



National Lighthouse Museum - Planned for Staten Island

FRIDAY, MAY 20, 2011 – 6:00 P.M.

AT THE COMMUNITY CHURCH ASSEMBLY ROOM, 40 EAST 35TH STREET, MANHATTAN

Our speaker, Linda Dianto, a Staten Island resident for most of her life, has taken on the mission to open the National Lighthouse Museum at the original US Lighthouse Service Depot on Staten Island adjacent to the Staten Island Ferry terminal in St. George. The museum and its beautiful ten-acre site overlooking New York Harbor will become a destination for the world's lighthouse enthusiasts and preservationists, and an exciting attraction for the millions of visitors who take the Staten Island Ferry. More than a dozen lighthouses are less than an hour's boat ride from the museum pier. She will tell us about the planned exhibits and interactive displays for children and adults featuring lighthouses from around the nation, classic Fresnel lenses, lamps and technologies, modern aids to navigation and personal histories of the keepers and their families. Outdoor exhibits will include lightships, buoys and fog signals, and a return and restoration of the original Depot Lighthouse. The existing historic 19th and early 20th century structures on the property provide an ideal setting for exhibits, research and programs relating to the history of the United States Lighthouse Service. Even before the buildings open, a series of cultural events, tours and concerts are planned. A renovated pier and waterfront plaza will wind through the site offering beautiful views of the harbor and the historic buildings. Visitors are welcome to visit the site today, enjoy the view and get a sense of the future as home for the National Lighthouse Museum. For more information about the National Lighthouse Museum www.lighthousemuseum.org or contact info@lighthousemuseum.org for further questions on how you can help open this museum. Our speaker holds a Master's in Education from CUNY, and a 6th year Certificate in Administration of Recreation Services & Resources and a Certificate in Philanthropy and Fundraising, both from NYU.



Artist's rendering of complete Lighthouse Museum site

NEXT MEETINGS: FRIDAY, JUNE 24

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THE PORTHOLE, published by the Port of New York Branch, World Ship Society, welcomes original material for publication. Address to the editor, Bob Allen, at oceanvoyag@aol.com or via the PONY mailing address.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

SHIP	FROM	TO	VOYAGE	PASSENGER(S)
MARINA	Miami	Miami	Caribbean Cruise	Norma & Warren Boin
CELEBRITY ECLIPSE	Miami	Southampton	Transatlantic	Dieter Killinger & Dwight Rangeler
CARIBBEAN PRINCESS	San Juan	New York	Caribbean Cruise	Tim Yoder
QUEEN MARY 2	Southampton	New York	Transatlantic	Alan & Janie Yorker

SHIP'S LOG

Ship's Log will resume with next month's issue.

PLEASE SEND YOUR STORIES AND PICTURES!

We know that many of you have great stories about your cruises, maritime interests, collections and other topics of interest to WSS PONY members. To contribute to the Porthole, just contact Bob Allen at a meeting or via email at oceanvoyag@aol.com. If possible, please send stories in Microsoft Word format. Hardcopy stories should be mailed to the WSS P.O. Box.

YOUR SHIP OF THE MONTH

Response to the new Ship of the Month feature has been very positive. Do you have a liner that you would like to see profiled? If so, email the editor at oceanvoyag@aol.com, or write The Porthole at the mailing address on the front page.

YOUR DAILY PROGRAMME

SEAPORT MUSEUM NEW YORK, www.seany.org Contact via email reservations@seany.org or call 212-748-8786. Museum Harbor Tours: Schooner PIONEER Sail, Tugboat DECKER Mini-Cruises and Lunch Tours. Contact Seaport Museum New York for details on tour and event times, pricing and reservations.

VANCOUVER WSS & VANCOUVER MARITIME MUSEUM www.worldshipsocietyvan.ca For information or if you visit, contact Glenn Smith: 604-684-1240, email glenn.smith@worldshipsocietyvan.ca. **SEPTEMBER MEETING** will be held on **Wednesday September 14, 2011**; program to be announced. Meetings are held at the Vancouver Maritime Museum at 1905 Ogden Avenue (Kitsilano Point).

NEW SOUTH WALES WSS: MAY MEETING will be held on **Thursday May 19, 2011**. The program will be a "Member's Slide Night." Meetings are held at the Uniting Church Complex in Lord Street, Roseville at 8:00 PM. Contact the branch at PO Box 495, Grosvenor Place 2000, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.

EAST END SEAPORT MUSEUM & MARITIME FOUNDATION, www.eastendseaport.org Contact via email seaport@verizon.net or call 631-477-2100. The museum is offering two types of lighthouse cruises aboard the PECONIC EXPRESS: All day cruises are on **June 11, July 9, August 20, September 10 and October 8**. Evening cruises are on **June 25, July 30, August 27 and September 24**. The museum is located in Greenport, NY at the foot to Third Street by the North Ferry, PO Box 624, Greenport, NY 11944

CRUISE WITH THE PORT OF NEW YORK WORLD SHIP SOCIETY ON THE MS ROTTERDAM

We are pleased to announce a World Ship Society group cruise for 2011. It will be a 9-night Transatlantic crossing on Holland America's ms ROTTERDAM (VI), with a pre-cruise option to stay on the ss ROTTERDAM (V), now a museum, hotel and convention venue in Rotterdam, Holland. For information, rates and booking instructions, contact Brad Hatry at Pisa Brothers Travel: 212-265-8420, x 222; 800-729-7472, x 222 or email brad@pisabrothers.com.

THE BAZAAR IS COMING

Don't miss the annual Ocean Liner Bazaar on Saturday June 4, from 10:00 AM through 2:00 PM. As usual, it will be held at the Abigail Adams Smith Auditorium, 417 East 61st Street (between First and York Avenues). Dealers will display and offer for sale ocean liner memorabilia including models, deckplans, prints, brochures, china and other exciting ephemera!

WORLD SHIP SOCIETY VISIT TO THE N.S.SAVANNAH IN BALTIMORE, MD

Join us for a wonderful opportunity to visit the historic nuclear passenger-cargo liner SAVANNAH in Baltimore Harbor on National Maritime Day, Saturday, May 21, 2011. The SAVANNAH's Promenade Deck will be the ideal venue from which to watch the National Maritime Day Ceremony. Next, we will enjoy a crab cake luncheon, followed by a private presentation and Question & Answer session in the Officers' Mess. A flyer for this event is enclosed. Space is limited, and the deadline for reservations is May 16, 2011. **PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU MAY ALSO PROVIDE YOUR OWN TRANSPORTATION TO BALTIMORE AND MEET THE WSS GROUP AT THE SAVANNAH – SEE FLYER FOR DETAILS.**



N.S. SAVANNAH ON HER FIRST NEW YORK ARRIVAL IN 1964. (Bob Allen Collection)

SHIP'S MAIL

To the editor:

Good Evening from Italy.

On 16 April 1966, the MICHELANGELO sailed into New York with the Italian "Tricolore" flag dropped at half-mast, a big hole across the superstructure under the bridge hidden by a canvas and three persons in the morgue, killed by a giant wave that battered the ship four days earlier, during a heavy storm in mid-Atlantic. Please, don't forget the 45th anniversary of this sad event. I think it is still the most famous accident involving a rogue wave and an ocean liner.

Best regards,

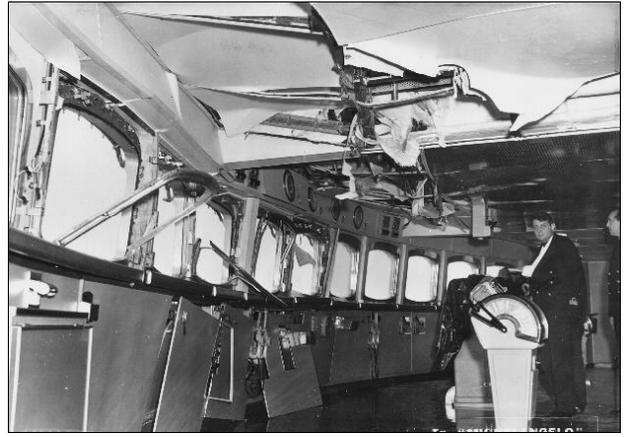
Simone Bandini

Editor's note:

Simone Bandini and Maurizio Eliseo's book "Michelangelo e Raffaello, La Fine di un'epoca" was recently published by Ulrico Hoepli Editore S.p.A., Milano, Italy. The book is a lavishly produced volume about the two final liners of Italian Line, containing a spectacular array of photos, many published for the first time, of these remarkable liners of the 1960's. In his email to The Porthole, Mr. Bandini has graciously included the following photos of the tragic mid-Atlantic rendezvous of the rogue wave and the MICHELANGELO on a spring day 45 years ago.



A huge wave strikes the bow of the MICHELANGELO.



The wave smashed bridge windows, ten decks above the waterline.



The stormy Atlantic is visible beyond the wreckage of cabin U-19.



The U.S. Coast Guard airlifts the injured from the deck.



Docked in New York, the crushed superstructure front is examined.



Note the five bridge windows covered with wood patches in this photo.

(All photos on this page courtesy Simone Bandini)



MICHELANGELO arriving in New York on her Maiden Voyage in May, 1965. Eleven months later, she would arrive severely battered by a major North Atlantic storm. (Bob Allen collection)

SHIP NEWS

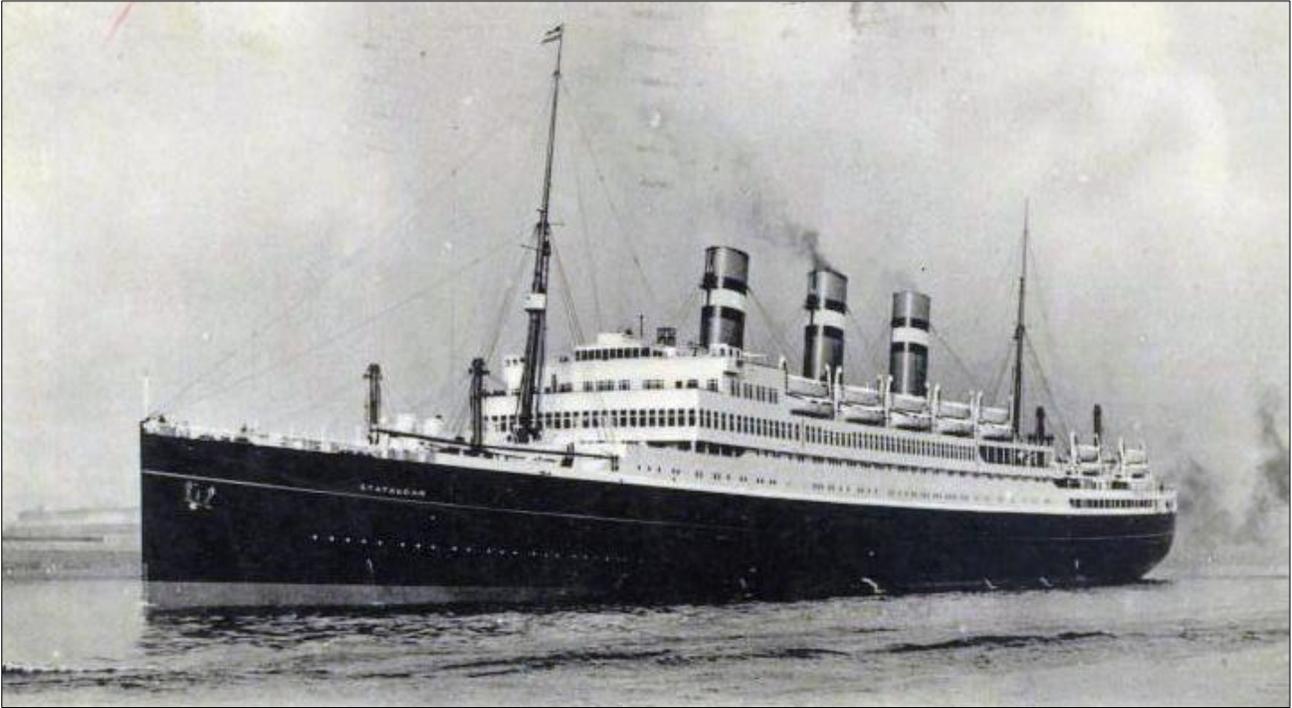
Ship News will resume with next month's issue.



Caribbean cruising 76 years ago - Easter on the STATENDAM, 9 days from \$110.

(Bob Allen Collection)

SHIP OF THE MONTH



STATENDAM

(Bob Allen Collection)

Owner:	Holland-America Line, Rotterdam	Dimensions:	697' x 81.4'
Builder:	Harland & Wolff, Belfast, Northern Ireland	Gross Tonnage:	29,511
Route:	Rotterdam – New York; cruising	Maiden Voyage:	April 11, 1929
Service speed:	19 knots (20 knots maximum)	Last Voyage:	December, 1939
Passenger capacity:	510 First; 344 2nd; 374 Tourist; 440 3rd	Demise:	Destroyed by Nazi bombing, May 1940; scrapped August 1940

The Holland–America Line was the well-established transatlantic steamship company of the Netherlands when their 32,234 STATENDAM was launched at Belfast just days before the outbreak of World War I. Her completion delayed by the war, she finally entered service as the British troopship JUSTACIA in April 1917, but was sunk in a U-boat attack the following summer. After the war, Holland-America contracted again with Harland & Wolff in 1921 for a slightly smaller replacement vessel. Construction was slowed due to uncertainty over changing immigration laws in the US, and a delayed launch took place in September, 1924. With massive European immigration now severely restricted, Holland-America built the much smaller sister ships VOENDAM and VEENDAM during this three-year period. After launching, STATENDAM continued to languish, with little work done by 1927. Holland-America then made the unusual decision to have the incomplete vessel towed from Belfast to the Wilton-Fijenoord yards at Schiedam, Holland for completion. She entered service two years later, in April 1929, during the peak year of 1920's prosperity. North Atlantic liner traffic was again robust, and STATENDAM was a lavish addition to the transatlantic fleet. Her elegant three-funneled profile was reminiscent of the previous decade, and her interiors were absolutely baronial. The First Class main lounge capped by a huge, ornate glass skylight, featured carved oak paneling, vast tapestries and oversized bronze candelabra torchieres. The Palm Court, an enchanting mix of wicker and Chinoiserie, was positioned just below the bridge and boasted full-height windows on three sides with dramatic views over the bow. The Smoke Room featured a coffered Dutch oak ceiling, leaded glass windows and ceiling dome, brass fixtures and a coal fireplace. Louis XVI was the style selected for the airy, lightly colored two-deck high dining room decorated with wall and ceiling murals and gilded mirrors; a separate dining room was provided for servants. Popular despite the Depression of the 1930's, STATENDAM was also sent on a wide variety of cruises during the decade. A larger running mate, NIEUW AMSTERDAM, arrived in 1938. Her streamlined exterior and ultra-modern late Art Deco interiors offered a sharp contrast to the ornate STATENDAM. The following December, STATENDAM was laid up in Rotterdam due to the outbreak of World War II, and was destroyed by Nazi bombing raids as they invaded Holland in May, 1940. Those ornate interiors burned for days. Her charred steel remains were reduced to scrap which, tragically, served the Nazi war machine.

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