

Icebreaker Mackinaw Maritime Museum

WAGB-83 NEWS



"We Move Ships When No One Else Can"

4th Quarter, 2017

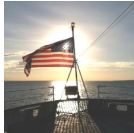
A UNIQUE AND LASTING GIFT!

A 3' X 5' American flag will be flown aboard the *Mackinaw* WAGB-83.

You will receive a Certificate of Authenticity naming the person the flag was flown in honor of, the date that it was flown and an emailed a photo of the flag as it is flown.

See our website for more info:

www.themackinaw.org



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ICEBREAKER MACKINAW MARITIME MUSEUM RECEIVES SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE GRANT

On Monday, October 16, 2017, we were thrilled to officially announce that we are the recipient of a \$ 300,000 Special Legislative Grant from the *Michigan Economic Development Corporation*. **Although this grant will help move us closer to paying for the painting and resurfacing, we continue to fundraise in an effort to cover the entire \$ 365,000 cost of the project.**



MEDC Grant Award Ceremony (from left to right):
State Senator Wayne Schmidt, IMMM Director Bill Marvin,
Executive Director Lisa Pallagi and IMMM Board President
Bill Shepler

Color Guard: USCGC Mackinaw (WLBB-30) Crew

"I would like to thank Senator Wayne Schmidt and our board member, Bill Marvin, for their diligence. An informational and request-for-support packet was produced and presented to various legislators back in August, 2015," stated Executive Director Lisa Pallagi. "Since then, we had just been waiting to hear if we would be a recipient. The senator was our biggest cheerleader."

"This iconic historic ship will receive a complete exterior renovation that will bring it back to its original condition and further enhance the visitor's experience as they explore one of the

true 'heroes' of WWII," she continued.

The work is being done by *Seaway Painting* of Livonia, MI, who is the firm that paints the Mackinac Bridge. The painting project began on October 30.

Tip of the Mitt Sail and Power Squadron Donates!

A huge "Thank You" to the *Tip of the Mitt Sail and Power Squadron* for their generous donation of \$1,700.00 to the #PaintTheMac fund. Their focus is boating safety, seamanship, and education. We have been fortunate to have them aboard for various work-bees.

Pictured from left to right: IMMM Director John Childs, IMMM Executive Director Lisa Pallagi, Tip of the Mitt Sail and Power Squadron representative, Lt/C Tom Tietjen, S N., IMMM President Bill Shepler, and IMMM Director Bill Marvin



**ICEBREAKER
MACKINAW
MARITIME
MUSEUM**

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We're on the Web!

www.themackinaw.org

IMMM Board of Directors

- William Shepler, President
- R.J. Fisher, Vice President
- Randy Powers, Treasurer
- Roger Benter, Secretary
- John Childs, Director
- Chuck Scott, Director
- Tom Spaude, Director
- Bill Marvin, Director

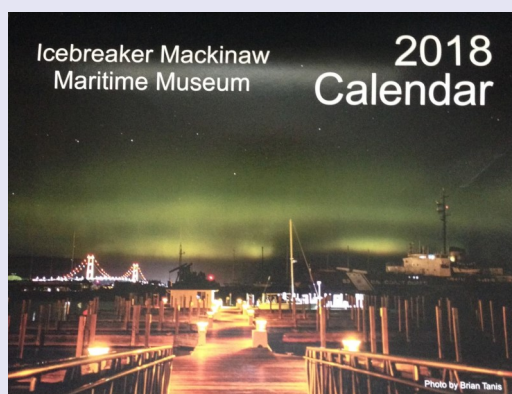


Our Mission Statement



"The Icebreaker Mackinaw Maritime Museum will collect, preserve, protect and interpret the rich maritime and marine history of the Straits of Mackinac and the Great Lakes. The Museum will feature the USCGC Mackinaw WAGB-83 and the important historical and present day contributions of the US Coast Guard on the Great Lakes. The Museum will present the unique maritime history, economy and ecology of the Straits of Mackinac, the Great Lakes and the State of Michigan through engaging and entertaining educational programming and interpretive exhibits."

JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS—Get Your 2018 Calendar!

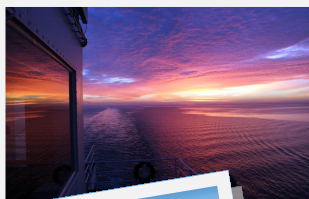


**THIS BEAUTIFUL 2018 ICEBREAKER MACKINAW CALENDAR
IS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFT GIVING!
\$16.99 (INCLUDES SALES TAX AND USPS SHIPPING)
CALL (231) 436-9825 TO PLACE YOUR ORDER WHILE SUPPLIES LAST**



YOU ASKED FOR IT!

A FREIGHTER CRUISE RAFFLE IS COMING SOON!



We are thrilled to announce that we will soon be offering
Freighter Cruise Raffle Tickets
FOR SALE!

This 2018 cruise opportunity is generously sponsored by
Central Marine Logistics

and will be hosted on one of 3 freighters—

- The Joseph L. Block,
- The Wilfred Sykes,
- The Edward L. Ryerson



Follow Our Facebook Page for updates
on this exciting opportunity to **WIN!**



Join Us!

Over the past eleven years we have proven that the museum is an exciting and viable attraction for Mackinaw City and the area. Annually, we host over 20,000 tour guests. Our interactive Educational Tour Program has taught over 700 children knot-tying, safety aboard, communications and the history of the ship. And our Overnight Encampment Program allows the unique experience of sleeping aboard an actual USCG Icebreaker.

We need the support of those of you who, like us, love the *Mackinaw*, to enable us to continue moving “full speed ahead” with these and other programs. Our membership program gives you an easy way to contribute to the museum and also enjoy some great perks. The levels of support and their associated benefits are listed below.

Our Business Sponsorship program gives you an easy way to contribute to the museum and also promote your business. For your \$100 tax-deductible donation, you will receive listing on our website’s “Sponsor” page, in our quarterly newsletters and aboard the ship. We will provide you with passes for 4 people to watch the 4th of July Fireworks aboard the ship, and your employees are always welcome to tour, free of charge.

“Friends of the Mackinaw” Support Program Application

Annual Membership Level:

- ☐ \$50.00 Petty Officer
 ☐ \$100.00 Chief Petty Officer
 ☐ \$250.00 Chief Warrant Officer
 ☐ \$500.00 Ensign
☐ \$100.00 Business Sponsor
☐ \$ _____ Donation

Name _____ ☐ I would like to Volunteer (please contact me)

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Send to:
IMMM
PO Box 39
Mackinaw City, MI 49701

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____ CVU _____

We accept Visa, MasterCard & Discover
1st Quarter Newsletter, 2017

IMMM is a Non-Profit 501 (C) 3 Organization

IMMM Levels of Support and Benefits for “Friends of the Mackinaw”

Level	Amount	Inaugural Gift*	Admission Benefits
Petty Officer	\$ 50.00		Unlimited for member + 1 guest, per visit
Chief Petty Officer	\$ 100.00	Lapel Pin or Key Chain	Unlimited for member + 2 guests, per visit
Chief Warrant Officer	\$ 250.00	Icebreaker Mackinaw DVD	Unlimited for member + 3 guests, per visit
Ensign	\$ 500.00	Icebreaker Mackinaw Book	Unlimited for member + 4 guests, per visit

- Inaugural Gift will be presented for first-year membership ONLY unless level of support is increased.
- Cardholders will receive, in addition to the above listed benefits: a 10% discount on Ship’s Store retail items, e-mail receipt of our newsletter and notices of special events and invitation to watch 4th of July fireworks aboard the ship.

*An equal value Inaugural Gift may be substituted due to availability.

Of Course, Donations Are Always Welcome!

We have an endowment fund through the Straits Area Community Foundation! www.cfneem.org/sacf/ Your donation is tax-deductible.

PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR BUSINESS PARTNERS

Alice's Kandy & Korn, Mackinaw City
 Big Stone Bay Fishery, Mackinaw City
 Citizens National Bank, Cheboygan
 Keyhole Bar & Grill, Mackinaw City
 Lamplighter Motel, Mackinaw City
 Mackinaw Mill Creek Camping
 Seaway Painting, Livonia
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 Holiday Inn Express-At The Bridge, Mackinaw City
 Days Inn and Suites, Mackinaw City
 Mystery Spot, St. Ignace
 Paws Fur Fun, Mackinaw City
 Today's Dental, Cheboygan
 Ramsby Well Drilling, Inc., Cheboygan
 First Community Bank, Cheboygan
 Wheeler Motors, Cheboygan
 Body Shop 23, Cheboygan
 Blarney Castle Oil Co., Cheboygan
 East Lake Resort, Fibre
 Quality Inn, St. Ignace
 Kilwin's Quality Confections, Mackinaw City
 Straits Area Printing, Cheboygan
 Mackinaw City KOA, Mackinaw City

Sullivan Label & Packaging, Inc., Comstock Park
 Kilwin's Quality Chocolates & Confections, Petoskey
 Hunt's Mackinaw Pastie & Cookie Co., Mackinaw City
 Pizza Palace, Mackinaw City
 Teysen's Gift Shop, Mackinaw City
 National Office Products & Printing, Inc., Sault Ste. Marie
 Spray's Landscape Nursery & Garden Center, Cheboygan
 Shepler's Mackinac Island Ferry, Mackinaw City
 Gaslight Media, Petoskey
 Pancake Chef Restaurant, Mackinaw City
 Mitchell Graphics, Petoskey
 Mother Mary's Canning Co., Cheboygan
 Bernard Building Center, Cheboygan
 Kokosing Industrial/Durocher Marine Div., Cheboygan
 Jack Pine Lumberjack Shows, Mackinaw City
 Original Mackinac Island Butterfly House, Mackinac Island
 Mackinaw Shuttle & Limousine Service, Pellston
 Clothing Connection, Mackinaw City
 Silver Sands Resort, St. Ignace
 Mark Mercer D.D.S., St. Ignace
 Tee Pee Campground, Mackinaw City
 Straits Area Federal Credit Union, Cheboygan and Mackinaw City



Icebreaker Mackinaw Maritime Museum is proud to partner with these wonderful Straits area business community organizations and their members!

SHOP OUR SHIP'S STORE!



KEYCHAINS	\$ 9.99
BRASS CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS	\$14.99
CERAMIC CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS	\$12.99
CHALLENGE COINS	\$ 9.99
REFRIGERATOR MAGNETS	\$ 3.99
BLUE / KHAKI BALL CAPS	\$17.99
LAPEL PINS	\$ 6.99
"FACTS" COFFEE MUGS	\$ 9.99
SHOT GLASSES	\$ 5.99
"ICEBREAKER MACKINAW" DVD	\$20.99
"ICEBREAKER MACKINAW" BOOK	\$23.95
"USCGC MACKINAW" BOOK	\$29.95
"I Helped To #PaintTheMac" T-Shirt:	
• Small, Medium, Large and XL	\$25.00
• 2XL and 3XL	\$30.00

(T-Shirt prices DO include sales tax and shipping)

Please email: contact@themackinaw.org to order.

*Prices (except T-Shirts) do not include sales tax or shipping/handling and may be subject to change. Items subject to inventory availability.



**HELP OUR
NON-PROFIT SAVE
MONEY AND THE
ENVIRONMENT.**

**DROP US AN EMAIL SO WE
CAN ADD YOU TO OUR
ELECTRONIC MAILING LIST.**

officemanager@themackinaw.org



Icebreaker Mackinaw Maritime Museum



[@WAGB-83](https://twitter.com/WAGB-83)

Edgar B. Speer and the Rock Cut—2003

Written by CDR Joe McGuinness and published in "Icebreaker Mackinaw" by Sandy Planisek



Commander Joe McGuinness

That was the first time the crew that came on with me was running all six engines together, all three shafts together. We were running all our different combinations of power and thrust to get the 1,000 footer through what had to be 10 or 12 feet of mashed potatoes. That is what the ice was like by the time we were done milling it. You can see where we have broken the surface ice and all of this has been milled by us before. It was like a snow cone from the local Seven-Eleven or like mashed potatoes, thick and sticky.

Usually what happens is the freighter is plowing a big plug of ice in front of the ship. When they approach the Rock Cut, which is shallower and narrower, it is like entering a funnel. There is no place for the ice to go. So some of it rolls deep beneath the ship. The freighter drives itself up on the ice and gets stuck. The *Speer* was actually aground on ice.

We tried two extraction methods with the towing cable. Freighters are required by the International Maritime Organization to have a pre-rigged emergency towing pendant so if they lose power, they can be towed. We slid underneath his bow to where his pendant hangs and attached our towing cable onto their pendant. We kept slow power astern to keep us tight against the ship until we had a solid connection.

The good thing about icebreaking is that ice is all solid. It is consistent. It is goopy. You can just power your way right back in under the bow. When you take the power off, the icebreaker stops in place. We don't have drift or momentum issues. We were probably using close to 6,000 horse power just to move us. So if you are using 6,000 horse power to move at one or two miles per hour, when you take the power off you just stop pretty much instantaneously.

We broke four or five of the freighter's emergency towing pendants trying to get that ship out. *Mackinaw's* cable is 2 inches in diameter and freighters use 1 3/4 inch diameter cable; the freighter's always breaks first. When they break, it takes two hours of pretty substantial work to get it rigged in place once more.

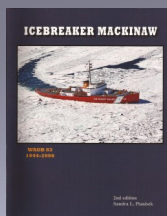
At some point, we tried to tow the ship out. We actually got the *Speer* moving on one of the tow attempts... but when it did finally move, so did all the ice in the Rock Cut which had re-frozen to her sides. Shortly after that, the tow parted.

Later we tried to hold the icebreaker in place and blow our prop wash down the freighter's bow and along both sides. We hoped that this would drive the ice out or melt the ice away. The bottom of the river, the earth, is 50° so the water at the bottom is warmer. The surface water is close to freezing and the air, when we were doing this, was minus 25°F at night and minus 19°F during the day. Our icebreaking efforts had about a 45 minute life span then the open water all froze back up again, and we had to start over.

At some point we decided that this operation had turned into a salvage mission because the ship was essentially aground, and we were not going to get it out. We had broken up all the surrounding ice. The *Mackinaw* is a 10,000 horsepower ship. They brought in two 15,000 horsepower commercial tugs and a 5,000 horsepower commercial tug. The ship herself has 19,000 horsepower. So roughly 55,000 horsepower was used to extract the *Speer*. The tugs took it out in three shots. They moved it about half a ship's length, then they moved it about half a ship's length again, and then they finally got it floating. In the meantime, we had shifted our mission from trying to actually pull the ship out to grooming the ice so when they finally did get moving, they had someplace to go. ◆



The Mackinaw WAGB-83 at full throttle while attempting to use "prop wash" to free the *Speer*. Notice the people observing from the shore. The effort lifted the bow of the Mackinaw right out of the water. Crew commented on the difficulty moving forward through the ship on her rising decks.



If you enjoyed this story, you will LOVE the book!

ICEBREAKER MACKINAW

By Sandy Planisek

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Call (231)436-9825 for more information

ICEBREAKER MACKINAW MARITIME MUSEUM
P. O. BOX 39
MACKINAW CITY, MI 49701



“Spotlight” on Staff Member Cathleen Tibbets

Cathleen began working as a docent for the Icebreaker Mackinaw Maritime Museum in 2007. Now, having completed her 11th season, she has also worked in the ticket booth and the Ship’s Store.

“One of my favorite memories made while working on the ship was having met the first pilot to fly the Mackinaw’s helicopter. He told me that at that time he had never flown, but when offered the opportunity to fly the helicopter, he wasn’t one to turn down such an adventurous opportunity. He loved it despite the fact that he wasn’t always sure if he would land or not. Often the landings were really rough, but he always made it. I admire this gentleman tremendously, and felt very special to have been able to hear his story.

I have formed a deep connection with my colleagues on the ship, employees and volunteers alike. We are all here because we love the Icebreaker Mackinaw and are dedicated to keeping the tours a ‘must see’ activity in the Straits area.” —Cathleen

Cathleen enjoys art, traveling, nature, and visiting with friends and family. She particularly enjoys sharing the Mackinaw’s story with the people who come to tour the ship from all walks of life and from all around the world. This summer she spoke at length with a woman visiting from Siberia. That was a first!



Cathleen Tibbets, right, pictured with “Rosie the Riveter,”
Angie Timan-Morthland,
Aboard USCGC WAGB-83, summer 2017