

REQUIESCANT IN PACE

With us at our dinner meeting back in May, as they had been for many years, were Albert and Emily Fulton. By mid-July, the waters of Toronto Harbour had claimed the life of Albert at age 70. A retired mathematics teacher, Albert not only shared our love of ships but of history in general, and he was the much-loved founder and curator of the Toronto Island Archives. He leaves behind wife Emily and sons Alexander and Nathaniel. A community memorial service was held on August 9 at the Church of St. Andrew-by-the-Lake on the Island.

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Another longtime member, Austin Murphy, Toronto, passed away at age 85 on May 7. Born in Lawn, Newfoundland, he sailed for many years on the east coast. He was an engineer with Paterson from 1952 to 1973 in HUMBERDOC and KINGDOC, and later was with Algoma, retiring after being chief engineer in ALGOCEN through 1987. He then spent five years as engineer on the Toronto Island ferries. He often corresponded with us about things marine. Austin leaves his wife Eleanor and daughters Maureen and Sheila.

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It was only recently that we learned of the passing, last December, of very longtime member George H. Baddeley, of Richmond Hill, after a lengthy illness. He was T.M.H.S. member 301 and for many years had been a regular at our meetings. He leaves a family including daughter Jane Sanders.

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To the families of those who have left us to "cross the bar", we extend our most heart-felt sympathies. To quote from William Wordsworth: "We shall grieve not; but rather find strength in what remains behind."

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MARINE NEWS

Back on July 25, 2005, the straight-deck bulker ALGOCEN (ii) was towed from Montreal bound for Keasbey (on the outskirts of Perth Amboy), New Jersey, where as (b) VALGOCEN and under Panamanian registry she was a spoils barge for Bayshore Recycling. Now she is to return to the Great Lakes. On June 12, 2008, she was re-registered (C.325748) at Quebec under the ownership of 4475364 Canada Inc., of Ingleside, Ontario, a firm of which Capt. James Perkins is an owner and director. The operating company will have the word Vanguard as part of its name. (Contrary to rumours, neither Voyageur Marine nor Lower Lakes Towing will be involved in the operation.) The 1968-built motorship is now named (c) J. W. SHELLEY in honour of John Shelley Sr., who owned and operated Shelley Machine in Sarnia for many years. In June, the ship was towed to the Brooklyn Navy Shipyard at New York for drydocking and refurbishing, and it was hoped that she would be heading back to the lakes during August. The ship reportedly was in very good condition when purchased and only the generators needed significant work. The new owners apparently have cargo commitments all lined up for the SHELLEY and we wish them well in this ambitious and rather remarkable venture. The photo above, which comes to us from Capt. Perkins via Ron Beaupre, shows the SHELLEY under tow on June 20, 2008, passing the Statue of Liberty as she makes her arrival from Keasbey at New York.

