



**PORTCORPUSCHRISTI**

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**THE U.S. COAST GUARD TALL SHIP "EAGLE" VISITS SOUTH TEXAS**

**TO CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY**

*"As part of 4<sup>th</sup> of July Weekend Sail South Texas 2010"*

**CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS** – The United States Coast Guard Training Tall Ship the "*USCGC Eagle*" will visit South Texas to be part of Sail South Texas 2010, for Fourth of July weekend. Sail South Texas 2010 is a Tall Ship event hosted by Port Corpus Christi and presented by H.E.B. The event will be held at Port Corpus Christi's Ingleside Facility, former U.S. Naval Station Ingleside, 1455 Ticonderoga Rd, Ingleside, Texas, from July 1 to July 5, 2010

Sail South Texas 2010 highlights many special celebrations in the region and the Americas. It commemorates the official transfer of the United States Naval Station Ingleside to Port Corpus Christi, the Bicentennial celebration of independence of many Latin American countries and the United States 234<sup>th</sup> Independence Anniversary. *"We are very proud to bring the Tall Ship experience to Corpus Christi and South Texas in a larger scale than before. Our*

*community will have the opportunity to celebrate and learn about Tall Ships and the countries they represent.”* said Mike Carrell, Chairman Port Corpus Christi Commission.

The *USGC Eagle* is a sailing vessels used to train United States Coast Guard cadets. She is currently the seventh to bear the name *Eagle* for a U.S. Navy or Coastguard ship. The Eagle originally called the “Horst Wessel” and was commissioned in 1936 as a German sail training bark. After World War II, the “Horst Wessel “was transferred to the United States as part of the war reparations. On May 15, 1946 the ship was commissioned into what is now a training vessel for the U.S. Coast Guard. The *Eagle* carries 12 officers, 38 crew and 150 cadets from the Coast Guard Academy. The ship can spread some 20,000 square feet of sail and control more than 20 miles of rigging lines while under way. Each year the *Eagle* takes a long cruise to the Caribbean or Europe and several short trips around the U.S. East Coast. The homeport for the *USCGC Eagle* is the United States Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut. *“We are honored to have the official participation of the “USCGC Eagle” for our 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration. Every year, the “USCGC Eagle” is requested all around the United States to be part of the Independence Day Celebrations but this year, she chose to celebrate the United States 234<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Independence with all the South Texans.”* said John LaRue, Executive Director.

The “*USCGC Eagle*” will be joined by the “*B.E. Cuauhtémoc*” from Mexico, the “*B.E. Esmeralda*” from Chile, and the “*B.E. Capitan Miranda*” in South Texas 2010. Together these four tall ships will be the highlight of one of the most exciting 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekends ever held in the region. The “Velas de Sudamerica 2010” began last February,

2010 in Brazil with ports of call in Uruguay, Argentina, Chile and Ecuador before sailing through the Panama Canal. After crossing the Panama Canal, they will arrive in Cartagena Colombia, on the way to Venezuela, Santo Domingo to end the regatta in Veracruz, Mexico. For more information on this tour see [www.velassudamerica2010.com](http://www.velassudamerica2010.com) . Port Corpus Christi will be the only United States Port where the invited Tall Ships will get together to celebrate and share their celebration, culture and friendship. *"H-E-B is excited to be able to help bring this incredible opportunity to South Texas! The culture, history, and beauty of these ships and their crews will reward all who see them with an educational opportunity that will stay with them and inspire them to learn more about the South American Countries these ships call home."* said Shelley J. Parks, H-E-B Public Affairs, South Texas Region

Sail South Texas 2010 is an international event created by the Port Corpus Christi and presented by H.E.B. at **NO COST TO THE PUBLIC** to open the doors of the Port's newest facility at Ingleside. It celebrates independence while learning about Culture music, food and folklore of the represented countries. For more information, you can visit [www.sailsouthtexas2010.com](http://www.sailsouthtexas2010.com)