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Great Lakes storm of 1913;
SS Edmund Fitzgerald – 10 November 1975; and
Veterans Day/Remembrance Day/Armistice Day.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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USCG – temporary certificates of documentation



The USCG National Vessel Documentation Center (NVDC) issued a [notice](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/nvdc/news/temp%20cod.pdf) [located at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/nvdc/news/temp%20cod.pdf>] stating that, effective with the close of business on 7 November, it will suspend issuance of Temporary Certificates of Documentation (TCODs). TCODs have been issued to allow recreational boat owners to legally operate their vessels during the peak summer boating season (late May through September) while the NVDC worked through its almost four month backlog. (11/6/14).

USCG – NMSAC members sought



The US Coast Guard seeks applications for membership on the National Maritime Security Advisory Committee (NMSAC). Applications must be submitted by 31 December. **79 Fed. Reg. 66387** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-11-07/pdf/2014-26443.pdf>] (11/7/14).

BOEM – Chukchi Sea oil & gas lease sale



The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) issued a notice stating that it has prepared a **draft Second Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement** (SSEIS) relating to the oil and gas lease sale in the Chukchi Sea Planning Area. Public meetings will be held in Kotzebue (17 November); Point Hope (18 November); Point Lay (19 November); Wainwright (20 November); Anchorage (1 December); Barrow (3 December); and Fairbanks (4 December). Written comments must be received by 22 December. **79 Fed. Reg. 66401** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-11-07/pdf/2014-25745.pdf>] (11/7/14).

DOT – OIG report re USMMA



The Department of Transportation (DOT) Office of Inspector General (OIG) issued the **report** [located at <https://www.oig.dot.gov/sites/default/files/USMMA%20Sexual%20Assault%20and%20Sexual%20Harassment%20Audit%20Report%5E10-23-14.pdf>] of its examination of the US Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA). It found that better program management and oversight are required for USMMA's efforts to address sexual assault and harassment. (10/23/14).

Court – Deepwater Horizon litigation



A panel of the US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit issued a decision reaffirming but clarifying its previous ruling affirming the lower court's grant of partial summary judgment with in the Deepwater Horizon litigation with regard to B.P. Exploration & Production and Anadarko Petroleum Corporation. Purported factual and legal errors in the previous ruling are addressed. **In re Deepwater Horizon**, No. 12-30883 (5th Cir., November 5, 2014) [located at <http://www.ca5.uscourts.gov/opinions/pub/12/12-30883-CVO.pdf>].

UK – grounding in charted shoal water



The UK Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB) issued the report of its investigation of the grounding of the liquefied gas carrier Navigator Scorpio on Haisborough Sand in the North Sea on 3 January 2014. The vessel was undamaged by the grounding and there were no injuries or pollution. It refloated two hours later on the rising tide. The investigation found that the vessel ran aground in restricted waters after the officer of the watch had become distracted and lost positional awareness. The passage plan was incomplete and the significant effects of wind and strong tidal streams had not been properly taken into account. Given the proximity to danger, appropriate navigational techniques were not applied and the bridge manning was insufficient. Additionally, weaknesses in the crew's navigation capability had been identified during an earlier audit of the vessel; however, follow up actions were not sufficient to prevent the grounding. **Report 30/2014** [located at http://www.maib.gov.uk/cms_resources.cfm?file=/NavigatorScorpio.pdf] (11/6/14).

Great Lakes storm of 1913



In early November, 1913, a blizzard struck the US Midwest and the Canadian province of Ontario. The **Great Lakes storm of 1913** reached its highest intensity on 9 November. A total of 19 ships were sunk and another 19 were stranded on Lakes Superior, Michigan, Huron, and Erie. Cargo losses were in excess of 68,300 tons and were valued at over a million dollars. More than 280 mariners lost their lives in the most destructive natural disaster to ever strike the Great Lakes.

SS Edmund Fitzgerald – 10 November 1975



On 10 November 1975, the laker **Edmund Fitzgerald** sank in Lake Superior with a loss of all 29 hands. It was one of the largest ships on the Great Lakes, carrying over 26,000 tons of taconite ore between Duluth/Superior and the steel mills to the south. The “Fitz” had departed on 9 November in tandem with another laker, but sailed directly into an early winter storm. It sank suddenly, without making a distress call, at about 7:30 p.m., in heavy snow with winds gusting to hurricane force and seas exceeding 30 feet in height. Gordon Lightfoot memorialized the casualty in his hit song “**The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald**”.

Veterans Day/Remembrance Day/Armistice Day



Tuesday, November 11, will be marked as the 95th anniversary of the signing of the armistice ending World War I - the war to end all wars, as it was proclaimed at the time. The day is commemorated as **Veterans Day** in the United States; as **Remembrance Day** in the Commonwealth nations; and as **Armistice Day** in France and Belgium. On this day, we also should remember the sacrifices of our military personnel, as well as those of the merchant marine who deliver vital supplies across dangerous seas in time of war.

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If you have questions regarding the above items, please contact the editor:

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