



Dr. Lee Williams of Irvington (left) is interviewed by Suzanne Mattingly for "Blackstrap Handling," a Steamboat Wharf Story featured at RRecord.com.

## Steamboat Wharf Stories showing on RRecord.com

Steamboats were economic instruments that profoundly influenced the development of the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula. The vessels also acted as social instruments as they became entwined with the lives of people and affected their day-to-day communications, interaction and habits.

The series, Steamboat Wharf Stories, provides the viewer with first- and second-person accounts of events that occurred during the latter part of the Steamboat Era (1900-1950s).

The stories—some amusing, some serious—provide a better understanding of tidewater lifestyles and offer hints of what it was like to live during

those steamboat days.

This week's Steamboat Wharf Story, entitled "Blackstrap Handling," features stories told by Dr. Lee Williams of Irvington, Carroll Davis Jr. and J. J. Kellum of Weems. The stories will continue as a weekly series on RRecord.com.

For more stories and information concerning the Steamboat Era on the Chesapeake Bay, visit [www.steamboatexplorer.org](http://www.steamboatexplorer.org), or the Steamboat Era Museum in Irvington.

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