



DESTROYER ESCORT HISTORICAL MUSEUM USS SLATER DE766

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MEDIA NEWS MEMO

DATE: June 2, 2011
CONTACT: Rosehn Gipe, Marketing Coordinator
EVENT: USS SLATER Radio Operators Gear Up for Museum Ships Weekend Event
DATE/TIME: Saturday, June 4, 9:00 a.m. through Sunday, June 5, 2:00 p.m.
PLACE: USS SLATER

SIGNIFICANCE: USS SLATER Amateur Radio operators will work 'round the clock this weekend as they take part in the Museum Ships Weekend Event.

This annual event is sponsored by The Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station. For ten years, the Museum Ships Weekend has brought together radio amateur (ham) operators broadcasting from historic museum ships around the world. When telephone lines are disrupted and regular commercial power is off (and even the Internet is down) amateur radio operators throughout the world have demonstrated their unique ability to handle emergency communications using their own radio equipment and power generators to assist government agencies at all levels. Among SLATER's volunteer crewmembers are four licensed radio "ham" operators.

SLATER volunteers will be "on the air" using the call sign WW2DEM. USS SLATER is one of only a few ships that will be using the recently-installed, restored authentic World War II vacuum tube type radio equipment. Most of the communication will be in Morse Code as it was in World War II.

This year 78 ships have registered for the event. Many are from the United States, but others that will be transmitting include museum ships in Germany, England, Canada, Portugal, Sweden, Holland, Italy, Norway, France, and Russia. The purpose, besides having a great time and giving visitors a glimpse of amateur radio, is to honor the brave men who served aboard the vessels and to call attention to the museums. More information about the event and a list of all the participating ships and frequencies can be found at www.nj2bb.org/museum.

USS SLATER is located on the Hudson River in Downtown Albany just south of the Dunn Memorial Bridge. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$5 for children. The ship is open to the public Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 518-431-1943 for more information or visit our website at www.ussslater.org.

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