

**THE GREENPOINT MONITOR MUSEUM**  
says “*MERRY CHRISTMAS*” and “*THANK YOU*” to all.



December 18, 2003 was a historic day for The Greenpoint Monitor Museum. It was on this day, one year ago, a *Christmas Miracle* occurred. The Museum was notified by Motiva Enterprises LLC that the Texas based oil company is contributing land within Bushwick Inlet on the East River, to the museum for the construction of a museum home in honor of the USS Monitor. The Bushwick Inlet is located adjacent to the former site of the Continental Iron Works, birthplace of the USS Monitor and several of the Union’s ironclad warships. The northern section of the donated property at Quay Street, Brooklyn shares historical significance as the location where the USS Monitor, famed for the March 9, 1862 Civil War Battle between the Monitor and Merrimac, was first launched.

The construction of the USS Monitor began with the laying of its KEEL in October of 1861. On October 16, 2004 the Museum together with its friends and supporters raised a flag dedicating the site in honor of the USS Monitor while the land was blessed. After the Site Dedication there was a parade to the Church of the Ascension. The Church of the Ascension was built through funds donated by Thomas F. Rowland owner of Continental Iron Works, builders of the USS Monitor. Money obtained from the construction of the USS Monitor was used to build this church. The 2004 ROAD SHOW AWARD PRESENTATIONS were made to last year’s students and a Civil War Concert was enjoyed by all. The Concert Featured Music of the Civil War Era, sung by Karen Olszewski, Museum Treasurer, accompanied by Eero Richmond on piano with Arthur Kirmss, Oliver Tilden Camp No. 26, on the piccolo recorder.

Special thanks to Motiva Enterprises and the participating organizations including the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Oliver Tilden Camp No. 26; Co. I, 83rd NYV Sons of Veterans Reserve; 14<sup>th</sup> Brooklyn Co. H; The John Ericsson Society; the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration USS Monitor National Marine Sanctuary, the Church of the Ascension; PS 110; JHS 126; PS161 Manhattan and St. Stanislaus Kostka School.

Special thanks to Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez for the Congressional certificates and securing \$50,000 for the Museum’s Road Show. Special thanks to Assemblyman Joseph Lentol who has secured \$50,000 for the Museum to continue its work on this beautiful site.

**-George & Janice Weinmann**



