

MARINE ENGINEERS' BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION (AFL-CIO)

"On Watch in Peace and War since 1875"



M.E.B.A. TELEX TIMES

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In this issue//APL Talks Continue//CMES Releases 2019 Course Schedule//MOLA Meeting in Oakland//Marine Highway Program Promoted//MSC Hospital Ship Ready for Latin America Mission//Panel Discussion on China Threat to Maritime Security//"Water, Wind & Waves" Maritime Exhibit//Replacement Credentials for Storm-Hit Members//4MF Raffle on Tuesday//L.A. Hall Move//

M.E.B.A. halls and offices will be closed on Monday in honor of the original Admiral of the Ocean Seas - Christopher Columbus.

APL CONTRACT EXTENDED TO ACCOMMODATE ONGOING TALKS

M.E.B.A. continues negotiations with American President Lines on a new agreement as the parties agreed to extend the current expiring contract to accommodate ongoing talks. The Union is working on a new agreement covering Deep-Sea engineers as well as Port Engineers. The current agreement expired on September 30th but the parties extended its expiration to October 5th.

The M.E.B.A. negotiating team led by Executive Vice President Adam Vokac has already met with APL several times and talks are continuing in Oakland this week. L.A. Branch Agent Rich Doherty and Oakland Patrolman Maxim Alper are also involved in negotiations along with an M.E.B.A. rank and file team which includes APL 1st A/E Trevor Lapham and C/E Torey Zingales.

CMES RELEASES 2019 COURSE SCHEDULE

The Calhoun M.E.B.A. Engineering School has published its 2019 course listing and class schedule as well as the accompanying course application form. Applications for these classes will be accepted using the CMES website (www.mebaschool.org), by US Mail and fax (410) 822-7220. Applications for classes held between January 1 and June 30, 2019 will be accepted no earlier than November 1, 2018. Applications for classes held between July 1 and December 31, 2019 will be accepted no earlier than Tuesday, May 1, 2019. Applications sent prior to the acceptance dates will be discarded with no notice sent to the applicant.

As always, additional course dates may be added later on as needed. Application forms can be obtained at the M.E.B.A. Union halls, the School website (www.mebaschool.org) or by calling the School's Admissions Desk at (410) 822-9600. The School announced the following course offerings for 2019:

ADVANCED FIRE FIGHTING - (1-Week Course -10 students max) - June 10–June 14.
ADVANCED METEOROLOGY - (1-Week Course - 6 students max) - January 21–January 25.
ADVANCED PIPE WELDING - (2-Week Course - 6 students max) - February 4 – February 15.
ADVANCED SHIPHANDLING - (2-Week Course - 6 students maximum) - February 25–March 8.
ADVANCED STABILITY - (1-Week Course - 6 students max) - January 28–February 1. **BST**

REFRESHER - (1-Week Course - 12 students max) - March 18–March 22; May 20–May 24; August 12–August 16; October 14–October 18; November 11–November 15. **BST REVALIDATION** - (1-Week Course - 16 students max) - March 4–March 8; April 1–April 5; May 13–May 17; June 17–June 21; July 29–August 2; September 9–September 13; September 30–October 4; October 21–October 25; November 4–November 8; November 18–November 22. **CONTAINER REFRIGERATION** - (2-Week Course - 10 students max) - February 4–February 15; October 28–November 8. **DAMAGE CONTROL/CBRD** - (1-Week Course - 12 students max) - March 11–March 15; April 8–April 12; June 3–June 7; August 5–August 9; August 19–August 23; **DIESEL ENGINEERING** - (6-Week Course - 12 students max) - March 11–April 19; September 9–October 18. **ECDIS** - (1-Week Course - 12 students max) - April 8–April 12. **ENGINE ROOM RESOURCE MANAGEMENT** - (1-Week Course - 24 students max) - May 6–May 10; September 16–September 20. **GAS TURBINE ENGINEERING** - (4-Week Course - 12 students max) - January 21–February 15; August 5–August 30. **INDUSTRIAL NETWORKING** - (1-Week Course - 12 students max) - April 15–April 19; August 26–August 30. **INSTRUMENTATION** - (2-Week Course - 12 students max) - February 25–March 8; April 29–May 10; September 30–October 11. **LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT** - (1-Week Course - 24 students max) - April 29–May 3; September 23–September 27. **MACHINE SHOP PROFICIENCY** - (2-Week Course - 12 students max) - March 11 – March 22; May 6–May 17; September 30 – October 11. **MARINE ELECTRIC PROPULSION/HIGH VOLTAGE SAFETY** - (2-Week Course - 12 students max) - February 4–February 15; May 13–May 24; August 12–August 23; October 7–October 18; **MEECE** - (1-Week Course - 24 students max) - April 1–April 5; December 2–December 6. **PROGRAMMABLE LOGIC CONTROLLERS** - (1-Week Course - 10 students max) - February 4–February 8; June 3–June 7; August 5–August 9; November 4–November 8. **RADAR RE-CERTIFICATION** - (Examination Only - Scheduled by Appointment). **REFRIGERATION** - (3 -Week Course - 10 students max) - April 29–May 17. **SMALL ARMS** - (1-Week Course - 8 students max) - February 25–March 1; April 15–April 19; June 10–June 14; August 5–August 9; September 16–September 20; October 7–October 11. **STEAM ENGINEERING** - (6-Week Course - 12 students max) - October 7–November 15. **TANKERMAN DL** - (1-Week Course - 12 students max) - February 11–February 15; June 3–June 7; August 19–August 23; October 7–October 11; December 9–December 13. **TANKSHIP-LNG** - (2-Week Course - 12 students max) - July 29–August 9. **TIG WELDING** - (2-Week Course - 6 students max) - September 9–September 20. **VESSEL SECURITY OFFICER** - (1-Week Course - 12 students max) - May 13–May 17; September 9–September 13. **VESSEL PERSONNEL WITH DESIGNATED SECURITY DUTIES (VPDSD)** - (2-Day Course - Scheduled by Appointment). **VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS (Flashing Light)** - (Examination Only - Scheduled by Appointment) - **WELDING** - (4-Week Course - 12 students max) - January 7–February 1; October 21–November 15. **WELDING PROFICIENCY** - (2-Week Course - 12 students max) - February 25–March 8; December 2–December 13.

MOLA MEETING IN OAKLAND

M.E.B.A. took part in a Merchant Officers Labor Alliance (MOLA) meeting last week in Oakland discussing a number of topics of mutual interest with MM&P counterparts. The MOLA was formed between the M.E.B.A. and MM&P over a decade ago to strengthen our organizations with an eye toward securing stronger contracts and increased job security.

MOLA's Joint Operating Committee (JOC) discussed a series of initiatives to help advance the interests of both unions. Taking part in last week's meeting for the M.E.B.A. were MOLA JOC principals including President Marshall Ainley, Executive V.P. Adam Vokac and Secretary-Treasurer Bill Van Loo. The MM&P JOC in attendance included its President Don Marcus, Gov't Affairs/Gulf

Ports V.P. Klaus Luhta and Pacific Ports V.P. Lars Turner. MM&P Pacific Coast Agent Jeremy Hope also participated.

It was a productive meeting that touched on topics including common collective bargaining agreements, the Pass-Through agreement, political races and union halls among other issues.

MARINE HIGHWAY PROGRAM PROMOTED AT SUNY CONFERENCE

At a conference last week staged at SUNY Maritime College, Maritime Administrator Mark Buzby and other guests talked up the continued development of a short sea shipping system in this country. MarAd is resharping efforts to promote America's Marine Highways to help reduce congestion on major roadways and improve the flow of commerce within the US. while reducing air pollution and creating new jobs. SUNY Marine Transportation professor Capt. Eric Johansson said that such events like last week's conference held in Fort Schuyler, NY are needed to help promote such a system with policymakers and with the public-at-large. "For marine highways to be successful in this country, we need to raise awareness of the advantages short-sea shipping has to offer," he said.

At the conference, MarAd hailed the recently released plan by the NY/NJ Port Authority as well as the New York Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) to create the North Atlantic Marine Highway Alliance. The new coalition looks to promote utilization of barge services to offset the use of trucks and supplement rail cargo to and from the Port of New York and New Jersey.

The NYCEDC is investing \$100 million in infrastructure to promote and establish waterborne transportation alternatives in and around the region.

MSC HOSPITAL SHIP READIED FOR LATIN AMERICA MISSION

The Military Sealift Command hospital ship USNS COMFORT will be leaving Norfolk next week for yet another high-profile mission – this one in South and Central America. M.E.B.A. represents the engineers in MSC's Civilian Mariner fleet.

As part of Operation Enduring Promise, the COMFORT will take part in an 11-week medical assistance mission working closely with host-nation health and government partners in Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, and Honduras. The purpose of the deployment is to help relieve pressure on host nation medical systems partly due to an increase in migrants crossing their borders and provide care to the appropriate communities.

The ship's crew will be supplemented by more than 200 U.S. and partner nation military doctors, nurses, and technicians. In addition, about 60 medical and dental professional volunteers from non-governmental organizations will be on board to support the medical assistance mission. During the mission, USNS COMFORT will visit Esmeraldas, Ecuador; Peru (port to be determined); Riohacha and Turbo in Colombia; and Puerto Castilla, Honduras. Specific dates for each port visit will be announced several days prior to the hospital ship's arrival.

During each visit, COMFORT's medical team expects to treat approximately 750 patients per day at each medical site on shore, and anticipate conducting up to 20 surgeries per day aboard the vessel.

D.C. PANEL DISCUSSES CHINA'S THREAT TO MARITIME SECURITY

M.E.B.A.'s American Maritime Congress took part in a half-day panel discussion centering on China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), a plan to connect more than 70 countries via an overland "belt" and a maritime "road." USA Maritime co-sponsored the Washington D.C. event with General Electric at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a leading Washington think tank. USA Maritime is a coalition of maritime unions, associations and shipping companies – including the M.E.B.A. and AMC – fighting for the U.S. Merchant Marine.

The panel included Vice Admiral Andy Brown, CEO of the NDTA and former deputy of TRANSCOM and focused on the emerging threat that China's multi-trillion dollar, world-wide infrastructure program poses to maritime security. Specifically, VADM Brown pointed out that the Chinese merchant marine, including its ships, civilian mariners and international port infrastructure regime was the cornerstone of how Beijing has transformed commercial maritime dominance into an expanded military presence throughout the globe. You can visit www.csis.org/events/chinas-belt-and-road-five-0 to listen to the panel discussion.

WATER, WIND AND WAVES

Removed from present day maritime shipping in terms of time and technology, a special exhibit at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC offers a spectacular look into the Golden Age of Dutch shipping. Illustrated through dozens of paintings and drawings and complemented by various large-scale ship models, the *Water, Wind, and Waves* exhibit highlights the Dutch mercantile might of the 17th century.

In the 1600s, the Dutch rose to greatness from the riches of the sea. With their massive fleet of cargo ships, they became leaders in international maritime commerce. Their warships commanded the high seas, facilitating oceangoing trade. Dutch fishing vessels and near shore and riverine marine commerce flourished during this golden age. All of these varying maritime activities as well as the beauty and power of the sea are finely illustrated in this exhibit. The exhibit continues at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC through November 25, 2018.

SIGN UP FOR M.E.B.A. VACATION PLAN DIRECT DEPOSIT

Designed for convenience, M.E.B.A. members can help themselves by taking advantage of the Vacation Plan Direct Deposit that will help save them time and ease Plans processing costs. Authorization forms are available from the Plans Office, Plans Outport Offices and at the Plans' website – www.mebaplans.org (Forms & Documents, Vacation Plan Forms). Complete details are available on the Plans site as well. Contact (800) 811-6322 or vacation@mebaplans.org for more info.

REPLACEMENT CREDENTIALS FOR STORM-HIT MEMBERS

The National Maritime Center will make sure mariners whose Merchant Mariner Credentials didn't survive Hurricane Florence can secure duplicate MMCs free of charge. A statement of loss should be provided to NMC by fax at (304) 433-3412 or by e-mail to IASKNMC@uscg.mil. The statement should include: Mariner's full name; Date of birth; Reference number or SSN; Mailing address; Phone/email; Circumstances surrounding MMC loss. Alternatively, mariners can submit a CG-719B, Application for MMC, to one of the Regional Examination Centers with the information above. Questions or concerns can be answered via the NMC website or NMC Customer Service Center by e-mailing IASKNMC@uscg.mil, by using the NMC online chat system, or by calling 1-888-IASKNMC (427-5662).

PAYMENT PORTAL FOR DUES, P.A.F., G&W

The payment portal accessed from M.E.B.A.'s homepage (www.mebaunion.org) allows members and applicants ease when making a dues or service charge payment and to assist the P.A.F. and Good & Welfare funds. Payments can be made by credit card, debit card or through a checking account. A recurring payment option is also available on the portal enabling automatic quarterly payments so members can "set it and forget it" and always stay current. You simply check the "Recurring Billing" box that appears at the top of the page when you're filling out your information to enable automatic quarterly payments. This feature is also available to support the Good & Welfare and the Political Action Fund on a monthly basis. P.A.F. is crucial for keeping U.S. shipping and the Union's interests viable in the halls of Congress.

THANKS TO ALL WHO SUPPORTED 4MF RAFFLE

Thanks to everyone who bought a ticket in support of the M.E.B.A. Merchant Marine Memorial Foundation (4MF). The Memorial honors fallen mariners who helped blaze the proud tradition our members continue today. The winning raffle ticket will be drawn this Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at the Calhoun M.E.B.A. Engineering School (CMES) during the monthly membership meeting. The big winner receives 50% of the proceeds and will receive the life changing news soon after the ticket is drawn.

L.A. HALL MOVE

The M.E.B.A. Los Angeles Union hall will be shifting to its new location on Monday, October 22nd. The hall returns to San Pedro, CA after 11 years in Wilmington. The new location will be at 1891 North Gaffey Street, Unit #211. The October membership meeting on Thursday Oct. 11 will be the last one staged at the Wilmington hall before the move. The new hall is considerably larger and more modern than the old space and has sufficient parking. It has offices for the Branch Agent, Patrolman, and Dispatcher and provides for a copy room, conference room, and member area. Phone, fax and email information remain the same.

REGULAR MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Monday, October 8 – **Columbus Day** – *Halls Closed*

Tuesday, October 9 – **Boston@1200; CMES@1430; Charleston@1400; Houston@1315; Oakland@1230; Seattle (Fife)@1300;**

Wednesday, October 10 – **Jacksonville@1300; New Orleans@1315;**

Thursday, October 11 – **L.A.@1230 (Last meeting at Wilmington location before move). NY/NJ@1300; Norfolk@1300; Tampa@1300;**

Friday, October 12 – **Honolulu@1100.**

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



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