Summer Salute to Heroes

Christine Goonan, Membership Manager

The Intrepid Museum’s mission is to honor our heroes, educate the public and inspire our youth, and our Summer Salute to Heroes programs did just that!

We kicked off the summer with our annual Fleet Week celebration and Memorial Day ceremony. More than 200,000 people visited the Museum complex over the course of the six-day celebration.

June marked the debut of an exciting Summer Movie Series. On the third Friday of each summer month, a film relating to sea, air or space was shown just after sundown on our Flight Deck. We saluted and honored our Firefighters, U.S. Coast Guard, First Responders and Police during appreciation weekends over the months of July and August, and on August 16 we celebrated the 66th Anniversary of the commissioning of the USS Intrepid with special educational demonstrations and displays.

On September 20, the Intrepid hosted the fourth annual “Hometown Heroes Day,” which featured the presentation of awards to local residents who have performed outstanding community service.

Coming up in November, the commissioning of the USS New York, LPD-21, will take place at the Intrepid Museum. The ship was named New York after the great state and incorporates in its bow roughly 7.5 tons of steel salvaged from the World Trade Center. The New York is the fifth ship in the LPD 17 San Antonio class of amphibious transport dock ships. Her crew will consist of 360 sailors, three marines and a Commanding Officer. Visit our web site for the most up-to-date information on the USS New York.

November 8 marks the one-year anniversary of the Intrepid Museum’s reopening, and we hope that you will come back to see her and join us in celebrating Veterans Day on November 11.

The winners in the four Hometown Hero Awards categories:

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD
For someone who, on a volunteer basis, has performed outstanding community service within the community in which he or she lives.
Winner: Emily Engel – Plainview, NY
Emily worked on developing the Trauma Response Team within the C.W. Post’s Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology.

SERVICE PERSON AWARD
For any community serviceperson (i.e. Police, Firefighter, EMS, etc.) who has consistently gone above and beyond the call of duty to help their local community.
Winner: Richard Ory – Groton, CT
First Class Aviation Warfare/Naval Air Crewman Ory has more than 12 years of active service to the Navy and is assigned to the Naval Health Clinic at Subase New London as substance abuse rehabilitation counselor.

YOUTH COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD
For a student, 17 years of age or younger, who made an outstanding contribution to the community through volunteerism or acts of kindness or bravery.
Winner: Edward Maddalena – Brooklyn, NY
Edward is a 16-year-old High School Senior and Honor Student that organized an Environmental Awareness Fair held May 9, 2009.

MENTOR AWARD
For someone who has done an outstanding job mentoring/teaching/coaching youth in the community.
Winner: Stephen Ritz – Bronx, NY
Stephen served as an educator in South Bronx for 12 years.

Learn more about the winners at www.intrepidmuseum.org
Dear Member,

It was a wonderful and busy summer here at Intrepid, which included an array of activities and events, and planning for a fun-filled fall.

We hosted Firefighter, Police, EMT and Coast Guard appreciation weekends, National Aviation Day and a Youth Leadership Conference featuring astronaut Mike Massimino. Despite some rainy weather, we managed to complete our first summer movie series, which was attended by at-capacity crowds. It was such a huge success that we look forward to bringing it to you again next summer. In addition, I do hope that those of you that attended the Member Overnight on August 15 had a great time.

Fall has arrived and with it a host of upcoming events. September 19 kicked off our Hometown Heroes weekend, honoring local residents who have performed outstanding community service. Coming up, Intrepid will bring you both Girl Scout Day, October 17, and Boy Scout Day, November 21.

Halloween promises to be very exciting this year, with a week-long celebration beginning Sunday, October 25, through Saturday, October 31, featuring a haunted walk, pumpkin patch and magic shows. Fright Night at the Museum will be held Friday, October 30, from 9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m., with proceeds benefitting the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund. Please visit our web site at www.intrepidmuseum.org for ticket information. Look for the next overnight on October 31 as well. Come in your Halloween best, as prizes go to the best costume. It will no doubt be spook-tacular!

Intrepid is especially proud and honored to have been chosen by the Navy to be the host site for the commissioning ceremony of the USS New York on Saturday, November 7. The New York is the fifth ship in the LPD 17 San Antonio class of amphibious transport dock ships, and incorporates 7.5 tons of World Trade Center Steel. It will be a very special event for Intrepid, New York City and all of us. Like so many other museums, Intrepid is a unique venue that attracts a variety of special events and while we are pleased to be the location for this event, we are not the host. Unfortunately, we were not afforded tickets for members, staff, volunteers or the public. We appreciate your understanding.

As part of our ongoing mission in Honoring our Heroes, we are pleased to bring you our annual Veterans Day Ceremony on Wednesday, November 11. Please join us in commemorating the sacrifices of our brave service men and women.

Enjoy the fall and remember to check our web site for the most up-to-date details on these exciting events and plans for the winter.

Best Wishes,

Susan Marenoff – Executive Director

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**December 15, 2009 to April 30, 2010**

**SNOOPY AS THE WORLD WAR I FLYING ACE**

This traveling exhibit includes 29 high-resolution iris prints of Schulz’s original designs for Snoopy as a World War I ace from the collection of the Charles M. Schulz Museum and Research Center in Santa Rosa, Calif. While Schulz was drawing scenes of Snoopy as a flying ace, USS Intrepid crew members were creating their own original artwork featuring the Peanuts gang. Peanuts characters were popular among the Intrepid’s crew, and numerous painted images of Charlie Brown and his friends survive on the ship’s walls. These original “sailor art” cartoons will be on display in conjunction with the showing of “Snoopy as the World War I Flying Ace.”

A Program of ExhibitsUSA, a national division of Mid-America Arts Alliance and The National Endowment for the Arts.

**January 16 to June 30, 2010**

**MISSION TO MARS**

The Intrepid Museum has partnered with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., and NASA to present an exhibition featuring a full-scale model of the Mars Rover. This exhibition will address the role of the USS Intrepid in the American space program and will include a number of exciting museum programs featuring scientists and engineers that are working on the next generation of Mars Rovers.
In particular, I am struck by the ability of those objects to tell the story of this ship, of the men that served aboard her over the course of her three decades of service and of the potential for growing these collections so that the story of the USS Intrepid may be shared with audiences far into the future.

I may be a little biased - I really love museum collections. Although trained as a curator, in the nearly 30 years of my professional museum career I have had the good fortune to be, at various times, responsible for museum education, visitor services, volunteers, facilities management, tourism and even a museum store. But I have always found museum collections extraordinarily compelling. There’s just something about these objects that so directly connects us with our past, both the good... and the bad. These objects give us a context and a focus for understanding where we’ve come from and how we got to be the people that we are. I like to think that, through these objects and this greater understanding of our past, we might be able to make decisions that will help us become who we would like to be in the future.

The thing that I find most fascinating about these objects is that, more often than not, the object itself is meaningless. It’s just a thing – an article of clothing, a piece of glass, a tool, a piece of paper. Without context, most objects are worth not much more than their weight as scrap, but once we attach context and meaning to these objects, we turn them into things of significance, sometimes even reverence. A stained and torn pair of pants that looks more like a rag than clothing becomes almost sacred once we understand that those pants once belonged to Abraham Lincoln. A broken-down chair that looks like something picked up in any junk shop across America transforms into an object of fascination when we learn that it belonged to John Dillinger.

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Dear Intrepid Museum Members,

Since I introduced myself and the recently developed Department of Institutional Advancement here at the Museum, I’ve had the pleasure of meeting some of you in person, and look forward to meeting more members in the future. You are the backbone of our institution and the stories of why you became members continue to inspire me. In fact, since the Museum’s return, there have been many stories that inspire.

When I first started working here, I came across a family of three generations while crossing the Hangar Deck – Grandfather, Father, Son. This family walked up to a former crewmember that was in a wheelchair, identifiable by his “scrambled egg” USS Intrepid cap, and asked him if he served on this ship. When he responded that he had, all three members of the family shook his hand and thanked him with awe in their eyes. The youngest of the three, not more than seven years old, seemed the most honored to meet this hero. And even though this gentleman was in a wheelchair, the child still “looked up” at him with respect and reverence.

The articles you read about in this newsletter highlight the exciting and innovative educational programs and exhibits that the Museum hosts in honor of our nation’s heroes and the USS Intrepid’s role in American history. The continuation of these programs and exhibits are dependant upon philanthropic contributions to the Museum.

As the year comes to a close, I ask you to keep the Intrepid Sea, Air, and Space Museum in mind when planning your end-of-year philanthropic contributions. Making a donation is as simple as mailing in an additional check with your renewed membership dues, calling the Department of Institutional Advancement at 646-381-5272, or visiting our secure online donation page at www.intrepidmuseum.org/makeagift.aspx or visiting our secure online donation page at www.intrepidmuseum.org/makeagift.aspx.

Thank you!

Jennifer Becker,
Manager of Individual Giving

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“Fall” Into These Exciting Events

**OCTOBER 25 – 31 – HAUNTING ON THE HUDSON**
Boo! Visit our Haunted House, pumpkin patch and hay maze during our “spooktacular“ Halloween festival featuring a variety of seasonal fun.

**OCTOBER 31 – HALLOWEEN NIGHT OPERATION SLUMBER**
Sleep aboard the “Ghost Ship” and experience what it was like to serve on this aircraft carrier. Tour the “Fright” Deck by flashlight, “chow down” in the Mess Deck and take a ride through space in the XD Theater. Come “decked out” in your best Halloween costume for our costume contest! Available for the special members-only price of $99 per person. Contact Group Sales at groupsales@intrepidmuseum.org or call 646-381-5010 to reserve your space today.

**OCTOBER 31 – MEMBERS’ HALLOWEEN NIGHT**
Join us for holiday crafts and treats and an exclusive sneak preview at the new Snoopy exhibit that will be opening on December 15. More information to follow on this event.

**NOVEMBER 3 – SOSI – SCHOOL’S OUT SHIP’S IN**
Join us for our Holiday Camp full day drop-off sessions for students ages 6-13.

**NOVEMBER 11 – VETERANS DAY**
Honor our heroes, past and present, by joining us for our annual Veterans Day ceremony and inspiring activities.

**NOVEMBER 20 – 22 – NASA WEEKEND**
Join former and current astronauts at the Intrepid for displays and interactive demonstrations. Demonstrations presented by NASA. Please visit www.intrepidmuseum.org for more information.

**DECEMBER 5 – 6 – WINTER FESTIVAL WEEKEND**
Shake those winter blues! Visit Intrepid for this fun-filled festival that will include a snowman building contest, winter crafts and games.

**DECEMBER 13 – MEMBERS HOLIDAY PARTY**
Join us for holiday crafts and treats and an exclusive sneak preview at the new Snoopy exhibit that will be opening on December 15. More information to follow on this event.

**DECEMBER 15 – INTREPID INVESTIGATORS**
Join us for programs tailored to enhance family discovery. Free for Intrepid Museum members. Participants must sign up at least one week in advance. Contact our Education Programs Coordinator at 646-381-5163 or educationprograms@intrepidmuseum.org for more information.

**GIVE THE GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP**
Starting November 2, simplify your holiday shopping by giving an Intrepid Museum gift membership and save $10. Membership is a gift that keeps giving all year round. Contact the membership department at 646-381-5030 or email membership@intrepidmuseum.org.

Visit www.intrepidmuseum.org today.
Our summer 2009 programming proved to be a great hit for campers at Camp Intrepid, as well as at Camp G.O.A.L.S. (Greater Opportunities Advancing Leadership and Science) for Girls.

Leadership programs offer students a chance to explore everything from outer space to the music industry.

Over its eight weeks, Camp Intrepid was enjoyed by 183 campers ages 6-13 who, through creative and interactive activities at the Museum, became space explorers, inventors, aviators, marine scientists and historians. Each week campers made projects, explored areas of the ship, took rides on the Circle Line’s speed boat, “The Beast,” enjoyed hands-on sessions with the aircraft restoration team, and met with former crewmembers, volunteers and staff from the Exhibits department.

As the school year starts, the Education Department enthusiastically welcomes daily student tours and workshops about water, space, aviation, history and life at sea.

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Thanks to the generous support of the Motorola Foundation, the 35 seventh and eighth grade girls who joined Camp G.O.A.L.S. (Greater Opportunities Advancing Leadership and Science) for four weeks in July and August also explored the wonders of aviation, inventions, water and space. However, in addition to time spent at the Museum, G.O.A.L.S. campers went on several field trips to partnering New York science institutions such as JFK airport, Cradle of Aviation Museum, SONY Wonder Technology Lab, New York Restoration Project, South Street Seaport Museum and the New York City Center for Space Science Education. They also had the great opportunity to meet with local women aviators, professors from Columbia University and Vaughn College, the first female dean of NYIT’s School of Engineering, the director of education at the NYC Department of Environmental Protection, a naturalist for the Blue Ocean Institute and members of local astronomy clubs.

New educational partnerships with such local organizations as Solar One, Lower Eastside Ecology Center and Facing History and Ourselves, while continuing to work with New York City Outward Bound, CUNY and Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility.

Follows the school year calendar, our Education Team offers a holiday camp program known as SOSI (School’s Out, Ship’s In) on days when school is closed, whether for winter or spring breaks, holidays or Election Day. On the third Saturday of every month at 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., we lead Intrepid Investigators family programs at which you can meet other families, tour special parts of the ship and take home projects made during your visit. Topics from SOSI and Intrepid Investigators feature sea, air, space and life at sea, and special exhibitions. Discounts are available for Intrepid Museum Members.

Every weekend we also provide programs and demonstrations for family visitors at our Discovery Carts and at the Discovery Deck in the Exploreum. Join us for hands-on fun with ship artifacts and educational models of aircraft and space capsules, and at demonstrations about buoyancy, communication, flight, airplane art, space and Intrepid Jeopardy. These educational demonstrations are free with admission and topics vary every weekend. Please check our web site and at the Museum’s Information Desk for more information. We look forward to seeing you!
The E-1B Tracer Has Returned To The Display Line

Eric Boehm, Aircraft Restoration Manager

In the last issue, I promised to elaborate a bit more on the Grumman WF/E-1 Tracer and her history. It all started back in 1954 when the Navy decided to develop a carrier based airborne early warning aircraft . . .

. . . up until this time, the Navy relied on large ground-based aircraft like the Lockheed WV/EC-121, a military derivative of the Constellation airliner, for this mission. The basis of the Tracer airframe was the TF/C-1 Trader, a carrier onboard delivery aircraft, which was itself a derivative of the S2F/S-2 Tracker. Since the S-2 Tracker was known as S2F under the old Naval aircraft designation system, that airplane was nicknamed “Stoof” (S-two-F). The Tracer, with its distinctive radome, thus inherited the nickname “Stoof with a Roof.” I met a few former aircrew members and they called the Tracer “Willie Fudd,” referring to the pre-1962 designation of WF.

The large aerodynamic faring, or radome, over the wing carries a massive dish-type APS-82 radar system. The Tracer’s radar system had a search radius of some 250 miles. The other major external change consisted of a new tail unit with twin fins and rudders and a central fin that supports the trailing edge of the radome. The large radome would not allow the wings to fold conventionally like the Tracker or Trader, so Grumman had to revisit the folding geometry of its WWII aircraft like the Wildcat, Helcat and Avenger.

Entering service in February 1958, the Tracer would offer the commander of the Carrier Task Force an electronic “bird’s eye view” of the surrounding airspace, extending the task group’s eyes hundreds of miles over the horizon. Records show that a typical detachment was two aircraft, along with crews and other supporting personnel from a parent squadron, deployed on aircraft carriers operating overseas. This number would increase to four or five aircraft when the Intrepid was serving in the anti-submarine (CVS) capacity later in her career. The Tracer served aboard the Intrepid from its inception until the carrier’s retirement in 1974, and the Museum’s example is painted in the markings of VAW-121, the squadron that supplied detachments for the last two Vietnam tours and all the later cruises. Tracers soldiered on until 1976 when finally replaced by the E-2 Hawkeye.

In other aircraft related news, we did a quick face-lift on the British Royal Navy Scimitar. We had a few structural repairs to make, but other than that it was a simple repaint. I was able to research this aircraft a bit and found photographic evidence of her use with 736 Squadron of the Royal Navy. I have a few excellent research contacts in England and it only took one email to set them in motion. In less than two days I received a phone call from Commander Michael Doust, former

The Tracer served aboard the Intrepid from its inception until the carrier’s retirement in 1974, and the Museum’s example is painted in the markings of VAW-121. . . .”
The British Royal Navy Scimitar has been moved back to her display spot after a complete repainting. Squadron markings are now the same as she wore in 1962 when the aircraft was assigned to 736 Squadron of the Fleet Air Arm.

As members, I value your ideas and feedback. Please feel free to contact me anytime at eboehm@intrepidmuseum.org or 646-381-5237. Let me know what you think, or pose a question. Also, next time you’re onboard and see me in the tent working, announce yourself as a Member and get the inside scoop on our current projects.

As the weather turns colder we will be moving our endeavors inside. We already started work on the Grumman F9F-8 Cougar. Some of you may have seen this disassembled aircraft stuffed in the back of the Flight Deck restoration tent. I have been here for four and half years and have been just chomping at the bit to get this project started. I’ll be starting on the smaller components of this aircraft during the winter. I actually located some new-in-the-box wind screen glass (three cheers for eBay!) and they should be fully installed as you read this.

Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund

A national leader in supporting those serving in our Armed Forces, the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund is building The National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE). Scheduled to open in 2010, this $60 million, state-of-the-art facility will be dedicated to research, diagnosis and treatment of traumatic brain injury (TBI), which has sadly become all too common, afflicting hundreds of thousands of returning troops. 100% of all donations directly support this effort. For more information, visit www.fallenheroesfund.org, call 1-800-340-HErO or email info@fallenheroesfund.org

Intrepid Relief Fund

Dedicated to channeling public contributions to offer financial support to the military community, the Intrepid Relief Fund’s principal project is Operation Mend, a unique initiative that provides some of the country’s best facial reconstructive surgery to returning servicemembers. While care is provided at no cost by leading surgeons, the Fund underwrites each soldier’s transportation and lodging costs. For more information, visit www.irfund.org, call 646-381-5110 or email donations@irfunds.org

Questions? Call 646-381-5030.
Fall/Winter Museum Hours:
Tuesday – Sunday: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Holidays: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Closed Mondays
Museum will be closed November 7, 2009, Christmas Day, and Thanksgiving Day
For more information and directions, call 1-877-957-SHIP or visit our web site at www.intrepidmuseum.org

INTERACTIVITIES

In August, we celebrated the 66th Anniversary of the Intrepid’s commissioning. On August 16, 1943, the USS Intrepid (CV-11) officially entered active service with the United States Navy in a ceremony held at Newport News Shipbuilding & Drydock Company, commanded by Capt. Thomas L. Sprague.

“It is all very well when I have stood on the bridge and congratulated myself on commanding such a fine ship. But I am not deceived. It is the members of the crew below decks who are responsible for the fine record that has been made.”
- Capt. Thomas L. Sprague

Unscramble the tiles to reveal his message.

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Answer: We celebrate not only the Intrepid herself but the 50,000 crew members who served aboard her over her three-decade Navy career.

Q: The USS New York is the fifth ship in the San Antonio Class of amphibious transport docks. How many other active ships are currently in the same class? Can you name them? (Hint: Not all ships have names.)
Enter to win an Intrepid Museum tote bag by sending your answer to membership@intrepidmuseum.org or by mail to:
Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum: Membership Department/Scuttlebutt
12th Ave. and 46th St., New York, NY 10036
Include your name, address, telephone number and email address with your answer. One winner will be notified. All answers must be received by November 21, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. EST.

Exclusive Offer for Intrepid Museum Members.

Bring the family for a fun day of skiing and riding at New Jersey’s only semi-private family friendly ski resort.

Hidden Valley Club is extending Intrepid Members three exclusive offers:
- Exclusive Discounted Founding Membership Offer ($400 savings)
- 15% Discount on the Open Access Pass
- 15% Discount on daily lift tickets

For information, visit www.thehiddenvalleyclub.com or call 973-764-4200.