



PORTOLAN

THE LOG OF NORTHWEST SEAPORT

AUTUMN 2009

Anchoring Youth & Adults in Seattle

By Diana Hennick, Museum Specialist

On a hot July afternoon, Chris, Calvin, and Martell step aboard the historic tugboat *Arthur Foss*, moored on the Historic Ships Wharf at Lake Union Park. They come from different walks of life, but all shrug into coveralls and step out onto the deck. Under the guidance of marine professionals and volunteers, they carefully sand down woodwork and apply thin coats of varnish, then move on to painting the cap-rails on *Arthur's* wide bulwarks. They descend a scarred ladder into the engine room to inspect the tug's shipboard systems and scrape down weathered deck plates, and climb onto the fireboat *Duwamish* to service the water systems.

These three young men did all this and more this past summer, learning skills that will guide them to entry-level positions in the maritime industry. They are part of **The Anchor Program**, a non-profit organization dedicated to broadening opportunities and enriching lives through job training.

TAP was founded in 2005 in Richmond, California by career marine engineer John Hastings, who went into the merchant marine at age 16 at his father's "nudge." Found cutting class and told to choose between school and the sea, Hastings chose the sea. "This industry kept me safe and out of trouble," he says, looking back at his



TAP student Martell learns diesel controls on the *Arthur Foss*

long career, and motivated him to provide that same opportunity to others.

Initially, Hastings ran TAP single-handedly, serving as instructor, administrator, fundraiser, and mentor – all while still working full time at port jobs in Richmond and Oakland. TAP didn't even have a vessel for hands-on experiential; Hastings taught most of the class with textbooks and diagrams drawn on a whiteboard.

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Boarding the tugboat *Arthur Foss* during the 2009 Wooden Boat Festival – Page 5

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from the President: TIPS and TAP

This issue of the *Portolan* showcases Northwest Seaport's commitment to broadening educational and vocational training opportunities using its historic fleet. NWS has joined with other community organizations to develop programs that preserve and interpret the historic fleet in ways more far-reaching than traditional preservation and interpretation – while not sacrificing visitor experience.

The fleet includes two National Historic Landmarks, the tug, *Arthur Foss*, and the Lightship # 83, *Swiftsure*. These vessels are a hands-on venue for educational programs that range from on-board story time for toddlers to vocational training and opportunities for high school students and post-high school adults to rigorous academic programs in partnership with colleges and universities.

This is illustrated by NWS's experiences this summer with the Teens In Public Service program (TIPS) and The Anchor Program (TAP) that provided onboard experiences as well as bringing new viewpoints and stories to the historic vessels.

As Kelley Shanahan, our TIP intern, explains in her article about *Summer Aboard the ARTHUR FOSS*, she grew from a person to whom maritime heritage was completely foreign to the creator of the wonderful "scavenger hunt" that had enthusiastic kids and parents

exploring the entire boat while having a hands-on learning experience.

As John Hastings, founder and lead instructor of TAP, describes in this issue's article *Anchoring Youth & Adults in Seattle*, NWS' historic fleet joined by fellow National Historic Landmark vessels *Duwamish* and the *Virginia V* are "so valuable to this effort that it's unbelievable. [Having] these ships here is huge. To be able to come and bring someone on an actual boat and see how people live, put their hands on stuff, is huge."

Programs like TIPS and TAP benefit our visitors, too. How much more authentic an experience can you get than stepping into the *Arthur Foss*'s engine room to find young adults painting, greasing, oiling, and repairing the engine as generations of marine engineers have done in every tugboat ever made? The more our historic ships are on-board educational venues, the more alive they become.

We promise to continue to use NWS' historic fleet to train and entertain. Please keep up with us by joining us on our new blog: **PORTOLAN** Online. Just visit our website at www.nwseaport.org and click on the "PORTOLAN Online" banner.

Joe Shickich

President, Northwest Seaport

port • o • lan

an archaic navigational map based on realistic descriptions of coasts, waterways, and bays; from the Italian word portolano, meaning "related to ports or harbors"

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Anchoring Youth and Adults in Seattle

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The effort proved successful, though, and the next year TAP was able to hire more instructors. TAP's funding comes from a variety of sources including California's Employment Development Department, a program that underwrites training fees for unemployed or underemployed adults. Others received grants from private foundations or even paid out of pocket.

Since its beginning, TAP has successfully given students the skills to get jobs in the maritime industry. "I like to say that it has an 80% success rate," John says, with success defined by full participation and whether or not students are hired after completing the course. Indeed, Hastings felt the Richmond-based program successful enough to expand it to Seattle.

Hastings always envisioned Seattle as TAP's home – he first conceived the idea while living in Seattle – but he chose to draw on his connections and support in California to get the program started. Early in 2009, Hastings and long-time friend Nancy Gratton, an administrator with the Seattle Police Department, got to talking; "She said 'John, it's time.'"

Hastings then contacted the Youth Maritime Training Academy (YMTA), a Seattle organization dedicated to steering primarily high-school-aged students into maritime careers. Gary Stauffer, president of the YMTA, contacted Northwest Seaport, and soon Hastings, Gratton, Stauffer, and NWS Vice President Shannon Fitzgerald sat down to talk about how to bring TAP to Seattle. "Our historic ships perfectly positioned to serve as a platform for TAP – and as a bridge into local maritime industry," says Fitzgerald. Hastings describes YMTA, NWS, and other Seattle organizations as "unwavering in their support," explaining that TAP didn't receive nearly the community outreach in Richmond.

Meanwhile, Gratton recruited participants for the first course, drawing on her contacts in the area. On that first session of TAP, Chris, Calvin, and Martell were strangers, drawn together by a desire to advance their own lives through a career in maritime industry. The Tudor Foundation, a local philanthropic organization, underwrote their tuition, and class started May 4 on Northwest Seaport's own *Arthur Foss*.

Over the next three months, the class moved up and down the Historic Ships Wharf, learning deck seamanship and engine room skills while performing



TAP students Calvin, Chris, and Martell during a piston ring lecture, part of the 2009 Diesel Engine Theory workshop

vital maintenance on the vessels moored there. They helped rebuild cylinder four of the *Arthur Foss's* 1934 diesel engine and painted cabins and bulwarks, serviced the monitors (water cannons) on the *Duwamish*, and took in the *Virginia V's* gleaming engine room.

The students also came together and developed strong friendships, supporting each other as they learned. Hastings notes that this happened in California, too, and counts it as one of TAP's greatest accomplishments, overcoming Richmond and Oakland's reputation of vicious conflict between gangs. At the beginning of each class session, "I give them the spill about how this is an opportunity to change your life and move on, to leave all that stuff out there." Hastings describes as "a miracle," that even students with a history of conflict "came together in that classroom."

Hastings also admits that he's able to identify with his students. "I tell them 'don't look at me as being the instructor – look at me as being *you*, because I've been there and done that. It was the maritime industry that saved my life, and I'm trying to give you that same opportunity to save yours.'" He keeps in touch with many of his former students as they work their way up the ranks in the maritime industry; they call to share their adventures or just say hello. "I love to get those calls," he says. "It makes it all worthwhile."

Special thanks to the **Youth Maritime Training Association**, the **Tudor Foundation**, the **Virginia V Foundation**, and the **Puget Sound Fireboat Foundation** for partnering with Northwest Seaport and The Anchor Program to make TAP's pilot class in Seattle a success. For more information, please visit:

www.theanchorprogram.com

Summer Aboard the *Arthur Foss*

By Kelley Shanahan, Teens in Public Service Intern

For eight weeks this summer, I had the privilege of being an intern at Northwest Seaport, doing many different tasks. My main internship task was keeping the historic tugboat *Arthur Foss* open for visitors to view. The boat was successfully open most weekends and even some Thursdays and Fridays. I truly enjoyed seeing all of the different types of people that came through the tug. Some visitors had never been on a tugboat before, while others knew more about tugboats than I. But by the end of my internship, I could answer almost any question.

As with any new job, it takes a while to get used to the setting and environment. For me, maritime heritage was something completely foreign. This created some discomfort when visitors would ask me questions about different types of hulls or when the *Arthur Foss's* engine was converted from steam to diesel. Often times I found myself saying "Let me look that up" or simply "I don't know".



A young visitor colors her scavenger hunt booklet after exploring the historic tugboat *Arthur Foss*. The Scavenger Hunt was created by Kelley Shanahan, 2009 TIPS intern at Northwest Seaport

One day early in my internship a little girl asked me how old the boat is. I told her I didn't know and that I would go look it up and get back to her. Immediately she responded by saying "Don't you work here? Shouldn't you know everything about this boat?" I smiled at her and went to find out everything I could to redeem myself. Now I will never forget that the *Arthur Foss* was built in 1889.

My favorite part about boat hosting was when children came aboard the *Arthur Foss*. It is wonderful to see a child's eyes light up as they explore the boat, open the old refrigerator, and turn on the antique light-switches. This inspired me to create an activity for children to do while aboard the tug. After brainstorming numerous ideas and talking with my supervisor, Diana, I decided to create a scavenger hunt. My scavenger hunt aims to encourage kids and parents to explore the entire boat and spend more time aboard. It also focuses on educating children on objects and ideas otherwise looked over. The final product became a twelve page interactive booklet with drawings of items on the boat. At the end of the scavenger hunt, children are invited to color the books, too. I started distributing the new scavenger hunt in early August and it was a huge success. I handed out all of the booklets I produced and received wonderful feedback from parents. My hope is that this scavenger hunt will continue to act as a means of exploration for children and draw families to visit the historic tugboat.

I could not have asked for a better summer internship. There is nothing more rewarding than seeing the benefits of one's own work and knowing that it has helped other people. Northwest Seaport has been the perfect place for me to not only experience the real work force, but to realize the numerous different paths that I have the opportunity to travel on. This opportunity came at the best time possible, as I enter my senior year of high school and begin applying to college. My eight weeks at Northwest Seaport flew by way too fast but I hope to come back and visit often!

Teens In Public Service is a local non-profit dedicated to producing future leaders committed to their communities. TIPS employs teen leaders and lends them to charitable organizations for eight weeks during the summer. For more information please visit:

www.teensinpublicservice.org

Fun at the Lake Union Wooden Boat Festival

July 4th and 5th brought more than two-thousand visitors to the *Arthur Foss* during the Lake Union Wooden Boat Festival, organized annually by the Center for Wooden Boats. NWS hosted fun activities for all, from Pirate Story

Hour to a Celestial Navigation Workshop to Line-Throwing Contests on the aft deck. The *Arthur Foss* took home the "Best Power Boat Over 30 Feet" award. Thanks to all who visited, and we'll see you again soon!



Toy Boat Building at the CWB (left); Celestial Navigation workshop taught by Jeff Sanders on the *Arthur Foss* (center); an enthusiastic audience for Pirate Story Time (right).



The 1922 steamer *Virginia V* and our own 1889 tugboat *Arthur Foss* drew delighted crowds at the Historic Ships Wharf during the Festival.

Updates from the Wharf

Stopping the Leaks on the *Arthur Foss*

NWS received a major grant from 4Culture through its 2008 Landmarks Challenge Program. These funds will be used to weatherize the tugboat *Arthur Foss's* upper decks, building on work performed during the 2003 Save America's Treasures project and the 2007 haul-out and condition survey.

Local shipwrights from Ocean Bay Marine Inc have performed a detailed preliminary survey to guide the project, identifying the wheelhouse siding, the deck bollard pads, and the bow stem head as priorities for repair. NWS is currently raising the matching funds for the project and plans for an early 2010 project start.

Introducing PORTOLAN Online

Northwest Seaport has so many updates, events, photographs, and news that they don't fit into our quarterly newsletter. To bring you all this information and more, we introduce PORTOLAN Online: The Blog of Northwest Seaport. Visit at nwseaport.wordpress.com and leave us a comment!



Students clean an 18-inch wide piston from the *Arthur Foss's* #4 cylinder.

Diesel Engine Theory Workshop

This June, the 2009 Diesel Engine Theory Workshop disassembled and serviced cylinder #4 of the *Arthur Foss's* 1934 Washington Iron Works diesel engine, funded by support from King County 4Culture, the Goodfellow Foundation, Foss Maritime Company, and other generous sponsors. Learn more in the next *Portolan*.



Teens In Public Service intern Kelley Shanahan in NWS's collections storage with a lantern she just cataloged. Read about TIPS and Kelley's other summer projects on Page 4

Cataloging Artifacts from the *Wawona*

During my summer internship at Northwest Seaport, I took an inventory and cataloged artifacts from the schooner *Wawona's* crew spaces. While this job was beyond fascinating, it was also difficult. Being a "non-boat" person is hard when you have to figure out what that "thingy" is, only to find out it is called a navigation lamp. In addition, the sheer number of items to be cataloged was slightly overwhelming. I took inventory of 200 objects ranging from a cheese-grater to an inclinometer, and from a four-inch-long drinking glass to a 130-inch-long oar.

So what exactly made going through old kitchenware so fascinating? I can imagine the stories behind every single individual object. I loved seeing a certain object and comparing it to the modern day version, or finding something completely unfamiliar and learning what it would have been used for. Taking inventory of the items is the next step towards preserving the history of the *Wawona*.

– Kelley Shanahan, 2009 TIPS Intern

Wawona on the World Stage

Hejsan! I just returned from the International Congress of Maritime Museums conference in Esbjerg, Denmark, where "macro-artifact preservation" was the main topic for the more-than-eighty museum directors and curators from around the world. Northwest Seaport stole the show with its process to systematically document and de-construct the 1897 schooner *Wawona* – stay tuned for more in the next *Portolan*!

– Nathaniel Howe, Documentation Specialist

News from the *Lightship No. 83*

This summer, Northwest Seaport selected a project management firm to oversee the *Lightship No. 83* Rehabilitation Project: local marine repair firm Old Tacoma Marine Inc. OTM has previously worked with NWS on several projects, including the *Arthur Foss's* diesel engine rehabilitation and the 2007 haul-out and hull survey. OTM will work for NWS to select, oversee, and evaluate contractors to perform rehabilitation projects, planned for two separate phases.

During Phase I, contractors will stabilize the *Lightship No. 83's* overhead rig, restore functionality to onboard systems such as electrical and plumbing, and address environmental issues within the vessel. During Phase II, contractors will remove the original 1904 wooden deck, clean the underlying metal frames, and install a new deck using traditional planking and caulking methods, accomplished alongside systematic documentation of the original deck. Phase II will also perform a detailed survey of the *Lightship No. 83's* riveted steel hull and dry-dock the vessel for cleaning and underbody repairs.



Inside the *Lightship No. 83's* wheelhouse, with a view of Lake Union Park beyond.

Maritime Music Cruising Along

Sea songs old and new filled the air at Lake Union Park this year as our Maritime Music Program drew crowds to sing maritime heritage. NWS's community partnerships brought our monthly Chantey Sings and Maritime Concerts to the steamer *Virginia V*, the schooner *Adventuress*, and the Center for Wooden Boats, as well

as our own tugboat *Arthur Foss*.

Come sing for yourself at our next music events: a Chantey Sing on December 11 and our annual holiday concert on December 4, featuring The Cutters and Friends.

Visit www.nwseaport.org/music for our full schedule.

Support Northwest Seaport

Become a Member Today

Your membership buoys Northwest Seaport in so many ways, helping fund our public programs, educational and training opportunities, restoration, events, and more. It also allows NWS to collaborate with other community partners to accomplish greater goals, like hosting The Anchor Program (Page 1) and Teens in Public Service (Page 4). We need *your* support to continue and expand these efforts.

To join Northwest Seaport or renew your membership, simply fill out the membership card included in this issue of the Portolan and return it with your payment – or go online to www.nwseaport.org and click the "Support NWS" link. Your membership and any other contributions are tax-deductable and many employers match their employees' donations.



High-schoolers learn about marine engineering – see "Students become 'Engineer for a Day,'" Portolan, Summer 2009



NWSeaport

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the Log of Northwest Seaport

Mark Your Calendar!

November 7 – Maritime Family Festival

November 13 – Chantey Sing on the *Virginia V*

November 28 & 29 – Historic Ships' Holiday Open House

December 5 – Maritime Concert The Cutters and Friends

December 11 – Chantey Sing on the *Virginia V*

December 13 – Crafts Cookies & Carols at the Wharf

January 8 – Chantey Sing

Volunteer Orientations are held every second Friday at 7:00 PM and every fourth Saturday at 10:00 AM

Tugboat Story Time is held every second and fourth Thursday at 11:00 AM

Visit www.nwseaport.org for exact times and more information about these and other events



Aboard the *Arthur Foss* in sunnier days