours at the Cruiseport Terminal, July 5-6, 2009; times to be published
- Blessing of the Ships and Farewell Sail on July 7

Mayor Carolyn Kirk comments, "There is a lot to celebrate! Jim Caulkett, our city's harbormaster, along with Peter Bent, Chairman of the Waterways Commission are poised for action to respond to additional ship confirmations whether they are at the Cruiseport Gloucester, the Maritime Heritage Center or anchored and moored in our harbor. With two tall ships confirmed, and potentially more on the way, we are ready to mobilize the resources, add ship berthing accommodations and creating the greatest impact we can on the city's business community."

About Tall Ship Adventures/The Gloucester Museum School Project

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Tall Ship Adventures has been launched in 2009 for the summer season by The Gloucester Museum School Project. Serving the greater Cape Ann area in Massachusetts since 1978, The Gloucester Museum School Project is a non profit Adventure Summer Camp. “Tall ship sailing involves teamwork, adventure and strength of character, and is consistent with the GMSP. Captain Amanda Medeira and I are continuing our efforts to bring Tall Ships to Gloucester this summer, and to make them available to the children and families of Cape Ann. We are so pleased to be a confirmed ship in the SailGloucester’s Fourth of July Celebration, and we will finalizing our participation from day sails to dock and deck . Our ship will be hosting a community service day, a benefit and look out for 30 children from around the Gloucester area sailing into port on July 2nd or 3rd! We are able to offer an overnight sail program departing from Gloucester to Boston, where we hope to join the parade into Boston with 50 other ships.” remarks Joanne Crawford, Executive Director of the Gloucester Museum School Project.

## About The Spirit of Massachusetts and the Ocean Classroom Foundation

*Spirit of Massachusetts* was launched on April 28, 1984 at the Charleston Navy Yard in Boston, Massachusetts. She is modeled after the 1889 fishing schooner *Fredonia*, designed by Edward Burgess. The Gloucester fishing schooners were widely known as "fast and able" vessels, and *Fredonia* was widely known for her speed. *Spirit of Massachusetts* proudly upholds that tradition to this day.

*Spirit of Massachusetts* was built by her original owners for service as a sail training vessel for young people. She also served as a good-will ambassador for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts from 1984 until 1987. Ocean Classroom Foundation began chartering *Spirit* for our own educational programs in 1997, and subsequently purchased her in 2000.

## About Sail Gloucester

A volunteer-based not for profit alliance dedicated to marketing Gloucester as world class port for tourism as well as maritime and sailing education. Launched from the Office of the Mayor of Gloucester’s City Hall, Sail Gloucester’s goal is to partner with the regional chambers, DMOS (Destination Marketing Organizations) and the government funded agencies of the state already dedicated to promoting tourism and awareness for sailing vessels.

For more information about this press release, please visit [www.sailgloucester.org](http://www.sailgloucester.org) or contact :

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