Donor Boosts Lady Washington Engine Campaign to 78 Percent of Goal

Local News

Posted by: David Haviland

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Aberdeen, WA - Grays Harbor Historical Seaport Authority is pleased to announce that a major gift by an anonymous donor has raised the total gifts for the Seaport’s SAILING GREEN campaign to more than 78 percent of its goal. Last summer, the Seaport announced a fundraising campaign to raise $100,000 for the purchase and installation of a new engine for the Lady Washington. This week, a longtime supporter made a significant donation which brought the total SAILING GREEN gifts to more than $78,000. The Historical Seaport plans to reach its fundraising goal by December 31, 2009.

The Historical Seaport announced its SAILING GREEN campaign September 9 when it became clear that Lady Washington’s Detroit Diesel 8V-71 auxiliary engine no longer met California’s strict emissions standards. And as caretaker of the Official Ship of the State of Washington, the Historical Seaport believes Lady Washington should keep her carbon footprint as low as possible.

The Historical Seaport will replace Lady Washington’s engine with a new fuel efficient engine and marine gear. The new engine will meet or exceed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Tier II exhaust emissions standards, California marine engine exhaust standards, and the standards established by the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (Annex VI). The new engine, along with planned upgrades of the ship’s electrical and lighting systems, will reduce Lady Washington’s fuel consumption, emissions and her carbon footprint.

“Every donation to this project is an investment in the future,” said Capt. Les Bolton, GHHSA’s executive director. “This new engine will mean that Lady Washington will continue to provide quality shipboard education programs for youth up and down the west coast while she serves as an ambassador for Grays Harbor County and the people of Washington State.”

The engine replacement work is scheduled to begin in January 2010, but the Historical Seaport still needs to raise nearly $22,000. Donations to its SAILING GREEN campaign may be made online at www.historicalseaport.org. Donors may also call 800-200-5239 or mail a check to SAILING GREEN, Grays Harbor Historical Seaport Authority, PO Box 2019, Aberdeen, WA, 98520. For more information, contact Capt. Les Bolton, 800-200-5239, les@historicalseaport.org.