"DO IT WITH A WILL"

◆ INTRODUCTION

On Richard Henry Dana's first night at sea on board the brig Pilgrim he noted that, "Unintelligible orders were so rapidly given, and so immediately executed...that I was completely bewildered." Though Dana may have looked as "salty" as any "jack tar", he soon found that the language of the sea had its very own vocabulary. To work as a sailor you have to learn to speak like one.

◆ THE CHALLENGE

Below is a list of words and expressions from the Euterpe. Divide into your crews. Decide what each word or phrase means. Write your guess next to each word. Once you have finished, match your guesses with the vocabulary list. How close did you come to getting the correct definition?

- aft (Afterward of abaft) In rear to, or towards the stern
- bilge lowest internal part of the hull where ballast is kept
- galley The ship's kitchen
- poop nickname for the high deck at the stern.
- greenhand Inexperienced hand on a vessel
- port the left side of vessel, as one stands facing forward
- head (Ship's toilet) located near front of ship under bowsprit
- stern the back of a ship or boat
- greenhand Inexperienced hand on a vessel
- line a sailor's word for rope that has a purpose
- mouse turns of twine, or other small line, around the opening of a hook to prevent unhooking

- "A blowout on sleep" Not turning out in the morning until breakfast
- "Avast" stop, quit what you are doing, hold your work and await further orders
- "Aye, Aye" "yes, I understand your orders and yes, I will carry out your orders"
- "Bear a hand" Help out, make haste
- "Bend your back and break your oars!" Work hard!!
- "California Fever!" (laziness) in regards to Mexican California; Coined by Richard Henry Dana
- "Capital waterdog!" Good seaman
- "Carry on" Indication that an order is finished being given and must be carried out
- "Do it with a will" Willingly with enthusiasm