

A SPECIAL INVITATION FROM OUR FRIENDS AT STEAMSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA



“Steamer CONNECTICUT” by Antonio Jacobsen, (Image: Griswold Inn Collection/Paul Foundation)

Did you know that John Fitch was born in 1743 upstream from Essex, CT and went on to run the first steamboat service in the country in 1787? To commemorate its steamboat roots, the SSHSA 2025 Annual Meeting and 90th Anniversary Celebration will take place in Essex, CT. **PONY BRANCH members and friends are invited to join SSHSA for the planned November 16 – 17 weekend events.**

Events have been carefully curated to include exploring the Connecticut River Museum and its exhibits dedicated to the early steamboat industry on the river. Those in attendance, we will enjoy a private guided art tour at the historic 1776 Griswold Inn by the inn’s owner, Geoffrey Paul. All events will also provide a wonderful opportunity to meet and connect with your fellow SSHSA and WSS-PONY Branch ship enthusiasts.

Importantly, as part of the weekend’s Sunday Dinner Program, **Ted Scull, long-time WSS-PONY Branch member and former Chairman, will be honored with the SSHSA 2025 Samuel Ward Stanton Award for Lifetime Achievement.**

Saturday, November 15 (\$75)

1PM: Scotch Plains Tavern Lunch & Presentation, "Bill-of-Fare or Billboard? The Role of Ocean Liner Menus in the High Stakes Promotion of Ocean Travel" by Astrid Drew

3PM: Connecticut River Museum Private Guided Tour

5PM: Reception at The Griswold Inn

Dinner on your own

Sunday, November 16 (\$125)

10AM SSHSA Annual Meeting at the Connecticut River Museum

Time TBD, Private Guided Griswold Inn Art Tour by Inn Owner, Geoffrey Paul

2PM-3PM Griswold Inn No-Host Wine Bar Reception

3PM -6PM SSHSA Dinner & Award Program at the Griswold Inn Wine Bar & Steamboat Room

Both Saturday and Sunday (\$175)

Hotel reservations, if needed, are independently arranged.

Register using this link: [DonorPerfect Forms](#)

QUESTIONS: wsspony@gmail.com