

Press Release from Maine Sea Coast Mission
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Mike Johnson Named New Sunbeam Captain

Gary DeLong, Executive Director of the Maine Sea Coast Mission, reported that Mike Johnson has been promoted to Captain of the Sunbeam, effective March 1, 2007. Mike has served as Engineer on the *Sunbeam V* for the past five years and, in that time, worked closely with Dave Allen who is retiring after 35 years on the Sunbeam IV and Sunbeam V, the last 34 of which he served as the Captain.

Mr. Johnson has a USCG 100 ton Master's License and has worked on and around boats all of his life. Prior to joining the *Sunbeam* crew, Mr. Johnson was Harbor Master for the Town of Mount Desert. Prior to that time, he worked on a variety of types of boats. In 1996, Mr. Johnson received the Maine Island Institute Award for the extraordinary contributions he had made to life on the Maine coast. Mr. Johnson is a graduate of the University of Maine with a B.A in Public Management. Mr. Johnson lives with his wife Jean and daughter Olivia in the Town of Mount Desert.

Mr. DeLong also announced the selection of the *Sunbeam* Engineer and Steward. Storey King, who has an Associate's Degree in Boatyard and Marina Management from Maine Maritime Academy, has been selected as the Engineer. He also has a USCG 100 ton Master's License and extensive experience working on commercial and pleasure vessels. He is currently the owner and operator of Great Harbor Tours in Southwest Harbor.

Felicia Bland, who received her Associates Degree of Science, Cum Laude, with a specialty in Small Vessel Operations, from Maine Maritime Academy in 2005, has been selected as the new *Sunbeam* Steward. She also has a USCG 100 ton Master's License and a USCG 200Ton Mate's License. She recently held the position of deckhand and steward on a research vessel where she was responsible for meal planning, provisioning and cooking for the crew, and general deck maintenance and line handling.

DeLong said, "With the announcement of this new captain and crew there is a sense in which we are not replacing Dave and Betty Allen. They had a wonderful run, but now we have a new crew. They are different in many ways, but alike in their commitment to running this vessel and its unique mission with professionalism and pride. All of us at the Mission see the *Sunbeam* and its crew continuing to help us fulfill our mission to the islands and coastal communities."

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