World War II in the Atlantic Now Open

The Houston Maritime Museum is excited to open our newest exhibit, “World War II in the Atlantic”!

To keep our stories fresh and engaging, we have reorganized HMM’s World War II exhibits into the Atlantic and Pacific galleries. The fascinating story lines of these distinct war-time regions will enhance guest experiences. With the Atlantic room complete, we are happy to unveil “part one” of this two-part renovation.

In war, logistics is often half the battle. For the German Navy, the Kreigsmarine, destroying Allied logistics became the battle itself. The resulting “Battle of the Atlantic” was the longest military campaign of World War II and one of highest importance for every Navy involved. German submarines, or U-boats, operated in far-flung locations, thousands of miles from their bases in France or Norway. No shipping lane was truly safe from the U-boat threat; in fact, German submarines sank 50 ships in the Gulf of Mexico.

While the fight between the Allied Navies and German U-boats is the primary focus of our exhibit, we also highlight the American Merchant Marine, Normandy Landings, and other German warships.

Stop by the museum soon to visit this exciting new exhibit!

MEET OUR BOARD PRESIDENT
Robert A. Fry, Jr.
President & CEO, Marinus Corporation

Years ago I had the privilege meeting Jim Manzolillo, the founder of the Houston Maritime Museum. I was impressed with his knowledge of the maritime industry and his vision for a museum to tell its story. As of this month I have the honor of serving as Chairman of the Board of the museum Jim Manzolillo founded and, for a short time, serving as the steward of his dream.

Mr. Manzolillo recognized that the maritime industry is responsible for much of the prosperity we take for granted here in Houston. He also realized that many people had no knowledge of our port or its role in that prosperity. The Houston Maritime Museum is dedicated to telling that story to as broad an audience as possible.

These are exciting times for the museum. We will soon embark on building a new and exciting home close to the port. In the meantime we continue to upgrade the exhibits at our present location. Our continuing lecture series has drawn rave reviews and excellent word of mouth recommendations. I urge you to get involved any way you think appropriate. Together we will move forward Jim Manzolillo’s vision for telling the story of the Houston maritime community. It is a mission worthy of our best efforts.

Upcoming Events @ HMM

Family Days @ HMM
A Powder Monkey Adventure
May 27, 2017 | 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Dreaming of a life at sea?! Well, young sailors now have the opportunity to explore the lives of long ago crew members called powder monkeys. Powder monkeys were young boys who bravely served aboard ships during the exciting Age of Sail.

In this engaging adventure, young powder monkeys will try their hand at the art of knot tying, following ship commands, and creating their own powder monkey craft.
Learn more

History Lecture Series
From Orange to Singapore: A Shipyard Builds a Legacy
Presented by Paul Mattingly
June 13, 2017 | 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

$5 FOR ADULTS (12 AND UP) | FREE FOR MEMBERS AND CHILDREN UNDER 12
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Founded in 1930, Levingston Shipbuilding Co. in Orange, Texas, soon established itself as the leading builder of ocean tugs in World War II. Later Levingston went on to become one of the first shipbuilding companies involved in offshore drilling. Expanding upon their success, Levingston established Keppel (FELS) in Singapore in 1968. Today, the shipyard started by Levingston is recognized as the world leader in offshore drilling vessels and is the only mobile drilling rig builder in the United States. Mattingly will detail the history of the iconic Levingston Shipbuilding
Co. and describe the passionate workers who embodied the American can-do spirit of World War II. He will lead visitors on a journey through the times, places, and people of Levingston including one of Levingston’s greatest achievements: Glomar Challenger. Launched in the spring of 1968, this scientific drillship proved to be a significant milestone in the growing science of oceanography.

LEARN MORE

June Gin
Wednesday, June 21, 2017
7:00 - 8:30 PM

Please join us for a summer kickoff celebrating Gin!

The evening will include tasty hors d’oeuvre and Gin cocktails by award-winning mixologist Kimberly Paul, accompanied by conversation with guest speaker Sean Dougherty, Prestige Portfolio Manager, on the colorful maritime history of Gin.

$25 per person | $15 for HMM Members, Active Military and Veterans.

PURCHASE TICKETS

Looking for a one-of-a-kind Father’s Day Gift?
HMM can help!

Lucky for you, HMM has the perfect Father’s Day gift and it isn’t another tie or pair of cuff links!

Our half hull sailboat replicas are the ideal gift as they don’t take up a lot of room, they don’t need a slip or to be kept in the water, they’re easy to clean and most importantly offer a reminder of every sailor’s dreams.

Early shipwrights would use these half hulls as a 3-dimension “blueprint” to replicate previously built ship hulls. With the use of computer design and blueprints, half hulls have become popular art pieces.

From America’s Cup yachts and Clipper ships to Privateers and Schooners, these handcrafted pieces start at $295. Send us an email or stop by the museum to purchase one in time for Father’s Day…or you could go buy another tie!

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