

Rescue Boat Captain Ed Perry

Rescue Boat Captain Ed Perry's Lifeguard service spanned nearly 50 years. At age 14, in the mid 1920's, he became one of the first Venice Jr. Guards. In his eighties he was still taking his daily ocean swims and rowing his Peterson Dory. He is the only one of our Rescue Boat Captains to have a license to command super tankers, the largest vessels to ever take to the seas. Before finishing high school, he shipped out on merchant vessels, learning his trade through actual experience. Ed had many adventures as a young seaman, including being washed off his ship by a 50-foot wave during a typhoon. He was given up for dead but was later rescued by a Chinese Junk. He surprised his crew by re-joining his ship in Shang Hai. He walked up the gang plank in white linen suit. No one knew more about our rescue boats and handling a ship at sea than our "Admiral." Ed spent much of his free time teaching our young Lifeguards how to row a dory, become rescue boat captains and to be good Lifeguards. Much of what he taught to us was by example and is he very much missed by all who knew him.