

# MARINE ENGINEERS' BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION (AFL-CIO)



*"On Watch in Peace and War since 1875"*  
**M.E.B.A. TELEX TIMES**  
*The Official Union Newsletter – "The Word to the Wise"*  
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## **OSG EXTENDS BAREBOAT CHARTERS ON SIX M.E.B.A.-CREWED VESSELS**

Overseas Shipholding Group (OSG) has exercised options to extend the bareboat charters for six Veteran-class MT-46 product tankers with American Shipping Company (AMSC). Expert M.E.B.A. Engine Officers keep the U.S.-flag OSG tanker fleet running safely and efficiently.

The extended bareboat charters include those for the OVERSEAS HOUSTON, OVERSEAS LONG BEACH, OVERSEAS BOSTON, OVERSEAS NIKISKI, OVERSEAS MARTINEZ and OVERSEAS ANACORTES. The three-year extensions begin in December 2023. The other MT-46 tanker operated by OSG (OVERSEAS TAMPA) is chartered until December 2025.

Last year, OSG declined to exercise its extension options with AMSC for three other MT-46 tankers: the OVERSEAS LOS ANGELES, OVERSEAS TEXAS CITY and the OVERSEAS NEW YORK. Keystone ended up bareboat chartering those ships from AMSC and are putting all three into operation this month with M.E.B.A. Deck and Engine Officers. Those vessels have been renamed SEAKAY STAR, SEAKAY SKY and SEAKAY VALOR.

Regarding the bareboat charter extension (until December 2026) for the six tankers, OSG's President and CEO Sam Norton said, "We believe the market continues to support attractive commercial opportunities for these vessel leases to supplement the strong and stable cash flow generation from our niche businesses. There is currently a healthy conventional tanker market, which we believe should continue for the foreseeable future, and are pleased to retain these vessels as key contributors to our steady and strong earnings."

## **NLRB BROADENS RELIEF FOR EMPLOYEES FIRED OR DEMOTED FOR UNION ACTIVISM**

In a decision issued this week, the National Labor Relations Board ruled that workers who are victims of labor law violations should be compensated for all "direct or foreseeable pecuniary harm" suffered as a result of those unfair labor practices. Their decision explains that, in addition to the loss of earnings and benefits, victims of unfair labor practices may incur significant financial costs, such as out-of-pocket medical expenses, credit card debt, or other costs that are a direct or foreseeable result of the unfair labor practices. The Board determined that compensation for those

losses should be part of the standard, make-whole remedy for labor law violations. They explained that the General Counsel will be required to present evidence in the compliance proceeding proving the amount of the financial harm, that it was direct or foreseeable, and that it was due to the unfair labor practice. The respondent employer or union would then have the opportunity to rebut that evidence.

“Employees are not made whole until they are fully compensated for financial harms that they suffered as a result of unlawful conduct,” said NLRB Chairman Lauren McFerran. “The Board clearly has the authority to comprehensively address the effects of unfair labor practices. By standardizing the Board’s make-whole relief to fully include the direct or foreseeable financial harms suffered by affected employees we will better serve the important goals of the National Labor Relations Act.”

This clarification to the Board’s remedy will apply in every case in which the Board’s standard remedy would include make-whole relief for employees. The Board will apply this remedy retroactively to all cases currently pending.

### **MAKE SURE RECENT APPLICATIONS TO CMES WERE ACKNOWLEDGED**

The Calhoon M.E.B.A. Engineering School experienced email outages during the first week of December and they want to make sure all communications sent to the School at that time were received.

If you submitted an application form between December 1<sup>st</sup> and December 8<sup>th</sup>, but have not gotten a response from the School, please reach out to them to see if it was received. You can contact the CMES at (410) 822-9600 or email at [applications@mebaschool.org](mailto:applications@mebaschool.org)

### **CMES ADDS MORE WARTSILA RT-FLEX TRAINING**

The Calhoon M.E.B.A. Engineering School has issued the 2023 course dates for the Wartsila RT Flex Basic and Operator classes. They are:

- **RT Flex Basic** (3-day course, Monday-Wednesday) - No time required on a flex engine. Dates: February 13–15; April 24–26; September 25–27; and October 30–November 1.
- **RT Flex Operator** (5-day course) - Time on a flex engine recommended. Dates: February 6–10; April 17–21; September 18–22; and October 23–27.

Neither of these courses are company specific and are open to any member meeting eligibility requirements to attend the CMES. Applications should be submitted as normal and can be sent via the CMES website ([mebaschool.org](http://mebaschool.org)), faxed to (410) 822-7220, or emailed to [applications@mebaschool.org](mailto:applications@mebaschool.org) Please note the Operator course is being taught before the Basic course as per Wartsila’s schedule.

### **TRAGEDY IN CASTINE CLAIMS 4 CADETS**

Maine Maritime Academy President Jerry Paul expressed his thanks for the huge outpouring of support after a one-car accident claimed the lives of four cadets and injured three others in last Saturday’s early morning hours. Their SUV struck a tree and erupted into flames on a winding off-campus road. The circumstances are still being investigated. Gone are Brian Kenealy, 20, of York,

Maine; Chase Fossett, 21, of Gardiner, Maine; Luke Simpson, 22, of Rockport, Massachusetts; and Riley Ignacio-Cameron, 20, of Aquinnah, Massachusetts.

“Our community is grieving for these young lives and for their families,” President Paul stated. “While it will be a long process, our greatest priority is ensuring that we heal together. We are engaged in reaching each of our students individually, and in the days and weeks ahead will provide ongoing support to all who need it. I kindly ask for their privacy during their healing process. #MarinerStrong”

### **CHIEF ENGINEER NEEDED FOR MERCHANT MARINE COMMITTEE**

The Office of Merchant Mariner Credentialing is seeking applications for a membership position on the National Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (NMERPAC). They’re looking for a licensed engineer who will serve as a representative of Merchant Marine engineering officers. Applicants must currently hold a Merchant Mariner Credential endorsed as Chief Engineer of unlimited horsepower. M.E.B.A. has plethora of qualified members who would be well suited for this position. NMERPAC advises the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security through the Commandant of the United States Coast Guard on matters relating to personnel in the United States Merchant Marine including the training, qualifications, certification, documentation, and fitness of mariners.

Those interested in NMERPAC membership will need to submit an application (including a cover letter, résumé, and brief biography) as detailed in the federal register notice available online at: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/12/02/2022-26223/national-merchant-marine-personnel-advisory-committee-vacancy>, by January 3, 2023. Interested applicants should contact Ms. Megan Johns Henry at (202) 372-1255 or [megan.c.johns@uscg.mil](mailto:megan.c.johns@uscg.mil) with any questions or to apply.

### **UNION-MADE CHRISTMAS DINNER**

The holiday season is in full swing! As you make travel plans, find the perfect gifts, and get ready for holiday parties, remember to pick up the ingredients for union-made Christmas dinner, courtesy of Labor 411. This cheat-sheet will give you a few ideas:

**Turkey** - Boar’s Head (UFCW); Butterball (UFCW, IBT); Foster Farms (UFCW); Thumann’s (UFCW); Hoffman’s (UFCW); Honest John (UFCW); Rogers [Poultry](#) (UFCW). **Stuffing** - Stroehmann Bakery Products (BCTGM); Manischewitz (BCTGM, UFCW). **Ham** - Boar’s Head (UFCW); Appleton Farms (UFCW); Tyson (UFCW); Hormel Honey Roasted (UFCW); Farmer John (UFCW); Kunzler Brand (UFCW); Cook’s (UFCW). **Salad** - Andy Boy Lettuce (UFW); Birds Eye Vegetables (UFCW, IBT); Del Fresh (UFW); Fresh Express Salad (IBT). **Potatoes and Sides** - Del Monte canned vegetables (UFCW); Dole (IBT, UFCW); Kraft Mac & Cheese (UFCW); Ocean Spray [cranberry sauce](#) (UFCW); Ore-Ida (IBT, UFCW).

### **VACATION BENEFITS – FILING DEADLINE IS FRIDAY DEC. 16**

Apply for Vacation and Port Relief Benefits early to avoid the year-end rush.

- **FILING DEADLINE:** The deadline for issuing checks dated in 2022 in the Outports *and* the Plan Office is TOMORROW - Friday, December 16, 2022.

- **DIRECT DEPOSIT:** The final Direct Deposit Transfer for 2022 will be made on 12/19/2022 and the funds will be deposited into bank accounts on 12/21/2022.
- Any requests for Port Relief and Vacation checks received after 12/16/22 at 12:00 PM EST will be paid in the order received beginning 1/3/2023. Any member who requires that his/her check be dated in 2022 must file before this deadline. Remember, Monday December 26, 2022 and Monday January 2, 2023 are holidays and the Outports and the Plan Office will be closed. It is always wise to plan ahead, so you should verify the specific holiday schedule with the Plan Office Representative.

### ***Split Your Vacation Payments between 2022 and 2023***

You can submit an Application for Vacation Pay prior to the end of the year and request that the payment of your vacation benefits be split. Two checks will be issued to you, one in 2022 and a second in 2023. The 12/16/2022 deadline applies to split claims also. The vacation benefits paid in this manner MUST be a **continuous vacation period**. Please contact the Vacation Plan staff in Baltimore at 800-811-6322 or 410-547-9111 if you have any questions.

### **LAST OF THE M.E.B.A. HOLIDAY PARTIES**

Sadly, there are only a few M.E.B.A. holiday parties left, though you are granted the authority to celebrate on your own accord, at any (non-work) hour. Here are the remaining M.E.B.A.-sanctioned celebrations:

**Friday, December 16 - M.E.B.A. Houston** – Party at Karbach Brewery (in the outdoor biergarten – 2032 Karbach Street) – Starts at 3 p.m. **M.E.B.A. Seattle** – Party at the hall in Fife at 1 p.m.  
**Wednesday, December 21 - M.E.B.A. Baltimore** - Party at the hall at 1 p.m.

### **NEXT MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS** *(All times are local)*

**Monday, January 2** – Halls Closed (New Years Day Observed)

**Tuesday, January 3** – Boston@1200; CMES@1430; Charleston@1400; Houston@1315; Oakland@1230; Seattle (Fife)@1300.

**Wednesday, January 4** – Jacksonville@1300; New Orleans@1315; **Online HQ “Town Hall” Meeting@1300 (No Voting) – Register by emailing mebahq@mebaunion.org**

**Thurs. January 5** – L.A. (San Pedro)@1230; NY/NJ@1300; Norfolk@1300; Tampa@1300.

**Friday, January 6** – Honolulu@1100.

-----FINISHED WITH ENGINES-----



*M.E.B.A. does not tolerate assault, or harassment of any kind.  
 If you see something, say something – The M.E.B.A. Emergency Hotline  
 can be reached at 1-888-519-0018.*

*The M.E.B.A. is the nation's oldest maritime labor union, established in 1875. M.E.B.A.'s expertise and demonstrated track record of readiness, safety, and loyalty in answering America's call to action in times of both peace and war is unrivaled in the world. M.E.B.A. HQ – Phone: (202) 638-5355; [mebahq@mebaunion.org](mailto:mebahq@mebaunion.org). For publication and related inquiries (and to send photos & hot news tips) contact Marco Cannistraro, M.E.B.A. Special Projects & Communications – [marco@mebaunion.org](mailto:marco@mebaunion.org) Visit us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter and check us out on Instagram.*