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Join us as we celebrate SSHSA's Ship of the Year

SSHSA will crown its new Ship of the Year in Connecticut next week, and we want you to be there.

Local members are welcome to join us in New London next Tuesday, September 21, when SSHSA Vice President Pat Dacey will be on hand to present the award to the *Cape Henlopen*, one of the oldest operating ferries in the world and one of the few ships who served in World War II that is still in active service.

The ceremony will take place at 1:30 p.m. at Cross Sound Ferry Services, 2 Ferry Street, New London, Connecticut. **Parking is limited, so please RSVP by emailing info@sshhsa.org or calling 401-463-3570 if you plan to attend.**

The *Cape Henlopen* has a long and varied career that includes service at Normandy on D-Day, dropping off 200 men and 70 vehicles of the 29th Infantry Division and taking on wounded men for treatment. She worked throughout the war transporting troops and vehicles eastward and casualties westward across the English Channel, though bad luck saw her needing repairs following collisions with other ships and underwater obstructions. She was being prepared for the Pacific Theater when Japan surrendered, and earned one battle star for her World War II service.



After a period of inactivity, she was decommissioned and sold to the Chesapeake Bay Ferry District of Norfolk, Virginia, where she began a second career. Over the last several decades, she has operated between Lewes, Delaware, and Cape May, New Jersey, for the Delaware River and Bay Authority, and currently between New London, Connecticut, and Orient Point, New York, for Cross Sound Ferry Services.

Live too far away to make the event? [Nominate a vessel in your neck of the woods](#) for the next round of SSHSA Awards! We are currently looking for

Executive Director's Message

It's hard to believe that the SSHSA Ship History Center has been our own for an entire year. While it's a fact that we've actually resided here for seven years, and we also still have a mortgage, it truly is our home. And we couldn't be happier. We knew this building was the right place for us since we first laid eyes on it more than a decade ago. Through hard work, dedication and more than a little bit of good luck, we are proud to be good stewards of so many important collections, images and objects within our climate-controlled surroundings.

While there is always need for more resources, we are thankful with the support that we have received thus far. After all, how many times have we heard in the last year that "these are unprecedented times?" I'd especially like to highlight an important opportunity that has been made by the Posner Foundation of Pittsburgh.

As many know, Henry Posner III is a longtime member of SSHSA, and he and his family have been very generous with their time, sharing their maritime collection with us and providing insight, as well as financial support through the foundation. There is a current challenge underway, in which the foundation will match \$250,000 dollar-for-dollar. But we have to raise that same amount in new donations and pledges first.

I am pleased to report that we are over the halfway point

ships, individuals and organizations that deserve to be recognized for their contributions to maritime history.

Candidates will be considered for Ship of the Year (all types of vessels, including tugboats, yachts, cruise ships and museum ships), the Jay Allen Award for Distinguished Editorial Service to SSHSA publications, the C. Bradford Mitchell Award, the Samuel Ward Stanton Award for Lifetime Achievement, and the H. Graham Wood Award for Distinguished Service to SSHSA. SSHSA may also honor additional heritage ships, longtime SSHSA members, and maritime leaders worthy of special recognition.

[Click here for the rules and a nomination form.](#) Please submit by October 15, 2021, for this round of consideration.

Virtual Annual Meeting will be held Saturday, October 23

Official notice is hereby given to all members that the **2021 SSHSA Annual Meeting will be held at 10 a.m. Eastern on Saturday, October 23, from the Ship History Center, 2500 Post Road, Warwick, RI.** Because of COVID-19 concerns, the meeting will once again take place via the Zoom videoconferencing app. [Click here to register.](#)

All members are invited to cast a ballot for this year's slate of nominees for the Board of Directors. Five candidates have agreed to run this year, and this is a great chance to help guide us as we steam into a new era for our organization.

To let your voice be heard, [simply click here to download the ballot online.](#) You can submit it in advance by mail at 2500 Post Road, Warwick, RI; by email at info@sshhsa.org; or by dropping it off at the Ship History Center prior to the meeting. Completed ballots submitted in advance are due by Thursday, October 21. All members are invited to submit a ballot, regardless of whether they are able to attend the meeting.

Please contact us at info@sshhsa.org or 401-463-3570 if you would like a physical ballot mailed to your home.

Help SSHSA move Full Ahead!

We are about one-third of the way to our \$3.5 million fundraising goal for the **Full Ahead!** campaign to secure the future of SSHSA and our irreplaceable



already. But now is the time to double down and invest your contribution in this challenge. Once complete, SSHSA will have raised a new half-million dollars toward our Full Ahead! campaign. Won't you consider making a meaningful gift today so that we can meet the Posner Challenge? Thank you for your support and friend. Now, Full Ahead!

New SSHSA Members

Welcome aboard!

Archbishop John Carroll High School
Mr. Michael T. Bongiovi
Ms. Lynda Bradford
Mr. Randal Brown
Mr. Jay Carrothers
Mr. Charles Deroko
Eastern Shore Community College
Mr. Charles Fuss
Mr. Jack Gardner
Mr. Brad Handelman
Mr. Benjamin Hoffman
Mr. James Isaacson
Mr. Tim Jeruzal
Ms. Susan Kehler
Ms. Jane M. LaSure
Mr. Paul Moore
Mr. George Pierce
Mr. Daniel Rose
Mr. Paul Schranz
Mr. Thomas Seal
Mr. Harry Stott
Mr. Jeffrey Sumner
Mr. David Varley
Mr. Kurt Wenzler

Captains' Circle

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

Engineer

archive. Every dollar raised will help bring decades of maritime heritage closer to the public, both in person and online.

Buying the Ship History Center was just the first step. We still need to interpret a collection that comprises hundreds of thousands of images, objects, artifacts, periodicals, artwork, official records and memorabilia that help tell an extensive history of powerful ships, their passengers and their crews. [Please consider a donation today!](#)

Since 2016, SSHSA has been populating its online database with artifacts and photos to make them available to the general public beyond the physical walls of the Ship History Center. At present, less than 8 percent of the collections have been fully translated (e.g. digitized, described, uploaded). To ensure that we remain relevant, we must continue this important work.

The **Full Ahead!** campaign will also provide much needed funds for our online education program, STEAMing Into The Future and necessary upgrades for the Ship History Center. Making a donation today assures that this legacy will continue for generations to come.

Thank you to everyone who has already stepped up to secure SSHSA's future, and to those who are currently considering a gift. We truly could not do this without you.

[Click here to read more](#) about the **Full Ahead!** campaign, or [click here to make a donation](#).

New lessons, video coming to online education program

New video content is coming soon to www.shiphistory.org! Thanks to a generous contribution from longtime member Ted Scull, we are now able to create additional video content using oral history interviews and primary sources. The first video will focus on the challenges that faced the wave of Italian Immigrants coming to America in the late 19th and early 20th centuries through the eyes of Gerardo D'Amico, who settled in Providence, Rhode Island, in 1907. We had a lot of fun making this one, and we hope you keep an eye out for it.

Recent updates to the site also have been made to ensure that all lessons can be integrated into Google Classroom, which many schools and teachers use to



Steaming Into the Future
REACHING THE NEXT GENERATION

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Mr. Thomas C. Ragan
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Mr. Douglas A. Tilden
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CDR Andrew O. Coggins Jr., USN (Ret.)
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Mrs. Rita Draper
Mr. Andrew Edmonds
Mr. and Mrs. William Edwards
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Mr. Charles C. Fichtner
Mr. John B. Henry
Mr. Scott G. Huston
Ms. June Sherry Ingram
Mr. Neil E. Jones
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Mr. Charles W. Moorman
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assign work. Redesigns of the education modules and lessons page created increased accessibility by changing the font style and size for readability. If it's been a while since you've been to www.shiphistory.org, it's definitely worth another trip.

Our STEAMing Into The Future education program is funded by members, donors, and grants in order to provide our content for free for educators and students across the country. The program launched in 2018 and provides standards-based science, technology, engineering, arts, math and social studies lessons using primary sources from SSHSA's archive and collections.



We have continued to add content to the site throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, expanding our content from mostly high school lessons to include early childhood and middle school content. We also created more diverse lessons on ship history from the point of view of persons of color and immigrants in order to provide a more complete history of steamships in America. We have 25 interdisciplinary lessons available, and many of these lessons have adaptations for multiple grade bands.

Studies have shown that there are many benefits to virtual learning. It enables students to take more time to think and reflect before communicating, and gives them the ability to understand insights from different disciplines, synthesize information surrounding a topic and, ultimately, offers a more complete understanding of an issue.

We're happy that www.shiphistory.org not only extends our reach beyond the Ship History Center in Rhode Island, but that we can contribute to the future of education. For more information about the program, email Education Director Aimee Bachari at steam@sshhsa.org.

Photo: An image from SSHSA's upcoming immigration video shows families on the steerage deck of an ocean steamer as they pass the Statue of Liberty (SSHSA Archives).

Eight Bells: William G.T. Barber

We were sad to learn last month that one of our longtime regional columnists, William G.T. Barber, died just one week shy of his 80th birthday. Bill was a member of SSHSA for over 30 years, and served as *Steamboat Bill* and *PowerShips* Southwest Pacific Editor since Spring 1999. Bill was a truly unique voice for our organization. He never missed a deadline and kept a good

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 Mr. Ted Blank
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 Mr. A. Pierce Bounds
 Mr. Jerry Boyd
 Mr. Terry Bryll
 Mr. J. O. Busto
 CAPT Gerard P. Carroll
 Mr. Christopher P. Cavas
 Mr. Charles W. Clarke
 Mr. William D. Comings Jr.
 Dr. Patrick T. Conley
 Mr. Jim Coonrod
 Mr. David Corry

sense of humor despite numerous hospital stays over the last several years, even joking “I think it’s called old age” in this issue’s column.

Bill was involved in the maritime industry as a government consultant, historian and hobbyist for over 60 years. He was a consultant to the chairman and CEO of the Port of Melbourne Authority for five years, worked with the government of Victoria on cruise ship visits to the Port of Melbourne, and lectured extensively aboard cruise ships.



He was employed by some of Australia’s largest corporations in sales, marketing, economic development and tourism, which took him to countries around the globe, including the Philippines, Vietnam and Thailand. He was also called upon to provide information and expert testimony for a number of government cruise and airline inquiries.

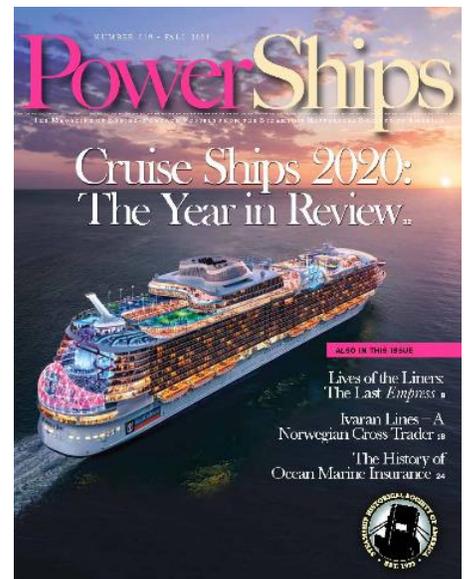
A memorial service celebrating Bill’s life will be livestreamed on Monday, September 27, at 2 p.m. Australian time (Sunday, September 26, at midnight Eastern in the United States). To join, visit <https://tobinbrothers.com.au/tribute/details/21094/William-Barber/obituary.html#tribute-start> and click on “Webcast Live Stream” in the column on the left side of the screen.

Make sure you're on board for 2022

This summer sure went by quickly, which means that the holidays will be here before you know it. Why not get your SSHSA renewal out of the way before the hustle and bustle of everything heading our way in the last few months of 2021?

Renewal notices will be hitting the mail soon for everyone whose membership is scheduled to lapse between now and December 31. SSHSA has had another incredibly successful year, and we want to build on that progress in 2022 and beyond. But we can’t do it alone. [Renew your membership this fall](#) so we can start the new year off with a bang.

We took a big step forward last year by purchasing the Ship History Center and securing a permanent home for our unique archive, and are now undergoing a strategic planning process to make sure that we are positioned to not only survive, but remain one of the worldwide leaders in maritime heritage. We have a treasure trove of knowledge here in Rhode Island, and it’s time to



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 Mr. Jonathan Ely
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 Ms. Lisa Plotnick
 Mr. David L. Powers Jr.
 Mr. Richard A. Proeschel
 QMI - Restore The Queen
 Mr. Douglas H. Ramsay
 Mr. Tim Rooney
 Mr. Bruce Rowe
 Dr. Timothy J. Runyan

get it into the hands of everyone with a computer, smartphone and tablet. Add in another year of *PowerShips* (your choice of print or digital) and it's a no-brainer.

[Climb on board now and please consider upgrading your membership if you can.](#) With all hands on deck, there's nothing we can't accomplish!

Photo: Cover of the upcoming *PowerShips* issue #319. See below for more about what's inside.

Coming up in *PowerShips* #319

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

The Last Empress

In Lives of the Liners, William Miller shares the story of the *Empress of Canada*, which proved to be both the last liner for the Canadian Pacific Steamship company and the first ship for Carnival Cruise Lines. As the renamed *Mardi Gras*, she was the start of the biggest passenger ship operation of all time.



Cruise Ships 2020: The Year in Review

We're excited to publish Shawn Dake's annual cruising review in *PowerShips*. For those of you who are unfamiliar, Shawn is a member of SSHSA's Southern California Chapter who has been writing a definitive roundup of the cruise industry for years, covering everything from the major lines and their subsidiaries to the smaller independent companies. There is so much information here that we will be running a condensed version in the magazine and the full document online at www.sshsa.org.

Ivaran Lines: A Norwegian Cross Trader

Jim Shaw introduces us to cross traders, liner operators that trade their ships between countries other than their own. They are a dying breed today, but they were once an important part of the world shipping scene. One of the best known was Norway's Ivaran Lines.



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In Ken Brownlee's history of marine insurance, we learn about the important role that this business has played, from the time that the Grand Council of Venice established the first laws in 1468 to the cruise line operators navigating the troubled waters of the coronavirus today.

Photos: Top, the *Empress of Canada* is better known to many as the *Mardi Gras*, the first ship of what became the Carnival Corporation empire (SSHA Archives). Bottom, built by Japan's Nipponkai Heavy Industries in 1978, the *Santa Fe* was one of the Ivaran Lines' first two container ships (SSHA Archives).

Chapter News

Southern California

Provided by Bruce Vancil, Chapter President

August 7, 2021 was SoCal Chapter's third quarterly meeting of 2021. With everything that's playing out in current events, it was via Zoom. We had two excellent presentations by two obviously passionate presenters whose love for maritime history shined through the darkness, lighting up every one of the audience's faces.

First up, Alan Huguenot gave a presentation of the design (and careers) of the *Lusitania* and *Mauretania* of 1907. The second presenter was Brian Hawley, who shared the histories of Cunard's *Queen Mary* and *Queen Elizabeth* along with plenty of histories of the White Star Line, SS *Normandie* and much of the 20th century included for context. Well done, both!

That said, we wish to remind members that we are open to the submission of articles on your favorite ship subject. Ship interests of all kind are welcome from the greatest liner to the smallest tug – it's all good here! Pictures of ships are welcome as long as they have a few paragraphs telling the story of the significance of the ships and the time and place they were taken in a segment we call Ship Shots. Build your resume to include "published author/photographer." You can send it to me at steamer@pacbell.net and I'll forward it to our editorial team.

Future meetings include November 6, 2021, which will be a Show & Tell conducted via Zoom (the *Queen Mary* is still closed to the public for the foreseeable future). Members are encouraged to sign up to show a prized treasure in their collection in a 10-minute stint at our virtual podium. It's free to



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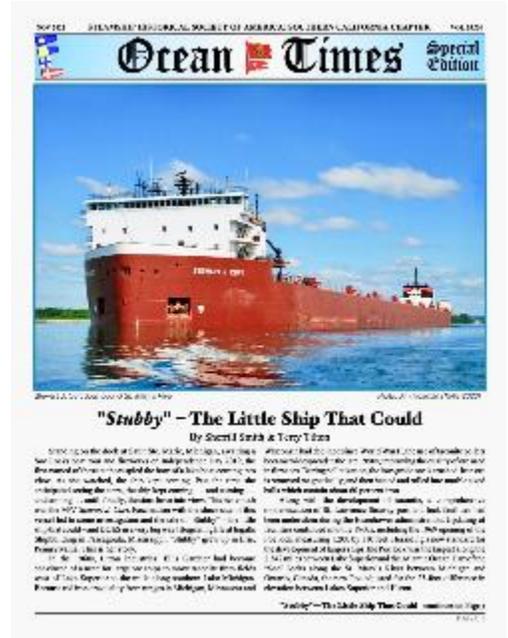
participate and people do appreciate seeing items from other collections. I know I do.

Looking ahead, we have to stay flexible regarding meeting venues. It's not only pandemic issues presenting challenges, but also the *Queen Mary's* situation and when she might reopen. Please excuse the lack of definitive information, but know that we will act when the picture clears and communicate the outcome with our community.

The October 2021 issue of the *Ocean Times* presents a wide variety of articles beginning with "What Ever Happened to Knutsen Line?" by Jim Shaw. Jim also takes us to the southern end of the Americas in "A Lonely Wreck," bringing us the story of Grace Lines' *Santa Leonor*. This issue's Ship Shot is also thanks to Jim, who wrote "Excursion Vessel *Madaket*, A West Coast Relic." Chapter Vice-President Jim Shuttleworth takes us on a journey of discovery with his "What Can You Learn From a Ship Portrait?" In this example, the portrait is of the SS *Archer*. Maritime artist and Chapter member Steve Mayo tells of "Bluebell Memories" in a Letter to the Editor responding to the "West Coast's Oldest Cutter" feature in the August *Ocean Times Special Edition*. Bill Miller continues his stories about the ships we have enjoyed in "Mediterranean Crossing on the *Queen Frederica*." Chapter President Bruce Vancil guides us through another Tramping Cyber Space with "Older Liners ... The Culture and Mystique." Old Tramp relates the serendipity of his family attending the Golden Gate Expedition on Matson Day and the fair. Lastly – and perhaps most importantly – there is a big THANK YOU to all of the individuals and organizations that have supported the Chapter's Journal through the past 25 years, making the *Ocean Times* possible.

The Chapter is also producing a November *Ocean Times Special Edition*, the eighth published in the past two years. The coming November issue includes the story of "Stubby – The Little Ship That Could." The excitement of a winter voyage from Long Beach to Vancouver is retold in "Christmas on a British Freighter." There is a visit to another "West Coast Relic: Tugboat *Sand Man*." Also, Tramping Cyber Space offers us "Some Classic Liners and Cruise Ships."

Looking farther forward, the January 2022 *Ocean Times* will offer articles about the SS *Great Britain*, P&O's *Chusan*, Sitmar's *Fairsky*, and Tramping Cyber Space will examine facts and details of some notable and important and fascinating ships – both famous and lesser known. Additionally, there may be a surprise or two.



Stay safe, stay well, and enjoy maritime history as often as possible.

Want your own email copy of the *Ocean Times*? Join the Southern California Chapter of the SSHSA. Contact Sherrill Smith (ladysherrill@msn.com) for information and a membership form.

All are invited to visit and enjoy the Southern California Chapter's website at www.socalsshhsa.org, and also the chapter's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/shiphistorysocial/>.

Photo: A preview of the covers for the October (top) and November (bottom) editions of the SoCal Chapter's *Ocean Times*. Click on either image to visit the chapter's website and sign up for a copy.

Delaware Valley Chapter

When possible, 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 sldvcsshhsa@gmail.com or 215-495-8889 for more details or if you are interested in joining.

Golden Gate Chapter

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.

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.

Bryan Lucier, Editor, *The Telegraph*

SSHSA is a nonprofit 501(c) 3 organization funded by donations from members and friends. SSHSA is dedicated to sharing the maritime heritage of powerful ships, legendary passengers and hardworking crews. Gifts to SSHSA are appreciated and may be considered tax-deductible.