September 27, 2012

Greetings from the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary

The Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary (TBNMS) is one of fourteen sites world-wide tasked with the responsibility of preserving, protecting and presenting resources under management to the public using a variety of different methodologies. At TBNMS our focus is shipping on the Great Lakes and an internationally significant collection of ship wrecks located within the sanctuary’s 448 square miles.

In the spring of 2011 the sanctuary received, on loan from a generous donor, a log book from the side wheel palace steamer “S.S. City of Alpena”. The log covers a regular schedule of trips from Toledo, OH to St. Ignace, MI and back during the 1899-1903 shipping seasons and primarily documents cargo carried and unusual events that happened on a particular trip.

From October 2011 through March 2012 a group of sanctuary volunteers worked to transcribe the ships log from the hand written original to a more readable typed format. What follows is a digitized copy of the original log in Adobe, a complete transcript of the 1899-1903 log on Excel spreadsheets, and additional resource material on the ship and her work on the Great Lakes. The sanctuary is very grateful to staff archaeologist Wayne Lusardi, staff historian Pat Labadie, volunteer coordinator Stephanie Gandulla, Graphic Artist Joey Jackson, a dedicated group of volunteer transcribers, and the special collections staff and IT administrator at the Alpena County Library for their assistance in the preparation of the documents and resource materials included in the posting of this project to the Great Lakes Maritime Database.

Staff and volunteers from the sanctuary welcome you to this site and hope you enjoy learning more about this ship and the work she and her crew did. Questions or comments on this project should be directed to volunteer project coordinator Chuck Wiesen at wiesencn@gmail.com.

Best,

Jefferson Gray, Superintendent
Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary