

MARINE ENGINEERS' BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION (AFL-CIO)

"On Watch in Peace and War since 1875"



M.E.B.A. TELEX TIMES

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APL TALKS RESUME

M.E.B.A. continued negotiations with American President Lines this week as the parties work on a new contract covering Deep-Sea engineers as well as Port Engineers. The current agreement expires on September 30th. Picking up from the first round of talks in August, the M.E.B.A. bargaining team met with APL today and will continue through tomorrow. They are also scheduled to meet from October 3-5. Executive Vice President Adam Vokac is leading negotiations joined by L.A. Branch Agent Rich Doherty and Oakland Patrolman Maxim Alper. Rank and file members involved in this week's talks include Trevor Lapham, Kurt Landwehr and Christian Yuhas.

REP. MAST HEADING UP CG/MARITIME SUBCOMMITTEE

Congressman Brian Mast is taking over the gavel at the House Subcommittee that presides over important business relating to U.S.-flag shipping. The 38-year old Republican who represents Florida's 18th District takes over the Chairmanship of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee for the remainder of the 115th Congress. The chair became vacant after Rep. Duncan Hunter stepped down. Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA) continues as the Subcommittee's Ranking Member.

The Subcommittee is part of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee which is headed up by Rep. Bill Shuster (R-PA). "Oversight of the Coast Guard and the nation's maritime transportation system is a vital responsibility of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee," said Rep. Shuster. "Brian is an effective member of this Subcommittee and has a firm grasp of the issues. He...is ready to take the gavel."

The Subcommittee conducts oversight of the Coast Guard and has jurisdiction over regulation of ocean shipping, maritime transportation safety, marine environmental protections as they relate to vessel operation and the Jones Act. The Subcommittee also oversees the U.S. Merchant Marine, except as it relates to national security.

REP. GARAMENDI NAMED 'CHAMPION OF MARITIME'

U.S. Congressman John Garamendi (D-CA) has been honored with the 2018 'Champion of Maritime' Award presented by the American Maritime Partnership (AMP). The award is conferred to Members of Congress who demonstrates extraordinary support and dedication to the American maritime industry. Through his years of work in the U.S. Congress, Rep. Garamendi has shown unwavering

and ardent support for domestic maritime. The award was presented during a ceremony in his home state of California at California State University Maritime Academy on September 17th.

The Congressman noted, “When we think about all the issues at the forefront of American politics right now—good-paying jobs, energy independence, national security, trade, and rebuilding our manufacturing sector—the American maritime industry is at the forefront of all of them. Unfortunately, it’s not on the minds of many of our leaders in Washington.... As a united maritime industry, we will continue to rebuild this critical sector to advance America’s national and economic security,” said Rep. Garamendi.

NTSB UPLOADS VIDEO SUMMARIZING EL FARO PROBE

The National Transportation Safety Board released a video this week summarizing the NTSB investigation of the October 1, 2015, sinking of EL FARO and the loss of all 33 mariners aboard. The video examines the NTSB’s determination of the cause of the accident and discusses associated recommendations to improve marine safety. It also highlights the three missions undertaken to retrieve the voyage data recorder and document the wreckage, which was found 15,000 feet beneath the ocean’s surface. A link has been posted on M.E.B.A.’s Facebook page or you can go directly by visiting this url: https://www.nts.gov/investigations/Pages/2015_elfaro_jax.aspx

AFL-CIO’s SHULER URGES WOMEN TO SEEK LEADERSHIP POSITIONS, GET INVOLVED WITH UNIONS

AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler (IBEW) thinks the labor movement has a bright future ahead thanks to the surging leadership of working women.

Speaking to *Teen Vogue* (<https://tinyurl.com/yd29n25l>) and Politico’s *Women Rule* podcast (<https://tinyurl.com/yctslgyx>) this week, she emphasized the importance of women running for public office and getting involved in their unions.

“There’s something in the air. People are ready to rise up, and there’s a moment of collective action unlike we’ve seen. So, how do we capitalize on that? And how do we make the change that we need with policies and our economy? Well, it’s to elect union members to office. They’re the perfect candidates, because they have a lived experience that they can bring to the table. Especially women, we’re seeing in bigger numbers than ever before running for all levels of government.”

SUCCESS OF AUTONOMOUS SHIPPING HINGES ON HUMAN ELEMENT, SAYS NEW REPORT

In a newly released survey report, the Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST) has concluded that autonomous technologies could create a competitive advantage for shipping companies - but adoption will vary significantly between market segments. An industry-wide investigation was conducted by IMarEST’s Marine Autonomous Surface Ships special interest group (MASS-SIG) to gauge the potential impact of self-governing ships and plot out a new course for the shipping industry’s valued workforce.

While only one in six believe that the industry is fully geared up to exploit the autonomous or remote operation of commercial vessels in the immediate future, the general sentiment was that such technologies will deliver benefits over the long term. However, somewhat ironically, the success of unmanned ships will hinge ultimately on accommodating the human-in-the-loop.

The initial survey and subsequent roundtable discussion formed the basis of the newly released report, “Autonomous Shipping – Putting the Human Back in the Headlines.”

Interest in autonomous or remote vessel operation has arisen from the convergence of several technologies, including machine learning, new sensors, and improved connectivity at sea. IMarEST noted that together these systems could fundamentally transform the way ships operate in the future. But MASS-SIG Chair Gordon Meadow warns against a fixation on new hardware, “If fully realized, this technology will also transform the way the whole industry functions - and the way we will work with it.”

The report “Autonomous Shipping - Putting the Human Back in the Headlines” can be accessed at <https://tinyurl.com/y7punhs9>

CYBER SECURITY, PIRACY ISSUES DELIBERATED AT ADVISORY MEET

This week, the Maritime Administration and the National Maritime Intelligence-Integration Office staged the Sixth Annual Company Security Officer (CSO)/National Maritime Interagency Advisory Group (NIAG) Conference that took place at MITAGS in Linthicum Heights, MD. The three-day affair attracted nearly 100 military, civil service and industry professionals from around the world and featured U.S. Government officials representing the CDC, State Department, Navy, Coast Guard, NOAA and MarAd among others. Participants discussed security implications ranging from piracy and civil wars in Africa and the Middle East to the growing threat of cyber-attacks and global energy challenges.

The final day of the seminar focused on participants crowd-sourcing responses and solutions to five real-life scenarios ripped from today’s headlines, including a major cruise ship grounding due to a GPS spoofing attack, a Maritime Security Program carrier swarmed by drones in the Arabian Gulf, and an unknown plague spreading uncontrollably across the northern coast of Africa. Meeting participants included M.E.B.A. Secretary-Treasurer Bill Van Loo and American Maritime Congress President James Caponiti, who were each impressed with the weighty agenda along with the depth of knowledge and experience of meeting participants.

ILWU ELECTION RESULTS WON’T BE OFFICIAL FOR WEEKS

Several challenges are preventing the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) from finalizing its recent leadership election results.

As reported last week, current Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams came out on top in the vote to succeed the retiring Bob McEllrath as International President. Current International Vice President Ray Familathe, who finished behind Adams in the vote, is challenging the results. Under the union’s constitutionally-mandated process to address such protests, results might not be finalized until early November after the challenges are thoroughly examined.

L.A. HALL MOVING BACK TO SAN PEDRO

M.E.B.A.’s Los Angeles Union hall is moving back to San Pedro, CA after 11 years in Wilmington. The new location will be at 1891 North Gaffey Street, Unit #211. The new hall will officially open its doors on Monday, October 22nd.

The new space is considerably larger and more modern, and has sufficient parking. It has offices for the Branch Agent, Patrolman, and Dispatcher and has a copy room and conference room as well as a

member area. The San Pedro hall is in close proximity to the Matson, APL and Pasha terminals. Hall phone, fax and email information will remain the same.

The Union thanks the MM&P for their hospitality over the last decade for sharing their hall and accommodating us.

Hall officials asked members to remember that oily work boots or dirty footwear should not be worn in any M.E.B.A. hall, so be sure to plan ahead as required. The staff looks forward to welcoming and serving our members in the new location. Should anyone have questions about the new site, please contact the LA hall for information.

DO YOU HAVE YOUR TICKETS? 4MF RAFFLE WINDING DOWN

Not much time remains to purchase tickets for the raffle supporting the M.E.B.A. Merchant Marine Memorial Foundation (4MF). The winning raffle ticket (\$2 apiece) will be drawn on October 9, 2018 at the Calhoun M.E.B.A. Engineering School (CMES) during the monthly membership meeting. You do not need to be present to win.

Tickets are available at each of the Union halls – so make sure you purchase a ticket and contribute to the cause. Members, applicants, retirees and everyone else are strongly encouraged to help buoy the 4MF which provides upkeep and improvements to the Memorial Park located at the CMES. The Memorial honors fallen mariners who helped blaze the proud tradition our members continue today. The grand winner will receive 50% of the proceeds from raffle sales. Please help honor our heritage and support the 4MF!

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; 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