



Coast Guard Heritage Museum

at the U.S. Custom House in Barnstable Village, Cape Cod, Massachusetts

Fall 2024 Newsletter

An Interview with Mike Maynard

Most visitors to the museum have the same reaction as they enter the building and take in the sight of the many exhibits . . . “Wow! That’s a BIG model! How long did it take to build that??” Of course, they are talking about the pride and joy of the entire Coast Guard Heritage Museum collection, the scale model of the USCGC *Campbell*, WMEC 909 which was created by Model Maker Extraordinaire, Mike Maynard.

As a bit of background for the current, active-duty USCGC *Campbell*: Its keel was laid on August 10, 1984 and the ship was launched on April 29, 1986. Commissioning took place on August 19, 1988 and her current homeport is Naval Station Newport, RI. It is a medium endurance cutter and the sixth to bear the name *Campbell*. Four of the previous *Campbells* were named after George Washington *Campbell*, who was the Secretary of the Treasury in 1814. One was named after James Campbell, the Postmaster *General* in 1863.

The newest *Campbell* (and the one which is commemorated with the museum’s model) is the ninth of the CG Famous Cutter Class. It was named to honor all the previous *Campbells*, especially the first, a schooner which patrolled the Chesapeake Bay from 1830-1834. The current *Campbell* has made some of the largest narcotics seizures in Coast Guard history, as well as being the command ship for the TWA 800 recovery effort in 1996.

The mission of the *Campbell* is outlined as follows: “Search and Rescue; Enforcement of Laws and Treaties; Fisheries Law Enforcement; Drug Interdiction; Alien and Migrant Interdiction and Homeland Port Security.”

Certainly, a full set of responsibilities for the personnel complement of 100 – 14 officers and 86 enlisted. Her motto is Tradition – Pride – Readiness.



Mike Maynard (left) and Rick Poole (right) doing ‘winter maintenance’ to Mike’s USCGC Campbell model

Mike Maynard had a Coast Guard career spanning 31 years, from 1969-2000 when he retired as an E-6. Born and raised in Pawtucket, RI, he spent his entire career in the First CG District where his assignments included Governor’s Island, Woods Hole, Nantucket and

Martha’s Vineyard. His responsibilities varied from the manager of the Country Store, assistant manager of the Officers’ Club, and the Housing Officer in charge of 35 units of Navy housing on Nantucket and Martha’s Vineyard.

As a *Campbell* plank owner, Mike Maynard was assigned as a cook and spent two years aboard from 1987-1989. He chose it to be the inspiration of his favorite modeling project because he was also celebrating the great crew members who were assigned with him. If you look carefully on the fantail of the model, Mike immortalized himself as the cook emptying kitchen trash, wearing a white apron!

Mike explained that building the model of a ship is in many ways a reflection the construction of the actual vessel. He requested blueprints from the engineers and determined the best scale for his project was 1/48. While he worked on the project over a period of 25 years, in actuality it was about two years of concentrated attention due to its size and complexity.

In the twenty-five-year span, he was also working on another fifty models.



USCGC *Campbell* (WMEC-909)

In his career as a model maker, Mike has built about 100 objects per year (!) starting when he was 6 years old with a radio-controlled model of the USS *Missouri*. The CGHM houses about 30 of his aviation models as well as models

of two lightships, a lighted buoy, an 82 ft. patrol boat, the *Fessenden*, *Bear*, *Harriet Lane*, the 36500, the *Douglas Munroe* landing craft, a motor surf boat, the beach apparatus and the breeches buoy.

by Pat Garrity

Never to be forgotten ...

On September 11, 2001, Al-Qaeda terrorists hijacked four commercial airliners, crashing two into the twin towers of the World Trade Center, one into the Pentagon and one targeting the Capitol Building but crashing into a Pennsylvania field. The attacks killed nearly 3,000 people, over 500 more than the number lost at Pearl Harbor.

After impact of the first plane into the World Trade Center's North Tower, NYPD members, along with NYFD and EMS personnel put the safety of others before their own and rushed into the burning Twin Towers to aid victims and lead them to safety. Seventy-one law enforcement officers, 343 members of the New York City Fire Department and over 2,800 civilians were killed at the World Trade Center. Due to the quick actions of New York's first responders. It is believed that over 25,000 civilians were saved.

On that beautiful Fall day, more than 20 years ago, two Coast Guard Reservists, Jeffrey Palazzo, New York Fire Department and Officer Vincent "Vinny" Danz, New York Police Department answered the call, never to return to their families.

On November 12, 2019, the Coast Guard announced that two new "Sentinel" Class First Response Cutters would be named after PS2 Vincent Danz and fellow Coast Guard Reservist Jeffrey Palazzo. Coast Guard Commandant, Admiral Karl Schultz noted: "We are humbled and grateful for the opportunity to honor these brave men whose service and sacrifice spanned three great first-responder organizations. Their broad military and public service to both the nation and the city of New York demonstrated their incredible dedication and character. When the call came, they answered. We are certain that the men and women who serve aboard Coast Guard Cutter Vincent Danz and Coast Guard Cutter Jeffrey Palazzo in the future, will proudly carry on their sense of honor, respect and devotion to duty."

After the announcement ceremony, Jeffrey's son, Matthew Palazzo spoke to a Coast Guard recruiter. Matt finished basic training at Cape May on September 4, 2020, just a week shy of the 19th anniversary of 9/11.



Today, he carries on Jeff's tradition of service on board the icebreaker CGC *Polar Star*. Officer Vincent Danz is survived by his wife, two daughters and a son.

The 9/11 attacks twenty-three years ago and the subsequent War on Terror set in motion dramatic changes in the US Coast Guard as well. CG units and personnel were some of the first military responders, providing communications and security, evacuating civilians by water and assisting those in need. On September 14th, Operation Noble Eagle deployed even more Coast Guard men and women on port security missions, search and rescue efforts and clean-up operations. Thousands of Coast Guard Auxiliarists and Reservists were mobilized in the largest homeland defense and port security operation since World War II. Eleven days after 9/11, President George W. Bush set up the Office of Homeland Security. In November 2002, he signed the Homeland Security Act creating the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). By March 2003, the US Coast Guard had left the Department of Transportation to become the largest agency within DHS. It was a record-setting sixth executive agency change for the Coast Guard.

Information gathered from articles by
Chris Cassano, USCG Reserve and NYPD retired
and

William H. Thiesen, PhD,
USCG Atlantic Area Historian

President's Report

Another eventful and very successful season nears an end here at the Coast Guard Heritage Museum. As always, the talent, enthusiasm and dedication of our many volunteers has allowed us to continue to grow and mature.

Our new Coast Guard Arts and Entertainment exhibit opened in May and has been very well received by all our visitors. After making some upgrades and adding a few more items this winter, we intend to keep these displays in the Changing Exhibit Gallery through the end of 2025.



We celebrated the United States Coast Guard's 234th birthday this summer with a well-attended evening reception that included a talk by Sally Snowman. Evening colors were performed by an honor guard from Coast Guard Base Cape Cod, and, of course, there was a large birthday cake.

Evening colors for Coast Guard Day ceremony 2024
HS1 Albarran & YN3 Raess-Sausser



Sally was the first woman to serve as the keeper of Boston Light, and with her retirement after 20 years, she is the Coast Guard's last official lightkeeper. As of 2023, all lighthouses maintained by the USCG have been fully automated.

Lightkeeper Sally Snowman at CGHM in August

Last year, CDR Steve Wheeler, USCG retired, generously donated several ship models that he had crafted, but unfortunately, they were very badly damaged during their shipment from the West Coast. Our Master Model Maker, Mike Maynard, completed a meticulous renovation and all three of Steve's models have been added to our displays.



Model of CG Cutter *Bibb*, crafted by CDR Steve Wheeler, repaired by Mike Maynard

We're excited about our ambitious plans for 2025. Come see us!

Greg Ketchen
Captain, USCG (retired)

Secret Base in Chatham

During World War II, scientists and engineers at MIT developed Long Range Aid to Navigation, LORAN. The radio transmissions allowed Allied ships and planes to accurately determine their position. GPS replaced the navigation aid in the 1990s. But when it was developed, the US and its allies were eager to keep the very important technology secret and out of the hands of the Axis powers. Top secret monitoring stations were set up to check the accuracy of the LORAN transmissions.

At first, the monitoring stations were operated by men. But quickly the men were replaced by women, recruits from the newly created SPARS, to free up the desperately needed men for convoy escort, beach patrol, and landing craft operations. After training at MIT, SPARS were assigned to the first monitoring station, officially known simply as Unit 21, located at Chatham, MA on the grounds of the Chatham Lifeboat Station and Chatham Light.

The SPARS replaced the twelve men assigned to the unit except for one man to service and repair the radio equipment. Their Commanding Officer, one of the developers of the navigation aid, was LT(jg) Vera Hammerschlag. The women worked, ate and slept in the 30' x 50' building 24/7. Some people thought they were snobs because they were so aloof. Of course, their fellow Coasties and the townspeople had no way of knowing the women were part of a top secret operation and unable to discuss their important, highly sensitive responsibilities.

Nonetheless the town eventually came to accept the young women even if they could not understand the need for secrecy. In fact, when one of the SPARS got married, townsfolk



Secret Base in Chatham

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came out to attend the wedding ceremony. Their Commanding Officer gave away the bride and a Coast Guard chaplain officiated.

Shortly after the end of the war, the CG women's reserve, the SPARS, was disbanded. But up to the late 1960s, female Coasties were still known as SPARS.

by Jon Howard, MKCM, USCG (ret)



Unit 21 with Chatham station to the right

Coast Guard Heritage Museum Audio Tour System and "QR" Codes

What is a "QR Code" anyway? Well, "QR" is an abbreviation for "Quick Response", and they are a type of two-dimensional matrix barcode, invented in 1994, by the Japanese company Denso Wave for labelling automobile parts. They are those small drawings of various size blocks and spaces contained within a square. Today they are used prolifically in advertising and basically, when scanned by a simple app on your smart phone, provide a URL address link to some web page out on the World Wide Web. At the Museum, we are dragging ourselves into the 21st century by trying to use these codes in our Audio Tour System.

Our current handheld Audio Tour System is somewhat outdated, no longer readily supported, and limited to just ten units. Using the QR codes any visitor with a smart phone will have access to all 200-plus audio commentaries. In addition we can provide QR codes for Museum-related online videos.

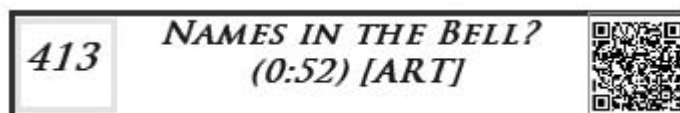
How the system works:

1. Audio Tour cards are posted all around the Museum that show the number of the commentary (used with the old handheld system), the title, length and type of the commentary, and the related QR code image.
2. Using a QR Reader App on their smart phone, the visitor "scans" or takes a picture of the QR code image.
3. The user then follows the displayed link to the web page where the commentary is stored, and clicks the "play" icon to start it.

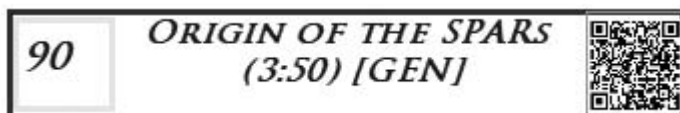
The web site we are using to store and play the commentaries is called AudioMack.com. Since we currently have a free subscription to the site, users of the system will have to navigate around a couple of ads, but it's really very simple.

A couple examples of Museum Audio Tour Cards are included with this article and you are welcome, and encouraged, to try them out:

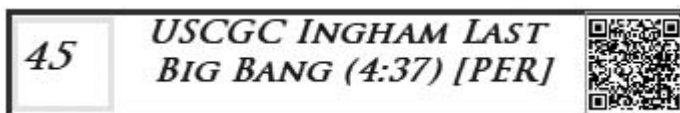
413 is an example of an artifact commentary and is about names inside the USCGC White Sage bell.



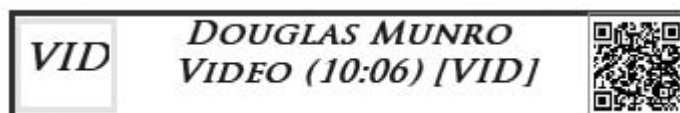
90 is a general history commentary about the origins of the Coast Guard SPARs.



45 is an example of a personal story or anecdote related to the Cutter Ingham.



VID is an example of a link to an online video, this one an excellent presentation on the details of the WWII battle which resulted in the awarding of the Medal of Honor to Douglas Munro.



All audio recordings associated with the Coast Guard Heritage Museum are available online at AudioMack.com. You can link directly to the list of CGHM recordings at <https://audiomack.com/coast-guard-heritage-museum> and browse all 200 plus commentaries!

Update on USCG Art at the State House

We are pleased to announce that we have selected the artist to complete a large painting that will be permanently installed in the State House's Great Hall on Boston's Beacon Hill. The painting will commemorate the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as the Birthplace



Preliminary Concept sketch #1 by Russ Kramer for MA State House painting

of the United States Coast Guard. Artist Russ Kramer has been selected to receive the commission for this significant piece of maritime art that we expect will be viewed by as many as 100,000 people annually. We were very fortunate to have many of the top living, maritime artists competing for this opportunity. We expect the painting to be completed and installed in the State House by the end of 2025.

Draft Concept sketch #2
by Russ Kramer
for MA State House



Did you know . . . The “Battle of Chatham Harbor”

Chatham’s only active hostilities during the Revolutionary War occurred in Chatham Harbor near the site of the present-day Chatham Light, on 20 June, 1782.

At sunrise, crew members from a British privateer were discovered in Chatham’s East Harbor, attempting to sail away three unmanned vessels as prizes of war. The alarm cannon on Watch Hill alerted the town militia, who assembled quickly and opened fire on the British from the shore. When the largest of these vessels went aground, the intruders took to small boats and headed back to their ship anchored offshore. They were hotly pursued by the militiamen, also in small boats. Although the British privateersmen escaped, the Chatham vessels were recovered and victory belonged to the determined, long-suffering townspeople. Since 1776, British sea power had stifled their livelihood from the sea. Nevertheless, they continued to give local support to the nation’s war for independence.

Erected 20 June, 1978 as part of Chatham’s Bicentennial Celebration



In October, a new CG Jr ROTC was established at Barnstable High School on Cape Cod. It became the first of these units in the Northeast. A contingent from the CGHM attended the ceremony and plans to work with the new cadets.



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Visit us at www.capecodmuseumtrail.com

Coast Guard Heritage Museum

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CGHM Officers

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Would you like to publish an article in our newsletter? Contact us at 508-362-8521.

Newsletter graphic design by West Barnstable Press

REMINDER! Coast Guard Heritage Museum is only open for the fall season
on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm,
until Veterans' Day when we close for the season, reopening on 1 May 2025.

BECOME A COAST GUARD HERITAGE MUSEUM MEMBER!

Individual - \$25 Single membership: attending annual meeting with no voting privilege, individual admission to the museum, and a 10% gift shop discount.

Family - \$40 Same as Individual, but with additional admissions to the museum for immediate family. One person may attend annual meeting with no voting privilege.

Supporting Member - \$100 Unlimited museum admission & 10% discount. This is for those who want to support museum but not actively participate.

Sustaining Member - \$250 For those who want to show a greater level of support for the museum. Unlimited admission and 10% discount apply.

Guardian: three donor levels - Guardians receive all benefits of membership. The Guardian category includes individual recognition at the museum. The three categories are: **Captain's Circle** - \$500+; **Admiral's Circle** - \$1,000+; **Commandant's Circle** - \$2,500+

Name: _____ USCG Connection (if any) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Membership Level: ☐ Individual \$25 ☐ Family \$40 ☐ Supporting \$100 ☐ Sustaining \$250

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Make checks payable to: Coast Guard Heritage Museum and mail to Coast Guard Heritage Museum, P. O. Box 161, Barnstable, MA 02630

Credit Card: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover ☐ AMEX

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: Month _____ Year _____

We are a 501(c)(3) organization. Our mission is to preserve and share the story of the U.S. Coast Guard in the former U.S. Custom House, Barnstable, MA.