

MARINE ENGINEERS' BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION (AFL-CIO)

"On Watch in Peace and War since 1875"



M.E.B.A. TELEX TIMES

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M.E.B.A. OFFICERS PART OF TURBO ACTIVATION

M.E.B.A. deck and engine officers are at their posts aboard Government vessels managed by Keystone Shipping, American Ship Management and Matson Navigation following a turbo activation ordered by the U.S. Transportation Command last Thursday.

At least 14 ships including Maritime Administration Ready Reserve Force vessels and several Military Sealift Command Large, Medium-Speed, Roll-on/Roll-off (LMSR) vessels were ordered into Full Operating Status (FOS) for the Government exercise lasting approximately 25 days. Seven ships involved in the activation are managed by M.E.B.A.-contracted companies.

The Union received notice on Thursday afternoon (8/27) and finished crewing up the final open billets by early the next morning. Crewmembers taking part in the activation are serving out a 14-day COVID-19 gangway-up quarantine before departing for sea trials then returning to the dock for deactivation.

M.E.B.A.-crewed vessels involved in the activation include the CAPE DECISION, CAPE DOMINGO and CAPE RAY (Keystone); the USNS RED CLOUD and ADMIRAL CALLAGHAN (ASM) and the CAPE HENRY and CAPE HORN (Matson). Thanks to all officers participating in this important exercise.

MARITIME HEROES OF 9/11 TO BE SPOTLIGHTED AT ONLINE FORUM NEXT WEEK

The Transportation Institute is sponsoring a virtual event honoring maritime heroes of September 11, 2001 as the nation commemorates the 19th anniversary of 9/11 next Friday. The free, online event will take place on Friday, September 11 at 6:00 pm.

Participants will hear personal stories from some of the maritime heroes who helped evacuate hundreds of thousands of people from Lower Manhattan after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

Navy veteran and retired M.E.B.A. Staten Island ferryboat captain Frank Peters piloted the last Staten Island ferry in and out of Manhattan on September 11, for which he was awarded the U.S. Department of Transportation 9/11 Medal. Frank will tell his story along with others during the virtual event which will be co-hosted by the New York Navy League and Turnstile Tours.

You can register for the free event by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/y64yo2qh>. If you would like to submit questions in advance, you may do so via email to info@nynavyleague.org. You will also be able to submit questions during the event.

NMC REOPENS MORE RECs FOR EXAMS

The National Maritime Center (NMC) is reopening Regional Examination Centers (RECs) in Memphis, Miami, Long Beach, and Toledo for limited examination services starting next week on Tuesday. The additional REC openings add to the list of recent limited REC reopenings in Boston, Honolulu, Houston, and Juneau, and Monitoring Units (MUs) in Ketchikan and San Juan.

Mariners seeking to schedule examinations at these locations may do so by using the contact info below. The full notice has been posted on the M.E.B.A. website in the Documents & Member Notices section.

REC Boston – recboston@uscg.mil

REC Honolulu – rechonolulu@uscg.mil

REC Houston – rechoustonexam@uscg.mil

REC Juneau – recjun@uscg.mil

REC Long Beach – reclb@uscg.mil

REC Memphis – recmemphis@uscg.mil

REC Miami – recmia@uscg.mil or (305) 536-4331

REC Toledo – rectol@uscg.mil

MU Ketchikan – (907) 225-4496 (extension #3)

MU San Juan – (787) 729-2368

BALLOTS MAILED TO MEMBERSHIP

The ballots for the District No. 1-PCD, M.E.B.A. election were mailed out by the Impartial Administrator on Tuesday September 1 to all members at their address on file with M.E.B.A. Headquarters. TrueBallot, Inc. is serving as the Impartial Administrator for the 2020 M.E.B.A. Election.

In accordance with the By-Laws, “Ballots should be returned to the depository by November 30 and ballots not received in the depository when the ballots are collected, as provided in Section 4 hereof, shall be disqualified and not counted.” The ballot collection and tabulation will take place on December 7, 2020.

Duplicate ballot information will be detailed in next week’s issue. Be aware that the M.E.B.A. By-Laws state that if the original ballot and duplicate ballot are both cast, neither ballot shall count.

ONLY VOTES FROM MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING WILL COUNT

According to our By-Laws, members who are not in good standing by November 15, 2020, with dues paid in accordance with the M.E.B.A. By-Laws, through the end of the quarter where applicable, are not eligible to vote in the ongoing M.E.B.A. election.

KEEP IT CLEAN, UNION-STYLE

Home has always been a sanctuary, but the pandemic has also turned more homes into workplaces and classrooms. Spending so much time at home during this health crisis demands that your house is clean. So before that work/school/home day begins, get your house in order, and let's all clean our way to a stronger America.

You have choices when you tidy up, and Labor 411 encourages the use of products made by union-friendly companies that treat their workers fairly and give them a voice on the job:

Ajax (IBT, IBEW, UFCW); All Laundry Detergent (IBT, IBEW, UFCW); Borateem Laundry Detergent (UFCW, IBT, USW); Bowl Fresh Toilet Bowl Sanitizer, Deodorizers (IBT, IBEW, UFCW); Clorox (IBT, IBEW, UFCW); Craftsman (IBEW, IBT); Fab Laundry Detergent (IBT); Final Touch Fabric Softener (IBT, IBEW); Hi-Lex Bleach (IBT); Liquid Plumber (IBT, IBEW); Lysol (IBT, IBEW); Minwax (IBT); Mop & Glo (IBT, IBEW); Osram Sylvania Lightbulbs (IAMAW, IBEW, UAW); Purex (IBT, IBEW); Renewenz Dishwashing Detergent (IBDW, IBT, USW); Rit Dye Laundry Treatment (IUE-CWA); Snuggle (IBT, IBEW); Soft Scrub (IBT, IBEW); Sunlight Detergent (IBT, IBEW); Surf Detergent (IBT, IBEW); Tide (IBT, IBEW).

USE M.E.B.A. WEBSITE DUES PAYMENT OPTION TO IRON OUT LWOP/VACATION DUES LAPSES

Some M.E.B.A. bargaining unit members pay dues by automatic Dues Check-Off (DCO). But when DCO members take vacation or (in the case of the Government fleet) Leave without Pay (LWOP), there are lapses in payroll where dues aren't automatically submitted. Those members can iron out the imbalance from a link on the M.E.B.A. homepage (www.mebaunion.org). Click the link, select the bargaining unit in the "Check Off, Catch-Up" section and make sure you remain a member in good standing.

A "Vacation Pay" option is also available. This is useful for port engineers and Union officials who can make these payments online. Many members and applicants think that paying online is the most efficient and advantageous manner to remain in good standing.

HALLS, OFFICES CLOSED MONDAY FOR LABOR DAY

M.E.B.A. halls and offices will be closed on Labor Day - Monday, Sept. 7th, but will reopen on Tuesday. Union halls which usually have their regular membership meetings on the Monday of meeting week (Boston & Seattle) will instead conduct their meetings on Tuesday, September 8th at the regular time.

Labor Day is observed on the first Monday in September to pay tribute to the contributions and achievements of everyday working families. The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated in New York City on Tuesday, September 5, 1882. Following the deaths of 13 workers during the Pullman Strike in June of 1894, President Grover Cleveland made reconciliation with the labor movement a top political priority, and Labor Day become a federal holiday in 1894.

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.

ONLINE SEPTEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS – (All times are local)

Monday, September 7 – **Labor Day** – Halls Closed – *No Meetings*

Tuesday, September 8 – Boston@1200; CMES@1430; Charleston@1400; Houston@1315; Oakland@1230; Seattle (Fife)@1300;

Wednesday, September 9 – Jacksonville@1300; New Orleans@1315;

Thursday, September 10 – L.A. (San Pedro)@1230; NY/NJ@1300; Norfolk@1300; Tampa@1300;

Friday, September 11 – 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 demonstrated track record of readiness, safety, and loyalty in answering America's call to action in times of both peace and war is unrivaled in the world. M.E.B.A. HQ – Phone: (202) 638-5355; mebahq@mebaunion.org. Visit us on Facebook. For publication and related inquiries (and to send photos & hot news tips) contact Marco Cannistraro, M.E.B.A. Special Projects & Communications – marco@mebaunion.org Visit us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter and check us out on Instagram.