



USS NIGHTMARE

Contact: Allen Rizzo, President of USS Nightmare
859-802-5826

captain@ussnightmare.com

www.ussnightmare.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Haunted boat appears on Newport Waterfront!

Newport, KY, August 24 – It's that time of year again. School is back in session, and summer's heat has begun to show some breaks as hints of cooler air tease the tri-state. And in Newport, KY, there is another sign of the fall season ahead; America's premier haunted steamboat, the USS Nightmare, has made its annual journey back to the waterfront in preparation for the upcoming Halloween season. This year's return marks a special one in the historic dredge's tale – its 75th birthday!

Built for use as an Army Corps of Engineers' dredge, the William S. Mitchell was dubbed "...the grandest of all working steamboats..." during its 1934 dedication ceremony. After fifty years in active dredge service that seemed to be cursed with injuries and strange occurrences, the vessel made one last journey as it traveled unmanned down the Missouri River hitting multiple bridges in what became known as the Mitchell Massacre. Whereas it seemed the once magnificent vessel was doomed, the mysterious history and spectacular workings of the once powerful steamboat became the ideal surroundings for greater Cincinnati's annual Halloween favorite, the USS Nightmare.

The horrific story of the Death Dredge comes alive in the area's most detailed haunted attraction enhanced with Hollywood quality sound, lighting, animation and special effects. Earning outstanding reviews both locally and nationally, the USS Nightmare is annually one of the area's longest and highest rated attractions making it the season's best Halloween entertainment.

For this year's 18th season, the USS Nightmare will once again feature some fright seekers' favorites including the Rat Lady; Captain Mitchell's daughter, Anna; and her grandmother as well as our famous Captain and his creepy crewmembers. The 40 minute bone chilling tour covers over 20,000 square feet encompassing more than 40 frightening scenes including the pump room, the engine room, the Captain's quarters, Anna's strange play room, the torturer's chamber, and many more. Visitors experience firsthand what life on the old dredge was like as they are exposed to mankind's most common phobias including the fear of heights, the fear of creepy crawling creatures, the fear of confined spaces, and the fear of being eaten alive.

New this year, Nightmare Landing has been expanded into a Family Fun Center to include an enclosed waiting area ideal for parents with small children or those who are faint of heart. This area includes fun and games, concession area, and Laser Rage – the area’s only floating laser tag arena (available for an additional charge).

This year’s season kicks off with a debut showing for Riverfest day on Sunday, September 6 from noon to 8 p.m. Visitors can be among the first to experience this year’s show with special Riverfest Day discounted ticket price of \$15 per person. The annual preview weekend will be Friday, September 18 and Saturday, September 19 from 7 p.m. to midnight, and the regular schedule will run from September 25 through November 1. Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday night shows are from 7 to 11 p.m. with Friday and Saturday shows remaining open until 1 a.m.

General admission tickets are \$16 per person, and RIP express tickets to “skip the line” are \$20 per person. This season offers an online opportunity for families to save big! Our new Family Fun 4 Pack allows Mom and/or Dad to join the kids for an outstanding discounted price if purchased in advance. Only \$48 for 4 general admission tickets or \$60 for 4 RIP express tickets.

Also returning this season is the popular family friendly “lights on” matinee on Sunday, October 25 from 4 to 6 p.m. for just \$6 per person. Or, rent the USS Nightmare Mess Hall during regular show hours for private parties of 20 to 30 people; it’s a perfect location for a Halloween themed party.

The USS Nightmare is conveniently located on Riverboat Row in Newport, KY in front of Newport on the Levee. Visit www.ussnightmare.com for more information regarding coupons, group rates, directions, and online ticket purchasing options.

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