



THE TELEGRAPH

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Need to renew your membership?

There's still time! **Our Summer 2015 issue of *PowerShips*** is scheduled to be mailed in July. If you haven't renewed your SSHSA membership, please do so today to ensure you don't miss out. You may renew your membership by calling us at (401) 463-3570 or by mail at 2500 Post Road, Warwick, RI 02886. We look forward to welcoming you back aboard.

Coming up in *PowerShips*

The next issue of *PowerShips* will be mailed in mid-July. Please be sure to renew your membership if you have not yet done so to ensure you receive a copy.

Coming up in the Summer 2015 Issue of *PowerShips*:

Going to Sea with Cunard

Through the Lens of Byron Huart: Cruise Ships at New York

Remembering the *Eastland*

A Final Visit to *Leonardo da Vinci*

Museum Profile: The Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, Halifax

***Steamboat Bill* and *PowerShips*: A Look Back Over 75 Years**

Don't miss out!

Headquarters Update

A big "thank you" to all of the members, friends, and family who joined us for our Annual Meeting and the launch of our new Ship History Center this past May! Having our entire collection under one roof is something that we have been working toward for years, and it was great to have you all with us on this momentous occasion.

As many of you know, our archives have spent the last several decades scattered across



several warehouses and libraries. This equates to thousands of images, artifacts, periodicals, artwork, official records, and memorabilia that relatively few people even knew existed. It's long past time to change this, and the space that we now call home in Warwick, Rhode Island, is the perfect place to do it.

We moved into our new building last August and have completed moving all

of our archives under one roof. Thanks to the hard work of many members, volunteers, and staff, we're pleased to announce that the Ship History Center is now open to our members and researchers by appointment. It's an important first step that sheds light on items that we have been collecting for the last 80 years.

However, we know we can't stop here. Our goal is not just to appeal to amateur and professional historians, but to anyone interested in this fascinating segment of American history. We are in the process of developing a timetable to open the center to the general public. This will require additional staff and volunteers so we can further interpret and develop the existing exhibits so these and future displays appeal and make sense to all.

We hope that this news excites all of you as much as it excites us here in Rhode Island. There's a lot of work in front of us, but we're looking forward to creating a bold new chapter in SSHSA's history.

(Above image: Research & New Media Coordinator Astrid Drew christens SSHSA's new Ship History Center, as Membership Coordinator Alissa Cafferky, Office Administrator Karen Sylvia, and Executive Director Matthew Schulte look on. Image courtesy of Bob Hughes.)

Surplus Registers Still Available to Members

We still have a number of surplus American Bureau of Shipping (ABS) Records, Lloyds Registers, and Merchant Vessels of the United States records available. These registers are for educational use and are available to our members for **\$10.00-\$25.00 per register/volume, plus shipping and handling costs**. The proceeds from these registers will go directly towards maintaining our collections and library. The condition of the volumes varies from fair to excellent.

For a complete listing of available registers, please call us at (401) 463-3570, or e-mail us at acafferky@sshhsa.org.



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Maritime Lecture to be Held at NEIT

Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Time: 6:00PM

Location: Media Presentation Theater, New England Tech, One New England Tech Boulevard, East Greenwich, RI 02818

Lecture Description: Eric Goetz will speak on the evolution and history of composite boats. Eric is a builder of sailing vessels used in the America's Cup, owner of Goetz Custom Boats, and co-founder of the Resolute Racing Shells Company. He has been known throughout his career as a leader in boat building technology and was one of the first builders to use carbon fiber to increase stiffness and remove weight from racing sailing vessels.

This event is free and open to the public.

Call for Volunteers

Like what you've heard about our new Ship History Center in Warwick, Rhode Island? We are looking for volunteers who are interested in learning about the history of engine-powered vessels and our collections.

Scheduling is flexible and there are several different opportunities available.

Whatever your interest is, give us a call at (401) 463-3570 and we'll see where you fit in!

Chapter News

To learn about the latest news and meeting dates for our Chapters, please visit www.sshsa.org or call us at (401) 463-3570.

New Exhibit Featured in NEIT Library



We recently curated an exhibit in New England Institute of Technology's library in East Greenwich, Rhode Island. This exhibit, titled "Marine Engineering throughout History" is a brief overview of the progression of marine engine technology from early steam engines in the 1800's to the present.

The exhibit is displayed in three sections—"Paddlewheel Ships and Walking Beam Engines," "Screw Propelled Ships and Expansion Engines," and "Nuclear Power in Ships." This exhibit houses ship models, plans, and drawings from our archives, including a model of the steamship *J.T. Morse*, ship plans of the SS *Admiral Dewey* and SS *Columbus*, and a drawing of the Nuclear Ship *Savannah*.

We hope this exhibit will inspire students and visitors to further study and explore marine technologies, as well as its history.

2015 Awards Announcement

The SS *Berkeley* and the USS *Hoga* were the big winners in this year's SSHSA Awards, taking home the Ship of the Year and Tug of the Year awards, respectively.

Built in 1898 on the slipway next to the battleship Wisconsin in the Union Iron Works Yard, the triple-expansion steam-powered Berkeley operated on San Francisco Bay between Oakland Pier and the San Francisco Ferry Building for 60 years. Berkeley was one of the last two remaining ferryboats on San Francisco Bay, surviving 20 years beyond the building of the San Francisco Bay Bridge. She was the first successful propeller driven ferry on the Pacific. The vessel was taken out of service in the spring of 1958 and fell into disrepair before being restored in the 1970s. She was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1990 and now serves as a centerpiece of the fleet of historic ships at the Maritime Museum of San Diego.

USS *Hoga* (YT-146) was commissioned into the United States Navy in May 1941 and was assigned to the Naval Station at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Today, she is a survivor of the December, 7, 1941 attack on the Naval Forces in Hawaii. *Hoga* distinguished herself through her crew's actions in helping beach the burning and sinking battleship USS *Nevada*, which was in danger of sinking and blocking the harbor entrance/exit. *Hoga* fought fires on Battleship Row for 72 continuous hours, particularly working on the blazing hull of USS *Arizona*. Due to their heroic efforts, the crew of *Hoga* was commended by Admiral Chester A. Nimitz, Commander in Chief of the Pacific Fleet.

In 1948, *Hoga* was transferred on loan to the Port of Oakland for use as a fireboat. The re-christened *Port of Oakland* (later changed to *City of Oakland*) entered service in July 1948. In her 40 year career as an Oakland fireboat, the vessel fought countless shipboard fires, attacked waterfront blazes, and rescued persons in the water. The tug served as a tour boat for President Jimmy Carter during a tour of the port on July 3, 1980. *Hoga* received National Landmark Status on June 30, 1989, and ultimately retired from the Port of Oakland in 1996. On July 28, 2005, the U.S. Navy officially transferred *Hoga* to the City of North Little Rock, where she is destined to be a permanent exhibit at the Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum.

Others honored this year include:

The H. Graham Wood Award: William M. Worden

The C. Bradford Mitchell Award: National Museum of the Great Lakes

The Samuel Ward Stanton Award: Peter Knego