SONGS OF THE SEA BRING MARITIME HERITAGE TO YOUR EARS

Join PSMSHS on Nov. 5th | Ivar’s Salmon House, North Lake Union

Join PSMSHS member Wayne Palsson and the group Strikes A Bell at Ivar’s Salmon House on November 5 for a truly entertaining program featuring songs of the sea. Sea chanteys, forebitters, and ballads about the sea have been around for hundreds of years—Strikes A Bell literally sings history! You will hear classic work songs and songs of leisure and will learn about their uses and origins. But ships still sail, sailors still walk the decks, and new songs are still written about the sea. Come and hear some of these historical and contemporary sea songs and don’t be surprised if you are shanghaied to join in on the chorus.

Sea chanties were used as far back as the 1400’s and were common until the widespread use of steam ships began in the early 1900’s. The shanties helped synchronize sailors’ movements while doing tasks and served the social purpose of keeping one another entertained during toilsome work. As many chanties are call and response, the shantyman (or leader) was often known for his quick lyrical wit and piquant language. Sea chanties differ from sea songs in that they were formulated for keeping pace and are adaptable to the situation. Sea songs were used during recreational times and had less a tympanic structure.

Wayne Palsson has been singing chanteys and maritime songs up and down the West Coast for almost a decade, focusing on songs with rich tones reflecting the fishing and maritime trades. His own nautical experience on the...
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STRIKES A BELL

high seas and local waters helps to anchor his interpretations of traditional chanteys, new and local sea songs, and even a few overlooked classics by Gilbert and Sullivan. Wayne is the host of Northwest Seaport’s Chantey Sing, a monthly sing-a-long that continues a decades-old tradition of maritime music in Seattle and the Pacific Northwest. He has appeared in Northwest Folklife Festivals and Tacoma’s First Nights, participated in many of the chantey camps in the region, hosts the annual Chantey Sings at the Port Townsend Wooden Boat Festival, and produces maritime concerts.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2014

We would like to thank the current members listed below who renewed their memberships in September.

Commodore Level
Richard Shrewsbury
Ken Greff
Tom & Karen Plucinski
Michael Repass
David Shields
John Trail
Boatswain Level
Bill Baker

GREET THE SEASON - NOVEMBER 29TH!

The Saturday after Thanksgiving, ditch the shopping crowds and come to Lake Union Park to celebrate the coming holiday season. MOHAI, The Center for Wooden Boats, and the Historic Ships Wharf will be filled with festive music and family-friendly crafts and activities all day. In the evening, catch the launch of the Argosy Christmas Ship Festival!

As winter descends on our city, we are especially mindful of the dangers and loneliness seafarers face during what is intended to be a festive time. Join PSMHS in the McCurdy Family Maritime Gallery at MOHAI and help us decorate ditty bags for sailors who cannot be with their families for the holidays. The decorated bags will be filled with necessities, gifts and goodies by the Catholic Seafarers’ Center and delivered in large batches to officers on the ships for distribution to the crew. Sailors are always very glad to receive these wonderful presents.

FREE FIRST THURSDAYS

The first Thursday of every month is a day of free entry into many museums around Seattle, including the Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI). In addition to free entry, there are special programs and activities throughout the museum. PSMHS happily joins the fun by providing maritime-themed crafts and games for visitors to enjoy. Below are some pictures of our activities and the visitors, young and old alike, participating in them! Please contact Alicia Barnes at admin@pugetmaritime.org if you are interested in volunteering to help with the kids and crafts!

Pictured: Sketch Your Periscope View; Good Fish, Bad Fish; Make a Medallion; Make a Sailor’s Dixie Cap; Viking Longships; and Pirate Masks and Tattoos.

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PSMHS member Wayne Palsson & group member of Strikes A Bell