



CAPE BLANCO HERITAGE SOCIETY

PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE AND HISTORIC SITES FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

July 4th Jerry Can Races — An Annual Tradition

On July 4, at 2:00 p.m., Cape Blanco Heritage Society will hold the 23rd Annual Jerry Can Races near the Port Orford Lifeboat Station Museum in the Port Orford Heads State Park. This activity reflects a tough task of the U.S. Coast Guard men who served at this rescue station from 1934 to 1970.

Jerry cans are military fuel cans. Why are they called “jerry cans”? During World War II, British soldiers in North Africa noted that the Germans’ fuel cans were better: They did not split when falling off a truck. The British adopted the German design and called them Jerry cans. (“Jerry” was a nickname used by the British to refer to German soldiers.)

During the early days of the Lifeboat Station, the Coast Guard men — known as “Coasties” — carried fuel from the main station to the boathouse, located in Nellie’s Cove, 280 feet down a staircase of more than 530 steps. They carried the fuel in five-gallon cans, one in each hand. Each can weighed 42 pounds.

To honor this work, Cape Blanco Heritage Society welcomes people to its Jerry Can Races. Two-person relay teams will carry two Jerry cans — one in each hand — over a 50-yard course. Winners will be determined by the fastest time in each class. Classes are determined by the combined ages of the team members, in a men’s division (42-pound cans) division, a women’s division (20-pound cans), and a couples division. Contestants must be at least 16 years of age. Grand prize for the overall fastest team is a Jerry Rogue Jets digital \$250 certificate.

TO GET THERE: From HWY 101 in Port Orford (at mile marker 301) turn onto 9th Street and proceed west up Coast Guard Hill (follow the yellow line) until you reach the park. As you approach, information may be available on radio station 88.30 MHz.

For more information, call 541-332-0521 or visit capeblancoheritagesociety.com ☼☼☼



Twenty-Third Annual *Jerry Can Race*

July 4, 2026

TEAM NAME: _____

MEMBER 1 NAME: _____ AGE: _____

MEMBER 2 NAME: _____ AGE: _____

TEAM COMBINED AGE: _____

TEAM CLASS:

If Your Team's Combined Age Is...

Please CIRCLE...

32 to 58

SURFMAN

59 to 81

PETTY OFFICER

82 to 101

CHIEF

102 and above

COMMANDER

TEAM DIVISION:

Please CIRCLE...

WOMEN'S

MEN'S

COUPLES

Disclaimer

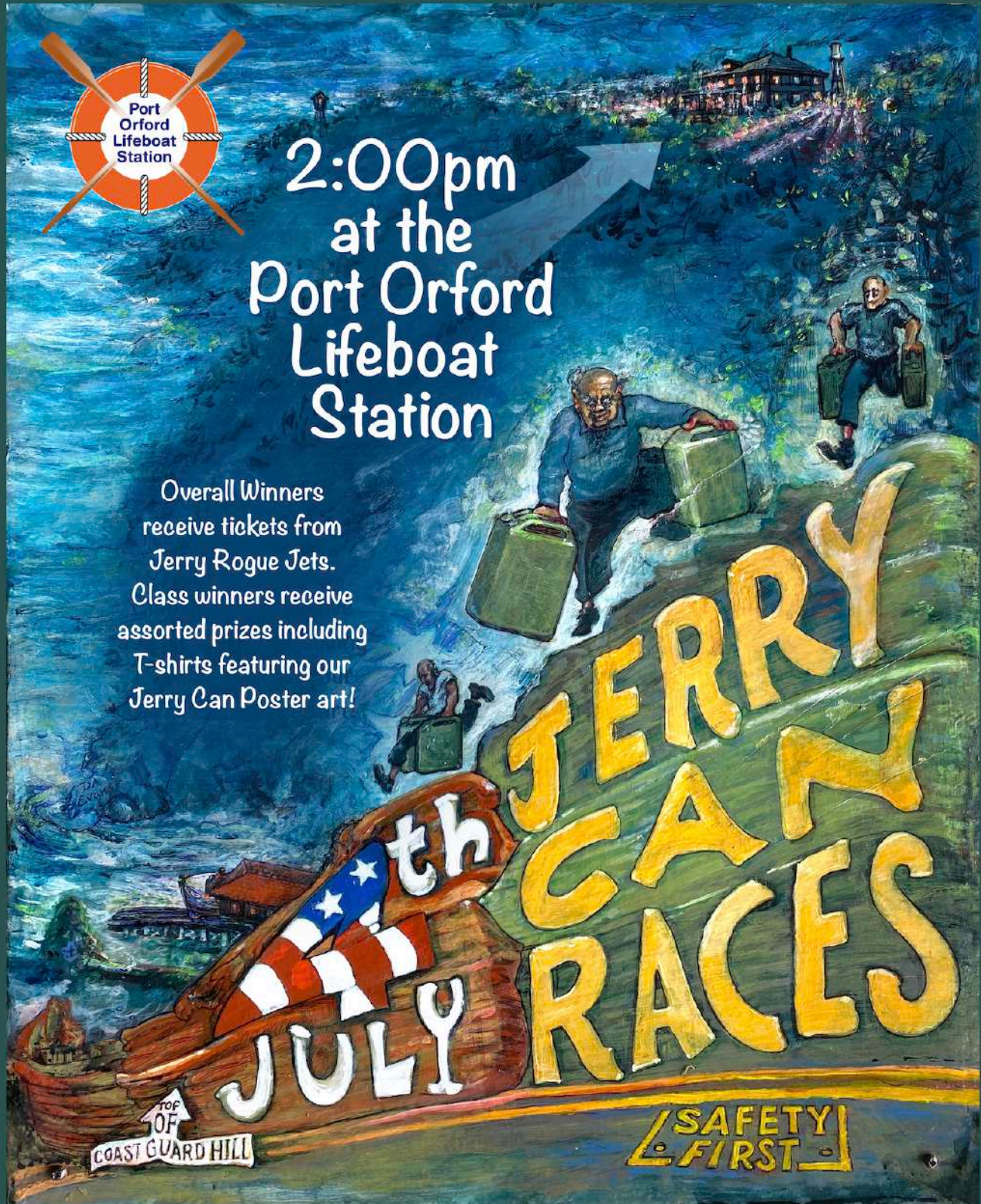
I understand that I am about to engage in an outdoor sports activity and take responsibility for my own safety. I hereby hold blameless the Cape Blanco Heritage Society and the Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation.

~ The Cape Blanco Heritage Society Presents ~
THE 23rd ANNUAL



2:00pm
at the
Port Orford
Lifeboat
Station

Overall Winners
receive tickets from
Jerry Rogue Jets.
Class winners receive
assorted prizes including
T-shirts featuring our
Jerry Can Poster art!



More information at capeblancoheritagesociety.com ~ Poster art by Darren Evans.