



The Maritime News

The Official Newspaper
of San Francisco Maritime
National Historical Park

January, February, March 2005



SF Maritime Celebrates History Months

During February, African American History Month, and March, Women's History Month, we present a series of programs that illustrate how blacks and women have contributed to maritime industries.

Through the centuries women have participated in maritime trades in a variety of roles. Perhaps one of the more well-known 19th century roles is that of the sea captain's wife. Besides creating a home aboard ship, some of these women also learned navigation.

On a small scale, women were also testing society's notions of suitable roles for women. Out of economic necessity, in 1897, a San Francisco woman earned a tugboat captain's license to support her family.

Blacks did work at sea but the opportunities for them were very limited. Some, mostly West Indians, were able to find work as seamen on British square-riggers. A more typical job for a person of color was as a cook or steward.

It wasn't until the 20th century, and World Wars I and II, that maritime employment opportunities opened up to blacks and women as never before. In mid-1943, at the height of the shipbuilding boom, nearly 65% of the shipyard workers on the West Coast were women. Shipyard work became a boon not only for white women, but for Asians, Latinas and African Americans. At Marinship in Sausalito, black workers were the largest minority, comprising nearly ten percent of all employees in 1943.

Please see page three for program listings. Also, on Hyde Street Pier during February, a photo exhibit about maritime blacks will be on display, and during March, in the visitor center theater, the exhibit, *Women in Maritime History*, will be available for viewing.



Part of the crew of the British square-rigged ship, the *Rathdown*. This photo was taken in San Francisco in 1892, after the crew had completed a six-month-long voyage around Cape Horn from Belfast, Ireland. Photo: NPS. Photo, top: In 1944 the Marinship Yard won the "Tanker Champs" award, a competition between shipyards for efficiency in tanker production. Because of a shortage of skilled labor, minorities were aggressively recruited and trained. Eventually the workforce was comprised of 25% women and 10% blacks. The Marinship Shipbuilding Corporation was established in 1942 in Marin County, CA near Sausalito to build Liberty ships. Liberty ships were used to transport food and war materials all over the world. Photo: Marinship At War.

Avast!

To a sailor, the word avast means to stop. We hope that you, whether you are a sailor or a landlubber, will stop by San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park.

This is a great time of year to visit - the crowds are noticeably thinner and the sunsets more colorful. We recently opened an incredible new exhibit, "What's Your Pleasure? Recreational Boats of California" in our new Visitor Center at the corner of Jefferson and Hyde Streets. The exhibit, created by park staff, includes a collection of sail, row and power boats from our small craft collection.

In February we celebrate African American History Month, and during March, Women's History Month. Please visit the park during those months and take advantage of programs that highlight the maritime achievements of these groups.

On page three you will find information on the many other programs available on the pier, in the museum, visitor center and library.



Kate Richardson
Superintendent

1 SF Maritime Celebrates History Months

The Park is offering programs and exhibits that highlight the maritime contributions of African Americans and women.

2 Documents That Highlight 20th Century Women

The Historic Documents Department is proud to highlight research collections that illustrate women's experiences on the water and around the waterfront.

4 Boatload of Maritime Activities for Children

Sailors' crafts, traditional music, sailors' ditty bag activity and a shipshape Junior Ranger Program—fun for all ages, but especially for kids and families.

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National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

Established in 1988, San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park encompasses only 34 acres, but contains the most national historic landmarks of any unit in the National Park Service. In addition to the fleet of ships at Hyde Street Pier, the park includes the Aquatic Park Historic District (Maritime Museum, urban beach, picnic area and bocce ball courts), a Visitor Center and a research library (in Fort Mason Center).

Superintendent

Kate Richardson

Chief of Interpretation

Marc Hayman

Public Affairs Officer

Lynn Cullivan

Editor

Christine Baird

Mailing Address

Building E, Fort Mason Center
San Francisco, CA 94123

Fax Number

415-556-1624

Park Information

415-447-5000

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

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Historic Documents Illustrate Diverse Maritime Experiences of Women

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park invites you to come aboard and learn about the diverse maritime experiences of women in the past and today. The Historic Documents Department is proud to highlight research collections that illustrate women's experiences on the water and around the waterfront.

Sallie Katherine Braun (1913-1995) was born in Oakland and began a career with the U.S. Army in San Francisco as a junior typist in 1942. Ms. Braun retired in 1957 having attained the position of Marine Transportation Specialist. She was possibly the first woman to hold this position.

During WWII the San Francisco Port was unofficially given the code name "Sallie" by American military men, illustrating Ms. Braun's importance as their primary contact person.

After her retirement from civil service, Ms. Braun continued to work in a different profession until 1970. She married in 1973 and died in Pacific Grove, CA in 1995. The Sallie K. Braun papers (Collection # 1176) include a variety of materials pertaining to her career with the U.S. Army Transport Service, Fort Mason, and the Military SE Transportation Service, Pacific Area. The bulk of the collection spans 1944 to 1956.

The San Francisco Maritime NHP's Historic Documents Collection is open to the public and located in the library. The library is located on the third floor of Building E, Lower Fort Mason, near the intersection of Buchanan and Marina Streets. The Library is open, with reference staff available, Tuesday from 1pm to 8pm, Wednesday through Friday 1pm to 5pm, Saturday 10am to 5pm and closed on Sunday and Monday. For more information call 415- 561-7030.

In 1994, Isabelle Autissier, and her crew, on the yacht *Ecurcuil Poitou-Charntes 2*, set and broke world sailing speed records, racing from New York to San Francisco.

Autissier, one of the world's foremost competitive solo sailors, has sailed around Cape Horn several times and taken part in the Boc Challenge and the Vendée Globe, two legendary solo round-the-world races. She ranks among the leading names in off-shore racing. Her home port is La Rochelle, France. This collection (#1212) includes two certificates presented to Autissier for breaking the world record.

Another collection (#1259) includes an original log by Anna Noia Henry, wife of Captain Joseph Paul Henry of the schooner *Henry Wilson*, kept during an Alaska Packers Association voyage in 1917-1918. The *Henry Wilson* sailed along the Pacific Coast and engaged in the salmon fishing trade. The log represents a relatively rare type of personal log kept by a captain's wife documenting daily family life aboard a salmon fleet vessel. It is also significant because it was kept during World War I, and describes life aboard a commercial vessel during wartime conditions. It contains pressed dried flowers, some of which were sent to Mrs. Henry in Alaska by her parents in Antioch, California. A photographic reproduction of the log is available for research use.

The recently acquired Matson Navigation Company collection includes advertising flyers, pamphlets, menus, activities lists, newsletters, and magazines produced by

the company for the benefit of its passengers and employees. A significant portion of this material was directed at female passengers and would-be passengers, and helped create the expectations of sea-traveling women during the interwar period (1919-1941) and the post war period (1946-1973). The collection also includes valuable documentary evidence of women's employment in the maritime trades, particularly in clerking and management positions, but also as engineers, interior designers, and business commentators.

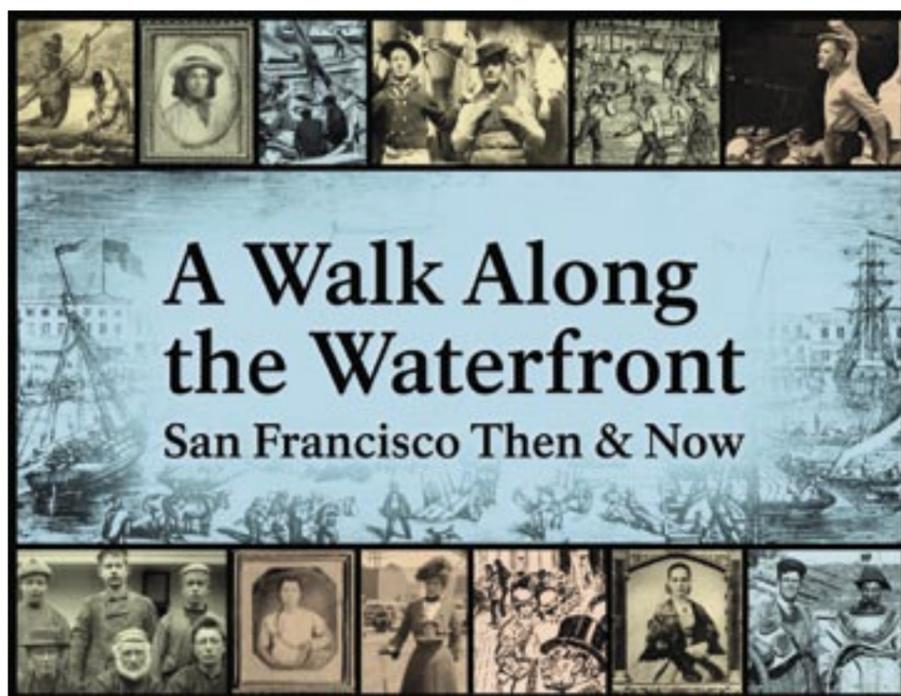
The collection includes the published and unpublished articles, speeches and letters by Helen Delich Bentley. During the 1950s and 1960s, as a reporter with the *Baltimore Sun*, Ms. Bentley established a sterling reputation as one of the most astute commentators in North America on maritime industry, technology, business and politics. In 1969 President Nixon appointed her as the Chairman of the Federal Maritime Commission. In 1984 she was elected to the first of five consecutive terms to the U.S. House of Representatives, for the State of Maryland, where she served with distinction on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Commission. Since leaving Congress in 1995, she has continued to serve as president of Helen Bentley & Associates. (This collection will not be available before August of 2005.)

By Sara Diamond, Archivist,
SF Maritime National Historical Park

SAN FRANCISCO MARITIME NHP ANNUAL PASS NOW AVAILABLE!



This \$20.00 pass includes free entrance for the passholder and his or her family to San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park's historic ships for twelve months from the date of purchase. This pass, and all other federal recreation passes, are available for purchase at the Hyde Street Pier ticket booth.



A NEW EXHIBIT IS IN THE WORKS

A new long-term exhibit has been designed for the Visitor Center. When it opens, you will be able to explore the historic shoreline of six San Francisco neighborhoods. You will experience the sights and sounds of maritime enterprises clustered at the shore, and hear the voices of those characters who brought it to life. We hope this exhibit will serve as an entry point to experience San Francisco's sea-going past and present. When funding is in place, construction will begin.

Visitor Information

Dates and Hours of Operation

Hyde Street Pier, located at Hyde and Jefferson Streets, is open 9:30AM-5:00PM—last entry at 4:30PM (October 16-May 30), and 9:30AM-5:30PM—last entry at 5PM (Memorial Day-October 15). The **Maritime Museum (Aquatic Park Bathhouse Building)**, located on Beach Street at the foot of Polk Street, is open 10:00AM-5:00PM, year-round. The **Visitor Center**, located at the corner of Hyde and Jefferson Streets, is open 9:30AM-5:00PM (October 17-May 30) and 9:30AM-7:00PM (Memorial Day-October 16). The **Maritime Library**, located on the third floor of Bldg. E in Fort Mason Center (auto entrance at Buchanan Street and Marina Blvd), is open 1:00PM-8:00PM Tuesdays, 1:00PM-5:00PM Wednesday-Friday, and 10:00AM-5:00PM Saturdays.

No-Fee Areas

Visitor Center, Hyde Street Pier, Aquatic Park Historic District (including the Maritime Museum) and the Maritime Library (Fort Mason Center).

Boarding Pass (Entrance Fee For Historic Vessels): \$5.00

Free for supervised children under 17. Free with National Parks Pass, Golden Age/Access Pass or Park Annual Pass.

Reservations/Permits

Reservations for school groups and other educational groups must be made at least two weeks prior to your visit. At least one month's notice and application for Special Use Permits is required. Filming permits are arranged on an individual basis.

Contact Information

General Park Information: 415-447-5000
Maritime Store: 415-775-2665
Maritime Library: 415-561-7030

USS *Pampanito*: 415-775-1943
Park Website: www.nps.gov/safr
Association Website: www.maritime.org

Music, Tours, Living History and Classes

MUSIC

CHANTEY SING

Saturdays, January 8, February 5, and March 5, 8PM-MIDNIGHT. No fee. Aboard the historic vessel Balclutha at Hyde Street Pier.

Reservations required: call 415-556-6435 or email peter_kasin@nps.gov.

Sing traditional working songs aboard a floating vessel. Bring a mug for hot cider served from the ship's galley. Please note that the January sing is on the 2nd Saturday due to the Park's closure on January 1st.

MUSIC OF THE SEA FOR KIDS

Saturdays, January 15, February 19 and March 19, 2PM. Aboard Balclutha at Hyde Street Pier. Vessel admission (under 17 free).

History comes alive for kids in this special program, where the songs are geared for younger ears and chosen especially for fun. Ages 5 and up.

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

CHANTEYS: THE AFRICAN-CARIBBEAN CONNECTION

Saturday, February 12, 2PM. In the Visitor Center theater. No fee.

Discover African American and Caribbean influences in chanteys. The choruses to these work songs are easy to learn and participants will be invited to sing along.

AFRICAN AMERICANS AND WORLD WAR II LIBERTY SHIPS

Sundays, February 13 and 27, 2PM. In the Visitor Center theater. No fee.

A slide program detailing the contributions of African Americans to the construction and operation of Liberty Ships during World War II.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

HEROINES, HOMEMAKERS AND HARDWORKERS

Sunday, March 6, 1PM. In the Visitor Center theater. No fee.

For centuries women have been taking to the sea. Please join a ranger for a talk with images and learn how women have participated in maritime industries.

WENDY THE WELDER: WOMEN BUILDING LIBERTY SHIPS IN WWII

Sundays, March 13 and 27, 2PM. In the Visitor Center theater. No fee.

During World War II, a shortage of men brought women into the workforce to build Liberty ships. Hear fascinating accounts of their contributions in this slide presentation.

EXHIBIT: WOMEN WHO CHANGED MARITIME HISTORY

Daily, throughout March. In the Visitor Center theater. No fee.

Photo exhibition illustrating the often overlooked impact women have had on maritime history.

TEA WITH THE LADIES

Saturday, March 12, Noon. In the Ark houseboat, Hyde Street Pier. No fee.

Join a salon of Victorian women (the Park's costumed living history players) on an afternoon in the year 1901 as they discuss issues ranging from corsetry to voting rights.

PROGRAMS

ESPECIALLY FOR KIDS: A SAILOR'S LIFE

Saturdays, January 22, February 26 and March 26, 1:30PM. Meet in the Visitor Center theater. No fee.

Learn the arts and crafts of sailors at sea and take home a sailor's valentine or a signal flag necklace! For kids of all ages. For more details, see the "Fun and Education for Younger Sailors" section on the back page.



PLEASURE AFLOAT

Saturday, January 8; Sunday, February 13 and Saturday, March 5, 2PM. In the Visitor Center theater. No fee.

Join in on a ranger-led tour of our new small craft exhibit, "What's Your Pleasure, Recreational Boats of California." Learn about hydroplanes, duckboats and more.

TO THE GOLD FIELDS BY SEA

Sunday, January 23, 2PM. In the Visitor Center theater. No fee.

The ships and the seekers who came to the California Gold Rush of 1849 transformed San Francisco into the largest seaport on the West Coast of North America. Through a series of slides, we will explore the details of this remarkable event.

THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF THE SCHOONER C.A. THAYER

Sundays, January 2 and 30, 2PM. In the Visitor Center theater. No fee.

Adapting to multiple careers, the C.A. Thayer has survived for more than a century. Learn how the restoration of this 1895 West Coast schooner will preserve not only the vessel itself, but also a variety of vanishing maritime traditions.

TOURS OF LUMBER SCHOONER C. A. THAYER

Tours are every second and fourth Monday, from 11AM-2PM (1/10 and 1/24, 2/14 and 2/28 and 3/14 and 3/28). No fee.

Visit a giant seaplane hanger at Alameda Point, Alameda, for a ranger-led tour of the restoration of the Park's Landmark schooner C.A. Thayer. In addition to watching the meticulous "de-construction" of this 110-year-old vessel, and learning about West Coast shipbuilding techniques, visitors will be able to peruse panels, ship plans and view a historic video of Thayer's last commercial voyage. For more information, and an online map (in Acrobat format), visit <http://www.nps.gov/safr/local/thayrest.html> or call the Park Visitor Center at 415-447-5000 for directions.

EUREKA ENGINE ROOM TOUR

Sundays, January 16, February 20 and March 20, 3PM. Meet on Eureka's gangway. Vessel admission.

Tour Eureka's engine room and get a close-up look at what makes a steam ferry run.

HERCULES ENGINEERING TOUR

Sundays, January 16, February 20 and March 27, 2PM. Meet at the gangway on the Pier. Vessel admission. Tour includes climbing moderately steep ladders and entering cramped spaces.

Explore the major engineering spaces and

learn about steam engine technology and its effects on the working environment of the marine steam engineer.

THREE GREAT SHIPS

Sundays, January 23, February 27 and March 27, 3PM. In the Maritime Museum. No fee.

I. K. Brunel designed three great ships which are all represented by wonderful models in the museum. Learn how each ship advanced the technology of steamships.

BIRDS OF THE BAY

Sundays, January 9, February 20 and March 20, 9:30AM. Meet at Hyde Street Pier entrance. No fee.

See shore, migratory, city and resident birds on this birdwalk. Bring binoculars, bird books and dress warmly.

LIFE IN NELSON'S NAVY

Saturdays, January 15, February 12 and March 12, 3PM. In the Visitor Center theater. No fee.

Slide show about life in the British Royal Navy at the time of Nelson, featuring period food and clothing.

SHIP RADIO DEMONSTRATION

Saturdays, January 29, February 26 and March 26, 10AM-12PM AND 1-4PM. In the Maritime Museum. No fee.

Inside a replica WWII ship's radio room, docents interpret the technology and explain the vital role ship's radio operators played. They will also send a real radiogram message for you to anywhere in the United States!

COSTUMED LIVING HISTORY

A DAY IN THE LIFE: 1901

Saturday, March 12, 10AM-4PM. Aboard the historic vessels. Vessel admission.

At the officer's command, watch the Living History crew aboard Balclutha go aloft to set the topsail. They need help with other work around the ship, so look lively and lend a hand raising the staysail and turning the capstan. At noon join a salon of Victorian women for afternoon tea in the year 1901 on the Ark houseboat. Listen as they discuss issues ranging from corsetry to voting rights. At 2:00 PM meet aboard the Balclutha for the Sailors' Dogwatch. A dogwatch is a shortened or "docked watch," when sailors relax, sing songs, swap stories and play card games. Join in on some songs.

IN THE LIBRARY

MAVERICK AROUND THE WORLD

Saturday, January 22, 6PM. In the Maritime Library, Building E, Fort Mason Center. Fee: \$4 (\$3 Library Friends and SFMNPA) Reservations: 415-561-7040.

In March, 2001, Tony Johnson and a friend set out from San Francisco Bay to sail around the world in the 39' long sloop *Maverick*. Twenty-seven months later they sailed back under the Golden Gate Bridge completing their circumnavigation. Join us for their stories of tropical isles, reefs and pirates they encountered on the voyage.

THE WRECK OF THE VALENCIA

Saturday, February 26, 6PM. In the Maritime Library, Building E, Fort Mason Center. Fee: \$4 (\$3 Library Friends and SFMNPA) Reservations: 415-561-7040.

Storyteller Lynette Patton will present the tale of the 1906 wreck of the San Francisco passenger steamer *Valencia*, taking her audience back in time as the wife of the ship's captain.

THE GOLDEN HINDE

Saturday, March 26, 6PM. In the Maritime Library, Building E, Fort Mason Center. Fee: \$4 (\$3 Library Friends and SFMNPA) Reservations: 415-561-7040.

Former crew members Stephen Canright and Tim Przygocki will show slides and discuss their time aboard the replica of the famous ship in which Sir Francis Drake circumnavigated the globe.

MODELMAKING

INTRODUCTION TO MODEL SHIP BUILDING

Six sessions beginning in January; January 8 and 22, February 5 and 19 and March 5 and 19. Fee: \$150. On the car deck of the Eureka. For more information contact Patti Clark, 415-561-6662 x30 or pclark@maritime.org.

Students will be working from a kit to learn how to deck, mast, plank a hull and rig their model. John Kowalla will teach this class in the model shipbuilder's shop on the Eureka. For more information, contact the instructor at jandj@directcon.net.

MODELERS' CLUB

Saturdays, January 15, February 19 and March 19, 10:00AM. Meet in the Museum Building basement. No fee.

The model ship building club meets the third Saturday of every month in the basement of the Maritime Museum. For information, jandj@directcon.net

MODELERS' WORKSHOP

Fridays, January 7 and 21, February 4 and 18, March 4 and 18, 10:00AM. On the car deck of the Eureka. Vessel admission.

John Kowalla hosts the Modelers' Workshop on the car deck of the Eureka. The public is invited to stop by and watch the modelers in action. For information, jandj@directcon.net

VOLUNTEERS

HANDS NEEDED

Interested in woodwork, rigging, working with the public, library science or archives? Have we got the perfect challenge for you! Call the Volunteer Office at 415-556-1613 or visit www.nps.gov/safr/local/vip1.html and join the crew!

AGE OF SAIL

Step aboard for a voyage into history. The San Francisco Maritime National Park Association is booking Age of Sail spring programs. These 4th - 8th grade programs offer hands-on learning and take place aboard the park's historic vessels at Hyde Street Pier. Students develop skills in historical reasoning, critical thinking, teamwork and problem-solving. Programs range in cost from \$25 to \$60 per student. For more information, call Patricia Clark at 415-561-6662 x 30, ageofsail@maritime.org or click on www.maritime.org/nmmaedu.

WWII SUBMARINE USS PAMPANITO

Open daily. At Pier 45, Fisherman's Wharf. Fee: adults, \$9; 6-12, \$4; under 6 free with adult; over 62, \$5; active duty military, \$4; family ticket, \$20. Information: 415-775-1943. The Balao-class USS Pampanito (SS-383), a museum and memorial operated by the San Francisco Maritime National Park Association, made six patrols in the Pacific during World War II. Admission includes a self-guided audio tour.

Today In The Park

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Fun and Education for Younger Sailors More Park News

This is a special section of the *Maritime News* just for kids. Listed below are some opportunities at the park to create maritime crafts, to sing like a sailor and to become a Junior Ranger!

ESPECIALLY FOR KIDS: A SAILOR'S LIFE

Saturdays, January 22 (Signal Flag Necklace), February 26 (Sailor's Valentine) and March 26 (Signal Flag Necklace), 1:30PM. Meet in Visitor Center theater (Hyde and Jefferson). No fee.

Signal Flag Necklace

Before radio and satellite communication, when ship's crews needed to send messages to land and to other ships, they hoisted signal flags up the masts. It was a splendid display of color and design. You can make your own colorful necklace that spells your name out of paper signal flags.

Sailors' Valentines

It was a lonely life at sea. Sailors were separated from their families and friends back home. Before there was Valentine's Day, sailors created cards or presents to give to their loved ones when they returned from their long voyages. Create a valentine of your own to give to someone special.



Students learn the power of block-and-tackle on the Pier. Photo: NPS.

MUSIC

Music of the Sea for Kids

Saturdays, January 15, February 19 and March 19, 2PM. Aboard Balclutha at Hyde Street Pier. Vessel admission.

History comes alive in this special program where the songs are geared for younger ears and chosen especially for fun.

SAN FRANCISCO OCEAN FILM FESTIVAL FAMILY DAY

Calling all ocean a-fishy-onados! Join us in our Visitor Center on Saturday, January 29th for a day of ocean-related films and maritime crafts just for kids. Then head on over to the Hyde Street Pier to visit the historic ships and join in on some shipboard fun. Our family day is part of the second

annual San Francisco Ocean Film Festival, January 29 - 30 at Fort Mason's Cowell Theater. For more information, visit the festival web site <http://oceanfilm-fest.org>.

JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM

Explore the park's historic ships and earn your Junior Ranger badge! By completing the activities listed on a special worksheet you will learn about

seafaring history and will become a steward of the national parks. (A steward is one who takes care of parks.) Worksheets are available at the Visitor Center, Pier ticket booth and Maritime Museum. Good luck and have lots of fun!

FAMILY ACTIVITY DITTY BAGS

Grab a rope handle and explore the Museum on this fun group "voyage." Navigate through the exhibits (using a real compass), write a "radiogram," compose messages using signal flags and roleplay about life at sea with character cards. This free program is available at the museum desk.

More Park News

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

"HISTORY CORNER" SERIES

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park staff are working with the San Francisco Chronicle in Education (CIE) project to produce a series of fourteen articles on the maritime history of the San Francisco Bay Area. The program consists of the fun, in-paper feature "History Corner," a teachers guide, and delivery of the *Chronicle* to Bay Area classrooms. The kid-friendly "History Corner" (with topics like the gold rush, shipwrecks and clipper ships) will appear weekly in the Friday edition of the paper beginning on January 21, through April 22.

WHERE ARE THEY?

PAINTINGS BY THE PREMIER SAN FRANCISCO MARINE PAINTER, W.A. COULTER

The Coulter Exhibit Committee, of the Kahn Foundation, has retained a guest curator, Marcus DeChevrieux, curator of the Newport Beach Maritime Museum and the Richard Kelton Collection. To prepare for the first-ever retrospective exhibit of Coulter's work, the committee seeks to locate as much of his work as possible. If you know of any, please communicate with Linda Kahn, Chair of the Coulter Exhibit Committee at 415-346-0643 or lmkahn@mindspring.com.

