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## The Grayfox Association

January 20, 2017

From: Commanding Officer, NSCS Grayfox TWR 825

SUBJ: NSCS GRAYFOX TWR 825 ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2016

Year 2016 saw further progress to improve the operation of the Grayfox and training program. The Cadets and ship crew proved the performance of the program in many outstanding demonstrations of ceremony, training, and cruises.

Program administration is solid with detailed planning and documentation. A robust organization is in place; and with the addition of new Board members, supporters, and crew. Administration of the NSCC Grayfox Sea Cadet unit for Grayfox crew is administered by the Naval Sea Cadet Corps (NSCC) Magellan system. Dedicated crew are formally registered with NSCC in Magellan. Insurance is provided by USLI, NSCC for Cadets and crew, and Hold Harmless Agreements. Additional progress has been achieved with administration record keeping and documentation, Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) , project plans, work repair records, and ship log books.

Financial planning and controls are firmly in place with detailed financial ledgers, budgets, and expense worksheets. An annual budget was prepared and approved. Detailed financial record keeping of ship maintenance and repairs is implemented. Financial records and ledgers for 2015 were closed. Griffin Accounting completed the 2015 tax filing.

US Coast Guard certification was initiated with a request in February 2014. Most significant in February 2016, the Grayfox was recognized by the USCG National Vessel Documentation Center as a compliant documented vessel. Along with the State registration, the vessel complies with USCG and State registration requirements. Firefighting, medical, and safety requirements were tested and verified. A complete list of shipyard and certification work and costs was prepared. Requirements include a shipyard drydock, load line, stability test (measurements), and hold preservation. The Grayfox obtained recognition from the USCG to operate as a private vessel provided safety measures are in place and fully compliant.

The Grayfox organization completed numerous projects, from cleaning to repairs. The ship participated in Port Huron community fairs and open house events; Art in the City, Tourist in Your Own Town, Powerboat Races, etc. The River Walk increased traffic for ship visitors and informal tours.



Significant projects included; obtained materials to build a pier retaining wall to secure the ship, painted the exterior topside decks, power washed and cleaned the Pump Room and HVAC Blower Room, installed new mattress covers, organized material, and cleaned. Refer to Attachment A for a complete list of work completed.

The Grayfox operates as an independent non-profit education organization. The Grayfox leadership team envisions the program to become a self-sufficient training and education program supporting the local community and hosting national events.

The Grayfox Association continues to work with the St Clair Community Foundation, Bluewater Chamber of Commerce, Bluewater Convention & Visitors Bureau, Desmond Marine, Acheson Ventures, City of Port Huron and the local community to improve the community and visitor experience.

The prospects for 2017 are more promising. The pursuit of USCG certification will continue. The volunteer organization is much stronger with younger volunteers taking an active role. Business and vendor relations are excellent. The Grayfox reputation has improved and confidence that the program will succeed contributes to its attraction.

Since 1997, the Grayfox has been committed to providing American youth with a drug and alcohol free environment to foster their leadership abilities, broaden their horizons through hands-on training and guide them to becoming mature young adults.

We encourage you to visit the Grayfox website at [www.nscsgrayfox.org](http://www.nscsgrayfox.org) or contact us at [nscsgrayfox@gmail.com](mailto:nscsgrayfox@gmail.com) or 586-825-3706. Better still, visit the ship and watch the Cadets and crew in action. We sincerely thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

*JM Semerad*

Captain Jim Semerad  
Commanding Officer