**Michigan Author-Shipwreck Survivor Will Join James Cameron as Speaker for Shipwreck Symposium in DC**

Novi, Michigan, June 1, 2011— The country’s leading marine forensics scientists and underwater explorer-film director James Cameron, are converging in Washington DC, April 3-5, 2012. The event will coincide with the launch of Cameron’s 3-D version of his movie, ‘Titanic’. Michigan author and *Andrea Doria* shipwreck survivor, Pierette Domenica Simpson, has been invited to contribute her expertise on the *Andrea Doria,* along with notable scientists of other shipwrecks.

The co-chair for the prestigious event, William Garzke, personally invited Ms. Simpson to be a symposium presenter due to her extensive research published in her book *Alive on the Andrea Doria! The Greatest C. Rescue in History* and technical paper, “A Marine Forensics Analysis: The Loss of the *Andrea Doria*.”

Mr. Garzke, who is Chairman of the Marine Forensics Committee for the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers explains, “Ms. Simpson’s work is to be commended for her forensics work. Her book is the first complete marine forensics account ever written by a shipwreck survivor. Although she is not a marine scientist, she has painstakingly researched her shipwreck by interviewing scientists in the US and Italy. Her contributions as an eyewitness survivor are very important to our field. Ms. Simpson and I look forward to revealing new, unpublished information about the *Andrea Doria/ Stockholm* Collision.”

Mr. Garzke proudly adds, “The first International Marine Forensics Symposium is honored to have Mr. James Cameron as keynote speaker. His numerous visits to the wreck of *Titanic*, inventions, documentaries, and publications have contributed greatly to marine forensic science—something that the public is not aware of.”

2012 will be a year commemorating many historic shipwrecks including:

*DKM Bismarck* and *HMS Hood* (70 years), *RMS Titanic* (100 years), *USS Monitor*, Civil War Ironclad (150 years) and *USS Scorpion* (200 years)

More on new and historic shipwrecks is available on the symposium’s official website: <http://www.sname.org/SNAME/Forensics2012/Home/Default.aspx>.

Marine forensics publications may be obtained on <http://www.sname.org/SNAME/SNAME/Publications/Books/Default.aspx>

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