

January 2023



on the Move

Local maritime news, events and history from the Chicago Maritime Museum

Thank You for Helping us Reach our Goal!



CMM is pleased to report that we have surpassed our goal of \$100K for our annual appeal from October's CMM Festival Fundraiser. As of January 2nd, the museum has raised \$102.6K.

Nearly 100 patrons, both on-line and in-person, attended the 2022 Chicago Maritime Museum Festival, "Discover the Connection" on October 27. Maritime folksinger Tom Kastle and maritime historian Patrick McBriarty co-hosted the event, focused of the connections between the region's local waterways and the many growth facets of Chicago, including trade, sport, transportation, and engineering.

"CMM wishes to thank all who participated and donated this year," says CMM Vice Chair Jerry Thomas. "With your contributions, we can continue to move forward with CMM's exciting new plans for 2023."

The appeal fund is still open and it's never too late to support and be a part of CMM's future.

[DONATE HERE](#)

Sail Chicago to Hold Winter Event at CMM



As part of a Chicagoland outreach effort, CMM will begin offering the museum as event space for partner groups in the Chicago maritime community. Previously, groups such as the **Underwater Archeological Society of Chicago** and **Friends of the Chicago River** have held meetings and events at the museum.

Moving forward, the CMM hopes to expand our outreach to boaters, environmentalists, anglers, open water swimmers, historians and educators to plan events at the museum where their groups can learn about the importance of Chicago's waterways in the city's growth and development.

CMM welcomes **Sail Chicago** as the first event in this new endeavor on January 21 for their winter meeting. About 80 people are expected to attend. While the group will provide their own refreshments, CMM docents will be available for museum tours.

"We are happy to provide our space to **Sail Chicago** and many other maritime groups in the future," says Kath Thomas, CMM Events Coordinator. "We hope to form strong bonds with these groups so we can expand our mission of celebrating maritime history in Chicago."

Sail Chicago is a not-for-profit volunteer-run community sailing program that seeks and welcomes diverse membership. Its mission is to offer quality instruction in sailing and boating safety in an equitable and inclusive environment, and to provide affordable sailing opportunities to its members and others in the Chicago area.

If you would like to discuss planning a maritime-related event at CMM, please email Events Coordinator, Kath Thomas [here](#).

Curators Corner by Dylan Hoffmann Forgotten Heroes Presentation Highlights Object in CMM Collection



Esteemed maritime historian Fred Stonehouse presented **Forgotten Heroes, The U.S. Life-Saving Service on the Great Lakes** on December 16th for CMM's monthly Third Friday Lecture Series. Stonehouse has authored over thirty books on Great Lakes maritime history. His virtual presentation focused on the history of the U.S. Coast Guard and remarkable courage displayed by those that serve.

Stonehouse facilitates engaging presentations by connecting participants to history through stories of people and objects. One such object, highlighted in **Forgotten Heroes**, is the Lyle Gun.

The life-saving Lyle Gun was developed by Captain David Lyle, Army Ordnance Officer and West Point graduate, to replace the crude and inefficient Manby Mortar in 1877. The portable and lightweight Lyle Gun can break from its carriage and launch a projectile 400 yards. A line attached to the projectile was used to rescue those stranded or in distress via a breeches buoy. The Lyle Gun is responsible for saving thousands of lives, remaining in production through World War II.

Arnold Sobel graciously donated a Lyle Gun to CMM in 2009. This object represents a significant chapter in the history of safety and technology on the Great Lakes and is preserved for future generations at the Chicago Maritime Museum.

New Legislation Approves \$350 Million Great Lakes' Icebreaker



The USCGC Mobile Bay breaks ice as part of the Coast Guard's annual 'Spring Break Out' to prepare regional waterways for tanker movements on March 16, 2022, in the bay of Green Bay, northeast of Marinette. The agency has one heavy icebreaker on the Great Lakes — the Mackinaw, a 240-foot vessel that has the capacity to break through heavy ice that usually is stationed in the Straits of Mackinac between Lakes Michigan and Huron. *Mark Hoffman / Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*

The National Defense Authorization Act, headed to President Joe Biden's desk, includes a measure called the Great Lakes Winter Commerce Act that delivers an \$350 million icebreaker to the U.S. Coast Guard's fleet.

[Read More Here](#)

Ancient Tool Could Protect Great Lakes from Invasive Sea Lamprey



The U.S. Geological Survey watches from a boat as the Archimedes screw is installed. *Scott Miehs*

Researchers at the Great Lakes Fishery Commission believe they have found a tool to help: combining new technology with an ancient tool, the Archimedes screw.

[Read More Here](#)

Artifacts Recovered From the Wreck of a 19th-Century Ship



Parks Canada Underwater Archaeologist Jonathan Moore observes a washing basin and an officer's bed place on the lower deck of HMS Erebus, September 2022. Photo: Marc-André Bernier, courtesy of Parks Canada.

Parks Canada, the agency overseeing wreckage of the ***HMS Terror***, in the waters near Gjoa Haven, has completed its latest excavations of the ship that sunk in the search for the Northwest Passage. Researchers unearthed 275 artifacts, including a leather folio that could contain scraps of the crew's own writing.

[Read More Here](#)

Maritime Event Calendar

Check out local maritime events at the Chicago Maritime Museum [website calendar page](#).

Submit maritime events in the Chicagoland area or story ideas to Mary Ann O'Rourke at maorourke58@gmail.com.

Ready to join or renew your membership?

Information about our membership offers can be found [here](#). If you need further membership support please email us at cmm@chicagomaritimemuseum.org

We hope you've enjoyed our monthly e-newsletter, On the Move.

