STATE of WISCONSIN

OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS: founded in 1959, the Wisconsin Marine Historical Society is a self-supported, nonprofit organization devoted to collecting, preserving, archiving and making materials related to Great Lakes marine history and maritime heritage and lore accessible to the public, celebrating its 60th anniversary this June; and

WHEREAS: at the core of its archives is the collection of Herman Runge, a bachelor who dedicated his life to preserving Great Lakes ship facts, photos, and information, and in 1958, bequeathed his collection to the Milwaukee Public Library; and

WHEREAS: in January 1959, a group of local prominent civic leaders formed the Wisconsin Marine Historical Society (WMHS) to promote, process and display the vast Runge collection, and over the years WMHS has supplemented this popular research collection through contributions from several other well-known marine collectors; and

WHEREAS: the Society maintains the extensive Great Lakes Marine Collection at the Milwaukee Public Library containing more than 11,000 vessel files, 32,000 vessel index cards, and more than 50,000 photographs, along with books, nautical charts, manuscripts, journals and nineteenth century newspaper stories, records of shipwrecks, diving discoveries of "lost ships," lighthouses, shipbuilding, storms, ports, and power- and sail-driven vessels, some going back to 1679;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim May 16, 2019 as

WISCONSIN MARINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY 60TH ANNIVERSARY

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all of our citizens.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 10th day of May 2019.

[Signature]
TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

[Signature]
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State