The Greening of the Park

The National Park Service serves as the steward for some of our country’s finest natural and cultural resources. As caretakers, the parks are inspired to reduce, reuse and recycle. On a daily basis, San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park is fostering sustainability and getting greener.

The next time you walk out on Hyde Street Pier, look up at the roof of the Small Boat Shop. You will see a small array of solar panels (photo, top, left). This photovoltaic system is providing most of the lighting needs for the boat shop, shipwright shop, and ranger office. The system generates about 900 kilowatt hours monthly, reducing the electric bill by $1,000 a year. Because these kilowatts are generated by solar power, the park is helping to reduce the release of carbon dioxide, a common greenhouse gas, into the atmosphere.

As you step aboard the Eureka ferryboat car deck it may look dark, but your movements will trigger a motion sensor, turning on lights as needed immediately brightening your way. About eight years ago, park maintenance employees began installing motion sensors, twist timers on restroom lights, and replacing incandescent bulbs with energy saving and longer lasting compact fluorescents.

By replacing incandescent bulbs with longer lasting, lower watt, compact fluorescents in offices, public spaces, on the pier, and in the ships, the park has garnered significant savings. The compact fluorescent bulbs in the floodlights that illuminate the Hyde Street Pier have lasted for eight years!

Energy costs are soaring. By becoming more energy efficient, the park has reduced its electrical energy consumption by 60% over the last five years. On Hyde Street Pier alone this has meant a savings of $22,000 per year.

As you sit on a bench in Aquatic Park, admiring the view, the gardener might be mowing the lawn. Take a deep breath and suck in the diesel exhaust–no wait, what’s that smell, vegetable oil? Yes, the new park mower runs on B100, a 100% vegetable-based diesel fuel (photo, top, right).

You might see maintenance employees hauling garbage and tools in small utility vehicles. Until last year, the park used gasoline-powered vehicles; we have now switched to an all electric-powered fleet.

Maintaining historic ships and buildings requires the use of paints, solvents, and cleaning products. A recent painting project used 55 gallons of low VOC (volatile organic compounds) paint. Paints release low levels of toxins into the air. Low VOC paints contain fewer petroleum-based solvents and give off fewer harmful emissions.

Over the last year, employees have worked to reduce the amount of hazardous materials stored in the park. Through their efforts, the park inventory of paints, varnishes, thinners, parts cleaners, greases and adhesives has been cut in half.

Office recycling bins allow employees to routinely recycle paper, bottles, cans, and batteries and green bins on Hyde Street Pier make it convenient for visitors to recycle bottles and cans. The park uses a techno-trash can to recycle “e (electronic) waste” including floppy discs, CDs, DVDs, cell phones, and cables.

An overnight education program for children on Balclutha includes the preparation of three meals. All the food waste is composted through the San Francisco City recycling program. During your visit, we hope you enjoy the park, take away new ideas about maritime history, and continue to practice the three Rs – Reduce, Reuse and Recycle – no matter where you are.

Go Green and Grey

At San Francisco Maritime we are working hard on getting greener. Our concentrated efforts began in 2005 when we held a two day workshop that included NPS and EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) employees, our cooperating association, park partners, City of San Francisco environmental workers, and neighbors.

Out of that workshop we developed a foundation and plan for the park to move toward using alternative energy sources, green materials and products, reducing the release of toxic chemicals into the environment, increasing recycling, reducing the amount of hazardous materials stored in the park, and providing information about sustainability to our visitors.

Our job is by no means accomplished but the front page article details some of our successes.

National Park Service employees are sometimes referred to as those that wear the green and grey, referring to the green trousers and grey shirt that are part of the uniform. For many people the green reminds them of the color of forests. Increasingly that green also signifies the commitment of the National Park Service in taking a leadership role in promoting sustainability.

Kate Richardson
Superintendent

1 The Greening of the Park
On a daily basis, San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park is fostering sustainability and getting greener.

2 Tug Hercules turns 100
Although long retired, and 100 years old, in her day, Hercules could pull anything that floated.

4 Of Flying Fish and Sailing Cats: Activity Page for Kids
The cook on Balclutha has a very interesting story to tell.

The Maritime News

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Steam Tug Hercules Turns 100

The ocean-going steam tug Hercules was built in 1907 for a job that is still performed today. Although long retired and approaching 100 years old, in her day, Hercules could tow anything that floated. On her maiden voyage from Camden, New Jersey to San Francisco, Hercules towed her sister tug Goliah and along the way weathered some severe storms. One storm produced waves that, as her captain described, had Hercules “snorting up on end.” As Hercules climbed up the huge waves she almost sat straight up on her stern.

Today, looking out from the end of Hyde Street Pier, one can still catch sight of ocean tugs pulling their charges in from the mighty Pacific. Companies such as Crowley Maritime, Foss Maritime, and Pacific Tugboat Service all operate ocean tugs that are still hauling ocean barges which last century occupied so much of Hercules’ time. Occasionally you’ll see a ship being towed into or leaving the San Francisco Bay.

Hercules towed barges, sailing vessels like the schooner C.A. Thayer (another of the ships at San Francisco Maritime), and even giants like the battleship USS California. Her namesake would have been proud of her contributions to a job still very much in demand. In their way, Hercules, and the crew that sailed her, proved that oceans do not have to be barriers. They can also be highways.

By Chris Edwards, Park Ranger
SF Maritime National Historical Park

Volunteers Enrich Park Programs

Volunteers at San Francisco Maritime help keep the park running by contributing their skills in a variety of ways. Many spend time helping to maintain the historic ships and small craft by sanding, painting, and scraping. The year 2006 was notable in that volunteers contributed an increased number of hours to the interpretation and educational activities of the park.

During 2006 a fine art exhibit of the beautiful work of the maritime artist William A. Coulter drew thousands of visitors to the park’s Visitor Center. The exhibit was the single largest collection of his art ever on public display. During the six-month long exhibit, dedicated volunteer docents provided a daily interpretive tour.

A hands-on interpretative tool of the park is the historic scow schooner Alma. Of the nearly 400 scow schooners that once sailed the Bay Alma remains the only operational vessel of her type. During her heyday she transported hay, lumber, bricks, salt, and fertilizer between the growing city of San Francisco and the agricultural Bay Delta area.

Volunteers assist with educational programs that take place onboard the Alma and the historic ship Balclutha. Upon boarding these floating classrooms, volunteers and students quickly gain a new appreciation for sea life as it was over a century ago.

Docents greeted visitors at the Visitor Center information desk, on Hyde Street Pier, and provided tours of the historic ships. They also served as living history re-enactors transforming historic Hyde Street Pier to the year 1901.

The volunteer department hosted several corporate volunteer project days providing maintenance to the historic ships. Special thanks go to our park partners including the California State Automobile Association, The GAP, KOIT Broadcasting, Philip Morris USA, the California Department of Health, Hands-On Bay Area, and the Volunteer Centers of San Francisco and San Mateo Counties.

For more information call 415-556-1613 or email terry_dorman@nps.gov.

By Terry Dorman, Volunteer Coordinator
SF Maritime National Historical Park

Visitor Information

Dates and Hours of Operation
The Hyde Street Pier, located at Hyde and Jefferson Streets, is open 9:30am-5:00pm—last entry at 4:30pm (October 1-May 27), and 9:30am-5:30pm—last entry at 5pm (Memorial Day-September 30).

The Maritime Museum (Aquatic Park Bathhouse Building), is located on Beach Street at the foot of Polk Street. The museum was closed in July 2006 for major renovation work. For more information, call the Visitor Center, 415-447-5000.

The Visitor Center, located at the corner of Hyde and Jefferson Streets, is open 9:30am-5:00pm (October 1-May 27) and 9:30am-7:00pm (Memorial Day-September 30).

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 by appointment, Monday through Friday from 1:00pm-4:00pm, call 415-561-7030.

No-Fee Areas
Visitor Center, Hyde Street Pier, Aquatic Park Historic District and the Maritime Library (Fort Mason Center).
Boarding Pass (Entrance Fee For Historic Vessels): $5.00
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
USS Pampanito: 415-775-1943
Maritime Store: 415-775-2665
Maritime Library: 415-561-7030

Maritime News
EXHIBIT: AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THE MARITIME TRADES
Daily, throughout February. On Hyde Street Pier.
Photo exhibit about the contributions of African Americans in maritime industries.

PROGRAMS

CALLING A SEAM
Sundays, December 17 and January 14.
Noos. Aboard Balclutha at Hyde Street Pier. Vessel admission.

WATERFRONT WORKING WOMEN
Saturdays, open throughout the fall.

THE OCEAN: BARRIER OR HIGHWAY?
Sundays, December 10 and January 14 at 2pm.
Meet at the Visitor Center. Vessel admission.

THE RUSSIAN NAVY VISITS SAN FRANCISCO
Saturday, January 13, 6pm. In the Maritime Library, Building E, Fort Mason Center.
Reservations: 415-561-7171 or email peter_kasim@nps.gov.

HOLIDAY EVENT

CHRISTMAS AT SEA
Saturday, December 9, 3-00pm. Aboard the historic vessels at Hyde Street Pier. Vessel admission (under 16 free). For information call 415-447-5000.
Bringing the whole family down to Hyde Street Pier for an old fashioned holiday. Music, refreshments, ornament-making and a visit from Santa (by boat) will be part of the fun from 3:00pm to 4:45pm. Then, beginning at 6:30pm, the park's costumed Living History players will present a special holiday program aboard the ships. Reservations required for the 6pm program.

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

CHANTEYS: THE AFRICAN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN CONNECTION
Saturday, February 24, 1pm. Aboard Balclutha at Hyde Street Pier.
Vessel admission.
Join Park Ranger Peter Kasim and Park Volunteer Richard Adrianowicz in a program of African American and Caribbean folk music and work songs of sailors and dock workers. The chanteys to these chanteys are easy to sing and participants are encouraged to sing along.

AFRICAN AMERICANS AND WORLD WAR II LIBERTY SHIPS
Sundays, February 14 and 18, 2pm. In the Visitor Center theater. No fee.
A side program detailing the contributions of African Americans to the construction and operation of Liberty Ships during World War II.

MUSIC

CHANTEY SING
Saturday, December 2, Sunday 16, 1pm, and February 3, 7-8pm. No fee. Aboard the historic vessel Balclutha at Hyde Street Pier.
Reservations required: call 415-561-7171 or email peter_kasim@nps.gov.
Sign traditional working songs aboard a historic floating vessel. Bring a mug for hot cider served from the ship's galley.

MUSIC OF THE SEA FOR KIDS
Saturdays, December 16, January 20 and February 17, 2pm. Aboard Balclutha at Hyde Street Pier.
Vessel admission (under 16 free).
History comes alive for kids in this special program, where the songs are geared for younger ears and chosen especially for fun.

AFRICAN AMERICANS AND WORLD WAR II

CROSSING THE LINE — POLLYWOGS TO SHELLBACKS
Saturday, February 3, 2pm. In the Maritime Library, Building E, Fort Mason Center. Reservations: 415-561-7040. No charge; however, advance reservations are required. Bring a bag lunch and meet with us over to our small craft warehouse in Alameda. We'll tour the collection of nearly 100 local historic boats, discussing interesting elements of their history, design and construction.

Volunteers

Would you like to get involved as a volunteer?
At San Francisco Maritime, our volunteers provide a variety of services that support the museum exhibit shop, ships division, small boat shop, maritime library, historic documents department and interpretation and education. We have the perfect challenge for you! Call the Volunteer Office at 415-556-1615, or visit www.nps.gov/sanm or the Visitor Center.

Aboard the historic vessels at Hyde Street Pier. Vessel admission.
See the Holiday Event description.

IN THE LIBRARY

THE RUSSIAN NAVY VISITS SAN FRANCISCO
Saturday, January 13, 6pm. In the Maritime Library, Building E, Fort Mason Center.
Reservations: 415-561-7040.

FREE VEGETARIAN LUNCH
Meet at the gangway.
Vessel admission.
Take a special tour of the ferryboat Eureka's engine room and get a close-up look at what makes a steam ferry run.

HERCULES ENGINEERING TOUR
Sundays, December 3 and January 7 at 2pm. Meet at the gangway on the Pier. Vessel admission. Tour includes climbing moderately steep ladders and entering cramped space.
Explore the major engineering spaces and learn about steam engine technology and its effects on the working environment of the marine steam engineer.

THE OCEAN: BARRIER OR HIGHWAY?
Sundays, December 10 and January 14 at 2pm. Meet at the Visitor Center.
Was the ocean a barrier or a highway for the vessels Balclutha, Thayer and Hercules? Join a ranger for a thirty minute slide presentation to examine this question.

MARITIME HEROICS IN THE 1906 EARTHQUAKE AND FIRE
Saturday, December 2, January 27 and February 24, 2pm. In the Visitor Center theater. San Francisco burned, sailors evacuated thousands of residents forced to flee to the shores of San Francisco Bay (at the present site of the park). Join a ranger on a slide presentation about these heroic efforts.

SMALL CRAFT ON HYDE STREET PIER
Saturday, December 30 and Sunday, February 4, 2-00pm. Meet at the Small Boat Shop. No fee.
Join a Park Ranger for a special tour of the unique collection of small craft berthed on Hyde Street Pier's floating docks.

SMALL CRAFT COLLECTION TOUR
Saturday, January 29, 9:30am-2:30pm. Meet at the Small Boat Shop. No fee. Reservations required; call the Boat Shop at 415-556-4031.
Bring a bag lunch and ride with us over to our small craft warehouse in Alameda. We’ll tour the collection of nearly 100 local historic boats, discussing interesting elements of their history, design and construction.

MODELMAKING

MODELERS’ WORKSHOP
Saturdays, open throughout the fall, beginning at 9:30am. On the car deck of the Eureka. Vessel admission.
The Hyde Street Pier Model Shipwrights will be conducting ship model building classes in the model shop on Eureka every Saturday. Classes begin at 9:30am and continue into the afternoon. Anyone interested in building ship models is invited to participate. Each participant will select and obtain a model and receive individual instruction during each stage of construction. Modelmaster Paul Reck, who has built models on display in the Visitor Center and St. Francis Yacht Club, will be the primary instructor. Please drop by any Saturday morning. For information, contact Leo Kane at kanebulota@sheglobal.net or Paul Reck at stoddardNH@comcast.net.

COSTUMED LIVING HISTORY

A DAY IN THE LIFE: 1901
Saturday, December 9, 9-00am-9:00pm. Aboard the historic vessels at Hyde Street Pier. Vessel admission.
See the Holiday Event description.

IN THE LIBRARY

THE RUSSIAN NAVY VISITS SAN FRANCISCO
Saturday, January 13, 6pm. In the Maritime Library, Building E, Fort Mason Center.
Reservations: 415-561-7040.
During the Civil War, Russia alone of the great European states gave no support to the Confederacy. Doctor C. Douglas Froll will tell the story of the Russian Navy’s surprise visit to San Francisco in 1863, lending support to the Union in the face of Confederate raids in the Pacific and influencing the course of events by its presence.

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FILM FESTIVAL

SAN FRANCISCO OCEAN FILM FESTIVAL
Friday and Saturday, January 14 and 15.
Coquel Theater, Fort Mason Center.
The Festival features independent film works that reveal the beauty, power and mysteries of our oceans. Catch the fourth wave of the Ocean Film Festival. In partnership with San Francisco Maritime NHP. For details go to www.oceanfilmfest.org.

AGE OF SAIL

The San Francisco Maritime National Park Association's Age of Sail education program is booking programs for the school year. These programs offer hands-on, student-centered learning, and take place aboard the park's historic vessels at Hyde Street Pier. Programs range in cost from $25 to $64 per student. For information call Lucas Lineback at 415-567-4635, ageofsail@maritime.org or www.mari
tieme.org/nmnapc.

WWII SUBMARINE USS PAMPANO
Open daily. At Pier 45, Fisherman's Wharf.
Fee: adults, $9; $6-12, $4; under free with adult; over 62, $5; active duty military, $4; family ticket, $20. Information: 415-775-1943.
The Balao-class USS Pampano (SS-383), a museum and memorial owned and 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.

Sign Aboard at the Park Association
You can show your support for the Park through membership in the San Francisco Maritime Park Association, our non-profit partner organization. Your membership assists with preservation and education projects for Park ships and collections. Membership comes with special benefits at each level, including the Sea Letter magazine, free park admission, and Maritime Store discounts. For more information, call Volunteer Services at 415-561-6662 x12, or go to www.marinetime.org.
Fun and Education for Younger Sailors

Of Flying Fish and Sailing Cats

Over 110 years ago Joseph Knight was a cook on the full-rigged ship Balclutha. He loved to tell stories about shipboard life, but he liked to have a little fun with his listeners by mentioning objects in his stories that couldn’t possibly have existed 110 years ago. Use your imagination and pretend Joseph Knight could see into the future. Read the story below and see if you can identify the five things that do not belong. Circle the words when you find them.

One calm day in the spring of 1890, we were several days out of San Francisco and I was thinking about dinner . . . well, actually I was thinking about dessert. There were only a few Oreo cookies left so I set about making a not-very-nice comment about my planned treat. Kansas, the cook, sitting outside the galley. Kansas is a member of the park’s costumed living history group.

Beef preserved in salt and hard tack were typical foods eaten by sailors. What? No cheerios?

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Beef preserved in salt and hard tack were typical foods eaten by sailors. What? No cheerios?

That afternoon, he went fishing, substituting a strip of canvas for bait. I guess the fish weren’t fooled because an hour later none of them had caught any fish. Discouraged, they lay around on the deck, watching television.

Stretch, the cat, was laying about as well but she had one eye open, ever alert. Suddenly, a school of flying fish leapt out of the water not ten feet from where the sailors were sitting. The sailors gasped in despair as they realized the fresh food they wanted was so close yet seemingly impossible to catch. Then one of those fish misjudged its leap and soared over the side of the ship. The cat moved so quickly, the sailors didn’t even have time to get up. She leapt upwards, snagging the fish right out of the air.

I heard complaints all the time that people didn’t have food delivered!

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