



## Sun Ship Historical Society's Ship's History Page

Site: [www.sunship.org](http://www.sunship.org)

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Subj: S.S. *Delaware Sun III*

Hull No: 588

SSHS No: 500\_588

Hope you enjoy this 'Ship's History Page'. As always, if you have any additional information, suggestions or corrections, please let me know.

**Note 1:** While due diligence has been applied in the research of this information, responsibility for any errors is the ultimate responsibility of the end-user.

**Note 2:** Information has been obtained from various sources to enhance the history of Sun Ship and where possible, sources have been identified.

**Note 3:** Text added by SSHS to the review will be bordered with parentheses

**Note 4:** A series of three 'periods', before or after transcribed text indicates that not all the text was transcribed to the review.

**Note 5:** Dates are configured YYYY.MM.DD

"Any work of history is necessarily a joint venture"  
Author Unknown

Thank You,  
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SSHS  
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### 1.Ship's Record:

#### Ship's Data From:

- 1- Maritime Comm. [www.fmc.gov/databases](http://www.fmc.gov/databases)
- 2- Sun Oil 'Log'
- 3- [www.coltoncompany.com](http://www.coltoncompany.com)
- 4- Independence Seaport Museum
- 5- Hagley Museum and Library
- 6- SSHS
- 7- Miramar Ship Index
- 8- Fleetsheet.com
- 9- Marine Engineering 1953.09

10- Marine Engineering & Shipping Review  
May, 1952

#### Sun Ship Data<sup>6</sup> & Others

**Original Name:** *Delaware Sun'*  
**Port of Registry:** Philadelphia, PA'  
**Contract Date:** 1951.03.08<sup>6</sup>  
**Keel Laying Date:** 1951.11.01<sup>6</sup>  
**Shipway:** CY-1-Way<sup>6</sup>  
**Launch Date:** 1952.11.17<sup>6</sup>  
**Time-on-Ways:** 382d<sup>6</sup>  
**Time-in-Wetdock:** 71d<sup>6</sup>  
**Total-Time-Bldg:** 453d<sup>6</sup>  
**Date Delivered:** 1953.01.27<sup>6</sup>  
**LBP-B-D:** 615'0"x84'0"x45'0"<sup>6</sup>  
**Ship Type:** Tanker<sup>6</sup>  
**DWT:** 30,206<sup>6</sup>  
**GT:** 18,798<sup>6</sup>  
**Draft:** 34'-1/2"<sup>6</sup>  
**Agency:** A.B.S/Lloyd's<sup>6</sup>  
**Propulsion:** Westinghouse Steam Turbine<sup>9</sup>  
**Propeller(s):** 1- 4-Blade 22 Ft<sup>10</sup>  
**SHP:** 13,500  
**Speed-Knots:** 16.5  
**Capacity BBLs:** 251,114<sup>6</sup>  
**Propulsion Boilers:** 2-Babcock & Wilcox<sup>9</sup>  
**Sponsor:** Mrs. David W. Baker  
**Owner(s):** Sun Oil Co.  
**Complement:** See below  
**Contract Price:** \$7,432,000  
**Final Cost w/extras:** 7,786,843.77  
**IMO:** 5087950

#### Shipway Designations:

**SY:** South Yard 9 thru 12  
**CY:** Central Yard 1 thru 8  
**NY:** North Yard 13 thru 20  
**4Y:** No.4 Yard 21 thru 28

#### Maritime Commission Data <sup>[1]</sup>

**Contract Design:** Tanker  
**Maritime Comm Hull:** Pending  
**Contract Price:** Pending

#### Ship's Ownership/Operator Transition<sup>9</sup>

**1971:** 'Delaware Sun' Delaware Sun Sg Inc  
**1983:** 'Medina' Sabine Towing & Tptn

**Disposition:** BU 1985.02.04<sup>8</sup>  
Kaohsiung, Taiwan

**Accommodations** are provided for the following complement:<sup>9</sup>

	Officers	Crew	Spares
Deck Department.....	6	13	3
Engine Department.....	4	12	0
Stewards Department....	1	6	0
Total.....	11	31	3
Total complement, 42 plus 3 spares.			

**2. Ship's History Notes:**

The name "Delaware Sun," has now been carried by three vessels of the Sun Oil Company. The first ship was the steel hulled six masted schooner built in 1905 at Bath Maine.

The next ship to bear the name was built at the Sun Yard and was considered the giant of her day. Built in 1921, she was 498 feet long with a capacity of 110,000 bbls of oil. This vessel was propelled by a steam reciprocating engine developing 2800 horsepower that drove her through the water at 10 knots.

The new 'Delaware Sun' is the first of four new ships built to supply the expanded refinery needs. She is of a class known as supertankers which are rapidly becoming the largest ships afloat.

Owned and operated by the Sun Oil Company and launched on December 19, 1952. Delivered to the Sun Oil Co. on January 29<sup>th</sup>, 1953 and is scheduled to be placed in active service on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1953

(Information courtesy of the Sun Oil-Marine Dept. 'Open House Souvenir Booklet'-Saturday January 31, 1953)

**3. Photos**

3.1: Pre-launch photo showing ship on No.1 Shipway with launching platform  
Photo Courtesy of Hagley Museum and Library  
HML: 588\_74319067r



3.2: Pre-launch photo showing Sponsor; Mrs. David W. Baker and (L to R); Mr. David W. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. J.N. Pew and John G. Pew Jr. Launching scheduled for 4:30PM, May, 16<sup>th</sup>, 1953  
Photo Courtesy of Sun Ship Historical Society  
SSHS: 705\_5307\_01-5ar



3.3: Stern view, pre-launch photo showing 22' diameter propeller  
Photo Courtesy of Hagley Museum and Library  
HML: 589\_743191106r



3.4: Ship leaving the greased 'ground ways' and entering the Delaware River and Sponsor breaking the bottle on the bow of the ship.

Photo Courtesy of Sun Ship Historical Society  
SSHS: 705\_5301\_07\_1r



3.5: After launching, tugboats move the ship onto 3 Pier North to complete the rest of the work.

Photo Courtesy of: Sun Ship Historical Society  
SSHS: 705\_5301\_07\_2r



3.6 Ship on the Delaware River.

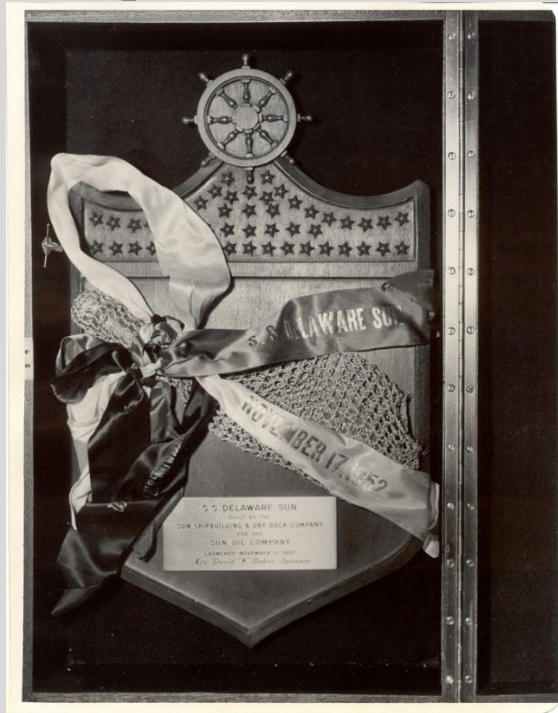
Photo courtesy of; Fred Eckley Collection  
SSHS: 500\_588\_06



3.7

Ship's 3.6 'Launching Plaque' given to the ship's Sponsor

Photo courtesy of: Hagley Museum Library  
HML: 588\_743191082r



3.8 Ship's Bell

Photo courtesy of: John Curdy

SSHS: 500\_588\_05\_01

