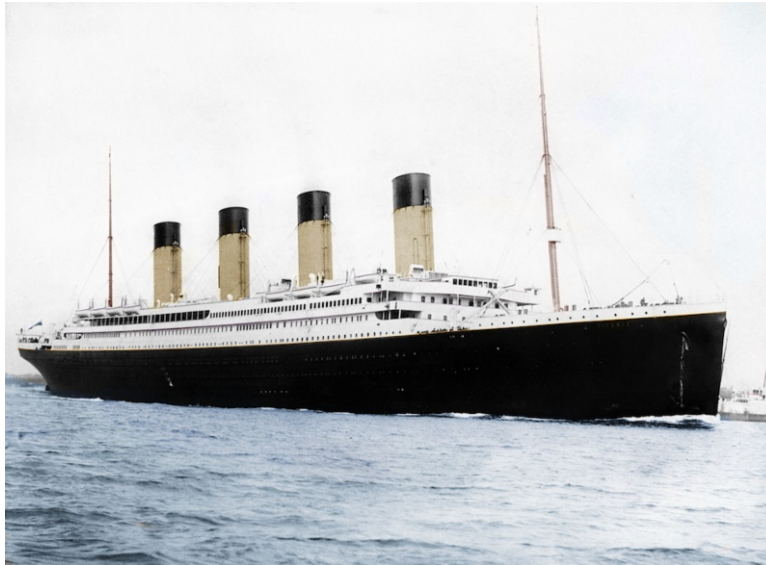




**Houston
Maritime
Museum**

THE ANCHOR

APRIL 2017 | NEWSLETTER OF THE HOUSTON MARITIME MUSEUM



105 YEARS AGO...

The *Titanic* might be the world's most famous ship, and has been the subject of countless books, films, and documentaries. The ocean liner reached mythical status stemming from the claims of it being "unsinkable" but following her loss on April 15, 1912, *Titanic* continues to captivate mind today. Unsolved mysteries have surrounded the legend of *Titanic* and it was not until after her rediscovery in 1985 that some of these questions have been answered, leaving more yet to be resolved.

Shipbuilder Harland and Wolff was contracted by White Star Line to build the three largest ocean-liners of the time. The *Olympic*, *Titanic*, and *Britannic* were luxury hotels for the rich but the vast majority of the ship's passengers would be in third class, where immigrants from Europe sought a better life in America.

The three ships, being built simultaneously, required 9 million rivets to finish their construction. This led to Harland and Wolff cutting corners in metal quality and skilled labor. The prevailing theory following *Titanic's* sinking was that these weak rivets were also improperly installed, and the iceberg cut through the ship's hull with ease.

Forty-eight rivets have been recovered from the wreck of *Titanic* and have been the subject of many tests and debates. Studies of the iron's imperfections concluded the rivets were brittle and prone to breaking, potentially leading to more damage than necessary.

The moments leading up to the disaster have been the focus of intense study. *Titanic* had received ice warnings from passing ships but her speed and course remained unchanged. Just before midnight, lookouts spotted an iceberg in front of the ocean liner but the distance, one mile, proved too close to turn in time. A modern theory is that the cold night air created an atmospheric effect called "Fata Morgana". This form of mirage creates a false horizon due to a layer of cold air being trapped beneath warmer air. The trapped layer of air distorts the appearance of objects and the dark moonless night of April 14 could have easily hid icebergs until it was too late.

Eyewitness testimonies from *Titanic* crew gave rise to the theory that a coal bunker fire doomed the great ocean liner. These bunkers, places where coal was stored for the engines, were located below the waterline along the sides of the ship. Coal bunker No. 6 was located on the forward starboard side of the ship and a fire burned inside it throughout the ship's maiden voyage. However, by April 14, this fire had been extinguished and all coal removed from the bunker. Workers later testified that the steel hull was warped from the fire's intense heat. Some researchers theorize that this fire damage

weakened the hull and without it, *Titanic* could have survived the impact from the collision. However, most scholars believe this hull damage did not increase the iceberg's fatal destruction.

Regardless of the above theories, around 2:30 a.m. on April 15, 1912, the legendary ship disappeared from the surface for the last time. Modern estimates believe the ship took an additional 6 to 10 minutes to travel the 2.37 miles to her final resting place on the ocean floor.



HELP HMM STAY ON COURSE!

Please consider supporting HMM on our voyage to keep Houston's maritime heritage alive! There are many ways that you can give to HMM:

- [Join or Renew](#) your personal membership in one of four easy steps!
- [Donate](#) a one-time or recurring gift to our Annual Fund!
- Become a [Corporate Member](#) and promote the advancement of Houston's maritime culture, commerce, and community!
- Sponsor upcoming events and programs!
- Give back while you shop on Amazon by shopping at smile.amazon.com!
- Join our [Volunteer Crew](#) and give back to your community!

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MEET OUR DOCENTS

Laurence Shallenberger - Wednesday Docent

Laurence Shallenberger's life-long interest in the sea, boats and airplanes lead him to the museum. Following military service and a long career with Exxon, Laurence docked at the maritime museum. Since joining the crew nine years ago, Laurence has become one of our most sought after docents. His knowledge and enthusiasm for the maritime stories at HMM are a real treat to every visitor!



How did you become involved with the Houston Maritime Museum? I can't remember how I found the Houston Maritime Museum, but I came by one day for a tour. This was when Jim (our founder) was still here and I got my tour from him. He was just fascinating, full of stories and a lifetime of maritime experience. In 2008 I called the museum to see if they needed any volunteers, I began working on the library and the rest is history.

What is your favorite thing about being a docent? The people. I look forward to meeting interesting visitors and learning from them. I also enjoy the people who work at the museum. Throughout the years, it has been the people – both the visitors and staff – who have kept me coming back over the years.

What is your favorite model in the museum and why? That's tough, but I would say that one of my favorites is the USS *Arizona*. This is of course because of its historical significance. Also, the smaller a model is the more difficult it is for the modeler to build. That makes the museum's model of *Arizona* an impressive one.

If you could tell someone something about the museum in order to encourage them to visit, what

would it be? I would talk about the importance of maritime history. It is the foundation of civilization. Maritime development has moved from the creation of the paddle to the sail – all thousands of years B.C. Look at the development of the clipper ship – the finest sailing ship designed by man – all the way up to the creation of modern naval ships. All of those major changes came about within a century, all because people wanted to get something somewhere faster. It's incredible.

Interested in Becoming a Docent?

We are looking for docents and volunteers with an interest in education, history and even maritime!

For more information on how you can become a docent, [click here!](#)



April Events @ HMM

Industry Lecture Series

Women Sustaining a Maritime Career

April 18, 2017 | 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

\$5 FOR ADULTS (12 AND UP) | FREE FOR MEMBERS AND CHILDREN UNDER 12

[REGISTRATION REQUIRED](#)



Dr. Joan Mileski is a tenured Professor in Maritime Administration and Marine Science and the Head of the Maritime Administration Department at Texas A&M University at Galveston (TAMUG). She holds a Ph.D. in International Management Studies from the University of Texas at Dallas, a M.S. in Taxation from Pace University and a B.B.A in Accounting from the University of Notre Dame. Mileski has been awarded several grants including those awarded by the US and Texas Department of Transportation, has teaching and international research awards, and publishes in Marine Policy, Maritime Policy, and Management. She was also a visiting Professor at the World Maritime University and past President of the Women in the Academy of International Business.

[Learn more](#)

Women are an integral part of the maritime industry but often face challenges. This engaging presentation will outline factors and practices that help female maritime executives succeed and remain in the industry. These factors encompass compensation, lifestyle requirements, and intrinsic career rewards and are generalizable to all women executives. The "WARS" model proposed here of wealth, appreciation, risk, and sacrifice reconciles the needs of maritime women. This model is tested through a survey of the Women's International Shipping and Trading Association members. We find that equitable and sufficient pay, mentoring and sponsorship, and a sustainable work week provide the female maritime professional with resources to overcome some of the unique challenges for women in this industry.



Family Days @ HMM

The Age of Ocean Liners

April 29, 2017 | 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

FREE ADMISSION ALL DAY

Imagine traveling across the ocean in a luxury hotel and you will know how it was meant to be traveling aboard an ocean liner. Come by the Houston Maritime Museum to explore the tragic story of one of the most well-known ocean liners in history and learn how the ocean liner industry gave way to another popular form of travel.

Recommended Ages: 5 - 12

[Learn more](#)

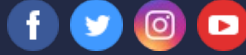
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Houston Maritime Museum | 713.666.1910 | www.HoustonMaritime.org

STAY CONNECTED



Your copy should address 3 key questions: Who am I writing for? (Audience) Why should they care? (Benefit) What do I want them to do here? (Call-to-Action).

Create a great offer by adding words like "free" "personalized" "complimentary" or "customized." A sense of urgency often helps readers take an action, so think about inserting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining!"