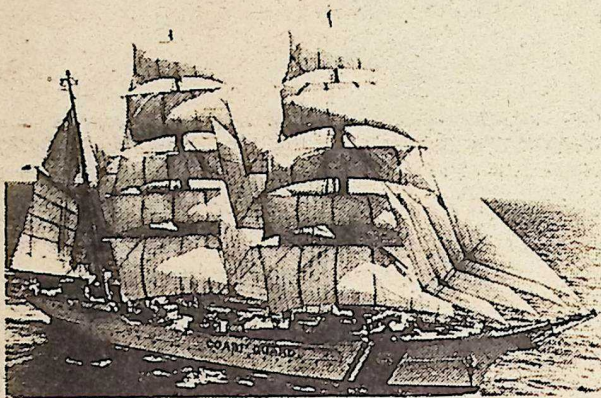


# VILLAGE VIEW

ANDREA LEONARD

In case you missed the show in 1976 on our 200th birthday, you'll have another chance to see the Parade of Tall Ships. They're coming to Boston, Friday, May 30th, to help celebrate the city's 350th Anniversary.

As far as I'm concerned, I think it would be a great idea to invite them to put on their performance every year, make it an annual event. I can think of nothing more thrilling, and



The EAGLE, the U.S. Coast Guard's squarerigger, will lead the Tall Ships into Boston Harbor May 30th, escorted by the USS CONSTITUTION, to celebrate the city's 350th Anniversary.

that's not a word I like to use very often, than watching one of those beautiful winged sailing craft, masts towering over

VILLAGE ADVERTISER May 29, 1980

busy decks, sails set and filled with fair winds, pushing through blue seas.

Maybe it's because I know that generations of men and boys who preceded me and my generation, men and boys I never knew but who were part of my family, served aboard such ships; my great-great-grandfather, Oliver Hinckley, used to build them in his shipworks on the shore of North Bay, right here in Osterville.

Between 1817 and 1843, Oliver built a fleet of twenty-three vessels, ranging in size from fifty to two hundred tons, all for Barnstable captains. Schooners, brigs and a sloop, he built; the schooners for coasting trade, the brigs and sloop for foreign voyages.

Had I been born a boy and born a century earlier, I might have shipped on one of them myself. Perhaps that's one reason the sight of these magnificent craft stirs in me certain indescribable sensations, a mixture of joy and pride and a kind of yearning to capture an experience that cannot ever be mine.

Second best to being born 150 years ago and a boy going to sea, is watching the tall ships sail into Boston Harbor, escorted by the USS Constitution, complete with all the pomp and pageantry of a nautical parade.

At last count about fifty of the graceful sailing vessels from all over the world were registered to join the Parade of Sail. Some are as large as 370 feet and the smallest is 39 feet in length.

In addition to the ships powered by wind and sail, seven types of modern US Navy warships, including the aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy, will be on hand. The Kennedy will be tied up at Army Base Pier, serving as review ship.

Approximately 10,000 pleasure boats are expected to congregate in the harbor as spectators of the parade, even though it's early in this year's yachting season.

The Coast Guard's square-rigger EAGLE, escorted by OLD IRONSIDES, will lead the Tall Ships into Boston Harbor. The largest of them, the 370-foot topsail schooner from Spain, JUAN SEBASTION DE ELCARNO, will be an outstanding participant.

After the parade, the ships will berth at the Army Base in South Boston and be open to the public from noon Saturday, May 31, until June 3 when many will depart for a race from Boston to Kristiansand, Norway. The race ends in Europe in the middle of July.

Wouldn't you love to be aboard one of them? Even now, if I had the opportunity, I'd cancel any and every alternate plan and sign on. If I only had the chance, I'd go. Wouldn't you?