



THE STEAMSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
OF AMERICA

*Honors*

## **Fireboat *John J. Harvey***

as the

## **2001 Ship of the Year**

The ship of the year award is presented to a vessel that contributes to the goals of the society and is making a significant contribution to the history of engine-powered vessels.

Launched at the Tebo yard in Brooklyn on October 6, 1931, the *John J. Harvey* has a rated pumping capacity of 16,000 gallons per minute. The fireboat served the New York Fire Department well until 1995, when she was removed from service and retired. For most of her long career *John J. Harvey* was assigned to a post along the Hudson River that was designated Marine Company 2.

In 1999, a group of maritime preservationists in New York acquired the boat from FDNY and began the arduous task of restoring her to operating condition. By the summer of 2001 she was settling into a relaxing role of taking people on leisurely cruises around the harbor and sending streams of water skyward from her deck pipes on a variety of ceremonial occasions.

The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 on the World Trade Center changed this. *Harvey* swung into action, assisting with the evacuation of people from lower Manhattan before being pressed into service by FDNY as Marine 2. *John J. Harvey* worked steadily from Tuesday to Friday during that terrible week, providing million of gallons of water to firefighters at the scene. Her contribution in the hours and days after the terrorist attack will always be remembered as part of FDNY's heroic response to the WTC disaster, a tragedy in which 343 FDNY members lost their lives.

It is with a sense of both pride and humility that the Steamship Historical Society of America honors the *John J. Harvey*, and the crew that mans her, as the 2001 Ship of the Year.

Presented in New York City on June 22, 2002

*Timothy J. Dacey*  
President

