VOCABULARY

Airship – power-driven aircraft lighter than air.

Algonquin – language group used by American Indians in regions ranging from Canada to North Carolina, Native American language group used by Outer Banks American Indians.

Barge - A bottom wooden or steel vessel customarily used in commercial ship canals and in ports where ships are unable to load or discharge on the quays due to shallow draught. (quay- A solid stationary artificial landing place lying alongside or projecting into water for loading and unloading ships.)

Blockade - Prevention of commercial exchange by physically preventing carriers from entering a port or nation.

Bow – the fore end of a vessel

Brig - A two-masted vessel with both masts square rigged. On the stern most mast, the main mast, there is also a gaff sail.

Brigantine- A two-masted vessel in which the foremost is square-rigged, the mainmast fore-and-aft rigged. The correct name for this type is hermaphrodite brig, but it is just as often referred to as brigantine. The true brigantine sets a square topsail and topgallant on the mainmast.

Cipher – secret or disguised way of writing.

Colony – group of settlers or settlement in a new country fully or partly subject to the mother country.

Concretion – a rounded mass of mineral matter occurring in sandstone, clay, etc., often in concentric layers about a nucleus such as an underwater artifact.

Contingent – a body of ships or troops, etc. forming part of a larger group.

Contraband - (during the American Civil War) a black slave who escaped to or was brought within the Union lines.

Convoy - Ship or ships of war accompanying merchantmen in time of war to protect them from enemies. An escort or protection either by land or sea. A naval force for the protection of merchant ships and others, during the whole voyage or part of it.

Courtier – a person who attends or frequents a sovereign’s court.

CQD – general distress call for maritime radio use understood by maritime operators to mean Come Quickly: All Stations Distress.

Cryptanalyst – one who employs procedures, processes, methods, etc., used to translate or interpret secret writings, as codes and ciphers, for which the key is unknown.

Customs Duties - a tariff or tax imposed on goods when transported across international borders.

Cutter - The fourth class boat of a ship-of-war, a sailboat with one mast and a mainsail and two headsails.

Daub – a material such as mud spread on a structure such as a wall used as an adhesive.
Deck Destroyer

Decryption – to decode or decipher

Deploy – (military) to spread out (troops) so as to form an extended front or line, to arrange in a position of readiness, or to move strategically or appropriately.

Deposition – process of giving sworn evidence, evidence given under oath, dethroning a monarch.

Dirigible – rigid frame airship.

Dreadnought - a type of battleship armed with heavy-caliber guns in turrets: so called from the British battleship Dreadnought, launched in 1906, the first of its type.

Earthwork – artificial bank of earth in fortification.

Encryption – coded data.

Enigma Machine - an electro-mechanical rotor cipher machine developed and used in the early to early-mid twentieth century for commercial and military usage, a machine used by the German military to send coded messages.

Ensign - Flag declaring a ship's country of registry.

Espionage – spying or use of spies.

Flagship - The ship that carries an admiral's flag, the primary or lead ship in a fleet.

Founder – a vessel that is having difficulty remaining afloat.

Fresnel Lens - a type of compact lens originally developed by French physicist Augustin-Jean Fresnel for lighthouses.

Frigate - A naval escort vessel between a corvette and a destroyer in size. A similar ship between a destroyer and a cruiser in size. A warship next in size to ships of the line.

Grapnel – A device with iron claws for dragging or grasping, a small anchor with three or more flukes, used for grappling or dragging, or for anchoring a small boat.

Helm - The apparatus for steering a vessel, usually applied only to the tiller.

Inlet – small arm of a sea, lake, or river.

Ironclad – 19th century warship protected by iron plates.

Lightship - A stationary vessel carrying a light used for navigation, serving the same purpose as a lighthouse.

Magazine – A chamber for holding a supply of cartridges in a firearm.

Maroon – leave a person isolated in a desolate place (esp. and island), abandon, cast away, desert, strand, forsake, isolate.

Merchant Ship – a trading ship
Mutiny – open revolt, esp. by soldiers or sailors against their officers, a rebellion.

Palisade - a fence of pales or stakes set firmly in the ground, as for enclosure or defense.

Parapet – defense of earth or stone to conceal and protect troops.

Piracy – practice or an act of robbery of ships at sea.

Primary Account – first hand description of an act or event.

Privateer - an armed ship that is privately owned and manned, commissioned by a government to fight or harass enemy ships, to cruise as a privateer.

Propeller - The metal "wheel" or "screw" with two or more blades mounted at an angle to the hub. It is attached to the end of the propeller shaft and turns in the water providing a vessel with propulsion by pushing against the water; Mechanical device having radiating blades which is mounted on a revolving, power-driven shaft for the purpose of propelling a boat; also called a screw or wheel.

Revenue Cutter - a small lightly armed boat used to enforce customs regulations and catch smugglers.

Rudder - A device used in steering or maneuvering a vessel. The most common type consists of a flat slab of metal or wood, hinged at the forward end to the stern or rudder post and rounded at the after end to make a fair ending to the lines of the vessel. When made of metal it may either be built up from plates, shapes and castings, with or without wood filling or it may be a casting. The rudder is attached to a vertical shaft called the rudder stock, by which it is actuated or turned.

Run Aground - a vessel that hits a shoal becomes stuck or runs aground.

Screw Propeller - an early form of ship's propeller in which an Archimedes' screw is used to produce thrust by accelerating a flow of water.

Scuttle - To make holes in the bottom of a vessel to sink her, to deliberately sink a ship, usually to prevent capture by an enemy.

Shipwreck – destruction of a ship on the water by a storm, foundering, or other natural or manmade means.

Shoal – a submerged sandbar visible at low water, an area of shallow water.

Shot – a single nonexplosive missal for a cannon, gun, etc., small lead pellet used in quantity in a single charge or a cartridge in a shotgun.

Slave Ship – a ship used for the transport of enslaved people for the purpose of sale.

Sloop - A style of sailboat characterized by a single mast with one mainsail and one foresail.

Squadron - a portion of a naval fleet or a detachment of warships; a subdivision of a fleet.

Starboard - The right side of a ship when looking forward.

Steamship - Ship propelled by a steam engine driving through a propeller. It usually carries the ship prefix SS before its name. The term is often used interchangeably with "steamboat", although vessels called "steamboats" tend to be smaller and travel on rivers, while "steamships" are larger and travel on the
open sea. The distinction is not as definite as the distinction between "boat" and "ship". Vessels powered by steam engines. However, the term is often used to describe powered vessels in general, and companies who operate ocean going cargo vessels are often called "steamship companies" despite the fact that the use of steam power for ocean going vessels is obsolete, the modern standard being diesel engines fueled by oil.

Stern Tube - The watertight tube enclosing and supporting the propeller shaft on bearings.

Submarine - A vessel capable of service below as well as on the surface of the water.

Superchargers – device supplying air or fuel under pressure to an internal combustion engine for added power.

Surgeon – a medical doctor on board a ship.

Tariff – duty (or charge) on a particular class of goods.

Trawler - A fishing vessel constructed of wood or steel which uses a trawl net or nets.

U-boat – German submarine

Victual – food, provisions, esp. as prepared for use.

Wattle - stakes interlaced with twigs and forming the framework of the wall of a building.

Wheelhouse - Deck house enclosing the steering wheel. Now usually part of the bridge.

Wrecking Tug Boat - a specialized type of tugboat which is used to rescue ships that are in distress or in danger of sinking, or to salvage ships which have already sunk or run aground.