



News Release

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DOSSIN GREAT LAKES MUSEUM TO REMEMBER MARINERS LOST

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DETROIT — On Friday, November 10, the Dossin Great Lakes Museum and the Great Lakes Maritime Institute will commemorate the 40th anniversary of the loss of the Great Lakes freighter Daniel J. Morrell. Starting at 5:30 p.m., the evening events will bring home the message that those who sail the inland seas are sometimes placed in peril.

Tickets for this event are \$10 and will only be available at the door. For more information, call (586) 777-8300.

On November 29, 1966, while traveling on Lake Huron on its last voyage of the shipping season, the 60-year old freighter Daniel J. Morrell was caught in a terrible storm, broke in two and sank beneath the lake's icy waters, claiming 28 of its 29 officers and crew members. Amazingly, one crew member, Dennis Hale, endured the tragedy, bobbing on a pontoon-style life raft for 36 hours until he was sighted and rescued by a Coast Guard helicopter.

The schedule of events is as follows:

5:30 p.m -- 29 illuminated lanterns will be placed around the anchor of the S.S. Edmund Fitzgerald that rests in the yard of the Dossin Museum on Belle Isle.

6 p.m. -- Great Lakes balladeer Lee Murdock presents a concert in DeRoy Hall.

6:55 p.m. -- The names of the lost crew members will be read amid the tolling of ship bells.

7:05 p.m. -- A wreath will be taken to the edge of the Detroit River.

7:10 p.m. -- The wreath will be cast into the river.

7:15 p.m. -- Dennis Hale tells his tale of surviving the sinking of the Daniel J. Morrell on November 29, 1966.

8 p.m. -- Rev. Ingalls Jr. offers a prayer for all the lost mariners of the Lakes.

8:15 p.m. -- Lee Murdock performs the Gordon Lightfoot classic "Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald."

The Dossin Great Lakes Museum is located at 100 Strand Drive on Belle Isle. Exhibits include *City on the Straits*, which chronicles three centuries of change on the Detroit River, and *Working the Inland Seas*, which shares the often-untold stories of black sailors on the Great Lakes. Permanent attractions at the Museum also include the S.S. William Clay Ford Pilot House, the beautiful Gothic Room from the City of Detroit III, and the anchor from the S.S. Edmund Fitzgerald. For more information, call (313) 833-1805 or visit www.detroithistorical.org.