

August 2019



on the Move

Local maritime news, events and history from the Chicago Maritime Museum

Eastland Disaster Film Preview and New Exhibit Draws 174 Guests to CMM

More than one hundred years later, the Eastland Disaster lives on in the hearts and minds of Chicagoans. Over 170 people attended CMM's July 9 premiere of the documentary *Eastland: Chicago's Deadliest Day*.

and the unveiling of the museum's new expanded Eastland Exhibit.

Produced by Harvey Moshman, *Eastland: Chicago's Deadliest Day*, was exclusively funded by CMM Director and Chicago Marine Heritage Society Chairman, Captain Dave Truitt. Captain Truitt also serves on the board of the Chicago Maritime Museum.

In addition to the documentary premiere, visitors explored CMM's new expanded Eastland exhibit, which now includes an **SS Eastland** diorama depicting the scene of the rollover in the Chicago River, conceived by former CMM curator John Heinz and expanded and completed by CMM's modelbuilder, Glenn Braun, a device called a lung motor used to force air into the victim's lungs, a number of victims' possessions including watches and wallets and more artifacts. Also, a slide show operated by visitor touch enhances the ship's visual stories, from

the **SS Eastland's** creation as the fastest passenger vessel on the Great Lakes to its fatal disaster and its final transformation into a naval training ship.

"A number of attendees mentioned how much they enjoyed the event and touring the museum, particularly the expanded Eastland exhibit," says CMM's executive director Ked Fairbank. "It was our first chance to use the outside patio for an event, and on a beautiful summer evening our guests enjoyed delicious appetizers and cocktails on the waterfront."



Volunteers from the Operations Board, Board of Directors and museum helped set up 200 chairs on the fifth floor of the Bridgeport Art Center where the film was screened and hauled 20 tables down to the museum to be set up for the eight restaurants who would provide food for the guests pro-bono. PR exec, Candice Kuhen, managed logistics for the event and provided programs that included pages for memberships and donations – several of each have been received since. Harvey Moshman, the film producer, delivered wine and beer that had been donated for the event.



Friends and members of CMM gather at the museum's dock on Bubbly Creek before the unveiling of the expanded Eastland Disaster exhibit and premiere of the documentary *Chicago's Deadliest Day*.



CMM board member and film underwriter, Captain Dave Truitt along with producer Harvey Moshman, introduce the premiere screening of *Eastland: Chicago's Deadliest Day* at the Bridgeport Art Center.

Chicago's Two Watersheds Topic of Third Friday on August 16

Come hear author Libby Hill tell the story of two vastly different watersheds and what happens when they are united for commercial purposes by digging through the subcontinental divide that separated them.



An adjunct faculty member at Northeastern Illinois, Hill holds a master's degree in Geography and Environmental Studies from Northeastern Illinois University. She is the author of ***The Chicago River:***

A Natural and Unnatural History. An avid conservationist, Hill can often be found in the woods or birding, on the beach volunteering for local ecological restoration projects, writing for her local newspaper, or working with others on local environmental issues.

The Open House starts at 7:00 pm. On Friday, August 16. Presentation begins at 7:30. CMM is on the River Level of the Bridgeport Art Center at 1200 W. 35th St.

Museum entrance and free parking available on north side of building.

Museum entrance is free on Third Fridays. The presentation is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members at the door. The Operations Board of CMM will continue supporting Third Friday Open House with a light food and beverage table.

For more information contact the museum at 773-376-1982.

CMM to Offer Ship Model Building and Woodworking Classes

Beginning this September, CMM's model builder, Glenn Braun, we'll be teaching classes in ship model building and woodworking. From September 14 to Nov. 14, CMM patrons are invited to learn the skills of basic woodcarving, ships-in-a-bottle and ship model building.

Classes, \$320 for members, \$350 for non-members. All materials included.

For class schedules and more details contact the museum at 773-376-1982.



Dam Removal is Good for Ecosystem

Dam removals in Illinois rivers are setting fish populations free and keeping swimmers and boaters safer. Read more here:

https://www.nrdc.org/stories/after-century-being-dammed-illinois-rivers-get-go-flow?utm_source=fb&utm_medium=post&utm_campaign=CleanWater&fbclid=IwAR2rYGmwjZiTSH91etQxW-ZHhRk2GNQu5E8z8_74



Museums and the Challenge of Philanthropy



Fundraising is the No. 1 way young people volunteer. Perhaps there is a way for museums to use young people in roles outside of program presenters or "junior curators." Read more here:

<https://rka-learnwithus.com/blog/2013/03/13/museums-and-the-changing-face-of-philanthropy/>

No Chicago River Swim This Year

Doug McConnell hoped to organize an open water swim this September but couldn't get city approval in time. Read more here:

<https://chicago.suntimes.com/2019/7/16/18761168/chicago-river-open-water-swim-doug-mcconnell?fbclid=IwAR3RWAQRWSRQBCrzktruwOpDwHJp5MgJlskJkEC-OzEeoOZMLJMoRclwpqw>





*Making your way to the
Chicago Maritime Museum!*

MARITIME EVENT CALENDAR

Check out local maritime events at the Chicago Maritime Museum website calendar page:

<http://www.chicagomaritimemuseum.org/events/month/>

Submit maritime events in the Chicagoland area to Mary Ann O'Rourke at
maorourke@ameritech.net.

We hope you've enjoyed our monthly e-newsletter, On the Move.

*If you have a Chicago maritime story idea please
forward it to maorourke@ameritech.net.*

