

# 2009 Holiday Lighted Boat Parade Registration Packet

Thank you all for braving the elements and joining us for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Mystic Holiday Lighted Boat Parade! The parade is a beautiful new tradition to Mystic's Holiday Season, and is even more fun to participate in than to watch.

Please note the following:

**Mystic Seaport's holiday tradition, Lantern Light Tours, has scheduled performances on the Saturday night of the Parade. The tour depicts a nineteenth century maritime village. In order to maintain this atmosphere we ask that parade participants take this into consideration when docking at the Museum before the parade. Please refrain from playing music on your boats until you leave the docks and line up. In our efforts to stay out of the way of the tours, the gathering for cookies and coffee will be in the North Entrance, near the Seamen's Inne, instead of in the past location at the YTB near Lighthouse Point.**

The schedule for the night is as follows:  
Please read on below for more detail.

4:30	Highway Bridge North Opens. Allow time for the RR Bridge if you're coming from that direction.
4:30-6:00	Tie up at North Entrance, near Seamen's Inne
6:00	Boats depart Seaport to begin parade
6:15	Parade begins at the Lighthouse with Mystic Fireboat in lead
6:20	Drawbridge opens. Monitor CHB Channel 13 in case of an emergency bridge closure.
7:30	Judging and awards at the Mystic River Park
7:30-8:00	Join the POTLUCK party at Seaport Marine Dock house.

- The event will begin at 4:30 pm at the Mystic River Highway Bridge. We plan ONE opening at 4:30 in attempt to mitigate traffic delays. Please be there for the 4:30 opening. For those vessels south of the RR Bridge please leave additional time for that bridge's schedule.
- We will be using channel 13; please keep your radio on. Vessels will proceed north, with NO LIGHT ON PLEASE, to the North Entrance, near Seamen's Inne. Seaport staff will be on hand to assist with tie-ups and directions. There will be coffee, hot chocolate, and cookies.
- Judges will be somewhere along the Eastern shore of the river between the Argia Dock and Seaport Marine Dock house.
- Proceed south through the RR Bridge West span. Turn around the bridge and return through the Eastern span. Lead vessels should proceed slowly around the RR Bridge and

on the return to allow full viewing of South Bound parade vessels. North Bound vessels shall stay as far to the eastern side of the channel as possible to permit a smooth flow.

- Vessels will then dock downtown at Mystic River Park, Seaport Marine, or the Western Condo Docks to be viewed by spectators. Judging and prizes will be awarded once all vessels have tied up. By approximately 7:30 pm 106.5 WBMW will be announcing the winners and broadcasting live from the raised platform in the park.
- Participants are invited to join the potluck party at Seaport Marine Dock House after judging. It is a BYOB and bring a plate of something type of party.
- Any vessel which needs to return north of the Highway Bridge must do so by 8:00 pm. After 8:00 there will be no bridge operator. The RR bridge operator leaves at 9:00 pm so those vessels wishing to head south of the RR Bridge must plan accordingly. Seaport Marine has offered overnight free dockage for that night to anyone who does not wish to return to their homeport until Sunday morning. Please notify Seaport Marine if you intend to stay.

The prize categories are as follows: Most Charismatic Crew, Innovative Vessel, Best Dressed Vessel, Miss Mystic Vessel of Grandeur.

Toys will be collected from participants and spectator from 6:00- 7:30 at the Mystic River Park. There will be a manned table with a toy collection sign. Gifts may also be left under the tree at the Seaport Marine Dockhouse Viewing Party. **ALL TOYS SHOULD BE UNWRAPPED.**

Thank you for participating!

If you have any further questions please contact  
The Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce at 860-572-9578 or  
Eric "The Down East Hunter" VHF channel 13 or on his cell 860-857-6872

Larry St. Pierre will be taking professional photos which will be available for viewing and purchase. Website: [www.stpierrephoto.com](http://www.stpierrephoto.com) Once on his website click on "Events."