



*The Friends of PNSM
The Wheelhouse*

FRIENDS OF THE PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD

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**Welcome to the
Premier Issue of "The
Wheelhouse," a
Newsletter published
by the Friends of the
Portsmouth Naval
Shipyards Museum**

Please visit the
Museum or see our
website for additional
information.

In this issue we bring
you messages from our
President, Gary
Bahena, and our 1st
Vice President, Steve
Milner.

Editor/Newsletter
Design: Renée M.
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Photos on Page 2 by
Renée M. Russell

**The Friends of the
Portsmouth Naval
Shipyards Museum**

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President's Message

Greetings, Friends and Members of the Friends of Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Museum. We are thrilled to offer you our very first Wheelhouse and hope you enjoy this and the ones to follow. And a huge thank you to Renée Russell, our past Secretary, for taking this project on as Editor.

We are extremely busy and invite you to visit our website: friendsofportsmouthnsm.org. Be sure visit the Paddle Battle page to learn more about our signature fundraising event, the Portsmouth Paddle Battle. Learn more about this year's 2nd Annual Paddle Battle and scroll down to Volunteer. Or check out the Paddle Battle 2021 Photos subpage and see photos from last year's event.

Also visit the Events page to learn more about our amazing Oral History Project – a joint effort with the Friends, the Museums and the IC Norcom TV Production students.

The Friends. We're back!

~ Gary Bahena
President

NNSY History

A former shipyard Apprentice was a Tuskegee WWII pilot.

This article was written in honor of February's national Black History Month and about an NNSY apprentice who made history in his own right, by helping to break racial barriers and achieve career milestones during the World War II, Korean and Vietnam Wars and beyond.

Carter was born near the Naval Weapons Station near Yorktown, Virginia, in 1922 and died in 2018 at the age of 95, after serving 27 years in the NYPD.

Selected a Sheet Metal Shop Apprentice in mid-1942, he took military leave in late 1943 and joined the U.S. Army Air Corps. He became a member of the Tuskegee Airmen, the distinguished group of Black pilots and support personnel, who bravely protected our aircraft when they bombed enemy targets over Europe during WWII.



~ Steve Milner
First Vice President

[Click here for full article](#)

Upcoming Events

Lecture Series: John Quarstein, "The Gosport Navy Yard", Wednesday, March 23, 6-7 PM, Portsmouth Public Library (Churchland Branch)

Annual Meeting: Wednesday, May 11, Noon, Childrens Museum

Lecture Series: Richard Hepburn, "NNSY Drydocks", Wednesday, June 22, 6-7 PM, Portsmouth Public Library (Churchland Branch)

2nd Annual Portsmouth Paddle Battle: Saturday, September 10



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September 11, 2021: First Annual **Paddle Battle** on the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River. From High Street Landing to the Hammerhead Crane at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, and back.

March 23, 2021: Placement of Historic Marker for London Square at London and Crawford Streets.

