Rare, Red Bears Invade Titanic Museum Attractions
In Branson, MO and Pigeon Forge, TN

An important goal of Titanic Museum Attraction has always been to provide a stimulating connection with history that families, with their children, can experience together.

Our most recent exhibit honors the 135 children aboard the Titanic, and it has delighted guests with displays such as the carousel-themed storefront window featuring the world of the imagination Edwardian Period parents created for their children.

And as we continued to think about our new children’s exhibit, we wondered how to do something special for the holidays that will build on the fierce, instinctive love of parents for these vulnerable children. At the same time, there is the incredible love these children—both then and now—have for their stuffed animal companions.

We seized upon the idea of the Teddy Bear, which became popular after President Theodore “Teddy” Roosevelt refused to shoot a helpless cub, knowing that his own young son would be shocked and devastated.

That is how we discovered the idea of huggable Christmas bears looking for forever friends. And not just average bears. No, for these huggable Christmas bears are RED, reminding us of the joy inherent within the holidays even as they symbolize the deep bonds of love between parents and their children, both now—today—and then, in 1912.

Even today, we see children cuddling stuffed animals, their eyes widening as they enter the Grand Staircase or admire the fifty-six-thousand-piece Lego Titanic created by ten-year-old Brynjar Karl.
And then, aboard RMS *Titanic*, many children carried stuffed animals. For example, there were the Navratil brothers. Dubbed the Titanic Tots by journalists of the day, these vulnerable young boys were pictured with their toys and their stuffed tiger cat. Their pictures were published in major newspapers around the world in a massive global effort to locate their mother after they were separated from their father, who did not survive.

And there was First Class passenger Robert Douglas Spedden, inseparable from his treasured stuffed polar bear. Mrs. Spedden even wrote a children’s book commemorating her son’s adventures with Polar.

During the holiday season, these soft, huggable red bears represent the deepest human instinct to protect, to nurture the children in every era. It is the most basic, powerful of all human instincts.

On RMS *Titanic*, parents were risking all to provide a better life for their children in America. Today, at Titanic Museum Attraction, parents come from near and far to give their children an exciting opportunity to experience history at Titanic Museum Attraction.

These huggable red bears will be fashionably attired in the popular buffalo plaid. A rare, delightful combination acknowledging the deepest of human experience then and now even as they remind us of holiday Christmas joy.

Museum guests will find these unique holiday bears posing beneath ten elegantly decorated Christmas trees, plush and warm in the glow of thousands of dazzling holiday lights. The bears, looking for forever friends, can only be seen and adopted at Titanic Museum Attractions in Branson, Mo & Pigeon Forge, Tn during the Christmas season.

These cuddly red bears are a connection between parents and children then, and now and bring a gift of comfort and joy during the holiday season to children, parents, and to all who encounter them.

As written by Officer Campbell