



Sun Ship Historical Society's Newsletter:

Site: www.sunship.org

Vol/Issue: 7/2
Pub: 2021.12.25

Hello Everyone,
Hope you enjoy this latest newsletter. As always, if you have any additional information, suggestions or corrections, please let me know.
Sorry for the delay in getting the newsletter out.
Thank You,

Dave Kavanagh
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SSHS

1. SSHS Archives & Artifacts:

1.1 Ship's 'Hawsepipe' Pattern.

SSHS: 46_19

L/R: Dave Kavanagh & Bill Maling

Bill donated his model of the 'Hawse Pipe' Pattern.

Appears as though this pattern has been narrowed down to the **American Rover** Class (H-628) or the **Santa Lucia** Class (H-633) Class. If anyone can identify this pattern, please let us know.

#46_19_02a



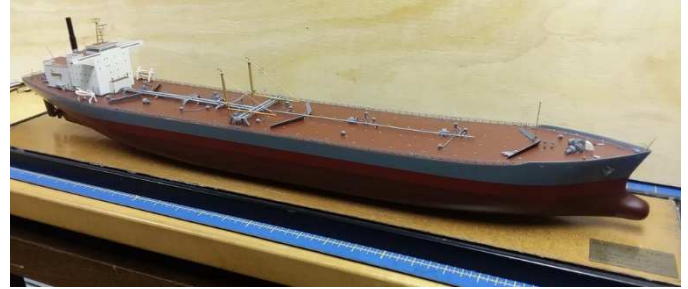
Here is a close-up photo of the 'Hawsepipe' pattern. If you zoom in you will be able to see a 'not-to-scale' Baldt anchor set in the hawsepipe.

SSHS: 46_19_01a



1.2 America Sun Class Ship's Model

Since we are bringing up our **American Sun** class tankers again, I thought it was appropriate to show you our **American Sun** class ship model



2. SSHS Obituaries:

Sadly, we have additional obituaries to post:

2.1: Joseph DeGregorio 33M-354, Asst. Foreman, Electronics Shop in Plant Electric Maintenance

Oct 04, 1929 - Dec 27, 2020

"Joseph De Gregorio, age 91, passed away peacefully on December 27, 2020 at his home in Aston. Born and raised in Mahanoy City, PA, he attended St. Canicus Parochial School, Mahanoy City and graduated from Mahanoy City High School in 1947. Joe has resided in Aston since 1967. Joe worked for Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock for over 30 years as a manager in electronic maintenance. Joe was a licensed Ham Radio Operator (W3JO), he was a member of the American Radio Relay League, and he was a private pilot and enjoyed flying. Joe was also a longtime member of St. Francis De Sales Church in Lenni."

(Obit courtesy of Nolan-Fidale)

From: Dave Kavanagh

My friendship with Joe started when he was a supervisor in the Electrical Maintenance Department's, Electronics Shop in 1966 and continues through today. As we know, friendships do not go away with a friend's passing.

Being an electrical apprentice required training on both shipbuilding and plant maintenance. Back in 1966-1968, I was rotated thru various 'gangs' in the Electrical Maintenance Department and 'bumped' into Joe quite frequently. Joe and I talked about our history a lot during our +50-year friendship. Here is a thumbnail of Joe's work history, in shipbuilding, as I remember it:

- Electrician at New York Ship
- Electrician at Sun Ship
- Supervisor of the Electronics Shop
- Supervisor of 33V (Ventilation Dept)
- Assistant Foreman of the Electronics Shop

Joe and I worked most closely together when we were both in the Electrical Maintenance Department. During this time frame, Joe's areas of responsibility involved all equipment requiring electronics in the Yard. With every new system or piece of replacement equipment required by Sun Ship, the technology jumped

in leaps and bounds. It was Joe's responsibility to stay on top of these technological changes. This included but-not-limited to, plant radio & speaker systems, automated: drafting (Kongsberg), welding & burning equipment (such as the Numerical Control Building's; Heath and MG Plasma Burning Machines), lathes & boring mills (G&L), Dry Docks (#4 Dry Dock sophisticated controls), cranes (North Yard's new WIW cranes, new bridge cranes & 4DD cranes), 47D shop conveyor systems, the requirements of the Industrial Products Division and industrial computer systems.

I believe that Joe's responsibility for all of this equipment and technology, that was required to enhance Sun Ship's productivity, and making us competitive with other shipyards of the world, was beyond my total comprehension.

Leaving the Yard for a moment, Joe was also a great companion, we and others spent many hours fishing and talking on the Delaware Bay on his boat as well as crabbing all over MD, he tutored me through my Ham Radio General Class Certification and gave my children and I the opportunity to pilot his airplane as well as many, many hours sharing our life experiences.

Borrowing from another friend; "So that's it, the summing up in just over...300 words for our +50 years of collaboration and friendship." To Joe, and a job well done.

Your friend, Dave Kavanagh

AKA 'Joe D'



2.2: Robert Wallauer 82-045

SSHS: Bob Wallauer worked in Plant Engineering and sorry but cannot find a photo of Bob. Information courtesy of Tom Brennan 80D

Obituary:

Bob Wallauer, of Collingdale passed away July 3, 2021. He was a 1962 graduate of Collingdale High School. He had been employed by Sun Ship in Chester for 22 years and FedEx for 21 years. He was an avid Philadelphia sports fan, especially football, and passionately passed on his love for the Eagles to his kids and grandkids. He had a huge passion for coaching softball, first at St. Joseph's University followed by Archbishop Prendergast, Garnet Valley and Avon Grove High Schools.

2.4: Domenick Ferriolo 36-342

SSHS: Received the following information in an email from Domenick's wife Lois.

"Very sad to inform you that Dom passed away on July 31. He was happy reading the news about Sun Ship, his first and best job. You can take the guy out of the shipyard... but you can't take the shipyard out of the guy."

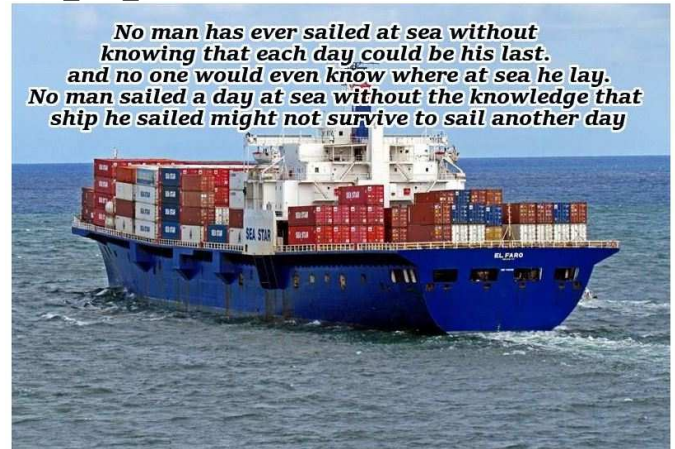
Unfortunately, we do not have a photo of Dom.

3. Ship's of Sun Ship-In our news:

3.1: El Faro (H-670) Commemorative Poem:

Photo of our El Faro with poem attached. Courtesy of Fred Eckley .(2021.10.25)

#500_670_012



No man has ever sailed at sea without knowing that each day could be his last. and no one would even know where at sea he lay. No man sailed a day at sea without the knowledge that ship he sailed might not survive to sail another day

3.2: American Sun Class (H-648) Revision

We have added the **Notre Dame Victory** (H-660) to our listing of the **America Sun** (II) Class of tankers as shown below. Our thanks to Gene Schorsch for letting us know.

1-American Sun (H-648), first of five of her class. "The second largest oil tanker ever built in a U.S. shipyard."

Delivered: 12/23/1969

Disposition: Alang 1/23/1993 (Disposition courtesy of Miramar Ship Index)

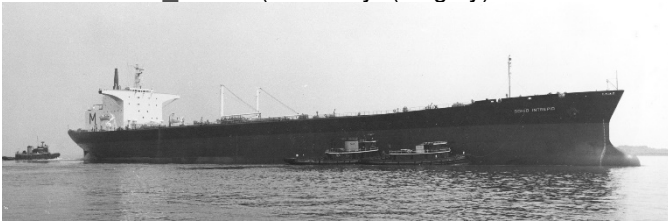
SSHS: 500_648_07b (Courtesy: Jan Karlsen)



2-Joseph D. Potts (H-651), “Recently delivered the 80,000-dwt tanker to Mathiasen’s Tanker Industries, Inc., who plans to transport crude oil from Cook Inlet, Alaska, to U.S. refineries on the West Coast.”
 Delivered: 5/22/1970
 Disposition: Broke-up: Alang 7/25/93
 SSHS: 008_01_003b (Courtesy: Jan Karlsen)



3-Sohio Intrepid (H-652). “Recently delivered the 80,000-dwt tanker to Mathiasen’s Tanker Industries, Inc., who plans to transport crude oil from Cook Inlet, Alaska, to U.S. refineries on the West Coast.”
 Delivered: 6/24/1971
 Disposition: Broke up: Alang 1994
 SSHS: 74319_2208a (Courtesy: (Hagley))



4- Soho Resolute (H-653) Ship at BP docks in Marcus Hook, PA. Delivered: 9/30/1971
 Disposition: Broke-up: Alang 1993
 SSHS: 307_01_020a (Courtesy: Will Keller)



5-Notre Dame Victory (H-660). Ship is equipped with 24,000-shp steam turbine which will give her a speed of 17-1/2 knots. Delivered: 5/18/1973.
 Disposition: Broke-up: Japan 1987
 SSHS: 319336 (Courtesy: Shipspotter)



3.3: Matsonia (H-664)
 We have just received photos of our **Matsonia** being towed to Brownsville, TX to be broken up. Here is a photo of her under tow.
 SSHS: 500_664_07_03b (Courtesy of Dave Boone)



Here is a photo of her leaving the Yard on her way to the owner.
 SSHS: 74319_2497 (Courtesy of Hagley) c: 1973.12.11



6. SSSHS News:

6.1: SSSHS and the National Iron and Steel Heritage Museum 'Sun Ship Lecture'.

SSHS was honored to be invited by James D Ziegler- Executive Director and Samuel Radziviluk-Digital Manager of the National Iron and Steel Heritage Museum in Coatesville, PA to present the 'A Sun Ship Historical Presentation'. The museum is located on what was the location of one of Sun Ship's primary steel suppliers, Lukens Steel and was held on Nov. 4 2021.

The presentation is still able to be viewed by going to the NISHM's website at www.steelmuseum.org and go to the 'Explore' drop-down menu and then to 'videos' and then click on the 'Steel Stories – Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company'

We wish to thank Jim and Sam for inviting us to present our Sun Ship history and also for keeping the access to the presentation available on their website.

NISHM Website Presentation Cover Page



James D. Ziegler opening the presentation. We brought a few artifacts including:

1. The McNees Journal: a hand-written journal detailing the building of Sun Ship by our first plant engineer, Wendell G. McNees
2. The Launching Plaque of Sun Ship's first ship, the **Chester Sun** H-001 and
3. A ceremonial steel 'T' cut from the first piece of steel welded for the first all-welded ocean going vessel, our **White Flash** H-138



Dave Kavanagh and Jim Ziegler commenting at the end of the presentation.



Again, our grateful thanks to Jim and Sam and the National Iron and Steel Heritage Museum for giving us the opportunity to present some of the history of Sun Ship.

-End-

Please stop by our website at www.sunship.org

Merry Christmas to all!

Regards,
Dave Kavanagh
Sun Ship Historical Society