



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Second Annual Maritime Heritage Festival to be held July 25-27, 2008
*Historic vessels invited to participate in event to take place at
Riverplace Marina & Docks in Portland, Oregon*

Portland, Ore.-The Columbia-Willamette Chapter of the Antique & Classic Boat Society and the Downtown Marketing Initiative will host the second annual Maritime Heritage Festival July 25-27, 2008 in downtown Portland, Oregon. Entries are now welcome and encouraged. For information or editorial purposes, an entry form and photo disk also accompanies this release.

"In addition to incredible local boats such as *Truant II*, the 1939 Gar Wood that won multiple awards including *Best of Show* at the 2007 *Lake Tahoe Concours d'Elegance*, and PT 658, a WWII torpedo boat, our goal is to recruit some of the best vintage watercraft from throughout the West", said Chris Finks, co-chair of the 2008 Maritime Heritage Festival and director of the Downtown Marketing Initiative.

Last year, the festival drew approximately 15,000 people that delighted in more than 55 beautiful pieces of maritime history, boat rides, tours and water-skiing demonstrations over three days. The 2007 event was free to the public and supported by the Columbia-Willamette Chapter of the Antique & Classic Boat Society, Downtown Marketing Initiative, Portland Parks & Recreation, Port of Portland, TriMet and others. Most importantly, the 2007 Maritime Heritage Festival was a "hit" with both entrants and the public.

From Friday to Sunday, the 2008 festival will showcase beautiful vintage pleasure craft, naval ships, working boats, kayaks, eco-friendly watercraft and a stunning city skyline. The public will also be treated to water-sports demonstrations, interactive land displays, model boat displays, Portland Fire Boat and tours of vintage vessels such as PT 658, Sea Scouts, US Coast Guard and grand cruisers. As in 2007, the 2008 Maritime Heritage Festival will be free to the public. "The Pacific Northwest is an outstanding region of the country with beautiful waters and scenery perfect for the classic boater. At the same time, we have a great opportunity to attract hidden gems that may have never participated in an event such as the Maritime Heritage Festival", added Mike Green, co-chair of the 2008 Maritime Heritage Festival and great-great grandson of Chris-Craft founder, Chris Smith.

The registration fee is \$75.00 for the first entry and provides the skipper and first mate with three days filled with an opening day flotilla, dockside wine tasting, daily breakfast and coffee service and an awards dinner hosted on the beautiful terrace garden of the 200 Market Building. Each participant may elect to bring their boat for dockside or land display or take part in a judged show. The awards dinner will be complemented by music and a selection of excellent regional wines. Besides a terrific venue and great dinnertime conversations, the highlight of the evening promises to be the awards for the best boats participating by category. What's a little friendly competition amongst friends?

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The Maritime Heritage Festival celebrates Portland's 150 years of maritime history and lore and recognizes this heritage as defining regional vitality and personality. The festival also reinforces the Willamette River as a viable recreational, environmental and commercial assets and important contributor to the livability of Portland.

The Downtown Marketing Initiative is a public/private partnership created in 2006 and funded by the City of Portland and dedicated to promoting the long-term vitality of downtown Portland



Highlights of Planned Public Events

Where?

Riverplace Marina & Docks/Willamette River

Friday, July 25, 2008

3:00-5:00 pm

Arrival of boats: Flotilla & Water Parade

5:00 pm on

Dockside Boat Show at Riverplace

Saturday, July 26

10:00 am-4:00 pm

Maritime Land Displays & Demonstrations (vessel displays, boat building, children's events, etc.)

Dockside Boat Show (many owners available for questions)

Tours of PT658 & vintage cruisers

Concours d'Elegance

Music

Vintage boat rides (owners' discretion)

12:00 noon

Portland Fireboat Demonstration

12:15 to 1:00

Vintage Tug boat demonstration

1:00 pm-3:00 pm

Water skiing & water sports demonstrations

4:00 pm on

Dockside and land boat show

Sunday, July 27

10:00 am-4:00 pm

Maritime Land Displays & Demonstrations (vessel displays, boat building, children's events, etc.)

Dockside Boat Show (many owners available for questions)

Tours of PT658 & vintage cruisers

Music

Vintage boat rides (owners' discretion)

11:00-12:00 pm

Vintage Tug boat demonstration

12:00-2:00 pm

Water skiing & water sports demonstrations

1:00 pm-3:00 pm

Portland Fireboat Demonstration

3:00 - 4:00 pm

Log rolling

4:00 pm

Festival Ends

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