

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, our nation depends on our maritime services to help ensure our security, promote our prosperity, and advance the universal hope of freedom; and

WHEREAS, for generations, merchant marines and commercial sailors have assisted in the defense of our nation, most recently through their support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom with more than 5000 merchant mariners moving essential supplies to our troops; and

WHEREAS, in addition to their efforts to support our troops, merchant marines play a vital role in moving the goods that we produce around the United States and throughout the world, providing jobs and economic benefits to our country, and they serve as the eyes and ears of America at sea, helping protect our homeland; and

WHEREAS, in 1933 the United States Congress declared National Maritime Day be observed each May 22nd, the date the American steamship *Savannah* sailed from the United States to England, marking the first successful crossing of the Atlantic Ocean using steam propulsion; and

WHEREAS, National Maritime Day is recognized around the nation with activities and events that include open houses and special celebrations hosted by organizations and seaports, and the International Propeller Club of the United States, Port of Tampa, and the Tampa Council Navy League will celebrate National Maritime Day on May 15, 2012 aboard the Yacht Starship featuring guest speaker Historian Dean Mosher and a Wreath Laying Ceremony.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 22, 2012 as

“NATIONAL MARITIME DAY”

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join in this day of observance that pays special tribute to the benefits that the maritime industry provides as well as the people who serve as merchant mariners in service of our nation..

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 11th day of May, 2012.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

