

FATHOM THIS!

The monthly newsletter from
San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

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Welcome to the March, 2010 issue of Fathom This! We invite you to visit your national park on San Francisco's historic waterfront. For information on all the programs the park has to offer,

please see the park's website at <http://www.nps.gov/safr/>, and the website of our cooperating San Francisco Maritime National Park Association at <http://www.maritime.org>. Feel free to forward this newsletter, in whole or in part, and enter it into blogs. You may subscribe to it, or cancel receiving it by emailing the editor at peter_kasin@nps.gov. Fair winds, and we look forward to seeing you!

WELCOME NEW SUPERINTENDENT CRAIG KENKEL

We welcome Craig Kenkel as Superintendent of San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park! Mr. Kenkel began his career with the National Park Service in 1983 as a cooperative education student working at the Denver Service Center, the agency's major planning, design and construction office. Following his graduation from Iowa State University in 1985, he returned to the DSC, and assisted with historic preservation projects in national parks of Alaska, the Pacific Northwest, and the West Coast. In 1988, Kenkel transferred to the NPS Western Regional Office in San Francisco, and served first as a project architect and then as Regional Historical Architect for the national parks of Hawaii, California, Nevada, Arizona and the U.S. territories of the Pacific.

In the 1990's, he worked as the Midwest Regional Historical Architect, and then Chief of the Cultural Resources Division for the Midwest. In this position, he supervised a staff of 30, including historical architects, historians, curators, archivists and cultural anthropologists that provided inventory, research, planning, design, technical assistance and consultation services to national parks and cultural resources program partners of the 13-state Midwest Region.

In October, 2005, Kenkel became Chief of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area's Cultural Resources Division, whose staff works to identify, understand, promote and care for, in collaboration with other park divisions and park partners, and neighboring communities, the vast variety of park historic and cultural resources. In April, 2009, he became acting Deputy Superintendent at our neighboring GGNRA. A native Iowan, he resides in the Marina neighborhood of San Francisco. In his spare time, he enjoys exploring parks and the urban environment of the San Francisco Bay Area.

As Mr. Kenkel begins his tenure as Superintendent, we thank our outgoing Acting Superintendent Howard Levitt, who returns to his position as Chief of Interpretation at GGNRA. We are grateful for Mr. Levitt for his leadership in keeping the park on a steady course while the permanent Superintendent position was being filled.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

March is national Women's History Month. Join us for programs and exhibits throughout the month that celebrate women in maritime history. Witness, or join in on, a living history re-creation of a 1901 suffragette march for women's voting rights. Take the special ranger-led tour *Women at Sea*. View the exhibit *Women Who Changed Maritime History*, daily 9:30am-5:00pm in the Visitor Center, and view a film on women at sea, along with other seafaring films, running daily in the Visitor Center's Sailors Den. For a complete schedule of events, please see the park's website at <http://www.nps.gov/safr/>.

ADULT MARITIME SKILLS CLASSES

Come down to Hyde Street Pier for hands-on classes in sailing, traditional boatbuilding, and maritime crafts. This month, two courses are being offered (please see below). For a complete schedule of classes, please see visit the website of the San Francisco Maritime National Park Association: <http://www.maritime.org>.

Oar and Paddle Making

Saturday, March 27 and Sunday, March 28, 9am-5pm, on Hyde Street Pier. Tuition: \$125. Materials fee: \$90. Instructor: Sean Koomen. For more information and to register, please contact Mariah Gardner at 415-292-6664, email:

mgardner@maritime.org, or Seth Muir at 415-215-6291, email: smuir@maritime.org.

Learn to use a variety of hand tools while constructing your own set of oars or paddles. A popular introduction to woodworking, this class is a must for canoeists, kayakers, and oarsmen. 6 students maximum. Open to all abilities This class meets for two sessions.

Maritime Sketchbook - Boats on the Bay

Saturday, March 27, 9am-5pm. Tuition: \$100. Instructor: Amy Hosa. For more information and to register, please contact Mariah Gardner at 415-292-6664, email: mgardner@maritime.org, or Seth Muir at 415-215-6291, email: smuir@maritime.org.

Hyde Street Pier is a stunning location for plein air sketching and painting, and the historic vessels and commercial fishing fleet will be our focus. Amy's demos will highlight waterfront composition, details and colors, with tips and tricks for volume and shadow, perspective, and boat shapes. Students will work in pen or pencil, then add watercolor washes to bring them to life. Individual instruction and critique will nurture the novice as well as challenge the experienced artist. If we need shelter from the weather, the ferryboat *Eureka's* enclosed decks offer spectacular views of the waterfront. 10 students maximum. All levels welcome! This class meets for one session.

INTERPRETIVE TRAINING

Sunday, April 18, 10am-3pm. No fee. Contact Docent Coordinator Mark Neuweld at mark_neuweld@nps.gov, or 415-859-6799.

The park will be hosting a day of interpretive training for those interested in becoming a docent at Hyde Street Pier. The training will focus on the art of interpretation, as well as the unique resources that your park preserves. Reservations are required. If you are interested, please contact Mark Neuweld (see contact information above).

IN THE MARITIME LIBRARY: TRUE LIFE VIDEO ADVENTURES ON THE HIGH SEAS

Saturday, March 13, 6:00pm, in the Maritime library, located at Fort Mason Center, Bldg. E, 3rd Floor. Wheelchair accessible by elevator. Information and reservations: Email melani_van_petten@partner.nps.gov, or call 415-561-7040.

Join Park Ranger Debbie Grace for a look at the park library's collection of maritime documentaries. Whether for research or pleasure, these videos are available for viewing on site in the library, covering topics ranging from knot tying instruction to the story of the Port Chicago mutiny of 1944.

The library is open the 3rd Saturday of the month, 10am-5pm. Also by appointment, M-F afternoons: 415-561-7030, or ring doorbell. Immediate appointments usually available.

HISTORIC VESSEL PRESERVATION AND MAINTENANCE UPDATE

The 1891 scow schooner *Alma* is presently in dry-dock for her annual inspection, and for routine bottom and deck repairs and maintenance. While she is away, shipwrights are conducting frame repairs to *Olga* (*Alma's* tender) in preparation for the upcoming public sailing season.

A winter's worth of stormy weather and swelling seas has challenged the staff and stressed the mooring and gangway systems to several vessels. Repairs to the gangway of the ferry *Eureka* have been completed. The gangway is now easier to maintain and easier on the deck of the ferry, and she is re-opening to the public. All other gangways are in service and we invite you to board and explore the historic vessels.

NEW IN HISTORIC DOCUMENTS

Historic Documents Dept. located on top floor of the Maritime Library. Appointments: 415-561-7030.

The John Allcot exhibit documents (HDC 1594) is a collection of letters, newspaper clippings, biographical information and other items relating to an exhibit of marine paintings which were exhibited at the San Francisco Maritime Museum in 1969, including correspondence between Allcot, his agent, and the museum's founder, Karl Kortum.

NEW IN THE MARITIME STORE

2905 Hyde Street, at the entrance to Hyde Street Pier. Open daily, 9:30am-5:30pm. 415-775-2665.

The Maritime Store has just added the locally produced, popular historic documentary ***Saving The Bay***. A film by Ron Blatman, and narrated by Robert Redford, the film explores the history of San Francisco Bay in four one-hour episodes. It follows the Bay's history from its geological beginnings in the Ice Age to present day restoration efforts. This spectacular high definition series takes viewers on an unforgettable journey around the waters of the Bay Area. DVD: \$39.99. Blu-Ray: \$59.99. Mail order also available.

LINKS

<http://www.nps.gov/safr/> San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park.

<http://www.maritime.org> San Francisco Maritime National Park Association, the park's nonprofit member-supported cooperating association.

<http://www.maritimelibraryfriends.org> Friends of the San Francisco Maritime Library, the park library's nonprofit member-supported cooperating association.

<http://hydestreetlivinghistory.org> The park Living History Program's volunteer created and managed website.

<http://www.corsair-viking.org> The San Francisco Sea Scouts, the park's neighboring partner in Aquatic Park.