

## Victory at Sea



**Captain J.D. Itson**



**Y**ou are about to experience shipboard life in wartime. Imagine the excitement of leaving port on a fully loaded cargo ship, destination unknown. Not until you are well at sea will the sailing orders be opened and your destination revealed.

What lies in store for you on this trip? The oceans are teeming with U-boats, waiting for a chance at one of these crucial prizes loaded with munitions, fuel and other supplies. As we approach the battle zone all eyes scan the skies. Dots in the distance may be aircraft. Theirs or ours? The general alarm sounds – life jackets are thrown on, and a silent prayer offered. Your pounding heartbeat betrays your feelings.

That was then...

### Today's Cruise

Unlike the days of WWII, today you will sail on placid waters in comfortable summer weather – with no subs to worry about!

### We're On Our Way...

The gangway goes up and the mooring lines brought in. We're underway. Bob Simpson and the

Yellow Houn' Dawg Blues Band play a stirring "Anchors Aweigh" followed by Dixieland tunes and songs from the '30s and '40s. You'll line the rail, enjoying a delicious Continental Breakfast

The Lane Victory Cruise Director provides fascinating details about the harbor and its history as you sail past Ports of Call, incoming ships, and out to the open sea.

The seas are calm and there's always a chance



of seeing a pod of leaping porpoises. Seals love to sun themselves on the channel buoys while pelicans dive for fish and sea gulls soar alongside.

Nearing Catalina Island you'll see beautiful Avalon harbor and the famous Casino Ballroom; cruising along the coast you'll learn about the history and unique properties of Catalina.

### Time for Lunch

Sea air does wonders for the appetite and our catered lunch will hit the spot. It always receives rave reviews. A wide variety of delicious entrees and salads will satisfy your hunger pangs.



### Don't Miss the Tours

You'll be able to roam the entire ship – and it's a big one! If relaxing and looking out to sea is your ideal day, there are plenty of places to do it – you can perch on the bow to see what's up ahead or



seek out the shade of the fantail, watching the Lane's beautiful wake trailing behind us on the open sea.

Don't miss the guided tours through the engine room. Expert guides will take you down three stories into the hot, humid, loud and exciting heart of the ship, explaining the intricacies of the Lane's powerful steam engine.

It's an experience you'll never forget.

Then go up to the bridge where the navigation and steering goes on. You might even catch a glimpse of the captain or have a chance to steer the ship yourself.

You'll want to spend plenty of time in our two fine museums. A jeep collection, torpedo

and floating mine are in hold #2, along with the operational engine used in the movie "The Sand Pebbles." In the hold #4 museum you'll find an amazing collection of wartime and maritime memorabilia, in addition to one of the finest ship model collections you've ever seen.

### The Attack

Just to be sure you get the real feel of wartime peril, we've arranged for a mock aerial attack by enemy aircraft. Believing we're an unarmed merchant



ship, they roar in for an easy kill. Our Navy Armed Guard gun crew leaps into action. Guns bark, the planes dive and swoop and the battle is on. Suddenly, over the horizon, the Condor Squadron appears. Genuine WWII fighter planes come to our rescue and provide a great air show.

### Be Prepared

To make sure your trip is as enjoyable as possible, we recommend you wear comfortable clothes and come prepared with:

- Sweater or jacket
- Brimmed hat
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- No Flip-Flops
- Closed-toe, closed-heel, flat, rubber soled shoes
- Photo I.D. required
- All carry-ons subject to inspection

### All About the Ship

The S.S. Lane Victory is one of the last fully operational ship of the 534 Victories built. It was launched in 1945 at Cal Shipyard in Los Angeles. After serving in the final days of WWII, and through the wars in Korea and Vietnam, it was mothballed in the Ready Reserve Fleet. It languished there from 1971

until 1988 when it was deeded to the USMMVWWII by President Reagan. This saved it from being sold for scrap, and in 1989, the Lane was towed to Los Angeles harbor. Restoration got underway, primarily by WWII veterans. Booms, winches, lifeboats and deck gear, stowed in the holds, were hauled up, restored and put in place. The engine room, galley and entire ship were reworked. The mammoth task was performed entirely by volunteer labor. Eventually, genuine WWII guns were located, overhauled and mounted. In 1990 the Lane Victory was designated a National Historic Landmark.

### Statistics:

- 455 feet long, 62 foot beam, 28 foot draft
- 10,750 dead weight tons
- Main propulsion – one cross compound steam turbine with double reduction gears
- 6,000 horsepower at 90 RPM for 15.5 knots
- Propeller – 19 feet in diameter
- Fuel consumption – 42 gallons per mile

### Gift Shop

Our gift shop has a wide selection of hats, T-shirts, sweatshirts, books, disposable cameras, film and all manner of maritime memorabilia.

### The Lane Victory Needs YOU!

Originally, the United States Merchant Marine Veterans of WWII was made up exclusively of wartime merchant seamen and U.S. Navy Armed Guard. Today, our membership has grown to include anyone with a love of ships and the sea. If you'd like to participate in this exciting, living memorial, please pick up information at the gift shop table or talk to any crew member who can fill you in on the wide variety of volunteer opportunities – from the gift shop to the engine room. Our founding members are aging, and we need the younger generation to step up to the challenge.

### Visit the Lane All Year

A visit to the Lane is almost certain to spur your desire for a cruise. The ship is open daily from 9am to 3pm. Group tours can be arranged by calling the office. The museum is available on a rental basis for



parties, reunions, and even weddings. You're welcome aboard anytime, but call ahead if you'd like to arrange a guided tour.

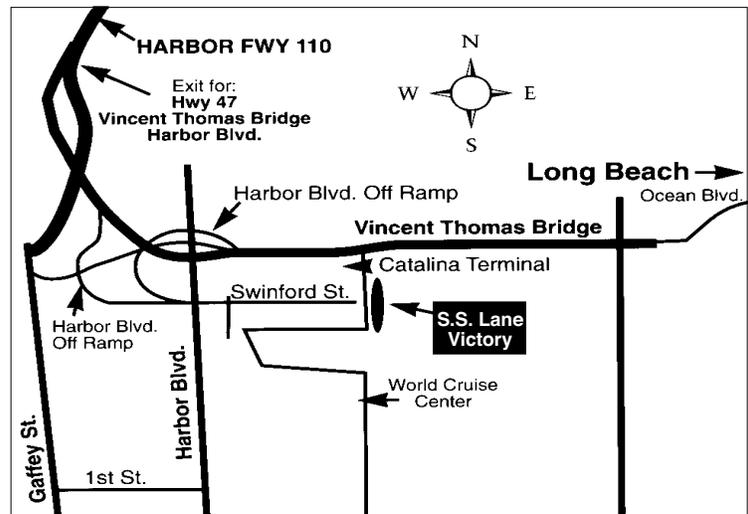
### Movies, TV and Commercials

The Lane is a valuable location site for TV shows, movies and commercials. These are just a few of the many that have been filmed on board:

Alias	Outbreak
Titanic	NCIS
Thin Red Line	McGyver
Baywatch	Flags of our Fathers
JAG	Threshold
Bud Light	

### Directions

Take the Harbor Boulevard off ramp from either the 110 (Harbor) freeway or from the Vincent Thomas Bridge. Cross Harbor Boulevard and drive into the parking lot directly ahead. We're at Berth 94 between the Catalina Express terminal and the cruise ship terminal. Follow the Lane Victory signs..



### The U.S. Merchant Marine

In WWII, our allies desperately needed supplies. The Merchant Marine, manning any ship that would float, loaded munitions, trucks, tanks, fuel, food and troops and headed to sea. Unarmed and slow moving, they were sitting ducks for the enemy. Our ships served in all war theaters, and were involved in all invasions. Almost all of the fuel and munitions supplied to our troops and allies were delivered by the Merchant Marine.

The men who served in the Merchant Marine were to receive the same benefits as the other services, but after the war, Congress reversed its decision. Veteran status was not received until 1988.

A total of 6,795 seamen lost their lives; 674 ships sank. One of every 26 who served were killed in action.

Visit [www.lanevictory.org](http://www.lanevictory.org)

Click on "Cruises" to print forms, then send or fax.

The lane Victory is dedicated to remembering Merchant Marine and U.S Naval Armed Guard lost at sea in time of war.

**GROUP RATES** (Discount only on adult tickets):

25-49	\$112.00
50-99	\$106.00
100 and up	\$100.00

Boarding 7:00 a.m. - Gangway raised at 8:30 a.m.  
Return approximately 4:30 p.m.



**OWNERS AND OPERATORS OF THE S.S. LANE VICTORY**

Berth 94, Los Angeles Harbor - P.O. Box 629

San Pedro CA 90733-0629

**310.519.9545 Fax 310.519.0265**

Fed. I.D. No. 33-0083915

California Charitable Trust No. 74803

Please note: In the event that the Lane Victory cannot sail due to weather, national security, Homeland Security orders or other matters not under our control, our liability is limited to a refund of the ticket price paid.



# S.S. Lane Victory Cruises



## Sign On! Exciting - Unique - Historical a WWII Cruise Remember How it Was

Cruise aboard the Lane Victory, a fully restored WWII cargo ship. Enjoy the sights of Los Angeles harbor en route to the blue Pacific and beautiful Catalina Island. Relive the excitement of a wartime convoy.

[www.lanevictory.org](http://www.lanevictory.org)

To get tickets call us at (310) 519-9545 or print the form off and mail or fax to the ship today.

## Order Tickets ONLINE

www.LaneVictory.org

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE

### Join Us At Sea

Photo ID required.  
All carry-on bags  
subject to inspection

U.S. Merchant Marine  
Veterans of WWII  
P.O. Box 629  
San Pedro, CA 90733  
310.519.9545  
Fax (310) 519-0265

Due to boarding  
limitations, we are unable to  
accommodate wheelchairs  
and baby strollers.

- Ticket exchanges and cancellations are subject to a \$25 per ticket handling fee.
- Aerial attack – national emergencies and weather permitting.
- Not responsible for lost or stolen tickets.

Send me \_\_\_\_ adult tickets @ \$125 and \_\_\_\_ youth (15 and under) @ \$75

Total amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ How Paid?  Check  Cash  Visa  Master Card

CREDIT CARD NUMBER 

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EXP. DATE

Make check or money order out to USMMVWWII  Mail Tickets  Hold in Will Call

**Where did you hear about us?** \_\_\_\_\_ Cruise Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**2008 Cruise  
Dates:**  
**July 12 or 13**  
**Aug 16 or 17**  
**Sep 27 or 28**

Circle the date that you  
want to go

No refunds after 8 AM on date of cruise.

Order Tickets

**USMMVWWII**  
**P.O. Box 629**  
**San Pedro, CA 90733-0629**



*Sign On!*  
*WWII Cruise*



**SS LANE VICTORY**

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*Available*

**[www.lanevictory.org](http://www.lanevictory.org)**