

MARTI'S MUSINGS...Return of a Sailor

By Marti Burchell

“Welcome aboard sailor”, to returning crewmember Paul Harliss. Paul sailed on the Potomac from May 1940 to November 1942 during 2½ years of President Roosevelt’s term in office. He had the opportunity to observe the comings and goings of congressional leaders, heads of state and royalty while serving on the ship.



We are very fortunate that we were able to host Paul on his recent visit to the West Coast, and to the Potomac. It was fascinating to hear Paul’s reminiscences of his time aboard. Paul is an excellent storyteller, so his tales were a delight to hear.

He joined us for a cruise during his visit and spent time on the helm as a guest of our own Captain Skip. In Skip’s words, he was a “squared away sailor”.

During the past several years, we have been lucky to welcome back to the Potomac several of her former presidential crew. Their stories and memories give life to the time of FDR, and his trips aboard the Floating White House.

