

April 25, 2004

## Delgado Awarded 2003 *Naval History* Author of the Year

James Delgado was recently awarded the **2003 Naval History Author of the Year** by the United States Naval Institute. Presented on March 31 at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, the award recognizes Delgado for "his significant contribution to uncovering the great historic secrets of the sea for readers of *Naval History* magazine."

Delgado is the author of seven past articles for *Proceedings* and *Naval History*, the two most recent being "Shooting Down the Kamikaze Myth" (June '03 *Naval History*) and "Diving into the Sunken Grave of a Polar Exploration Ship" (February '04 *Naval History*). He also has written several book reviews for both publications. The former chief underwater archaeologist for the National Park Service, Delgado is currently the director of the Vancouver Maritime Museum and co-host of National Geographic International Television's "The Sea Hunters" with novelist and undersea explorer Clive Cussler. His other television credits include specials for the Discovery Channel, National Geographic Explorer, A&E, the History Channel and ABC. He is the author or editor of 30 books, including international bestsellers *Lost Warships: An Archaeological Tour of War at Sea* and *Across the Top of the World: The Quest for the Northwest Passage*.

His shipwreck expeditions have taken him to RMS *Titanic*, *Carpathia*, the notorious "ghost ship" *Mary Celeste*, and surveys of USS *Arizona* at Pearl Harbor, the sunken fleet of atomic-bombed warships at Bikini Atoll, polar expedition ship *Maud*, and the 1846 wreck of the US naval brig *Somers*, the tragic story that inspired Herman Melville's *Billy Budd*. Delgado is a founding member of the Committee on Underwater Cultural Heritage of the International Commission on Monuments and Sites, past president of the Council of American Maritime Museums, and is a fellow of both the Royal Geographical Society and the Explorers' Club.

The Vancouver Maritime Museum tells the stories of Canada's ties to the Pacific with an emphasis on Canada's gateway port communities in the greater Vancouver region. As a centre for life-long learning, the Museum interprets our ongoing interaction with the sea through exhibitions and programs for people of all ages. The Museum is working toward the 2010 goal of becoming the new, larger, self-sufficient National Maritime Museum of Canada, Pacific. Visitor information 604 257-8300.