



Shipshape

Fourth Quarter, 2016 - A Quarterly Publication of the S. S. Milwaukee Clipper Preservation, Inc.



This photo of the *Clipper* is also the cover of the book “*The S.S. Milwaukee Clipper, An Illustrated History*” by Steve Demos and Marylouise Plant. It is nearly 200 pages in full color with over 300 illustrations. A graphic depiction of the *Clipper* story from its birth in 1904. Net proceeds will be donated to the *S.S. Milwaukee Clipper* Preservation, Inc. You can get a copy by calling 231-744-5101. Makes a terrific gift!! You need one for your coffee table.

2017 S.S. Milwaukee Clipper Auction/Brunch

May 21st at the Muskegon Country Club

Lunch 11am til 1pm – Live & Silent Auctions 11am til 3pm

For tickets call 722-2375 or 744-5101



A VERY EXCITING ITEM ON THE AUCTION BLOCK !!!

*A trip for 2 to go up in the tower of the Mackinaw Bridge what a sight – few people get the opportunity!!

Will you be the lucky one???

*Rest assured, it won't be me betting against you,
on this auction item!!!*



A New Years Wish By President Jim Plant



Our *Clipper* project has had so many great volunteers in her 18 years back in Muskegon. Many have earned a well-deserved retirement. Many are working hard with wonderful dedication. We need so many more volunteers. Please join our energetic and enjoyable crew.

It is difficult to imagine the variety of skills, tremendous expertise, and intense dedication that are required to restore and maintain our beautiful steamship. Over the years our volunteers have supplied the many talents that have been required to bring the *Clipper* back to her present state of beauty. Each and every volunteer's talents have been important to the success of the restoration from welding, painting, cleaning to mention a few. Even one volunteer's hobby was keys and he went through the whole boat and matched keyholes with keys and created a rack of mounted labeled keys with locations for each one, a unique hobby that has been unbelievably helpful.

I'm just glad that I can be a small part of the incredible group effort to bring the *Clipper* back to life so she can take her rightful place in the historic Muskegon community. AND what a group we have: The technical experts Bill Thurlow, Mike Krivitizky, and Rick Lacy, the maritime knowledge of Captain Bob Priefer, the publicity talents of Terry Judd, fundraising energy of Gene Fethke, hard working Historian Ray Hilt, the magic fingers of Secretary Mary Valentine, our super numbers cruncher, Treasurer Pam Babbitt, the Board Members that work "behind the scenes", and the communication crew: Sandy Ferski – newsletter editor, Dave Durkee – website manager, and Bill Bell our Facebook guru. Not to be forgotten, our most faithful Tour Guide - Coke Billinghamurst, who is anxious for the tour season to return AND he goes to Florida during the cold and windy weather!

There are the great groups of painters and tour guides that are the backbone of those activities. The list goes on and on. You know who you are. You are all so much appreciated. "Dear Volunteers, Thank you, thank you again and again" seems an inadequate way to express how valuable you are to the success of our goals to restore and preserve our beautiful big steel lady.

Now to my wish, we are always welcoming new comers to our ranks. If you can give an hour or two, if you can give a day or two, or if you are interested in joining a restoration crew, we need you to become part of the *Clipper* family. Or you might be interested in working on the Auction Committee, becoming a Tour Guide, or digging into the Archive Committee's fascinating quest to organize the incredible amount of material that has been donated to the *Clipper* over the years. Also we are in need of an individual or crew to scale the forward and stern masts to restring the halyards to raise the festoon lights and signal flags. Our big lady looks so pretty wearing her festive garb.

Your ideas for a myriad of projects to advance us to our goals are necessary. As the saying goes "many minds are able to create many wonderful things" – fundraising ideas, ideas for fun loving social gatherings, even ideas to advance any and all activities for letting everyone know future plans for the "good of the organization" and help to form those plans.

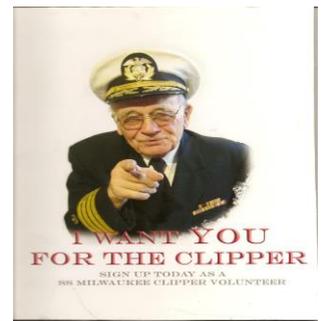
To contact the Board, please fill out the "Friends of the S.S. Milwaukee Clipper" form in the newsletter and send it via email or snail mail to the addresses listed or visit us on Facebook. If we receive many responses to my message, my New Years wish will be answered. Thank YOU !!

Happy, Successful New Year Everyone!

Restoration and Remembrance!

Well, the Captain is out in Arizona making lists of things that need to be taken care of this summer aboard the ship. There are so many projects to complete that he takes the whole winter putting them in order. Anyway that's what he tells us!!! It must be the truth, because he seems to have an endless amount of work and new ideas - then he calls on Rick Lacy can you do this today? and Bill Thurlow, how about if we knock out that wall, it wasn't here in the beginning? Or can you build counter, there used to be one right here? or Sandy can you paint this area right here? And of course, we all say "Sure no problem!"

JUST LIKE HIS PICTURE STATES:
"I WANT YOU FOR THE CLIPPER".



Looks what's hanging on our fence until next Spring!



A winter hello! Wow! It is past Christmas already! We, on the auction committee, are busy working on plans for the next auction to be held May 21st, 2017 We are out there asking for donations from our generous *Clipper* friends and looking for sponsors. We are always looking for help and new ideas.....and your good ideas are always welcome. Let us know if you have an idea or hands itching to pitch in and help. Leave a number on the *Clipper* phone and someone from the committee will contact you.

Thanks and Happy Holidays Everyone.
Your *Clipper* Friend – JoAn Pietila



Museum Update

What is coming up for the year 2017 for the ship museums is the addition of a new museum for the *Aquarama*. The location is going to be at the rear of the present museum. There is presently a wall there with a large half model of the Clipper. That model is going to be moved out into the hallway, and the wall will be taken out, utilizing the space in the next small room which is currently used for storage. The walls there will be painted in the *Aquarama* colors, and this will give us room to display the many items we have of the *Aquarama* currently in storage. We have dining room chairs, deck chairs of a couple different types, and many items that will be included in a current showcase about the ship. There are a number of things that have never been on display before, and it should make a very interesting museum. I am currently looking for a decent model of the ship to display. If anybody knows of such a model we might purchase or get on loan, please let me know. We are also interested in any *Aquarama* souvenirs or items from the ship, signs, etc. to display. Anybody who might be interested in volunteering to work on this new museum would be most welcome.

The *Alabama* Room has been sealed off and climate controlled. Bill and I have been checking on it, and it has maintained temperature and humidity through the last blast of cold weather. The model of the *Bradley* and my ship models have also been moved there. The interior of the ship is all set for the winter, with the furniture covered, paint stored, etc., all waiting now for the first warm weather to appear.

On another topic, I also work on the Archiving Committee, headed currently by Mike Krivitsky. We are working on the large collection of Great Lakes material and books donated several years ago to the ship by John Zipp, at that time living in Arizona. This collection was acquired for the ship through the efforts of Capt. Bob Priefer. It has been stored in a heated basement, but we have been informed it must be moved out by May. Here is your chance to volunteer for a job on the Clipper that does not require getting dirty, must be done during the winter, and will be finished before good weather gets here. We could use at least three or four people to do this. Since the material is stored in a basement, volunteers must be able to traverse a flight of stairs down and up. Please contact either Mike or me, we will welcome you! Ray – 231-722-2538 (res035d8@comcast.net)
or Mike – 231-798-2800 (mk1300@frontier.com)

I would like to wish everybody a very Happy New Year.

Ray Hilt
Museum Curator
SS Milwaukee Clipper

Going back through the Shipshape issues, I found an interesting article that many of us have never read. Following is an article written by Ray Hilt, then Vice President. The issue is dated March 2001. I hope you find it as interesting as I did.

Collecting Clipper Memorabilia

Many of us that volunteer on the *Clipper* have either collected *Clipper* Memorabilia for years, or have recently started because of their interest in the ship. However, *Clipper* people are not the only ones who collect *Clipper* stuff.

Collecting Great Lakes shipping memorabilia takes many forms. Some collect postcards of their favorite old ships. Some collect brochures and souvenirs, some collect dishes and some collect it all. *Clipper* items are fun to collect. Passenger ships, like the *Clipper*, sold souvenirs on board, and there are many of them from the *Clipper* sailing days. They range from handsome silk scarves to playing cards, lighters, pens, pencils, note pads, key chains, sailor caps, pennants, postcards, match holders, money clips, little folders of pictures, etc. In all the years I have collected, every now and then one shows up I never knew they sold. Add to that the brochures of each year the *Clipper* ran, plus pictures of parents or a favorite aunt or uncle and it gets even more interesting.

The *Clipper* also had an earlier life. As we all know, she was the *S.S. Juniata* for about 36 years. There is also memorabilia from that era, mostly postcards, that are a little harder to find. Brochures surface now and then of the *Juniata* and her sister ships *Tionesta* and *Octorara* under the early name of Anchor Lines and later as Great Lakes Transit.

The *Clipper* Store is going to stock some *Clipper* and *Georgian Bay* memorabilia from duplicates in the *Clipper* archives. It will be priced by what identical items have been selling for on Ebay. We will also be stocking some reproduction items that will be of interest to the steamship buff. We already stock both wrist and pocket *Clipper* watches.

Whatever your clipper collecting interests are, good luck, and I hope I find it first!

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The next issue dated June 2001 followed up with this article: (*I had to cut it short due to length.*)

Last issue we talked about collecting Great Lakes Steamship memorabilia in a general way. This time I thought we could get more specific. Using Muskegon Harbor as an example, a collector could specialize in shipping items of interest for just the Muskegon Harbor. That can be a big challenge in it's own way. A person could be looking for postcards and/or memorabilia for a number of shipping companies including the following:

Crosby Transportation Co. They had several vessels such as the *City of Grand Rapids* and the *Nyack*, a ship famous for burning at the dock here in Muskegon. People such as Gustave Ninneman, one of the original owners of the Muskegon Brewing Co. was an owner of this line and maintained an office here. Nenneman was a member of the 6th Wisconsin Infantry, a very prestigious volunteer Civil War unit. He and the brewery itself can be a very interesting spin-off for a collector/history buff.

Ray continued on about the Goodrich Transit Co. and Wisconsin-Michigan Steamship Co., which obviously we may be a bit prejudiced toward because they used to own the Clipper.

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Even though these articles were written 16 years ago, we still carry many collectibles in the ships' store today. Next summer come aboard and check out our items for sale. Some new things include sweatshirts, tote bags, coffee mugs, wine glasses, alarm clocks, and much more.

Where do I find info about the S.S. Milwaukee Clipper?

If you have any of the items listed below, that you would be willing to donate, it would be greatly appreciated.

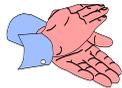
{ Remember all items donated are tax deductible, we are a 501©3 organization. }

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Thank you - Blarney Castle Oil Co. for the drums to provide proper handling of the restoration waste products.

The *Clipper* has three main means of communication. For years we had **Shipshape**, written by board members and edited by Sandy Ferski. This started as a mail only quarterly and has evolved into a combination of “snail mail” and digital newsletter. Bill Bell takes care of our “social media” needs on Facebook at **S.S. Milwaukee Clipper**. You should visit this Facebook page. Many comments come from people who worked on, or traveled on the *Clipper* in the past. Very interesting!

Then there is the website. Anyone in the world can view these pages on the internet. So when you are talking about your adventures on the *S.S. Milwaukee Clipper*, remember to mention where to go for more information on our ship. We want and need both volunteers and visitors. Now that you know how to “Sell our Ship”, Go for it!

Written by Dave Durkee
S.S. Milwaukee Clipper Webmaster

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Support the restoration and preservation of the S. S. Milwaukee Clipper – A National Historic Landmark!

The *S. S. Milwaukee Clipper* Preservation Inc. is a 501(c)3 non profit organization. All donations are tax deductible! Donations will be anonymous unless otherwise requested.

Please accept the enclosed donation of \$ _____ in support of the efforts of *S. S. Milwaukee Clipper* Preservation, Inc. in memory/honor of _____.

Earmark these funds for the following project(s): _____ (Call for suggestions)

Please place my name and address as listed below on the mailing list for *Shipshape*, the quarterly newsletter.

I would be willing to volunteer my time to the following *Clipper* activities:

Fundraising	Publicity
Working on the newsletter	Maintenance
Museum/Gift Shop assistance	Restoration work
Security at the Clipper dock site	Other _____
Archiving	

I would like to volunteer ! Please contact me at the address below with more information.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Contact Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Please mail this form to:

S. S. Milwaukee Clipper Preservation Inc.
PO Box 1370
Muskegon, MI 49443-1370
OR

Send the above information via email to: milwaukeeclipper@gmail.com

The *S. S. Milwaukee Clipper* Preservation Inc, a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation, was organized in April, 1997 for the sole purpose of restoring and preserving the steamship *S. S. Milwaukee Clipper* and to create an on-board Great Lakes Maritime Museum to educate and inform the public about our Great Lakes maritime heritage.

Your continuing donations and volunteerism will ensure our success!

Thank you for your support!



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SHIPSHAPE is written by members and friends of the Board of Directors. It is edited by Sandy Ferski of Muskegon, MI. You may email the editor at dpfol@earthlink.net

4th quarter 2016

December 2016

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Muskegon, MI 49443**

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