

## SUFFICIENT FOR LIFE-SAVING

The United States Life - Saving Service was responsible for saving over 177,000 lives during its 44 year existence. Inventors continually canvassed the organization to present their ideas and inventions, with hopes that the government would adopt them.

To effectively examine and evaluate these proposals, Sumner Increase Kimball, the civilian head of the Revenue Cutter Service and later head of the Life - Saving Service, created two boards of experts to view the proposals. One board oversaw the proposals relating to boats, rafts, life cars, carriages, lines and similar items. The other board investigated wreck ordnance and all the articles connected with this subject. By 1882, both boards merged into a single body called the Board on Life - Saving Appliances.

This exhibit, presented by the United States Life-Saving Service Heritage Association, explores some of the more outlandish inventions submitted to the Board on Appliances for consideration.

Image courtesy National Archives and Records Administration.



*LIFE-SAVING APPARATUS.*

PARKER'S  
ARK LIFE-BOAT

1888.

### EXHIBIT DETAILS

The exhibit consists of eight (8) panels, with brackets for wall mounting. The exhibit package also includes two (2) posters or signs. Additional posters available upon request.

USLSSHA staff members do not travel with the exhibition. Host institutions must provide qualified persons to unpack, install, and re-pack the exhibition. Unless specified, hanging structures or other exhibit furniture are not provided with the exhibition.

Lectures available. Please contact for details.

### RENTAL FEE & RENTAL PERIOD

The rental fee is \$500 and covers an initial booking of twelve (12) weeks.

Rental fees must be paid to the USLSSHA three weeks prior to the beginning of the booking period.

The host institution is responsible for transporting the exhibition from and returning it to the USLSSHA. A two-week period is allowed on each side of the scheduled exhibition dates for shipping/pick-up and return.

### REQUIREMENTS

Limited access display area; exhibit handling by museum professionals; fire protection according to local ordinances.

Insurance covering the exhibition during shipping to and from the sponsoring institution, as well as during the exhibition period, is required for all traveling exhibitions.

Sponsoring institutions are required to credit the USLSSHA and any specified funding agencies in all promotional materials generated for the exhibition.



**US Life-Saving Service Heritage Association**  
Dedicated to preserving our National Life Saving Treasures