



**Houston  
Maritime  
Museum**

# THE ANCHOR

SEPTEMBER 2016 | NEWSLETTER OF THE HOUSTON MARITIME MUSEUM

## Celebrating Our Newest Exhibit

*Houston's Story: From Bayou to Ship Channel*



In September, HMM celebrated the opening of our new exhibit, *Houston's Story: From Bayou to Ship Channel* with an Open House and Members Reception. Visitors had the opportunity to tour the new exhibit with HMM staff and docents, and meet featured modelers and artists. A big thanks to everyone that attended and volunteered for helping us celebrate Houston's maritime history and culture!

Want to learn more about the new exhibit? [Read more](#)



**USS Constitution Day at HMM**



September 17th was USS *Constitution* Day at the Houston Maritime Museum! Kids had a blast learning about the history of the oldest ship in the US Navy while playing games, dressing up as members of the crew, and coloring their own creative versions of the iconic ship! **Be sure to come to our Halloween inspired Family Day on Saturday, October 29 from 2-5 PM.**



## New at HMM: Technip Truss Spar Model



### **Truss Spar**

*Gift of Technip (2016.21.1)*

This past month, Technip generously donated a new model, which is now on display in our Offshore Energy exhibit. Spars are floating oil platforms that consist of a vertical steel structure, measuring up to 900 feet from the top of the drilling mast to the submerged ballast tank. Pipelines from multiple oil wells feed into the spar and are supported by buoyancy canisters.

The unique design of this Truss Spar causes the center of gravity to be located below the center of buoyancy, making the structure less affected by winds, waves, and currents. This seven-foot model represents an estimated 15 spars found in the Gulf of Mexico.

**Come visit our new model and learn more about our region's energy industry!**

## Meet the Crew: Outreach and Education Coordinator

Caitlin Avinger



I am the new Outreach and Education Coordinator here at the Houston Maritime Museum. My background includes a B.A. in American History and Political Science from Arizona State University as well as a Masters in Museum Studies from the Cooperstown Graduate Program at SUNY Oneonta. I joined the Houston Maritime Museum crew in August and have found such a welcoming new home both within the museum and in Houston. I have had a life-long love for history and learning, so naturally I jumped at the opportunity to be involved with HMM. My new position offers me the exciting opportunity to share that passion and enthusiasm with all of our visitors. I am thrilled to have the chance to engage with the Houston community and share all of the rich history that the Houston Maritime Museum has to offer!

## October Events @ HMM

### History Lecture Series

#### A Voyage to Antarctica: Ernest Shackleton, Explorer Extraordinaire

October 4, 2016 | 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**FREE ADMISSION | REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

This lecture is generously sponsored by [UTC Overseas, Inc.](#)



Join us to uncover the story of Ernest Shackleton's attempt to be the first to cross Antarctica. He and his crew left in 1914 and would not return until two years later, having never set foot on the continent. What the crew achieved during the voyage is an extraordinary tale of survival and endurance.

Our speaker, **Ruth Fowler**, is well-traveled in her own right. She has visited locales from the top of the Earth, on down to Antarctica, and many places in between. Ruth spent twenty-five years as an English and Creative Writing teacher in Houston, New Orleans, and Los Angeles. For the past twenty-one years she has worked as a therapist in West Houston.

[Learn more](#)

### History Lecture Series

#### Buffalo Bayou Flooding: A Historical Perspective

October 11, 2016 | 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**FREE ADMISSION | REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

This lecture is generously sponsored by [UTC Overseas, Inc.](#)



The recent flooding in Houston has reminded us that the city and its residents are subject to the effects of high water and flooding on Buffalo Bayou and other streams in Houston. From the earliest days of the city, Houstonians have had to deal with rainfall and the high water conditions it produces. This presentation will provide a historical perspective to those conditions. Visitors will gain an appreciation for why Houston is known as the "Bayou City."

**Louis F. Aulbach** is the author of a guide to the Buffalo Bayou in Houston, entitled *Buffalo Bayou, An Echo of Houston's Wilderness Beginnings*. The book delves extensively into the local history along the city's most famous stream. He is also the author of five best-selling guides to the rivers of West Texas. Aulbach, a native Houstonian, is a graduate of St. Thomas High School, Rice University and the University of Chicago. Louis Aulbach spent seventeen years as the Records Management Officer for the City of Houston and retired in 2008.

[Learn more](#)

### Family Days @ HMM

#### Haunted Pirate Ship

October 29, 2016 | 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

**FREE ADMISSION ALL DAY**



Come aboard the Houston Maritime Museum's Haunted Pirate Ship, if you dare! Young pirates will find treasure and candy as their reward! A day on the pirate ship will include hands-on games, arts and crafts, and activities to encourage kids to discover the exciting history of pirates!

Kids are encouraged to dress up in Halloween costumes!

**Recommended Ages: 5 - 12**

[Learn more](#)

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