



Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance

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MWA Names 2014 Heroes of the Harbor: The New York and New Jersey Ferry Industry, Sims Metal Management and Capt. John Doswell

Festive Parade of Boats Open to the Public

New York, NY –The Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) salutes the New York and New Jersey ferry industry, Sims Metal Management, and Captain John Doswell as the 2014 Heroes of the Harbor. Every year, the Heroes of the Harbor Gala honors extraordinary members of the New York and New Jersey waterfront community whose efforts have helped improve our waterfront. It also raises awareness and critically needed support for the Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance's work to transform our harbor into a healthy, thriving, world-class resource for all. An awards ceremony, gala dinner and festive boat parade honoring the recipients will take place on the evening of Monday, October 6, 2014 at The Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers.

NY/NJ FERRY INDUSTRY

The New York region now boasts the highest ridership of any ferry network in the country and is second highest in the world. Fast, efficient, and environmentally friendly, ferries play an increasingly integral role in the region's urban transit network, able to skirt everyday road congestion and provide critical transportation during emergencies. Moreover, dock construction and ferry service can fill public transit gaps in under-served waterfront neighborhoods at a fraction of the capital cost and time of subway construction. MWA is proud to honor the region's leading ferry companies as Heroes of the Harbor:

- **BillyBey Ferry Company** – Operator of the extraordinarily successful East River Ferry service, this maritime company also operates numerous ferry routes on the Hudson River between New York and New Jersey.

- **Hornblower/Statue Cruises** – Every day, Hornblower vessels ferry thousands of people to Liberty and Ellis Islands. The company also operates the Governors Island Ferry and the Liberty Landing ferry, which connects Jersey City to Lower Manhattan.

- **NYC Department of Transportation** – The iconic, orange Staten Island Ferry provides 20 million people a year (60,000 passengers a day, not including weekend days – the equivalent of a three-lane highway operating at full capacity 24 hours a day!) with free ferry service between St. George on Staten Island and the Whitehall Terminal in Lower Manhattan.

- **New York Waterway** – The region’s largest ferry company, NY Waterway revived the region’s moribund private ferry industry in 1986 with the launch of a single Hudson River route that linked Weehawken and midtown Manhattan. Since its launch, NY Waterway has dramatically expanded its fleet and routes, and has carried upwards of 65 million passengers.

- **New York Water Taxi** – A New York fixture since 2002, the yellow and black checkered New York Water Taxis offer routes that please commuters and tourists alike, whether to Yankee stadium or Brooklyn’s IKEA, or on an all-day access pass for destinations throughout the harbor. Recently, New York Water Taxi launched the Westside Ferry Service to commuters’ kudos.

- **Seastreak** – This company offers daily ferry service between Manhattan, the Atlantic Highlands and other New Jersey destinations, as well as summer service to Sandy Hook beach, and the popular but threatened service that links Lower Manhattan, the Rockaways and the Brooklyn Army Terminal.

SIMS METAL MANAGEMENT

After more than a decade of planning, design, permit acquisition and construction, Sims, an international metal recycling company, opened a state-of-the-art recycling plant on the Sunset Park waterfront in December 2013. The facility is not only reactivating the local Brooklyn shoreline, but heralding a sustainable era in general for the city's industrial waterfront. Most material is transported to and from the facility by barge, which is twice as efficient as rail transport and ten times as efficient as trucking. Sustainability practices include gravel areas and a retention pond to absorb stormwater, one of the city's largest solar panel arrays and a wind turbine. Three new reefs, built from material dredged from the Kill van Kull, provide wave attenuation and restore marine and bird habitat. General Manager Tom Outerbridge will accept on behalf of the company.

CAPTAIN JOHN DOSWELL

Currently the executive director of the Working Harbor Committee, Captain John Doswell is the founding chair of the Friends of Hudson River Park, serves on the boards of the North River Historic Ship Society and Save Our Ships NY, and was a founding board member of the Governors Island Alliance. As a member of the Maritime Infrastructure and Permitting Panel, Captain Doswell contributed to *Vision 2020: New York City Comprehensive Waterfront Plan*, NYC's 10-year waterfront plan. He has organized numerous maritime events, including parades of boats and water-based activities for OpSail, MWA's City of Water Day, Hudson River Park Day, and more. He has piloted the restored lightship *Frying Pan*, the historic schooner *Lettie G Howard*, and is one of the pilots, as well as part owner, of the retired NYC fireboat *John J. Harvey*. For this lifetime of service to our harbor, MWA salutes Captain John Doswell.

The Heroes of the Harbor event will take place on Monday, October 6, 2014, beginning at 6pm with the annual Boat Parade, open to the general public. The parade extends north past Pier 62, a beautiful public space in Hudson River Park accessible by crossing the West Side Highway at 22nd or 23rd streets. At Pier 62, a narrator with a public address system will regale the audience with details and stories about the passing vessels.

Immediately following the Boat Parade, the Heroes of the Harbor awards ceremony and dinner will be held at The Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers. For more details and to reserve your place at the waterfront party of the year, visit www.waterfrontalliance.org/heroes2014.

The Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance (<http://www.waterfrontalliance.org>) works to protect, transform, and revitalize our harbor and waterfront.

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