

November 2023



on the Move

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

Curator Madeline Crispell Reflects on CMMFestival 2023



On Thursday, October 26th the Chicago Maritime Museum celebrated our fourth annual CMMFestival. Between guests who joined online and in-person, nearly 100 attendees raised \$98,000 to support the museum, our programming, and our upcoming exhibits. As your new curator, it was a wonderful experience to meet so many of you in your element, supporting the museum and the history we are keeping alive for generations of Chicagoans.

I'm sure a highlight for both at home and in-person guests were our spectacular co-hosts, Barry Butler and Tom Kastle. From photographing our waterways to singing about them, the two

couldn't have been more emblematic of the kinds of people who are brought together by the museum and the kinds of conversations we inspire. Seeing Barry's beautiful photographs in his new book and hearing Tom and his fiddler friend Daithi Wolfe bring the gallery to life with music was a treat for attendees. Ever the educator, Tom also gave me a quick concertina lesson and, together, we performed an impromptu concert for the lobby guests.



Volunteers had a hand in every part of the festival's success. Kath Thomas, Sari Breslin, George Kisiel and Mary Alyce Blum decorated the gallery to the nautical nines, turning our yardarm into a dramatic backdrop for the buffet. And thank you Sari for the added touch of burgees representing every Chicago yacht club.



With Kath's delightful menu, elegant presentation and team of helpers including Betsy and Mark Perrine, Chuck Perry, Nancy Michael and Pat O'Shea, CMMFestival may be the most sophisticated event to take place on the shores of Bubbly Creek. A mini *Taste of Chicago*, the buffet dinner featured Chicago-sourced products including Vegan Spring Rolls from Maly's of Naperville served with Chilee Oils of Chicago and Pork Tenderloins spiced with Herbally Yours Hunan Blend of Willow Springs.

Museum manager Ariana Rubin was instrumental both onscreen and off, keeping the event running smoothly while also explaining how the paddle raise worked and introducing the paddle raise's \$100 level. Museum assistants Garrett Walinske and Dante Petersen oversaw the Front Desk and the Zoom respectively, welcoming all guests, in-person and virtual. Jim Forni and his entire staff ensured the event was just as much fun for the people watching at home.

David and Sarah Metzger, Valerie Van Heest and Mary Ann O'Rourke served as our Zoom hosts, greeting our virtual guests as they arrived. They were also the judges of our virtual scavenger hunt and I'm sure it was difficult to choose just one winner from each of their break-out rooms. Congratulations to the three winners of our virtual hunt and to our in-person scavenger hunt raffle winner! I'm excited for you all to join me on your curator-led, behind the scenes tours of the museum. I have to say, I



was also impressed by how many of our in-person scavenger hunt players could immediately recognize a caned canoe seat. Well done!



I'd like to thank Captain Dave Truitt, Vice Chairman Dr. Jerry Thomas, all our volunteers, our Board of Directors, everyone who generously gave to support our museum, and everyone who attended either in-person or online. You made the 2023 Festival such a success! At the festival, our supporters and this incredible community brought us all the way to \$98,000, only \$2,000 dollars away from our goal. These funds help support

exhibitions, programming, education, collections, and every other part of the Chicago Maritime Museum.

If you'd like to help us reach our goal before the end of the year, you can visit [our website](#) for more information on how to give. I'm already looking forward to celebrating at next year's festival with all of you!

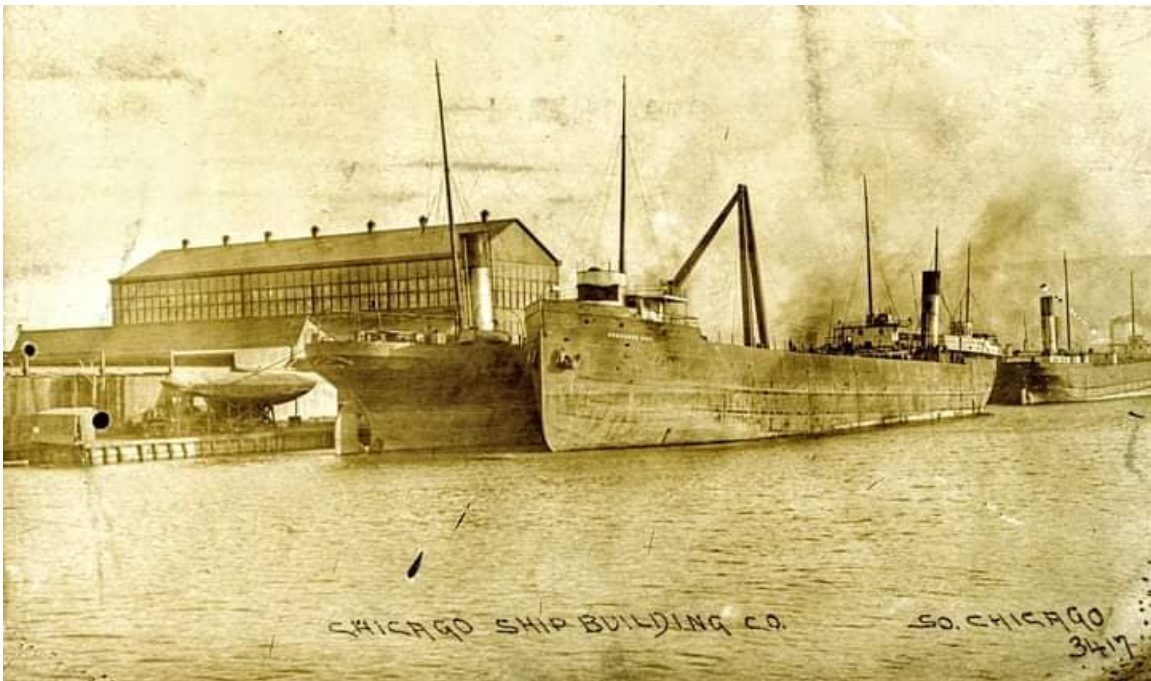
Donate Today

November Third Friday Presents: Nineteenth Century Shipbuilding and Ship Repair in Chicago and the Great Lakes with Walter Lewis



Could a shipyard survive long without an associated repair facility? In the marine world, over the nineteenth century the continued “health” of vessels gradually became dependent on specialized ship repair facilities. On marine railways, dry docks, and floating docks, hulls were exposed for routine checkups, emergency operation and major surgeries (with parts both removed and added). The growing size of boats in the Great Lakes fleets demanded investment in facilities to maintain them.

Walter Lewis holds an M.A. in History from Queen’s University in Kingston. He served in the 1980s and 90s as a member of the editorial board of **Fresh Water** the historical journal published by the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes at Kingston. Currently, he serves as the production editor of **The Northern Mariner**, the journal of the Canadian Nautical Research Society and the North American Society for Oceanic History. He is best known in the Great Lakes community for his [website](#) and manages the website of



In conjunction with the Bridgeport Art Center's Third Friday Open House, the Chicago Maritime Museum opens its doors for lively presentations on maritime history and current events each month. Come early and explore the Bridgeport Art Center's many art galleries. Join us on Friday, November 17 at 7:00 p.m. either in person or virtually.

The presentation is \$5.00 for members and \$10.00 for non-members. However, you might just consider joining the CMM for an annual membership of just \$35, which provides unlimited visits, access to our monthly newsletter and special events such as the Third Friday maritime lecture series. Join us at chicagomaritimemuseum.org or call us (773) 376-1982. We are located on the lower level of the Bridgeport Art Center at 1200 W 35th Street. Parking is free in the north lot.

To volunteer for Third Friday hospitality service or other events contact Events Coordinator Kath Thomas events@chicagomaritimemuseum.org

[Join Us In Person Here!](#)

[Join Us Virtually Here!](#)

Welcome the Holiday Season with
Lee Murdock on December 9th



Save Saturday, December 9, for great afternoon and early evening rounds of magical music and storytelling by Lee Murdock at the Chicago Maritime Museum. Murdock's concert will begin with a set at 4pm to welcome the youngest museum fans. Another set at 6:30pm will be a rousing all-ages performance sure to ring in the season of holiday gatherings.

A Holiday Cookie Exchange and seasonal beverages will keep spirits bright. To add your specialty to our list or volunteer contact Events Coordinator Kath Thomas events@chicagomaritimemuseum.org

Where

Chicago Maritime Museum
River Level, Bridgeport Art Center, 1200 W 35th St, Chicago
Free Parking on North Side Lot

Ticket Prices

Members: Adults- \$20, Under 18- Free
Non-Members: Adult- \$25. Under 18- \$5

Questions: 773- 376-1982

[Reserve Your Ticket Here!](#)

Filmmakers Stumble Upon 128-Year-Old Shipwreck in Lake Huron



Photo Credits: Smithsonian Magazine

A duo working on a documentary about invasive quagga mussels in the Great Lakes discovered the long-lost steamship “Africa.”

[Learn More Here](#)

Army Corps Releases Latest Saltwater Intrusion Forecast

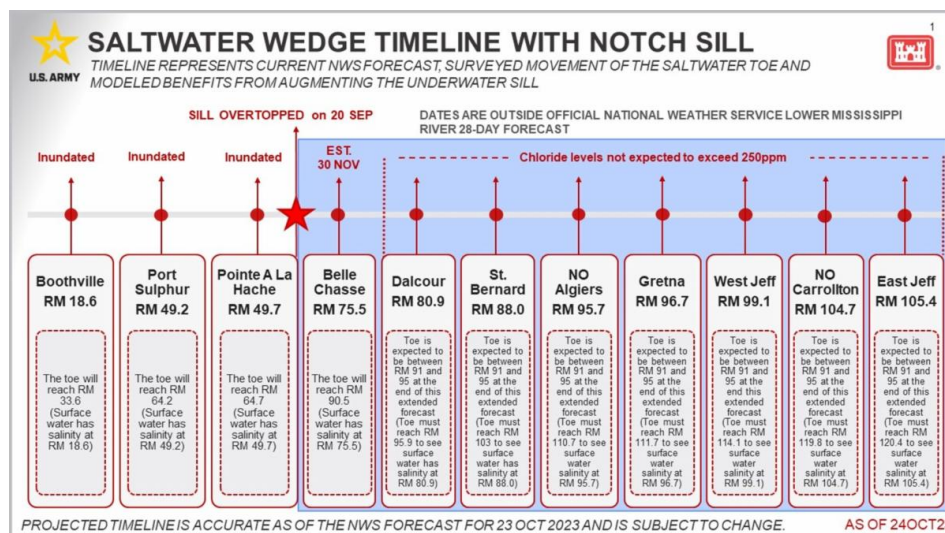


Photo Credits: WWLTV

The timeline shows when water treatment facilities might be impacted by saltwater intrusion.

[Learn 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 communications@chicagomaritimemuseum.org.

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.

