



# THE ANCHOR

The monthly newsletter of the Houston Maritime Museum

## DROP ANCHOR WITH US IN 2014

Hours of operation: Tuesday - Saturday, 9am - 5pm.

### HMM Welcomes New Archives Intern

We are very excited to announce our new Archives intern, Erica Peaslee. She is a recent graduate of Sam Houston State University with a B.A. in History and minor in Art History, concentrating in Maritime History and World War II art theft. Erica will begin her Masters' in Museum Studies from Harvard with a focus on the use of archives in maritime museums. Currently, she is working on the intake of a large private collection from a US merchant mariner, which includes manifests and documentation that could prove to be of substantial research value. In addition to conservation, Erica researches dates, concepts, maritime records, etc. to help contextualize the collection, and prepare it for a potential future exhibition. We look forward to all that Erica will bring to the Houston Maritime

### Model of the Month

*HMS Bergamot*

By: Charles Cozewith, Docent



In the early years of WWII, the loss of ships crossing the Atlantic with supplies for the allies was staggering. German U-boats were responsible for most of this toll. The tide was turned with the development of the convoy system and the construction of a large number of corvettes of the "Flower" class (they were named after flowers) to serve as escort vessels. Our model of corvette is the *HMS Bergamot* which was launched in 1940 and saw extensive service during the war. She crossed the Atlantic on convoy duty several times and was also an escort vessel for the famous convoy PQ-18, which sailed from Scotland to Murmansk and suffered heavy losses from attacks by German forces.

Our model, built by T.J. Anderson, is masterfully painted to illustrate the weathering expected for a ship at sea for a long period in the North Atlantic. She is shown equipped with typical anti-submarine armament including depth charges and rockets and an assortment of guns, including a 4" gun for firing at

Museum as the new Archives intern.

U-boats and various anti-aircraft weapons. Other details include a radar under a dome and an assortment of ship's boats and life rafts to assist in the rescue of crews from torpedoed ships.

## New Acquisitions

HMM has recently acquired a generous donation of thirteen models from ExxonMobil. These models represent a very important segment of the maritime industry, specifically the energy sector, and will serve as valuable tools to educate visitors in the Museum. They will be unveiled with the opening of the new museum. Stay tuned for more updates!



## October Lecture Series

HISTORY LECTURE

**Deep-Water Discoveries:  
The Monterrey Shipwrecks in the Gulf of Mexico  
with Amy Borgens and Fritz Hanselmann**

**Tuesday, October 14, 2014  
7:00pm - 8:00pm**

During the early 19th-century, three sailing vessels traveling far out at sea were overtaken by a catastrophic event, believed to be a storm, with a presumed loss of all on board. These vessels were lost to history until a hint of discovery in 2011, when they were detected as three unknown sonar targets during a Shell Oil seafloor hazard and archaeological survey. A deep-water remotely operated vehicle investigation of one of the targets by NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration and Research in 2012 unveiled a fascinating discovery - a copperclad shipwreck with collections of small arms and six cannon lying at a depth of approximately 4300 ft. A collaborative team of underwater archaeologists from several federal and state organizations returned to the site in July 2013 and recovered a small collection of artifacts as a means to help identify the shipwreck. An investigation of the two nearby Shell Oil targets confirmed these were indeed shipwrecks - one a merchant vessel transporting hides among its cargo and a third vessel of unknown purpose believed to be a three-masted ship. The archaeological team continues to research the video and photographic documentation of the sites and learn more about the artifact assemblage as conservation continues.

**More information can be found at [Houston Maritime Museum Lecture Series](#)**





HOUSTON MARITIME MUSEUM

# HISTORY LECTURE

**WHO:** Amy Borgens & Fritz Hanselmann

**WHAT:** Deep-Water Discoveries: The Monterrey Shipwrecks in the Gulf of Mexico

**WHEN:** Tuesday,  
October 14  
7:00-8:00 PM

**WHERE:** Houston  
Maritime  
Museum  
2204 Dorrington  
Houston, TX  
77030

**HOW:** HMM offers a free history lecture each month

**INFO:** Contact us at 713.666.1910 or [contact@houstonmaritimemuseum.org](mailto:contact@houstonmaritimemuseum.org)

Free admission and refreshments

[HoustonMaritimeMuseum.org](http://HoustonMaritimeMuseum.org)

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## Deep-Water Discoveries: The Monterrey Shipwrecks in the Gulf of Mexico

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## Upcoming History Lectures

**November 11, 2014**

**Veteran's Day**

USS *Tang* (SS-306) with Laurence Shallenberger

**February 10, 2015**

Civil War Blockaders with Andrew Hall

**March 10, 2014**

Purging the Seas: Government Reaction to Piracy, 1600 - 2015  
with Kim Todt and Elizabeth Nyman

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*Special Thanks to our Generous History Lecture Sponsors*



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## Upcoming Industry Lectures

**November 18, 2014**

LNG Exports: A Story of American Innovation and Opportunity  
with Jason French, Director of Public Affairs, Cheniere

**December 2, 2014**

Captain Brian Penoyer  
Commander, Coast Guard Sector Houston-Galveston

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## Research Library and Ships Plans

Along with the models and artifacts on display, the Museum also has a Research Library. This valuable resource contains a collection of maritime books, ships plans, and periodicals. We have over one thousand volumes cataloged by author, title, and subject matter covering a wide range of topics including naval, ship building, maritime history and modeling. The plans in the collection, also cataloged for easy searching, are detailed making them useful to ship modelers. The plans include both sail and engine-powered vessels. The Research Library normally does not loan material, but for those interested in knowing more about maritime history, the Museum provides public access to our non-

circulating Research Library and ships plans.

Interested in ship modeling? Join the **Gulf Coast Ship Modelers Society** every second Saturday of an odd-numbered month from 10:00am to 1:00pm at the Houston Maritime Museum. Open to the public.

Join the Modelers' next meeting on Saturday, November 8th, to hear Mark Lardas present his new project.

Click [GCSMS at HMM](#) for more info!

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