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Dinner tickets are going, going ...

We're in the home stretch for Ocean Liner Dinner IV ticket sales, with more than 75 percent of the seats already spoken for. There's no question that the event will sell out, it's just a matter of whether there are still tickets available by the time we turn the calendar to April. **Do not miss out on this! Give us a call at 401-463-3570 or [click here to sign up now!](#)**

Whether you live up the street or are coming in from out of town, we've got you covered for the entire weekend. On Friday, May 3, we will be holding a special auction preview reception at the Ship History Center in Warwick. It's a great chance to have a bite to eat and a glass of wine with fellow members and donors. Headlining the evening will be a talk on the Andrea Doria by Bill Campbell, a Rhode Island diver who has explored the wreck on many occasions. And if you're hanging around through Sunday, there is even a chance to have brunch with SSHSA crew and friends.



Tickets are \$200 per person or \$300 per couple, with all proceeds supporting SSHSA's efforts to preserve its unique archive of images, artifacts, periodicals, artwork, official records and memorabilia that highlight the country's transition from sail to steam power. This includes our new educational program, [STEAMing Into The Future](#), which offers student-friendly lessons, videos, images and guided questions that use archival materials from our collection.

Come and enjoy a beautiful weekend in Rhode Island and help SSHSA steam on with a new generation aboard. [Get your tickets now](#) and we'll see you in May!

Photo: William "Mr. Ocean Liner" Miller poses with SSHSA Executive Director Matthew Schulte and his son, Chase, at the second annual dinner in 2017. Miller will join us again as a featured speaker this year to highlight the history of the Italian Line.



Executive Director's Message

Here at SSHSA, this year's National Maritime Day will have extra special meaning. Established by Congress and President Franklin Roosevelt to pay special tribute to the sacrifices of the U.S. merchant marine and the benefits that the maritime industry provides the country, this year's celebration will also mark the 200th anniversary of the SS *Savannah's* historic transatlantic voyage, a critical development in the country's transition from sail to steam.

There will be no shortage of ways that we will mark this momentous event, starting with next month's issue of *PowerShips*, which will feature two articles on this grand experiment. **However, the real fun kicks in on May 18** when SSHSA visits Baltimore to hold its annual meeting and participate in two days celebrating some of the icons of the maritime heritage world.

Following the meeting on Saturday, there are plans for

Getting by with a little help from our friends

Just a quick reminder that attending the dinner isn't the only way to help out the cause. There are many options to contribute from afar, and we need everyone's help to make this the most successful fundraising event that we've ever had.

We are looking for a variety of items and events to get the bidding going. If you have any connections for unique experiences or behind-the-scenes tours we would love to hear from you! Are you a rental property or vacation home owner willing to donate a weekend to SSHSA? A frequent traveler with loyalty points to spare? **You can make a big difference without ever spending a dime.**



Maybe there is a collectible lying around the house that could be used for our silent auction or raffles. We've already had two members step up to plate with incredibly generous donations – a painting of the *Conte di Savoia* from Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bieser and a 1930s Megow's Models kit of the Italian superliner *Rex* from Mr. and Mrs. Alan Yorker.

Still not catching your attention? Well there's one more way you can help out. Following in the tradition of our first three Ocean Liner Dinners, SSHSA will be publishing a commemorative visual tribute of the Italian Line that will be distributed to the hundreds of attendees at this year's event. Sponsorships are available for \$500 for each page (unless otherwise noted), and can be customized with a company logo and a short message. [Click here to see the images and fill out the order form](#) or email dleavitt@sshhsa.org to lock in your selection. You can also click here to see examples of our tributes to the [Queen Mary](#), the [Titanic](#) and the [Normandie](#).

The Ocean Liner Dinner is SSHSA's biggest fundraising event and supports our STEAMing Into The Future education program and the preservation of our unique archive at the Ship History Center in Warwick. We are infinitely appreciative of anyone who can help us as we work to keep the story of steam alive. **Give us a call at 401-463-3570 or email info@sshhsa.org now!**

Former seafarers wanted for new research on classic liners

A historian, author and longtime SSHSA member is looking to interview retired seafarers who worked on cruise ships over the last 50 years.

Lorraine Coons is a *PowerShips* contributor and professor at Chestnut Hill College in Philadelphia whose research focuses on the men and women who worked on the great liners of the 20th century. Her previous work includes

two panel discussions, one on the early days of steam power from the perspectives of Robert Fulton, John Fitch and James Rumsey, and another on the innovative nuclear ship *Savannah*, which still calls Baltimore her home. On Sunday, there will be formal Maritime Day festivities held aboard the NS *Savannah*.

For those of you who are unable to make it to the Ocean Liner Dinner on May 4, this is another great opportunity to celebrate with your fellow SSHSA colleagues and board members. Details are being finalized now, so stay tuned for more information. We hope to see you all there!

There is still time to renew your SSHSA membership

Spring is (finally) approaching, and the new issue of *PowerShips* is less than a month away. Check your membership status today and make sure you don't get left at the dock!

You can join or renew instantly by calling us at (401) 463-3570 or online by [clicking here](#). We look forward to welcoming you back on board.

New SSHSA Members

Welcome aboard!

CAPT Bart Allen
Mr. Merlin Amundson

“Tourist Third Cabin: Steamship Travel in the Interwar Years,” which was written in conjunction with her husband, Alexander Varias. A paperback revised edition was published two years ago.

Anyone with onboard experience who is interested in being interviewed for this project should email Coons at lcoons@chc.edu.

Member seeking paintings, information from John Roach ships

One of our members in Ireland is reaching out for help obtaining paintings, pictures and reproduction rights for a new book regarding the history of Irish steamship companies.

“Aspects of Irish Maritime History both at Home and Abroad” by Patrick Flood is currently being finalized, with plans to publish by the end of May 2019. It links Ireland to America, England, France, Spain, the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Australia, Argentina and Ecuador. It focuses on people of Irish decent and those of other nations who served in sailing and steamship companies, marine engineering, naval matters, and in polar regions. It's estimated to be 340 pages with 200 photographs, and Flood plans to give away free copies to museums, libraries and schools for educational purposes.

He is looking for two to four copies of paintings (originals, digital reproductions or transparencies) of John Roach-built ships, especially naval vessels, as well as the reproduction rights to reprint them in his book. Anyone who is interested in helping or who knows where he may obtain these pictures can write directly to Mr. Flood at 58 Terenure Road West, Dublin D6W, Ireland, or email us here at the Ship History Center at info@sshhsa.org.

Help solve a shipwreck mystery

An emailer recently reached out to us for help identifying a brass piece alleged to have been brought up from the wreck of the RMS *Lusitania*. The writer is doing more research to find the diver or company who recovered it so a more definitive analysis can be done into the provenance of this artifact, but in the interim he is looking for information and hints on what it could be. Once properly identified, he hopes to donate it to a museum or find a buyer who can give it a good home.

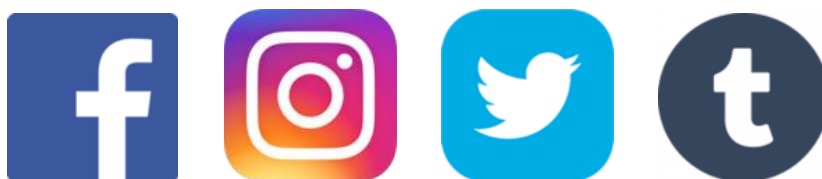


If this looks familiar and you would like to contribute, please contact Alexander Macht at alexhmacht@icloud.com.

Stay up to date on social media

Mr. John Anderson
 Mr. Tom Baker
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 Mr. David Kaplan
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 Mr. Lawrence Mirsky
 Mr. Gary I. Mitchell
 Mr. Leonard Mizerek
 Mr. Michael Jay Mjelde
 Mr. Gary Myers
 Mr. Louis Nelson

There's no reason to wait for the next issue of *PowerShips*, *Telegraph* or *Ahoy* to get your ship history fix. We are constantly posting stories, trivia and exclusive insights into our archive across all of our social media channels. Get on board now so you don't miss a beat!



Coming up in *PowerShips* #309

The next issue of *PowerShips* is in production now and will be mailed in mid-April. There's still time to [renew your membership](#) today - make sure you don't miss it!

Here are some highlights for the spring issue:

SS Savannah: The Bicentennial of Her Historic Voyage

Brian Rogers celebrates the SS *Savannah* as we approach the 200th anniversary of her momentous transatlantic crossing. Follow the trials and tribulations of Captain Moses Rogers as he guides this grand experiment from an idea to a "signal trophy of American enterprise."



To Shanghai on the Empress of Japan

The high spirits and increasing passenger loads of the second half of the 1920s prompted a decision to build the biggest, best and fastest Canadian Pacific liner for Vancouver-Far East service. William Miller presents a fascinating history of the *Empress of Japan*, from her auspicious beginnings to her untimely end.

American Innovation in the Shipping Industry

The American-flagged merchant marine and American shipyards play only a small part in the global shipping industry today. Jim Shaw recounts how the situation was much different during World War II and through the next two

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 Mr. Kelvin Wilke
 Admiral Walter Wittholz

Captains' Circle

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

Commodore (\$500)

Mr. Charles T. Andrews
 Mr. Odd A. Brevik
 Mr. Douglas E. Bryan
 Dr. Patrick T. Conley

decades, when American innovation moved to the forefront of commercial maritime development.

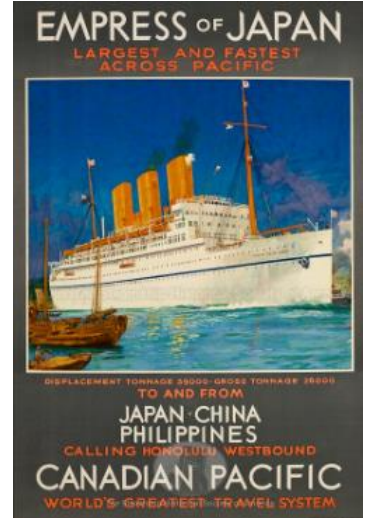
SS *Batavia* Rescues the Crew of the Bark *Charles Ward*

James Shuttleworth presents the story behind a wonderful painting that was discovered amongst SSHSA's stored collections treasures. The 1870s painting by W. Jones shows a dramatic scene of a rescue that took place in the mid-Atlantic Ocean after a hurricane dismantled the *Charles Ward*.

Wind-Class Icebreakers: Part Two

Terry Tilton continues his exploration of the history of the Wind-class icebreakers, which set a standard of uncompromising design that can still be seen on the largest icebreakers in service today. Approved for construction during World War II, the eight ships saw service that varied from the Great Lakes to the exploration of Antarctica.

Photo: Above, an 1819 painting of the SS *Savannah* by Hunter Wood (via Pinterest). Below, a poster of Canadian Pacific's *Empress of Japan* (Stephen Barrett Chase Collection, SSHSA archives).



Chapter News

Chesapeake Chapter Meeting

There will be an exploratory meeting for a potential Chesapeake Chapter on **Saturday, March 23, at 1 p.m.** at the Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, Virginia. There will be a PowerPoint presentation on Portuguese and Spanish ships. Attendees are encouraged to bring items to share. For more information, contact Theodore Xakellis at theodorexakellis@juno.com or 301-649-2140.

Southern California

It was raining buckets on Saturday, Feb. 2, at the Southern California Chapter meeting aboard the RMS *Queen Mary*. If you were not there, you missed two suburb presentations. First was Steve Lund presenting on the Japanese Midget Submarines that attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, along with 200 plus carrier-based aircraft. Steve presented facts that indicate that one of the midget subs, perhaps two, got into the harbor and participated in sinking several battleships. This was not known until recently. He showed the final fate of the five subs involved. He also described how the subs were constructed and operated. A lot of questions were asked by a very interested audience.

Next, member Gordon Ghareeb thrilled us with a presentation on American President Lines, which some of you may know better as APL. APL is still in

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Mr. Terence Turner
CAPT Robert F. Wasson, Jr.
Mr. Peregrine White
Mr. Eric Wiberg

Commander (\$300)

Mr. Joseph Bains
Mr. Preston B. Baker
The Rev. James Brandmueller
Mr. Gabriel Caprio
Mr. John J. Crowley, Jr.
Mr. Patrick Dacey
CAPT Robertson Dinsmore

business today and headquartered in Oakland, California. Gordon reviewed the ships, history and tribulations of the company.

The raffle was very large this month, with many shipping company brochures, chinaware, books, magazines, and a couple of large prints. One was of RMS *Queen Mary* and the other was a blueprint of the rigging plan of RMS *Titanic*. We will be having larger, more expensive items (perhaps some hardware) in the future that will either be offered in a separate silent auction or just priced to sell.

Terry Tilton will present on Ingalls Shipyard, its history and the famous vessels built there at the chapter's May 4 meeting. The yard is still there and operating, albeit by a different owner. Terry's talk will take the full afternoon, but he promises a short break for chow hounds and those of us with small bladders. **The May chapter meeting will be held in the Caronia Room aboard the RMS *Queen Mary*, located on B Deck, port side, forward towards the bow.**

We have the rest of the year planned for presentations. August will feature Steve Lund talking about Civil War ironclads and the new technology they developed that was introduced into merchant ships. Also at the August social meeting, Steve Lawson will explain the boiler explosion of the USS *Bennington* (PG-4) in San Diego Bay in July 1905. The explosion killed 66 seamen. The gunboat was beached, but was deemed unsalvageable. In 1912, she became a barge for Matson Navigation at Honolulu.

In November, Jim Shuttleworth will present a talk about Port Redondo. Yes, there was a busy port at Redondo Beach between 1888 to 1926. It served as a passenger and lumber port in completion with San Pedro. But San Pedro won out in the long run. Do you know why? Come and find out.

If you have not done so already, take a look at the ship models in the Model Gallery. Many of the chapter's metal waterline models are on display on the wall.

On Sunday, Feb. 24, SoCal Chapter member Kevin Anthony gave a presentation to the Torrance California Historical Society titled "The Mystery of the Torrance Ship's Anchor — Finally Solved." The well-attended presentation was an historical account of the origins of the ship anchor, chain and the memorial plaque to the RMS *Queen Elizabeth*, and how these items came to be exhibited on display in that city.

The Southern California Chapter's *Ocean Times* published a special edition in February: "Cruise Ships 2018 — Year In Review" by Shawn J. Dake. This annual review is a concise history of cruise ships and other passenger vessels — new builds, ships sold, ships on order, and those that have gone to scrapping—during the past year.

The April issue of the *Ocean Times* will include articles about Port Redondo, the history of States Lines, the Trans-Pacific Service on Japan's OSK Line, the continuation of "Ships 101," this time focusing on Roll On–Roll Off and Container/Roll On–Roll Off ships, and Ship Shot will bring us another very personal account. Want your own copy of the *Ocean Times* or "Cruise Ships 2018 — Year In Review?" Join the Southern California Chapter of the SSHSA.

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Mr. Andrew Edmonds
Mr. Robert Franzblau
Mr. Francis Galasso
Mr. Daniel Gallagher
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(Ret.)
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Mr. Albert Gilder

Contact Sherrill Smith (ladysherrill@msn.com) for information and a membership form.

Delaware Valley

Delaware Valley Chapter meetings are held at The Independence Seaport Museum at Penn's Landing on the Delaware River. Membership is \$15 for one year. Contact Chapter Chairman Steve Loveless at sloveless1959@gmail.com or 215-495-8889 for more details or if you are interested in joining.

Golden Gate

Chapter dues are \$6 in the United States and \$9 for foreign addresses. Membership includes six chapter meetings and field trips each year, as well as an 8-page newsletter mailed every two months. For more information, call chapter President Norman Freitag at 510-276-7520.

Surplus books and registers available for purchase

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.

See below for the listing of registers, or [click here for our inventory of used books](#).



Available Registers:

ABS Records - 1952

Merchant Vessels of the United States - 1947, 1960

Lloyds Registers -
1922-1923 (Volume 2)
1929-1930 (Volume 2)
Annals of Lloyds Register 1934
1938-1939 (Volume 2)
1950 (Appendix)
1955-1956 (Volume 3)
1956-1957 (Volume 1)
1956-1957 (Volume 2, Appendix)

Mr. Roger Gill	1956-1957 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)
Mr. Gary Gmoser	1957-1958 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)
Mr. Paul S. Gravenhorst	1958-1959 (Volume 4)
Mr. Robert A. Haslun	1959-1960 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)
Mr. Han Helders	1961-1962 (Volume 1)
Mr. Albert R. Hinckley, Jr.	1961-1962 (Volume 2, Appendix)
Ms. June Sherry Ingram	1961-1962 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)
Mr. Tom Jordens	1961-1962 (Volume 4, Directory)
Mr. Timothy J. Kelly	1962-1963 (Volume 2, Appendix)
Mr. Stephen Lash	1962-1963 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)
Mr. Thomas Lavin	1963-1964 (Volume 1)
Mr. Matthew Lawrence	1963-1964 (Volume 2, Appendix)
CAPT David Leech	1963-1964 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)
Mr. H.F. Lenfest	1963-1964 (Volume 4, Directory)
Mr. Reginald Lewington	1964-1965 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)
Ms. Susan Linda	1965-1966 (Volume 1)
CAPT Adrian Loughborough	1965-1966 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)
Dr. Mark P. Macina	1965-1966 Supplement
The Rev. Armand Mantia	1966-1967 (Volume 3, List of Shipowners)
CAPT Brian McAllister	1968-1969 (List of Shipowners)
Mr. David L. McColloch	1969-1970 (List of Shipowners)
Mr. Daniel L. McCoy	1970-1971 (A-L)
Mr. Walter Lynn McLaughlin	1970-1971 (M-Z)
CAPT Ronald J. Meiczinger	1970-1971 (List of Shipowners)
Mrs. Harry Morgan	1971-1972 (A-L)
Mr. William G. Muller	1971-1972 (M-Z)
Dr. and Mrs. William P. Murphy	1972-1973 (A-L)
Mr. Brian L. Norden	1972-1973 (M-Z)
Mr. Michael J. O'Callaghan	1972-1973 (List of Shipowners)
Mr. Patrick D. Ortego	1975-1976 (List of Shipowners)
Mr. Ronald Oswald	1975-1976 (Appendix)
Mr. Hollis S. Paige	1976-1977 (List of Shipowners)
Mr. Art Peabody	1977-1978 (List of Shipowners)
Mr. Richard G. Pelley	1977-1978 (Register of Offshore Units, Submersibles, and Diving Systems)
Mr. W. Bruce Redpath	1979-1980 (Register of Offshore Units, Submersibles, and Diving Systems)
Mr. William S. Reid	1981-1982 (Register of Offshore Units, Submersibles, and Diving Systems)
Mr. Bruce Rowe	1981-1982 (Register of Ships Subsidiary Sections)
Dr. Victor H. Rubino	1982-1983 (Register of Offshore Units, Submersibles, and Diving Systems)
Mr. Robert H. Savarese	
Mr. John L. Schiavone	
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew S. Schulte	
Mr. John W. Schumann	
Mr. Howard Schutter	
Mr. Daniel J. Sentilles	
Mr. Walter A. Shields	
Mr. George Shuster	
Mr. Mark Snider	
Mr. John S.W. Spofford	
Mr. Roy L. Spring	
Mr. Alan Stover	
Mr. Alexander Swavy	
Mrs. Merle Thomsen (Dian)	
Mr. Sandy Thomson	

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

The *Telegraph* is the quarterly electronic newsletter for members and friends of Steamship Historical Society of America. It is produced in March, June, September, and December.

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Mr. Richard Vanaria
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