

PSMHS
NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2011

PUGET SOUND MARITIME HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 9731

SEATTLE WA 98109-0731

SEPTEMBER DINNER PROGRAM:

TRAGEDY AND COURAGE

ON THE BERING SEA

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S E P T E M B E R

PSMHS
NEWSLETTER

PUGET SOUND MARITIME HISTORICAL SOCIETY • SEPTEMBER 2011

DINNER MEETING:

WEDNESDAY

SEPTEMBER 7, 2011

IVAR'S SALMON HOUSE

401 NE NORTHLAKE WAY

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

MENU: ROTISSERIE CHICKEN

USE FORM ON PAGE 3

TO MAIL IN YOUR
RESERVATION TODAY!

BAR OPENS AT 6:00 P.M.

DINNER AT 7:00 P.M.

PROGRAM:

TRAGEDY AND COURAGE

ON THE BERING SEA

A NARRATIVE FILM AS TOLD BY

CAPTAIN DAVE SHOEMAKER

ABOUT THE TERRIBLE FIRE AND

SINKING OF THE FISHING VESSEL

GALAXY IN THE BERING SEA

IN OCTOBER 2002.

YOUR RESERVATION FORM

MUST BE RECEIVED

NOT LATER THAN NOON ONMONDAY, SEPT 5, 2011

OR CALL PAT HARTLE

AT 206-938-2397 OR

PATHARTLE@COMCAST.NET

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND

RESERVATION CHANGES ONLY

**SEPTEMBER DINNER PROGRAM
AT IVAR'S SALMON HOUSE:
TRAGEDY AND COURAGE
ON THE BERING SEA**

Our September meeting program will feature a film about the fire and sinking of the Fishing Vessel GALAXY in the Bering Sea. The narrative will be told by the Captain of GALAXY, **Dave Shoemaker**, as he experienced it on October 20, 2002. It was just an ordinary day with 20-foot seas and 30-knot winds for the 25 men and one woman aboard the ship when the crew detected smoke on multiple decks. Within four minutes, the first violent explosion rocked the vessel and blew three members of the starboard fire team through the gear setting hatch at the stern and 30 feet through the air into the frigid water.

The fire spread rapidly and melted the radios off the wheelhouse bulkhead. Most of their survival gear was consumed in flames.

Captain Shoemaker has been interviewed by **John Sabella**, a PSMHS member. John created this educational video about the terrible happening for training purposes for other fishing companies.

Captain Shoemaker is a Vietnam Marine Veteran, a devout Christian and loves motorcycles. He started his fishing career by walking the docks at Seattle's Fisherman's terminal in a 3-piece suit looking for work. In 1979, he landed a job on PACIFIC VIKING as a deck hand. After two years they suddenly needed an engineer and he volunteered for the job. Fortunately he found the manual and figured out how to start the engine. He soon made Skipper and was a fishing vessel skipper for more than 20 years. In the 1980s, he joined Aleutian Spray Fisheries as Master of GALAXY. She was a factory long liner and had ABS "Maltese Cross Classification," recognizing that she was absolutely seaworthy.

GALAXY was built in 1942 as a US Mine Layer, then converted to Buoy Tender and renamed MAGNOLIA stationed at Dutch Harbor. After conversion for fishing she was renamed GALAXY working for Aleutian Spray Fisheries.

Join us for this incredible story of the fire and demise of F/V GALAXY.

PSMHS online: www.pugetmaritime.org**PSMHS Classified Ads****SHIP MODEL RESTORATION.**

Cleaning, repairs, re-rigging, and/or reconstruction of ship models in any condition or size. Thirty-five years experience in restoration, appraisals, and conservation. For a museum quality restoration contact Gary White, The Ship Model Dockyard, 253-952-4612 or garyw39@aol.com 5/12

QUALITYUSEDNONFICTIONBOOKS.

Biography, history and some nautical. No Dearth of Books, 253-851-3627 2/12

SHIP MODELS FOR SALE OR LEASE.

Museum quality, built by Errol "Earl" Anderson: WANDERER, tug, static; POLITKOFKY, tug, static; BLACK PRINCE, sternwheel, static; WILD GOOSE, yacht, r/c/ yms. All with display cases, are in 3/8"=1" scale. Viewing call 425-788-6803 for appointment. E-mail sawdustinc@hughes.net. 10/11

TO SUBMIT AN AD. Make a \$3.00 per month donation to PSMHS and send to PSMHS Newsletter Editor, Classified Ads, P.O. Box 9731, Seattle WA 98109-0731.

Membership News

We thank the following new members and members who have recently renewed their membership at an upgraded level—

NEW MEMBERS since the beginning of May, 2011:

Chris and Lisa Woodley, Donna Gordon, Diane Spaulding, Doug and Amy Subcleff, Jim Williamson, Don Williamson, Barbara Holz Sullivan and Svetlana Spivak.

Members who have UPGRADED since May, 2011:

William Arrendale, Richard and Ingri Berg, Mike Grygiel, Blake Howe, Scott Rohrer, D.W. "Bill" and Gail Lerch, Ronald Bray, Robert Jones, Barrett Monsaas, Alex Otero, Christian Parker and Laurel Schmidt Seaman.

Upcoming Programs

On October 5, an evening at Ivar's Salmon House, **Penelope Goforth** will enlighten us on the positives and negatives of commercial shipping across the Polar Route.

On November 6, an afternoon at MOHAI, **John Waterhouse** and **Russ McComb** of **Elliott Bay Design** discuss ferryboat design.

In December there will be no meeting.



Membership in the Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society is open to anyone interested in maritime history. Membership is solicited and inquires should be addressed to: PSMHS, P.O. Box 9731, Seattle WA 98109-0731. Monthly meetings are held September through June on the first Wednesday of each month. Meeting place and programs are announced to members by mail. The PSMHS Newsletter is published monthly, September through June, and is free to members.

**PUGET SOUND
MARITIME HISTORICAL SOCIETY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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206-324-1126, EXT. 41**

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206-262-1265**

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**OCT. NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
SEPTEMBER 7, 2011**

FAX: 206-324-2638

E-MAIL: MARINEART@AOL.COM

US MAIL: PSMHS

Move Update: Report From "Behind The Scenes"

by Karen Marshall, Executive Director

Packing has begun! At the beginning of July, our 7,000 ship plans were packed and placed in a storage vault. This collection was the first to be packed because the plans were located at the entrance to the largest collections storage room here at MOHAI where the main packing stations will be located to pack all of the artifacts for both MOHAI and PSMHS. There are at least five people here packing artifacts on a daily basis so it is a busy place!

Here are the important dates:

Currently —

1) We will not be able to accept any objects, photographs or documents for potential acquisition until after we are moved and settled in the new location.

2) No ship plans are available to order for at least seven months.

3) Research patrons must make an appointment to use the library now because we have the final inventory work going on to prepare for the packers.

October 1 —

The PSMHS Research Library will close to patrons. All research will need to be completed by this date. Please phone 206-324-1126, x 41 to schedule an appointment or email research@pugetmaritime.org.

November 1 —

All orders for photographs will stop at this time. We expect the photo orders to open late Spring or early summer 2012.

The new PSMHS Maritime Research Center within MOHAI's new administration and library building is located in Georgetown, a south Seattle neighborhood. For security reasons the exact location of the building is not being disclosed at this time. MOHAI is currently in the process of planning the renovations to the building and the layout. Remodling of the building will begin within the next few months and is anticipated to be completed by January 2012 when the actual move will begin. As more details emerge we will keep you informed.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Welcome New Interns!

This summer we have two UW Museum Studies Students interning with us. **Joseph Wapner II** is doing an administrative internship to learn about museum administration and **Tomasina DeVitis** is working through our deaccessioning process. Welcome to Joseph and Tomasina!

PSMHS Membership Application

- Individual/Family Membership \$40
- Associate (Libraries, Museum, Non-Profit) \$40
- Sustaining Member \$50
- Sponsor \$75
- Patron \$100
- Corporate Membership \$500
- Benefactor \$500
- Navigator \$1000
- Work(ed) for a Matching Gift Company
- New Member Renewal

Name(s) _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone (H) _____ (W) _____
 E-mail _____

I/we would like to receive information about how I/we can remember the Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society in my/our estate planning or planned charitable giving program.

MAIL TO: PSMHS MEMBERSHIP,
 P.O. Box 9731, Seattle, WA 98109-0731 (Include your check)

PSMHS Dinner Meeting Reservation

**CLIP AND MAIL FOR MEETING
 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2011
 RESERVATION DEADLINE:
 NOON ON MONDAY, SEPT. 5, 2011**

Name(s): _____
 Telephone: _____
 Total Number [at \$30 per person]: _____
 Total Amount of Check: _____

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: PSMHS
 MAIL TO:
 PSMHS DINNER MEETING,
 P.O. BOX 9731, SEATTLE, WA, 98109-0731
 Call 206-938-2397 or pathartle@comcast.net for changes,
 cancellations or questions. Guests are always welcome.
 Please include payment.**

Reserve Early and Notify of Cancellation. A member who makes a reservation and then does not attend a dinner or give notification of their cancellation in a timely manner (48 hours) will not be refunded their money for the dinner. The Society must pay for the number of meals we have reserved in advance, regardless of the number of meals actually served since the caterer orders several days in advance. Walk-ins cannot be guaranteed a meal.

Intern Report

by Tomasina DeVitis,
 UW Museology Candidate

The Society is taking advantage of the opportunity that has emerged from the need to comb through the entirety of the collection to assess its strengths and determine how to make the best possible use of our artifacts. There are many objects that have made their way into the collection over the years that have been donated by well meaning community members, but which have no relationship to maritime history here in the Pacific Northwest.

In the last month we have transferred several ethnographic objects,

including a small eagle carved by Native Americans at the turn of the 20th Century, to the Burke Museum where they will be fully appreciated through their use in the Burke's educational programming. Not only will this process lead to a stronger maritime collection for our Society, but it will also build lasting relationships with the institutions that we work with to find more appropriate homes for the artifacts that are outside of our mission.

Grant Received

The Kelly Foundation of Washington has awarded us \$3,500 for upgrading the storage condi-

tions of the Williamson photograph collection. This grant will enable us to purchase Melinex sleeves to protect a portion of the printed images; the overall project cost is \$8,000.

Big Thanks

Many thanks to **John and Gloria Osberg** for their generous donation to support our work in preparation for our move in 2012!

REMINDER
 All mail is now sent to our
 Seattle PO BOX:
 PO Box 9731
 Seattle, WA 98109-0731