

Titanic Dinner Dance

Planning, research, numerous meetings, and unbridled creativity paid off for Munster Historical Society's Titanic Event Committee on February 11, 2012. Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Titanic, the committee transformed Munster's modern Centennial Park Clubhouse into a 1912 luxury cruise ship, complete with wharf, pier, promenade deck, and grand dining salon.

President Kelly Benoit and Munster Clerk-Treasurer Dave Shafer took turns serving as Master of Ceremonies during the evening. Replicating the last dinner on the Titanic, a delicious meal was created and served by Chef Tom of Van Til's Catering. Dinner music by the Munster High School Camerata Orchestra and dance music by Catalyst Productions provided musical entertainment.

A "MOMENT IN HISTORY" WINTER EVENT

Costumed volunteer historical character interpreters greeted passengers who were afforded the opportunity to be photographed in front of the "Titanic Staircase". Complimentary ostrich feather fans, dance cards, and edible cigars were among keepsake souvenirs designed and handcrafted by the Titanic Event Committee.

Almost 100 people attended, from as far away as Iowa, ranging in age from 5 to almost 95, representing local groups such as Lowell Three Creeks Historical Assoc., First Midwest Bank, Munster Education Foundation, Munster School Town, and Town of Munster and Park Board.

Thank you to all who supported this endeavor. For those who were unable to attend and for those who did and wish to reminisce, this is a keepsake photo album of event highlights.

*Captain Smith and Mrs. Madeline Force Astor
(aka Dave Shafer and President Kelly Benoit)
welcome passengers aboard the "M.H.S." Titanic.*



Thanks to our volunteers and special thanks to members of the Titanic Event Committee

September Alexander, Kelly Benoit, Norma Benoit, Beth Palmer and JoAnne Shafer.

Photos are courtesy of Beth Palmer, Debbie Schmueser, and Cindy Watson.

Titanic

Dinner Dance

A "MOMENT IN HISTORY" WINTER EVENT



At Pier 7, Lieutenant Lightoller, aka Zach Smith, inspects and punches the boarding passes presented by first class passengers before allowing them to board the luxurious White Star cruise liner Titanic.



Titanic

Dinner Dance

A "MOMENT IN HISTORY" WINTER EVENT



Showcasing the panorama of the Promenade Deck, Committee Member Norma Benoit receives a beautiful red rose nautical bouquet.

Titanic Dinner Dance

A "MOMENT IN HISTORY" WINTER EVENT

After pre-boarding, first class passengers who presented their boarding passes and passed inspection at Pier 7, stroll along the Promenade Deck.



On the left, passengers Countess Noelle and Lady Lucy Duff Gordon (aka Norma Benoit and Cindy Watson) board the Titanic for "A Moment in History" event.



Titanic

Dinner Dance

A "MOMENT IN HISTORY" WINTER EVENT



For the gentlemen...Taylor Christianson, left, is ready to offer a humidor filled with edible, handcrafted White Star Line cigars.



At the end of the Promenade Deck, Rachel Dawson gave each lady an ostrich feather fan and Will Christianson presented dance cards that included the "Language of the Fan".

Titanic Dinner Dance

A "MOMENT IN HISTORY" WINTER EVENT



Stunning character portrayals by Cindy Watson (left) of fashion designer Lady Lucy Duff Gordon and by Kelly Benoit, (right) of Madeline Force Astor, the young bride of John Jacob Astor, the richest man on the Titanic, in the United States and possibly the world in 1912.



*My love
ever
and more yours
forever*

Titanic Dinner Dance

A "MOMENT IN HISTORY" WINTER EVENT



A replica of the bow of the Titanic provided passengers, like this gentleman dressed stylishly in top hat and tails, an opportunity to pose and be photographed.



Potted palms and accessories transformed the modern clubhouse into an intimate seating area on the Promenade Deck.

Titanic

Dinner Dance



Van Til's Chef Thomas and his first class dining staff served dinner in the Grand Salon at tables decorated with candelabra centerpieces.

A "MOMENT IN HISTORY" WINTER EVENT



Munster High School Camerata Orchestra, conducted by Jill E. Cooke, entertained passengers with classical music and a Titanic medley during dinner.

Titanic

Dinner Dance

A "MOMENT IN HISTORY" WINTER EVENT



After dinner, shipbuilder J. Bruce Ismay dances with Charlotte Cardeza (aka Dean and Gail Larson) while Madelaine Force Astor and Colonel Archibald Gracie (aka Kelly Benoit and Rick Dawson) waltz nearby.



Professional dance lessons and demonstrations were provided by dancers, far right, from National Dance.



WHITE STAR LINE

BOARDING PASS

PERMISSION GRANTED TO COME ABOARD

WHITE STAR LINE'S

R.M.S.

TITANIC

ISMAY, IMRIE & CO.,
34, LEADENHALL STREET, LONDON,
AND
10, WATER STREET, LIVERPOOL

PASSENGER: *«Passenger Name»*

Passenger ticket per steamship R.M.S.

CLASS: 1st 2nd 3rd Dining:

WHITE STAR LINE
Sponsors

 First Midwest Bank

Mr. Richard Dawson, www.deedgrabber.com

Hon. David F. Shafer, Munster Clerk-Treasurer

Mr. Don Erminger, Van Til's, Hammond

Contributors

Kevin Burke

Gordon Lipari, Frank O. Carlson & Company, Inc.

D&S Wire, Inc.

Estate Sale Emporium

Tonya Frazier

National Dance

Russell White

*Thank you to our sponsors and contributors who helped
make this "Moment in History" Titanic event possible.*

Passengers are encouraged to cordially introduce themselves while on board the "M.H.S." Titanic.

**“A Moment in History” Titanic Dinner Event
hosted by Munster Historical Society**

Program

Six o'clock

Pre-Boarding at Pier 7
Hors d'oeuvres & Cocktails (Cash Bar)

Seven o'clock

Welcome Aboard!
Please have your boarding passes ready.

Half Past Seven o'clock

Dinner in the Grand Salon by
Chef Thomas & First Class Dining Staff
Van Til's Catering
Classical Music performed during dinner by
Munster H.S. Camerata Orchestra
conducted by Jill E. Cooke

After Dinner Musical Soirée

Ballroom Dance Music by Catalyst Productions
Last Dance will be “Nearer, My God, to Thee”
&
Waltz Lessons by National Dance

Ten o'clock

Please be alert to announcements & plan to depart the
Grand Salon & Promenade Deck by ten o'clock.

Thanks to all costumed Titanic characters:

Character Interpreter

September Alexander
Tom Alexander
Trevor Alexander
Kelly Benoit
Norma Benoit
Rachel Dawson
Richard Dawson
Taylor Christianson
Will Christianson
Debra Ellison
Emily Ferrer
Nick Ferrer
Diane Kitchell
Beth Palmer
Perry Palmer
Chris Koste
Dean Larson
Gail Larson
Dave Shafer
JoAnne Shafer
Zachary Smith
Cindy Watson

Titanic Character Portrayed

Dorothy Gibson
Harry Anderson
Officer Herbert John Pitman
Madeline Force Astor
Noëlle, Countess of Rothes
Miss Lucile Polk Carter
Colonel Archibald Gracie
Henry Joseph Bailey, Master-at-arms
George Thomas Rowe, Quartermaster
“Molly” Tobin Brown
Emily Maria Borie Ryerson
Edward Pennington Calderhead
Lily May Futurelle
Susan Webber
Alegernon Henry Barkworth
Ida Blum Straus
J. Bruce Ismay, Shipbuilder
Charlotte Drake Cardeza
Captain Edward J. Smith
Helen Churchill Candee
Lieutenant Charles Herbert Lightoller
Lady Lucy Duff Gordon

Special Thanks!

Titanic Event Committee:

September Alexander, Kelly Benoit,
Norma Benoit, Beth Palmer & JoAnne Shafer

Photographer: Tonya Frazier

Staircase Photograph: Kevin Burke

Vinyl Staircase Sign: Gordon Lipari, Frank O. Carlson & Co.

Replica of Ship's Bow: Russell White

Boarding deck props & Titanic memorabilia provided by:

D&S Wire, Estate Sale Emporium & Munster Historical Society

Ostrich Feather Fans, Dance Cards & Edible Chocolate Cigars

Compliments of the **Munster Historical Society**

Titanic Dinner Dance



Ostrich Feather Fan

A feather fan is a timeless tradition that dates back as far as 3,000 years ago. It represents a gracious way of living from elegant eras in history.

With as much function as beauty, a feathered fan has served multiple purposes over the years including shielding the eyes from the sun and providing a gentle cooling service.

Feather fans were once considered one of the most essential accessories to a woman's wardrobe and were even indicative of a woman's social status.

Excerpted from the Feather Store

“Language of the Fan” Dance Card



*Munster Historical Society
Presents*

Titanic

*Dance Music by
Catalyst Productions*

Centennial Ballroom

Munster, Indiana

Saturday

February Eleven

Two Thousand and Twelve

Titanic Dinner Dance

Language of the Fan

Courtship

*Placed in front of face while
held in left hand...*

"I desire your acquaintance."

*Placed in front of face while
held in right hand...*

"Follow me."

Twirling with the left hand...

"We are being watched."

"Language of the Fan" Dance Card

Language of the Fan

Unrequited Love

Fanning slowly...

"I am married."

Fanning quickly...

"I am engaged."

Twirling in the right hand...

"I love another."

Language of the Fan

When in Love

Placed near the heart...

"You have won my love."



Handle placed on the lips...

"Kiss me."

Drawing across the cheek...

"I love you."

Titanic Dinner Dance

Sea Mist

*Whispering shells,
Crystal blue swirls,
Misty memories,
Adrift with the tide.*

Starry hopes,

An evening enchanted.

Silvery moments

Slip through the fingers

Like grains of sand

Sparkling as they fall.

They are yours to treasure


For memory, like the sea,

Captures them forever.

Compliments  *Manster Historical Society*

Sea Mist Poem & Titanic Dinner Menu

Big Reservation Only *Limited Space Available*



Titanic Dinner Event Menu

Filet of Beef served with Mushroom Demi
Chicken Breast with Lyonnaise
Chef Selection of Seasonal Vegetables
Rosemary Roasted Red Potatoes
Spring Blue Salad with Raspberry Vinaigrette
Vienna Rolls with Butter Sheet Cake with Raspberry Filling

Fresh Citrus

Food Tea & Hot Tea with Lemon Wedges & Sweeteners
Regular & Decaf Coffee with Creamer & Sweeteners

