Defender
1895 America’s Cup Winner
President’s Message

At the National Iron & Steel Heritage Museum, we educate the public on our nation’s steel industry: the people, process and product. Here, visitors learn about how steel is made, the products that are made with steel, and the amazing story of the Coatesville steel site.

Coatesville has a long iron and steel history: from operations under our nation’s first female industrialist, Rebecca Lukens, to the present site being the longest, continuously operating steel site in the country. We are proud to preserve that history and share it with the public every day.

For the last couple of years, rotating exhibits have become part of our educational effort. These rotating exhibits allow us and visitors to connect with the larger steel story, an American story. Past topics have included the railroad and shipbuilding industries and the American effort in World War I.

This newsletter will introduce you to two current exhibits. First, the most recent display is “Sailing with Steel: Success in the America’s Cup.” This exhibit reveals the history of the international sailing race and the steel industry’s relationship to it. Second, is “Pennsylvania Iron and Steel: 300 Years of Industrial Might,” which honors Pennsylvania’s 300-year iron and steel history and includes some of the state’s most historically significant sites.

I hope that, if you have not already, you will come visit us and see these wonderful exhibits. They are only on display for a limited time (until September), so I look forward to seeing you here soon!

Executive Director’s Report

What’s new at the museum? Sailing with Steel: Success in the America’s Cup exhibit shows the relationship between the steel industry and the beautiful racing yachts in the late 1800s into the 1900s, providing a history of the Cup. Many of the ships in our collection include a wide variety made with Coatesville steel. Our Spring lecture series wrapped up with Gene DiOrio enlightening a group at the Thorndale Inn about the history and development of the Graystone Society, and we are getting ready for the Fall lectures, so stay tuned. Cultural and educational relevance with the community continues with CYI summer interns researching museum-related topics, writing a paper, developing a PowerPoint, script and video. Finally the exhibit Pennsylvania Iron & Steel: 300 Years of Industrial Might will end by Labor Day and you will want to bring a friend to see it soon.

The National Iron & Steel Heritage Museum is a project of the Graystone Society, a 501(c)3 public charity registered with the Pennsylvania Bureau of Charitable Organizations. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.
The international sailing race, America’s Cup, is often described as the most difficult trophy in sport to win. With the first race occurring in 1851, the Cup’s history is long, and full of beautiful yachts, exciting races, and the appearance of famous entrepreneurs.

Around the same time as the first Cup competitions, iron was used in early vessels because, compared to wood, iron lasted longer, was stronger, and could carry more cargo. Once quality steel was mass-produced in the late-1800s, steel replaced iron as the metal of choice in most products, including ships.

The steel industry and the sailing sport have a unique relationship; steel has helped many people and yachts participate in the America’s Cup. Hulls and masts of the participating yachts were and are made of steel. Sites like Lukens Steel Company supplied steel plate for numerous yachts and Herreshoff Manufacturing Company and Bath Iron Works built the vessels.

This exhibit celebrates the history of the America’s Cup, a thrilling competition for all to witness. It also makes known the materials used to make vessels (wood, steel, fiberglass, etc.), some of the famous sailors and owners (Sir Thomas Lipton, J.P. Morgan, and more), and the yachts that were made with Lukens steel.

The America’s Cup exhibit is on display until the fall, so we hope you will come see it before it’s gone!

Photo: The Herreshoff Manufacturing Company in Bristol, Rhode Island, was known for designing and building some of the world’s fastest yachts and boats. The photo shows the launching of “Enterprise” on April 4, 1930.
(Herreshoff Marine Museum)
Insert: The America’s Cup, c1910
(Library of Congress)
Steel Stories & Spirits

A well-loved program returned in the spring where guests enjoy a meal and drinks at a local restaurant while a speaker tells stories about steel-related topics.

In April local historian Gene DiOrio told more than 40 people at the Thorndale Inn about the beginning of NISHM. He talked about his job at Lukens Steel Company, the need for historic preservation in Coatesville, and the historical and architectural importance of Graystone Mansion.

This event will return in the fall, keep an eye and ear out.

Rebecca Lukens Award Presented to Frances Sheehan

On May 10, NISHM’s Rebecca Lukens Award was presented to Frances Sheehan, former President and CEO of Brandywine Health Foundation, responsible for supporting non-profits with $14 million in grants.

It was a beautiful evening with a reception in Graystone Mansion. Guests socialized, enjoyed hors d’oeuvres, and honored the work of Ms. Sheehan.
The year 1716 marked the beginning of a long and rich industrial tradition in Pennsylvania: three hundred years of iron and steel making. Pennsylvania was the top iron making colony in the country and the state was once considered the steel capital of the world, showing national and world-wide influence.

This history is revealed in a current exhibit titled “Pennsylvania Iron & Steel: 300 Years of Industrial Might.” In 2016, NISHM began to assemble a list of known iron and steel sites in Pennsylvania (still a work in progress). Local historians, museum friends, and staff and volunteers narrowed the list down to some of the most historically significant sites in the state (shown above).

The exhibit includes maps, photos, and information about those 25 sites and reveals the history and technological changes of Pennsylvania’s iron and steel industries. It will remain on display through August.

Think another site should have been included? Let us know! Email education@steelmuseum.org.
In early June, NISHM received a wonderful donation from a professor in Buffalo, New York. The collection of glass lantern slides (c1912-1926) portrays photographs of the people, process, and technology of steelmaking at Colonial Steel Company (Pittsburgh, PA). The slides had been used for teaching and were trashed, but the professor saved them, cleaned them, and then donated them to us.

One day, the slides will have to be restored, which will require glass replacement. But for now, NISHM is scanning the slides so we can have the images for future use and we look forward to sharing them with you!

Included in NISHM’s collections are models of yachts that won the America’s Cup in the late 1800s and early 1900s, which were made with product from Lukens Steel Company. Shown above (L-R) are models of the Rainbow (1934), Columbia (1899, 1901), Vigilant (1893), and Enterprise (1930). All four won the Cups they participated in.
MEET THE MUSEUM

**Connie Ellis**

We would like to introduce you to our newest volunteer, Connie Ellis. Connie moved to the Coatesville area in 1996. Her volunteer experience includes the Parks and Recreation Board in Caln and she is currently the secretary of the Coatesville Parks and Recreation Commission.

Connie has always been interested in the Coatesville steel mill. The physical labor and hot temperatures that steelworkers endure amaze her. She was introduced to NISHM when she attended one of our September 11th programs.

At NISHM, when objects are donated, they are accessioned into our collection. Connie assigns identification numbers to each item that comes in. She recognizes the importance of this since the items will be on display in future exhibits. People will see those objects and Connie says, “they won’t know what I did, but I will.”

**Greg Cary**

Gregory M. Cary joined NISHM’s Board in 2016 after a stellar career serving for more than 36 years of diversified leadership success spanning law enforcement, nuclear security, communications, crisis management, emergency preparedness and government affairs. His professional experience includes work at Black Site International (Executive Consultant), PECO, an Exelon Company (Regional External Affairs Manager) and the Caln Township Police Department (Patrol Shift Supervisor).

While at Alvernia College, Greg earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. His professional affiliations include the Friends of the Medal of Honor Grove, the Brandywine Health Foundation, the PA State Police Camp Cadet, the FBI National Academy Associates, the Coatesville Health Development Corporation and the Brandywine Health and Housing Center, Inc. Welcome Greg!
These flower beds on the Terracina grounds and the gardens at Graystone Mansion have been planned and planted for visitor appeal. Some of the recent additions include Scottish broom, azaleas and tulip bulbs. Visitors at the many recent events and weddings have enjoyed the colors and fragrances of the gardens. Come and see!

**Lukens Executive Office**

There have been a lot of changes in the building this year. LEOB improvements include a Weil-McLain gas-fired boiler ($50,000). The old unit, installed in the 1980s, had radiator coilers that cracked internally. The new boiler was installed according to procedures appropriate in a historic district. It works well!

A 70-ton York air conditioning chiller unit with 6 compressors ($80,000) was needed in June. It’s a staged unit that does not need all 6 chillers operating at once. The air-cooled, outside unit needs no towers, also making it historic district appropriate. The Stewart Huston Charitable Trust owns the office building and NISHM is happy not to be undertaking these costs.
2017 Upcoming Events

Check For Updates at SteelMuseum.org

FALL

Our lecture series returns in the fall!
This fall will witness the return of NISMH’s lecture series. Once a month (Thursdays), we bring in guest speakers who discuss various iron and steel-related topics.

One planned lecture will be related to our fall exhibit about ironmasters and steel magnates throughout the world.

Would you like to suggest a speaker or a topic? Please email education@steelmuseum.org.
The schedule and speakers will be announced later.

Volunteer Day
September 23 | 10am to 3pm | Free Event | Lunch Provided

Coatesville Remembers September 11th
September 11 | Free Admission

Holiday Open House:
Santa, Trains & Music
December 8 | Free Admission
Thank you to all of our members who joined or renewed from March 1, 2017 to May 31, 2017

New Members
Clyde Deck
Donald Harrop
Lowman Henry
Stockton Illoway
Dorothy Medill
Robert Medill

Renewing Members
(* Donates 5+ Consecutive Years)
James Ammon
Robert Biamonte
Cheryl Boose
Chip Breuninger
Dan Burgess
Diane Ceribelli
Sherry Deets
Christina DeLiberato
Greg DePedro

Gail Ekstrand*
Kathleen Franciscus*
David Grace*
Dominic Grady*
Robert Hendrickson
Tim Hennessey*
Allan Horwitz
Barbara Huston*
Casimir Lehenky

Etha McDowell
Deen McKillips
Karen Neuhauer*
Durand O’Meara
John Pawlowski
Richard Phillips
Sam Radziviliuk*
Edward Scott*
Sam Slokom
Trudy Wendt

We are greatly appreciative of all of our members’ support!
We couldn’t do it without you!

Group Tours Available!

NISHM is great for your next group activity. Whether it be a church group, senior community, or family reunion... we welcome groups of all kind! We tailor the tour to your group’s specific needs, interest and size.

Tours may include the following sites: Lukens Executive Office Building (steel exhibits), Terracina, Graystone Mansion, Steelworkers Memorial, sonarsphere, narrow-gauge locomotive, and two historic fire engines and one ambulance.

Special group rates are available! For more information please visit www.steelmuseum.org/tours. To schedule a group, please contact education@steelmuseum.org.
A Man and His Ship, Steven Ujifusa - $29.99

In the 1940s and 1950s, William Francis Gibbs was considered America's best naval architect and the nation was fascinated by his quest to build the finest, fastest, most beautiful ocean liner of the time. When completed in 1952, the ship was hailed as a technological masterpiece. This book reveals Gibbs' life, personality, and drive to create the fastest passenger liner to cross the Atlantic. The SS United States was made with Lukens steel.

D-Day Invasion L.S.T. Model - $34.95

World War II meant high production levels for steel industries throughout the world. A large portion of the steel made went into battleships, cargo ships, and landing craft. The LST could carry a cargo of 300 troops and 60 vehicles, was easily loaded or unloaded on shore, was powered by diesel engines, and had a speed of around 9 knots.

This model kit is recommended for ages 10 and over (is challenging and requires glue). It is plastic (1/245), measures 16” long, and includes decals and display stand.

Clearance Section Available!

The museum store now has a clearance section, with items as low as $3.00, including books, mugs, and other steel-related collectibles. Stop by and check it out!
Shown here is a view of Lukens Steel Company in 1951. You can see the stacks from the No. 3 Open Hearth building and the scrap yards and limestone supply in the foreground. In the left background is the iconic arch stone bridge, used by Pennsylvania Railroad at the time. Want to see more photos like this? Follow us on Facebook!