

Bill Golden, the owner of Nantucket Lightship

NANTUCKET LIGHTSHIP PANERAI

Courtesy of Panerai, one of the most recognizable symbols of Nantucket will be on hand for the 2011 Opera House Cup.

From the time he was a boy, Bill Golden dreamed of living on a ship. But the Boston-based environmental lawyer and former Massachusetts state senator never could have predicted the circumstances under which that dream would come true. Growing up near the water outside of Boston, Golden spent much of his youth on, near or in the ocean. In fact, the industrious youngster used earnings from his paper route to buy his first small boat. But it was in 2000, when the Commonwealth of Massachusetts placed the Nan-

paint to determine if saleable metal lay beneath the surface.

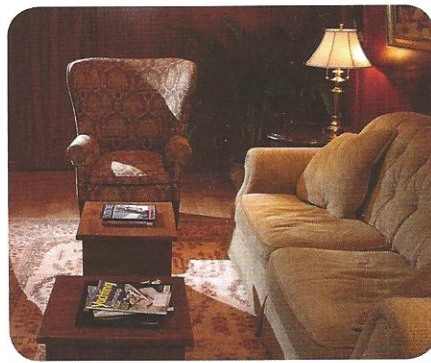
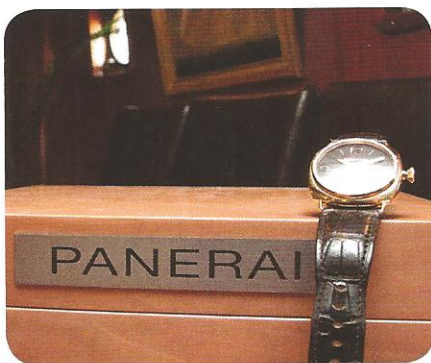
Determined to save the Nantucket, the Golden's placed what turned out to be the winning bid, and set to work restoring Nantucket, transforming her into a residence docked in Boston Harbor.

The Golden's have since moved off the ship, the result of their growing son's curiosity: The five-year-old climbed up one of the ship's two light masts one day, scaring the heck out of his concerned parents.

Today the Nantucket is available for



AM 382 "Bronzo"



tucket Lightship up for sale on eBay, that Golden was presented with the chance to buy his first floating home.

According to Golden (who is pictured on the opposite page), the Lightship was in severe disrepair, and the state government was thinking of scrapping her. Concerned citizens convinced the state to put Nantucket up for sale, but her future was anything but certain. While touring the ship with his wife, Kristin, and mulling over making an offer, Golden witnessed prospective bidders chipping away at layers of interior

private charters from her current homeport of Newport, Rhode Island. Panerai has chartered her for the festivities of the Opera House Cup in Nantucket, one of three New England Regattas in the Panerai Classic Yachts Challenge.

In June, *iW* visited the Nantucket in Newport and spoke with Golden about his boat. Stay tuned for more on the Nantucket and on the three New England stops of the Panerai Classic Yachts Challenge—Marblehead, Newport and Boston—in an upcoming issue of *International Watch*. ☺