

# *Scuttlebutt*



***MILITARY SEA SERVICES MUSEUM, INC.***



***May/June 2021***

## *A message from the President*



**John Cecil**

Greetings to all. The museum is proud of the remodeling of the galley and the new decking. Come see the changes in person as pictures do not do the improvements justice. The Sebring Florida Lowe's has done a wonderful job. Jane Zurn was the museum coordinator and Julie Hollingsworth, managed her store volunteers. Volunteer coordinator was Fred Carino, and his crew was comprised of, Chris Carino, Juan Ramirez, Micah Marsh, Glen West, John Bent, and Roy Fairfield. The museum membership has been growing with new members 290 & 291 signing up.

Be sure to look at the Calendar for upcoming events. We will celebrate the birthday of all maritime services with cake and ice cream on Saturday, May 15 at 1pm. A second social will be at the same time on June 14th, to celebrate both the Army Birthday and Flag Day. This Memorial Day, May 31<sup>st</sup> will be the museum's 23rd birthday. Millie Smith and MaryAnn Lamorte are two members who have been with us since the inception. New artifacts arrive daily. We are amazed at what people offer us, and we take almost everything. School vacation is almost upon us. Along with watching out for additional children near our roads, why not gather up yours + others and visit the museum. If you have a large group, call the museum in advance at, (863) 385-0992, Wednesday – Saturday, Noon – 4 pm., to schedule a visit.  
Be Safe & God Bless.



## **What does Lowe's Heroes do for the Community?**

Through our Lowe's Heroes program, the company allocates funding to each U.S. and Canadian store for a project in their community that associates can complete together. In addition, we provide "Give Back Time" encouraging associates to take a day out of the year to volunteer with an organization that is important to them.



John Cecil, President of the MSSM stands with volunteers from the local Lowe's Sebring, FL, in the gutted kitchen at the museum. Pictured with John are (L to R) Joe Walker, Julie Hollingsworth, & Jasmine Hollingsworth. The Lowes "Heroes Project" motto is "Hands on, Hearts In" and it was evidenced when these three individuals were the first to volunteer there off-time for the rehabilitation of the Military Sea Services Museum. Lowes Sebring manager, Julie Hollingsworth has coordinated the efforts of museum volunteers & Lowes employees since the inception of the project and played a significant role in getting an entirely new kitchen suite donated to the museum. The new flooring visible in the picture was the first of many areas in the museum to be replaced by the volunteers/staff soon.



Additional areas of the museum awaiting replacement of the floor.



Tile Rubble & New Flooring



# Avon Park Lakes Baptist Church

On 25 February 2021, the Military Sea Service Museum had the pleasure of entertaining 25 children and 5 adults during a private tour of our facility.



Arriving in 2 immaculate white vans, the orderly students were assembled in front of the building, divided into smaller groups and escorted into the museum by a volunteer Docent. Numerous queries followed as each group made their way through the exhibits.



Roy Fairfield leads a discussion in the Highlands Room. The room is largely dedicated to the county's own USS Highlands, APA-119 (attack Transport), which was present at the signing of the surrender of Japan in Tokyo Bay,



Mike Borders discusses memorabilia obtained by G.I.'s, during and immediately after WWII ended. Of particular interest were sashes worn, rolled up, around the waist of Imperial Japanese soldiers. These sashes depicted the Rising Sun emblem of Japan and were signed with good wishes and prayers by the soldiers friends and family.



Sam Sowers points out differences in the various military uniforms worn by members of the Sea Services. Discussed were season, occasion, and formality of when/where each uniform was to be worn, and by whom. The maniquins were arranged across the front of the Flag Room. Hanging from the ceiling were the flags of all 50 states, in alphabetical order.

## Sea Myths



**Neptune is the god of freshwater and the sea in Roman religion. He is the counterpart of the Greek god Poseidon.**



**Poseidon was one of the Twelve Olympians in ancient Greek religion and myth, god of the sea, storms, earthquakes and horses.**



**Siren's (aka Mermaids) In folklore, a mermaid is an aquatic creature with the head and upper body of a female human and the tail of a fish. Mermaids appear in the folklore of many cultures worldwide, including the Near East, Europe, Asia, and Africa.**



**Moby Dick has become a proverbial phrase for anything that seems unbeatable, while drawing inordinate amounts of time and energy into its pursuit. Moby Dick was actually the name of the massive white whale from Herman Melville's epic American novel of the same name.**



**Serpents had a snake-like body, a head like a dragon, and spikes along its back, no wonder stories of the sea serpent struck fear in sailor s.**

## May is Military Appreciation Month

Officially designated by Congress, Military Appreciation Month takes place every year throughout the entire month of May. Every year, the president issues an annual proclamation reminding Americans to celebrate this patriotic month that pays tribute to those who have sacrificed so much for our freedom.

NMAM began in 1999 when the late Senator John McCain introduced legislation designating the month of May as National Military Appreciation Month. His legislation received bipartisan support and both the Senate, and the House of Representatives adopted resolutions calling for the country to recognize and honor all our service members during the month.

With many of our holidays becoming nothing more than three-day weekends for many Americans, McCain's vision was that this would bring a renewed focus on their original purpose. NMAM is designed to remind us all the extreme sacrifice given by our military members. It is a time for members of the military, past, and present, to participate in local events that bring more public attention to the Forces.

Although the entire month is designated to honoring past and present military members and their families, there are several, specific military holidays sprinkled throughout Military Appreciation Month itself, including Loyalty Day (1st), VE Day (8th), Military Spouse Appreciation Day (7<sup>th</sup>), Mother's Day (9<sup>th</sup>), Armed Forces Day (15) and Memorial Day (31<sup>st</sup>).

365 days a year, 7 days a week and 24 hours a day, members of the U.S. military are on call around the world, defending the interests and security of the nation. This May, during Military Appreciation Month, is the perfect opportunity express gratitude to them, and their families, for all that they do every day.

This year, as thousands of service members work on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is especially important that we as a nonprofit military organization – and you, as a patriotic citizen – pause to honor them during Military Appreciation Month.



**Excuse me sailor,**

**I didn't understand what you said!**

Hooker = While this slang term is used scathingly by modern Seaman when referring to some old ship of their acquaintance, it originally described a certain line of small vessels trading between British ports and the Hook of Holland. There did not seem to be any intent of ridicule when the ships first received the name of "Hookers," but this note of disparagement has crept into the modern use of the word.

Jamaica Discipline = Old Navy slang for unruly behavior. The idea of the term dates to when pirates, returning from a successful cruise, would anchor their ships in Jamaica Harbor and waive all rules of discipline, so that their crews could indulge in a few days of unrestricted debauchery.

Hunky-Dory = This term, meaning everything is O.K., was coined from a street named Honki'-Dori in Yokohama, Japan. As the inhabitants of this street catered to the pleasures of sailors, one can readily understand why the streets name became synonymous for anything that is enjoyable or satisfactory.

Fathom = This well-known nautical term comes from the old English "FAETM" meaning to embrace. Parliament decided that, since an embrace involved the distance between a man's hands when placed around his sweetheart, and as that distance averaged about six feet, it should be established as a standard measure.

The Women of Fiddlers Green = Just in case you did not know it, calm weather and smooth seas are the result of the sweet songs of the women of fiddler's green, who sing to keep waves in unison. Whenever they stop singing, the waves get restless, and bad weather ensues. Next time you are enjoying a pleasant cruise, remember that Davey Jones' glamour girls are really doing their stuff - - - - - for which be thankful.

Mother Carey = The name of the good angel who protects Jack at sea, is an English corruption of the Portuguese "Mata Cara" (Dear Virgin).

Women Sponsors = Until 1846 it was thought un-ladylike for the fair sex to smash bottles of wine against ships' noses. However, in October of that year, Miss Watson, of Philadelphia, established a precedent by sponsoring the launching of the U.S.S. Germantown and ever since then our fighting craft have been christened by the ladies.

SHOW A LEG = This slang term for ordering men to turn out, originated in King George Third's time when women could accompany sailors on long voyages. It was customary when ordering seaman from their bunks, for the bos'un to demand "Show a Leg". If the leg was covered by a stocking, he knew it belonged to a woman; otherwise, the skulker would promptly be routed from his bunk.

May 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1 Silver Star Banner Day 
2	3	4	5 	6	7	8 
9 	10	11	12 MSSM Board Meeting 1630	13	14	15 
16 1792 New York Stock Exchange Established	17	18	19	20	21	22 
23 MSSM Sunday Dinner	24	25	26 Buddha's  Birthday	27	28	29
30 	31 	The celebration of National Maritime Day has expanded to include the entire maritime industry and domestic waterborne commerce, as well as the brave men and women who have dedicated their lives to serving aboard a Merchant Marine ship. So celebrate these courageous Americans this May 22!				



June 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4 	5
6 	7	8	9 MSSM Board Meeting 1630	10	11	12
13	14 	15	16	17 Iceland  Recognized	18	19
20 	21	22	23 Happy  Birthday	24	25 Korean Conflict Begins 1950	26
27 MSSM Sunday Dinner	28	29	30 Meteor  Watch Day			
<p>D-Day, observed annually on June 6, brings overwhelming memories of the brave men and women who fought a strategically planned and well-executed battle that ultimately led to the end of the Second World War. More than 77 years after the end of World War II, these memories remain fresh to the over 250,000 living U.S. veterans of the war. The rest of us look to their legacy and the rich history of events told through museums and memorials. There is not a more important time than today for us to remember and honor them as we reflect on D-Day, June 6, 1944.</p>						

## Quotable Quotes

"America is much more than a geographical fact. It is a political and moral fact—the first community in which men set out in principle to institutionalize freedom, responsible government, and human equality." **Adlai Stevenson**

"The winds that blow through the wide sky in these mounts, the winds that sweep from Canada to Mexico, from the Pacific to the Atlantic - have always blown on free men." **Franklin D. Roosevelt**

“Out of every one hundred men, ten shouldn’t even be there, eighty are just targets, nine are the real fighters, and we are lucky to have them, for they make the battle. Ah, but the one, one is a warrior, and he will bring the others back.” **Heraclitus**

## Wanted!

The Military Sea Services Museum needs to fill 2 positions on its board of directors.

1. Treasurer. Member applicants should know basic bookkeeping & accounting principles and be attentive to details.
2. Special events coordinator. Member applicants would be responsible for setting up special events, notifying the local media and coordinating all aspects of an event.

## Mailed Copies

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**Hours of Operation**  
Wednesday through Saturday  
Noon to 4:00 p.m.  
Web site: <http://milseasvcmuseum.org>