

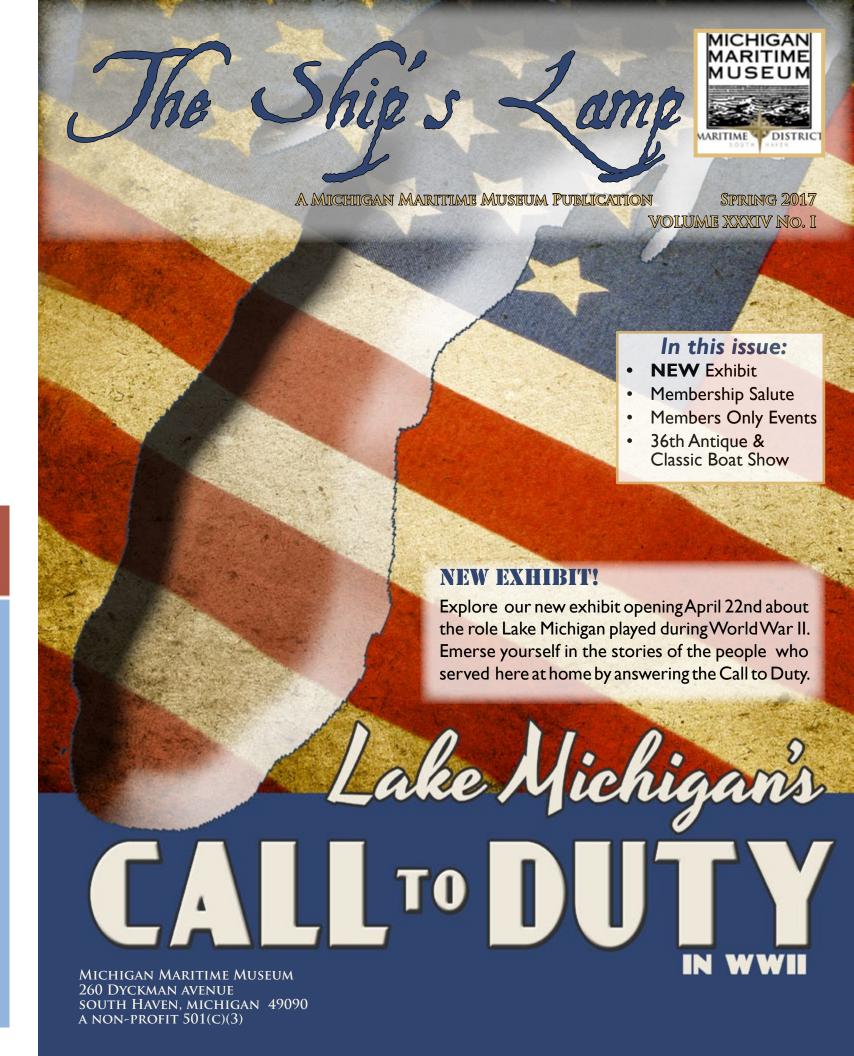
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THE MICHIGAN MARITIME MUSEUM 2017 Calendar of Events

April 21	Members Only Exhibit Preview	June 23	Queens Cup Race
	"Lake Michigan's Call to Duty"	July 15	Fish Boil Fundraiser
April 22	Public Exhibit Opening	July 17-21	STEM Summer Camp
	"Lake Michigan's Call to Duty"	July 25-29	Boat Building Class
April 22	Coast Guard Clean Up Day	August 19	4th Annual Boat Walk
May 26	Annual Meeting of the Membership	August 31-	Nina & Pinta Visit
	& Board of Trustees	Sept. 4	
May 26	Blessing of the Fleet/Season	Sept. 12-16	Boat Building Class
	Kick-Off BBQ	Sept. 29th	Membership Appreciation
May 27	Harbor Walk to Fitness		Picnic
June 15	Pirate Chaser Sails Begin	October 14	Black River Open Paddle
June 17	36th Annual Antique & Classic	October 20-21	Haunted Museum
	Boat Show	October 31	Kids Trick-or-Treat
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For More Information on Upcoming Events Visit www.michiganmaritimemuseum.org/events/





Board of Trustees

Gary Horton - President Norris Bryson - Vice President Eli Thomssen - Secretary Andrea Olson - Treasurer Joan Bauer Brian Bosgraaf David Bugge David Campbell Guy Calhoun

> Dana Getman Susan Knytych Mark Odland Jim Spurr

Bob Tolpa Michael Winkel

Maggie Woodruff

Staff

Patti Montgomery-Reinert Executive Director Ashley Deming Director of Education & Administration Emily Stap Collections & Office Manager

Mission Statement

Volunteers and staff welcome members and the public to experience and appreciate Great Lakes maritime history in a unique, exciting and thought provoking manner.

Vision Statement

The Michigan Maritime Museum, as a premier destination, will preserve and interpret the rich heritage of the Great Lakes while enhancing the South Haven Maritime District.

> MICHIGAN MARITIME MUSEUM 260 Dyckman Avenue Martime District South Haven, MI 49090 (269) 637-8078 www.michiganmaritimemuseum.org A Non-Profit 501(c)(3)

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Executive Director Patti Montgomery Reinert This edition of the *Ship's Lamp* is devoted to membership. I know what you're thinking. It's spring again and that means it's time to renew your membership, or perhaps, we have been encouraging you that it's a great time to join the Michigan Maritime Museum and we're going to ask you again. Well that's true, we are. However, this issue is much more than that. It is devoted to the people, the activities, and the generosity that make our membership what it is today... awesome!

Our hope is that throughout this issue you will discover that our success as a museum depends on its members. People just like you

who choose to contribute in some way or another and together become a team that allows us to be a major contributor to our state, our community, and an anchor to the South Haven Maritime District.

Perhaps this issue will inspire you to get involved. A great start would be attending the grand opening of our newest exhibit, Lake Michigan's Call to Duty, which you will learn more about as you read on. This exhibit tells stories of people who answered the call during WWII and strives to engage families in connecting with each other through mutual memories and experiences and honor those who served here on the Homefront as well as abroad. People will have an opportunity to add their personal stories to our wall of honor.

We are extremely proud to collaborate with Air Zoo in Kalamazoo, MI on this exhibit. This gives members of both organizations the incentive to look beyond their own membership and learn more about each other. We invite all the members from both organizations to visit the other for half off the regular admission rate, adding one more value to supporting both of our institutions. This partnership is a natural one in conveying these WWII stories as the pilots were trained on ships that were converted to aircraft carriers right here on Lake Michigan. Working together we are preserving history, by air and by sea! Perhaps our next partner will be the Gilmore Car Museum to complete the trio!

As we approach the summer season, we do so with enthusiasm and excitement. Another busy summer with hopefully one more licensed vessel added to our fleet., the 1924 Chris Craft Cadet, Pouf! All winter members have been working hard to maintain and care for these vessels which offer unique experiences to our visitors and members alike. With a full calendar of events and programs scheduled, it will fly by very quickly no doubt. However, the end of summer does not mean the end of the Museum. We hope to continue to design programs and activities that will bring students and visitors here year-round. After all, we are more than just a boat ride..... Just look at our members!

Thank you for investing in the Museum. Hope to see each of you soon,







ANSWER THE CALL

In the spirit of our newest exhibit, you can answer our call! The Michigan Maritime Museum needs you! We could not accomplish our goals without you.

With the 2017 season approaching, there are so many opportunities for members to take advantage of. Celebrate the Members Only Sneak Preview of the new exhibit, Lake Michigan's Call to Duty with a 1940's theme party on April 21st from 5 to 7 pm. Then, as our on-water fleet continues to grow, join the Museum for our annual tradition of the Blessing of the Fleet, immediately followed by the Season Kick Off BBQ on May 26th from 5 to 8 pm. So, if you haven't renewed your membership for 2017 please take the time to fill out the enclosed membership renewal application or renew online today. We do not want you to miss out on these upcoming Member's Only events! You can also help to grow our membership by recruiting your neighbor to become a new member today!

Know that the Museum appreciates your answer to our call. We look forward to seeing you on the campus!

MEMBER BENEFITS

- Unlimited free admission to the Museum campus
- Free or discounted rates on select programs, classes, & events
- 10% discount in Museum store
- Invitation to Member's Only events
- Subscription to the Museum's newsletter, the *Ship's Lamp &* e-newsletter, the Ship's Bell
- Continuing support of the educational mission of the Museum All membership dues are 100% tax deductible!

MARITIME MUSEUM ENDOWMENT FUND DISTRIBUTION

The Michigan Maritime Museum has endowment funds at both the Kalamazoo Community Foundation and the South Haven Community Foundation. The endowment funds are structured so that the principal amount remains intact, while the investment income is available for distribution to the Museum. The funds available for distribution in 2017 totaled \$7,975, which will be used to support education programs and speakers. The Museum has a strategic goal to grow the size of the endowment funds because they provide supplementary revenue not only today, but in the future. If you would like more information about how you can contribute to one of the endowment funds or how to include one of the endowment funds in your estate, please contact Patti Montgomery Reinert, Executive Director at patti@mimaritime.org or (269) 637-8078.

WHY ARE YOU A MEMBER?

We asked our members to let us know why they enjoy being a member of the Michigan Maritime Museum. Here are a few responses.

"Why am I a museum member? Well... when I was younger, my dad came up with this great opportunity for me to do something in the summer. At first I was hesitant because what twelve-year-old in their right mind would willingly give up their summer to go work at a stuffy old museum? I wound up going in even if it was just to check it out, and I fell in love immediately with all of the things that the campus had to offer. Everyone was so nice to me and I made a lot of friends in the first summer. That encouraged me to come back again. Once I was old enough, I had decided that I would rather be a sailor than a docent, so I asked and I got my wish. I was welcomed with open arms, even if I did mess up a lot in my first year. I have so many people I would consider to be my friends now and I'm glad that I went that day."

-Amanda Northup (Member #3857)

"I extremely like the MMM. I had the opportunity to work on the first up-rig of FGW when she arrived and consider myself lucky to have one of the first Bosun Warrants issued by MMM."

-Tim Bosma (Member #1184)

"Enjoy volunteering, working on the boats and

their upkeep. Originally, I was interested in Friends Good Will, but now also work on Lindy Lou and Bernida. We also enjoy talking to all the friends we've made."

-Duane & Anna Coon (Member #966)

"My membership allows me access to volunteer on some amazing boats over the years, including Friends Good Will, Bernida, and Flashback, with a great group of other dedicated volunteers."

-Ben Cohen (Member #1075)

"Communities like South Haven thrive only if we are able to capture the strength from diverse and interesting assets. The museum brings that strength to our town. The Michigan Maritime Museum is a special and important place. A place of teaching and learning for both youth and adults who are curious and maybe never acquainted with the mysteries and magic of the Great Lakes. A Michigan Maritime Museum experience uniquely offers a visitor not just a "look and see" experience but a real-time "touch experience" through our several options to be on the water... the lake and in the harbor and on the

Even though we are summer residents only, we feel a "happy obligation or duty" to support the museum. We want our children and grandchildren to be excited about coming to South Haven and sharing with their friends this very special town with its very special assets, including not just the lake but also the museum and other interesting places and experiences."

-Mike & Susan Smith (Member #982)

Business Memberships

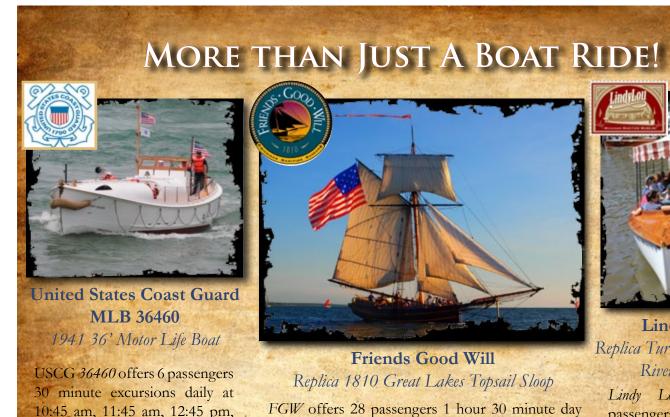
We believe in supporting those organizations that support us. These local businesses are truly invested in their community and we are so thankful for their continued support. Our business members not only get recognition for that support, but also discounts on business event bookings at the MMM. Become a Business Member today and start saving on your future bookings.

Andrea Olson State Farm Insurance Bayberry Cottage Captain Lou's

Edward Jones deBest, Inc.

Fun Membership

- We have nearly 1,000 members!
- Members in 25 different states
- 1 out of the country membership (Canada)
- Michigan is the state with the most members (705)
- Illinois is the second state with the most members (69)
- Farthest away members in California and Florida
- Our oldest member turns 100 in October
- Most popular membership type: Family



1:45 pm, 2:45 pm, and 3:45 pm.

Friends Good Will

Tickets available online at: www.michiganmaritimemuseum.org/tickets/

Replica 1810 Great Lakes Topsail Sloop FGW offers 28 passengers 1 hour 30 minute day

sails at 1:15 pm and 3:15 pm or 2 hour sunset sails daily. Pirate Chaser sails run mid-June through Labor Day at 11:00 am Tuesday through Saturday.

Lindy Lou Replica Turn-of-the-Centur River Launch

Lindy Lou offers 12 passengers 1 hour guided river cruises daily at 12:00 pm, 1:30 pm, 3:00 pm, and 4:30 pm.

rural town in Texas.

sailing for the first

time when I was 16.

bought my first boat

(a gulf coast 24) 6

weeks later to teach

myself how to sail.

Upon completion of

high school, I joined

the navy, where I

learned navigation

and ship handling.

When I returned

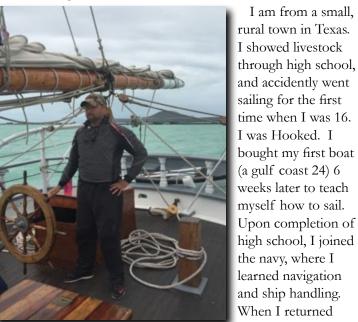
to Texas, I went

to college at Texas

A&M at Galveston

I was Hooked. I

Zachory McGee Joins the MMM as the 2017 FGW Captain



2017 Friends Good Will Captain,

Zachory McGee

where I sailed varsity (420 and laser). My last year in college, I stumbled into the opportunity to sail on the schooner Mystic and took it. I realized then that I could get paid to sail these

I am from a small, beautiful, traditionally rigged boats, and that is what I have been doing since. Between boats I have worked admin for some large companies, but always return to the sea. After sailing on Pride of Baltimore II, I decided to pursue my license, and have sailed since with several vessels, including Harvey Gamage on her Cuba voyage, Seaward, and Liberty Star (pictured left) in the Virgin Islands. I am looking forward to joining Friends Good Will, and seeing where this season takes us.

-Capt. Zach McGee

MMM Ships Passport

MMM Ships Passports are now available for 2017! This passport gives one passenger 3 different On-Water experiences aboard our tall ship Friends Good Will, river cruiser Lindy Lou, and the Disney



movie star USCG Motor Lifeboat 36460. A total individual ticket price of \$70, all 3 vessels together with a passport is only \$55! This offer is good for the 2017 season and some restrictions apply. Please contact the Museum for details at 269-637-8078.

Join the Club!

Keel Club. What's the Keel Club you might ask? Who are they and what do they do? Is it a club?

The Keel Club is recognized as the highest level of membership at the Michigan Maritime Museum. Not unlike the keel of a boat, the Keel Club represents a strong foundation and support for the Museum.

The Keel Club gets together socially at least once a year over the past several years. It has become somewhat of a tradition for one of its members to offer their home as a venue to host a summer gathering, and with Executive Director Patti's help all the arrangements are made. Great food, great drinks, great people, all coming together for a great cause!



Sue & Mike
Knytych (pictured)
were kind enough
to offer their
beautiful home
for the 2016 party
while Ron &
Ruth Wiser were
their friends and
co-hosts. It was a
lovely party with
our own Friend
Good Will offering
a beautiful sail by

and a Keel Club Salute was fired from her guns and cannon!

What a wonderful way to celebrate our members. We work hard and play hard! Cleo Miller and Roger Miller have already offered to host this seasons event which will be held on July 28, 2017. Dave & Donna Grow offered to co-host this party so we know we are going to have a great time! Save the date on your calendars now. Let's get everybody there. I know Cleo would welcome double the Keel Club members... right Cleo?

Time, Talents, Services and Stuff

The Museum reaps the benefits from many of our members that quietly give of themselves because they notice a need that they can assist with. Repeatedly we are amazed at the generosity of so many individuals and businesses that roll up their sleeves to make a difference in what we can accomplish. Without members like these, we would not be able to care for the vessels as we do, build and present top rate exhibitions, match grant dollars with In-Kind services, provide professional lawn care, have a sound system allowing presentations to be heard, the ability to build a haunted campus, and on and on and on.

The Museum thanks these numerous people, who not only support the Museum financially through membership, but also donate In-Kind, giving us the ability to flourish and grow. Over the course of the past several years nearly \$300,000 worth of gifts have been donated In-Kind to the MMM. This is only the value of the services that have been documented and credited. There are numerous other members who for whatever reason just quietly help. You all know who you are. Thank you... what a gift!

2016/2017 Appeal Almost Hits Goal

So close! Thank you to all 151 donors who supported this year's Annual Appeal. Our goal was set for \$100,000 and we came oh so close, missing our mark by less than 5K! This Annual Fundraising tradition has increased in both dollars donated and the number of donors contributing over the past 8 years. It is separate from membership funds, grants, general or memorial donations, or gifts In-Kind. If there is a member or business out there that would like to step up and put us over the top, we would be thrilled to extend our Appeal date by a few weeks and add it to our total! What a way that would be to kick off season 2017!

Museum Receives \$50,000!

The Museum would like to express our genuine gratitude as we honor our 2017 Keel Club Members for their ongoing financial support. As Keel Club Members, your commitment to help fulfill the mission of the Museum and to express your confidence in our organization through your investment of \$1000 annually is appreciated and provides a base of which we count on each year. We are proud to thank the following individuals or couples for their annual investment into the Museum through their Keel Club Membership and Annual Appeal support. You are key contributors to the success of the Museum and with your continual backing and patronage, we can make our goals a reality!

TOM & MARY ASKEW
JOAN BAUER
JOAN BEMIS
DAVID & HELEN BERGMAN
BRIAN & LORI BOSGRAAF
NORRIS & CAROL BRYSON
DAVID & MARY LYNN BUGGE
JOHN & BARBARA BUSCH
GUY & BARBARA CALHOUN
DAVE & MARY CAMPBELL
BOB & JANE COPPING
BETTY DAVIS
WILLIAM EUWER

PATRICK ALLKINS & JAN FRIZZO
DANA & TERESA GETMAN
DAVE & DONNA GROW
ED & JEANIE HARRIS
PAUL & NANCY HILLEGONDS
STEVEN & EMILY HOLT
ROBERT & MARY HOPPES
GARY & KAREN HORTON
MIKE & SUE KNYTYCH
JERRY & BETTY MASON
JOANN MCCLENDON
MARK & PEGGY MCCLENDON
CLEO MILLER

PEGGY NICHOLS HARRINGTON
GREG & MARION O'NIEL
MARK & LARAE ODLAND
SEYMOUR & ESTER PADNOS
REED PARKER
FRED & KAREN REAMS
SCOTT & JULIA ROBBINS
ALAN & JUDI SILVERMAN
ANN SMITH
MICHAEL & SUSAN SMITH
PEGGY & BRIAN SPENCER
JAMES & LYNN SPURR
ERIC & DEBBIE STANDEN

DANIEL THOMPSON
ELI & HILDE THOMSSEN
ROBERT & BRIDGETTE TOLPA
JOHN & CAROL TRITTSCHUH
ORLEY & GLORIA VAUGHAN
KATHERINE WINKEL
MICHAEL & LINDA WINKEL
EMILY WINKEL-ZIELGER
RON & RUTH WISER
JAMES & MAGGIE WOODRUFF
JOHN WOOLLAM

Gone, But Not Really

In an effort to continually pump new blood into the organization, members of the Museum's Board of Trustees are limited to serving a maximum of two three-year terms. This year that leaves eight members "termed out." During that six year period the Museum has created four major exhibits, increased its on-water fleet from one to six vessels, quadrupled the size of the Ship's Store, re-phased the west campus, served some twelve hundred pounds of fish at the annual fish boils, and welcomed hundreds of thousands of visitors.

While it takes a boatload of volunteers each year to keep the Museum on an even keel, these eight board members will be sorely missed. The good news is they're all continuing on as volunteers and serving as chairs of key Museum committees.

Sue Kntych will continue to keep our membership growing as chair of the membership committee, Brian Bosgraff continues to dig in as chair of the Master Site Plan, Sandy Bryson continues to look for money as he remains chair of the grants committee, Mike Winkel pursues what may be a Museum record as chair of the nominations committee, Eli Thomsson continues his quest to knock 'em dead as chair of the endowment committee, Maggie Woodruff keeps style alive as

chair of the Museum's retail ambassadors, Bob Hoppes, never too far away from the numbers, continues as chair of finance and planning, and I plan to keep serving as hype master as chair of the marketing and communications committee.

It has been six years since I agreed to become President of the Museum's Board of Trustees. In that time I've met many smart, energetic, and generous people, literally from all parts of the globe. It has been a great experience and, though still not an experienced mariner, I do now know you don't "park" a boat. I especially miss the board meetings where members tolerated my bumbling interpretation of Robert's Rules and nudged me back on track when I drifted away from the agenda. In my defense, we never had a board meeting that lasted past five.

It feels like the Museum is in good hands. As far as advice for the new president...whomever that may be, I have but a single tip ... keep our Executive Director, Patti happy.

Gary Horton President Board of Trustees Michigan Maritime Museum

Not All Business

Serving as a member of the Board of Trustees is an honor and a big responsibility. The Museum has been fortunate in the fact that many very talented and hardworking people have agreed to serve when called upon. We should be grateful and extend our appreciation to the members who have served in this capacity for the past six or more years.

Much has been accomplished over the past 6-8 years and some very serious decisions had to be made in the best interest of the Museum. As many nonprofits experience, challenges and opportunities present themselves throughout the course of time. The Museum is no exception to this theory and because of solid leadership we have surpassed many a storm and secured a solid foundation for the future. We have much to be thankful for.

Gary Horton has served as our President for the past six years and Bob Hoppes as our Treasurer for nearly nine years. Both very talented, capable men that have earned the respect of many, not only as Executive Board Members, but as trusted leaders and mentors of our organization. The hours spent have been more than most would realize, taking time to notice what might seem unimportant to some, but so appreciated by those who deal with the day to day challenges. Whether you might be Captain of a vessel, a volunteer, a staff member, or the Executive Director, having someone offer a lending ear or a pat on the back can go a long way!

Sometimes people just show up at the right time and the right place. These two guys are a perfect example of that. Not really knowing each other before their involvement with the Museum,



Bob Hoppes and Gary Horton

a great friendship has formed. Finding increasingly more in common, they found themselves going on bike rides, (still stopping into the Museum), enjoying movie marathons, and spending many dinner hours together since Bob's wife Mary is such a great cook and always makes everyone feel so welcome!

One might say that making new friends could be listed as a benefit to membership! All we know is when these two are around... much work is accomplished, but you share a smile and a laugh as you go! Thank you both for the many contributions you have made and for keeping it fun through the journey!

Both plan to stay involved with the Museum and no doubt continue their friendship. After all, life is not all business!



STEM Summer Camp Registration Now Open!

Now in its third year, the Museum proudly offers our STEM focused summer camp for kids grades 3-5. The camp runs for one week in the summer from 9:30 am to noon each day. The STEM curriculum focuses on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. The camp, held on the Michigan Maritime Museum campus in South Haven, features a maritime themed program through engaging STEM activities and lessons. The curriculum includes hands-on activities about topics such as underwater archaeology, invasive species, commercial fishing, the United States Coast Guard, and more! Lessons aboard our tall ship *Friends Good Will*, campus tours, and a cruise on the late 19th century replica river launch *Lindy Lou* all make this camp a unique and memorable experience for your student.

This year's STEM Camp will be held July 17-21, 2017 and has space for 12 students. Registration fees for 2017 are \$250 per student for the week. The deadline to register students is July 1st, 2017. Sign your student up today and put a little education in their vacation!

For information and registration forms, visit: www. michiganmaritimemuseum.org/education/ or contact Ashley Deming at ashley@mimaritime.org, (269) 637-8078 ext. 3.

36th Annual Antique & Classic Boat Show

The Antique & Classic Boat Show celebrates all kinds of boat types from wood and fiberglass to power and paddle and is one of the oldest and most popular of its kind in the region. The family-friendly event features a variety of boats including Chris Crafts, Centuries, strip-built boats, dinghies, canoes, sailboats, and much more! Kids' toy boat-building and demonstrations make this event a real hands-on experience for all ages. Our aim is to help perpetuate the building, restoration, and use of classic boats and small craft and to give participants and the public an entertaining and informative learning experience.

The show is now in its 36th year and the Michigan Maritime Museum is honored to take the reins from the previous sponsors, the Traditional Small Craft Association. We hope to continue their wonderful legacy of showcasing classic and small craft as well as the people who love and care for these vessels.

This year's show is taking place June 17th on our campus from 10am to 4pm. Cost for the show is \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids (under 3 free). The cost includes the show and admission to all Michigan Maritime Museum exhibits, including NEW exhibit *Lake Michigan's Call to Duty*. There is no cost for Museum Members.

If you are interested in registering your boat and/or being an exhibitor, please visit www.michiganmaritimemuseum.org/classicboatshow/ for information and registration forms.



Membership Spotlight: Betty Davis- A Member Remembers

The Museum's new exhibit is all about contributions and sacrifices made during WWII by people and businesses of the Lake Michigan region. That's why it is so appropriate that our featured Museum member this issue is Betty Davis, who served in Europe as a member of the Red Cross during that crucial time in our history. But Betty's association with South Haven predates WWII

She remembers boarding the train in her hometown of St. Louis, Missouri in the mid-1930s. Leaving in the wee hours of the morning, the train arrived in Chicago just in time to catch the steamship *Theodore Roosevelt* which, when running on schedule, would cross Lake Michigan and arrive at the docks in South Haven at 2:45 PM. That gave not yet teenager Betty Buddy almost a half a day to spend on the North Beach and kindled what has become a lifelong love affair with South Haven.

The family came to town for the whole summer season except during the Depression years when they spent just the month of August. Betty's father, a physician, made several trips back and forth between St. Louis and South Haven every summer, splitting his attention between his family here and his patients back in St. Louis.

After graduating from Marquette University, where she learned about parliamentary procedure, she pursued a Masters degree from Ohio University. Betty met her husband Dr. Jim Davis, a career medical officer, when she was serving in the Red Cross in Europe. After his retirement from the military, they moved to South Haven where Dr. Davis started a practice and they continued to raise their three children.

Betty made a smooth transition from summer resident to "townie." Always active in local affairs, she put her knowledge of parliamentary procedure to work when she was elected the

first woman to serve as Mayor of South Haven. She was an early member of the Michigan Maritime Museum joining in 1979. She was elected first female President of the Board of Directors and served in that position during two different periods. When asked what attracted her to the Museum in the



Betty Davis

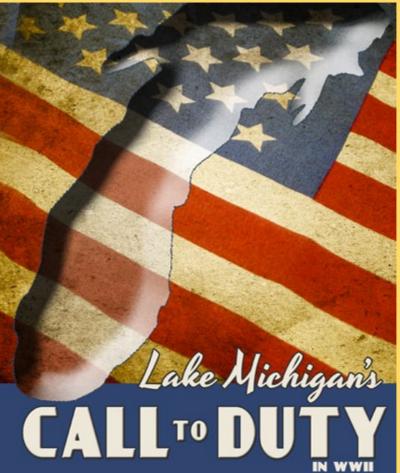
first place she admitted that it gave her a chance to practice her parliamentary skills. Betty recalls that the Museum made big steps forward during those early years when Doris Akers served as its first Executive Director and Jack Jensen was a generous early contributor of both time and money.

Never losing her love for travel, Betty spent time this past winter visiting her children and grandchildren in California, the year before found her on a four-week visit to Jamaica. During the summer months until very recently Betty took advantage of the location of her home on the beach by swimming in Lake Michigan and she is still inviting guest to join her nightly at 5:30 pm sharp for cocktail hour.

This October, this incredible lady turns 100 years young. As her Museum family, we hope you will join us in wishing her a very happy centennial celebration.



NEW EXHIBIT OPENING APRIL 22ND SPONSORED BY: Melici



ANSWERING THE CALL

After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941, the United States found itself suddenly plunged into what would become a second world war. In response, the nation undertook the greatest industrial, social, and military mobilization the world has ever witnessed, and Lake Michigan played a critical role in its call to duty during World War II. Palatial Great Lakes passenger steamers became aircraft carriers working off Chicago to train desperately needed Navy and Marine pilots. Shipbuilders began turning out essential submarines, minesweepers, sub chasers, and tugs for the Army and Navy. Sailors manned the freighters that transported iron ore, stone, and coal for use in the steel industry. Civilians replaced Coast Guard personnel called to military duty. And, commercial fishermen provided necessary food for the troops. This exhibit highlights this vast mobilization for war embraced by the people of the Lake Michigan region as they answered the CALL TO DUTY.

We Want YOUR Story!

Do you know of someone during World War II who contributed to the war effort on the home front? The Michigan Maritime Museum is looking for stories of local heroes all along the coast of Lake Michigan that made an impact here at home during WWII. Individuals throughout the Lake Michigan region were an instrumental factor in undertaking this historically monumental effort and truly answering the call to duty. This

BY AIR AND BY SEA

The Michigan Maritime Museum is proud to collaborate with Air Zoo in Kalamazoo, MI this season. Both of our museums share a passion for history and the stories of people. With the opening of our new exhibit about WWII on Lake Michigan, it's a perfect fit with Air Zoo, where two planes from WWII are currently being restored. The planes were training on the aircraft carriers on Lake Michigan when each crashed. In addition to sharing some incredible artifacts from their own collection, Air Zoo is parnering with us to offer members of both museums a chance to learn more about WWII and save! From June through

was done by utilizing Lake Michigan's resources and the unique abilities of this region's people, such ventures as planting victory gardens, shipbuilding in St. Joseph, commercial fishing, and countless other endeavors. Please send your stories and information to info@michiganmaritimemuseum.org. Your stories may be displayed in the Museum's newest exhibit, Lake Michigan's Call to Duty!

AIR ZOO

December 2017, members of both museums will receive 50% off admission at the partnering organization when they show their membership card. There's no time like the present to become a member of the Michigan Maritime Museum! For non-members, we're offering \$2 off general admission at both museums from June through September. Just show your receipt from either museum and receive your discount.

Dive or fly into history with the Michigan Maritime Museum and Air Zoo!

South Haven in WWII By George D. Jepson

Winds of war swept across the Great Lakes in early December, 1941, in the wake of Japan's surprise attack on the United States naval base at Pearl Harbor on the island of Oahu in Hawaii. Although the Inland Seas were far from the fighting, their impact would be felt around the world by the time victory

was declared in Europe and the Pacific in 1945, ending World War II.

Hours after the Japanese assault, America's resolve was clear. "Now let us make war!" declared an editorial in Benton Harbor's The News-Palladium on December 8, 1941. "Let us make it only as the greatest industrial nation on earth can possibly make it!" Over nearly four years, the Sweetwater Seas -- Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie and Ontario -- did their

Iconic Great Lakes freighters -- the long ships -- carried rich iron ore from Duluth, Superior, and Marquette on Lake Superior, and Escanaba on Lake Michigan, to steel centers and unloading ports on the lower lakes. The ore was a vital commodity for the Allied cause. Steel manufactured from the rich, red mineral was converted into warships, tanks, guns, and other war matériel. By the war's end, the fleet had delivered a record 889 million tons.

The Coast Guard, which had been placed on war footing the

day after Pearl Harbor, was charged with assuring that shipping moved steadily from April to mid-December. Coast Guardsmen patrolled shorelines, docks, vessels, bridges, harbors, and stood watch at lookout stations to protect against sabotage. The newly built icebreaker Mackinaw, the largest vessel of her kind in the world at the time, was commissioned in March, 1944, to keep the lakes open late into the shipping season.

Along Great Lakes shores, ship and boat builders constructed vessels for the Navy and the Army. Truscott Boat Manufacturing Company in St. Joseph converted its facilities to build 63-foot air-sea rescue, or crash boats, oceangoing tugs, and submarine chasers for this country's armed forces, as well as patrol vessels for the British government. Determined to keep production on schedule, Truscott supplemented its work force by hiring women as boat builders.

St. Joseph Harbor and the area up and down the shoreline

outside the channel reverberated with the full-throated roar of Truscott's high-powered Navy and Army boats running sea trials. The company's docks were packed with the dull-gray wooden boats, as well as large barges loaded with crash boats ready for shipment.

> Defoe Shipbuilding in Bay City on Saginaw Bay built destroyer escorts, minesweepers, oceangoing tugs, landing craft and other auxiliary vessels for the military. Across Lake Michigan, Wisconsin builders were rapidly producing submarines, sub chasers, launches, lightships, coastal freighters and tankers, tugs, landing craft, submarine chasers, and other auxiliaries.

Emergency shipyards on

During the war, the Great mines and submarines, as well as air attacks. This encouraged the Navy to operate two training aircraft carriers -- USS Wolverine and USS Sable -- on

the Great Lakes, created at the behest of the government, supplemented already established building facilities. In addition to the large yards constructing oceangoing naval and commercial vessels. there were many more that manufactured small ships, boats and barges. Some repair yards were recast to build new vessels until the conflict ended. Lakes were secure from enemy 1941 patriotic work incentive poster designed by Leo Lionni and issued by the Office of Emergency Management. This is one of four in the series, the

> the protected waters. The flattops, two converted passenger steamers, were moored at Navy Pier in Chicago. By August 1942, young pilots were learning the skills necessary for carrier landings and take-offs on the Lakes. Among these fledgling flyers was future United States President George H. W. Bush.

others featuing planes, tanks, and artillery battery.

Join the Michigan Maritime Museum in honoring homefront heros at their new exhibit, Lake Michigan's Call to Duty.

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