

# NEWPORT HARBOR GUIDE



USA / INTERNATIONAL EDITION

**AN INSIDER'S GUIDE FOR MARINERS TO  
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND AND NARRAGANSETT BAY**

JAMESTOWN • WICKFORD • BRISTOL • MIDDLETOWN • PORTSMOUTH • TIVERTON



# A Sail of Two Cities

LOD: 141 FT LWL: 110 FT BEAM: 25 FT 8 IN DRAUGHT: 15 FT 7 IN SAIL AREA: 10,290 SQ FT

Panama City, Florida, and Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, may be 3,000 miles apart, but they have a special project in common.

A steel replica of the 141' Gloucesterman Schooner *Columbia*, is being constructed in Panama City, Florida by Eastern Shipbuilding Group (ESG), owned by Brian D'Isernia. ESG operations manager, Jacob Stevens reports, "The new vessel has been built to the exact offsets of the original, with John Gilbert Associates of Boston providing the new design for steel construction."

In Lunenburg, Nova Scotia 3,000 miles away, John Steele of Covey Island Boat Works is building *Columbia's* spars and masts of laminated Douglas fir and Sitka spruce, and is supplying all standing and running rigging. *Columbia's* blocks have been built by Arthur Dauphinee, and her new suit of sails is presently being finished by Michele Stevens Sailloft, Ltd. on Second Peninsula, Lunenburg.

D'Isernia's company started work on her hull during down-time between paying jobs building tugs and ferries, ESG's main business. Stevens estimates the spars and rigging work should be complete by late June this year. He added, "We have now completed most of the steel work and are proceeding with outfitting, wiring, painting and joiner work. Expected completion will be 7 to 8 months."

As we reported in *NHG* 2011-2012, *Bluenose II* is also being rebuilt in Lunenburg. (Read that issue online at [NewportHarborGuide.com](http://NewportHarborGuide.com))

With the launching of *Bluenose II* expected by this summer, a challenge race between these two magnificent vessels must be in the breeze off the Grand Banks.



ABOVE: *Columbia's* hull nears completion at Eastern Shipbuilding Group's Panama City, FL facility.

LEFT: In Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, the Lunenburg Shipyards Alliance has *Bluenose II* ready to be launched. To keep up with her progress, see webcams at [www.NovaScotiaWebcams.com](http://www.NovaScotiaWebcams.com). More at [www.TheLSA.ca](http://www.TheLSA.ca) and [www.LunenburgFoundry.com](http://www.LunenburgFoundry.com). PHOTO: NOVASCOTIAWEBCAMS.COM

A vintage 1920 photo of Grand Bank fishing schooners *Bluenose* [foreground] and *Columbia* during the International Fishing Schooner Races. PHOTO: NOVA SCOTIA ARCHIVES