



PRESS RELEASE

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SOUTH TEXANS TO LIVE THE TALLSHIPS EXPERIENCE
“The Port of Corpus Christi & The Buccaneer Commission Announce
Sail Corpus Christi-2006”

CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS –(March 13, 2006) The Port of Corpus Christi Authority and The Buccaneer Commission proudly present the very first Tall Ship experience to the area community. The event will be hosted at the Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz International Center from ***June 6 to June 9, 2006***. The President of Sail Corpus Christi, Richard S. Durham, will make the formal announcement of the event and the announcement will take place ***Tuesday, March 14 at 10:00 a.m.*** at the Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz International Center 402 Harbor Drive.

The Port of Corpus Christi and the Buccaneer Commission, as a result of a visit by a non-profit group known as Op-Sail or Operation Sail, formed ***Sail Corpus Christi*** in 2003. Established by President Kennedy, Op-Sail is based in New York City with its mission to promote sail training and goodwill among nations. Op-Sail is known worldwide and its

Executive Director has endorsed *Sail Corpus Christi*. “We are very proud to bring the first Tall Ship experience to Corpus Christi and South Texas. Our community will have the opportunity to learn not only about Tall Ships, but also about the country that will be represented.” **Said Richard S. Durham, President of Sail Corpus Christi.**

Sail Corpus Christi 2006 will highlight the Tall Ship **A.R.C. “Gloria”** from Colombia, South America. The **A.R.C. “Gloria”** is the Colombian Naval Academy Tall Ship School, with a length of 249Ft, a draft of 16Ft-4Inch and a rig length of 131 Feet and brings a crew of 10 officers, 70 students, 37 Sub-officers, 3 Marines and 10 Civilians and its own music band. The **A.R.C. “Gloria”** not only represents the Colombian Government Naval Institution but also its people. She showcases the richness of the arts, culture, geography, tourism and commercial opportunities of Colombia. The **A.R.C. “Gloria”** was built in 1966 and she was named after Mrs. Gloria Zawadsky de Revéiz, wife of the past Colombian Minister of Defense General Revéiz Pizarro. Colombia is a country well known around the world for its music, people, coffee, precious emeralds and flowers around the world.

Sail Corpus Christi 2006 is proud to announce HEB as title sponsor and has 18 committees made up of area volunteers that are planning a series of exiting events around the visit of “**La Gloria**”. Beginning at 8:00 a.m., Wednesday June 7 through Friday June 9, public tours will be offered in the mornings and early afternoons. All around the Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz International Center different activities will highlight the Colombian Culture. In addition, the committee is creating a conference series about learning opportunities for trade with Colombia. The crew will also have the opportunity to visit area attractions, live the cowboy experience South Texas style at the world famous King Ranch in Kingsville, Texas, visit the beaches in Port Aransas and participate in a Soccer tournament and clinics with area Soccer teams.

On the morning of June 6, the arrival of the **A.R.C. "Gloria"** will be welcomed by community leaders, local officials and the Colombian Ambassador to the United States and former Colombian President, the Honorable Andres Pastrana, the Colombian General Consul in Houston, The Honorable Maria Cristina Chirolla and the Colombian Naval Attaché in Washington, Captain Pablo Romero.

The HEB Sail Corpus Christi 2006 event tickets will be on sale starting Wednesday, March 15 on our website www.ccsail.com. Ticket availability is limited to the number of patrons the ship can accommodate so early advance purchase is strongly recommended. Tickets will be priced at \$10 for dockside viewing only and \$26 for ship boarding. Parking is available nearby for \$5 per vehicle with free shuttle service to and from the Solomon P. Ortiz International Center. For more information about tickets and sponsorship opportunities, contact Vicky Lewis, Event Manager, Buccaneer Commission at 361.882.3242.

WHAT: THE HEB SAIL CORPUS CHRISTI 2006
FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT

WHEN: TUESDAY, MARCH 14 – 10:00 A.M.

WHERE: KLEBERG ROOM
CONGRESSMAN SOLOMON P. ORTIZ INTL CENTER
402 HARBOR DRIVE

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