

ISMA FREIGHTER CRUISE WINNERS 2012

Lincoln Grahlf's and his wife Joan, winners of the 2012 International Shipmasters Association freighter trip, spent 11 days on board, the *Algoma Spirit*. In September, 2012, the Ship sailed about 1500 nautical miles on the journey, and went from the Welland Canal, down the St. Lawrence river, through the 1000 Islands, and historic Lower Canada all the way down to the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The winners were berthed in a specially outfitted guest cabin, and dined with the Captain and officers. They became friends with the crew, sharing coffee and exchanging stories.

While in salt water in the lower St. Lawrence they saw finback whales, Minke Whales, seals and other marine life. Lincoln, a real ship buff, got his fill of watching shiphandling from the bridge which included, close quarters manoeuvring with other ships, anchoring and docking, and he did not miss one out of 22 locks. He got to see countless Lakers, Salties, Tugs, and tall ships as they met in the rivers and traversed the busy Welland Canal, Seaway Locks, ports of Montreal, Trois Rivieres and Quebec City, Baie Comeau and Port Cartier.

Lincoln is a retired college professor, WW2 Veteran, Wheelsman, and author of the book *Undaunted*, about the Pere Marquette tug Undaunted, in which he served while in the Pacific theater of operations during the final dramatic stages of WW2. Lincoln and Capt. O'Donoghue had a good time, and exchanged plenty of sea stories.

THANK YOU LETTER

Captain,

I want to thank you for inviting us to your home - away from home! Everyone was so gracious and kind. No one laughed at my naive questions and everyone was helpful. I now have a whole new vocabulary -- right down to the knuckle.

The outfitting of our cabin with fine linens was very thoughtful. Thank you for the deck chairs and the BIG bath towels. Oh, and all of the treats in the pantry. Monique was so helpful too, what a sweetheart.

I think our trip has made Lincoln 10 years younger. It was so special. He wears the Spirit t-shirt you gave him, with great pride and hopes someone will engage him in conversation about our trip.

PS. Sean, you are a very fine teacher. I think that you have the gift.

I will remember this trip always,
Joan Grahlf's



Lincoln Grahlf's, winner of the 2012 freightertrip.com cruise, pictured with Captain O'Donoghue, on board the ALGOMA SPIRIT.