



## Working Harbor Committee

For the heritage and future of the harbor of New York and New Jersey

# ON THE HIP\*

E-Newsletter of the Working Harbor Committee

September 2014

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### Spectacular Day: The 22nd Annual Tugboat Race & Competition in review



Photo (C) Jean Preece 2014

The 22nd Annual Tugboat Race was another great success. This Labor Day weekend there was a huge turnout in tugs and spectators. There were a total of 17 tugboats and 2 fireboats, one of which: retired fireboat John J. Harvey, “raced” along side the tugs and displayed water at the finish line.

The nose to nose competition directly following the race was very spirited this year with lots of

participants trying to push each other back. There was even a stern to stern competition between two buoy tenders: Lt Michael P. Murphy & Privateer.

The line toss competition even had an exciting twist this year when 1 tug, Buchanan 1 decided to have 2 line throwers as they came in for the toss. Both throwers got their lines on in a row. Then they came back a second time and did it again. Even with that impressive display they did not get the first place trophy as it is awarded by best time, which went to Mr. T also of Buchanan. Mr. T won the line toss with a time of 12.9 seconds.

The tugrace had a newcomer this year and if there were an award for furthest distance traveled for the tugrace that award would have gone to them. The Anthony Wayne of the U.S. Army traveled all the way from Baltimore, VA just to participate in the tugboat race. They didn't go home empty handed though, they picked up the runner up trophy for 2nd place overall in the race. Not bad for a first time racing. One crewmember also picked up a well deserved award for best tattoo. They young man had his whole back done in a beautiful homage to the sea, which was so well done, it looked like a painting.

The very popular spinach eating competition was very well attended and we had more people that wanted to sign up then we had spinach. The first person to eat a whole can of Popeye's spinach is the winner. Every year Allens Inc. generously donates their Popeye spinach to this fascinating turn out of competitive spinach eaters both child and adult.

The overall race winner this year is from a company that is no stranger to the tugboat race: McAllister. McAllister has sent many tugs every year since the fist tugboat race in 1992. This year they sent tug Robert McAllister and won the race.

For a complete list of race & competition results [CLICK HERE](#)



This year's winner Robert McAllister (c) 2014 "Harbor Breeze" Russell

**New exciting Gowanus Canal tour, 5 October**



Photo: Gowanus Canal (c) Mitch Waxman

A brand new Hidden Harbor Tour<sup>(r)</sup> from the  
Working Harbor Committee  
**Gowanus Bay**  
**Including Erie Basin & Sunset Park**

5 October 2014 @ 1 pm to 3 pm  
Departure Pier 16 - South Street Seaport  
Tickets \$35.00 Adult  
\$30 Senior, WHC members & kids under age 12  
**Thanks to New York Water Taxi**

[Click Here For Tickets](#)

**Erie Basin** – What's inside? Why the name?  
**GBX•Gowanus Bay Terminals** – What's the current use?  
**Historic Ferry Yankee** – What's the story? Why is she here?  
**Giant Slag Ship, MV Loujaine** – How was this old bulk carrier used?  
**Behind the Big Grain Elevator** – How did it get there & why?  
**Gowanus Canal** – What is its history & future? Is it really a canal?  
**Sunset Park** –What are they doing with your empty beer cans?

*Special guest speakers from the Gowanus Canal Conservancy*

and GBX•Gowanus Bay Terminal

Click Here for [FLYER](#) or [ROUTE MAP](#)

**Back by Popular Demand - Circumnavigation of Staten Island, 19 October**



Photo (c) Mitch Waxman

## **Circumnavigation of Staten Island**

Including several Lighthouses

Sunday 19 October 2014

Departs 1 pm - Returns 4:30 pm

[Click Here for Tickets](#)

Boarding begins @ 12:30 pm

Battery Maritime Building 10 South St. (adjacent to SI Ferry) Slip 7

Tickets \$55.00 Adult

\$45 Senior, WHC members & kids under age 12

**Thanks to NY Waterway**

**Join us as we learn about the rich history of the Staten Island waterfront and light houses!**

**Tug Yards and Dry Docks** What is a floating dry dock?  
**What is Arthur Kill?** What is Sullivan's Pier famous for?

**Fresh Kills Park** - What was it originally?

**Rossville Graveyard of Ships** - How did it come to pass?

**Tottenville** - Who were the first settlers of the area?

**Princes Bay, Old Orchard, West Bank, and Ft Wadsworth light houses:**  
Who lived or lives there now?

**.and the Statue of Liberty which functioned as a lighthouse from 1886 to 1902!**

[Click Here for Tickets](#)

Featuring Special Guest Speaker  
**Capt. Joseph Ahlstrom**  
Professor of Marine Transportation  
SUNY Maritime College

Click Here for [\*\*FLYER\*\*](#) or here for [\*\*Route Map\*\*](#)

### **Working Harbor Committee Blog**

Check out the Working Harbor Committee Blog for all kinds of harbor news and tidbits, updated frequently by our Communications expert Mai Armstrong.



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\*For definition of "ON THE HIP" [click here](#)

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On The Hip is published by the Working Harbor Committee. The Editor is Jhoneen Preece Doswell.

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Thank you and we look forward to seeing you on a Hidden Harbor Tour® soon!

Capt. John Doswell - Executive Director - Working Harbor Committee -  
John@WorkingHarbor.Org

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