

Shipping Out

The Story of America's Women Seafarers

Shipping Out is a sixty minute video documentary targeted to public television. Our program will tell the little known history of women and seafaring in America. We will meet women who hold jobs in commercial shipping. They work on container ships, bulk cargo carriers and tankers as well as coastal tugs, barges, ferry boats on America's waterways.

"The most persistent myth respecting women is that they never went to sea....But seafaring women were real people, not creatures of fantasy. Their history is a significant and badly neglected part of maritime history..." Linda Grant de Pauw, historian



Captain Jean Pinto, Tug Boat Operator



"We had a beautiful old training ship. I went down into the engine room. I looked at the board with the brass gages and pipes and the old engine. I said to myself, 'Man, this is cool. I can do this!' At that point, I decided to become an engineer."

Chief Engineer Katherine Haven (2003)



Licensed Engineer, 1922



Steward 1928

'They that go down to the sea in ships and occupy their business in great waters', says the Old Testament, 'these men see the works of the Lord.' As mariners have done for thousands of years, women sailors navigate unfamiliar waters. In merchant marine lore, there is among seafarers a *brotherhood of the sea*. It may be necessary to embrace a sisterhood as well. SHIPPING OUT will tell their story.

Award winning filmmaker, Maria Brooks, has produced maritime documentaries on PBS stations. These programs include, "The Men Who Sailed the Liberty Ships" and "The Odyssey of Captain Healy".

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