

For over 40 years, international academics, independent scholars, and performer researchers have gathered in Mystic and Essex to share their passion for and original research of the music of the sea. The Symposium links them with knowledgeable and enthusiastic audiences, providing scholarship that is entertaining and enlightening. Presentations will be videotaped and followed by a Q&A.

9 A.M.

“THE BLUE PENCILING ERASED: HUGILL’S RECOVERED BAWDY
CHANTEYS”

Jerry Bryant

From a paper on Scottish sea music presented at Mystic Seaport in 1990, Jerry has continued to avidly research traditional sailor songs. An independent autodidact scholar of the genre, he has presented papers and programs on a wide range of topics, from the song collection of a 20th-century whaleman to the origins of the ballad “The Mermaid.” Jerry’s deep interest in bawdy chanteys began during a sing with Stan Hugill, who sang original lyrics to familiar chanteys. The discovery of Hugill’s lost manuscript of authentic chantey lyrics is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for study.

10 A.M.

“CONTRIBUTIONS OF OLD-SAILOR POETS TO THE NAUTICAL SONGS
INVENTORY”

Charlie Ipcar

Charles Ipcar has a PhD in Geography from Michigan State University (1974). He’s a founding member of the sea music group, Roll & Go. Ipcar has composed and sung nautical songs for much of his life and performed in the States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Australia. He has recorded seven nautical CDs and has published *Uncommon Sailor Songs*, ©2010/2024, *The Sea Songs of Cicely Fox Smith*, ©2011/2024, and is also co-editor of *The Complete Poetry of Cicely Fox Smith*, ©2012/2015. Ipcar was born and raised on the coast of Maine, where he resides with his wife.

11 A.M.

“WE SANG TO STOP OURSELVES FROM CRYING: WOMEN’S WORK SONGS IN
THE SCOTTISH HERRING INDUSTRY”

Meg Hyland

Meg Hyland is a PhD candidate in Celtic and Scottish Studies at the University of Edinburgh. She holds an MA in Medieval History from the University of St. Andrews and an MS in Celtic and Scottish Studies from the University of Edinburgh. Her research focuses on the role of music in the lives of itinerant workers in the Scottish herring industry. She grew up in Wisconsin, but Scotland has been home for the past 12 years. She is passionate about making history accessible, participating in public history projects such as AskHistorians and Women of 1000.

12 P.M. LUNCH BREAK1:15 P.M.

“A GODDESS OF HIS OWN: COLUMBIA AND AMERICAN NAVAL HYPER-IDENTITY”

Dr. Stephen N. Sanfilippo

Dr. Stephen Sanfilippo served honorably in the U. S. Navy 1970-1976. He received the Ph.D. in History from Stony Brook University and taught maritime music history at Maine Maritime Academy and the University of Maine at Machias. He has performed and lectured at maritime history venues and conferences and Symposiums at both Mystic and Essex, CT. Since 2008, he has performed for the commemoration of the June 1775 naval action at Machias, Maine, America’s first, called by James Fenimore Cooper, “The Lexington of the Seas.”

2:15 P.M.

“SEA SLANG: MARITIME INFLUENCE & PERSISTENCE OF VOCABULARY IN CONTEMPORARY CULTURE”

Cole Longcor

Cole Longcor, a freelance journalist and college support staff professional, is currently serving with AmeriCorps. He double-majored in Journalism and Political Science as an undergraduate at Marietta College and has a master’s in Public Affairs Reporting from the University of Illinois Springfield. Cole has had works published by NPR Illinois, The Chicago-Sun Times, and other venues. His self-produced indie documentary, *Whittuck: The Story of the Delaware River*, received an Honorable Mention in the 2022 National Broadcasting Society Student Competition and was included in the 2023 World Water Film Festival.

3:15 P.M.

“SINGING CHANTIES AND SHANTIES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE POND”

Fred Winkel

Fred Winkel, who resides in the Netherlands, took up shanty singing in 1998, when he founded the “Shanty-koor Kantje Boord” with a friend. For many years, he has sung on open stages and sing-arounds in the Netherlands, England, Germany and America, performing solo or as part of a duo called “The Tarpaulin Shantymen.” He participates actively in Zoom sea music sessions in England and America. Having researched the backgrounds and meanings of shanties, he has documented a selection of them in his book, *My World of Shanties*.

SATURDAY MORNING - TIME TBD???

“INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP ON TYPES OF SCOTTISH GAELIC TWEED-
WAULKING SONGS”

Linn Phipps

Linn Phipps is a traditional singer in Scottish Gaelic and English, including sea songs and shanties. She performs at festivals in Scotland, Northern England, Ireland, France/Brittany, and Australia. Linn hosts in-person and Zoom singing sessions, Themed Shanty Big Sings, and World Whale Day sings. She hosts a Zoom Celtic language song cèilidh, as well as a Gaelic learn-a-song workshop. She issued five CDs during the pandemic. Linn will lead an interactive workshop on types of tweed-waulking songs from the Scottish Gaelic tradition, in which groups of women work together to thicken and shrink a tweed, to the rhythm of songs. Linn will present her own song categorization, focusing on maritime themes.

SYMPOSIUM STAFF

Director: Dr. Faye Ringel

First Mate: Dan Lanier

Reading Committee: Dan Lanier, Dr. Christopher Smith, Sheila Hogg, Craig Edwards, Dr. Faye Ringel

Moderators: Craig Edwards and Dan Lanier

Technical Director, Video, Sound: Ben Parker

Refreshments: Kitesie Reeves