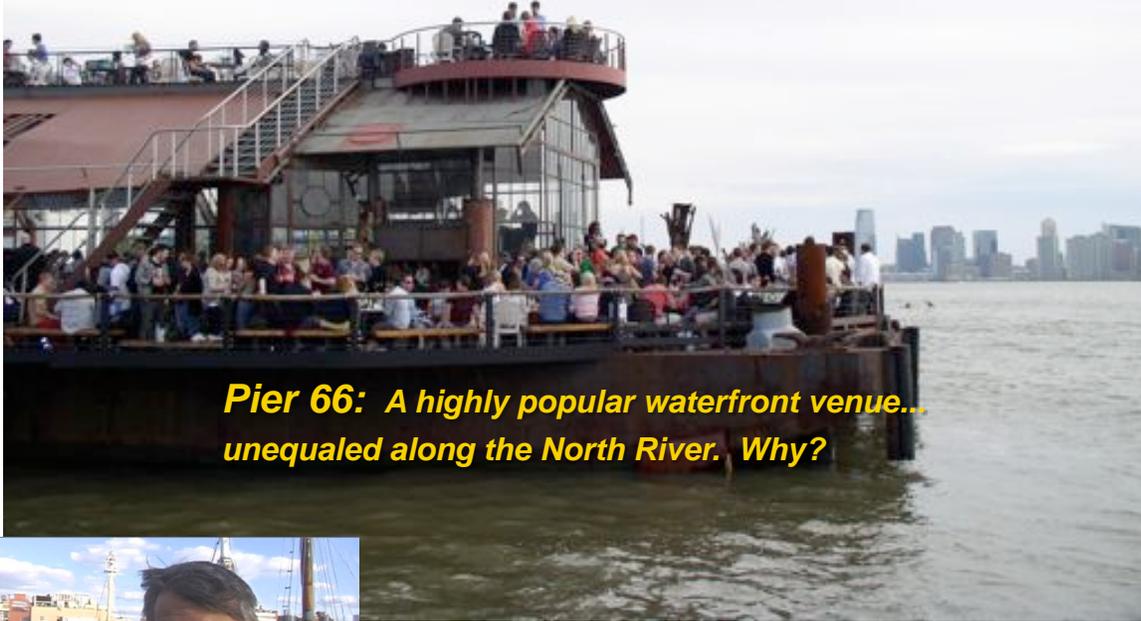


DRAFT

## Pier 63 - 66 Maritime

John Krevey Video Tribute • Interviews & Related Material



**Pier 66: A highly popular waterfront venue... unequaled along the North River. Why?**



**John Krevey's** mission has been to maintain a maritime community on the North River.

From the 1990's to the present, Mr. Krevey developed his 360 foot rail barge into a multi-use waterfront recreation facility reminiscent of the recreation piers that once dotted Manhattan's shore line. At the same time, JK managed to preserve a sense of New York's maritime history and nautical heritage by building with recycled materials, and by incorporating maritime artifacts and historic ships, such as The Frying Pan and the John J. Harvey into the location. These, and other features, such as an outdoor restaurant, bar and performance space created an attractive destination.



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**Not just for the view,** Unlike many of the passive-use riverfront sites developed by the Hudson River Park Trust at a multi-million dollar cost, Pier 63,

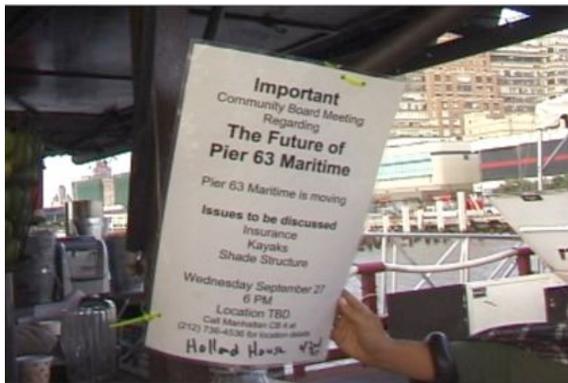




and later, Pier 66 provided, at far lower cost, a greater variety of reasons to visit. These amenities were, in a number of cases, fought for - to keep the Skydeck, and the paddle boat clubs - though other features, like a marina for visiting boats, were denied permits when Pier 63 moved to Pier 66.



**This proposed video** is an appreciation of JK's work, and features collected interviews with Krevey, and others who worked with him to realize his vision. Its goal is also to highlight the facility's features, as well as some of the many events that take place here....to celebrate its appeal and its value in giving visitors a rewarding, sensory experience - the flavor of New York's port and the working waterfront..a place where visitors can mingle with activities, such as people working on boats.

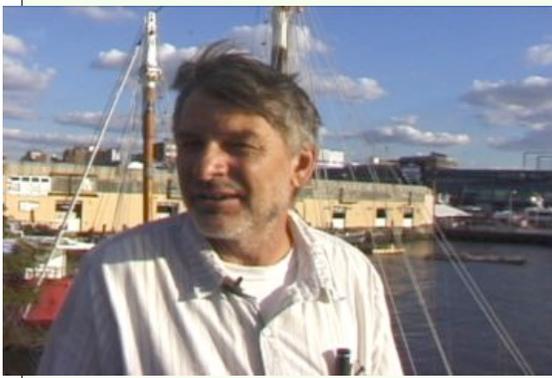


**Pier 63** was closed in 2006, and the barge would move to its present location at Pier 66 after the restoration of the historic float bridge. There were, however, issues that were critical to keep the spirit alive in the new location. In defense of their accomplishments, John Krevey and supporters, including many paddle boat club members, showed up for a meeting



with Community Board 4, also attended by HRPT's president, Connie Fishman.





**John Krevey:** “When you walk down to this pier, people are attracted here...Pier 62, next to us...should be inviting, but there’s nobody there. People want attractions. There’s something in our psyches about seeing a boat and being fascinated. Humanity has thousands of years of history in boats, and we’re fascinated by going down to the sea in ships. If you’re an actual boater... that’s just what you live for. But..the people who are not boaters - the people who walk down...they see a paddler walking down the pier in a dry suit or a paddle in their hand, and you look at them...a little child looks at them, and I think it plants something in their mind that there’s something besides sitting in front of a television. New York doesn’t have [so many of] these activities [such as kayak water polo] ...the kids are deprived. The visual of just seeing all this [such as New York Outrigger] is great!”

“ **B**oats that will not be at [the new] Pier 66 are sailor-adventurers, like Reid Stowe....He’s an education on two feet...a living classroom. He invites people on public sails; they raise the sails, they go out with him, he never charges people for anything...it’s not a structure thing...people just want to get on boats, and they don’t want to pay to be on a typical white charter boat where you’re not allowed to touch or do anything. Reid’s boat - every nuance, every piece of line has thousands of years of history. It’s designed for deep water sailing, and it’s just an art that shouldn’t be lost.”



**Pier Amenities:**

- Historic Vessels**
- The Rail barge as a ‘living museum’, with free open space**
- Scenic views**
- The Caboose**
- Film programs**
- Poetry Readings**
- Dance and Music performances**
- Public and private events**
- Bar/Café with indoor/outdoor seating**
- Skydeck/Shade structure**
- Performance space**
- Programs for kids**
- Storage for kayaks and canoes**
- Botanical garden**
- NY Watertaxi stop**



“**H**istoric boats that we have here, honestly, some people just look at a historic boat or an old ship and they just see a dirty old ship. But...I see people, they’re just in awe...they walk in here and they don’t know why. It’s dirty, it’s not a perfect world, but they just love it...and there’s something fascinating about the way things used to be built. ...When a child sees a tugboat...they know that every aspect of that boat is to push ships...what’s that for - that’s the hawser...that’s the bit, for tying up the boats, and the cleats...all the things that go with it. The charter boat...there’s nothing wrong with it, but they don’t translate that educational concept into what boats were about. If you destroy nuances of culture...piece by piece, as we destroy our culture and take away these historic things, these differences, these parts of history, you end up with the same white charter dinner boat at every dock, everywhere.... but there are many people who want to see culture; who want to see something more!”

# Pier 63 - 66 Maritime

John Krevey Video Tribute • *Additional Resource Material*



- **Interview** with Kayak and Outrigger Club leaders - Eric Stiller and Roger Meyer

- **Interviews** with friends of John Krevey, his associates (staff, artists, technicians), and possibly family members, on his contribution to the NYC waterfront.

- This woman (*right*), associated with Pier 63-6 Maritime, has access to an archive of Pier-related photos. A good selection of images, and possibly video, would be invaluable for a documentary tribute.



**GVP/North River s** video archive includes several hours of footage featuring interviews with John Krevey, Reid Stowe, and documentation of selected Pier 63 visits and events, such as *Waterfest, July 4th* and others.

