

An annual special issue of  
**PROFESSIONAL MARINER**

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY MAGAZINE SALES 8074

JOHN B. LAGSON

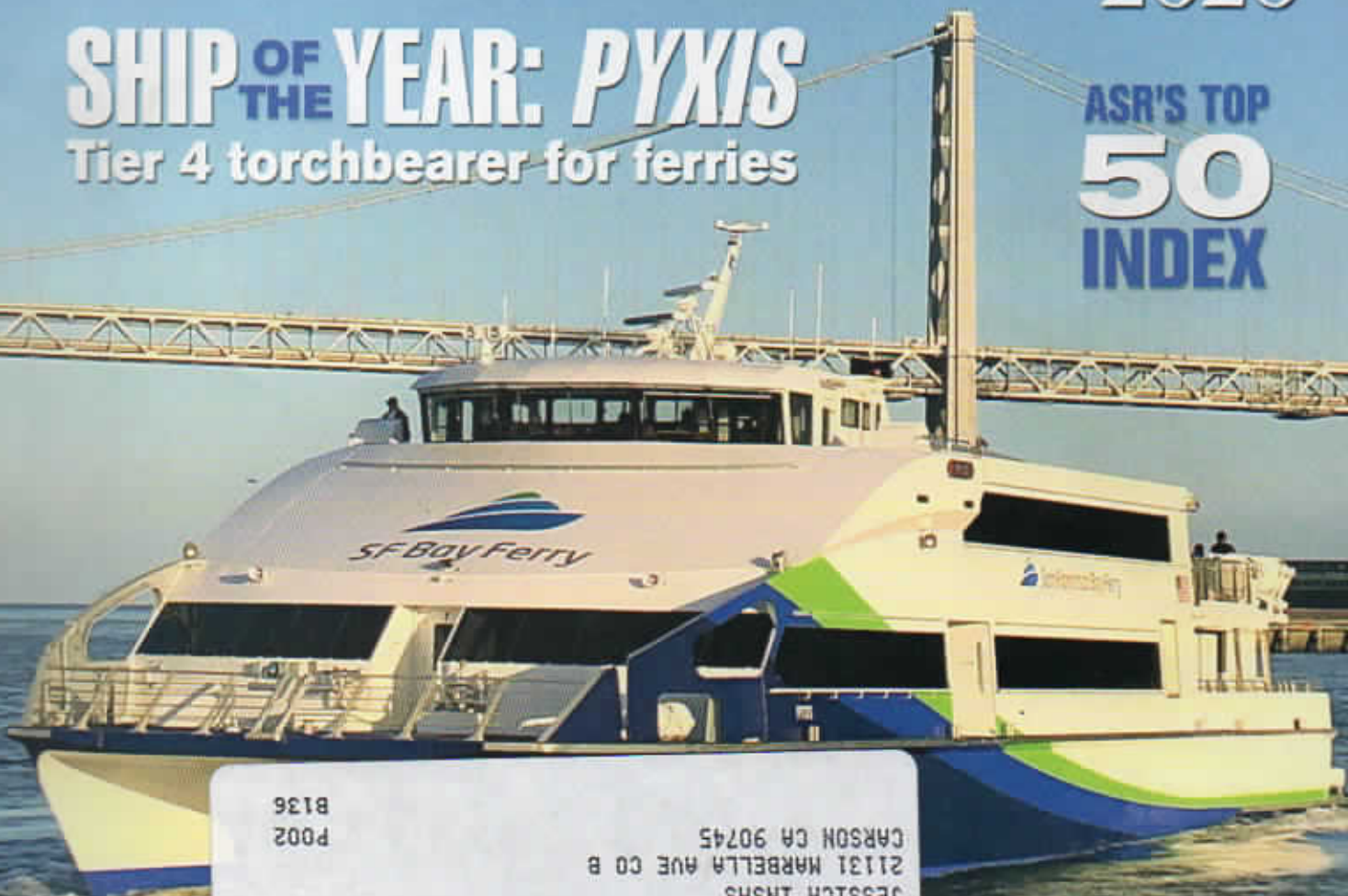
# American

# SHIP REVIEW

2020

**SHIP OF THE YEAR: PYXIS**  
Tier 4 torchbearer for ferries

ASR'S TOP  
**50**  
INDEX



8136  
P002  
CARSON CA 90745  
21131 MARBELLA AVE CO B  
JESSICA INSHAS  
PMAR 4703488 ASR20  
\*\*\*\*\*FIRM 90745

## Complete Coverage

- ▶ OSVs/PSVs
- ▶ Research vessels
- ▶ Excursion boats
- ▶ Crew boats
- ▶ Naval vessels
- ▶ Fireboats
- ▶ Ferries
- ▶ Pilot boats
- ▶ Megayachts

ISSN # 245  
ISSN 245-1362



7 25274-70082 9



# American SHIP REVIEW 2020

Contents

Annual 2020

Issue #240

## Outlook

### The State of Shipbuilding

OSV stacks keeping Gulf quiet; Jones Act cargo ships gain spotlight 4

Icebreakers cometh for US, Canada as Arctic opens wide 9

### American Ship Review's 2020 Ship of the Year *Pyxis*

Bay Area newcomer carries Tier 4 torch for ferries 12

### Featured vessels

#### *Rodanthe*

North Carolina adds capacity, maneuverability with new VSP ferry 18

#### *National Geographic Venture*

Lindblad cruise ship designed to get guests close to nature 22

#### *Virginia*

Purpose-built research boat master of flexibility 25

#### *Half Moon Clipper*

Bayou-built crew boat delivers the goods, island style 30

#### *Brazos Pilot*

Texas pilots 'all in' with bigger, faster, safer launch 35

### Roundups

#### Crew/Supply Boats

Deliveries of American-built OSVs sparse as vessel glut persists 40

#### Ferries/Excursion

Commuter ferry growth drives wave of construction 44

#### Fire/Pilots/Patrol

Small fireboats find bigger niche; patrol demand steady 52

#### Research/Survey

Canada introduces *Sir John Franklin*; RCRVs advance in United States 57

#### Megayachts

New facilities, yard upgrades signal growth in megayachts sector 61

### ASR Register

Top 50 index 64

**Cover:** With the Bay Bridge in the background, the 143-foot *Pyxis* prepares to depart the ferry terminal on San Francisco's Embarcadero on a May afternoon. The newbuild from Dakota Creek Industries is the first passenger ferry in the United States with Tier 4 emissions controls. MTU engines delivering nearly 7,000 horsepower give the catamaran a 34-knot cruising speed, allowing it to make the commuter run to Vallejo in one hour. Casey Conley photo. Vessel profile, page 12.





**EXPERTS IN MARINE ELECTRICAL  
AND ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS**



Looking at the changing marketplace as an opportunity to create innovative solutions to help companies power their fleet, find their catch, communicate, and navigate their way safely home.

Their team of electricians and technicians excel at providing everything electrical and electronic; including creation, distribution, and storage of electrical power and electronic data.



**PROUD TO SUPPORT THE REBUILDING OF AMERICA'S FLEET**

(206) 216-1048

[info@fusionmarinetech.com](mailto:info@fusionmarinetech.com)

**BRING ON THE COLOR.**

**M605**



**ICOM**



**BRING IT ON.**

Visit [www.icomamerica.com/bringitonM605](http://www.icomamerica.com/bringitonM605)  
for additional features and specs.

*American*  
**SHIPREVIEW**

*An annual special issue of Professional Mariner*

Subscription Department

Toll-free 866-918-6972

[professionalmariner@pcspublink.com](mailto:professionalmariner@pcspublink.com)

**Editorial**

[editors@professionalmariner.com](mailto:editors@professionalmariner.com)

Editor Rich Miller

Art/Production Director Kim Goulet Norton

Copy Editor Kate Murray

Gulf Coast Photographer/  
Correspondent Brian Gauvin

West Coast Photographer/  
Correspondent Alan Haig-Brown

Professional Mariner Editor Rich Miller

Professional Mariner  
Associate Editor Casey Conley

**Advertising**

[advertising@professionalmariner.com](mailto:advertising@professionalmariner.com)

West Coast/Canadian/  
International Susan W. Hadlock  
207-838-0401

East Coast Charlie Humphries  
207-939-1929

Gulf/Midwest Arthur Auger  
207-577-3257

Publisher Alex Agnew  
207-450-5363

**Business**

Business Office Lee Auchincloss

Events & Marketing  
Coordinator Mary Mildren

**PROFESSIONAL  
MARINER**

PROFESSIONAL MARINER  
(ISSN 1086-2774)

This magazine is printed in the U.S.

Professional Mariner is published in February, March, April, May, June, August, September, October and December, with an annual special issue of American Ship Review in July and an annual special issue of American Ship Review in December for \$29.95 per year by Navigator Publishing LLC, 58 Free St., Portland, ME 04101.

Periodicals postage paid at Portland, Maine, and additional mailing offices.

Postmaster: Please send address changes to Professional Mariner, P.O. Box 401510, Escondido, CA 92025-0150.

Copyright © 2020 by Navigator Publishing LLC. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any way without written permission from the publisher. Multiple copying of the contents without permission is illegal. Call 207-622-4250 x210 for permission.

Subscription rate is \$29.95 for one year (71 issues) in the U.S. and its possessions. Canadian subscription rate is \$44.95 U.S. funds. Check foreign surface is \$49.95 U.S. funds. Overseas airmail is \$94.95 U.S. funds per year. Multiple discounts are available. Call 207-622-4250 for details.

Distribution: Newsletter distribution, domestically and internationally. Call or E-mail: Newsletter Services, LTD., 6230 Frodo Ave., East Troy, WI 53120-4428. Phone 414-754-2500 fax 414-754-4500.

Contributors: We solicit manuscripts, drawings and photographs. Please address inquiries to Editor, Professional Mariner, P.O. Box 583, Portland, Maine 04112-0583. Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee the safe handling of all contributed materials. All other departments 207-773-2485.