

"Newseyletter" Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

© Stephen Decatur Chapter #4, U.S.C.S.

Richard F. Hoffner, USCS # H-4456, Chapter Cachet Director
415 Moyer Road, Souderton, PA 18964-2319

Phone: 215-721-8606

e-mail: pauscg@gmail.com

Mid April 2012 Deposit Balance \$ _____

Renewed Effort to Save SS *United States*

Maritime Professional, March 26, 2012



Photo from Columbus Blvd., Philadelphia. Docked at Pier 82 on the Delaware River since 1996.

As momentum builds for the effort to save and repurpose the greatest American ocean liner ever built, the SS *United States* Redevelopment Project (SSUSRP) announced that it has named New Canaan Advisors LLC (NCA) as real estate advisors to a growing team leading this exciting redevelopment program. New Canaan Advisors will assist the SSUSRP on a number of aspects related to transforming the historic ship into a stationary, multi-purpose waterfront destination. The SS *United States*, which will celebrate the 60th anniversary of its maiden voyage this year, remains the largest passenger vessel ever constructed in the United States. At nearly 1,000 feet long, she remains the fastest ocean liner to cross the North Atlantic and one of the last surviving of the great 20th Century liners. "We believe that New Canaan Advisors is the right firm to help us translate our vision for the future of the SS *United States* into a reality," said Dan McSweeney, Managing Director of the SS *United States* Redevelopment Project. "They have the unique experience of handling both high-profile projects and historic properties, making them a great asset for our team." The overall concept is currently to invite a mixed-use commercial and public development with a range of proposed revenue-generating uses including, but not limited to, event space, restaurants, retail, and hotel. The SSUSRP is a strategic initiative of the SS *United States*

Conservancy, the national nonprofit organization that purchased the historic vessel last year. The Conservancy is also advancing plans for public use, including a museum and educational programs aboard the ship, which offers more than 650,000 square feet of usable space. "We are fully committed to restoring and redeveloping this great symbol of American pride and innovation. Like the Statue of Liberty, there is only one SS *United States*, and we are determined to save the ship for future generations," said Susan L Gibbs, the Conservancy's executive director and granddaughter of SS *United States* designer, William Francis Gibbs.

In July 2010, the SS *United States* Conservancy received a \$5.8 million philanthropic pledge allowing for the ship's outright purchase and ongoing funding for maintenance at her berth in Philadelphia, PA. The current concept is for the redeveloped multi-purpose ship to be located in a major East Coast metropolitan location.

Icebreaker Christened – Largest from Edison Chouest Offshore

Maritime Professional, March 26, 2012

Claimed to be the world's largest and most powerful anchor-handling icebreaker the US\$200 million, 360 ft vessel was christened *Aiviq* in the presence of dignitaries including U.S. Rep. Steve Scalise, R-Metairie, Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, Sen. John Hoeven, several members of the Greater Lafourche Port Commission and Shell executives. The *Aiviq* whose primary task off the coast of Alaska will be laying anchors for drilling rigs will also be equipped to deal with oil spill clean-up operations; she is built to American Bureau of Shipping A3 class standards – capable of breaking ice 1 meter thick at a speed of 5 kts. Shell invited Inupiak school children to submit essays suggesting names for the vessel, 12 year old Elizabeth Itta submitted the winning essay, describing how the Walrus, "*Aiviq*" in the Inupiak language, use their tusks to break



ice. Elizabeth Itta won a cash prize for her school, and was flown in to attend the ceremony.

Piracy – Russian Navy to Send Task Force to Gulf of Aden

Maritime Professional, March 28, 2012



Russian destroyer Vice Admiral Kulakov

A task force from Russia's Northern Fleet, led by the Udaloy class destroyer *Vice Admiral Kulakov*, is to depart on a new anti-piracy mission off the Somali coast, the fleet's spokesman Capt. 1st Rank Vadim Serga said. The destroyer is currently on a training mission in the Barents Sea as part of the preparations for the upcoming tour-of-duty in the Gulf of Aden.

USS New Mexico SSN-779 pictorial for New Mexico Centennial postage stamp First Day



USS NEW MEXICO Station

Through the efforts of a fellow pictorial cancel collector the USPS has offered to use the exclusive cancel used on first day covers carried by USS New Mexico several months ago. The postmark will be made available to the public via the Postal Bulletin soon. The chapter is planning a First Day Cover with this postmark. An extension will be granted by the USPS.

Check out the naval items on eBay. Proceeds go to Decatur Chapter. Seller: CGCOVERGUY

Information published here is not guaranteed.

Visit the Universal Ship Cancellation Society web site at: www.uscs.org/