

NAUTICAL DÉCOR & MORE AT ANNAPOLIS MARITIME ANTIQUES



With its nautical theme and emphasis on unique items and antiques, a visit to Annapolis Maritime Antiques in Eastport is like stepping into a maritime museum mixed with a gift shop and furniture store. There's even a special area in back just for shipping captains.

"Everything in the shop is nautical except for one item," says owner Tony Kime, pointing to a working fan from the 1920s.

Annapolis Maritime Antiques carries three types of items — nautical antiques, decorative pieces and furniture — but the business foundation, Kime says, comes from his collection of "the world's largest remaining supply of World War II Liberty Ship hatch covers."

These wooden planks that secured the ship's hatches and cargo within are turned into desks, coffee tables, dining tables and the like, making use of the wood's natural features, such as knotholes, which are perfect for running electronic cords. A handful of pieces are on display for sale, but they are also custom ordered and built to suit.

Kime, who turns 72 in November,

Annapolis Maritime Antiques

128 Severn Ave., Annapolis
annapolismaritimeantiques.com

Grand Opening Celebration
Sept. 26, 2014 | 3-6 p.m.



opened Annapolis Maritime Antiques at 128 Severn Ave. in July 2014, after working with the landlord to turn the historic building into a quaint store, complete with the original floor and ceiling in the main room. Hidden in the back is a small suite, reserved for visiting shipping captains who may need an overnight stay.

A story behind every item

During a short tour of the store, it's clear Kime knows the history and story behind practically every item he stocks, and he's a captivating storyteller.

He explains how a binnacle was used to keep a ship on course, and that a collection of small model ships were used to teach U.S. Navy aviators to recognize the various ships during WW II. There's a pair of lanterns from the RMS Queen Mary, converted to

work with electricity while preserving the integrity of the items.

Kime points out a U.S. Navy ceremonial hat and epaulettes. Curious about the items' history and original owner, Kime enlisted help to learn more about the original owner, R.B. Derickson, and his family. They will be rightfully returned to R.B. Derickson's daughter during the store's grand opening Sept. 26, 3-6 p.m.

For popular appeal

Nautical decorative items and local artwork round out the store's stock, to entice everyday shoppers who might not be in the market for the unique (and higher priced) antiques or furniture.

The most popular sellers? "Anything with mermaids," Kime says.