



Readin' Both Pages

A membership publication of the Sail, Power & Steam Museum

Winter 2022

Piping Aboard A New Captain for "A Morning in Maine"

We are thrilled to announce that Captain Tyler Waterson will be captaining *A Morning in Maine*, the 55' Pete Culler designed ketch that was generously donated to the museum this fall by her former owners, Capt. Bob and Cathy Pratt.

Details of trips (regularly scheduled daysails and private charters from Middle Pier in Rockland) can be found at www.amorninginmaine.com.

Growing up, Capt Waterson lived aboard his family's sailboat every summer, sailing the Maine coast for a month every year. He received his six-pack captain's license while teaching sailing at the Seacoast Sailing School in New Castle, NH at the age of 17.

After getting a degree in Biology and Environmental Studies from Tufts University, he studied Marine Biology at San Francisco State University. He worked as a naturalist on board whale-watching trips to the Farallon Islands and later ran eco-tours on the 78-foot gaff-rigged *Schooner Freda B*, eventually earning his Master's license and sailing on the challenging waters of San Francisco Bay.

In his travels, Tyler has sailed from Los Angeles to Seattle and from Florida to Maine, covering most of both coasts. He also worked as a commercial fisherman in Alaska and Hawai'i, guided kayak tours on the

remote Na Pali Coast of Kaua'i and even worked below the water's surface as a snorkel guide.

Before returning home to New England in 2020 to be closer to family, Tyler and his fiance Tiffany ran the bed and breakfast in the historic East Brother Light Station on San Francisco Bay.

Tyler and Tiffany are proud to be Rockland residents and to have the opportunity to work with the Sail, Power and Steam Museum running *A Morning in Maine Sailing Charters*.

And we are proud to be "piping aboard" this wonderful new Captain who we are confident will continue Capt Pratt's wonderful 34 year legacy of entertaining and educating guests aboard *A Morning in Maine*.



Pictured above: (inset) Capt Bob Pratt aboard *A Morning in Maine*; (left) Capt Tyler Waterson at the helm of *Dirigo II*

Founded in 2007, the Museum's mission is "to enrich the lives of visitors, volunteers, and the general public through hands-on, interactive, and educational experiences with historically significant sailing, power, and steam driven vessels, ships, and small boats while providing instruction as to their origins, construction, and original commercial and recreational purposes."

Board of Directors: Capt. Jim Sharp (*Chairman/Founder*); Meg Sharp (*Co-Founder*); Capt. Ken Barnes; Jim Bowditch; Richard Crossman (*Vice President*); Celia Knight; Marti Mayne; George Orestis; Jesse Rutter (*Secretary*); Mark Siegenthaler; Peter Whitman (*Treasurer*); Bob Williams

The Sail Power and Steam Museum is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your gifts to the museum are fully tax-deductible.



I'm blown away ... by the awesome response to CAPTAINS' QUARTERS!

Not only is it fun for the presenter, but it's very educational for the listener!

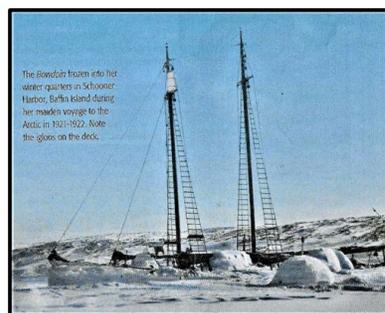
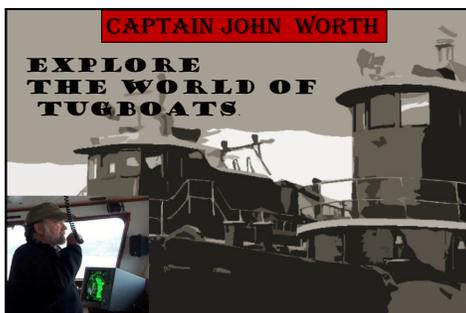
I, with the help of owners (past and present) and Schooner friends, have researched 16 of the coastal windjammer fleet; told and recorded their histories; interviewed their captains, crews, and passengers; seen images of their building (and rebuilding) and the hard work they used to do; and explored their current occupations.

The stories are all recorded and can be found on our museum YouTube channel. The response has been overwhelming. We have had more than 8,000 viewers perusing our programs and almost 2,000 people watched them live. The Schooner Bowdoin story alone has had 2,630 fascinated watchers. That little schooner has had a spectacular and exciting past, spending years in the Arctic with Admiral Donald MacMillan, "wintering in" with the Inuit, and having igloos constructed on her deck.

If you are enthralled by the variety of jobs and spellbinding situations these incredible vessels have been subjected to over the years, if you like tugboats, schooner cooks, and traditional classic boats, you can find our current schedule and links to recorded sessions on the calendar page of our website, www.SailPowerSteamMuseum.org.



Captain Jim



Building on Our Educational Programming

SPSM's mission is simple ... to celebrate our maritime heritage and culture through the preservation of artifacts and exhibits, but also through interactive and educational programming — with a clear goal of getting children, adults, visitors and local residents out on the water safely and affordably so they can learn to enjoy the art and science of sail.

Under the leadership of SPSM Program Director, Diane Sternberg, Midcoast Sailing Center (a program of SPSM) ramped up our sail program with classroom offerings this past fall.

Now, as our collective thoughts turn away from snow shovels and plows, we're thinking of summer breezes, getting out on the water, and refreshing our skills for the season.

We're thrilled to announce the start of MCSC's Nautical Navigation and Boat Handling classes for the spring of 2022.

Starting in March, we'll be holding the following classroom-based classes:

- Spring Sailing Refresher
- Women on the Water
- Intro to Nautical Charts and Navigation
- Intermediate Navigation & Dead Reckoning
- Rules of the Road and Aids to Navigation

These small classes are run by Sternberg, a USCG licensed captain and experienced instructor.

Remember to:

- Check out our MCSC page on our website for pricing, dates and details.
- Stay tuned for information on our expanded on-the-water learning experience opportunities coming this summer.
- Stay tuned for our upcoming **SKFF (Sail Kids for Free)** summer schedule and registration dates

Pictured (right): Nautical chart of Penobscot Bay and Capt. Diane Sternberg at the helm



Our Winter Reading



If you've wandered through the Sail, Power, and Steam Museum's "Shipwreck Room," you've seen the fabulous model of the paddlewheel steamship, *The Portland*, as well as

the photograph of her today, lying on the bottom of the Atlantic.

The Portland was a luxurious vessel, owned by the Portland Steamship Company, ferrying passengers from Boston to Portland on a regular schedule.

In 1898, weather forecasting was in its infancy, but when all signs pointed to a brewing storm off the New England Coast and the Captain of *The Portland* made the fateful decision to ignore the warnings, it spelled disaster for the 200 people aboard.

The Portland Gale, as it became known, was a "perfect storm" of two systems colliding in the Atlantic, resulting in a blizzard with 100mph winds and 60' waves, sending more than 200 ships to the bottom, killing 400 people along the coast, and eventually decimating Portland's African American population, many of whom were crew onboard *The Portland*.

The storm, the boat, her crew, and her passengers form the basis for a well researched and interesting read, "*The Wreck of the Portland*," by J. North Conway. The book chronicles the history of the vessel and many of those aboard. It tells of the history of weather forecasting and the damage that the storm caused up and down the eastern seaboard.

We give this read a full "4 mast" review!



SPSM Winter Newsletter— *In This Issue:*

- [A great response to Captains' Quarters](#) (and how you can see the recorded sessions)
- [A new captain for "A Morning in Maine"](#) (and you how can find her sailing schedule)
 - [A new look at an old storm](#) (and how you can read more about it)
- [An expanding educational program for Midcoast Sailing Center and the Sail, Power, and Steam Museum](#) (and how you can refresh you sailing and navigation skills before sailing season begins!)

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How Can YOU help the museum?

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We promise we won't share your contact information without your permission!

To join or renew your membership for 2022, please visit
www.SailPowerSteamMuseum.org