



THE MARITIME MUSIC & TRADITION SOCIETY
presents
**THE 2025 SYMPOSIUM
ON THE MUSIC OF THE SEA**

June 6 2025



ABOUT THE SYMPOSIUM

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 in the Town Hall will be videotaped and followed by a Q&A.

FRIDAY - ESSEX TOWN HALL

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.

Symposium presenter *Meg Hyland* is unable to join us this year. She will, however, be part of the program for 2026. We send our wishes for good health, and we look forward to seeing her in 2026.

For now, we have some surprises for our loyal attendees on June 6, along with our great in-person presentations.

PREVIEW OF TWEED-WAULKING WORKSHOP

Linn Phipps

12 P.M. LUNCH BREAK

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1:15 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, *Wihittuck: 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 - JOHN ROBERTS STAGE, LAY HOUSE LAWN

10:00 A.M.

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: *Kitsie Reeves*