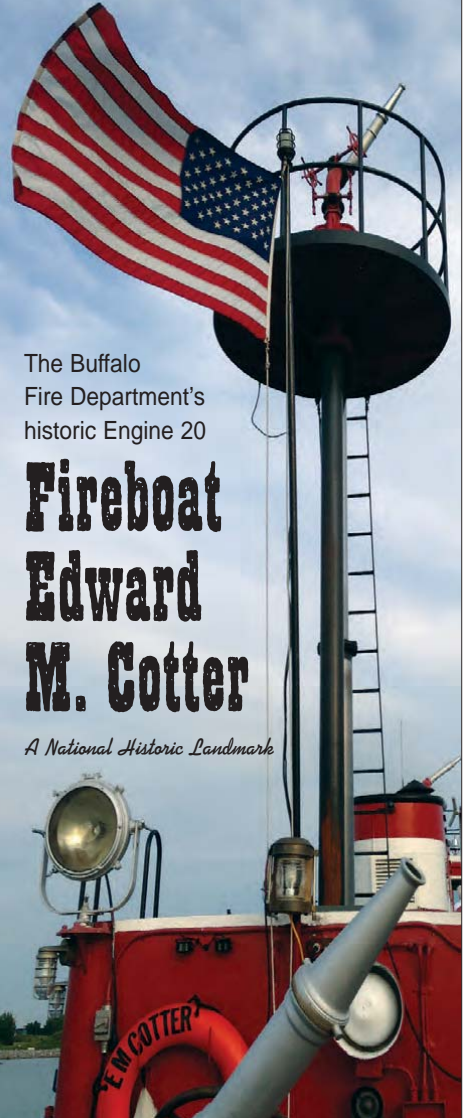


Website coming soon!



The Buffalo  
Fire Department's  
historic Engine 20

# Fireboat Edward M. Cotter

*A National Historic Landmark*

## Support the boat

Visitors may find it hard to believe that the Cotter has served **116** years, and that she is still a working piece of apparatus (Engine 20) for the Buffalo, N.Y., Fire Department. The boat responds to fires and breaks ice during the winter to keep the city's water intakes open and to prevent flooding in adjacent towns. These costs are funded in the Fire Department's budget, which is submitted to the city each year.

Since its designation as a National Historic Landmark, the Cotter also is a working museum open by appointment for tours. She also acts as a public relations tool for the city, attracting thousand of visitors every year at local events on our revitalized waterfront and at international events, such as the Port Colborne, Ontario, Canada, waterfront festival.

Other costs are funded by public and private donations. To donate to the boat, send your donation — any amount — to:

**Fireboat E.M. Cotter Conservancy, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 4 • Buffalo, NY 14231

**Make Checks Payable To:**  
Fireboat E.M. Cotter Conservancy, Inc.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

[ Anyone who donates \$100 or more will receive an E.M. Cotter T-shirt. ]

Hats donated by



Shirts donated by the

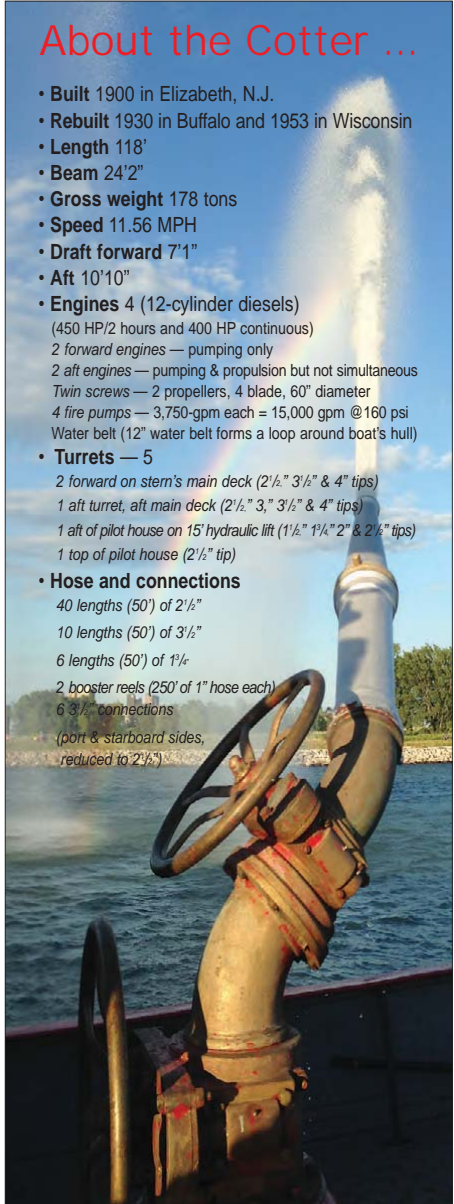


2 photos courtesy

University of Buffalo  
Collection, Archives,  
E.H. Butler Library  
Buffalo State College

## About the Cotter ...

- **Built** 1900 in Elizabeth, N.J.
- **Rebuilt** 1930 in Buffalo and 1953 in Wisconsin
- **Length** 118'
- **Beam** 24'2"
- **Gross weight** 178 tons
- **Speed** 11.56 MPH
- **Draft forward** 7'1"
- **Aft** 10'10"
- **Engines** 4 (12-cylinder diesels)  
(450 HP/2 hours and 400 HP continuous)  
2 forward engines — pumping only  
2 aft engines — pumping & propulsion but not simultaneous  
Twin screws — 2 propellers, 4 blade, 60" diameter  
4 fire pumps — 3,750-gpm each = 15,000 gpm @160 psi  
Water belt (12" water belt forms a loop around boat's hull)
- **Turrets** — 5  
2 forward on stern's main deck (2 1/2" 3 1/2" & 4" tips)  
1 aft turret, aft main deck (2 1/2" 3" 3 1/2" & 4" tips)  
1 aft of pilot house on 15' hydraulic lift (1 1/2" 1 1/4" 2" & 2 1/2" tips)  
1 top of pilot house (2 1/2" tip)
- **Hose and connections**  
40 lengths (50') of 2 1/2"  
10 lengths (50') of 3 1/2"  
6 lengths (50') of 1 1/4"  
2 booster reels (250' of 1" hose each)  
6 3/4" connections  
(port & starboard sides, reduced to 2 1/2")



*Help Support  
Buffalo's*

# The Edward M. Cotter



**CAP: \$20.00**  
Royal Blue  
Tan or Green



**T-Shirt: \$15.00**  
Royal Blue  
or Maroon  
S-M-L-XL-1X



**SWEATSHIRT:  
\$25.00**  
Royal Blue  
S-M-L-XL-1X  
(2X-3X-4X Add \$3)



**EMBROIDERED  
GOLF SHIRT: \$30.00**  
Royal Blue, Green,  
White, Red or Gold  
M-L-XL-2X



**1 1/2" SOLID BRASS BOAT  
PIN: \$20.00**



**1 1/2" Dia. 2 Sided  
CHALLENGE COIN:  
\$15.00**

Meet the world's oldest working fireboat ...

# Eng. 20 - The Edward M. Cotter

As the oldest working fireboat in the United States and in the world, the Edward M. Cotter has had an exciting history: It has had three names, survived a devastating explosion and entered her second century of service to the city of Buffalo.

### The first 115 years

The fireboat has been named the W.S. Grattan, The Firefighter, and lastly, the Edward M. Cotter. The coal-powered vessel was christened 115 years ago in Elizabeth, N.J., by 11-year-old Virginia Pearson, as the Fireboat William S. Grattan. She arrived in Buffalo on Nov. 15, 1900. Her arrival marked the beginning of a heroic battle to protect and defend the waters around the port of Buffalo. A fire on the oil barge Cahill in the Buffalo River on July

27, 1928, burned for 17 hours before the barge was cut free to drift downstream. It struck an oil tanker and ignited the entire Buffalo waterfront. It also trapped the Grattan on a sand bar between a lift bridge and the barge. The crew tried valiantly to extinguish the fire, but it spread on board and severely damaged the Grattan. The fireboat's engineer died and four firefighters were badly burned.

### New hardware and a new name

The oil-powered fireboat started to show her age in the 1950s. Its boilers were only producing 40 percent of their rated output. In 1953, the fireboat was sent to the Sturgeon Bay Shipbuilding & Drydock Co. in Sturgeon Bay, Wis., for a complete rebuild and facelift. The now diesel-powered boat returned to Buffalo on Dec. 2, 1953, renamed The Firefighter.

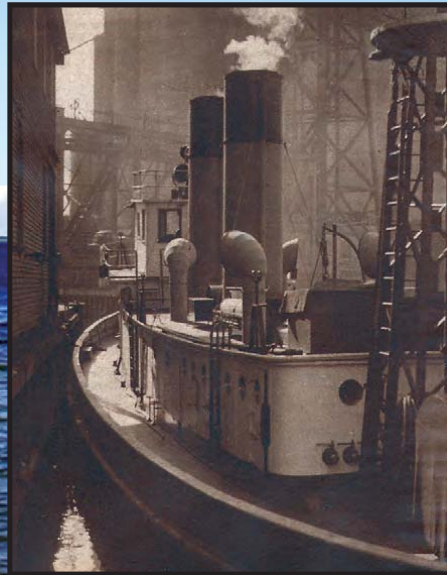
In 1954, the city chose to honor Buffalo Firefighter's Local 282 President Edward M. Cotter by naming the boat after him.

For more information on this historic vessel visit: [www.emcotter.com](http://www.emcotter.com). For dockside tours: **Captain John Sixt: 716-846-4265**. With your support, the Cotter will continue to protect our community's vessels and property for years to come.



The Firefighter under way in 1953 with new diesel engines in Sturgeon Bay, Wis.

Above photo used with permission. From the Courier Express Collection, Archives, E.H. Butler Library, Buffalo State College.



The oil-fired fireboat W.S. Grattan — after it was rebuilt — at its quarters.



The Cotter battles a five-alarm fire on the Buffalo waterfront in July 1963.

Above photo used with permission. From the Courier Express Collection, Archives, E.H. Butler Library, Buffalo State College.

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Item: _____	Size: _____	Color: _____	Cost: _____
Item: _____	Size: _____	Color: _____	Cost: _____
			<b>Total:</b> _____
Name: _____			Email: _____
Address: _____			State: _____ Zip: _____
Card #: _____	Exp. Date: _____	Sec. Code: _____	
Name on Card: _____			



**THESE ITEMS MAKE GREAT GIFTS**

For more information: Call or Text: (716) 861-2984 or Email: [cmwick@roadrunner.com](mailto:cmwick@roadrunner.com)