

ling costs; those who contributed historical materials for sale for the benefit of the Society, and those who bought them; those who put on entertainment programmes for us, and those who attended them, and all the many who supported us with their continued membership in the Society.

And now, in concluding these few remarks, it is time to pass along to you the very same words which we say every year at this time. Repetitive they well may be, and they may even seem a bit unimaginative, but they truly are sincere in that they come straight from the heart and because they mean so very much. We can think of no better way to speak of the coming of Christmas, and of our inevitable passage into a new year, one more closer to the turning of the century and our entry into a new millenium. We are saddened that some more of our old friends are no longer here with us to make the passage, but we know that they have passed to a better place and await us there.

Many of our members are closely associated with the lake shipping industry, and it is our hope that the 1998 navigation season was for them as pleasant, safe and profitable as could be possible. We wish for all of our sailors and vessel operators the very best for 1999. Indeed, we hope that the coming year will be a great one for all of our members and, of course, for the Toronto Marine Historical Society itself, and for "Scanner".

But now, as our memories of a long, hot and dreamy summertime and the beauties of a superb autumn fade away; as the skies and waters of our Great Lakes take on the familiar grey pallor of winter and we work to secure the storm windows that we hope will keep the nasty weather on the outside; as the winds rage and the blowing snows obscure the horizons, and as the haze rises from the cold waters, the lake ships scurry to collect and deliver their last cargoes of the year before they seek the calm and safety of winter quarters in snug ports. We wish them all safe passage.

And to all of the many members of our large chosen family, the Toronto Marine Historical Society, we take this opportunity to extend to all of you our very best wishes for A Very Merry Christmas and for all possible Happiness in the New Year. Take care, dear friends, and may 1999 bring to us all an overflowing measure of love, warmth, good health and success in all of our endeavours.

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WINTER LAY-UP LISTINGS

We plan, once again, to feature in our February issue the listings of ships laid up at our lake and river ports, doing so not only to preserve the record, but also to give our members the opportunity to travel to distant ports to photograph the ships laid up there, if they so desire.

So, once your local port has welcomed its winter fleet, please drop us a note as soon as possible to identify all lay-ups there. You may write the Editor at the address on the cover or phone (416) 921-8436 during the evenings. Please do NOT use the fax number you may have used in the past, as Ye Ed's old office is being closed. If we have a new fax number for you, it will appear in the January issue.

Please remember that we regularly list only major commercial vessels for most ports. We will list ferries and other interesting craft, but only if your listing identifies what type of ship they may be.

Thanks for assisting us with this annual endeavour. Please make sure that your lists reach us no later than January 25th. Any subsequent listings will have to wait until the March issue, and by then Spring will be just around the corner.

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