

WELCOME TO VOLUME TWENTY-THREE

How time flies when one is having fun... Or were we all (and not just this one) having fun? Must be, because we now are in our twenty-third year of publishing "Scanner", twenty-two of those years with Ye Ed. at the helm (or, rather, at the typewriter). We have enjoyed those many years of documenting the changing marine scene and bringing you interesting items from the past, and we hope that our readers have enjoyed them just as much.

New members may come and go (and they do, particularly those who are not vitally interested, but may have seen a ship once, if only they could remember which one it was), but our main base of loyal members has remained with us and has expanded rather considerably over the years. We must be doing something right! In fact, our membership list includes nearly all of the most deeply-involved marine historians and photographers in the Great Lakes area, as well as many members who live far from the lakes.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those members who have continued to support us with their fees. A special thank-you goes out to all of our regular correspondents who keep us supplied with marine news, interesting clippings, historical comment, photos, suggestions, and the like. Without the assistance of all of those who write to us on a regular and frequent basis, we could not produce this newsletter. We regret the fact that we simply do not have the time to send a personal reply to each submission, but we want you all to know that we appreciate your efforts and kind thoughts anyway.

Please keep all those news reports and clippings coming in to us.

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YOUR EDITOR, THE TYPIST (!)

We must extend to the readers our sincere apologies for the appearance and lateness of the Mid-Summer issue of "Scanner". Your Editor had a very busy summer and the situation was compounded by two vacation periods, one in July and one in August. As well, the unfortunate passing of a very close friend made the preparation of copy for "Scanner" a most difficult task and one that almost got the best of us.

Then, just when we finally got things to an acceptable state of readiness, we found that our seventeen-year-old typewriter, which had performed yeoman duty with "Scanner" for so long, was on the verge of handing in its dinner pail and retiring to wherever deceased typewriters go. We managed to scruff our way through, never knowing when the machine would toss in the towel for good, but the results were anything but aesthetically pleasing. The Editor is only now beginning to recover from the trauma which the entire situation produced!

The day the Mid-Summer issue went to the printer, Ye Ed. rushed to the nearest purveyor of typewriters and secured the best portable unit which was available (and at a good price, too). We proudly lugged the new unit (much smaller and lighter than the old beast) home via subway, Harbourfront streetcar and ferry boat and, ever since, have been practising such wonders as numerous coded functions, multi-page memory, justified margins, automatic underlining when desired, built-in spelling check and private dictionary, and automatic centering of titles, complete with bold print.

Is this an Editor's Heaven? We don't know for sure (winning the lottery might be better), but we are certain that the end result, in the form of a much more readable "Scanner", will be appreciated by all of our readers.

If not, tough! Because we are enjoying using this Japanese wonder-machine, even if we cannot pronounce its name!

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