



THE NATIONAL CIVIL WAR NAVAL MUSEUM

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

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***Cool History: Infernal Machines* • August 4 at The National Civil War Naval Museum**

COLUMBUS, GA –The National Civil War Naval Museum wraps up the summer “Cool History” programming season on Saturday, August 4, with ***Cool History: Infernal Machines***.

In conjunction with National Inventor’s Month, this program examines inventions and technological advancements in the navies both North and South during the Civil War. ***Infernal Machines*** focuses on the development and use of mines and torpedoes, weapons that redefined naval tactics. You’ll hear fascinating stories such as the daring raid by USN Lt William Cushing on the formidable CSS Albemarle, the controversy around the sinking of the USS Cairo by mine, and the work of the Confederate “Bomb Brothers” George and Gabriel Gaines.

The day’s programming will consist of three components:

- 1:30 – *The Hunt for the Albemarle*, Museum Theatre – Hear the personal stories of USN Lt. William Cushing in his raid on the Albemarle and the Enslaved African American who helped him in the aftermath.
- 2:30 – *Infernal Machines*, Gallery Presentation – A Gallery program exploring the development and use of mines, torpedoes, torpedo boats and submarines, including the work done by George and Gabriel Gaines, the “Bomb Brothers” of the South.
- 3:30 – *A New Weapon for the Waters*, Museum Theatre – The sinking of the USS Cairo was the first successful use of an electronically detonated mine in war – or was it? Hear the conflicting accounts from the scene of battle.

Infernal Machines will take place Saturday, August 4 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m., with programming beginning at 1:30. Cost is regular admission.

The museum is located at 1002 Victory Drive in Columbus, Georgia, and is open seven days a week. For hours, admission and more information, visit www.portcolumbus.org or call 706-327-9798.

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The National Civil War Naval Museum is located along the Chattahoochee River in Rotary Park in Columbus, Georgia. The only museum in the nation dedicated to telling the full story of the Civil War Navies, the Museum features artifacts, themed exhibits, and original ship remains, and holds year-round special events highlighting stories from the Navies North and South, as well as related topics from Civil War medicine to Black History. For more information, visit www.portcolumbus.org.