

Marine Painting by Steve Lush '71 Is Honored at Mystic Seaport Museum

Steve Lush '71 credits his interest in marine art with a cruise he and his wife, Nella, took in 1976 in Boston Harbor. The tall ships were in port for Boston's 350th Anniversary. That same year he quit the Merchant Marine, after shipping out as 2nd and 3rd Assistant Engineer aboard numerous American Export Lines ships like the *Adventurer*, *Buyer* and *Builder*.

"I was very fortunate to have been employed when these break bulk carriers were visiting ports around the 'Med,' India and the Far East," Steve recalled. "Working as an engineer aboard these steam powered vessels and visiting the ports of call was without doubt, the best job I ever had. I loved the life and made many friends."

After marriage, he landed a shore side job with Westinghouse Electric Corp., servicing turbine generators in power plants. Then the company offered him a job in Bilbao, Spain on the construction of the Lemoniz Nuclear power plant project located in the midst of the Basque national seashore. This six-month assignment turned into seven years.

During his free time, he turned to model ship building, which soon paid dividends. He entered a model of an 1805 Mediterranean cargo felucca into a model ship contest in Flix, Tarragon, Spain in 1979, winning a 1st place trophy.

His model of a small Mediterranean fishing felucca won a gold medal in the USS Constitution Model Shipwright Guild's juried contest at the Navy Yard in

Charlestown, MA in 1984.

Then in 1992 while between jobs and living in No. Andover, MA, Steve decided to make an attempt at painting with watercolors. He recalls these early works as being "a progression from dreadful results to some semblance of skill."

Since then, Steve Lush has continued to paint and draw and build model ships while working various jobs in and around the Boston area.

In 2007, Steve's work was accepted into many art shows and several prestigious art associations, including the International Society of Marine Painters. Additionally, he completed a 5/8"-1' scratch-built model of Joshua Slocum's "Spray" that he had been working on intermittently since 1981. The completed model was entered into the 2008 USSCSMSG's juried competition at the Navy Yard and won a gold medal.

More recently, his watercolor "The Last Voyage", was included in an exhibit sponsored by the prestigious American Society of Marine Artists. This regional



Steve Lush '71, standing next to his painting, "The Red Tanker," after being awarded the "Museum Purchase Award" at Mystic Seaport. The painting now hangs in the museum's permanent collection.

exhibit is a triple venue affair that started in May of 2007 at the Cape Cod Center for the Arts, then moved on to the Herreshoff Marine Museum, Bristol, R.I. for the summer of 2007. The show is presently on exhibit at the Maine Maritime Museum in Bath, ME, which ends in January 2009.

Two other pieces, entitled "Clamshells" and "Arrival", were chosen for exhibit at the Ventura County Maritime Museum in Oxnard, CA for their

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"SHORE POWER"



"MERIDIAN STREET BRIDGE"

TAPS

Richard A. Aldred '67

Of Groton, CT, passed away in June 2008 after a bout with cancer. He sailed for several years and then worked for General Dynamics Electric Boat in Groton, CT. He is survived by his wife, Joanne, and two daughters.

"Rich was a great classmate and long-time friend," wrote Rich Covel '67. "He will always be remembered for his quick sense of humor and loyalty to his friends and family."

– Submitted by Richard Covel '67

John P. MacQuade '64

Of Sandwich, MA, passed away unexpectedly on Oct. 20, 2008. He held a master license in the Merchant Marine for all U.S. flag merchant vessels and sailed worldwide for over 30 years with companies such as the United Fruit Co., Boston Ocean Carriers, ARCO and American Trading. He held a Coast Guard license and was a first-class pi-

lot for Prince William Sound in Alaska.

While serving as captain of the *Baltimore Trader*, he received a letter of commendation from the U.S. Coast Guard for rescuing six people from an overturned fishing vessel in the Pacific Ocean in 1986. As captain, he also led the maiden voyage on the *USS ARCO Fairbanks* supertanker. After retirement from the Merchant Marine, he served as port captain for International Marine Consultants and served as security officer at The Ridge Club and Thirwood Place.

He played soccer throughout his life, including at MMA, and coached youth soccer as an adult. A lifetime member of the Boston Marine Society, he served as associate professor of Marine Transportation as well as the navigator for the *T/S Bay State* at MMA.

His survivors include his wife, Sandra, and three sons.

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Marine Artist Steve Lush

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International Waters Exhibit," which ended this past October. Another watercolor, "Storm Surge," was chosen for the prestigious and very selective New England Watercolor Society's Annual Open National Show. This watercolor is on display at the South Shore Center for the Arts in Cohasset, MA.

Most recently, his watercolor "The Red Tanker" was exhibited in the 29th Annual International Maritime Exhibit at Mystic Seaport, CT, which ended in November 2008. That painting won the Seaport's "Museum Purchase Award" and has become part of the museum's permanent collection.

Today, Steve Lush continues to paint and work on his model ships when he can, since he still has a "day job." He is a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Massachusetts (mechanical) and is presently the Manager of Engineering and Program Development for the Cambridge Water Department). Ultimately, however, he would love to be painting full-time and have commissioned work orders keeping him busy.



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