



For Immediate Release

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**Sail Baltimore Raises Funds to Keep Tall Ship Sails Full Another Year
Former Baltimore Colt, Mike Curtis, Joins Live Auction Fun, Great Food & Music**

Baltimore, MD – It's time for scallywags, boatswains and buccaneers, to gather for **Beer, Boats & Ballads**, Sail Baltimore's annual fundraiser that keeps Maryland's only visiting ships committee afloat!

Friday, November 4, 2011, 7PM-11PM, at Phillips Foods World Headquarters, 1215 East Fort Ave., Baltimore, Maryland. Tickets, available online at www.sailbaltimore.org are \$75 or \$140 per couple. Parking is free.

Sail Baltimore brings domestic and foreign navy vessels to Fells Point and the Inner Harbor every year, including tall ship sail training vessels that capture the romance of the sea and bring with them visitors from around the globe. Its mission is three-fold – promoting diplomacy through cultural exchange while simultaneously stimulating Baltimore's tourism trade and educating young people. *Sail Baltimore*, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization produces a variety of free maritime events with significant benefit to the hospitality businesses of the City of Baltimore and State of Maryland.

Friday evening's event features entertainment from Unity Reggae Band. Fare is provided by Phillips Foods, Koopers Tavern, Rusty Scupper, Lebanese Taverna, Supanos, One-Eyed Mike's, Mama's on the Half Shell, Barracuda's, Shucker's, Little Havana, Noodles & Co., Mother's Federal Hill Grille and Johnny Dee's Lounge. Beverage sponsors include Castle Brands, Flying Dog, Sloop Betty

Vodka and Clipper City Brewing Company. Sail Baltimore's signature cocktail, the Dark-N-Stormy will be provided, complete with Goslings Black Seal Premium Black Rum.

Former Baltimore Colt, four time pro bowler and NFL Hall of Fame contender, Mike Curtis will hit the stage with WNST's Nestor Aparicio for the live auction which includes a Top Gun Flight Experience, a Four Day Stay for Two at The Fairmont Chateau Whistler in British Columbia, CA, and a European Tall Ship Voyage among other great items (list attached). Silent auction items include everything from sports memorabilia, local cruises, a hot air balloon ride, Pandora bracelet, ship model and much more!

Since 1975 Sail Baltimore has brought more than 500 international vessels to Baltimore providing tourists and residents alike a thrilling firsthand look at the world's greatest seagoing vessels. The largest of these events to date, OpSail 2000, brought more than thirty tall ships, 1.5 million visitors and more than \$100 million in economic impact to the Baltimore area. *Sail Baltimore* also developed and executes its *Learn the Ropes* program that introduces local area school groups first hand to visiting naval vessels. With Maryland's Star Spangled 200 celebration on the horizon, in collaboration with the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission, Sail Baltimore will be hosting and welcoming 30+ tall ships and Navy vessels this coming summer.

Along with the ***Beer, Boats and Ballads*** music, beverage and food sponsors, event sponsors include M&T Bank; T. Parker Host; Spinsheet; Capitol Graphics; Phillips Seafood Restaurants; Unity Reggae Band; Trahan, Burden & Charles; VERB! Communications and WNST Radio.

Sail Baltimore annual sponsors include the City of Baltimore, Harborplace & the Gallery, Baltimore Propeller Club, Baltimore County Commission on Arts & Sciences, the Association of Maryland Pilots, Moran Towing, BATA Marine, Lang's Septic Service and VERB! Communications.

For more information on purchasing tickets or on Sail Baltimore go to www.sailbaltimore.org.

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Live Auction

The live auction portion of the evening will take place at 9:00pm in the auditorium. You must be present to bid. As the auction progresses, please raise your hand to be recognized and bid on an item. The auctioneer will have final say in who wins the item. Check-out will begin at 10:00pm. Below are the items available for bid:

Key West Getaway

A getaway for two to Key West, Florida for four days and three nights at the Hyatt Key West Resort and Marina, including Swedish Messages. Combine the best of resort living and a pampering spa experience at the luxurious Hyatt Key West. A year-round resort and marina on the Gulf of Mexico, within walking distance of shops and attractions. Hotel amenities include outdoor pool, whirlpool and gourmet cuisine. Recreational activities include beach area, parasailing, diving, snorkeling, fishing, and sailing. Leave the world behind as you relax and refresh in Key West!

Restrictions: Travel is valid for 12 months from date of issue. No blackout dates.

Top Gun Flight Experience

As a guest pilot, you will fly real military fighters alongside licensed fighter pilots in the cockpit. Your Top Gun Experience includes one fighter pilot mission for one person on the SIAI Marchetti SF260 or the Extra 300L, including briefing on the Rules of Engagement, the physical effects of G-forces, practice with formation flying, basic maneuvers, 5-6 dogfights, and debriefing afterwards. You will also receive a mini DVD that records your entire flying experience from 3 onboard cockpit cameras. A variety of deployment dates and locations are available.

Restrictions: Participants must weigh less than 250 pounds and be no taller than 6'6". Some locations require a six month lead time to secure a date and time. Travel is valid for 12 months from date of issue.

British Columbia - Four day stay for two at The Fairmont Chateau Whistler in British Columbia, CA. Nestled at the base of the Blackcomb Mountain, the Fairmount Whistler defines mountain luxury. With true ski-in and ski-out convenience, pampering spa, and an on-site golf course, the classic elegance of this landmark Whistler hotel offers a modern setting for unsurpassed service, sublime dining and full resort amenities. Just a scenic 90-minute drive from Vancouver along the Sea to Sky Highway brings you into the heart of this alpine valley. Renowned as the top-ranked ski area in North America.

Restrictions: No expiration date. Limited blackout dates may apply.

European Tall Ship Voyage

You and a guest can sail as guest crewmembers on board the Norwegian tall ship, *Statsraad Lehmkuhl*, in summer 2012 for a passage from Bergen, Norway to Shetland and back to Bergen, Norway. *Statsraad Lehmkuhl*, a 323' ship, is the world's largest barque and one of the world's oldest and largest sailing vessels.

Restrictions: Trip does not include transportation to or from departure and arrival cities. Must be 18 or older and able-bodied.

Donor: Statsraad Lehmkuhl.

Mike Curtis Custom-Autographed Baltimore Colts Helmet

An authentic replica Baltimore Colts helmet which will be personally, custom-autographed this evening by Baltimore Colts' four time pro bowler Mike Curtis.