

— Celebrating America's 250th Anniversary —

# The Whaleboat 1776 Project

The History Behind and the Building of the Whaleboat *Caleb Brewster*



Please join us as we welcome John Janicek of the Long Island Seaport & Eco Center (LISEC) Bayles Boat Shop. John is the boatbuilding lead for the Whaleboat 1776 Project and a retired aircraft avionics engineer. In 2012, after 37 years working on aircraft, John began volunteering at LISEC and quickly became hooked on the joys and intricacies of wooden boatbuilding. He was elected to the Board of Directors in 2017 and currently serves as Treasurer.



In late 2022, the Port Jefferson Village historian stopped into the boat shop with a unique proposition. Could (and would) the boat shop build an armed whaleboat of the type used during the Revolutionary War? Thus began a three-and-a-half-year odyssey which will culminate in the launching of *Caleb Brewster*.

John's photo-show will highlight in detail the process of building the whaleboat from planning to completion. He will share a brief history of the whaleboats used during the war and the pivotal role they played in General Washington's Culper Spy Ring.

**Sunday, March 29, 2026**

**Light Refreshments: 12:30 - 1:00 pm**

**Lecture: 1:00 - 2:00 pm**

**Reservations required, please call LIMM to reserve your seat!**

**631-854-4974**



Long Island Maritime Museum  
88 West Avenue, West Sayville, NY 11796

