DOSSIN GREAT LAKES MUSEUM TO OBSERVE THE 36TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SINKING OF THE EDMUND FITZGERALD AT ITS ANNUAL LOST MARINERS REMEMBRANCE ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10th

Also observing the 150TH anniversary of the loss of the Key Stone State

DETROIT -- The Detroit Historical Society’s Dossin Maritime Group hosts its annual remembrance for sailors lost on our inland seas Thursday, November 10 at 6 p.m. at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum.

The date marks the 36th Anniversary of the loss of the Edmund Fitzgerald in the waters of Lake Superior. Elmer Dunn, a member of the crew of the freighter William Clay Ford – which left safe harbor that fateful night to search for any survivors of the Fitz, is scheduled to be on hand for the event.

This year’s Lost Mariners Remembrance will also focus on the Key Stone State, once the second largest passenger vessel on the Great Lakes. Marine artist and historian Robert McGreevy will present the story of the Key Stone State, which went down with its entire crew in Lake Huron exactly 150 years ago on November 10, 1861 on its way to be fitted out for Civil War service.

The evening’s activities begin with a lantern vigil at the Edmund Fitzgerald anchor, followed by a performance by Great Lakes balladeer Lee Murdock, a color guard escort of a memorial wreath to the Detroit River for receipt by an honor flotilla of Great Lakes vessels, and McGreevy’s program on the Key Stone State. Nineteen international maritime agencies are participating in this year’s event.

Admission is $5 for Society/Dossin Maritime Group members, $10 for guests and $25 for a family of up to six people.

For more information or reservations, call (313) 833-1801 or visit our website at
www.detroithistorical.org. In addition, the event will be made available as a live webcast at www.detroithistorical.org for those unable to attend.

The schedule of events is as follows:

- **6 p.m.** – A lantern ceremony at the *Edmund Fitzgerald* anchor outside the museum remembers her crew on the 36th anniversary of the ship’s sinking.
- **6:15 p.m.** – Lee Murdock performs as guests enter the museum.
- **7:00 p.m.** – Assembly of the Lost Mariners honor guard, including members of the United States Coast Guard, Canadian Coast Guard, International Shipmasters Lodge #7, Apostleship of the Sea – Port of Detroit, Lake Carriers Association, Mariners Church of Detroit, Ontario Provincial Police – Commissioner’s Pipe and Drums, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Royal Canadian Armored Corps, and the U.S. Navy – Bugles Across America. The honor guard will be escorted by bagpipers and a bugler to the river’s edge with the Lost Mariners memorial wreath.
- **7:02 p.m.** – Reading of the lost crew roster of the *Key Stone State* by Kathy McGraw of the Dossin Maritime Group with a bell toll for each name.
- **7:04 p.m.** – Out on the Detroit River, a U.S. Coast Guard helicopter escorts and lights up a flotilla of U.S. and Canadian vessels as they approach the Museum to receive the wreath. The ships include a 41-foot U.S. Coast Guard utility boat with uniformed crew at attention on deck, the Canadian Coast Guard cutter *Cape Dundas*, an Ontario Provincial Police Marine Division service boat, the Detroit Fire Department’s fire boat *Curtis Randolph* and the mail boat *J.W. Westcott*.
- **7:06 p.m.** – The Reverend Richard Ingalls, Jr., rector of Mariners’ Church, offers a prayer to dedicate the memorial wreath, followed by Fr. Russell Kohler, pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Corktown and chaplain of the Port of Detroit, with a prayer for the lost mariners.
- **7:10 p.m.** – The wreath honoring those lost on the Great Lakes is laid out in the river with a salute of all water cannons by the Detroit Fire Department’s *Curtis Randolph*. Overhead, a helicopter from the Selfridge Air National
Guard base drops flares and lights the scene. In addition, there will be a playing of “Taps” on the river with a Canadian echo of “Last Post.”

- **7:20 p.m.** – Presentation by guest speaker, Robert McGreevy, on the story of the *Key Stone State*.

- **8:00 p.m.** – The event concludes with a memorial prayer and benediction by Rev. Ingalls, followed by Lee Murdock’s rendition of “*Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald*” and a video collage of the ship’s history.

Special thanks to the **Canadian Shipowners Association** and the **Lake Carriers Association** for sponsoring the event.

The Dossin Great Lakes Museum, located at 100 Strand Drive on Belle Isle, is open Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free at the Museum, however, donations are welcome. Permanent exhibits include the *Miss Pepsi* 1950s championship hydroplane, a bow anchor from the *Edmund Fitzgerald*, the pilothouse from the Great Lakes freighter *S.S. William Clay Ford*, and one of the largest known collections of scale model ships in the world. For more information, call **(313) 833-5538** or visit [www.detroithistorical.org](http://www.detroithistorical.org).

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