

# Tall Tales

The Newsletter of the Golden Gate Tall Ships Society

Volume 21 Number 1

January 2011

## JOSHIA GARDENER

Stories of a Master Mariner by Glenn S. Gordinier, PhD.

### Society General Meeting...

**The 2011 Society meeting will be held Sunday February the 13th at the Bay Model, 2100 Bridgeway, Sausalito from 3:00pm until approximately 5:00pm .**

Join us for a very special program as we present Glenn Gordinier, master story teller, and the Story of Josiah Gardner. Dr. Gordinier has a PhD in American History and is an historian and living history teacher at Mystic Seaport in Stonington, CT. He "becomes" Josiah Gardner with this amazing "first person" performance... right down to answering your questions in character!

To quote Glenn's web site, "*Josiah Gardener, master mariner, is an historic character who takes the audience back in time. He has been going to sea since before the war (the Civil War that is) and has fished the Grand Banks, cruised San Francisco's Barbary Coast, and faced gales and shipwreck. His exciting and humorous tales bring to life the world of the Yankee seafarer, a heroic figure from the American past. Dozens of quips make for an entertaining and enlightening program: 'If ya' wanna keep them bed bugs outa yer bunk, soak the boards with kerosene. But then ya best chaw yer tobacco and not smoke it', advises this world traveler.*"

Don't miss this exciting speaker as he brings "life at sea" to life with this unique and interesting living history presentation! We'll also have a short business meeting, "high tea" refreshments and raffle prizes before adjourning to The Sea Horse (Clipper Harbor) for "grog" afterward.

### Sunday March 13th: meet author Scott Ridley...

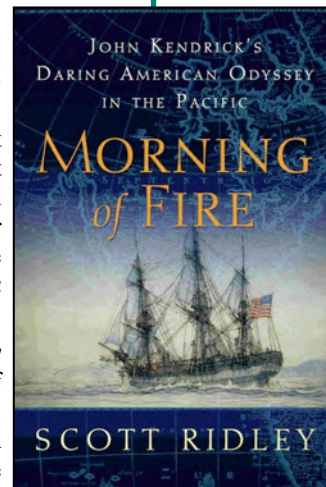
**A special sail and reception onboard the replica brig *Lady Washington* featuring author Scott Ridley and his new book *Morning of Fire*.**

Many of you may not be fully aware of the history behind the *Lady Washington*. Built in the British Colony of Massachusetts in the 1750s, the original vessel carried freight between colonial ports until the American Revolutionary War, when she became an American privateer. In 1787, after the war, she was given a major refit to prepare her for a unprecedented trading voyage around Cape Horn. In 1788, she set sail for the Pacific Northwest as the tender to the ship *Columbia*. The expedition and the *Columbia* was commanded by captain John Kendrick, the *Lady Washington* by Robert Grey.

After the two ships reached the Pacific and were separated in a storm, the *Lady Washington* became the first American vessel to make landfall on the west coast of North America when she proceeded on to the agreed reunion point at Nootka Sound. Subsequently, the two captains exchanged commands, Kendrick remaining in the North West with *Lady Washington*, Bolt taking *Columbia* and sailing for Hawaii and the

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Orient before returning to New England.

Kendrick and *Lady Washington* remained in the Pacific where he re-rigged her as a brigantine and made three more trips to the Pacific Northwest before he was accidentally killed in the Hawaiian Islands by an unshot cannon. Morning Fire is the story of Kendrick and his and the *Lady Washington's* Pacific journeys.

Here are the details for this event.

- Date: Sunday, March 13, 2011.
- Location: Pier 40 in San Francisco (South of Bay Bridge).
- Sail on the *Lady Washington*! This sail is open to members of the Society and the general public. Members wishing to sail on the ship need to make reservations through the *Lady Washington's* web site at [www.historicalseaport.org](http://www.historicalseaport.org). This is, of course, first come for sign ups. The cost for the sail is \$45 with boarding at 1:30pm and returning to the dock at 5:00pm. You can also call for reservations for the sail: 800.200.5239.
- Following the sail from 5:00 to 6:30pm there will be a private reception on board the ship for Members of our Society and a guest with the author who will talk about the book. (you can arrive for the reception at 5:00 or, if you go on the sail, simply stay on board when she docks).
- Signed copies of the book will be for sale.
- Please note that March 13<sup>th</sup> is the beginning of Daylight savings... don't forget to change your clocks or you might "miss the boat".

## Good bye to Two Friends...

This last year we have had to say fair well to two individuals who have contributed immensely to the Tall Ships community and to our Society.

## Captain Al Lutz



The Society and many of our members lost a long time friend and supporter when Captain Al Lutz of the *Alma* passed away this past June. Every member of the society who has ever sailed with us for the Master Mariners' Race, where we sponsor *Alma*, or on our annual Members' Sail will remember Al at the helm.

In addition to skippering the *Alma* for the National Park Service Al was, for a long time, a member of the board of Directors of the Society and was honored at our 25th Anniversary celebration earlier this year with a special proclamation of "Al Lutz Day". The Society sponsored the *Alma* each year in the Master Mariners' race and members were able to sail on her with Al for that event. Al and *Alma* were also our hosts for our annual member's sail in the fall.

Al Lutz, a master mariner who for 17 years was skipper of the historic sailing scow schooner *Alma*, died June 27 after a long battle with cancer. He was 55.

Mr. Lutz died quietly at his home in Redwood City, just as his beloved vessel was making its way back from a classic boat show in Tiburon to its home port in San Francisco. Mr. Lutz was much too ill to sail that day, "but we all felt his spirit was there," said Alice Watts, who is first mate on the boat.

Mr. Lutz was the classic old-fashioned sailor, tall, lanky and bearded. He smoked a pipe and swore like a pirate.

"He had a reputation as a gruff captain," said Jason Rucker, who succeeded him as skipper of the *Alma*, "but he was unendingly generous to the boat and everyone who worked on it. I've never known anyone as hardworking as he was." "He was my captain, my mentor and my friend," said Watts, who began working on the *Alma* in 1993, on the day Mr. Lutz took over the boat.

He and his crew took the vessel to festivals, celebrations and events from Petaluma to Sacramento and Stockton. The maritime park gave him an award earlier this year, recognizing him for his service. "Al has sailed *Alma* more years, more miles and with more passengers than anyone in the modern era and maybe more than anyone in history," the award said.

Alan Lutz was born in Ashland, Ohio, and learned to sail on lakes in the Midwest. He joined the Coast Guard after high school and worked on buoy tenders and as a chief boatswain's mate on the sailing vessel *Eagle*. His job was to teach Coast Guard cadets - future officers - seamanship aboard a big, old-fashioned sail training ship. "He was a true sailor of the old school who loved life every minute,"

...excerpted from the San Francisco Chronicle

## Tall Ships Photographer Thad Koza



We are equally saddened to announce that tall ship photographer and master storyteller Thad Koza passed away after a quick attack and short battle with cancer this past December shortly before his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Those familiar with Tall Ships will instantly recognize Thad; he was one of the preeminent photographers of these magnificent vessels.

He published not only a book, now in its second edition called *Tall Ships* but also a yearly calendar featuring these magnificent vessels. He frequently toured the west coast lecturing on these boats and had attended a number of Society meetings. He was featured at a special exhibit sponsored by the Society several years ago.

Thad had many, many friends across the globe that are missing him today and while his extraordinary body of tall ship photography will live on and fulfill his legacy, most will remember him for being a caring, giving man, someone who did more to promote tall ships, sail training and maritime culture than anyone in the Tall Ships community.

## Are you current?

Please take a moment to check your membership date on the back of this newsletter... just below your address. If it is not in the future, your membership has expired... Please visit our web site to renew your membership... And perhaps consider moving up to a higher level of membership to show your support! We have sails on different ships pending for 2011 - a Bay Lighthouse Tour, Fleet Week, the Master Mariners Race and the Great Schooner Race. Members always get the best price on all sails - unless they are our "free to members" events! Don't miss the boat - get great value for your money!

## We want to expand the Board of Directors

## Notes from our Scholarship Recipients

August 2, 2010

Dear Golden Gate Tall Ship Society,

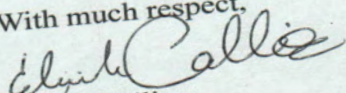
Hello my name is Elijah Collins and I recently went on the 3 day voyage on the Seaward. Before I went on the Seaward, I had mostly sailed smaller boats like Optimist and Lasers.

This voyage took me to the next level of sailing. On this trip I learned how to tie a sail tie, what the names of the sails are and how to stir a ship like the Seaward. For me the best part of the trip was sleeping in between two sections of the Mothball fleet in Suisun Bay. I also really enjoyed sailing all three bridges and being Leader of the Bow watch while going under the Richmond Bridge.

The only difficult part for me was waking up in the middle of the night to do the night watch. On the second night while waiting to begin my night watch shift, we got boarded by the coast guard. We were told that we were in a zone that required a permit and were asked to move the ship. That was quite exciting.

I would like to thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to experience a voyage on the Seaward. I am looking forward to working with such an amazing crew again and learning more from them next year.

With much respect,

  
Elijah Collins

We are actively seeking members to join our Board of Directors. We especially need someone familiar with public relations. Please consider serving GGTSS as a Board Member. Interested? Contact Alice Cochran at [alice@alicecochran.com](mailto:alice@alicecochran.com)

### Calendars...

Only two weeks before he was to be stuck down by cancer, Thad Koza sent us a supply of his 2011 Tall Ships Calendars. Many have already been sold but a few remain and can be ordered through the ship's store on our web site. Apparently Thad had also just finished compiling the pictures for a 2012 calendar as well which will come out later this year. Once that is published these will become, like too many of these boats, memories for those who love the lore of the Tall Ship.

### Financial Statement

The Golden Gate Tall Ships Society thanks its members for their membership, attendance at fund raisers and volunteer efforts. We encourage you to renew your membership and join us in our 2011 activities. Your board of directors is pleased to report that the Society remains financially sound as we enter our 26th year. An abbreviated financial statement is in the facing column.

Opening Balance 1/1/2010	Checking account	\$3,860
	Certificate of deposit	\$5,091
	Total	\$8,951
Income for 2010	Dues	\$3,333
	Fundraisers	\$5,164
	Total	\$8,497
Expenses for 2010	Scholarships	\$3,800
	Operational	\$3,960
	Total	\$7,760
Balance 12/31/2010	Checking account	\$4,579
	Certificate of deposit	\$5,148
	Total	\$9,727



## Scholarships at Work on Board *Seaward*

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Enjoy this complimentary copy  
To join us and support our mission of youth sailing scholarships visit our web site [www.ggtss.org](http://www.ggtss.org)