

TO THE POINT

WINTER 2024

The Quarterly Newsletter for Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum

VOL. 1, ISSUE 2

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF PATRIOTS POINT

A BOOST FOR CHARLESTON IN 2024 AND BEYOND

A recent study published by the University of South Carolina's Darla Moore School of Business reveals that Patriots Point plays a key role in Charleston's economy, contributing an impressive \$205 million annually to the tri-county region. This economic activity also supports 1,756 jobs and generates \$71 million in labor income each year, according to research economist Joseph Von Nessen.

"Patriots Point is not only a site of national historical significance but also a major economic driver for the local community," Von Nessen shared. "Its operations, along with those of its business tenants and spending by visitors, create a substantial economic impact for the Charleston area."

To support the significant costs of maintenance, especially those associated with ship upkeep and repair, Patriots Point has leased 61 acres of its property – known as the Patriots Annex project – for a new mixed-use development that will include a variety of office, retail, vacation, and residential spaces.

The revenue generated from Patriots Annex will not only help maintain the site but also significantly expand its economic footprint in Charleston and the surrounding communities.

"Patriots Point is not only an educational resource that preserves the legacy of our nation's heroes, but it also serves as a vital economic engine for Charleston and South Carolina."

– Wayne Adams

With Charleston experiencing strong population growth and maintaining its status as a top tourist destination, Von Nessen expects high demand for the new office, retail, and residential spaces in Patriots Annex. The development is set to occur in three phases, covering over 331,000 square feet of commercial and residential space. Phase I is expected to be completed by 2025, followed by Phase II in 2027, and Phase III in 2030. While Phase I is smaller, covering around 59,000 square feet,

the later phases will significantly ramp up with over 270,000 square feet combined.

Wayne Adams, Acting Chairman of the Patriots Point Development Authority, highlighted the broader impact of these developments: "Patriots Point is not only an educational resource that preserves the legacy of our nation's heroes, but it also serves as a vital economic engine for Charleston and South Carolina. Projects like Patriots Annex ensure that we can continue preserving our historic ships while expanding our role as a top destination for patriotism, education, and tourism. The continued growth will support our state's economy for generations to come."

By the time Phase III is completed, Patriots Point's economic impact is projected to soar to \$393 million, supporting nearly 3,000 permanent jobs and generating \$128.8 million in labor income. This represents a 92% increase in Patriots Point's local economic contribution, cementing its role as a major economic player in the region.

[LEARN MORE](#)

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE...

YULETIDE ON THE YORKTOWN!

NEW MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM!

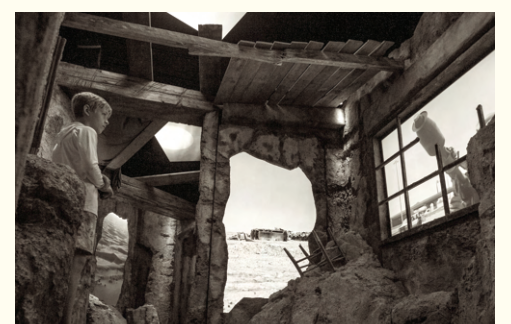
FESTIVAL OF WREATHS!

AIRCRAFT RESTORATION!

AND MORE!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The Medal of Honor Museum at Patriots Point has been nominated for USA Today's 10 Best Reader's Choice award in the "BEST NEW MUSEUM" category. The nominee with the most votes by December 23 wins, so cast your vote today!



[VOTE NOW](#)

- THE QUARTERLY NEWSPAPER -

FEATURED EVENT

YULETIDE ON THE YORKTOWN

A HOLIDAY CELEBRATION FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

Get into the holiday spirit with live music, light bites from local vendors, and fun for the whole family on December 8! Our hangar bays will be hung in merriment, with festivities like a holiday market, steaming cups of cocoa—and a visit from a very special guest! From 1-4 p.m., Santa will be onboard the ship; professional photo packages will be available for purchase. Our inaugural Yuletide on the Yorktown event is the perfect way to kick off the holiday season. As our gift to the community, Patriots Point will be offering admission tickets for a flat rate of \$15 for everyone ages six and up.



YULETIDE ON THE YORKTOWN

[BUY TICKETS](#)

DETAILS

Cost: \$15/non-members

Free/members

Date: December 8

Time: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Location: Hangar Bay, USS Yorktown



Tickets include admission to the Patriots Point Museum and our Yuletide on the Yorktown holiday event.

HOW TO SUPPORT THE USS YORKTOWN FOUNDATION THIS DECEMBER

Festival of Wreaths + Giving Tree

Now through December 8, the USS Yorktown Foundation invites you aboard to celebrate the holiday spirit with the inaugural Festival of Wreaths! Local organizations have contributed beautifully crafted wreaths for a special auction. All proceeds go toward supporting the Foundation’s mission and Patriots Point programming.

While you’re here, stop by the Giving Tree, where guests can make a donation and add a festive ornament to the tree. As a token of appreciation, each donor will receive a keepsake aircraft ornament to remember their contribution. This fundraiser ends on December 8.

[BID ONLINE](#)

OPERATION RESTORATION UPDATE

This fall, the USS Yorktown Foundation made significant strides in Operation Restoration, a project dedicated to preserving the historic aircraft aboard the USS Yorktown. In partnership with Patriots Point, the USS Yorktown Foundation has raised \$300,000 to restore the aircraft on the flight deck of the USS Yorktown. We’re thrilled to announce that the F-4 Phantom II and F-8 Crusader have now been fully restored, joining the lineup of carefully preserved aircraft on the flight deck.



Thanks to the expertise and dedication of Gordon Ponsford’s team, we’ve successfully restored nine aircraft on the flight deck. Only three aircraft remain, and we’re eager to see them completed soon. Each restoration brings us closer to our mission of honoring the legacy of our veterans and ensures these remarkable pieces of history are preserved for future generations.



EVENTS ON THE SHIP

Toys for Tots

November 1 – December 15 [COMMUNITY](#)

Festival of Wreaths + Giving Tree

November 8 – December 8 [ARTS AND CRAFTS](#)

Pearl Harbor Day Memorial Service

December 7 | 10 a.m.

Yuletide on the Yorktown

December 8 | 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Second Saturdays + “Ask Me About History” Carts

December 7 | All Day

January 11 | All Day

February 8 | All Day

“Pay What You Can” Day

January 4 | All Day

January 11 | All Day

January 18 | All Day

January 25 | All Day



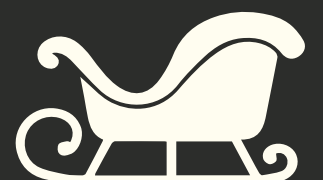
FIND US IN THE COMMUNITY!

Mount Pleasant Christmas Light Parade

December 15, 5:30 – 8 p.m.

Military Appreciation Night with the South Carolina Stingrays

January 18, 6:05 p.m.



- THE QUARTERLY NEWSPAPER -

STORIES AT SEA

The Fighting Filmmaker: The Photography of Dwight Long and the Naval Aviation Photographic Unit

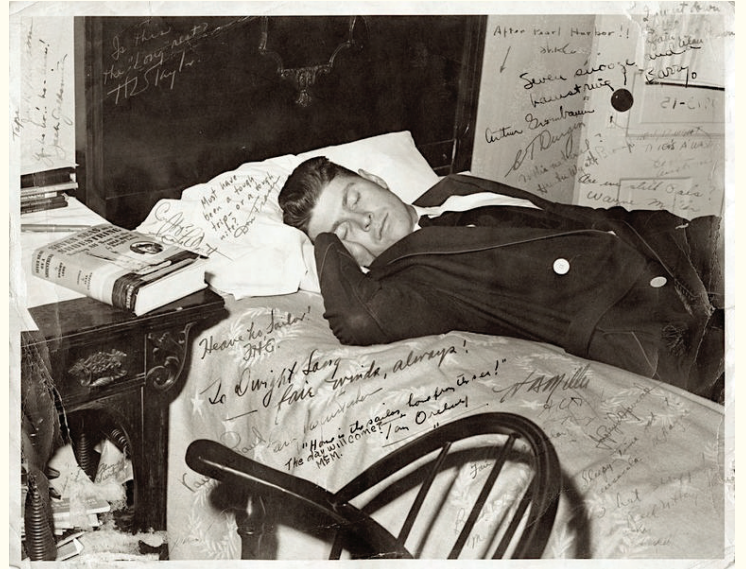
Director and producer Dwight Long captivated American audiences with his films from an early age. At only 21 years old, Long circumnavigated the globe in a 32-foot ketch called the IDLE HOUR. The film footage from this journey later became his documentary, *Sailing All Seas*.

At the start of World War II, Long enlisted in the US Navy and joined the Naval Photographic Unit under Edward Steichen. The Naval Photographic Unit had one objective: focus on photographing the men.

Steichen had an extra assignment for Lieutenant Dwight Long. As a documentary filmmaker, Long was tasked with capturing the day-to-day lives of the sailors on board the USS Yorktown (CV-10).

His work became an Academy Award-winning feature film called "The Fighting Lady." The film documents the lives of the crew from July 1943 through June 1944, with combat footage and naval aviation featured throughout.

The film won the 1945 Academy Award for Best Documentary. The photography of Dwight Long features some of the most memorable images of Yorktown crewmembers in the museum's collection



"There wasn't any Betty Grable or Clark Gable in it. It was just men fighting a battle."

-Dwight Long



[READ MORE STORIES](#)

END OF THE YEAR FUNDRAISER: LAUNCHING TOMORROW'S LEADERS, PRESERVING OUR NATION'S HISTORY

Join us this holiday season as we embark on our end-of-year campaign to support Patriots Point's mission of preserving history and inspiring future leaders. We aim to raise \$15,000 to maintain the legacy of our historic vessels—the USS Yorktown and USS Laffey—and expand life-changing educational programs that ignite passions and shape futures at Patriots Point.

This campaign runs from GivingTuesday (December 3) through the end of December. Every donation, big or small, directly supports the preservation of these historic ships and provides scholarships for students who might not otherwise have access to these inspiring opportunities. Join us in honoring the past and investing in tomorrow's leaders.

[DONATE TODAY](#)

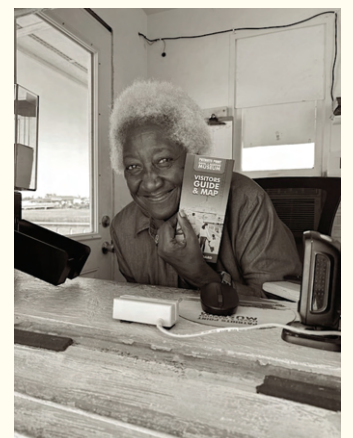
PEOPLE OF PATRIOTS POINT

Rosetta Gethers has worked as a ticketing employee in the Group Sales department for one year.

Her life journey has been marked by a deep commitment to serving her community and empowering young people. From her early days in Charleston to her various roles in New York and back to Charleston, she has dedicated herself to education, child welfare, and community service.

Her work at Patriots Point reflects her passion for meeting people from around the world, and her appreciation for collaboration and volunteerism. Patriots Point is thankful to have her on staff!

Visit patriotspoint.org/about/careers to learn more about jobs at Patriots Point!



FRIENDS OF THE FLEET

GIVE THE GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

We're excited to announce the launch of our new Friends of the Fleet membership program, designed to bring you closer to the heart of Patriots Point.

- ★ Free Museum Entry
- ★ Priority Booking
- ★ Tour & Onsite Discounts
- ★ Partner Discounts
- ★ Exclusive Member Events
- ★ And More!

Visit patriotspoint.org/membership to learn about all the ways you can save by becoming a member!

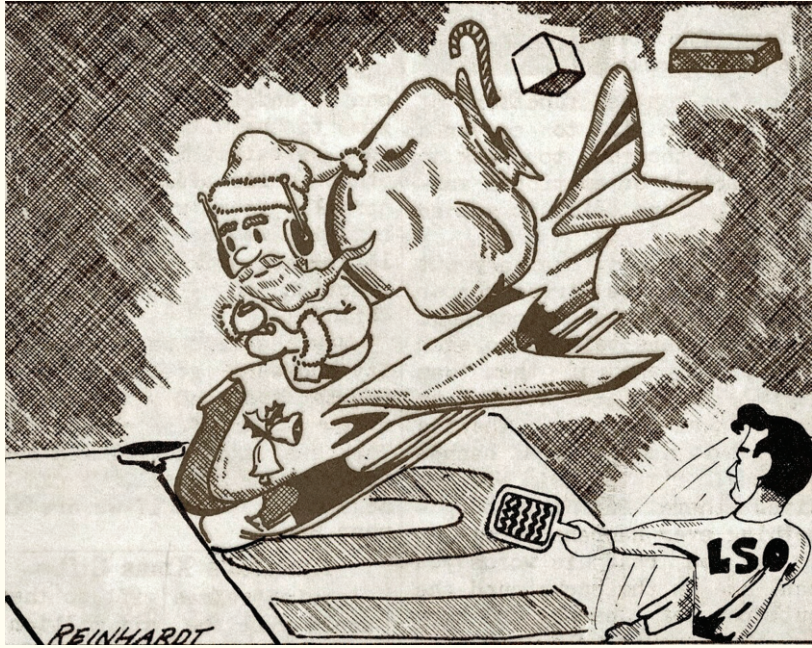


- THE QUARTERLY NEWSPAPER -

THE FUNNIES

Safe landing, Santa!

We sourced this comic from the Town Crier, the shipboard newsletter for the USS Yorktown (CV-10) with all crewmen contributors. Airman C.W. Reinhart, this illustration's author, served in the V-3 division during the 1954 cruise.



CAPTAIN'S CHAIR

Hello, friends!

The festive season is here, and the Fighting Lady is decked out for the holidays! The ship always feels different during the holidays, especially this year. We have added festive lighting throughout the Hangar Bay, Christmas trees, wreaths, and displays bow to stern. We are especially excited for our inaugural Yuletide on the Yorktown on Sunday, December 8. It will be a day of festive fun, along with special pricing- and a very special guest!

Patriots Point is proud to be a place where our community and visitors can be immersed in history and patriotism while connecting and celebrating shared and unique traditions. Over the next few weeks, we will welcome visitors from all over the world—and right next door. Hope we'll see you, too!

From all of us at Patriots Point, warmest wishes for a very special holiday season and a happy and prosperous New Year!

Sincerely,

Allison Hunt

Allison Hunt
Patriots Point, Executive Director

HOUSEKEEPING

Museum Closed:

Christmas Eve | December 24

Christmas Day | December 25



OPERATION OVERNIGHT

Sleep Like a Sailor!

Ever wonder what it was like living on an aircraft carrier?

With Operation Overnight, you get exclusive access to the USS Yorktown all night long and sleep in the same bunks the ship's sailors once did!

Walk among some of our military's most notable airplanes and ships, hear stories of heroism, and experience the WWII aircraft carrier like no other as you go behind the scenes to "Live Like a Sailor."



Get 25% off when you book and stay now through February 28, 2025!*

*(Offer applies to new bookings only and cannot be combined with any other discount or promotion.)



USS LAFFEY DESTROYER

Sailors will be introduced to the story of the legendary USS Laffey and the brave actions of the ship's crew during the pivotal battle to take the Japanese island of Okinawa.

B-25B MITCHELL BOMBER

Sailors will get a behind-the-scenes look at the B-25B Mitchell bomber made famous by Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle and his team of pilots during WWII.

MEDAL OF HONOR

Participants will be introduced to the incredible acts of bravery and valor shown by its recipients as they explore our brand new Cong. Medal of Honor Museum.

*Click the link to learn more about **Operation Overnight** and book your historic adventure today!*

[LEARN MORE](#)

QUESTIONS? OUR TEAM IS HERE TO HELP!
(843) 881-5937 | OPERATION.OVERNIGHT@PATRIOTSPPOINT.ORG