

For Immediate Release: May 15, 2024

Port of Cascade Locks  
427 Portage Road  
PO Box 307  
Cascade Locks, OR 97014

Media Contact: Genevieve Scholl, Deputy Executive Director, 541-399-2059,  
[gscholl@portofcascadelocks.org](mailto:gscholl@portofcascadelocks.org)

### COMMUNITY OF CASCADE LOCKS TO CELEBRATE “CAPTAIN TOM DAY” MAY 30

CASCADE LOCKS, OR – The Port of Cascade Locks and JettyLight, the company operating the Sternwheeler Columbia Gorge, have announced plans for a community celebration of Captain Tom Cramblett that will take place onboard the Sternwheeler on Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 7:30 PM. The event is free to the public and light refreshments will be provided.

Captain Tom began his career on the Columbia River in 1983 as a deckhand on the 100-passenger vessel The.Sightseer, which was based in Cascade Locks. He was aboard The.Sternwheeler. Columbia.Gorge during her maiden voyage that same year and before long was promoted to chief engineer and then to captain in 1985. Tom has shared his reverence for Columbia Gorge history with generations of guests and is a noted expert on the Lewis & Clark Expedition. His own family history goes back five generations in Cascade Locks; his great-grandfather operated a wood scow, supplying that era’s sternwheelers with fuelwood.

The community celebration will recognize Tom’s 41 years of service on the Columbia, and the heroism shown by him and his crewmates George Torres and Steven Hammrich in their actions to save the Sternwheeler when it broke free of its moorings during the severe blizzard January 13-15 of this year.

“Captain Tom is an icon of the Gorge and we as a community are so proud and grateful for his generosity, skill, endurance, and warm-hearted nature that welcomes so many people into the heart of the Gorge,” said Jeremiah Blue, Port of Cascade Locks Executive Director. “He has been our mayor, our Santa Claus, our coach, and our captain – we are excited to celebrate him.”

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JOIN THE PORT OF CASCADE LOCKS IN CELEBRATING

# Captain Tom Day



**Thursday, May 30**  
**5:30 - 7:30pm**

aboard the  
**Sternwheeler**  
**Columbia Gorge**

Join us in celebrating  
Captain Tom Cramblett's 41 years of service  
as well as his heroism alongside George Torres and  
Steven Hammrich to save the Sternwheeler when it  
broke free during the January 13th blizzard.



Light refreshments served.