



Live the Adventure, Honor the Legend™

Volunteer Opportunities

The USS Midway Museum has a large pool of volunteers and a small paid staff that makes up a very homogeneous team with a very positive attitude. We are looking for people to assist in promoting and sustaining this “Midway Magic” environment, and we encourage your participation as a volunteer in one of the following areas, pending an application review and availability for open positions. Women and civilians are encouraged to apply. A monthly commitment is required.

1. Docent (tour guide)
2. Airwing (aircraft maintenance and restoration)
3. Ship Restoration
4. Safety
5. Exhibits Development
6. Knot Tier/Sailor as Story teller (Living History, Bos'n mate)
7. WWII Veterans as Storytellers (Speakers Forum)
8. Transcriber (Exhibits Department)
9. Teacher's Assistant for School Programs
10. Overnight Program Instructor
11. Greeter/Host (Student Audio Tour)
12. Exhibits Maintenance

Detailed descriptions for the above assignments are listed below

The opportunities outlined below are varied in requirements but similar in that the central theme is to **entertain, educate and facilitate** the needs of our guests.

For information on other cultural volunteer opportunities in San Diego, please go to the following web site: www.culturalvolunteers.com

1. Docent (Tour Guide)

Job Description: This position interfaces with the public and provides a personal touch to Midway's self-guided audio tour of the museum. Being a docent is probably one of the most rewarding experiences a volunteer can encounter as you witness positive reactions of visitors to informative, yet individually embellished (as appropriate) presentations.

Minimum Requirements: Prospective volunteers must be at least 18 years of age, able to climb ship's ladders and stand/walk for periods of up to 4 hours. Strong interpersonal skills with the ability to communicate information clearly and concisely are important. Personal traits of timeliness, reliability and diplomacy are expected. Prior military service a plus, but not essential.

Training Provided: A 6-week, 30-hour training curriculum (5 hours each session), using a standardized outline covering all aspects of ship familiarization, exhibits, history and interpersonal skills. After completing classroom study, 20-hours of "on the job" training is required accompanied by a seasoned docent before successfully completing a walk-thru with a docent leader.

Duties: As a docent graduate, you will give brief talks to groups at various venues throughout the ship. All activities are under the direction of the Chief Docent and daily operations are delegated to a Docent of the Watch (DOW) who makes various daily watch assignments.

Commitment: After completion of the above requirements and receiving a "yellow hat", a minimum of 20 hrs. per month is required. Scheduling is flexible with shifts available 7 days a week; watches (shifts) are 4 hours each in the AM or PM with occasional frequent opportunities to assist at special evening events.

2. Airwing/ Aircraft Restoration

For more info, see <http://www.midwaysaircraft.org/>

Job Description: This position provides the opportunity for airplane buffs to participate in both the "resurrection" of aircraft stricken from service to full static (non-flying) status, as well as the maintenance of those restored exhibits onboard the Midway Museum. Immense pride is associated with being a member of a team that brings an aircraft from virtual scrap condition to a full-fledged museum quality static exhibit. It is one of the most rewarding experiences a volunteer can encounter.

Minimum Requirements: No prior experience necessary. Team membership is open to all, but especially to experienced aircraft metal workers and novices with a mechanical aptitude. We are currently seeking team leaders, hazmat reps,

equipment drivers, and technicians. Volunteers with administrative, storekeeping, inventory, and equipment operator skills are also needed.

Training Provided: All volunteers must complete an initial orientation with the Airwing department. After submitting an application, orientation is offered on a monthly basis, normally on a Saturday on the Midway with advance notice.

Duties: Projects include restoring and maintaining a variety of historic, military aircraft to include: washing aircraft, corrosion control and preservation, painting, maintenance support and administration. Initial assignments involve maintenance and upkeep activities performed on the many static aircraft already aboard the museum. After working with the Airwing maintenance crew, if a volunteer demonstrates that he or she would be a suitable match for working at our North Island facility, a request for participation/access to the base may be requested. Our primary restoration facility is located on Naval Air Station North Island, Hangar 805. The hangar is well equipped for bringing aircraft in various stages of disrepair to pre-paint condition. Current projects include: F4U-4 Corsair, F4F-3 Wildcat, F7U-3 Cutlass, and SBD-1 Dauntless. Future projects include: SH-60B Seahawk, FJ-3 Fury, HOS-3 Dragonfly, and F6F Hellcat. We are also operationally restoring tow tractors, forklifts, and miscellaneous aviation Ground Support Equipment.

Commitment: A commitment of at least of 4 hours per month is desired. Work hours: 8:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. Normal activities aboard Midway are performed Tuesday, Friday and Saturdays, with other days available upon approval. Restoration projects in Hangar 805 are performed **Tuesday and Thursday through Sunday**.

3. Ship Restoration (SR)

Job Description: Revitalizing selected areas of the Midway and transforming compartments and work spaces to authentic representations of “the way life was” aboard Midway are the responsibilities of Ship Restoration. Each area is researched to achieve authenticity and is revitalized accordingly. The museum’s restoration volunteer force provides much of this effort, beginning with dirty clean-ups and ending in authentic area restorations and realistic reproductions.

Minimum Requirements: Prospective volunteers must be physically fit, able to climb ladders and work in confined spaces. A significant number of volunteers from a variety of trade backgrounds are needed, including metal smiths, welders, electricians, plumbers, painters, carpenters and handypersons - professionals and novices alike. Trade experience is desired but not mandatory. Navy personnel, active or retired, of comparable rates or interests are invited to participate. Groups as well as individuals are welcomed to join teams in restoring new areas to add points of interest on the self-guided visitor tour. Applications are accepted

from individuals 18 years and older as well as minors of least 15 years who participate with a parent.

Training Provided: All SR volunteers must complete an initial orientation which is overseen by the Engineering Department. Once a volunteer has been teamed with a mentor or existing volunteer, a mutually agreeable work schedule is arranged.

Duties: Most work projects involve cleaning and/or painting. The majority of SR team members work mornings on **Tuesday, Wednesday, or Saturday**. If it is determined that a volunteer can work independently, work periods can be any day of the week, at hours between 8 A.M. and 5 P.M.

Commitment: Each volunteer is asked to work a minimum of 4 hours per week, or 16 hours per month.

4. Safety Department

Job Description: Visitor safety and security is a high priority aboard the Midway as well as protection of our ship, museum exhibits, assets and staff. Safety/Security volunteers patrol all areas of the ship, provide basic first aid for both guests and staff, and respond to all emergency situations, whether medical or other. They monitor and control the entrance and all exits, monitor the loading and parking areas adjacent to the ship and monitor the surrounding waterways as well. All special events also require participation by Safety/Security volunteers. Safety administrative tasks involve ID badge control, parking permit control, incident reporting, safety equipment management, engineering and maintenance job ordering, personnel training and records maintenance.

Minimum Requirements: Prospective volunteers must be 18 years of age, physically fit, and able to commit to 20 hours a month (flexible schedule). Personal traits of timeliness, reliability, diplomacy, and the ability to remain calm in the face of emergency are necessary. Volunteers for Safety activities must be able to climb up and down the many ladders (stairs) aboard ship, as well as walk and stand for extended periods of time. Qualification in First Aid, CPR and Defibrillator training is encouraged and is provided periodically.

Training Provided: All new Safety volunteers must complete an initial 3-hour training and orientation session after accomplishing the self-guided museum tour at least once. Upon completion of the orientation, a five-hour watch will be scheduled for the trainees to familiarize themselves with all areas and posts to be covered and patrolled. An additional 20 hours of on-the-job training must be completed prior to being certified.

Duties: Work shifts can be any day of the week, for roughly five-hour periods (8:30-1:30 or 12:30-5:30). Evening shifts for special events are also available. Safety team members are assigned a post at the start of the shift and are expected to assist guests and patrol for potential hazards and respond as trained to emergency situations.

Commitment: A commitment of 20 or more hours per month is expected for all Safety volunteers.

Exhibits Department

5. Exhibits Development

Job Description: The Exhibits Department is seeking volunteers to assist with the design and installation of new exhibits and fine tuning of already existing exhibits.

Minimum Requirements: Candidates will have basic skills in using hand tools, painting, cleaning, restoration, and minor lifting to perform basic maintenance tasks involving museum exhibits. Eye for detail and craftsmanship preferred.

Training Provided: Assignments are made by Rudy Shappee, Exhibits Team Leader. Training is primarily on the job with direction from key members of the team.

Duties: This position encompasses assisting in the construction of new exhibits and the fine-tuning and maintenance of existing exhibits.

Commitment: A minimum of 4 hours per month (preferably 2 hours per week) on a flexible schedule on **Tuesday and Thursday only.**

6. Living History – Bosn’s Mate

Job Description: The Midway has a living history exhibit on the foc'sle. Docents who were in the Navy work in the Bosn's Locker to demonstrate rudimentary skills in marlinspike seamanship. We need more potential "old salts" to don uniforms once worn by Navy Boatswain's Mates to tie some basic knots and entertain our guests - making knotted items and sharing sea stories in the Foc'sle. Bosn's Mate exhibit is managed and funded by Midway Exhibits, sponsored by Midway Education and staffed by Midway Docents.

Minimum Requirements: Prospective volunteers must be willing to learn how to tie such knots Turk's Heads and Running Bowlines on a Bight, and be willing to study under the existing Mate to learn the fine arts of the foc'sle.

Training Provided: Docent Training (audit only)

Commitment: Be willing to spend at least five hours per month at the exhibit teaching marlinspike seamanship. Hours for shifts are 10am - 3pm **Friday, Saturday or Sunday**, (or other days by request).

7. Living History–WWII Speakers FORUM

Job Description: This exhibit involves World War II veterans sharing personal stories with Midway guests, working next to the WW II-era SBD Dauntless aircraft. Midway visitors are eager to meet veterans with first-hand experience.

Minimum Requirements: Volunteers are asked to participate for at least one, 2 hours shift per month. Docent training is recommended, but not required.

Training Provided: Candidates must submit a volunteer application in advance, and receive orientation from the Exhibits department.

Duties: Conversational/freestyle discussion; additional visual aids may be used by the guest speaker to enhance their stories.

Commitment: Guest speakers are scheduled **Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, or Sundays** from 12-2pm.

8. Transcriber

Job Description: Working with the ship's historian, in the exhibits department, transcribers watch oral history videos (mostly WWII vets interviews) and transcribe the dialogue into a word document on the computer. Completed files will be a valuable resource for researchers and reference, and possible exhibit content.

Minimum Requirements: Prospective volunteers must be fluent in MS Word, able to operate a basic video camera, able to climb ship's ladders, and be at least 18 years of age.

Training Provided: Work directly with ship's historian for set up and formatting and practice run.

Duties: Listening to dialogue and writing it down and/or typing it into the computer. Job is on site in an area of the ship accessible only by ladder.

Commitment: One to three shifts per month, with a minimum of 4 hours per month. Work shifts can be flexible, **Tuesdays - Saturdays only** between 9-5, coordinated with ship's historian.

Education Department

9. 'On Board' Program Educator

Job Description: Prospective volunteer educators will assist in teaching classes on a variety of basic science and social science subjects (grades 2-8) in the context of Naval history.

Minimum Requirements: Educators must be enthusiastic about working with kids: friendly, articulate, and able to stand/walk for several hours at a time, have the ability to navigate ship's ladders, and be at least 18 years old. A criminal history security check is required to include fingerprinting.

Training Provided: Docent training is preferred. Volunteer needs basic understanding of the ship (and its components) to help explain and/or make connections to the science/math concept being presented. Teaching concepts to be covered include Electricity and Magnetism, Weather, Thermal Energy, Physical Property of Light, and Newton's Laws of Motion as related to flight in addition to recently added math and social science concepts such as community and geometry.

Duties: Program start time is dependent on group arrival time. Groups arrive to start between 9:30 and 11:00 A.M. Tour time is approximately 2 hours. Shift time is approximately 4 hours per tour.

Commitment: **Weekdays only**, during the school year. Prospective volunteers can expect a minimum request of one shift per week during the slower months of January through March, building up to a maximum of three shifts per week during the high volume months. Program does not run in summer months

10. 'Live Aboard' Program Educator

Job Description: Prospective volunteer educators will spend the night on board and give tours of the ship/museum to school children.

Minimum Requirements: Docent training, or relevant shipboard and/or teaching background required. Prospective volunteers must be friendly, articulate, and able to stand/walk for several hours at a time, have the ability to navigate ship's ladders, and be a minimum of 18 years of age. Criminal history security check is required.

Training Provided: Docent training required. Volunteers need basic understanding of the ship and its components.

Duties: Conduct tours and supervise groups

Commitment: Two shifts per month. Evening shifts are 4pm-11pm, Morning 6:30 am-9:30am, or full overnight.

11. Audio Tour Host

Job Description: Volunteers provide a friendly greeting to youth groups as they arrive at the ship and then give an orientation on how to use Audio tour head set.

Minimum Requirements: **Dexterity for manipulating the hand-held audio player. Enthusiasm for working with children required.** Excellent customer service skills needed. Minors 15 or older may apply with parent or guardian consent only.

Training Provided: On the job training.

Commitment: **Weekday mornings**, a few times per week or month. **DURING SCHOOL YEAR ONLY**

5. Exhibits Maintenance

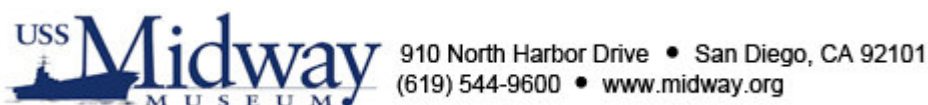
Job Description: Maintain existing exhibits with specialty techniques and fine detail.

Minimum Requirements: Candidates will have good manual dexterity and ability to climb ship's ladders and have an eye for detail.

Training Provided Training is primarily on the job with direction from key members of the team.

Commitment: A minimum of 4 hours per month (preferably 2 hours per week) **Tuesday Mornings ONLY**

Volunteers Make the Midway Magic!



(Updated January 2011– this list is subject to change.)