

**2019 Nominee**

**John Timmel**  
**Tampa**

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# Board Nomination Form

## Nomination Information:\*

- I am nominating myself.
- I am nominating myself on the recommendation of someone else.
- I would like to nominate the following individual.

## Candidate Information:

Name of person that recommended I submit my nomination.\*

**Mike**

First Name

**Urette**

Last Name

Name:\*

**Captain**

Prefix

**John**

First Name

**Kimmel**

Last Name

Organizational Affiliation, if applicable:

Home Address:\*

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

City

Florida State ▼

  
ZIP Code

Preferred Email Address:\*

Contact Number:\*

Contact Number Type:\*

Cell Number ▼

Personal or business Website Address:

Please write a brief summary highlighting your strengths and potential contributions to the Florida Humanities Board.\*

350/350  
350 Characters

Please describe any experience you have had serving as a board member for any other organization. Indicate if you held any particular

## Laurie Berlin

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**From:** Steve Seibert  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 7, 2019 2:40 PM  
**To:** Laurie Berlin  
**Subject:** FW: Florida Humanities Council  
**Attachments:** Untitled attachment 00407.htm; image.jpg; Bio Summary of Captain John C. Timmel 8-19.docx; Untitled attachment 00410.htm; Captain John C. Timmel.vcf; Untitled attachment 00413.htm

Please add John's bio to the list of nominees. Thanks.

## Steve

Steven M. Seibert, J.D.  
Executive Director  
Florida Humanities Council  
599 2nd Street South  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
office: 727-873-2007  
cell: 850-321-9051  
email: [sseibert@flahum.org](mailto:sseibert@flahum.org)  
web: [www.FloridaHumanities.org](http://www.FloridaHumanities.org)

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**From:** John C. Timmel <[johntimmel@starboardten.com](mailto:johntimmel@starboardten.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 7, 2019 2:01 PM  
**To:** Mr. Steve M. Seibert J.D. <[SSeibert@FlaHum.org](mailto:SSeibert@FlaHum.org)>  
**Cc:** Ms. Laurie Berlin <[LBerlin@FlaHum.org](mailto:LBerlin@FlaHum.org)>; Mike Urette <[Mike@TampaPalmsCenter.com](mailto:Mike@TampaPalmsCenter.com)>  
**Subject:** Florida Humanities Council

Dear Steve,

Following up on our conversation, attached please find my bio summary for your and the Council's review and consideration.

Being a lifelong resident and *almost* native of Florida (my parents had left the state while my father attended law school and moved back when I was six months old), I have a profound passion for our great state. This passion is rivaled only by my love for the humanities, particularly those inspired and given rise to by the unique natural and cultural aspects of this amazing place we are lucky to call home. Having grown up in the northwest panhandle (Fort Walton Beach and Pensacola), migrating to the northeast part of the state (St. Augustine and Jacksonville Beach), and living on a sailboat in Miami and the Keys before dropping anchor in Tampa, I have had the good fortune of coming to personally know a good number of the many different faces of Florida and our varied peoples. With these life experiences, several years of professional theatre and dance in my younger days, a humanities studies concentration during college, and years of persuasive speaking and writing as an expert witness, I believe I may be able to offer unique and valuable perspectives to the Council. Additionally, my leadership positions as vice president of the Florida Harbor Pilots Association and as a rising flag officer of the Florida Council of Yacht Clubs, both of which and have state-wide reach, allow me to continue to travel to

all three corners of the state and many places in between on a very regular basis. This would also lend a maritime viewpoint to the mix, which, with Florida having 1,350 miles of coastline, second in the U.S. only to Alaska, may be of significance.

As I am transition from the professional chapter of my life (I will be retiring from piloting in the next two years) into what I anticipate will be a more contemplative and creative phase, my goal is to give back to Florida some of what it has given to me. Growing up in Florida has made me much of who I am and I am indebted for that. One of my greatest concerns is that with all of the rapid growth and homogenization our state is experiencing that much of its heritage, traditions, significant stories, and core essence will be lost to future generations. It is my heartfelt belief that it is incumbent upon those of us that know of these treasures preserve and spread them. I can think of no better way of doing this than through the Florida Humanities Council.

Steve, if it is deemed that I may be of assistance to the Council in attaining its worthy mission, I would be honored to serve. Please let me know if you have any questions or require any additional information.

All the best,

## BIO SUMMARY OF CAPTAIN JOHN C. TIMMEL

- Captain Timmel grew up with his days spent on the water in Ft. Walton Beach in the Florida Panhandle.
- Worked as a whale, dolphin, sea lion trainer, and diver at the **Gulfarium** in Fort Walton Beach and at **Marineland of Florida** south of St. Augustine oceanariums during his high school and college years.
- Was active in theater and dance in high school and college and performed for several seasons in the outdoor historical theatre productions of *Cross & Sword* in St. Augustine, , and *Unto These Hills* in Cherokee, North Carolina.
- Decided to pursue a life on ships at sea, transferred to the **State University of New York's Maritime College at Ft. Schuyler**, where he graduated Cum Laude with Admiral's Honors in 1981.
- After graduation, he sailed with **Exxon Shipping Company** as a ship's officer for seven years serving as Joe Hazelwood's Chief Mate on the supertanker *Exxon Valdez* two-years prior to the infamous oil spill in Alaska.
- He left going to sea to become a harbor pilot on Tampa Bay in 1989, so he could spend time at home with his family.
- Captain Timmel has been a harbor pilot with the **Tampa Bay Pilots Association** for 31 years. As a Tampa Bay pilot, he has served as Director of Deputy Training, President, and is now the Senior Pilot of the association.
- Serves as Vice President of the **Florida State Harbor Pilots Association** overseeing all of the ports of Florida from Pensacola to Key West to Jacksonville.
- He is the founder, president, and maritime expert witness of **Starboard Ten Maritime Forensics**, which provides marine accident reconstruction, litigation services, and expert testimony for both recreational boating accidents and commercial shipping admiralty law cases.
- Has served as the Mayor of Tampa's Maritime Advisor and Port Community Liaison for the last sixteen (16) years.
- Was Founder, Past Chair & President of the **American Victory Mariners Memorial & Museum Ship**. This is a WWII Victory-class ship located in the Channelside area of Tampa that has been restored to steaming condition, made into a maritime museum, host numerous events, and conducts Relive History Cruises on Tampa Bay several times each year;
- During his career, Captain Timmel has:
  - Worked with NOAA and the USF in the development of the **Physical Oceanographic Real-Time & Current System** on Tampa Bay known as **PORTS**, which allows for the dissemination of tide, current, and meteorological data to mariners. He was called upon to testify before the **Congress of the United States** and the **National Academy of Science** regarding this technology and has presented papers both in the U.S. and internationally regarding GPS technology as a tool for marine navigation;
  - Initiated the development of pilot carry-on navigation technology in Tampa Bay that has been used as model internationally;
  - Served as President & Chairman of the Board of the **Propeller Club—Port of Tampa**; and as a member of the Executive Committee of the **National Propeller Club**;
  - Received the **National Propeller Club's Southeast United States' Regional Maritime Person of the Year Award** in 2000 and the **International Maritime Person of the Year Award** in 2001;
  - Served as a Member of Congressman Jim Davis' & Congresswoman Kathy Castor's **USMM & Naval Academy Selection Committees**; and

- Was selected as a non-attorney member of the **Maritime Law Association of the United States**;
- Captain Timmel has also been quite active in the Tampa Bay and Florida yachting communities:
  - He founded Ship 555, a Sea Explorer unit for the Port of Tampa.
  - Served as Youth Sailing Director, Fleet Captain, Governor, and is a recent Past Commodore at **Tampa Yacht & Country Club**.
  - Is a Director, Past West Coast Fleet Captain & USCG Liaison, and is line to become Commodore of the **Florida Council of Yacht Clubs**, which represents thirty-six (36) yacht clubs throughout Florida.
- Captain Timmel is also the Sailmaster of the **Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla** and pilots the pirate ship Jose Gasparilla each year during the annual Gasparilla Invasion.

#### **Boards & Advisory Committees – Past & Present**

- **American Victory Mariners Memorial & Museum Ship** -- Founder & Chairman
- **Tampa Yacht & Country Club** -- Commodore, Governor, Fleet Captain, & Marina Committee Chairman,
- **Florida Council of Yacht Clubs** -- West Coast Fleet Captain, U.S. Coast Guard Liaison, Director & Flag Officer
- **Propeller Club – Port of Tampa** -- President & Chairman
- **Propeller Club of the United States** -- National Executive Committee
- **U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis & U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at King’s Point Congressional Academy Appointment Committee** --U.S. House of Representative’s Congresswoman Katherine Castor & U.S. House of Representative’s Past Congressman Jim Davis
- **Tampa Bay Harbor Safety Committee Vessel Movement Committee**
- **Tampa Bay Dragon Boats** -- Director
- **Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla** -- Ship Committee Chairman & Pirate Ship Jose Gasparilla Sail Master
- **BSA Sea Explorer Ship 555** -- Founder & Past Skipper
- **America Sails Tall Ships Committee for Tampa Bay** -- Founder & Past Chair
- **Seaport Sertoma** -- Member
- **Greater Tampa Bay Marine Advisory Council** -- Founder & Chairman of the VTS Task Force
- **Florida Harbor Pilots Association** - Vice President & Professional Standards Committee Member
- **American Pilots Association** -- Navigation Technology Committee Member
- **National Safety Council – Marine Section’s Marine Emergency Spill Responders Division**
- **Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council – Agency on Bay Management** - Executive Steering Council
- **Tampa Bay National Estuary Program** -- Founding Co-Chairman of the Citizen’s Advisory Council
- **Tampa Baywatch** -- Advisory Council
- **Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Department** -- Honorary Deputy Sherriff
- **Tampa Bay History Center** - Board of Trustees & Membership Committee Chair
- **Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce** -- Governor - Board of Governors; Director - Infrastructure’s Board of Directors; Member - International Trade Development Council; Member - Port Maritime Council; Member - Education Council; Member - Environmental & Natural Resource Council
- **Boy Scouts of America** - Troop 22 – Assistant Scout Master

- **Egmont Key Alliance** -- Co-Founder & Co-Chair
- **Great American Teach-In & S.E.R.V.E.'s Educational Outreach** -- Guest Teacher