



February 2017

VOLUME 7, NUMBER 1

## In This Issue

[Join us at the \*Titanic\* Ocean Liner Dinner](#)

[USCGC \*Ingham\* named SSHSA Ship of the Year](#)

[Officials work to keep sunken USS \*Houston\* safe from scrappers](#)

[Grant will fund museum upgrades, environmental education](#)

[What's Happening in Ship History?](#)

[Issue #300 of PowerShips has landed](#)

[Naval essay contest offers cash prizes](#)

[New Rolls-Royce has maritime flair](#)

[Notice of the Annual Corporation Meeting](#)

### See Photos, Stories, and More on Social Media

Click on the logos below to access our social media websites. These websites are updated daily, and share history, current events, and information on what's happening in SSHSA's new headquarters.

## Tickets on sale for second annual Ocean Liner Dinner

**Tickets are going fast for our *Titanic* Ocean Liner Dinner** at the Roger Williams Park Casino in Providence, Rhode Island. With the Ship History Center up and running, we are continuing to work on our education program to inspire and inform young people about the vast maritime heritage that our country has to offer. But we need your help!

For those of you who are able, we would be glad to have you **join us on Saturday, April 8**, for a great evening of ship history. The theme is *Titanic*, and we are recreating the menu from her fateful voyage 105 years ago. It's going to be a memorable evening with an open bar, a fabulous multi-course meal, silent and live auctions, a presentation by the legendary Bill "Mr. Ocean Liner" Miller, and possibly even some dramatic appearances by *Titanic* "passengers and crew." **Tickets are \$150 per person or \$250 per couple**, and can be purchased by emailing [blucier@sshhsa.org](mailto:blucier@sshhsa.org) or calling 401-463-3570. [Click here for the invitation!](#)

Can't make it out to Rhode Island, but still want to help out? We are publishing a high-quality program guide featuring images obtained from famed *Titanic* historian Walter Lord, known for his work "A Night to Remember," as well as pictures from a rare, original copy of "The Shipbuilder – *Olympic* & *Titanic* Souvenir Number." **Tax-deductible sponsorships for the full-page photos are \$500 and include a message of up to 20 words.**

We greatly appreciate whatever you may be able to contribute to help us top last year's amazing tribute to the *Queen Mary*. Help us make this a wonderful night, and help take SSHSA to the next level in 2017 and beyond.

(Photo: *Titanic*, [www.History.com](http://www.History.com))

Like SSHSA on Facebook to read about current and historical maritime events and updates on SSHSA's new headquarters.

Follow SSHSA on Twitter and receive tweets on historical and current maritime events.

Add SSHSA as a friend on Instagram to view pictures of new finds in the archives and images of SSHSA staff and volunteers at events and conferences.

Follow SSHSA on Tumblr to view maritime-related posts, ship images, and latest archive finds.

## USCGC *Ingham* named SSHSA Ship of the Year

Already one of the country's most decorated vessels, the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter *Ingham* added another accolade to her resume last month when she was celebrated as the Steamship Historical Society of America's 2016 Ship of the Year.

A proud veteran of war, the *Ingham* now serves as a floating National Historic Landmark and National Memorial to Coast Guardsmen who lost their lives in World War II and Vietnam. The award was presented on Tuesday, January 24, as part of the Board of Director's winter meeting in Key West.

Built at Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, she served from 1936 to 1988 in a variety of situations, including the Atlantic (31 Convoys), Mediterranean and Pacific Theaters in World War II. She is the last U.S. warship afloat today to have sunk a Nazi U-Boat (U-626), and she served as the flagship when General MacArthur re-captured the Philippine Island of Corregidor in 1945. She also served as a flagship for

Admiral Arthur Struble in the Leyte Gulf amphibious landings. At war's end, she served as flagship for the South China Naval Forces under RADM Elliot Buckmaster in China, Formosa and Vietnam.

The *Ingham* remains the only cutter to ever be awarded two Presidential Unit Citations for

extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after December 7, 1941, for duty in Vietnam that included 92 gunfire support missions and two major operations, "Swift Raider" and "Sea Lords."

After the ship was decommissioned, she was donated to the Patriots Point Maritime Museum in Charleston, South Carolina, as a museum ship. She was transferred to Key West, Florida, in 2009 to be the

Favorite SSHSA on Flickr to view images of conferences, events, and meetings, and scans of images from SSHSA's photo archives.

## Issue #300 of *PowerShips* has landed!

Issue #300 of *PowerShips* features articles on the *La Guardia*, an icebound *Britannia*, 100 years of the motor yacht *Mar-Sue*, and much more. Whether you're new to SSHSA or your membership has lapsed, it's not too late to come on board and get this milestone magazine! Sign up or renew today by [clicking here](#) or calling our headquarters at (401) 463-3570. Don't miss out!

## Naval essay contest offers cash prizes

centerpiece of the USCGC Ingham Memorial Museum on the former U.S. Navy Base at Truman Waterfront.

"This award not only recognizes the important role that the *Ingham* has played in our country's maritime heritage, but also the tireless efforts of the Ingham Memorial Museum to preserve and share her history," SSHSA Executive Director Matthew Schulte said. "Her motto is as relevant today as it will be in the future: 'Never too old to serve.'"

**Have some suggestions on another ship that we should recognize? The nomination process for our 2017 Awards Program is now open. [Click here for an application](#) and let your voice be heard!**

(Photos: Barry Eager and Dr. William P. Murphy Jr.)

## Officials work to keep sunken USS *Houston* safe from scrappers

While scrappers are believed to have destroyed or removed dozens of sunken World War II-era ships off the coast of Indonesia over the course of the last several decades, a recent study by the Australian National Maritime Museum (ANMM) and the National Research Centre of Archaeology Indonesia shows that the USS *Houston* remains largely intact.

Sunk on March 1, 1942, during the Battle of Sunda Strait, the wreck is the final resting place for more than 650 U.S. sailors and Marines. As such, the United States government is working with its counterparts in Indonesia to protect the site from illegal scrappers.

"We take very seriously our obligation to remember the service of American and allied sailors who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom," Sam Cox, director of the Naval History and Heritage Command, said in a statement provided to USNI News. "We'll do everything we can, and work with everyone we must, to safeguard their final resting places."

Less certain is the fate of the Australian warship HMAS *Perth*, which also sank during the Battle of Sunda Strait. Weather issues impacted the sonar images that were taken during the most recent study, and a physical dive is needed to determine the full extent of the damage.

These are not the only shipwrecks under scrutiny overseas. Reports over the last several years show that many Dutch, British, Australian and

Are you a Naval history buff with a great research idea stuck in your head? Well now is the time to get writing!

The Office of the Chief of Naval Operations is holding an essay contest to focus on the people, battles, strategy, tactics, leadership, values and traditions that make up our rich maritime heritage. The contest is open to writers of all levels, with cash prizes awarded in two categories: Professional Historians (history museum curators, professors, PhDs, etc.) and Rising Historians (civilians and active, reserve, and retired servicemen and servicewomen).

Essays can be on the naval historical topic of your choice, but should relate in some way to establishing and maintaining maritime superiority in today's environment. They should provide readers with a lesson learned from history that can be applied today. [Click here for rules and deadlines.](#)

All winners will be recognized by the Chief of Naval Operations at the plenary session of the McMullen Naval History Symposium at the U.S. Naval Academy in September. First Prize Winners will be published in Naval History magazine and online with Naval History and Heritage Command. Other essays may be published in Naval History or Proceedings, or online by the Naval History and Heritage Command.

U.S. ships have been damaged, and in some cases removed entirely. [Click here to read more about the recent survey in USNI News.](#)

(Photo: USS *Houston*, USNI News)

## Grant will fund museum upgrades, environmental education

The Independence Seaport Museum is moving forward with some exciting improvements after receiving a \$1.2 million grant from the William Penn Foundation.

Funding will not only support essential upgrades and expansion of the museum's docks, located at the northern end of the Penn's Landing Marina in the heart of the Delaware River waterfront, but also the next phase of planning for River Alive!, a new interactive exhibition showcasing the science, ecology and stewardship of the Delaware River watershed.

"Independence Seaport Museum is honored to receive this grant, which recognizes our role as a cultural and educational gateway to the Delaware River and watershed," says John Brady, President and CEO. "Through the Foundation's generosity, we are excited to offer more opportunities for residents and visitors alike to experience our waterways and learn more about their vital place in our community and urban ecosystem."

The museum is also managing a second grant from the William Penn Foundation on behalf of a group of 23 environmental education centers located on the Circuit Trails system and near the Delaware River or its tributaries. This grant supports the network's efforts to develop shared programs and coordinated messaging about the importance of clean water and the preservation of our waterways.

"The William Penn Foundation's Watershed Protection Program advances protection and restoration of clean water in the Delaware River and its tributaries by supporting science-informed conservation, advocacy, and stewardship," said Andrew Johnson, the program's director. "Together, Independence Seaport Museum's exciting interactive River Alive! exhibit – literally at the river's edge – along with increased capacity to offer boating programs on the river between Philadelphia and Camden will be a keystone for efforts by the museum and other conservation organizations to reach thousands of students and adults annually to build awareness of and support for clean water."

## New Rolls-Royce has maritime flair

Rolls-Royce is bidding farewell to its Phantom VII series with an ocean liner-inspired design. The custom-made vehicle has a deep shade of Blue Velvet paint on the outside, stylized wood inlay on the dash, and car clocks that recall the style that might have been found in grand ships like the *France* or the *Normandie*.

Under the hood is the same 6.75-liter naturally aspirated V12 engine that produces 454bhp - good for 0 to 60 mph in 6.1 seconds and a top speed of 149 mph.

But it's the interior that will catch most people's attention. The wooden trims depict "the golden age of travel," with complex marquetry in an art deco style. Fittingly, the object that takes center stage is a 1930s ocean liner.

As you would expect from Rolls-Royce, this won't come cheap. Current estimates put the car's value at more than \$400,000. [Click here for more information and photos from Road and Track.](#)

(Photo: Rolls-Royce Phantom VII, Road & Track)

## Notice of the Annual Corporation Meeting

Official notice is hereby given to all SSHSA members that the Annual Meeting will be held at the Ship History Center, 2500 Post Road, in Warwick, RI, on **Saturday, April 8, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. Eastern time.**

The Independence Seaport Museum maintains one of the largest maritime collections in North America, combining more than 25,000 artifacts with hands-on exhibits, small boat rentals and large-scale models. It also includes two National Historic Landmark ships: Cruiser *Olympia*, and Submarine *Becuna*. Visit [phillyseaport.org](http://phillyseaport.org) for more information.

(Photo: Cruiser *Olympia*, Independence Seaport Museum)

## What's Happening in Ship History?

*This is a brief listing, so make sure to check locally for what's going on in your area.*

### April 8

SSHSA Ocean Liner Dinner featuring the *Titanic*  
6:00PM  
\$150 per person, \$250 per couple  
Roger Williams Park Casino  
Providence, RI  
<http://www.sshsa.org>

### February 28

Saga of the USS *Houston*  
7:00PM-8:00PM  
\$5 for ages 12 and older, free for members, active military, veterans and children  
Registration required  
Houston Maritime Museum  
Houston, TX  
713-666-1910, [cavinger@houstonmaritime.org](mailto:cavinger@houstonmaritime.org)

### March 3

Seamen's Church Institute of Philadelphia & South Jersey Spirit of the Port Luncheon honoring Eugene Mattioni  
11:30AM registration; 12:00PM lunch  
\$125 per person  
Hilton Philadelphia at Penn's Landing  
Philadelphia, PA  
215-940-9900, Ext. 104, [cpolit@scphiladelphia.org](mailto:cpolit@scphiladelphia.org)

### March 8

Spring Lecture Series: "Keeping It In Trim: Ballast and Great Lakes Shipping"  
7:00PM-8:30PM  
Free for members, \$11 for nonmembers; reservations required  
National Museum of the Great Lakes  
Lakewood, OH  
419-214-5000 x 200, [reservations@inlandseas.org](mailto:reservations@inlandseas.org)

### March 12, April 9, May 4

Steam-Powered Donkey Engine Demonstration  
11:00AM-4:00PM  
San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park  
San Francisco, CA  
[www.nps.gov/safr](http://www.nps.gov/safr)



## Contact Us

Steamship Historical Society of America  
2500 Post Road  
Warwick, RI 02886  
(401) 463-3570  
[www.sshsa.org](http://www.sshsa.org)

Matthew Schulte, Executive Director  
[mschulte@sshsa.org](mailto:mschulte@sshsa.org)

Bryan Lucier, Membership and Outreach Specialist  
[blucier@sshsa.org](mailto:blucier@sshsa.org)

Karen Sylvia, Office Administrator  
[ksylvia@sshsa.org](mailto:ksylvia@sshsa.org)

Astrid Drew, Research & Media Coordinator  
[adrew@sshsa.org](mailto:adrew@sshsa.org)

Alissa Cafferky, Project Coordinator  
[acafferky@sshsa.org](mailto:acafferky@sshsa.org)

Elaine Haytko, Advancement Officer  
[ehaytko@sshsa.org](mailto:ehaytko@sshsa.org)

Jim Pennypacker, Editor  
*PowerShips*  
[editor@sshsa.org](mailto:editor@sshsa.org)

Richard Barwis  
Advertising Representative  
[richard@cornerstone-media.biz](mailto:richard@cornerstone-media.biz)

### March 20

Walking tour of the Washington Navy Yard  
10:00AM-12:00PM  
Must register by March 17  
Washington Navy Yard, Building 76  
Washington, D.C.  
202-433-2995, [thomas.frezza@navy.mil](mailto:thomas.frezza@navy.mil)

### April 8

Behind the canvas: Painting the ocean in oils with Harley Bartlett  
3:00PM-4:30PM  
\$15 for members, \$20 for nonmembers (Gallery Patrons and Gallery Artists are free)  
Registration required  
Mystic Seaport  
Mystic, CT  
[www.mysticseaport.org](http://www.mysticseaport.org)

### April 12

Shanties and Songs of the Sea  
3:00PM  
Free admission  
Florida Maritime Museum  
Cortez, FL  
[www.floridamaritimemuseum.org](http://www.floridamaritimemuseum.org)

### April 29

A Curator's Discovery  
45th Annual Albert Reed & Thelma Walker Maritime History Symposium  
8:00AM-5:00PM  
\$60 for members, \$70 for nonmembers, \$35 for students  
Maine Maritime Museum  
Bath, ME  
[lipfert@maritimeme.org](mailto:lipfert@maritimeme.org)

### May 6

USS *Lagarto* Remembrance Ceremony  
1:00PM  
Free Admission  
Wisconsin Maritime Museum  
Manitowoc, WI  
[www.wisconsinmaritime.org](http://www.wisconsinmaritime.org)

*Ahoy!* is the quarterly electronic newsletter for those interested in maritime history. It is produced in February, May, August, and November and distributed by Steamship Historical Society of America to friends, members and any other individuals interested in maritime heritage.

Bryan Lucier, Editor, *Ahoy!*

Find us on:

**[Renew Your Membership Today](#)**

SSHSA, 2500 Post Road, Warwick, RI 02886

