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In this Issue

[Ship History Center Opening](#)

[President's Column](#)

[Join us for Membership Saturdays](#)

[Still Time To Renew Your Membership](#)

[See Photos, Stories, and More on Social Media](#)

[Last-Minute Shopping](#)

[Passages: Jim Clark](#)

[Attention Members: Surplus Registers are Still Available](#)

[Happy Birthday Captain Dinsmore!](#)

[Coming up in PowerShips](#)

[Chapter News](#)

President's Column

Ship History Center Opening

The Steamship Historical Society of America took a big step forward this fall with the official opening of its new Ship History Center in Warwick, Rhode Island. It is the first time that visitors have had a chance to experience the wealth of maritime items, photos and paintings in SSHSA's collection, and in some cases, the first time some of these artifacts have been on display after decades in storage.

Scores of people came through during the eight days that the Ship History Center was open in November and December, and the crowds ranged from SSHSA members and captains, to grandmothers, teachers and young ship enthusiasts. Public interest was sparked by recent stories in the Rhode Island media that focused on SSHSA, including [The Providence Journal](#), [Dan Yorke's State of Mind](#), and [Steve Klamkin and the WPRO Saturday Morning News](#).

The Ship History Center will remain open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month throughout the winter, and by appointment to our members. We hope that you can plan a trip to come see us soon, and that you will help spread the word about this fantastic resource. Visit www.sshsa.org for more information, a full schedule and directions.

Join us for Membership Saturdays

Dear SSHSA Friends,

I think you will agree with me that it's been an outstanding year for Steamship Historical Society of America. As 2015 comes to a close I wish to thank you all for your ongoing support during this, our 80th Anniversary Year. SSHSA continues to grow and prosper, our membership continues to advance and our Ship History Center continues to develop. All indicators point to a vibrant 2016 for the organization, so thank you to all friends and members for your continuing commitment to SSHSA! In the coming months there will be even more opportunities for outreach, engagement and spreading the maritime heritage message. On behalf of the board of directors, staff and volunteers, I wish you all a splendid holiday season and a happy, healthy new year.

Sincerely,

Mary L. Payne, President

Still Time To Renew Your Membership

The end of the year is quickly approaching, which means time is running out to renew before

Are you a member who hasn't had a chance to stop in and see the Ship History Center? Well mark your calendars, because SSHSA is kicking off a new program in 2016 that's dedicated to our loyal supporters.

Beginning **January 9**, we will be holding **Membership Saturday** events once a month to highlight portions of our collection, bring in interesting speakers and continue to drive the discussion of powerful ships, legendary passengers, and hardworking crews.

The first event will be held at 1 p.m. and feature SSHSA Board Member Don Leavitt in a behind-the-scenes tour of the Society's collections. It's not only a great chance to tour SSHSA's new headquarters, but to take a closer look at photos, plans, books, and the huge brochure collection.

The program is free, but space is limited so please RSVP by calling our headquarters at (401) 463-3570 or emailing blucier@sshhsa.org by Monday, January 3. Stay tuned to our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts and future issues of the Telegraph for more information on future Membership Saturday events.

Last-Minute Shopping

Time is running short to pick up your Christmas gifts, but you can find exactly what you need for the maritime history buff on your shopping list. [SSHSA memberships start at just \\$50](#) and last throughout the entire year. Looking for something more tangible? Check out SSHSA's eBay store, which has vintage deck plans, brochures and past issues of *Steamboat Bill* and *PowerShips* to satisfy even the most difficult person to shop for. [Click here to see what's in stock!](#)

Passages: Jim Clark

the next issue of *PowerShips* is shipped in January. Don't miss the boat!

Renew your membership by calling us at (401) 463-3570 or online by [clicking here](#). We look forward to welcoming you back aboard.

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.

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.

We were sad to learn of the passing of James M. "Jim" Clark this fall, a 37-year SSHSA member and well-known Cape Cod philanthropist. He was 93 years old.

Mr. Clark was born June 3, 1922, and attended Cornell University, graduating in 1944. His career in finance included executive positions with Shearson Lehman Brothers, Inc., and Hornblower & Weeks-Hemphill, Noyes, Inc., where he was general partner and CEO.

He is perhaps best known for his work with the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute in Massachusetts. He served in leadership roles on the board of trustees and its corporation from 1985-2001 and donated \$10 million to help create the Clark Arctic Research Initiative, the latter helping the institute achieve scientific breakthroughs studying the Greenland ice sheet, ecosystem changes and ocean current patterns. He also donated \$10 million to Falmouth Hospital in Massachusetts to give Cape Cod residents a chance to receive lifesaving cancer treatments without having to travel to Boston.

Mr. Clark is survived by his wife Ruth P. Clark; his son James M. (Jamie) Clark and his wife Kathy; and his grandchildren, Sam Clark and Nathan Bebo. Please join us in offering condolences to his family.

(Photo: Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute)

Attention Members and Researchers: Surplus Registers are Still Available

We still have a great collection 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.

Available Registers:

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

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

New SSHSA Members

Welcome aboard!

Mr. John Adams
Mr. Raymond Bellock
Mr. Perry Billington
Mr. Tom Boone
Mr. Douglas Buchanan
Mr. Andy Burr
Mr. Rod Cardoza
Mr. William Carpi
Mr. Peter Cawthorn
Mr. John Coffey Jr.
Mr. Vernon Coil
Mr. Jim Conrood
Mr. Stephen Craig
Mr. Tim DeWick
Mr. Harry Dietrich
Mr. Robert Donlan
CAPT Christopher Edyvean
Ms. Anne Ejnes
Mr. Ian Elliott
Mr. Brian Fournier
Mr. Mark Gathings
Mr. Bob Gruber
Mr. Kenneth Halsall
Mr. Daniel Harrop
Mr. David K. Healey
Mr. Lawrence Hymers
Mr. H. Marshall Kearns

ABS Records- 1951, 1952, 1954

Merchant Vessels of the United States- 1891, 1892, 1899, 1930, 1932, 1935, 1938, 1943, 1944, 1946, 1947, 1952, 1953-1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964

Lloyds Registers-

1922-1923 (Volume 2)
1924-1925 (Volume 2)
1929-1930 (Volume 2)
1930-1931 (Volume 2)
1931-1932 (Volume 1)
1933-1934 (Volume 1)
1933-1934 (Volume 2)
Annals of Lloyds Register 1934
1934-1935 (Volume 2)
1937-1938 (Volume 2)
1938-1939 (Volume 2)
1940-1941
1946-1947
1947-1948 (Appendix)
1949 (Appendix)
1950-1951 (Volume 1, A-L)
1950 (Appendix)
1951 (Appendix)
1952-1953 (Volume 1, A-L)
1952-1953 (Volume 2, M-Z)
1953-1954 (Volume 1, A-L)
1953-1954 (Volume 2, M-Z)
1954-1955 (Volume 1, A-L)
1954-1955 (Volume 2, M-Z)
1956-1957 (Volume 1)
1956-1957 (Volume 2, Appendix)
1956-1957 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)
1957-1958 (Volume 1)
1957-1958 (Volume 2, Appendix)
1957-1958 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)
1957-1958 (Volume 4, Directory)
1958-1959 (Volume 1)
1958-1959 (Volume 2, Appendix)
1958-1959 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)
1958-1959 (Volume 4, Directory)
1959-1960 (Volume 2, Appendix)
1959-1960 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)
1960-1961 (Volume 1)
1960-1961 (Volume 2, Appendix)
1961-1962 (Volume 1)
1961-1962 (Volume 2, Appendix)
1961-1962 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)
1961-1962 (Volume 4, Directory)
1962-1963 (Volume 2, Appendix)
1962-1963 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)
1963-1964 (Volume 1)
1963-1964 (Volume 2, Appendix)
1963-1964 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)

Mr. Richard Maund
Dr. Gilbert McArdle
Mr. Archibald Morgan IV
Mr. Thomas Morse
MV Maersk Memphis Line
Limited
Mr. Joseph Poulin
Mr. William Praegner
Mr. Robert Pratt
Mr. Michael Quinn
Mr. Robert Ranney
Roger Williams University
School of Law
Mr. William Rohloff
Mr. Daniel Rose
Mr. Thomas Rushmore
Mr. Levent Kemal Sadikoglu
Mr. John Schiavone
Mr. Kevin Sheehan
Ms. Karen Shore
Mr. Bill Silveira
Ms. Heather Stewart
Mr. Larry Stokes
Mr. Theodore Suman
Mr. Manuel Sylvia
Mr. Sandy Thomson
Mr. Edmund Thwaites
Mr. Gerald Toci
Mr. Jacob Troutman
Mr. James Martin Turnbull
Mr. John VanMeter
Mr. Christian Walz
Mr. Rita Waters
Mr. John Webber
Mr. Richard Williams
Mr. John Womack
Ms. Thalia Wood

Captains' Circle

A big Thank You to our
Captains' Circle members for
their membership and support!

Commodore (\$500)

Mr. Lawrence Allen
Mr. Charles T. Andrews
Mr. Preston B. Baker
CAPT Ted and Sherry Davisson
Mr. and Mrs. Donald W. Eberle
Mr. and Mrs. William Edwards
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Ferguson
Mr. Robert J. Golden

1963-1964 (Volume 4, Directory)
1964-1965 (Volume 1)
1964-1965 (Volume 2, Appendix)
1964-1965 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)
1965-1966 (Volume 1)
1965-1966 (Volume 2, Appendix)
1965-1966 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)
1965-1966 Supplement
1966-1967 (Volume 1, A-L)
1966-1967 (Volume 2, M-Z)
1966-1967 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)
1968-1969 (A-L)
1968-1969 (M-Z)
1968-1969 (List of Shipowners)
1968-1969 (Appendix)
1969-1970 (A-L)
1969-1970 (M-Z)
1969-1970 (List of Shipowners)
1969-1970 (Appendix)
1970-1971 (A-L)
1970-1971 (M-Z)
1970-1971 (List of Shipowners)
1970-1971 (Appendix)
1971-1972 (A-L)
1971-1972 (M-Z)
1971-1972 (Appendix)
1972-1973 (A-L)
1972-1973 (M-Z)
1972-1973 (List of Shipowners)
1972-1973 (Appendix)
1973-1974 (A-L)
1973-1974 (M-Z)
1973-1974 (List of Shipowners)
1973-1974 (Appendix)
1974-1975 (A-L)
1974-1975 (M-Z)
1974-1975 (List of Shipowners)
1975-1976 (A-L)
1975-1976 (M-Z)
1975-1976 (List of Shipowners)
1975-1976 (Appendix)
1976-1977 (A-L)
1976-1977 (M-Z)
1976-1977 (List of Shipowners)
1976-1977 (Appendix)
1977-1978 (List of Shipowners)
1977-1978 (Appendix)
1977-1978 (Register of Offshore Units, Submersibles, and Diving Systems)
1979-1980 (A-K)
1979-1980 (L-Z)
1979-1980 (Register of Offshore Units, Submersibles, and Diving Systems)
1981-1982 (A-G)
1981-1982 (H-O)
1981-1982 (P-Z)
1981-1982 (Register of Offshore Units, Submersibles, and Diving Systems)

Mr. John B. Henry
Mr. Neil Jones
Mr. Murray Kilgour
Mr. John Mahoney
Mr. Ralph S. McCrea
Mr. William M. McLin & Mr.
Samuel J. McKeon
Dr. Laurence Miller
National Iron and Steel Heritage
Museum
Mr. Richard Palmer
CAPT & Mrs. Roland R. Parent
Ms. Mary L. Payne
Mr. Donald Pomplun
Mr. Richard Rabbett
Mr. Thomas C. Ragan
Mr. Thomas Reed
Mr. Harry Richter
Mr. David Ruebsamen
Mr. Erik Ryan
Mr. William A. Schell
Mr. Paul Shepard
Mr. and Mrs. James W.
Shuttleworth
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Smith
Mr. Douglas A. Tilden
CAPT and Mrs. Terry Tilton,
USN (Ret.)
Mr. Terence Turner
CAPT Robert F. Wasson, Jr.,
CPA
Mr. Peregrine White

Commander (\$300)

Mr. Alan Abramson
Mr. David Bomhof
Mr. James Brandmueller
Mr. Odd A. Brevik
CAPT Gene M. Cameron
CAPT Robertson Dinsmore
Mr. William W. Donnell
Dr. Clive Dudley, D.D.
Mr. Paul Eberst
CAPT Kenneth M. Graham
Mr. and Mrs. Glenn P. Hayes
Mr. H. F. Lenfest
Mr. Laurence MacDonald
CAPT Warren McDonald,
USCGR, (Ret.)
Mr. Carl R. Nold
Mr. John N. Park Jr.
CAPT Dave Pickering
Mr. Roy C. Rose
Mr. William M. Rosen

1981-1982 (Register of Ships Subsidiary Sections)
1982-1983 (A-G)
1982-1983 (H-O)
1982-1983 (P-Z)
1982-1983 (List of Shipowners)
1982-1983 (Register of Offshore Units, Submersibles, and Diving Systems)

If you are interested in these registers, please call us at (401) 463-3570, or e-mail us by [clicking here](#).

Happy Birthday Captain Dinsmore!

We wanted to pass along [this article from The Falmouth Enterprise](#) about one of our Captain's Circle members, Robertson P. Dinsmore, celebrating his 90th birthday with family and friends on board the U.S. lightship *Nantucket* (LV-1120), a historic vessel berthed on the East Boston waterfront. Captain Dinsmore has been actively involved in the restoration of the *Nantucket*, which was constructed in 1936 and is the largest U.S. lightship ever built.

The *Nantucket* was retired in 1975 after 39 years guiding ships through the remote shipping lanes off Nantucket Shoals. A retired member of the Coast Guard, Captain Dinsmore was charged with delivering the ship to Nantucket Island to be used as a museum. It would pass through several nonprofit groups over the years before being purchased for \$1 by the United States Lightship Museum and returned to Boston Harbor for restoration. Captain Dinsmore remains active in the group, which has successfully repaired the hull and superstructure. Fundraising is now underway to restore the ship's interior structures and systems.

(Photo: The Falmouth Enterprise)

Coming up in *PowerShips*

The next issue of *PowerShips* is in production now and will be mailed in mid-January. There's still time to [renew your membership](#) today if you have not yet done so to ensure you don't miss an issue.

Here are highlights for the Winter 2016 Issue of *PowerShips*:

Mr. Donn R. Spear
Mr. Kent Strobel
CAPT John S. Tucker

Mariner (\$200)

Mr. James Alexandre
Mr. Ronald Amos
Mr. Joseph Bains
Mr. Thomas Barrett
Mr. Richard L. Barwis, IV
CAPT Lester Beck
Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Bellafiore
Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Bieser
Mr. Ted Blank
Mr. A. Pierce Bounds
Mr. Peter Brix
Mr. J.O. Busto
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Caldera
Dr. George Callard
Mr. John Cameron, Jr.
Mr. Gabriel Caprio
Mr. Kenneth Carley
CAPT Gerard P. Carroll
CAPT Michael Cicalese
Mr. David P. Clarendon
Mr. Charles W. Clarke
Mr. William Comings
CAPT John M. Cox
Mr. John J. Crowley, Jr.
Mr. Richard W. Curtis, Jr.
Mr. Patrick Dacey
Mr. Antone DeGerlia
Dr. Hillary Don
Mr. Andrew W. Edmonds
Mr. Daniel Eesley
Mr. Jonathan Ely
CAPT David Erickson
Mr. Richard Forrer
Mr. John F. Gibson, III
Mr. Bruno Hable
Mr. Robert A. Haslun
Mr. Alexander G. Hedin
Mr. Albert R. Hinckley, Jr.
Mr. Buell Hollister
Mr. Henry Keene
Mr. Timothy J. Kelly
Mr. Thomas Kettenburg
Mr. Nicholas Langhart
Mr. Stephen Lash
Mr. Charles Lehman
Mr. Reginald Lewington
Ms. Susan Linda
Mr. Gary Maehl
Mr. James P. Martin

Vessels of the Virginia Ferry Corporation (Part II)

William (Butch) Baxter presents a comprehensive history of the vessels of the Virginia Ferry Corporation. Baxter covers the Chesapeake Bay Ferry District purchase of the Virginia Ferry Corporation in 1956 through the end of ferry operations in 1964, and continues with the subsequent sale of the vessels and their histories with new owners. (Part I was in our Fall 2011 issue).

The Oriana of 1960

In "Lives of the Liners," William Miller offers a concise history of the immensely popular and very successful *Oriana* of Britain's P&O-Orient Lines, which, when completed in December 1960, was the largest passenger liner yet built for their busy United Kingdom-Australia run.

Some Mediterranean Exotics and Ships as War Refugees

Larry Miller shows us some Wolfsonian Museum brochures that feature a number of exotic and long-forgotten liners of the past, including Dollar Liners *President Wilson* and *President Lincoln*, Home Lines' *Brasil* and Gydnia America Line's *Sobieski*.

Britannic – The Queen that Never Reign

In this *Steamboat Bill* Classic edited by Don Leavitt, author Jack Shaum offers a brief history and details of the final, tragic day of the *Britannic*, sister to the *Olympic* and *Titanic*, which became a hospital ship and the largest ship lost during World War I.

The Ferry Capt. John Smith Deckhouse Restored

William Fox offers a brief account of the restoration of the deckhouse of the *Capt. John Smith* of 1925, which was the Virginia Department of Transportation's first ferry across the James River. The deckhouse now resides in Surry and has been restored for use as a museum.

What to Collect Next in 2016

"From the Collection" columnist Don Leavitt tells us what to collect in 2016 – the printed record of modern maritime life – including books, magazines, newspapers and especially deck plans and travel brochures.

(Above photo: *Britannic* postcard from SSHSA archives)

Chapter News

Delaware Valley

The Delaware Valley Chapter will meet at 2 p.m. on **Sunday, January 17, 2016**, at the Independence Seaport Museum on Penns Landing in Philadelphia.

CAPT Brian McAllister
Mr. Daniel L. McCoy
CAPT Ronald J. Meiczinger
Mr. Harry Meyer
Mrs. Joanie Morgan
Mr. William Muller
Mr. Brian L. Norden
Mr. Kevin O'Donnell
Mr. Oscar J. Olson, Jr.
Oregon Maritime Museum
Mr. Ronald Oswald
Mr. Hollis S. Paige
Mr. Mark Perry
Mr. Richard Potter
Mr. David L. Powers, Jr.
Rev. Brian Rafferty
Mr. Clarence Rahn
Mr. W. Bruce Redpath
Mr. William Reid
Dr. Victor H. Rubino
Mr. John W. Schumann
Mr. Bruce C. Seibel
Mr. Walter A. Shields
Mr. Britton Smith
Mr. Shapleigh Smith
Mr. Mark Snider
Mr. John O. Snyder
Mr. Alexander Swavy
Mr. Peter Templeton
Mr. G. Thomas Tranter
Mr. William T. Van Wagner
Mr. Richard Vanaria
Mr. Stephen Weaver
Mr. Eric Wiberg
Mr. Hubert Wicki
Mr. Gregory Williams

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Matthew Schulte
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Bryan Lucier
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The topic will be "The History of U.S. Navy Hospital Ships." Contact Chapter Chairman Steve Loveless at sloveless1959@gmail.com or 215-495-8889 to RSVP.

The chapter will also host a program with steam engine historian Frank Vopasek IV on **Sunday, January 31, 2016**. Titled "Two Sides Of The River - Memories From The Era Of Steam Powered Ferries On The Hudson River," the event will take place at the VFW Hall at 322 North Union Street, Lambertville, New Jersey. Contact Pete Burns at peteburns@optonline.net or 609-586-0525 to reserve a spot.

Golden Gate

On December 12, the Chapter met at the Alameda Elks Lodge for an illustrated presentation on "American Downeaster Sailing Ships" from architect Richard Rutter. Norbert Ulbrich displayed a sailing ship model he recently acquired that was crafted by modelmaker Henri Rannou of France, and the group discussed the *El Faro* cargo ship disaster that took place off of the Bahamas this fall.

The chapter will meet again at the Elks Lodge, located at 2255 Santa Clara Ave. (right next to Alameda City Hall), at 1 p.m. on **Saturday, February 6, 2016**, and **Saturday, April 2, 2016**.

Please be advised that effective January 1, 2016, the Golden Gate Chapter's annual dues will increase from \$5.00 to \$6.00 for members in the United States, and from \$8.00 to \$9.00 for international members.

Hampton Roads

The Hampton Roads Chapter is looking for volunteers to assist in running the chapter. If you are interested, please contact Elizabeth Fletcher, Chapter Chairwoman, at efletcher11@cox.net.

Southern California

At the last meeting of the Southern California Chapter on November 7, Shawn Dake presented a PowerPoint slide show of the 50th anniversary of the Princess Line. The group also held its Annual Tea in the Caronia Room aboard the RMS *Queen Mary*, with a variety of finger food fixed by the ship's chef.

The Chapter will meet again at 1 p.m. on **February 6, 2016**, to discuss "The Wreck of the Steamer Harvard" with SSHSA Board Member and 2014/2015 Chapter President Jim Shuttleworth.

Members should keep an eye out for *Ocean Times*, the chapter journal, which goes out in January. This issue will feature articles on The Shipyard Aboard The *Queen Mary* with Everette Hoard, Commodore, RMS *Queen Mary*; part one of the year in review with Shawn Dake; Holland America Lines West Coast Service with SSHSA Board Member Terry Tilton; Meetings, Raffles, and the SS *Mandalay* with Bruce Vancil; Remembering the *La Guardia* by Bill Miller; Ships 101: Vehicle Carriers by Jim Shaw; a Panama Canal Expansion Update by the Old Tramp and more.

For more information on SSHSA Chapter meetings and events,

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please [click here](#).

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Bryan Lucier, Editor, *The Telegraph*