# MARINE OFFICER





## At Sea and Ashore

New Work Further Diversifies

Job Opportunities for Membership

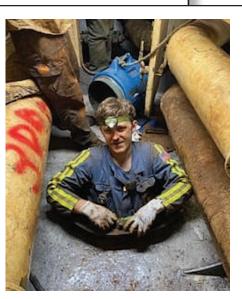




The engine department on the MAERSK ATLANTA following a successful voyage some months back. Left to right are C/E Aaron Lord, QMED Sammy Sanders, KP Cadet Hailey Hicks, Wiper Gustavo Guerra Morhaim, 1st A/E Vladimir Chpatchev, 3rd A/E Richard Goronski, Electro Derek Chestnut and 2nd A/E Frank Crifasi. They are in front of their newly fabricated tool board showing off some American pride, made possible by QMED Sammy and Cadet Hailey.



A rare and delightful green flash sunset, captured by photographer Jonathan Land who doubles as an M.E.B.A. member and Third Mate onboard the M/V LIBERTY PROMISE. This was taken off the Egyptian coast.



M.E.B.A. 3rd Mate Mathew Daghir coming out of the 4DB outer starboard ballast tank on the CAPE DOMINGO during an ABS special survey. The DOMINGO is a Keystone-managed Ready Reserve Force vessel berthed in Charleston. Thanks to Capt. Pat McGourthy for the great photo.

#### On the Cover:

Members working under our contract with Philadelphia Ship Services (PSS) recently removed and overhauled a towing winch from a tugboat in Jersey City. M.E.B.A. has been pursuing new initiatives and job opportunities for our highly-skilled membership both at sea and ashore.

#### **Marine Officer**

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The Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association (M.E.B.A.) is the nation's oldest maritime labor union established in 1875. We represent licensed engine and deck officers aboard seagoing vessels, ferries, LNG and government-contracted ships. Our members also serve on tugs and barges, cruise ships, Great Lakes vessels and in various capacities in the shoreside industries.

In times of military contingency, our members sail into war zones to deliver critical defense cargo to our fighting forces. M.E.B.A.'s expertise and proven track record of readiness, safety and loyalty in answering America's call to action is unrivaled in the world.



# Message from the President

A Message from President Adam Vokac

First and foremost I thank the membership who voted for their overwhelming support and affirmation of M.E.B.A.'s direction; almost every incumbent running for re-election earned another term.

One must always know where they came from, to successfully navigate to where they want to go. I'd like to thank and recognize the M.E.B.A. officials from the previous administration who have moved on. Being a union official is a challenging undertaking if done right, but also rewarding. We officials have a duty and profound opportunity to 'make the ship better', something we all try to do on each and every shipboard assignment.

Former President Marshall Ainley should be commended for his strong leadership and dedication to the M.E.B.A. over the previous 7 years. Bill Van Loo, the previous and long running Secretary-Treasurer, will be remembered for his ubiquitous presence on the Hill and within the membership. Erin Bertram was the first female VP of the M.E.B.A. as she served her term as GCVP. Tracy Burke, the previous Norfolk Branch Agent, worked diligently to increase the representation of the government fleet. Thank you to these and all previous officials for their work to improve the M.E.B.A.

The membership has welcomed a new generation of leaders and officials, and I have every confidence they will work tirelessly to advance the M.E.B.A. Despite the efforts of the last 60 years, growth in the US fleet has been difficult to achieve. We must continue to strengthen the rights of the workers and contracts that we have in the deep sea and inland fleets, while looking on the periphery for new opportunities to make the most of our leadership and handson skill set.

M.E.B.A. employers know if they pay fair wages and have fair work rules, they will get a quality product from our members. The partnership must be level for it to succeed for the long term. Any power imbalance will always end up being destructive in the long term.

We have a wide range of skill and experience in our Union, from working on oil tankers to dredges, cruise ships to offices, port engineers to ferry captains, tugboats to shipyards. Uniquely, our talent extends to every corner of the country, and is often available to turn-to. This presents a valuable asset, as the M.E.B.A. is a rare organization that has skilled labor, strategically located everywhere, and ready for

work on a moment's notice. This 'surge labor' capability will be a driver of M.E.B.A. growth over the years to come; our hands-on talent will carry the day.

The M.E.B.A. is showcasing this asset, and you will read in this edition about several new employers who sought out our talent. These new employers have recently signed with the Union to provide full M.E.B.A. benefits with solid wages and working conditions. A main priority of this administration is the creation of new high paying opportunities with full M.E.B.A. benefits for our current and future members. With the support and dedication of each member, the M.E.B.A. will advance, and continue to provide rewarding work opportunities for generations to come.

In Solidarity,

Adam Vokac



M.E.B.A. recently supported the "Shoot for a Cure" charity sporting clays event sponsored by the Maritime Trades Dept. in Okeechobee, FL. M.E.B.A.'s team, featuring (I-r) Tampa Branch Agent Nicole Greenway, member Michael Ferrino, President Adam Vokac and Gulf Coast V.P. Adam Smith took home one of the top two prizes at the event which benefited cancer research.

## **Working on All Cylinders**

## New Shoreside Work Expands Reach of Union

The M.E.B.A. is primarily known as a deep-sea union as our membership continues to deliver the goods in both peace and war, beyond the seven seas and to the ends of the earth.

But the unique and highly-trained skillset our members possess have made them a natural fit beyond tankers and containerships, and members continue to thrive onboard tugs and ferry fleets, on the Great Lakes, as crane and port engineers and as administrative professionals, among other areas of expertise.

The rewarding and broad-range of work we offer our membership – that includes permanent, rotary and relief positions - allows them the option of choosing to ship on a high-profile mission with the Government fleet or sailing to the bottom of the world resupplying the McMurdo research station in the South Pole. Our members toil as municipal workers on the city streets of Juneau, Alaska, on a Hawaiian Islands cruise ship or in stationary power generation plants, among many other job opportunities. Our contracts lead the industry with the highest paying jobs, most protective work rules and best benefits.

In that vein, the M.E.B.A. has further diversified the job base in recent months by inking new relationships with a series of shoreside employers that provide even more opportunities for our hardworking membership. M.E.B.A. President Adam Vokac said, "Along with continuing to maintain and strengthen our existing contracts, the Union has focused on extending into new avenues of work that tap into the expertise of our talented M.E.B.A. workforce."

#### **Philly Ship Services**

In March, the Union signed an agreement with Philadelphia Ship Services LLP, that puts project engineers under M.E.B.A. contract for covered employment. These are permanent positions as well as rotary jobs for this up-and-coming marine repair company. PSS signed directly onto our Pension, MPB, Medical, 401k, JEC and Training Plans in the agreement that runs through 2032 and secures M.E.B.A. as the exclusive representative for labor.

PSS is a full-service mobile marine repair company supporting US and foreign-flag vessels worldwide. They recently completed projects in Japan, Greece, Oregon, California, and New York. In addition to repairs, PSS also offers technical management services to assist customers with machinery inspections, drydock periods and owners' representation during major machinery re-fits.

PSS Project Engineer Chris Grupp, an M.E.B.A. member and proud SUNY graduate expressed delight that his company is locked-in with a first-class union of highly skilled



Members John Fountas & James Sevitz completed a successful stint at the MAN shop in L.A. overhauling generator heads from a large diesel-electric Disney cruise ship.

professionals and noted that his company is "looking forward to working with M.E.B.A. for decades to come."

You can learn more about Philadelphia Ship Services by visiting their website at www.phillyshipservices.com Résumés should be sent to technical@phillyshipservices.com while cc'ing Atlantic Coast Vice President Jason Callahan at jcallahan@mebaunion.org

#### **Eco-Alpha**

Following a successful card check organizing drive, the M.E.B.A. reached a first contract and partnered up with a forward-thinking facilities operation and maintenance company for shoreside jobs in the San Francisco Bay-area. The Union signed a contract on New Year's Day with Sacramento, CA-based Eco-Alpha Environmental and Engineering Services, Inc. that initially put nine members to work as stationary engineers at four California state buildings in San Francisco, Oakland, and Santa Rosa. Eco-Alpha is a growing, innovative company established in 2013 and is dedicated to environmentally-friendly operations.

These are permanent positions paying industry standard wages for 40-hour workweeks (OT possible), with M.E.B.A. Pension, Medical and Training benefits, as well as MPB & 401k. The company is pleased with the member response to these positions and the excellent work being performed by our engineers on the job. The stationary engineer positions require an EPA Refrigerant Card. Those interested in future opportunities should contact M.E.B.A.'s Union hall in Oakland.

#### **Blue Point Engineering**

In February, the Union finalized an agreement with M.E.B.A.-contracted employer American Crewing Service, LLC to put our members to work with Naples, Florida-based BluePoint Engineering LLC. BluePoint is a new and growing full service Marine and Industrial Repair company that performs repair work (including Government-contracted jobs) on large vessels around the country. They have serviced vessels for Military Sealift Command, the Maritime Administration, Coast Guard and many others. M.E.B.A. retiree Paul McCarthy and member Nils Djusberg are the principals at BluePoint.

All levels of experience are needed and members interested in this work can visit www.Bluepointeng.com, or go to a local hall for more information. Jobs will also be called out of the halls before the work begins in a specific locale.

M.E.B.A. President Adam Vokac noted, "These shoreside jobs that BluePoint brings to the table is another example of our commitment [to expand into new areas] and will provide terrific opportunities for our membership with covered employment."

#### **Current Maritime**

In late March, the Union inked an agreement with Current Maritime L.L.C., an upstart marine repair company with room to grow. Current specializes in upgrading automation and control systems, and have performed considerable work refurbishing control rooms on Watson-class LMSRs and other vessels. The company will be bringing our members and applicants in as permanent project engineers and for rotary-style work at wages and benefits in line with Union standards. They signed onto all of the M.E.B.A. Plans in the agreement that stretches out through 2032.

The Union will work with Current Maritime as various opportunities arise to inform members and let them know when résumés are required for long-term jobs. Rotary-style work will be posted on the job board at the halls.

#### **MAN Technical Services**

Late last year, M.E.B.A. and Patriot Contract Services (PCS) entered into a 4 ½ year agreement for M.E.B.A. to supply temporary dayworking engineers to MAN Technical Services (MAN) for work at MAN shoreside facilities or onboard vessels under MAN repair contracts.

These jobs can involve work on main engine, as well as auxiliary engine and machinery components and systems with job assignments ranging from 2 to 60 days. The company has right of selection but may hire members through the Union halls.

#### **N/S SAVANNAH**

M.E.B.A. is back on the N/S SAVANNAH after the Union finalized a new Memorandum of Understanding with

Keystone Ocean Services to provide engineers and deck officers, as needed, for the continued maintenance and decommissioning of the historic vessel.

Launched in 1959, the SAVANNAH was the world's first nuclear-powered merchant ship – built to carry cargo and passengers – and was crewed by M.E.B.A. officers back in its heyday in the 1960s. It has been out of service since 1972 and the nuclear fuel has been removed. The Maritime Administration holds the Nuclear Regulatory Commission license for the SAVANNAH and is overseeing the decommissioning of the vessel which is required by 2031. The SAVANNAH was designated a National Historic Landmark and is berthed in Baltimore, MD.

Member Adam Blackwell, a Chief Mate, is currently serving on the vessel performing the supervisory, oversight and maintenance functions required for the continued preservation of the vessel. MarAd intends for SAVANNAH to serve as a museum ship in some fashion once the power plant is fully decommissioned.

The Union very much appreciates the support of the M.E.B.A. family as we look to further enrich our membership with new job opportunities both at sea and ashore. Feel free to reach out to Headquarters if you are aware of potential organizing opportunities that you can help facilitate.



Members working under our contract with Philadelphia Ship Services recently reattached a 48" hose coupler for dredge spoils onboard a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers barge. Members working on that project included Kevin Barry, Chris Grupp, Brendan Joyce and Ryan Grupp.



The International Transport Workers Federation (ITF) has been teaming up with mariner unions and charities around the world to get international seafarers vaccinated in a bid to help end the crew change crisis. Here ITF Inspector Barbara Shipley is seen with the newly vaccinated crew of the BW CANOLA in Newport News, VA.



M.E.B.A. HQ officials visiting with their MM&P counterparts in Linthicum Heights, Maryland recently. Left to right are M.E.B.A. Secretary-Treasurer Roland "Rex" Rexha, M.E.B.A. President Adam Vokac, MM&P President Don Marcus and MM&P Secretary-Treasurer Don Josberger. They discussed a multitude of important issues and talked about how best to team up to benefit our memberships.

#### **At Anchor: Recent Retirees**

#### Shifting into Reduced Operating Status

James Allen John P. Abbott Richard C. Adams Jr. Matthew D. Akstin Gabriel Arhin Francis A. Armitage Edward P. Bailey Jeffrey A. Barber James G. Barth Paul J. Baudry Eric C. Beausang Geoffrey T Benn Erin N. Bertram Alden J. Bertrand David J. Bibeau Eric E. Bingener Eric D. Bonow Allen Brewington David N. Browning Avery R. Bundrick Tracy A. Burke Vernon B. Bush Edward H. Church III Kevin E. Clancy Clifford T. Clark

James F. Conway John H. Coords Mark B. Corrales Kevin R. Corwin Joseph D. Crell Constantine Cristescu Walter H. Dauderis Patrick S. Davis Frederick S. DeLucca Arlindo F. Dias John Evans Gary C. Ford Paul F. Furey David W. Gallagher Peter T. Gedney Michael D. Gibbons Michelle Giffin Joseph S. Glaza Leonard R. Goebel Richard Gordon Jr. Vladimir Gostevskyh David C. Grafton Stephen Granahan Aaron H. Griffin Walter R. Griffin

David R. Guay Ireneusz Hamberg David A. Harms Carl P. Haugneland David C. Hedgepeth Gary K. Herendeen Allen D. Hochstetler Alan Holleyman Jr. John K. House Allyn A. Humphreys Therese A. Jeffries Kelly J. Kapp Robert M. Keene Frank J. Keville Mushir Khanbabi Lace L. Killman Christopher J. Kruger Earl Lawrence Ir. Rebecca L. Lestelle Michael P. Lindquist Mark J. Lund Peter J MacDonald Robert W. Maloy Edward B. Manning Richard Marecki

Vincent T. Marshall Conrado D. Martinez Gregory M. Matthews Douglas D. McCall Randy McKenzie Thomas F. McKenzie Jeffrey Meehan Robert H. Merrell Stephen J. Meyer Michael D. Morris William D. Morris Stephen P. Newberry Victor Nigro Vincent T. Oliveri Chris L. Olson Terje H. Ostbye Henry P. Oswald Jr. **Erny Otterspoor** Mark A. Perez Thomas J. Perricone Zdzislaw Pucilowski Edward J. Quinn Lynn A Rambeau Daniel L. Randall Lamont R. Randel **Edward Rynberg** 

Joseph Saia Anthony P. Sasso III Michael J. Sheedy Raymond W. Silliman Mark T. Sipper Russell E. Skogen Robin M. Stewart Ramon D. Sunga Ryan T. Takekawa George A. Thanash Richard E. Thibodeau Michael E. Thomsen Leon Trang Michael R. Tucey Jose M. Ramirez Alan K. Vandine William Van Loo Stephen M. Wanderer Robert F. Walker Paula Ward Steven M. Watson Herman Weber Oscar F. Wilkes Raymond J. Zbylut Raymond G. Zeber Herbert L. Zilla

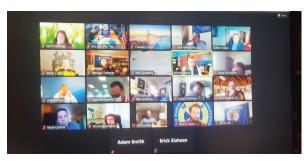
## National M.E.B.A. Convention Launched into Cyberspace

For the 113th time in our Union's history, M.E.B.A. Delegates converged in "Unity & Friendship" at the National M.E.B.A. Convention as members gave a nod to our past while remaining fixed on the future.

20 elected Delegates carried on a venerated tradition and constitutional duty on Tuesday, March 16th. This Convention was like no other, however, as circumstances necessitated that it be conducted online using the Zoom platform, a concept fantastically alien to the founding fathers who gathered 146 years ago to form the national organization that would become the M.E.B.A.

The National M.E.B.A. is an administrative umbrella organization that was restructured in the 1960s to house M.E.B.A. Districts. It has no paid employees and holds no contracts. As members know, there is currently only one District under the National M.E.B.A which is District No. 1-PCD, M.E.B.A. The District holds and controls all the assets of the M.E.B.A. membership whereas the National holds the charter with the AFL-CIO. National Conventions are now conducted every four years, aligned with the District election cycle. The District is governed by its own By-Laws, but is also beholden to the National Constitution and the Constitution for Districts.

National M.E.B.A. President Adam Vokac, who chaired the proceedings, honored the past by briefly recounting the history of our National Conventions and urging Delegates to work together on beneficial changes toward a more perfect Union. President Vokac pointed out that the Union will likely convene an in-person "Special Convention" next year which should provide a more suitable backdrop for Delegates to push ahead with productive National business. Special Conventions are provided for in the M.E.B.A. Constitution and have the same force as National Conventions but can be conducted without the ceremonial requirements of a regular Convention.



Delegates found a way to continue the important business of the Union in a virtual setting. The National Executive Committee is planning to host an in-person Special Convention next year.

During the online Convention, a new National Executive Committee (NEC) was formalized to join National

President Adam Vokac who was earlier elected to the position by virtue of his victory in the District election. The five-person NEC will mirror District No. 1's governing body, the District Executive Committee, for the next four years. Claudia Cimini was elected as National Vice President, Roland "Rex" Rexha takes over as National Secretary-Treasurer and the two additional National Executive Committee positions were filled by NEC Members Jason Callahan and Adam Smith.

The Convention format allows for the discussion of District business, and each of the DEC members gave an update on news and initiatives within their jurisdictional purview. Many thanks to all the elected Delegates which included National President Adam Vokac, National Vice President Claudia Cimini, National Secretary-Treasurer Roland "Rex" Rexha, NEC Member Jason Callahan, NEC Member Adam Smith, Rich Doherty, Jeff Duncan, Nicole Greenway, Jack Menendez, Max Alper, Kevin M. Cross, John McElhone, Nico Sermoneta, April Fleischer, Erik Barton, Mark S. Collins, Nils Djusberg, Michael R. Doherty, Mark S. Gallagher and Serena Webber-Bey. All were invited to attend the planned Special Convention next year and, in the meantime, to work on possible resolutions that will further improve the structure and operation of the National M.E.B.A.



The M.E.B.A. founding fathers in 1875. The tradition they established all those years ago was continued in an online setting this year thanks to the pandemic.

## Maritime Labor Looking for Deeds, Not Words from Administration to Boost U.S.-Flag Shipping

Unions and maritime industry advocates were heartened by the Biden Administration's early emphasis on supporting labor as well as the new "Buy America" initiative including stated support for the Jones Act. Early on in his term, the President issued an Executive Order to fortify Federal "Buy American" provisions, directing federal agencies to closely adhere to domestic preference rules including compliance of the Jones Act as they sharpen up accountability and close loopholes.

The Order was crafted to more effectively support U.S. manufacturers, businesses, and workers by better ensuring that federal government dollars are spent on American-made goods by American workers with American-made component parts. The Order specifically affirms the Administration's support of the Merchant Marine Act of 1920 (Jones Act) as part of that equation and directs agencies to abide by a strict interpretation of domestic preference laws for maritime transport, something that has not been as effectual in practice in past years.

M.E.B.A. President Adam Vokac applauded the Administration's recognition of the Jones Act as "the cornerstone of our American maritime policy" and said that the industry is looking forward to working with the President to create "future opportunities to support and grow the domestic maritime industry that generates numerous middle class, union jobs for the U.S. Merchant Marine."

But some pro-U.S.-flag shipping interests were disheartened by the rationale of granting two questionable Jones Act waivers during the Colonial Pipeline shutdown that left many East Coast gas stations short of supply for a week. Waivers can only be granted in unusual circumstances when there is a legitimate national defense need and a U.S.-flag bottom is unavailable.

The M.E.B.A. made it clear to the White House and the Maritime Administration that several Jones Act-compliant ships were ready and waiting, including some already loaded and in operation, that could have been diverted - with several others in warm-layup in the Gulf with crew onboard - thus making any waivers unnecessary. The M.E.B.A. expressed its concern that such action will be exploited by Big Oil to shore up profit margins to the benefit of the foreign-flag shipping industry.

Further weakening the case for the exemptions was the fact that the beneficiaries of the waivers made their deliveries after the crisis had already concluded and gas stations were The AFL-CIO championed the appointment of former Boston Mayor Marty Walsh as the new Labor Secretary. Walsh joined the Laborers' Union, Local 223 as a young man, eventually becoming the head of the organization and also led the Boston Building and Construction Trades Council. He is the first union member to serve as Labor Secretary in more than 40 years.



again operating as normal. The M.E.B.A. is disappointed by the White House's decision to approve these waivers as they undermine the intended policy set forth under the Administration's 'Buy America' Executive Order. M.E.B.A. will continue to engage industry stakeholders and the appropriate government agencies to monitor shipments made under the waiver while demanding accountability and transparency in the waiver process moving forward.

But on other fronts, the President has made positive strides following through on his vow to be the most pro-union President. He rooted out Trump-appointed anti-worker members on the Federal Service Impasses Panel (FSIP), which helps resolve disputes between federal agencies and unions representing federal employees. The day he took office, President Biden fired National Labor Relations Board General Counsel Peter Robb, a former management-side attorney who worked against pro-worker policies on the Board. NLRB member Lauren McFerran, who was critical of egregious anti-worker Board decisions during the last administration, was tapped to lead the NLRB. The President also reversed the anti-union focus of the Federal Labor Relations Authority and appointed a fighter for union rights, former Boston Mayor Marty Walsh, as the new Secretary of Labor.

As part of a flurry of Executive Orders (EOs) issued in the first days of his Presidency, Biden reversed three notorious EOs issued by President Trump in 2018 that peeled back federal employee workplace rights. National Treasury Employees Union National President Tony Reardon said that in this current Administration, "Agencies are no longer under orders to strip long-held rights from contracts, run roughshod over employees and unilaterally impose workplace policies that disrespect their service to our country."

## **Political Action Fund Honor Roll**

(For Calendar Year 2020)

The Political Action Fund plays a vital role in the fight to protect the livelihood and benefits of every M.E.B.A. member and retiree. As our industry navigates the economic and public health crises caused by the global pandemic, your contribution supports the election of key policymakers who stand beside us every day in the fight to protect the interests of M.E.B.A.'s active and retired members. This includes defending the Jones Act, providing full funding for the Maritime Security Program, and ensuring that our nation's Cargo Preference requirements are followed to the letter of the law. Despite partisan gridlock in Congress, the Union continues to make progress on critically important issues that affect our jobs, much to the credit of the membership's support for the M.E.B.A. Political Action Fund.



Call or visit an M.E.B.A. Union hall or office to contribute to this crucial cause. You can also enroll in the member online portal (accessed from www.mebaunion.org) and make a contribution electronically.

A special shout-out to retiree and former Chief Engineer Mark Engberg who was 2020's biggest PAF contributor. Mark challenged pensioners to take the "2020 M.E.B.A. PAF Retiree Pledge" to help strengthen the Union and industry and guarantee the ongoing viability of the M.E.B.A. Benefit Plans. Numerous retirees committed to contributing \$500 per year for the next 5 years and Mark showed the way with an extremely generous contribution to the fund.

Below is a list of active and retired members who understand the importance of the M.E.B.A.'s Political Action Fund and supported it during Calendar Year 2020. Those who contribute to the PAF this year (during Calendar Year 2021) will be listed in a *Marine Officer* next year. The list is broken down into four categories - and members, retirees and applicants are listed alphabetically within each grouping (except for the "Order of Magellan" - those members and retirees are listed in order of their contribution). 257 others (not listed here) contributed between \$1 and \$99 in calendar year 2020, contributions which are also very much appreciated.

Special thanks to the top P.A.F. contributors in Calendar Year 2020 - (listed in order of their generosity).

#### Order of Magellan (\$1,000 to \$5,000)

Mark Engberg
John Joseph Brooke
Phillip Sistrunk
Bradford McDermott
Bill Van Loo
Erin Bertram
Lyle Sloan
Jason Callahan
Erik Gilbert

Benjamin Larrabee
Adam Smith
Tracy Burke
Alexander Bugaisky
Thomas Dewhirst
Luca DeFazio
Albert Truong
Maxim Alper
Erik Barton

Stuart Fay
Alton Swinney
John Long
David Chapman
Christopher Swift
Trenton Thornton
John McElhone
Justin Litterine
Adam Vokac

Kevin Cross
effrey Duncan
Marshall Ainley
Duncan Ballenger
Thomas Bands
rank Bevacqua
Raymond Demarest
awrence Ho
Kyle Hudson

Thomas Jordan
Rodney Kittelson
Denis Mengele
Donald Mullett
Roland Rexha
Marc Townsend
James Wolf

Reed, Joshua

### Realm of King Neptune (\$500-\$999)

Abel, Nathan Adase, Dominic Albrecht, Edward Amankulor, Nwachimereze Antony, Alex Asupan, Rene Ballenger, John Bean, David F. Bellows, Gerald Bilodeau, Todd Birdsong, Toni Boardman, Scott Boughal, Hans Bowling, Timothy Cadden Ir, William (Bill) Chadwick, John Claude, Kervin Cobo, Jeremy Conroy, Brian Cote, Erik

Cullen, Gerard

Davis, Daniel Davis, David Dengel, Samuel Dullnig, Tyler Dunklin, Mike Fahey, Richard Feldan, Howard Fetter, Jason Figelski, Edward Fitzpatrick, John W. Fritschi, Brian Frobenius, Jeffrey Fuller, Trevor Gallagher, Mark Garza, Anthony Gaylan, Filomeno Glywasky, Joseph Goldrich, Ben Graebener, Henry Graves, Alan Grupp, Christopher Haas, Sylvan Harman, Joseph

Harrington, Jason Herrington, Coy Holbert, Lawrence Hunt, Darryl Infante, Hugo Jany, Timothy Kaili, Luke Kewley, Christopher King, James Kitchin, Marcus Knowles, Joshua Krafthefer, Andrew LaChance, Craig Lapham, Trevor Legge, Paul Lincoln, Louis Lord, Aaron Lyons, John T. MacDougall, Andrew Mahoney, John Martin, John Martykan, Michael Marymee, Daniel

Massey, Seth Massoni, Daniel McGrath, James Mcguire, Robert Mcmurray, Robert McNeil, Devin McPhail, Richard Moise-Duquella, Karly Morris, George Myers, Hugh Nashif, David Nelson, John Nguyen, Hieu Norton, Thomas O'Brien, John Perry, Michael Pillard, Jeff Ponce, Edwin Poniatowski, Marc Pote, Ira Quinones, Vincent Radzik, Edward

Redding, Tracy

Reynolds, Joseph Sage, Deborah Santiago, Louis Schmeltz, Herbert Scott, Jessica Sermoneta, Nicholas Shaw, David Stanley, Fred Strissel, Phillip Sundius, Robert Trautman, Craig Troxell, Barton Unger, Kenneth Van Vechten, Barry Vetting, Ryan Wainwright, Ross Walker, Timothy Warren, William Waterfield, Alexander Williams, Todd Zysk, Thomas

**Shellback** 

(\$250 - \$499)Abdou, Louai Alonge, Matthew Armacost, Lyle Ayres, William Bagley, Edwin Baird, Alexander Barlow, Ethan Belson, Adam Bennett, Kevin Berner, Frank Birago, Thomas Bliefernich, Daniel Boisvert, Jeffrey Boisvert, Jonathan Bostick, Mark Brandt, Eric Braun, William Breheny, Michael Breton, Michael Brooks, Christopher Brown, Richard Burchfield, Timothy Burchill, David Burns, Michael Burnside, Thomas Burr, Gregg Calhoun, Will Caloger, Peter Cannistraro, Marco Cihomsky, Mitchell Cleary, Richard Cline, Dennis Collector, Rayomond Concepcion, Arnulfo Coulter, John Crell, Joseph Crifasi, Frank D'Amico, James Dell'Aquila, Anthony Demilio, William Devens, Christopher Dibacco, Jonathan Djusberg, Nils Doherty, Richard Donovan, Denault Dunlop, Andrew Dunn, William Eastwood, Thomas Eaton, Charles Esquivel, Helbert Facundo, Rolando Farley, Ken Faulhaber, Aaron Fernandez, John Ferrino, Michael Ferritto, Mitchell Fiala, David Fiser, Graeme Fisher, Matthew Flores, Miguel Foss, Arni Fountas, John Furgerson, Kyle Gabrielsson, Carl Gallagher, David Garcia, Michael Garthwaite, Patrick Gatchell, Nathan Gaylan, John Morgan Giovannoni, Matthew

Goodman, Andrew Goodwin, Francis Gould, Eric Grace, Sean Graham, Patrick Grandy, Keith Greenig, George Greenway, David Greenway, Nicole Gusek, Eric Haars, Derek Haines, Stephen Halloran, Mary Hamill, Peter Harley, Timothy Harms, David Havward, Paul Hileman, Todd Himebauch, Ross Hoskins, Doran Hudson, Paul Hunt, Andrew Hunter, Thomas Jackson, Kenneth Jacobites, Ted Jacovino, Joseph Janowicz, John Jaunzemis, Randall Kanoute, Thidiane Karhoff, Lucas Kaye, Seth Kelleher, Edward Kilmer-Morris, Austin Kirby, Michael Klaine, Jeanne Kopras, Jacob Kreta, Thomas Kuijper, Gregory Lacey, Joseph Lawrence, Joseph Lee, Robert Lemoine, Paul Linderholm, Eric Logue, Gregory Lowe, Patrick Lowry, Peter Lund, Sonja Lyons, Marc Macatiag, Antonio MacDonald, Kelsey MacDonald, Mark Madigan, Edward Maduro, Deshawn Maher, Patrick Mahimer, Alexander Marino, William Marks, Michael Marsh, Gordon May, David McGann, Martin McGean, Patrick McGrath, Michael McPherson, Jonathan Meglow, Peter Miller, Devlin Mitchell, Charles Moore, James Mosa, Daniel Moses, Colin Muldowney, Leo Murphy, Daniel Murray, John

Nardone, Christopher Navarrete, Luis Negoescu, George Nesheim, Kjell Newton, Craig Olson, Chris Omdahl, Arthur O'Neil, Dylan Ortiz, Sergio Owen, David E Pacana, Edgar Parent, Christopher Patten, Brian Penny, Julie Phillips, Jay Povalec, Thomas Proia, Michael Quigg, Timothy Quinn, Stanley Raffaniello, Donald Riley, Paul Roberts, Paul Robinson, Alexander Roccasalva, Angelo Royston, Richard Ruggiero, John Russell, Paul Ryder, John Safarian, Mikael Sanders, Samuel Sasso, Robert Savoie, Devin Schaffer, John Schmidt, Allen Schmidt, Jonathan Scott, Glen Scott, Patrick Sebach, Stefan Seewald, Daniel Sexton, David Shartel, Mark Simms, Matthew Sipper, Gregory Smith, Brian Smith, Max Smith, Ryan Snow, Michael Sopko, Frank Spear III, Willis Sprague, Laurence St John, Alfred Stamm, Andrew Steele, Christopher Stenquist, Thomas Stewart, Brandon Sullivan, Nicholas Sumner, Wayne Tapley, Nickolas Taylor, Jeremiah Tebbe, Steven Tesson, Raymond Thanash, George Thatcher, Matthew Thibodeau, Michael Thomas, Daryl Thomas, Evan Thomsen, Michael Thomson, William Torres, Andres V Trace, Lawrence Trask-Annies, Demian

Travers, Jeremy

Trigueiro, Gary Turcotte, Keith Underhill, Jason Unflat, Glenn Unnold, Barry Valentin, Emanuel Vazquez, Rene Vogel, Lee Walker, Robert Walsh, Frank Warner, Peter Watkins, Michael Weber, Timothy Webster, Nicholas White, Eric Wilson, Matthew Wlazlo, Erik Wolff, Joseph Wright, Kevin Yang, John Zaucha, Christopher Zilla, Herbert

**Pollywog** 

(\$100-\$249) Abel, James Abrams, Reginald Acosta, Sonny Adams, Michael Agati, Nicholas Aguiar, Llorenc Aiello, Anthony Albright, Donald Alfaro, Jordan Allen, Garrett Allotey, Joseph Amaral, Zachary Ames, Christopher Anderson, Richard Andrade, Jeffrey Antonellis, Daniel Arredondo, Phoenix Atwell, Michael Avery, Mikel Ayou, David Babcock, William Baker, David Baker, Roderic Balhorn, Nicholas Balic, Bozidar Barg, Emery Barnard, Nathan

Bartlett, James Bassett, Benjamin Begley, Grant Bell, Walter Belyea, Kristina Benn, Geoffrey Benz, Thomas Bergantim, Nicholas Bick, David Biggness, Nicholas Blair, Justin Blake, Douglas Bloom, Joseph Boleza, Matthew Bolinger, Chris Boozer, Charles Bordeaux, John Brady, Michael Brash, John Breton, Rudolph Brown, Henry Brown, Jordan Browne, Walter Brownfield, Christopher Broxon, Benjamin Brusa, Charles Bullard, Robert Burback, Scott Burke, Matthew Busenga, Ashley Bushey, Jack Caba-Martinez, Manolo Cabral, Nicholas Calhoun, Scott Campbell, Thomas Cariazo, Aldrin Carpentier, Ryan Castro, Charles Chap, Jeffrey Chappell, Derrick Chase, Jerald Choi, William Chpatchev, Vladimir Christensen, Michael Clark, Samuel Cleland, James Coggio, Michael Cole, Henry Collett, Robert Collevecchio, Leonard Collins, Christian

Barstow, David



Mark Engberg headed up the PAF Retiree challenge asking pensioners to support the fund to keep the benefit plans strong and reinforce our Union and industry for the next generation of mariners.

Collins, John Cona, Julianne Conway, Emilie Coombs, Christopher Cork, Dale Corrigan, Thomas Cowan, Blake Crandall, Emma Cristescu, Constantine Cronhardt, Gregory Crow, Dallas Cull, Michael Cuzzo, Eric Dale, Michael D'Amico, Joseph Daramy, Michael Davis, Aaron Debonise, Gage Deming, Paul Denny, Donald Dinisio, Jonathan Dodson, Harry Don, Aaron Donaghev, John Donlon, Michael Donovan, Michael Dove, Elijah Downer, Eric Drake, William Drews, Timothy Ducharme, Bradley Duncan, Donald Dunleavy, John Dunlop, Teresa Edwards, Eldridge Eident, William Eldridge, James Elliott, Glen Elliott, Robert Enoch, Trent Evans, Benjamin Fales, Patrick Fallon, Kyle Favaza, Todd Ferguson, Thomas Feyler, James Figueroa, Michael Fisher, Michael Flesner, Jason Flick, Garrett Flynn, Brian Fossa, Eric Fraser, Rory Frazier, James Fulling, Robert Gallagher, Douglas Garland, Keith Garrido, Miguel Gatchalian, Bhody Geelhaar, John D. Gerrish, Brian Gerry, William Gibbons, Rory Gifford, Daniel Gillen, James P. Gilmour, Mark Gimle, Mark Glessing, Michael Goldberg, Mendle Good, Brian Gordon, Ellsworth Gostevskyh, Vladimir Gratzer, Jessica

Grissinger, Thomas Guldjord, Greg Gullapalli, Ranga Hagadorn, Nicholas Halata, Daniel Hall, Philip Hanna, Stuart Harding, Justin Harris, Seth Harrison, John Harrison, William Harvey, Steven Haskell, Matthew Hayes, Douglas Henderson, George Herndon, William Hickerson, Keith Higgins, Bryan Higgins, Mark Hines, Jonathan Hitzel, Jeffrey Hjersman, John Hjort, Stanley Hoerle, Douglas Hostutler, Jeffrey Houghton, Jeffrey Howerton, Richard Hoyt, Lindsay R. Hudspeth, Robert . Humphrey, Bryan Hurley, Benjamin Hursh, Bradley Husselbee, Leif Iacobucci, David Irvine, Kegan Jackson, Sterling Jackson, Thomas Jenkins, Elizabeth Jerrier, Charles Jimenez, Jennifer Johannessen, Benjamin Johnson, David Johnson, Eric Johnson, James Johnson, John P Jones, Michael Jordan, Horace Joyce, Brendan Joyce, Keenan Kadlac, Donald Kahl, Christopher Kelchlin, Harrison Kennedy, Sean Killman, Lace Kingma, Louis Kisielewski, Justin Klitzke, Jeffery Klump, Randy Konopaski, Christian Kovach, Michael Kryzhnyy, Sergiy Kumako, Samuel Lamonica, Joseph Landrum, Timothy Langford, Clarence Lanz, John Larimer, Ryan Laurion, Daniel Lebeouf, Jacob Lebrun, Robert Lee, Q

Leep, Ernest

Leshner, Samuel

Lewis, Elliot Lewis, Keith A. Lilley, Thomas B. Linn, Brendan Lisowski, Jason Lombardi, Gary Lombardo, Carly Lopez, Robert Lorenz, James Lotfy, Adel Ludwig, Louis Lusignan, Sean Mackay, Shawn MacLean, Daniel MacLeod, Matthew MacNeil, Matthew Mahaffey, Shane Mahalik, Giancarlo Mahalik, Gianfranco Marcinak, Kenneth Marino, Joseph Martin, Andrew Martin, Serena Martineau, Eric Massey, Loren Mataronas, Matthew McCauley, Joseph McDermott, Sean McGlone, Martin McGrath, Paul McIntosh, Edwin McKenzie, Thomas McLane, John McLaughlin, Shawn McMahon, Joseph McManus, Patrick McMillan, Joseph McMorrow, Matthew McPhee, Douglas Melcher, William Mello, Ted Menendez, Jack Mercuri, Gene Merrifield, Jeff Miller, Matthew Miller, Micah Miller, Nathan Moore, Scott Moran, Craig Morris, Michael Morris, William Mossman, Richard Moulton, Robert Moylan, Daniel Murphy, John Mustata, Gheorghe Myatt, Thomas Nebab, Kyle Newell, David Nichols, John Kevin Nickel, Jacob Nikituk, Angela Nilsen, Matthew Nolan, Sean Norval, Charles O'Connell, Joseph O'Connor, Patrick O'Donnell, John Ofria, Thomas O'Loughlin, James Olsen, Frederick

Olson, Robert

Orengo, Jose

Orlando, Stanley Osborne, Matthew Panzarino, Joseph Parent, Chance Parsons, Kevin Paul, Christopher Pedriali, Albert Pellechia, Nicholas Perkins, George Peterson, Michael Pike, Steven Pollard, Frederick Pollock, Thomas Powers, John Preston, Patrick Price, Mykal Priscu. Thomas Prokopich, Phyllis Purcell, Michael Quinlan, Ryan Ramos, Matthew Ramos, Thomas Randall, Jason Renaghan, Paul Rhodes, Daniel Riddle, John Rivera, David Roach, Ian Roberts, Ryan Robson, Joseph Rose, John Ross, Gilbert Rowley, Joseph Roy, Paul Rugarber, Michael Rushing, Edd Ryan, Liam Ryan, Patrick Rylek, Bartosz Salao, Alexander Glenn Salvesen, Bryant Sanford, Marshall Sarter, Tyler Sasso, Anthony Schaffer, George Schall, Nicholas Schreier, Harold Schroeder, Charles Schultz, Kevin Schwartz, Ramon J. Seifart, Scott Sevitz, James Sharkey, Michael Shea, Stephen Sheridan, John Shrake, Samuel Siemer, John Silva, David Sims, Ralph J. Siracusa, Paul J. Sison, Edgar Slaght, John Slayton, Darnell Smirba, Dzemal Smith, David Smith, Jameson Smith, Paul Smith, Terry Smithson, Melvin

Sopko, Michael

Steinberg, Philip

Spradling, Alexander

Sterling, Christopher

Stevens, Sean Steverman, Peter Stillwachs, Thomas Stover, Daniel Strickland, Jesse Sturgul, James Sullivan, Paul Sullivan, Peter Sunga, Raymond Supersano, Marc Sutter, Kurt Swanson, Roger Tapales, Felix Tarabochia, Ryan Taylor, Edwin Terkuile, Matthew Thomas, Carli Thompson, Ansel Tinkham, Nicholas Tornabene, Jesse Torres, Apolinar Torrey, George Treen, Thomas Trevellini, Gino Trifonoff, Robert Trujillo, Michael Twitty, Marshall Twomey, James Uchida, Asher Underwood, Bernard Unger, Michael Urbik, Thomas Vannier, Alex Venuti, Paul Videika, Romualdas Villa, Dante Viray, Arvie Vroome, Brian Walker, Philip Walkup, Philip Wallace, William Warner, Seth Watson, Ronald Watson, Steven Watters, Courtland Weismann, Mark Weller, Martin Wells, Andrew West, Anthony Whelan, Robert Whelpley, Frank Whitton, Justin Wiessmeyer, Edward Wiksveen, Tore Williams, Charles Williams, Harold Williams, Nathan Winegar, Boake Womble, Robert Woodward, Glenn Wyatt, Peggy York, Alex Yuhas, Christian Zalewski, Matthew Zukowski, David

## Maritime Day 2021 – Honoring Our Maritime Heritage

In 1933, Congress selected May 22nd as National Maritime Day to honor the American Merchant Marine which has served this country since 1775 in times of peace and war. The day is also a tribute to the maritime industry as a whole and its critical importance to our economy and national security.

The Washington DC-area based "Ride & Shine Bicycling Trailblazing Women" put together a fun and popular 6 minute video in honor of National Maritime Day as they biked around our nation's capital visiting maritime-themed memorials. The video, which included a quick stop at M.E.B.A. Headquarters, is available on our website (www.mebaunion.org) and can be viewed at this link: https://tinyurl.com/maritimebike Here are a few of the Washington D.C. stops they made:



The Navy/Merchant Marine Memorial in Lady Bird Johnson Park along the George Washington Memorial Parkway honors Americans lost at sea during World War I. The U.S. Merchant Marine helped win the war for the U.S. and its allies in World War I, but so many of those vessels built for emergency use in "The War to End All Wars" were not suitable for peacetime use and the U.S.-flag fleet again began to dwindle following the cessation of hostilities.



The John Ericsson Memorial is dedicated to the Swedish born inventor who first designed a steam-fired engine and then a screw propeller that proved more efficient than paddlewheels and led to the onset of larger ships. He also constructed the steam-driven ironclad warship MONITOR which engaged in the epic battle against the Confederate ship MERRIMACK (aka VIRGINIA). The MONITOR was likened to a 172-foot "Yankee Cheese Box on a raft," but it was more maneuverable than the clunky VIRGINIA. Both ships took damage but sailed away without a clear victor. This was history's first duel of ironclad warship signaling a new era of naval warfare.



The Washington Navy Yard on the Anacostia River is a former U.S. Navy shipyard and ordnance plant that currently houses Navy administrative buildings and serves as Headquarters to the Chief of Naval Operations, among other offices. The U.S. Navy Museum is located there as well.



The Seabees Memorial near Arlington National Cemetery honors the contributions of the U.S. Naval Construction Battalions (CBs). During overseas combat, the Seabees are responsible for key logistics in overseas theaters like building roads, bridges, airfields and bases as well as underwater construction. John Wayne starred in the 1944 movie "The Fighting Seabees" building airstrips in the Pacific during WWII. In the film's climactic fight, the Seabees fend off a Japanese attack using equipment like a bulldozer and "clam bucket". This was one of the few films that John Wayne's character dies onscreen.



The Merchant Marine Seal at the WWII Memorial.
Known as the "Fourth Arm of Defense," the United States
Merchant Marine suffered a higher casualty rate than any
branch of the Armed Forces during World War II. Often
overlooked, merchant mariners were crucial to victory in
WWII. They kept the cargo coming and the supply lines
open despite the loss of 733 cargo ships and over 8,500
mariners. Last year, legislation to award the Congressional
Gold Medal to U.S. World War II mariners was finally
passed and signed after protracted efforts on the initiative's
behalf.



The John Paul Jones Memorial in D.C.'s West Potomac Park. Jones was originally a Merchant Marine Captain but become one of the greatest naval commanders of the Revolutionary War and is known as the "Father of the U.S. Navy." During a sea battle with a more powerful British ship, Jones was asked if he was ready to surrender – to which he famously replied, "I have not yet begun to fight!"



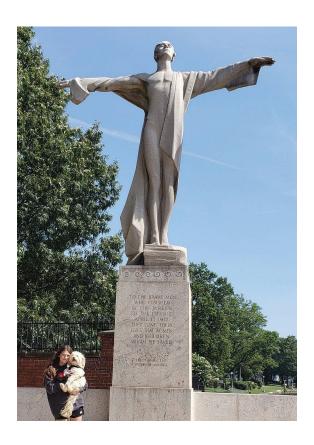
The Lone Sailor at the U.S. Navy Memorial symbolizing the men and women serving the Navy past and present. Near the Memorial are engraved sayings from past Navy heroes like Captain James Lawrence who declared, "Don't give up the ship!" and President John Kennedy who said about the U.S. Navy: "I can imagine no more rewarding a career." The Navy Memorial served as the final stop on the video's bike tour (https://tinyurl.com/maritimebike). The Trailblazing Women" proclaimed, "We salute you Navy sailors and merchant mariners - both past and present - and thank you for your service! Our Navy and civilian sailors continue to protect our homeland, support our troops and enrich our country's maritime heritage – in peace and war."



The Peace Monument (Naval Monument/Civil War Sailors Monument) commemorates the sacrifices of sailors during the Civil War. Figures depicted in the statue are Grief, History & Victory as well as Mars – the God of War and Neptune – God of the Sea.



The Court of Neptune Fountain – In front of the Library of Congress on Independence Ave., the bronze sculptures include King Neptune, the Roman mythological God of the Sea, and his sons, the Tritons, who are blowing conch shells.



The TITANIC Memorial - On the TITANIC's maiden voyage in April 1912 from Southampton to New York, over 1500 people lost their lives including all of the engineers who helped keep the lights running on the vessel until the very end so passengers had a fighting chance to escape. While the tragedy of the sinking was heartbreaking, it spurred drastic changes and improvement to regulations in the maritime industry, including the 1914 creation of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS).





The first M.E.B.A. crew of Matson's new MATSONIA that recently went into service. Engine room "plank owners" (from I-r) are C/E Brian Koechley, 2nd A/E Andrew Goodman, C/E Thomas Pote, 1st A/E Brendan Linn, 3rd A/E Edward Albrecht and 3rd A/E Bryant Salvesen.

# Shipping Shorts



M.E.B.A. worked with Interlake Steamship in late May and mid-June on reopener talks covering wages and benefits for our members. On the Union's HQ rooftop (I-r) are M.E.B.A.'s Tampa Branch Agent Nicole Greenway, President Adam Vokac and Atlantic Coast V.P. Jason Callahan, along with Interlake's V.P., Counsel & Secretary Tom Wynne, V.P. & CFO Bill Thornton, President Mark W. Barker and Director of Training & Marine Personnel Jayson Toth.

#### **Umpire Confirms M.E.B.A. Jurisdiction on Pasha Newbuilds**

The AFL-CIO confirmed M.E.B.A./ MM&P work jurisdiction aboard a pair of LNG-fueled containerships being built for the Pasha Hawaii fleet. The two Ohana-class vessels, the 774foot long M/V GEORGE III and M/V JANET MARIE, are being constructed by Keppel AmFELS at its yard in Brownsville, TX. The GEORGE III is nearing completion and is scheduled to replace the 1980-built C-8 vessel HORIZON ENTERPRISE sometime later this year. The JANET MARIE is set to debut soon after and is expected to replace another aging vessel.



#### M.E.B.A.-Contracted Patriot is "Apparent Winner" of Watson-Class Bid

Ship manager Patriot Contract Services, LLC is the winner, pending the resolution of protests, in the bid for the eight Watson-class government-owned Large, Medium-Speed, Roll-On, Roll-Off (LMSR) vessels. M.E.B.A./MM&P/SIU/SUP/ MFOW/ARA mariners have done an excellent job crewing these vessels for the past seven years, under Patriot's stewardship, and continue to deliver for the Military Sealift Command.

The Watson-class LMSRs include the USNS WATSON, USNS SISLER, USNS DAHL, USNS RED CLOUD, USNS CHARLTON, USNS WATKINS, USNS POMEROY and USNS SODERMAN.

Patriot told their mariners, "Your part in all this is to stay focused, to continue your high performance and reinforce the MSC's decision to want us on their team."

#### **Membership Meetings Return** to In-Person Format

Over a year after the pandemic prompted the Union to begin

Five-term AFL-CIO President John Sweeney, who retired in 2009, died in February at the age of 86. Current AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka said, "John was a great leader and true innovator, driving the labor movement forward. We stand on that foundation today as we take on the challenges of inequality, systemic racism and much more."



Former M.E.B.A. Secretary-Treasurer Bill Van Loo retired after 35 years with the Union. Headquarters staff presented a plaque to him honoring his 14+ "kick-ass years at M.E.B.A. HQ." Thanks Bill! As Elvis Presley sang, "...This I know, happiness will follow you everywhere you go."

conducting its monthly membership meetings in an online format, the M.E.B.A. returned to in-person meetings at all 13 meeting locations beginning in May. Last year's lockdown forced the cancellation of all of the meetings in April 2020. But by the next month, the Union had put a system in place where meetings could be conducted online with a registration process. Though the online format had limitations, the Union was able to keep the regular meeting schedule intact for 12 months using the Zoom platform.

continued





On Feb. 6th, the Sun Coast Council and the American Merchant Marine Veterans Association honored World War II merchant mariner George Koch. George made Arctic convoy runs bringing war supplies to the Soviet Union, our war ally. George was awarded the Ushakov Medal from the Russian Federation and the Florida 17th District MVP award by Congressman Greg Steube. Here, retired M.E.B.A. mariners gather to celebrate George at a ceremony in Punta Gorda, FL. Left to right are Charles Norval, Bob Mecker, Joe Barbacane, George Koch and AMMV President Dru DiMattia.



A photo of an Arctic Convoy crew dealing with the elements on one of the WWII supply runs to the Soviet Union.

## M.E.B.A. HQ Online Informational Meetings

Online meetings served a purpose over the last year and enabled attendees to participate who otherwise may not have been able to conveniently travel to a hall. M.E.B.A.'s District Executive Committee recognizes that fact and decided to create a monthly online informational meeting at Headquarters. This is a townhall format with no voting and no resolutions can be introduced.

Members, applicants and retirees need to register to mebahq@mebaunion. org for these meetings in advance. The meeting usually takes place on the Wednesday of meeting week. Check the Telex Times for the schedule.

## **MEDGAR EVERS Crew Snags Prestigious Award**

For the second year in a row, Military Sealift Command awarded USNS MEDGAR EVERS the Maritime Excellence Award in March for the underway replenishment category. The "E" award is one of the command's top honors presented to Combat Logistics Force ships. The ship was nominated for outperforming all other vessels in its class during competitive-year 2020. M.E.B.A. Chief Engineer Robert McManus and 1st A/E Marlin Carpenter were part of the excellent crew aboard the ship during the past year.

#### TRANSCOM Endorses Establishment of Tanker Security Fleet

The Commander of the U.S. Transportation Command revealed to a Senate Committee that he supports the activation of a Tanker Security Program that would be available to support Department of Defense (DOD) needs. TRANSCOM Commander General Stephen Lyons testified before the Senate Committee on Armed Services to assist the Committee's review of Defense Authorization funding needs for Fiscal Year 2022.



In an annual process to promote transparency, a six-member rank-and-file committee reviewed Union finances over calendar year 2020 for three busy days. Their report was read and approved by members at the May meetings. Left to right on the rooftop of M.E.B.A. Headquarters are Chris Nardone, Seth Massey, Marshall Townsend, Charles Apudo, Torey Zingales and Steve Walker.



The Military Sealift Command dry cargo and ammunition ship USNS CARL BRASHEAR conducting a replenishment-at-sea with guided-missile cruiser USS PHILIPPINE SEAS (not pictured), in the Gulf of Oman.

The proposed Tanker Security Program would be a fleet of 10 commercial U.S.-flag petroleum product tankers modeled after the Maritime Security Program. It would support our nation's long-term strategic defense needs and reduce the U.S. military's reliance on foreign-flag commercial vessels while also expanding the qualified mariner pool.

At the Committee hearing, Senator Mazie Hirono (D-HI) asked the TRANSCOM Commander if the study is far enough along to have already determined the need for a tanker program. General Lyons responded in the affirmative, the first time TRANSCOM has publicly weighed in on the proposed program. TRANSCOM's announced support for the Program is an absolutely critical step for the manifestation of the tanker fleet which is strongly supported by the M.E.B.A. and U.S.-flag shipping advocates and indicates that the forthcoming FY '22 DOD budget request will include the \$60 million authorization for the program.

## **HAPAG Upgrading Express-Class Fleet**

Hapag-Lloyd is changing out its M.E.B.A.-crewed Express-class vessels, managed by Marine Personnel & Provisioning, with newer and much

larger ships from its international fleet. The five 17-18 year old 3,237 TEU geared containerships will be replaced by five 12-year old A7 6900 TEU Flex engine ships which will each assume the former vessels Maritime Security Program operating chits. The M.E.B.A. crew of the YORKTOWN EXPRESS is already onboard the first of the change-outs, the DELAWARE EXPRESS, renamed from the former Liberian-flagged AL BAHIA. The other current vessel crews operating in the fleet will change out to their newer vessels on a staggered schedule through the summer – all at Port Canaveral.

The company's modified trade route, because of the capabilities of the incoming vessels, necessitated the reflag of the RIO GRANDE EXPRESS which was deployed into the company's international fleet.

## Panama Suppressing Dissent about Unsafe Canal Conditions

M.E.B.A. & MM&P sent a letter to Members of Congress about ongoing suppression of Panama Canal workers trying to air concerns about safety conditions. Recently, an overabundance of police were sent to violently stifle workers who tried to air their concerns about unsafe working conditions on the Panama Canal. Those workers, including members of M.E.B.A. and MM&P affiliates were silenced by Panamanian police with rubber bullets and teargas and several were hauled off to jail.

M.E.B.A. affiliate Union de Ingenieros Marinos (UIM), which represents Canal engineers, has been outspoken about Panama Canal Authority (ACP) cost-cutting safety shortcuts that have created a more dangerous workplace. MM&P affiliate Union de Capitanes y Oficiales de Cubierta (UCOC),

continued



The LIBERTY PROMISE near Crete, the largest and most populous of the Greek islands. M.E.B.A. Deck Officer Jonathan Land took this shot.



a Panama Canal union representing tugboat captains, says its members are being targeted by the ACP, (the Government agency responsible for Canal operations) for speaking up about serious safety concerns.

M.E.B.A.'s President Adam Vokac along with MM&P President Don Marcus sent letters to key Senate and House leaders informing them of the volatile situation on the Canal that has the potential to upset the smooth flow of cargo. They pointed out that Canal workers are toiling in increasingly hazardous conditions with few safety nets. They also let Members know that workers attempting to broadcast their worrisome situations are being subjected to heavy-handed resistance and thuggery.

#### Union Matching G&W Contributions Dollar-for-Dollar; "Swag-Bag" at Stake

M.E.B.A.'s homegrown fund that helps members in times of need will get an added boost from every donation made this year after the Union announced that it will match contributions made to the Good & Welfare Fund dollar-for-dollar - up to \$10,000. The top G&W contributor between now and December 31st will earn the coveted M.E.B.A. "Swag Bag" – a bag stuffed to the gills with fabulous M.E.B.A. prizes worth an estimated \$200.

The Good & Welfare Fund assists active and retired members and their families in times of crisis. It helps remove some of the sting and burden of unexpected tragedy and lends a hand to those within the M.E.B.A. family. This is a wonderful cause, but we must constantly strengthen the fund to allow additional assistance to members and retirees in times of hardship.

You can contribute to the G&W Fund anytime. But right now would be the best time now that the Union has pledged to make your generous



M.E.B.A. engineers onboard the M/V MATANUSKA, one of the ferries in the Alaska Marine Highway System. In Bellingham, WA are (I-r) 3rd A/E Erick St Clair, 2nd A/E Odie Collins, M.E.B.A. Executive V.P. Claudia Cimini, C/E Brandon Garner and 1st A/E Sam Romey. AMHS vessel crews have done an amazing job despite erratic state budgetary support.

contribution really pack a punch. The Fund is exempt from Federal Income tax. You can make a contribution at a Union hall or support the Fund through an electronic payment made using the link on the M.E.B.A. website (www. mebaunion.org).

## **Approval for Academy Training Vessel Newbuilds**

The Maritime Administration (MarAd) has authorized the construction of two more National Security Multi-Mission Vessels (NSMV) in an expected series of five. The NSMVs will replace the aging training vessels at five maritime academies. Each ship will be capable of supporting humanitarian assistance and disaster relief in times of need. They are being constructed at Philly Shipyard, in Philadelphia, PA.

MarAd's approval and the subsequent funding greenlights the third and fourth newbuilds which will replace vessels at Maine Maritime Academy and Texas A&M Maritime Academy. The first vessel in the series will replace the almost 60-year old SUNY training ship EMPIRE STATE VI. The second will replace the 53-year old TS KENNEDY at Massachusetts Maritime Academy. The yard said the first vessel will be ready for delivery by early 2023. Details

of the projected fifth NMSV have not been announced but many expect it to be slotted to the California State University Maritime Academy.



The labor movement mourned the sudden passing of 53-year old Larry Willis, the dynamic and hardworking President of the Transportation Trades Dept. (AFL-CIO), after a biking accident in November. Greg Regan, who succeeded him at TTD said, Larry showed "an unwavering dedication to working people and their unions, and a deep-seated desire to help those suffering from circumstances beyond their control...Millions of people have had their lives improved because of the work Larry did..."

## Task Force Established to Fortify Labor Rights

The President recently issued an Executive Order establishing a Task Force to make recommendations on how to encourage worker organizing and collective bargaining.

Vice President Kamala Harris is charged with heading up the Task Force which will be comprised of a long list of cabinet members and top policy advisers. Labor Secretary Marty Walsh was chosen as the Vice Chair of the new group.

The AFL-CIO put out a statement applauding the President's appreciation that "unionism is the single most effective tool we have for building a fairer economy and a more just society." AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka noted that the newly created Task Force "will put organizing and collective bargaining at the center of the federal government — part of their steadfast commitment to worker empowerment."

## Lost Jobs to COVID Disproportionately Affected Women

As COVID started spiking this winter, December saw a net loss of 140,000 jobs in the United States, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The National Women's Law Center

(NWLC) dug deeper into the numbers. It found that while men as a whole saw an increase of 16,000 jobs, women experienced a loss of 156,000 jobs. The study also found that of the 12.1 million jobs that women lost from February to April of last year, more than 40% of these jobs have not returned. AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler (IBEW) said on Twitter, "Beyond the headline: Black and Latina women accounted for all net job losses."

## Navy Looking to Recapitalize NOAA Fleet

NOAA's effort to recapitalize its aging fleet of research ships took a step forward as the Navy awarded a Houma, Louisiana shipyard with a contract to begin the design and construction of two new oceanographic ships. M.E.B.A. represents the engine officers aboard the vessels in the NOAA fleet. Jack Menendez is M.E.B.A. Branch Agent in Norfolk who also serves as the Government Fleet Representative.

Thoma-Sea Marine Constructors LLC will construct both vessels. The first is set to be named OCEANOGRAPHER and will be homeported in Honolulu. The second will be named DISCOVERER and has not been assigned a homeport yet, at this early date. The vessels are targeted for completion by June 2024.

## Make Sure Your E-Mail Address is On File!!

Members and applicants should make sure that M.E.B.A. Headquarters has your e-mail address along with your other contact information. If you haven't filled out an M.E.B.A. Database Update Form – or if your information has changed – grab the form off the M.E.B.A. website (www.mebaunion. org) located in the "Documents & Member Notices" section. Update Forms should be sent to the HQ Membership Dept. by mail, fax at (202) 638-5369, or e-mail membership@ mebaunion.org The HQ database is NOT LINKED to the databases at the M.E.B.A. Plans office in Baltimore OR the Calhoon M.E.B.A. Engineering School.

To update your information with Plans, you can find a change of address form on the Plans website (www.mebaplans. org) under "Forms & Documents" and "Member Services Forms."

#### Matson Completes Latest Fleet Renewal with New Con-Ro Delivery

Matson Navigation welcomed the second of two combination container/roll-on, roll-off (Con-Ro) vessels in late December after they took delivery of the new MATSONIA from NASSCO shipyard in San Diego, CA. The

continued



The new MATSONIA during her arrival in Honolulu in a photo forwarded by C/E Brian Koechley & 1st A/E Colin Moses.



newbuild is the second of two Kanaloaclass vessels built by the shipyard for Matson. The company took delivery of the LURLINE in December 2019.

MATSONIA and LURLINE are each 870 feet long, 114 feet wide (beam), with a deep draft of 38 feet and weighing in at over 50,000 metric tons. The sister ships have an enclosed garage with room for approximately 500 vehicles, plus ample space for rolling stock and breakbulk cargo.

The NASSCO-built vessels join two other Matson containerships that entered service over the last two years – DANIEL K. INOUYE and KAIMANA

HILA. The Aloha-class containerships were constructed by Philly Shipyard.

#### M.E.B.A. Retiree Pens Entertaining New Book about Life Below Deck

Longtime West Coast member James Sundfors, now a retired Chief Engineer, has penned an entertaining new book that highlights the indispensable role of engine room mariners. "Blackgang Chronicles: Life & Times of Freddie" is not a true story, but the fictionalized Freddie comes alive as a real representation of a shipboard engineer in the late 1960s - thanks to accurate and true-to-life shipboard description that'll have engineers nodding their heads in approval throughout this quick read.

With enough detail to satisfy the wonkish itch of seagoing engineers, that even includes several hand sketches illustrating onboard ship systems, the book is also amazingly accessible to the shipping novice. The author accommodates the maritime neophyte with his use of laymen's language accompanied by an included glossary of industry terms that will keep all readers enthralled throughout this page turner. You can easily find this book on Amazon which only costs less than \$4 for a paperback or even cheaper for a digital version delivered immediately to your Kindle device.







Volunteers on the Tampa-based AMERICAN VICTORY were brought on a "cruise & lunch" around the Bay in appreciation for all they do. The vessel is one of the 534 Victory ships built during World War II to replace the Liberty ships. Left to right are M.E.B.A.'s Charles Norval, Joe Barbacane, Mike Marino and Bob Mecker.



A rare moment captured at sea as a rainbow connects the USNS POMEROY to the USNS WATSON. Both vessels are proudly managed by Patriot Contract Services for the Military Sealift Command and crewed with expert M.E.B.A. engineers. (PC: SISLER Capt. Wilbur Dahn III)



## Finished with Engines

"They no longer hear the calling of the watches, or the falling of the storm rain in the night. Seas shall weary them no more, for they have reached their final haven—their further shore."

#### **BRUCE ALBERT ALLMOND**



Eight bells rang for 69-year old Bruce
Allmond on December 31, 2019. Bruce served in the U.S. Navy, was a Vietnam veteran

and spent years at sea turning wrenches and keeping engine rooms purring in shipping lanes around the world. He is survived by his loving wife of forty-one years, Teresita, children Henry and Sharon, grand-dog Mocha, brothers Douglas, Thomas, James, Paul and John, numerous nieces and nephews, extended family, and many dear friends.

#### **FREDERICK ANDERSEN**

Frederick Andersen sailed into another life on April 4, 2020 at the age of 93. He was a member of District No. 3, the Radio-Electronics Officers (ROU), that was formerly part of the National M.E.B.A. Fred shipped in various radio shacks in vessels plying the world's trade lanes until his retirement in 1989. He last shipped out the year before retirement onboard the Marine Transport Lines vessel MARINE RELIANCE. He was a resident of Massapequa Park, NY and leaves behind many family and friends.

#### **OWEN "ANDY" ANDERSON**



The keys went silent for Owen Anderson in Shoreline, Washington on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at the age of 93. Born in Shelton, WA on

Jan. 4, 1927, his first ship was the S/S MADAKET in Jan. 1945. He sailed as a member of District No. 3 - ROU until Sept. 1990 when he stepped off the M/V SEA-LAND EXPLORER. Between ships he was District Marine Service Manager for Mackay Radio in Philadelphia, Marine Service Engineer for ITT Mackay Marine in Seattle and Maintenance Technician and Watch Standing Operator at Seattle Radio/KLB. In 1998, he installed the equipment for a new GMDSS STCW training program at Pacific Maritime Institute in Seattle and became its first instructor. In 2000, he joined the GMDSS National Task Force Training Group and headed up a group to merge the FCC and USCG GMDSS exam test pools into a common exam test pool. Andy was preceded in death by his wife Joan of almost 66 years and is survived by his son Kurt, daughters Karen, Linda, Laurel and Kristine and 4 grandchildren.

#### **JOHN BLOMBERG**

John Blomberg sailed toward his final rest on April 7, 2020 at the age of 69. He had a distinguished and productive career at sea shipping out on a variety of vessels. He retired in 2006 shortly after stepping off his final ship, the HORIZON PACIFIC. John was a resident of Vancouver, WA and is survived by his sister Karen Hotchkiss, among others.

#### **ROBERT BLUMENTHAL**

The high seas, the U.S. Merchant Marine industry and the world will be a little less bright due to the passing of a true stalwart, a hard worker and good person. Robert (Bob) Blumenthal lost his battle with liver cancer on January 24, 2020 at the age of 71. Bob was an original member of the very first class to attend the Calhoon M.E.B.A Engineering School in 1966 after graduating from Cardinal Dougherty Catholic High in Philadelphia. His sea year consisted of an extended cadet year shuttling in the China Sea on a tramp steamer where, as a cadet, he worked 16+ hours a day, burning and welding, keeping an old WWII relic afloat. He graduated and shipped out

continued

of the "old" Philly hall on several Mormac ships going to South Africa and South America. Later, he moved to the West Coast where he did night work and sailed for American President Lines. Before moving to the West Coast, Bob enjoyed taking his summers off and spending them in Ocean City, and Summers Point, N.J. During his single days, Bob liked driving TR-6 sports cars and usually got a new one every year. Bob met his wife Julie while taking a guitar class in California. They raised two children together. After putting in his time with the M.E.B.A., Bob moved to Nevada and started his own lawn service. He would later become head of Maintenance at a Lake Tahoe Casino. He resided in Gardnerville, NV and loved the night desert climate. Bob sometimes complained about the 6-foot tumbleweeds that would often fill his yard. He is preceded in death by his wife Julie and is survived by his son Bill and daughter Jennifer. Bob was thankful that he lived long enough to see his favorite sports team, the Philadelphia Eagles, win a Super Bowl. He continued to follow East Coast teams such as the Eagles, Phillies and Villanova. Anyone who knew or worked with Bob loved and enjoyed his upbeat and light funny personality. He had a zest for life. He will be truly missed.

#### **SCOTT ANDREW BOARDMAN**



Scott Boardman found his safe haven on June 26, 2020 at the age of 55. He was a 1991 graduate of Massachusetts

Maritime Academy and shipped out with the M.E.B.A. onboard vessels managed by Maersk Line, Ltd. among others. Energetic, funny and loyal, Scott grew up in Scituate, MA and made Palm Coast, FL his home base in later years. He is survived by many family and friends.

#### **THOMAS J. BOORSE**



Thomas Boorse booked his final passage on December 31, 2019 at the age of 93. Born in Abington, PA, Thomas loved

bowling, going to the casino, drinking Rolling Rock beer, and listening to country music (especially Johnny Cash). He always had a cool pair of sunglasses. He also had a real passion for playing the guitar and singing. Thomas served his country as a merchant mariner during World War II and traveled the world for many years following the war. After coming ashore, Thomas was a Boiler Inspector with Arise for many years. He was a beloved husband, father, uncle, and "pop-pop" to many. He will be deeply missed. He is survived by his wife Evelyn Boorse, children Deborah Page, Linda Carson, Joyce Retzler, Carolyn Boorse, Vincent Boorse, and Genevieve Boorse; 16 grandchildren; and 9 great grandchildren.

#### **JAMES MICHAEL BURNETTE**



Mike Burnette stood his final watch on September 26, 2020 at the age of 71. Mike, affectionately known as "Paladin"

to his American Legion and Christian Motorcycle rider friends, joined the U.S. Coast Guard after graduating in 1968 from Messick High School in Memphis, Tennessee where he was on the ROTC rifle team. He took his basic training in California and was shipped to duty in Ketchikan, Alaska. There he served on several ships in the Coast Guard, then was a part of the Coast Guard Reserves until 1974. He was a rescue swimmer and engine man. He received several medals during his service including the Good Conduct medal, Expert Rifle and Hand Gun medals, and traveled the USA for the Coast Guard in shooting competitions. After his military service, he attended

auto mechanics school in Florida, earning two certified degrees for auto mechanics and returned to Ketchikan, Alaska to open "Mike's Auto Lab." Eventually, he took his expertise and joined the M.E.B.A., working in engine rooms of various vessels in the Alaska Marine Highway System. Back in 2005, Mike moved to Livingston, Texas and married his high school sweetheart Mary Nell Greer and they together owned the local Century 21 real estate office. Mike was also a gunsmith and gun broker with a FFL license issued by ATF, and he opened Paladin's Hideout and continued working on the AMHS until his retirement in 2015. Mike is survived by his loving wife Mary Nell Burnette; grandson Davis Vaughn; stepson Mark Vaughn; step granddaughter Shea Lewis; daughter Michelle Burnette-Lozier and her children, Collin, Isaac, Bethany and Emily; daughter Natalie Burnette White and her children Corey, Janie, Claire, Boden and Cooper; daughter Karen Burnette Howe and her children Mallory and Carter; and son Thomas Burnette and his children Oxford and Emilee; along with numerous other relatives and friends.

#### **JAMES IGNATIUS BUTLER**

Jamie Butler steamed into the sunset on November 19, 2020 at the age of 59. He



was a 1983 graduate of the Calhoon M.E.B.A. Engineering School (Class 81A) and shipped out with a variety of M.E.B.A.contracted companies

including Lykes, Mormac, Horizon and APL among many others. He spent many of his earlier years sailing out of the Houston hall and sailed as a Chief Engineer for much of his long seafaring career. In his retirement, he came back to the M.E.B.A. in 2017 and held down the fort at our Baltimore Union hall where he served as Dispatcher. He is missed by many family and friends including his M.E.B.A. Brothers and

Sisters. M.E.B.A. Secretary-Treasurer Bill Van Loo said, "Jamie was my classmate, my friend and my Union brother. His passing is painful for all of us in the M.E.B.A. family."

#### **LUCIEN JOSEPH CASTRO**

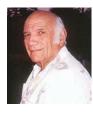


New Orleans native Lou Castro crossed the final bar on June 4, 2020 at the age of 94. Beloved husband of the late

Ruth Garrett Castro for 60 years, he is survived by sons Lucien Jr., Russell and Christopher, grandchildren Alexander, Carson and Camille, sister Frances Medley, family relations Larry Garrett, Penny Murr, Terrence Leon Murr, as well as a number of adult nieces and nephews in southern Louisiana and Texas. Lucien was a powerful man recognized for his dependable character, courage, and decisiveness; yet, he was most widely known for his sensitive, compassionate, and limitless generosity. He put in many years working for Lykes Bros. Steamship Co. as a port chief engineer in the New Orleans maintenance & repair division. He served his country as a mariner during World War II, and was a Lieutenant Commander in the United States Naval Reserve. Later, he continued to serve with the American Legion and was a past Commander of Maritime Post 247. He thrived in the maritime industry, was well known in the New Orleans maritime community, and was a past president of the Marine Club of New Orleans. Consumed by a bold and energetic love and passion for life, Lucien traveled extensively and retrieved the best aspects of those cultures, which he graciously offered to others. He was dependable, disciplined, and always concerned with his family's wellbeing and happiness. Lucien forever dedicated his love and commitment to his dearest wife and lifelong companion, Ruth, to which he framed

his world with appreciation for her. Yearly, Christmas sparked his heart as he worked tirelessly in the preparation and delivery of smoked or fried turkeys, balls of Dutch cheese, and other worldly treats to family and friends. He loved cooking, entertaining, dancing, and enjoying Mardi Gras festivities with family and friends. His generosity to the Catholic Church through his relation to St. Pius X in New Orleans was remarkable, as was his ongoing and plentiful support for St. Jude's Children's Hospital, March of Dimes, The United Way, and Covenant House. In the example of Christ, Lucien loved and sacrificed for others. He competed well, finished the race, and kept the faith. 2 Tim. 4:7. He is known for never parting presence with a "goodbye," as the term was so final; instead, he chose "so long." Therefore, it will be, so long brother, father, shipmate, and friend, "the watch stands relieved by those you have trained, guided and led . . . we have the watch," sound the bell. He will be sorely missed by all those whose lives he touched.

#### **STERLING EDWARD CAVALIER**



Sterling Cavalier reached his final shore on September 17, 2020 at the age of 90. As a young man of 16, he joined the war effort as a

wiper as part of the Fourth Arm of Defense. He worked carrying supplies until WWII ended, then took a job in Tullahoma, TN at ARO as a marine engineer technician. Sterling worked on Air Force Jet engine wind tunnels and had 15 technicians under his supervision. In 1966, he moved to Seabrook Texas to work at the new Manned Spacecraft Center (NASA) and was part of the team that worked on the spacecraft components and all the moon surface experiments like the original Lunar Rover (moon buggy)

for moon landings. He maintained his second engineer's license and went back to sea in Dec. 1976. Sterling then shipped out on the LOUISE LYKES on his way to Singapore. He retired in 1993 as a Chief Engineer and moved to Perdido Key, FL, where he previously enjoyed vacationing with his family. He always told everyone he had an interesting and colorful life and has been to every seaport in the world many times. He also owned a private plane and enjoyed flying and taking anyone up who was willing to go. He is preceded in death by wives Shirley and Marilyn Cavalier and is survived by siblings Alvin, Albert Sr and Alice; children Debbie, Catherine and Cynthia, 9 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren.

#### **DANIEL WILLIAM CULLIGAN**



Daniel Culligan set sail for uncharted waters on January 26, 2020 in Mesa, Arizona at the age of 73. Dan graduated from

Ashland (Wisconsin) High School in 1965, then went to work at the paper mill. Soon after, he got merchant mariner documents and began sailing on the Great Lakes for Interlake Steamship Company. He put together 40 great years on the Lakes and retired in 2009 at the age of 63. Dan enjoyed golfing, four-wheeling, Brewers and Packers games. He is survived by wife Kathy Morrison, daughter Carrie Culligan-Nelson, son Daryl, sister Sally, brother Jim, stepchildren Cliff Saari, Craig Saari, Chris Saari, LuAnn Saari, Stephanie Eder, Justin Saari and Jennifer Saari, grandchildren Ryan, Kirby, Hayley, Jeanie, Candace, Ryan, Kaitlyn, Samantha, Lucas, Allison, Ethan, Alec, Max, and Adie, great grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

#### **MARK B. DOLAN**



Mark Dolan made his final crossing on May 5, 2020 at the age of 58 in Traverse City, Michigan. He was a Ship Master who distinguished

himself on Interlake Steamship vessels sailing on the Great Lakes. Mark is survived by his wife Cheryl, children Kai and Gavin, his parents Delores & Martin Dolan, sisters Carolyn and Claire, niece Alison Bong, as well as numerous friends and extended family. He was a competitive skier, car enthusiast, a committed family man and friend. He will be missed by everyone who knew him.

#### **JACK WAYLAN EDWARDS**

Jack Waylan Edwards sailed into the sweet hereafter on May 31, 2020 at the age of 98. He was part of the "Greatest Generation" and served his country honorably as a member of the "Fourth Arm of Defense" - the Merchant Marine - during World War II. Following the cessation of hostilities, Jack continued shipping out in the commercial sector as an engineer. He officially retired in 1987. He is survived by his wife Catherine, and 3 daughters from his previous marriage, Carol Stewart, Anne Flaherty, and Margaret Edwards.

#### **CHARLES L. ELLZEY**

Charles Ellzey eased into the firmament on January 7, 2020 at the age of 91. A 1950 graduate of the US Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, NY, he served as Chief Engineer on various vessels for Central Gulf Lines during the pinnacle of his seafaring career. As a mariner, he helped deliver munitions to members of the US Armed forces during the Korean and Vietnam Wars. His M.E.B.A. retirement became official on New Year's Day in 1984. He had been a member of the First United Methodist Church in Bridgeton, NJ and assisted his late wife, Helen,

in her many volunteer activities, including work with the Cumberland County Alzheimer Disease Family Support Group. He was an excellent baker and loved sharing his recipes with his friends. He is survived by a number of nieces and nephews.

#### **JERRY WILLIAM GODFREY**



Jerry Godfrey steamed into the sunset on August 24, 2020 at the age of 81. Jerry attended school in Richard

City, Tennessee. In 1959, he started his career as a seagoing engineer and his first shipping assignment was aboard Sun Oil's SS OHIO SUN. In 1966, he joined the M.E.B.A. then boarded the SS CHALLENGER and transported ammunition to Vietnam, sailed through the Suez Canal immediately after the 1967 Six-Day War, and brought food and supplies to Bangladesh during the 1971 Liberation War. He also sailed as 2<sup>nd</sup> A/E on the oil/chemical tanker the OVERSEAS NEW YORK until he retired in 1996 with his wife in Beaumont, Texas. During his thirty-seven-year career, he traveled around the world six times. Jerry was known as "Poppy," the name his grandchildren lovingly bestowed upon him. Poppy was quite the entertainer; telling tales about Big Foot, singing little jingles, and teaching the kids and grandkids how to cook, ride motorcycles, and squirrel hunt. Poppy was an avid gardener. He also raised rabbits, chickens, ducks, geese, guineas, and turkeys. He loved working in his workshop while listening and singing to his favorite country-western music. Survivors include his children, Jerry Godfrey, John Bruce; Spencer Godfrey, Jan Rugg and Joseph Godfrey; grandchildren Tara Godfrey and Chad Godfrey, Stacey Godfrey Evans, Spencer Godfrey, John Rugg, Laurel Rugg Zepeda, Andrea Rugg, Barbara Ditch, Shannon, Olivia and Nicholas Godfrey; six great-grandchildren; and brother, Donald Godfrey.

#### **GEORGE G. GREENIG**

George Greenig journeyed to the great beyond on May 25, 2020 at the age of 96. George could best be described as a true "Outdoorsman." He enjoyed spending time outside swimming and, in his later years, looking at the crystal blue water with his family on a nice warm day. George took many fishing trips to Canada over the years, and always enjoyed working on his perfectly manicured garden with his grandchildren. He sailed around the world many times in his seafaring career with the M.E.B.A. between 1942-1985 He was the Chief Engineer aboard vessels for United States Lines for many years, He was extremely handy aboard ship and at home, and his family dubbed him "Mr. Fixit." He is survived by his loving wife Shirley after 65 wonderful years. He also leaves behind children Michele Reinert George B. Greenig. George will also be greatly missed by his adoring grandchildren Alexandra Renee, and Matthew George Reinert.

#### **THOMAS J. HANSBURY**



Thomas Hansbury crossed the great divide on July 18, 2020 at the age of 64. He enjoyed many things life offers

such as traveling, playing music and taking peaceful walks with his dogs. He was an avid Philadelphia Eagles football fan. He took pride in working at the Deptford Township Veterans Memorial Park and cherished the time spent with family and friends. He is missed by many including wife Ana, sisters Mary, Christine, Lucy and Rita, brothers Dennis and Sean; many nieces, nephews and extended family.

#### **GARY ROBERT HUNT**



Gary Hunt made his final voyage on June 28th, 2020 at the age of 75 suddenly while walking his dog and

good buddy, Dusty. Born and raised in Ventura, CA, Gary graduated from California State University Maritime Academy (Cal Maritime) in Vallejo, CA in 1969. After graduation, he sailed for 3 years as a Naval Reserve Officer in the Inactive Reserves in order to fulfill his military obligation. He first sailed on the training ship SS GOLDEN BEAR followed by the SS SAMOA BEAR, SS LIMON HALL. During the Vietnam War, he was promoted from Ensign to Lieutenant Junior Grade, and later to Lieutenant. His ship transported military cargo to Saigon, Thailand, Korea, Okinawa, and Qui Nhon Harbor (which was under attack at the time.) In 1976, he took a permanent position aboard the SEA-LAND ALEUTIAN DEVELOPER, where he later became the youngest Chief Engineer on the West Coast. He transferred to the SEA-LAND ANCHORAGE eleven years later, his final ship before retiring in the year 2000. In his retirement, Gary enjoyed family gatherings, hunting and fishing with his many friends, and caring for his Border Collies and Australian Shepherd. He is survived by his wife, Virginia; son Brenner; stepson Zachary Robinson; daughter Shawna Hunt; sister and brother-inlaw Diane and Gary Swingle; and sister Debbie Waage. He is sorely missed by all. God bless you, Chief.

#### **ALVIN JOHNSON**



Alvin Johnson made his last muster on August 5, 2020 at the age 85. Alvin had a productive and memorable career at sea as

an engineer and sailed for a variety of shipping companies on various vessels. He last worked on the SS GUAYAMA for Puerto Rico Marine before his retirement in 1993. He was a Mason and had a passion for fishing and hunting. He is survived by his wife of 54 years Evelleen,

children Joy Johnson Jackson, Judith Ann "Judy" Lichenstein, Edward Dwayne Johnson, grandchildren Justin Jackson, Terri Lynn Jackson, Sophia Lichenstein, Jessica Lichenstein, Rachel Johnson, Cole Johnson, nephews Kenneth Daniels, George Daniels and cousin Jessie Jacobs.

#### **DONALD JUSTICE**



Donald Justice sailed toward distant lands on December 5, 2020 at the age of 89. After his Hiawatha, Kansas high school

graduation in 1949, he went to work on the Michigan-Wisconsin pipeline. A year later, Don joined the U.S. Navy and was assigned to Helicopter Squad HU1 where he began to travel. He was discharged in 1954 with the rank of AB3. He then returned to Hiawatha and began work on building the Kansas Turnpike. He also helped build the Kimberly bridge in Kimberling City, Missouri and the bridge from Lampe, Missouri to Golden, Missouri. In 1958 Don moved to Hermitage, Missouri and worked on the Pomme De Terre Dam until 1962, when he purchased a local tavern. In 1968-1969 he traveled to the state of Nevada where he was a heavy equipment operator for an openpit gold mine. His most adventurous time was the 22 years he spent sailing with Ameritime Industries on a Merchant ship as the Chief Engineer. Don retired in 1992 and had a 240-acre farm in Osceola, Missouri. He raised cattle and enjoyed the little things on the farm. During the winter months, Don would travel to Arizona. Don is survived by nieces Gayle Young and Shirley Murdy; nephew Robert Martin and loyal friends, Leon and Peggy Raymond and sons Rich and Brandon Raymond, Paul Heathman, Kem Idol, Harvey Elliott, and Anna Lee Moore.

#### **JAMES M. LaVINE**

Big Jim LaVine reached his journey's end on November 26, 2020 at the

age of 75. He was born in Chicago to a boisterous family with four brothers. He was an outstanding three-sport athlete in high school and graduated from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, prepared for a career as a Marine Engineer. He will be remembered by friends scattered far and wide as a hugging, and huggable, guy who loved golf, Mardi Gras, and his family and friends. He is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Linda; son, Craig; and brothers Tony, Ted, and Rudy. Waiting to meet him were his mother, Peggy; father, Rudy; and brother Vance.

#### **PAUL F. MacCARTHY**



Paul MacCarthy sailed off to his final port of call on July 10, 2020 at the age of 90. Born in Denmark, Paul emigrated to the U.S. as a young

man and joined the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. Following cessation of hostilities, he began his career as a radio and electronics officer as part of the ROU, M.E.B.A. District No. 3. Among many other assignments, he sailed for United States Lines as a Radio Officer. After his 1987 retirement, he immersed himself in his home life and family. Paul is survived by his daughters Lorraine Thompson, Hillary Magnanini, and Adrienne Masterson. He was the loving grandfather of Arielle, Olivia, Claire and William Magnanini and Chelsea and James Masterson.

#### **JAMES HENRY MARCONTELL**



Eight bells rang for James Marcontell on February 14, 2019 at the age of 74. He spent much of his time in the Lone Star State and

was a graduate of the Texas A&M Maritime Academy in Galveston. He also attended the University of Houston

continued

and studied nuclear engineering. James worked at Combustion Engineering in Chattanooga, Tennessee and also taught Marine Engineering courses at Texas Maritime Academy. He met his wife Carol in 1962 at Wilson's Skating Rink in Port Arthur, Texas where they both lived and went to school. They would be married for 51 years. James sailed deep-sea then worked for the ferry systems in Alaska and Washington. After his children were grown, he returned to deepsea shipping. After his retirement from shipping, he taught Marine Engineering courses at Seattle Maritime Academy in Seattle, Washington and also served as a Stationary Engineer at Fircrest Residential Habilitation Center in Shoreline, Washington. He is survived by his wife as well as children Christl and Paul and grandchildren Paris and Lilly.

#### WILLIAM McCLELLAN JR.



Bill McClellan sailed into another life on July 28, 2020 at the age of 79. After his graduation from Boston Technical High School in 1959,

he spent a year fishing out of Harwich and Chatham, before attending Massachusetts Maritime Academy. He graduated in 1963 with a marine engineering degree, signed up with the M.E.B.A. and began shipping out for the next 23 years, earning his Chief Engineer's license for Steam and Motor vessels. He married Maureen, the love of his life, in 1983 and they spent just shy of 37 years together. He last sailed for United States Lines in late 1986 shortly before his retirement. Once he retired from sailing, Bill enjoyed working on computers, was one of the initial members of the Chatham Cable Committee and spent 12 years on the Chatham School Committee. He loved his time spent in the White Mountains of New Hampshire or out on the family boat in the waters

around Chatham. Bill was also very involved with the ASLP program and with his alma mater. He enjoyed watching his daughter Katie grow up in Chatham and follow in his footsteps to MMA. Before passing he was able to see her complete her Doctorate in Education degree. Bill had a love for Rhodesian Ridgebacks. Fair winds and following seas. Bill is survived by his wife Maureen; daughter Katherine M. McClellan; dog Nauset; brother John J. McClellan; sister Joan Bowman; one niece and two nephews. He leaves behind special shipmates and extended family and friends.

#### **DONALD McKEE**

Don McKee set sail for uncharted waters on June 16, 2020 at the age of 94. He was a longtime member who sailed around the world many times, delivered cargo in peace and war and made his country and Union proud. He last shipped out as C/E in late 1990 onboard the SEA-LAND ANCHORAGE. He joins his wife Norma in death and is survived by his son Brian among others.

#### **RICCARDO A. MERCOGLIANO**



Riccardo Mercogliano found his safe haven on December 12, 2019 at the age of 65. Riccardo graduated Asbury Park High School

(New Jersey) in 1972 before attending the Calhoon M.E.B.A. Engineering School as a cadet. He had many adventures at sea, traveling the world. He went onto marry his high school sweetheart, which lasted for 40 years of marriage but spanned 49 years, in addition to raising four boys. He was a member of Francis of Assisi Catholic church, as well as the Elks. Riccardo will forever be remembered for his kindness and sense of humor.

#### **TODD FREDERICK MORELAND**



Todd Moreland rode off into the sunset on August 10, 2020 at the age of 52. He was a resident of Navarre Florida. We lost Todd in a tragic motorcycle

accident near Santa Fe, NM. Friend and shipmate Ari Jalkio said, "Todd was a former Army Airborne Ranger who came up through the hawsepipe and became an amazing M.E.B.A. engineer and Union Brother...I'm beyond grief, may he rest in peace." Michael Thomas recounted Todd's early life: "Adopted at 4 months from the Catholic Service League in Akron Ohio, he was a tiny little redhead that his adopting parents loved. He shared a wonderful childhood with his older adopted brother Chris. Their father Russell built them a 14' tall fort out of railroad ties where the boys spent their youth playing cowboys & indians and cops & robbers. At 11, Todd got a paper route delivering the Akron Beacon Journal with 106 subscribers. That was also the year he played football on a championship team as a wide receiver. After graduating Watkins Memorial High School (Pataskla, Ohio) in 1986 he joined the US Army and spent close to 4 years as a Paratrooper in Ft. Bragg. He got out as a Corporal with an Honorable Discharge. Todd then became a merchant mariner with the Seafarers International Union and began working as a Wiper. Later, he joined the M.E.B.A. and began shipping out as a 3<sup>rd</sup> A/E. He was a loyal union man with over 18 years sailing all over the world and was well respected by his peers. In 2015, Todd got injured aboard a ship and was permanently disabled. No longer capable of going to sea, Todd struggled to find something to reinvent himself. In 2018 Todd became extremely interested in all things Harley-Davidson" and took part in the Hoka Hey run. He bought a Harley and began to compete

heavily with both the "Iron Butt Association" and "Tour of Honor" racking up a three-ring binder full of certificates." He loved the Hoka Hey, got to know all the riders and became a welcome part of the HH extended family. Todd loved his family and is survived by his father Russell, brother Christopher, children AJ, Ashley & Casey, grandchildren Landen, Addison, Brody, Connor, Madison, Cooper, and Luke, as well as his soulmate Buffy.

#### **DAVID GERALD NORRIS**



David Norris set course for calmer waters on May 14, 2020 at the age of 74. He grew up in Gainestown, AL and joined the Army in

1966 serving 3 years as a sergeant in the US Army. While in combat in the Vietnam War, David received various badges and medals which included 2 Bronze Stars. Upon completion of his service years, he attended school, earned his 1st A/E license (Steam & Motor), and shipped out for years. He retired from the sea in 1996 after a final job for Liberty Maritime. He is survived by his brother, Eugene Norris, Jr. and stepchildren Michael Pritchard, Tamara Redmon, and Angela Butters, grandchildren Courtney Leytham, Christopher Leytham and Joshua Pritchard and four great grandchildren. David was a member of Government Street Baptist Church and lived an honorable life serving God, his family, and his country.

#### **EDWARD CHARLES O'MELIA**



Ed O'Melia crossed over on December 12, 2020 at the age of 65. He was a proud 1977 graduate of Massachusetts Academy in Buzzards

Bay. His MMA classmates were a very close-knit group, like a caring family, or as they called themselves "a brotherhood." As a marine engineer, Ed spent 25 years of his life shipping out on container vessels around the world. He spent a great deal of his life in Florida, Texas, and other places, establishing friendships everywhere he went. He traveled to four continents and had numerous sea stories, which he loved to share. After retiring from service at sea, he opened a small restaurant in Cocoa Beach, Florida, and he was an excellent cook who could prepare anything from meatloaf to soups (his seafood gumbo was legendary, if you can take habanero peppers). He even liked to grow his own habaneros and jalapenos. Ed was an avid sports fan, especially football and baseball. Having lived in the Tampa Bay area, he especially loved his Rays and Buccaneers. He was the only person in his household who was genuinely happy when Brady and Gronk signed with the Bucs. He packed a lot of living into his 65 "trips around the sun." Ed is survived by three loving and beautiful daughters, Jennifer O'Melia Cummings and her husband, John; Mary O'Melia Stange and her husband Wes; and Rosalie O'Melia; grandchildren John Paul, Max, and Amelia; brother Richard O'Melia and his wife, Diana; sister Mary Sara O'Melia Cummings and her husband, Jeff; as well as nieces Jillian and Jenna.



#### **HILDEBRANDO PINHEIRO**

Hildebrando "Babam" Pinheiro berthed at his final destination on August 13,

2020 at the age of 88. He shipped out as a cook as part of the National Maritime Union and crossed the globe keeping spirits high and bellies fed. He enjoyed traveling with his wife Telma, and spending time with his family and many friends. His seafaring career wound down in 1997 with his retirement. Besides

his wife, he is survived by his sons, Kenneth, Robert and Brando, daughter Brenda Alveraz, 13 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, siblings, Eulalia Pinheiro, Lourdes Pereira and Ida Smith, sister-in-law Maria Amador and Milda Pinheiro, many nieces, nephews and friends.

#### **ROBERT W. POWELL JR.**

Rob Powell was loosed from his moorings on Jan. 4, 2020 at the age of 73. Born in Richmond, Virginia, he grew up in Sayville, New York, where he nurtured his love for sailing on the Great South Bay. A graduate of the Maine Maritime Academy, his successful career as part of the Merchant Marine spanned over 34 years and took him all over the world, often for lengthy periods at sea. He served on 23 different ships of various types and sizes, including supertankers. Capt. Powell was a U.S. Coast Guard-licensed Master Mariner (unlimited tonnage, oceans). He filed for retirement and came in from the sea in 2004. A lifelong learner, he pursued many and varied interests in his retirement, one of which led to earning a bachelor's degree in Human Foods and Nutrition from Washington State University.

Though an avid reader, book collector and genealogist, he also enjoyed working with his hands and undertook many home construction-projects with exceptional skill Over the years, his five beloved German shepherds gave him great pleasure in Silverhill, Alabama He is survived by sisters Nealon "Nancy" Sauer, Holly Powell and Melissa "Missy" Merritt; brothers John, Mark and Luke. Rob was a fun-loving and devoted uncle to his 13 nephews and nieces. He was especially fond of the many extended family gatherings spent in Fairhope, AL at Christmas and during the summers.

continued

#### **SAMUEL T. PRICE SR.**



Sam Price shipped off to the source on July 8, 2020, 5 weeks shy of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. He was born in Indiana, one of 16 children. At the age of twenty-

one, he saw an ad for the Merchant Marine and he joined. On his first vessel, a training ship, he decided he wanted to work in the engine room. He got a job on the NORTHERN SUN, owned by the Sun Oil Company, and went to New Hampshire, where he worked in a shop and learned all about engines. After four months, he received a 3<sup>rd</sup> Engineers license and certificates and he joined the effort in WWII. He shipped commercially in the intervening years and again supported his country during Korea, Vietnam & during the Suez crisis. He retired as Chief Engineer in 1982. He raised his family in Florida, moving to Colorado for retirement and later moved to Delaware. Sam was recognized in 2012 by the State of Delaware for his valor in rescuing the crew of the Tug Menoninee off the cast of Delaware during WWII. He can't remember telling a lie, he never smoked, drank or cursed. He is survived by his sons Sam Price Jr., Geoffrey Price and L. Stephen Price; sister Milta Earnestine; four grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. He is also survived by three step-daughters Mary Anna Lewis, Eva Sleeger, and Jean McCormick.

#### **CHARLES JOSEPH RICE**



Charles Rice shipped off toward his final destination on October 4, 2020 at the age of 87. He was ordained as a pastor

and was a member of Spanish Trail Baptist Church. He served his country in the US Navy on the destroyer USS YARNALL. Following his military service, he graduated from Piney Point Merchant Marine Academy in Maryland and worked for over forty years as Chief Engineer at Mobile Bay Towing. More than anything else, he was a dedicated and loving husband, nurturing father and the best PawPaw to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He's most known for his fables of Jake the Snake, which kept any child in the bed, and Bloody Bones, which kept the small ones out of the barn. What he desired most is that his family love and serve the Lord. Surviving are sons Charles, Joseph, John and Scott; daughter Marcia Rice Stabler; ten grandchildren and twentyfour great-grandchildren; brother Chester; sisters Dorothy Medynski, Evelyn Odom, Ruth Provencher, and Margaret Roy; nieces, nephews, and many other relatives and friends.

#### **JOSE GERMAN RIVERA**



Jose Rivera sailed into the sunset on February 19, 2020 at the age of 89. He was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Jose served as a mariner for 45 years, and worked

with Sea-Land Service and Navieras in Puerto Rico. He was a Mason at Mandarin Lodge 343. He loved dancing like Fred Astaire and loved to show that off. Jose married the love of his life, Sonia in 1954. They celebrated their 65 years of marriage with pride. He loved his family and loved renewing his vows to Sonia every 5 years through the Catholic Church. His focus in life was to make sure his family was taken care of. He is survived by his wife Sonia Luz Lopez de Rivera; daughters Sonia Ivette Rivera and Wanda Zinchuck; grandchildren Kevin Ballard, Amanda Stone and Destiny Salahi; and great grand-kids Luca and Liam.

#### **SALVADOR SCHEPENS**



Sal Schepens rose above the horizon on August 6, 2020 at the age of 91. He had just completed his final mission building a fence for

his goats. After building this fence, he enjoyed watching them from the front porch with Connie his lovely bride of 68 years. Sal loved, the sea, family, Connie, and Christ. As a young child, he watched electricians wire three lights in his Gulfport, MS home. From that observation, he electrified the family home. At age sixteen years (tenth grade), he forcefully convinced his father and mother to sign papers so that he could become a merchant mariner to support the WWII effort. His first day at sea was March 3, 1945 and he continued in the Merchant Marine as a licensed engineer until the end of his life. During WWII, he sailed on troop ships and fondly remembered V-E Day. He was at sea during V-J Day. Sal was called up from the Naval Reserves during the Korean War and served aboard the USS WASP and the USS HORNET. He was the Main Propulsion Officer on the USS HORNET for two years. Later while serving at the Naval Academy in Annapolis MD, he instructed cadets on small boats. He left the Navy as a Lieutenant Junior Grade in 1955. While he was shipping, he met Connie at the Port and Starboard USO club in NYC. He used his wits to get assigned to ships that would be sailing to NYC so that he could see the love of his life. Sal ask unsuccessfully two times for Connie's hand in marriage, but the third time was the charm. As Connie was from NYC and Sal was from Gulfport MS, they settled on a farm in Delaware. There he farmed, worked as an electrician, and owned small businesses. But the work he loved would start after his retirement.

During retirement, he was assigned to the engine room of the USS EMPIRE STATE, the training ship for SUNY Maritime. He taught and trained many young sailors. He volunteered on and sailed with the SS JOHN BROWN, a still-operational WWII Liberty Ship. He continued to work the farm with the aid of his son Neal. On the farm Connie and Sal raised six kids: Roy, Dave, Neal, Carl, Wayne and Barbara. Sal's grandchildren include Cissy, Mike, Brian, Pat, Brandi, Laura, Clare, Justin, Chrissi, Erika, Bradley, Ellie, Nick, and Meredith.

#### **MICHAEL DAVID SNOW**



The creator rang down 'finished with engines' for Michael Snow on August 25, 2020 at the age of 56. Also known as Snowy or Snowman

to his friends, Mike graduated from Maine Maritime Academy in 1987 with a degree in Marine Engineering. He spent the next 33 years shipping around the world for different companies, but a trip from Long Beach to Honolulu changed his course when he was introduced to an amazing woman from Thailand, his wife of the past 16 years, Patchara, and one of his smartest decisions. Mike and Patchara spent 2019 living in San Diego while he helped build the Matson ship LURLINE, the largest combination container/roll on, roll off ship ever built in the United States and, at the time of his death, was the LURLINE's Chief Engineer. While in San Diego they enjoyed attending many concerts and even had a gold tag that said "THE SNOWS" permanently applied to the bar at Donovan's where they sat for dinner many nights during the week. Mike loved music. He taught himself to play the guitar and enjoyed playing with his colleagues to pass the time. He had a quick wit, loved golf with his friends (even though a golf club or two may have been sacrificed), old cars, a Royal Flush, pyrotechnics, sardines,

the Unknown Comic, snowmobiling in Danforth, and his favorite cats, Clyde and Snickers. He will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved him. He is survived by his mother, Marcia A. Snow, his wife, Patchara, sister Kathryn K. Rice, niece, Katelyn I. Rice, nephew Matthew D. Rice and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

#### **JOHN WILLIAM SULLIVAN**



John Sullivan steamed into the hereafter on August 23, 2020 at the age of 62. A gifted engineer, he was the youngest in the industry at the time to

earn his Chief's license. John eventually earned a Chief Engineer's license for steam, motor and gas powered engines and was extremely proud of that accomplishment. He put in many great years at sea primarily shipping with Maersk/Sea-Land and retired from the sea at the age of 40. At the time of his death, he was excelling as a Marine Forensic Expert. He is survived by his wife Inga; sons William, John and Christopher; and step-sons James E. Carroll III, Francis Winslow Carroll and Thomas Capers McAlister Carroll. Also surviving are two brothers, two brothers-in-law, four sisters-in-law and seven nieces and nephews.

#### **ANASTASE C. TSIPOLITIS**



Captain "Tassos" Tsipolitis peacefully sailed into the sunset on March 10, 2020 at the age of 80. He was born on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July in Piraeus, Greece

in 1939 and spent his childhood in Axis-occupied Greece. In those years, he learned gratitude, generosity and humility which helped shape his whole life. Tassos graduated from high school then entered the shipping academy in Piraeus. In 1960, he joined the Merchant Marine and four years later began serving 27 months in the Greek

Coast Guard for compulsory military service. Soon after, he went back to sea and eventually upgraded his license earning a Master's license in 1971.

Tassos obtained a Master's degree in Transportation, at the Morley College of the London School of Foreign Trade in London, England in 1975. He held a Captain's license for Greece, Liberia, and the U.S., obtaining his American license in 1985. He was qualified for any sized vessel on open waters. Having sailed the world over, Tassos travelled to hundreds of foreign ports, traversed through the Panama Canal and the Suez Canal, operated in the Persian Gulf during times of peace and war, and had numerous fascinating stories of travel and life at sea.

Tassos met his wife, Nancy while they were both working for Hess Oil Refinery on St. Croix, USVI. He was serving as a Port Captain. After they were married in 1981, they lived in Greece and San Francisco, before moving to Carrollton. Tassos became a naturalized American citizen in 1982 and they lived in Carrollton, Georgia since 1985. Upon his retirement, Tassos owned and operated the Mediterranean Deli on the square in Carrollton. He also enjoyed meeting weekly with fellow ROMEOs (Retired Old Men Eating Out) to eat lunch and solve the problems of the day. He and his family made a trip to Greece nearly every summer and enjoyed seeing his sisters and extended family, eating the authentic food of his childhood and soaking up the sun of his homeland. Tassos is survived by his wife, Nancy, and children, Eula Tsipolitis, Irene Tsipolitis Moe and son Jonathan Duke; granddaughters Hannah Duke, Stella Moe and Emma Moe. He is also survived by two sisters, Vassiliki Tsipolitis Mastishadis and Fanie Tsipolitis Vlassopoulos, of Greece and brothers in law Mike Kilgore and Tim Kilgore, as well as several nieces and nephews in Greece and Georgia.

#### **GERALD E. TURNER JR.**



Jerry Turner sailed into the next life on December 6, 2020 at the age of 74. Jerry came from a close-knit family in York, ME along with

siblings Carol, Karen and Mary Lynne, and they grew up in a household that nurtured a combination of fun and education, family time on the beach and quiet time at home. After graduating from York High School, Jerry attended Maine Maritime Academy where he received his B.S. in Marine and Electrical Engineering. He suited up with the M.E.B.A. following his graduation and proudly shipped out to ports around the world for a variety of companies. On the SS MASON LYKES he received a commendation for battling a fire that broke out on the bow end of the ship. He later earned his Chief Engineer's license and spent a lot of time at sea. Jerry had a lifelong love of the sea, travel and worldwide cultures. Transitioning to management

as port engineer, Jerry settled in New Orleans and made it his home for years where he fell in love with the culture of the city, the music, the fine restaurants and the people. Jerry is survived by the love his life Sue. In Sue, Jerry found his partner for life and the two shared an incredibly rich life together. Sue and Jerry loved and laughed, enjoyed travel and home, took care of family and friends and complemented each other always. The two of them found Sarasota, FL together, where they continued their love of fine restaurants, a beautiful city, and the opera. Here they also became part of the Regency House condominium community of wonderful people. They found the joy, once again, of being able to host family and friends in a home near the beach. A true gentleman in every sense, the image of Jerry holding Sue firmly as they walked arm-in-arm will be missed. Jerry is survived by his sisters and Mary Lynne Boardman, Karen Norton and Carol Elford, as well as his nephews and nieces Eric Boardman, Lani Silversides, Kari

Norton, John Norton, Kim Zito and their families. Jerry is also survived by his loving children—John Daly, Anne Marie Casey and Peggy Berry. Jerry is ever-loving Papa to his grandchildren Erin and Kelly Casey.

#### **CALVIN EUSTACE YANCY**

Calvin Yancy sailed into glory on July 29, 2020 at the age of 92. Calvin served in the United States Navy during WWII before he suited up with the M.E.B.A. and went to sea in the commercial sector. He had a long and prosperous career as a marine engineer, crossing the world many times and shipping on a variety of vessels. He last went to sea as a 3rd A/E in 1990 with Lykes Bros. Calvin is survived by his wife Melissa; sons Dana Yancy, Kennith and Charles; daughters Kimberly Nixon, Louise Yancy and Billie Jean Yancy; step-sister Cindy Hartley; fourteen grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and one great great grandchild.



The 1st Annual Leroy Koehler Disc (Frisbee) Golf tournament at the Calhoon M.E.B.A. Engineering School was a wild success. The tournament benefited the MMMMF (4MF), the Foundation that supports the mariner Memorial at the School. At the "bow" of the Memorial is Disc Golf wizard Brian McElligott and KAIMANA HILA Chief Engineer Brad McDermott.



The Union hosted a terrific and successful fundraiser for the M.E.B.A. Merchant Marine Memorial Foundation (4MF) on June 17th that included a fun Disc Golf Tournament and a Silent Auction/Raffle. Many thanks to all those who participated and contributed to this great cause that supports the Memorial Park at the Calhoon M.E.B.A. Engineering School honoring fallen seafarers. The event raised more than \$15,000. Left to right at the evening event are Daniel Mosa, 4MF Chairman Bill Van Loo, Derek McMullen, Michael Ferrino and Calhoon School Academic Manager Bryan Jennings.

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M.E.B.A. & MM&P engine and deck officers (& IBU mariners) keep the Alaska Marine Highway System ferry M/V KENNICOTT running smoothly. Left to right are 3rd A/E Brannon Niblock, 3rd A/E Brandy Richter, 2nd A/E Annetta Wong, 3rd Mate Erica Mutoh, Security Mate Kathleen Chaudhary and Chief Mate Katie Miller.



Member Steve Weaver on the bridge of the Ready Reserve Force vessel CAPE KNOX during a Government activation of the Keystone-managed vessel.



At the May meeting in Houston, members presented Erin Bertram with an appreciation award for her 21 years of service at the hall including the last four as Gulf Coast V.P. She has been a part of the M.E.B.A. since her 1991 graduation from Texas A&M Maritime Academy. New Gulf Coast V.P. Adam Smith presented the award in appreciation of Erin's 30 years of dedicated and loyal service to the M.E.B.A.

At the recent Trustees meeting held at the Calhoon M.E.B.A. Engineering School, the Union-side took on the company Trustees in an entertaining softball game that featured a mixture of horrific and heroic play. The M.E.B.A. side preserved the Union's honor in a close game that included a rousing round-tripper by M.E.B.A. President Adam Vokac who was finally able to solve pitcher Ed Hanley's



finally able to solve pitcher Ed Hanley's baffling "Moon Ball." Executive V.P. Claudia Cimini was the winning pitcher and fireman Bill Van Loo closed out the 6-4 game in a relief appearance.