DATE CHANGED - 7/17 Maritime History Lecture: Harrisburg
Maritime Festival - Boatloads of FUN!
HMM Staff Member Inducted Into SIBAA
Beat the Heat: Guided Tours at HMM!

DATE CHANGED!

Harrisburg Steamships
Birth Maritime Trade in Harris County

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17th at 7pm

Harrisburg, TX brought many firsts to the region: the 1st colonists, the 1st schooner exporting Texas cotton, the 1st steam sawmill, the 1st steamships and the 1st railroad. In 1823, Stephen F. Austin persuaded the Mexican government to name him impresario to promote development of maritime trade in Texas through colonization and the development of ports along the northern coast of Mexico. Captain John Richardson Harris, great grandson of the founder of Harrisburg, PA, aligned with Austin to found the town of Harrisburg at the junction of Buffalo and Bray's Bayous in 1825. Harris opened one of the 1st general stores in Texas and began a packet service between New Orleans and the Galveston Bay region to provide colonists in Texas the tools and provisions necessary for survival. The development of the town's maritime trade continued, and the town was annexed by the City of Houston in 1926. John Richardson Harris continues to be remembered today as the namesake of Harris County, and the successful maritime ventures of Harrisburg proved essential to the development of the Houston Ship Channel which officially opened in November 1914.

Join HMM as Eric shares the story of how the maritime industry began in Houston! Admission is free and includes access to the museum's exhibits including our new exhibit on the city of Harrisburg!
Special Thanks to Our Generous Sponsor:

Miss our last lecture? If so, CLICK HERE to watch "Frigate Warfare"

To view videos of other past lectures CLICK HERE!

Maritime Festival - Boatloads of FUN!

HMM Family Festival
"Boats, Bands, & Buoys"

Thanks to all of your support, the HMM Family Festival was a HUGE success! Guests enjoyed a day of fun in the sun with great food, family and friends. Whether enjoying a relaxing ride on the M/V Sam Houston, digging for buried treasure at the end of our nautical scavenger hunt or taking a step back in time with the beautiful serenades of the Shanty Choir, fun was truly had by all!

Special thanks to our extremely generous sponsors and volunteers who's support made this event so successful. We are looking forward to seeing you all next year at the 2nd annual Family Festival!
Staff Inducted Into SIBAA

HMM Staff Member Made Honorary Member of the SIBAA

As you know, HMM has BIG plans for the future. In order to set ourselves apart from other maritime museums, we are in the process of collecting pieces for our upcoming Gallery of Maritime Miniatures.

CLICK HERE to view & print photos from the Festival

CLICK HERE to watch the Shanty Choir in Action!
planned to debut at our new location on the Ship Channel.

In order to keep HMM informed of the latest ship-bottling activities and the possibilities that exist when our planned miniature gallery opens, the Board of the Ships In Bottles Association of America has made HMM’s Director of Operations, Heather Schiappa, an honorary member of their organization. As a member of the SIBAA, Heather is able to submit articles and photographs of the pieces donated to our collection and will keep the ships in bottles community up to date on the progress of our new gallery.

We are proud to pay tribute to the art of miniaturization and would like to announce that we have commitments from talented artists around the world for over 40 extraordinary pieces for the gallery!

Our latest addition is pictured below and was created by Tom Olsa from the Netherlands!

![Created by Tom Olsa](image)

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE BOARD OF THE SIBAA FOR GRANTING HMM THIS HONOR & FOR THEIR INVALUABLE HELP & SUPPORT!

Guided Tours At HMM!

Looking for a Way to Stay Cool in the Summer Heat?

Stop By HMM for A Tour, Today!

Ages 12 and up - $5.00
Children 3 to 11 - $3.00

Wonderful educational opportunities are available at HMM which are perfect for kids of all ages and even adults! As a small organization, we're able to work closely with summer camps, educators and social groups to develop programming to meet your needs and to offer rare insight into maritime history and the bustling industry at the Port of Houston that occurs right outside our front doors!

Come explore our exhibits of over 150 model ships that span the Age of Exploration to the Modern Merchant Marine, as well as model drilling rigs, navigational instruments and other maritime artifacts. Don't miss our newest exhibit which explains how the city of Harrisburg lead to the development of maritime trade in Harris County! We encourage groups to take a guided tour of our collections which typically lasts 1-1.5 hours. Although our exhibits offer a great overview of maritime history, we also offer the following on-demand presentations that can be given by themselves or in conjunction with the Museum tour.

These topics include:

* The History of Navigation (grades 6-12)
* Christopher Columbus (can be tailored for all ages)
* Ships in Bottles (can be tailored for grades 3+)
* The Offshore Oil and Gas Industry (grades 9-12)

Other topics can be arranged at the request of educators, as our collections inspire a variety of learning experiences.

CLICK HERE to view our map and guide to learn more about the topics covered at the Museum!

Schedule an educational (air conditioned) tour for your group at:

(713) 666-1910
or
Contact@HoustonMaritimeMuseum.org

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to your next visit to the museum! For more information on any of our events contact Heather Schiappa at (713) 666-1910.

Special Thanks to:
James Baker for becoming a Benefactor Member
And to Our Corporate Partners:

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Interested in becoming a Corporate Partner? CLICK HERE to learn more about the program’s many benefits.

Interested in ship modeling? Join the Gulf Coast Ship Modelers Society on the second of Saturday every odd-numbered month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Houston Maritime Museum.

Historic Vessel Builders: 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
RC Control Vessel Builders: 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.

The next meeting is July 13th!