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**From:** Hall, James[/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=9475D8F983174759A506988F86 F2BEA2-JAMESHALL]  
**Sent:** Mon 5/15/2023 11:19:15 AM (UTC-04:00)  
**To:** Mann, Melissa [REDACTED] Fox, Charles [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Pollman, Howard [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: [External] The Brig Niagara and the Navy and Marine Corps 250th  
**Attachment:** Homecoming 250 Brochure Final.pdf  
**Attachment:** Launching the Semiquincentennial 1pg (updated 040223).pdf  
**Attachment:** PA House Resolution supporting Homecoming 250.pdf  
**Attachment:** Pennsylvania Senate Resolution supporting Homecoming 250.pdf

I sent an email to them (via their website) last week letting them know that – although we're all excited w/ the prospect of the Navy's plans, neither FNL nor BSabatini had the ability to speak to or contract for the use or appearance of the Brig Niagara as it was an asset of and operated by CWOPA's PHMC.

Apparently, that message got to the right folks as I just received this today ... don't know who want to get involved now with this opened door?? -- JIM

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**From:** [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 11:06 AM  
**To:** Hall, James <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [External] The Brig Niagara and the Navy and Marine Corps 250th

***ATTENTION:** This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown senders. To report suspicious email, use the [Report Phishing button in Outlook](#).*

Dear Mr. Hall – Thank you for contacting Homecoming 250! Although I believed that the Pennsylvania Heritage and Museum Commission had been made aware of our hope to give the Brig Niagara a starring role in the celebration of the Navy and Marine Corps 250<sup>th</sup> celebration, I welcome the chance to talk directly to the appropriate officials at the Pennsylvania Heritage and Museum Commission. I attach our brochure and a one-page summary of our plans, which as you know are illustrated on our website, including a full page on the *Niagara* -

I recall taking my children to visit the *Niagara* on earlier trips to Philadelphia. Bringing her to Philadelphia in 2025 will enable residents in the eastern part of Pennsylvania the opportunity to see the Pennsylvania State Flagship again after a long absence. It will enable us to complete our signature and most spectacular event – assembling a ship from every major war which the Navy has fought, with the *Niagara* representing the Navy of the War of 1812. It will feature *Niagara* in the national celebration of the Navy and Marine Corps 250<sup>th</sup>, gaining her new fans and publicity. If the PHMC desires, it could also situate *Niagara* to participate in the Semiquincentennial events up and

down the East Coast in 2026.

Bringing the *Niagara* here has garnered much support in the Legislature, which included that request in their attached resolutions supporting Homecoming 250. A renewed resolution is being considered now, and the Governor's office is interested as well.

I would love to talk with you and the appropriate officials at the PHMC, and would be happy to send a Zoom invitation. When is a good time?

We look forward to working with you, the PHMC, and all those who want to promote the *Niagara*! –  
George

George S. Leone  
Chair and President, *Homecoming 250 Navy Marine Corps*  
[www.homecoming250.org](http://www.homecoming250.org)



Director, *Tun Tavern Legacy Foundation*



# CELEBRATE EDUCATE & INSPIRE.

## Celebrate

the legacy of the United States Navy and the United States Marine Corps in the birthplace of their founding, the City of Philadelphia, in the Fall of 2025.

## Educate

the citizens of Philadelphia and the nation – young and old - of the important contributions the United States Navy and the United States Marine Corps have made to the United States of America, past, present and future.

## Inspire

today's young men and women, along with future generations, to consider service to their country and its citizens, in the Armed Forces of the United States of America.



To donate, get involved,  
and learn more, visit:

[Homecoming250.org](https://Homecoming250.org)



Sponsorships and  
Partnerships Available

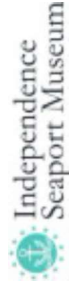
Homecoming 250 Navy Marine Corps is a tax-exempt public charity under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue code.

# HOME COMING 250

NAVY - MARINE CORPS



## Official Partners



## Endorsements Received From

### National Officials

- All 14 living former Secretaries of the Navy
- The entire Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware Congressional delegations

### State Officials

- Pennsylvania Governor Wolf
- New Jersey Governor Murphy
- Delaware Governor Carney
- Pennsylvania General Assembly (House and Senate)
- New Jersey Legislature (Senate and the Assembly)
- Delaware General Assembly (House and Senate)

### Local Officials

- Philadelphia Mayor Kenney
- Philadelphia City Council
- Camden Mayor Carstarphen
- Camden County Board of Commissioners
- Delaware's New Castle County Executive

### Semi-centennial Organizations

- U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission and the America 250 Foundation
  - America250PA
- Revolution NJ (including partners the New Jersey Historical Commission and Crossroads of the Revolution)
  - Philadelphia 250

### Naval and Ship Organizations

- Navy League of the United States, its Liberty Region, and its Philadelphia, Central Jersey, and Trenton Councils
  - Naval Historical Foundation
  - Historic Naval Ships Association
- Naval Order of the United States - Philadelphia/Delaware Valley Commandery
  - Navy Club USA & its Pennsylvania Squadron
  - US Naval Sea Cadet Foundation
- Battleship New Jersey Museum and Memorial
  - Independence Seaport Museum
  - Flagship Niagara League
  - Tall Ship Providence Foundation

### Marine and Tun Tavern-Related Organizations

- Marine Corps Reserve Association
- Marine Corps League - Department of Pennsylvania
  - Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation
  - Tun Tavern Legacy Foundation
  - Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania
  - Grand Lodge of New Jersey
  - Grand Lodge of Delaware

## Who We Are

Homecoming 250 Navy Marine Corps is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation dedicated to celebrating the founding of the U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps in 1775. We are planning to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Navy Marine Corps in October 2025.

Homecoming 250 Navy Marine Corps has been endorsed by 14 living Secretaries of the Navy. The state legislatures of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware have all passed formal motions of support for Homecoming 250.

"Homecoming" is our invitation to Sailors, Marines, military, veterans and all who are proud of Philadelphia's significant naval history to come visit the sites where the Navy and Marine Corps were born and rediscover their history.

The 250th birthdays of the Navy and the Marine Corps are best celebrated here in Philadelphia where those services were founded. The Navy and Marine Corps were created by the Continental Congress in Independence Hall, organized at Tun Tavern, and launched their first ship and amphibious mission on the Delaware River.

Homecoming 250 Navy Marine Corps will assemble ships representing every American conflict from the Revolutionary War to the present. The unique historical sites and ships will provide an unmatched visual backdrop for Americans across the country to see the history of our naval forces.

Support from the region's residents, businesses, and leaders will ensure an event reflecting our pride in our region and in our naval forces.



## **LAUNCHING THE SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL**

### **Celebrating the 250<sup>th</sup> Birthdays of the Navy and Marine Corps at their Birthplace**

As America prepares for the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary – the Semiquincentennial – in 2026 of the Declaration of Independence, in 2025 we should celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> birthdays of the military services that gained and defend our independence. Homecoming 250 Navy Marine Corps is a charitable organization created to bring the celebration of the Navy and the Marine Corps 250<sup>th</sup> birthdays to their birthplace – Philadelphia and the Delaware River. Our “Launching the Semiquincentennial” proposal has been endorsed by all fourteen living Secretaries of the Navy, the entire Congressional delegations of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware, the Governors and Legislatures of those States, the Mayors and Councils of Philadelphia and Camden, the Semiquincentennial organizations including America 250, and numerous national and area organizations. Our proposal has attracted support at the highest levels of the Navy and Marine Corps.

Our plans for the Navy and Marine 250<sup>th</sup> celebrations in Fall 2025 are highlighted by unique historic events:

We will celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Navy’s October 13, 1775 founding by assembling for touring on both banks of the Delaware historical, replica, and active-duty ships representing every major war which the Navy has fought: the American Revolution, the War of 1812, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Cold War, and subsequent conflicts in the Middle East. This unprecedented exhibition of Navy history is only possible on the Delaware, where Philadelphia hosts the USS *Olympia* which launched America as a naval power, and Camden hosts the Battleship *New Jersey*, the most decorated Navy ship afloat. They will be joined by historic and replica ships and the most modern Navy vessels, producing a spectacular, unprecedented assemblage of Navy history.

We will celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Marine Corps’ November 10, 1775 founding by gathering ships with a special connection to the Marines, including amphibious and aviation vessels, and by holding the 100<sup>th</sup> Marine Corps Ball in Philadelphia, where General Lejeune held the 1st Marine Corps Ball in 1925. We also hope to celebrate the recreation of Tun Tavern, the birthplace of the Marine Corps and other organizations, where history was made by Washington, Adams, and Franklin. The recreated historical Philadelphia tavern, operated by a charity, will be a destination for Marines and others for decades to come.

We also will celebrate the Navy and Marine Corps celebrations with ceremonies, parades, aerial demonstrations, reenactments, and exhibits about the Navy and Marines, featuring Philadelphia’s World Heritage historical buildings, its superb museums, and sites on both sides of the Delaware.

This impressive 250<sup>th</sup> celebration in 2025 will provide a grand opening event for the Semiquincentennial, and spotlight the Nation’s Delaware Valley birthplace. It will honor the servicemembers, veterans, and 250-year history of the Navy and Marine Corps in the most densely populated area of the Country, attracting residents, tourists, veterans, history lovers, and grateful Americans. For more information or to get involved, check out our website at [www.homecoming250.org](http://www.homecoming250.org), and contact us at [REDACTED] or on social media.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 96 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY ROTHMAN, RYAN, WHEATLEY, C. WILLIAMS, DELLOSO, WEBSTER, E. NELSON, JAMES, BOBACK, SCHMITT, HILL-EVANS, HAMM, POLINCHOCK, COOK, MIZGORSKI, GREINER, HOWARD, KNOWLES, HICKERNELL, SAPPEY, DAVANZO, KAUFFMAN, SCHLEGEL CULVER, PICKETT, FREEMAN, JOZWIAK, R. MACKENZIE, ROZZI, LONGIETTI, SANCHEZ, PASHINSKI, STAATS, MENTZER, JONES, B. MILLER, MILLARD, ROWE, NEILSON, O'MARA, BURNS, SAINATO, SAYLOR, KEEFER, COX, DRISCOLL, MOUL, O'NEAL, INNAMORATO, GUENST, BOROWICZ, SHUSTERMAN, HELM, HENNESSEY, ZABEL, HEFFLEY, KLUNK, McNEILL, KINSEY, SAMUELSON, RAPP, OBERLANDER, STEPHENS, METCALFE, MERCURI, STRUZZI, HERRIN, M. MACKENZIE, R. BROWN, T. DAVIS, ARMANINI AND BERNSTINE, APRIL 27, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, APRIL 27, 2021

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Secretary of the Navy to designate Philadelphia and  
 2 both banks of the Delaware River as the site of the main  
 3 celebration of the 250th birthdays of the United States Navy  
 4 and the United States Marine Corps in October and November  
 5 2025.

6 WHEREAS, The United States Navy was founded in Pennsylvania  
 7 on October 13, 1775, when the Second Continental Congress at  
 8 Independence Hall in Philadelphia authorized its first ships;  
 9 and

10 WHEREAS, Later that year, in Pennsylvania, the Continental  
 11 Navy commissioned its first ship and granted its first  
 12 commission to John Barry, the father of the American Navy; and

13 WHEREAS, The Second Continental Congress in Pennsylvania  
 14 commissioned Lieutenant John Paul Jones, who, on the Delaware,

1 was the first to raise an American national flag, the Grand  
2 Union Flag, on a naval vessel; and

3 WHEREAS, The United States Marine Corps was founded in  
4 Pennsylvania on November 10, 1775, when the Second Continental  
5 Congress at Independence Hall authorized the recruitment of two  
6 battalions; and

7 WHEREAS, The United States Marine Corps was born later that  
8 year after its first commissioned officer Captain Samuel  
9 Nicholas held a recruiting drive in Tun Tavern in Philadelphia;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, The first United States Marine Corps amphibious  
12 operation, mounted from Pennsylvania, seized sorely needed  
13 gunpowder for the Continental Army; and

14 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has continued to  
15 design and build ships and aircraft and has contributed sons and  
16 daughters to lead the United States Navy and the United States  
17 Marine Corps since their birth; and

18 WHEREAS, The United States Navy's 250-year history should be  
19 celebrated by assembling ships, including the Pennsylvania State  
20 Flagship *Niagara*, from every major war the United States Navy  
21 has fought; and

22 WHEREAS, This assemblage would be possible only in the  
23 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania because Philadelphia has preserved  
24 *USS Olympia*, the sole survivor of the Spanish-American War; and

25 WHEREAS, The United States Marine Corps' 250th birthday  
26 should be celebrated by rebuilding Tun Tavern in Philadelphia,  
27 drawing United States Marines from the Commonwealth of  
28 Pennsylvania and beyond; therefore be it

29 RESOLVED (the Senate concurring), That the General Assembly  
30 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Secretary of the

1 Navy to designate Philadelphia and both banks of the Delaware  
2 River as the site of the main celebration of the 250th birthdays  
3 of the United States Navy and the United States Marine Corps in  
4 October and November 2025; and be it further

5       RESOLVED, That the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of  
6 Pennsylvania authorize the United States Navy and the United  
7 States Marine Corps to participate by bringing active-duty  
8 ships, aircraft, equipment and personnel that represent the  
9 United States Navy and the United States Marine Corps; and be it  
10 further

11       RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
12 the President of the United States, the United States Secretary  
13 of Defense, the Secretary of the Navy, the Commandant of the  
14 Marine Corps and each member of the Pennsylvania Congressional  
15 Delegation.



THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 164 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY ROBINSON, BARTOLOTTA, LANGERHOLC, BROOKS, TOMLINSON, SCAVELLO, GEBHARD, SANTARSIERO, MASTRIANO, ARGALL, KANE, FONTANA, YUDICHAK, GORDNER, HUTCHINSON, L. WILLIAMS, DUSH, COMITTA, MARTIN, COSTA, J. WARD, MENSCH, PHILLIPS-HILL, CAPPELLETTI, STEFANO, VOGEL, PITTMAN, MUTH, AUMENT, SCHWANK, BROWNE AND STREET, SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

AS AMENDED, OCTOBER 18, 2021

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Secretary of the Navy to designate the City of
2 Philadelphia and both banks of the Delaware River as the site
3 of the main celebration of the 250th birthdays of the United
4 States Navy and the United States Marine Corps in October and
5 November 2025.

6 WHEREAS, The United States Navy was founded in Pennsylvania
7 on October 13, 1775, when the Second Continental Congress at
8 Independence Hall in Philadelphia authorized its first ships;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Later that year in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
11 the Continental Navy commissioned its first ship and granted its
12 first commission to John Barry, the "Father of the American
13 Navy"; and

14 WHEREAS, The Second Continental Congress in Pennsylvania
15 commissioned Lieutenant John Paul Jones who, on the Delaware
16 River, was the first to raise an American national flag, the
17 Grand Union Flag, on a naval vessel; and

1       WHEREAS, The United States Marine Corps was founded in  
2 Pennsylvania on November 10, 1775, when the Second Continental  
3 Congress at Independence Hall authorized the recruitment of two  
4 battalions; and

5       WHEREAS, The United States Marine Corps was born later that  
6 year after its first commissioned officer, Captain Samuel  
7 Nicholas, held a recruiting drive in Tun Tavern in Philadelphia;  
8 and

9       WHEREAS, The first United States Marine Corps amphibious  
10 operation, mounted from Pennsylvania, seized sorely needed  
11 gunpowder for the Continental Army; and

12       WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has continued to  
13 design and build ships and aircraft and has contributed sons and  
14 daughters to lead the United States Navy and the United States  
15 Marine Corps since their birth; and

16       WHEREAS, The United States Navy's 250-year history should be  
17 celebrated by assembling ships, including the Pennsylvania State  
18 Flagship Niagara, from every major war the United States Navy  
19 has fought; and

20       WHEREAS, This assemblage would be possible only in the  
21 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania because Philadelphia has preserved  
22 USS Olympia, the sole survivor of the Spanish-American War; and

23       WHEREAS, The United States Marine Corps' 250th birthday  
24 should be celebrated by rebuilding Tun Tavern in Philadelphia,  
25 drawing United States Marines from the Commonwealth of  
26 Pennsylvania and beyond; therefore be it

27       RESOLVED (the House of Representatives concurring), That the  
28 General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the  
29 Secretary of the Navy to designate the City of Philadelphia and  
30 both banks of the Delaware River as the site of the main

1 celebration of the 250th birthdays of the United States Navy and  
2 the United States Marine Corps in October and November 2025; and  
3 be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of  
5 Pennsylvania ~~authorize~~ URGE the United States Navy and the <--  
6 United States Marine Corps to participate by bringing active-  
7 duty ships, aircraft, equipment and personnel that represent the  
8 United States Navy and the United States Marine Corps; and be it  
9 further

10 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
11 the President of the United States, the United States Secretary  
12 of Defense, the Secretary of the Navy, the Commandant of the  
13 Marine Corps and each member of the Pennsylvania Congressional  
14 Delegation.