



Fall 2013

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Renew Your Membership

It's membership renewal season at SSHSA. If you have received a notice in the mail or via email letting you know that your membership is due for renewal, please renew as soon as possible to ensure we have time to process all renewals before the end of the year.

If you have already renewed your membership for 2014 - thank you!

If you still need to renew, please mail in the renewal form you received in the

Veterans Day - We're Still Honoring Those Who Served

On November 11, 2013 the nation commemorated Veterans Day, in honor all who served the United States across all branches of the military. The Steamship Historical Society would like to thank all of our members and friends who served, as well as those around the country who have bravely defended the U.S. over the years.

In honor of our veterans, we've pulled together interesting "This Day in History" naval facts for November 11, from www.navy.mil.

This Day in History on November 11

1870 - Navy expedition to explore the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, southern Mexico, commanded by Capt. Robert W. Shufeldt, enters the Coatzacoalcos River to begin a survey for a possible interoceanic canal. Support provided by USS *Kansas* and USS *Mayflower*.

1918 - Armistice ends World War I.

1920 - Lenah S. Higbee becomes the first woman to be awarded the Navy Cross, awarded for her World War I service.

1921 - Washington Naval Conference begins.

1943 - Two Carrier Task Forces strike Japanese shipping at Rabaul, sinking one carrier and damaging other ships. Raid was first use of SB2C Curtiss Helldivers in combat.

1954 - November 11 designated as Veterans Day to honor veterans of all U.S. wars.

1966 - Launch of *Gemini 12*, with Commander James A. Lovell, Jr., as the Command Pilot. Mission lasted 3 days, 22 hours and 34 minutes and included 59 orbits at an altitude of 162.7 nautical miles. Recovery by HS-11 helicopter from USS *Wasp* (CVS-18).

mail, or renew easily and securely online by [clicking here](#). Thank you!

Contact Us!

Matthew Schulte, Executive Director
mschulte@sshsa.org

Diana Moraco, Membership Coordinator
dmoraco@sshsa.org

Karen Sylvia, Office Administrator
ksylvia@sshsa.org

Vera Harsh, Development Director
vharsh@sshsa.org

Alissa Cafferky, Research & Communications
acafferky@sshsa.org

Astrid Drew, Research & New Media
adrew@sshsa.org

Stephanie Poole, Outreach/Development Assistant
spoole@sshsa.org

Jim Pennypacker, Editor *PowerShips*
editor@sshsa.org

Richard Barwis
Advertising Representative
richard@cornerstone-media.biz

1981 - Commissioning of first Trident-class Nuclear Powered Fleet Ballistic Missile Submarine, USS *Ohio* (SSBN-726).

Remembering the "White Hurricane" of 1913

One hundred years ago, between November 7-10, 1913, a disastrous winter storm struck the Great Lakes region, resulting in the loss of a dozen ships and an estimated 250 people - the largest inland maritime natural disaster in U.S. history according to NOAA. Blizzard conditions and hurricane-strength winds brought on 90 mph winds with 35-foot seas. White-out conditions and the icing of the ships made navigation nearly impossible for vessels out on the Lakes.

In 1913, forecasters with the Weather Bureau sent messages via telegraph to stations along the shores of the Great Lakes, and there, flags would be flown from shore notifying any vessels within viewing distance that unfavorable weather was approaching. Unfortunately for those ships already far from shore, this weather information was beyond their reach. Although wireless communication was becoming increasingly more common, it is likely that most of the ships that went down in the 1913 storm were not yet using wireless communication systems, according to NOAA.

November remains a dangerous time of year on the Great Lakes due to intense storms. Countless vessels have been lost during this month, including the *Daniel J. Morrell* in 1966 and the *Edmund Fitzgerald* in 1975.

Above photo: The steel freighter *Isaac M. Scott* went down during the 1913 storm with the loss of 28 lives. Photo from www.nws.noaa.gov.

Thank you to all who supported the SSHSA Duplicate Book Sale

Thank you to all who supported our duplicate maritime book sale on September 27 and 28. Books are still available, and we encourage interested members to contact our office if there are books you are still looking to add to your collection.

Contact us at (401) 463-3570 or info@sshsa.org to inquire about book availability.

Giving Tuesday is Almost Here!

Mark your calendars for December 3, 2013

Giving Tuesday is December 3 this year - a special call to action that creates a national day of giving around the annual shopping and spending season.

“Giving back” by supporting SSHSA on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving, celebrates giving and generates conversation about ways to give more, give smarter, and put personal philanthropy back into the giving season.

Don't want to wait until December 3 to make your contribution - [Click here now](#) to donate to SSHSA today. Thank you!

ShiPosium Heads Back to the East Coast

SSHSA will host ShiPosium III and the 2014 Annual Conference from May 15-18, 2014 in Newport, Rhode Island. The ShiPosium conference will take place at the Newport Harbor Hotel and Marina, right in the heart of downtown Newport and within walking distance to a number of Newport attractions.

Newport's reputation as a center for history and maritime activity is world-renowned, and makes it a perfect setting for the 2014 conference. While in Newport, you'll be able to enjoy attractions such as:

- International Yacht Restoration School
- Museum of Yachting
- Naval War College
- Fort Adams
- Bowen's and Banister's Wharves
- *Rum Runner II*
- Newport Mansions and historic Bellevue Avenue
- Cliff Walk
- International Tennis Hall of Fame
- Plus, tons of other attractions, restaurants, and shopping

Other attractions in New England within about a one-hour driving distance from Newport include (but are of course, not limited too):

- Herreshoff Marine Museum
- Quonset Air Museum
- New England Wireless and Steam Museum
- Historic Boston, Massachusetts

- USS *Constitution* Museum
- Massachusetts Maritime Academy
- Mystic Seaport - The Museum of America and the Sea
- Mystic Aquarium

The conference schedule for the weekend is currently in the works, but we encourage you to start planning your visit to Rhode Island and contact us at info@sshsa.org if you have any questions or comments!

What's Happening in Ship History?

This is a brief listing, so make sure to check locally for what's going on in your area.

November 21

Houston Maritime Museum's Coastal Lagoon Adventure

Featuring Sunset cruises, island music, fire dancers, and mai tais

Carrington Weems Estate

2019 South Broadway

La Porte, TX 77571

www.houstonmaritimemuseum.org

Tickets required

November 30 - December 27

Mystic Seaport Lantern Light Tours

75 Greenmanville Avenue, Mystic, CT

860-572-5331

Reservations required

November 30

Northwest Seaport Maritime Heritage Center

Greet the Season at Lake Union Park

860 Terry Aveue N Seattle, WA 98109

Lighting of the Lightship: 5:30pm.

206-447-9800 info@nwseaport.org

<http://atlakeunionpark.org>

December 7, 2013

Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum

Holiday at the Museum

59200 Museum Dr, Hatteras, NC 27943

12:00pm - 5:00pm

252-986-2995

www.graveyardoftheatlantic.com

December 7

Wisconsin Maritime Museum

Christmas Tree Ship Celebration and Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

75 Maritime Drive, Manitowoc, WI 54220

866-724-2356

www.wisconsinmaritime.org

December 8 and 15 (Dec. 8 – sold out)

Maritime Museum San Diego

Annual Fundraiser Dinner on the Berkeley and Parade of Lights

1492 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101

619-234-9153

www.sdmaritime.org

Reservations required

December 14

Independence Seaport Museum Parade of Lights

Penn's Landing

Philadelphia, PA

215-413-8655

www.phillyseaport.org

December 31

Independence Seaport Museum

Family New Year's Eve Fireworks

Penn's Landing

Philadelphia, PA

215-413-8655

www.phillyseaport.org

Tickets required

Is there a ship history event happening in your area soon? Submit your events to info@sshsa.org by February 1, 2014 for the February 2014 edition of *Ahoy!*

Ahoy! is the quarterly electronic newsletter for those interested in maritime history. It is produced in February, May, August and November and distributed by Steamship Historical Society of America to friends, members and any other individuals interested in maritime heritage.

Diana Moraco, Editor, *Ahoy!*

Find us on:

[Renew Your Membership Today](#)

SSHSA, 30C Kenney Drive, Cranston, RI 02920