

# MARINE ENGINEERS' BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION (AFL-CIO)



*"On Watch in Peace and War since 1875"*  
**M.E.B.A. TELEX TIMES**  
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## **10 NEWBUILD TANKERS, ANOTHER LNG SHIP ON ORDER AT U.S. YARD**

Hanwha Shipping, the U.S. subsidiary of Hanwha Ocean, has placed an order for 10 medium-range (MR) oil and chemical tankers with its affiliate, Hanwha Philly Shipyard.

The announcement was part of a flurry of good news timed with the visit of new South Korean President Lee Jae Myung who engaged in trade talks at the White House on Monday. On Tuesday, President Lee, who was sworn in on June 4, visited the Hanwha Philadelphia Shipyard along with a list of officials and guests including Acting Maritime Administrator Sang Yi, Former DOT & DOL Secretary Elaine Chao, Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro, Senator Todd Young, M.E.B.A. President Adam Vokac and Secretary-Treasurer Roland Rexha, among many others.

The first vessel is slated for delivery in early 2029. This order represents both the largest U.S. commercial shipbuilding contract in over two decades and the highest-value commercial order ever placed at a U.S. shipyard.

In addition, Hanwha Shipping has exercised an option for a second liquefied natural gas (LNG) carrier, reinforcing the expansion of U.S. LNG exports. With this move, the U.S. orderbook for LNG carriers has now reached its highest level since the 1970s. The announcement comes just one month after Hanwha Shipping revealed it had signed a contract for the first U.S.-ordered, export-ready LNG carrier in nearly half a century.

The new tankers will be designed to transport crude oil, refined petroleum products, and chemicals. Their addition will substantially strengthen the Jones Act fleet of U.S.-built, U.S.-owned, and U.S.-crewed vessels serving domestic routes. Beyond bolstering U.S. shipping capacity, the vessels will also enhance the nation's defense industrial supply chain and expand opportunities for American businesses in global export markets.

"We are able to order these U.S.-made MR tankers because of Hanwha's investment in building a world-class shipyard in Philadelphia," said Ryan Lynch, President & CEO of Houston-based Hanwha Shipping. "Hanwha has made a long-term commitment to bringing cutting-edge technology from Korea to the Hanwha Philly Shipyard that will create thousands of good, advanced manufacturing jobs in the United States and spearhead the revitalization of America's maritime industrial base."

## **MAINE MARITIME TRAINING VESSEL CHRISTENED**

Hanwha Philly Shipyard hosted a ceremony on Tuesday to officially name and christen the new Maine Maritime training vessel STATE OF MAINE, the third of five National Security Multi-Mission Vessels (NSMV) constructed at the yard. In addition to providing best-in-class training for America's future mariners, the NSMVs will be available to support humanitarian assistance and disaster relief missions in times of need. The ships are owned and operated by the Maritime Administration.

"This vessel marks a new era for American maritime power," said Acting Maritime Administrator Sang Yi. "MarAd's mission to modernize sealift and empower the Merchant Marine hinges on relentless innovation and partnership. Together, we can build the fleet America needs to secure our future and dominate the seas."

"Maine Maritime Academy is internationally recognized as a leader in maritime education and this vessel represents a major step forward in our mission to train the world's finest mariners," said Maine Maritime Academy President Craig Johnson. "As our first purpose-built training ship, the STATE OF MAINE will provide world-class learning experiences for cadets pursuing unlimited tonnage licenses. It's a game-changer for our mission and a powerful reflection of what's possible through strong partnerships and shared vision."

STATE OF MAINE joins EMPIRE STATE (SUNY) and PATRIOT STATE (Mass Maritime) already in service, with two more NSMVs under construction at Hanwha Philly Shipyard, destined for Texas A&M Maritime and California Maritime academies. NSMV Vessel specifications: Length: 159.85 meters (525 feet); Beam: 27 meters (88 feet); Draft, scantling: 7 meters (21 feet); Total berthing: 760 persons; Speed: 18 kts; Deadweight: 8,487 tons. Installed power: 16,800 kW (22,500 hp), plus 900 kW (1,200 hp) emergency generator; Propulsion: 4 x Wabtec 16V250MDC engines, [1] single all-electric drive shaft.

## **\$5 BILLION PHILLY SHIPYARD INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN**

Hanwha Group announced a \$5 billion infrastructure plan for Hanwha Philly Shipyard as part of South Korea's pledged commitment to support growth of the U.S. shipbuilding industry. The announcement was made at the shipyard on Tuesday, a day after summit talks between President Lee and President Donald Trump. Earlier, the Lee administration had pledged \$150 billion in American shipbuilding investments during a trade deal between Korea and the U.S. Hanwha Philly Shipyard is expected to play a key role in future collaboration between the two countries.

Hanwha acquired Philly Shipyard last year through a \$100 million investment, building a landmark hub for shipbuilding in America. It is investing to modernize infrastructure and create a digitally-enabled, high-efficiency shipyard, with world-class automation and smart yard technology. The \$5 billion program will be dedicated to the installation of two additional docks, and three quays to increase capacity. Hanwha is also reviewing the build-out of a new block assembly facility. Through this expansion, Hanwha aims to increase Philly Shipyard's annual production volume from less than two vessels to up to 20. As a global leader in LNG vessels, Hanwha aims to produce LNG carriers, naval modules and blocks, and, in the long-term, naval vessels out of its U.S. shipyard.

## **FINAL VOYAGE: BILL LANGLEY**

The Union recently learned that long-time member, instructor and Union official Bill Langley sailed into the sunset at the age of 81. William Bert Langley, known affectionately by some as "Doo-Lang,"

was a Kings Point graduate (class of 1966). Soon enough, he was an Instructor at the Calhoon M.E.B.A. Engineering School in its early years when it was located on Light Street in Baltimore. During that time, he also attended nearby Johns Hopkins University and earned a Master of Science.

Later on, he joined the ranks and sailed deep-sea on a variety of vessels including RO-ROs, containerships, tankers and LNG vessels. He sailed as Chief Engineer aboard the LNG CAPRICORN for years. That's where Gordon Ward, Joel Bem and Larry O'Toole recruited him in their effort to unseat the Gene DeFries administration that was engineering a merger of the M.E.B.A. and NMU pension plans. Bill joined the fledgling Members Advocating Democracy (MAD) Committee and was elected as the Wilmington Branch Agent in 1990. He and others spent the next year ousting control of the Union away from DeFries officials. After the rebirth of the Union, new elections were held and he was voted in as the Union's Executive Vice President in San Francisco, where he served until the end of his term in 1995. After another five years at sea, he retired from sailing and enjoyed golfing at his home in Lincoln, California. Bill was not married at the time of his death at a Lincoln memory care facility on June 19<sup>th</sup>. He is survived by his son, John Langley (Kings Point class of 1992) and daughter, Donna Holtz.

### **NEW BOSTON REPRESENTATIVE SOUGHT**

M.E.B.A. is accepting résumés from an energetic and dedicated member interested in serving as the next Representative at our Boston Union hall. This is a unique and excellent opportunity to provide our Boston-area membership with the support they need to advance their shipping careers. Those who wish to be considered for this position should send a cover letter and résumé to our Atlantic Coast Vice President Jason Callahan at [jcallahan@mebaunion.org](mailto:jcallahan@mebaunion.org) and 'cc' Secretary-Treasurer Roland Rexha at [rrexha@mebaunion.org](mailto:rrexha@mebaunion.org). If a quality candidate is identified, the position could start as soon as possible or in accordance with the new hire's availability.

The Union would like to thank outgoing Boston Representative Brian Flynn for his hard work, particularly his contributions towards resolving the Steamship Authority contract. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

### **MEMBERS INVITED TO JOIN AMMV AT PHILLY PARADE IN OCTOBER**

The American Merchant Marine Veterans (AMMV) are asking members/retirees to join them in Philadelphia in October to represent the Fourth Arm of Defense at a parade.

The October 13<sup>th</sup> "Navy & Marine Corps 250 Parade," is part of the celebration marking the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the U.S. Navy's founding on October 13, 1775. The Merchant Marine and Marine Corps are also celebrating their 250<sup>th</sup> anniversaries this year. There are a whole series of events that week beginning with a Parade of Ships at the Delaware River Waterfront on October 9. You can check out the schedule of events at this link: <https://www.homecoming250.org/schedule-of-events>

You can contact AMMV's Dennis Ng to get involved at [dennisng60@gmail.com](mailto:dennisng60@gmail.com)

### **GREAT LAKES GROUP HONORS EFFORTS OF MICHIGAN MEMBER**

The Great Lakes Maritime Task Force (GLMTF) recognized Michigan Congresswoman Lisa McClain for her efforts advocating for the Great Lakes Navigation System and those who live and work on or near the Fourth Sea Coast. "It is an incredible honor to be recognized as Legislator of the Year by the Great Lakes Maritime Task Force," Rep. McClain said. "The Great Lakes are not only a vital economic

engine for our region, but a national treasure that demands strong, informed policy. I am proud to advance legislation in Congress that strengthens maritime commerce, modernizes our water infrastructure, and protects the long-term sustainability of the Great Lakes. I will always fight to ensure our Michigan ports, waterways, and maritime workers have the support they need to thrive.”

“Representative McClain has been a relentless advocate for the Great Lakes Navigation System,” said John Clemons AMO Great Lakes National Vice President and President of GLMTF. “Whether she is supporting the new heavy U.S. Coast Guard Great Lakes icebreaker, funding for arguably the most important infrastructure project ever at the Soo Locks, or ensuring our lakes are mapped to the highest modern standards, Representative McClain leads the way for Michigan and the entire Great Lakes.”

### **HALLS, OFFICES CLOSED MONDAY FOR LABOR DAY**

M.E.B.A. halls and offices will be closed on Labor Day - Monday, Sept. 1, but will reopen on Tuesday. 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.

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

Monday, September 8 – **Boston@1200. Seattle (Fife)@1300.**

Tuesday, September 9 – **CMES@1430; Charleston@1400; Houston@1315; Oakland@1230.**

Wednesday, September 10 – **Jacksonville@1300; New Orleans@1315; Online HQ “Town Hall” Meeting@1300 (No Voting) – Register by emailing [mebahq@mebaunion.org](mailto:mebahq@mebaunion.org)**

Thursday, September 11 – **L.A. (San Pedro)@1230; NY/NJ@1300; Norfolk@1300; Tampa@1300.**

Friday, September 12 – **Honolulu@1100**

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



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

*The M.E.B.A. is the nation's oldest maritime labor union, established in 1875. M.E.B.A.'s expertise and demonstrated track record of readiness, safety, and loyalty in answering America's call to action in times of both peace and war is unrivaled in the world. M.E.B.A. HQ – Phone: (202) 638-5355; [mebahq@mebaunion.org](mailto:mebahq@mebaunion.org). Website: [www.mebaunion.org](http://www.mebaunion.org) For publication and related inquiries (and to send photos & hot news tips) contact Marco Cannistraro, M.E.B.A. Special Projects & Communications – [marco@mebaunion.org](mailto:marco@mebaunion.org) Visit us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter and check us out on Instagram. The Calhoun M.E.B.A. Engineering School can be contacted at (410) 822-9600 or [www.mebaschool.org](http://www.mebaschool.org). M.E.B.A. Plans is at (410) 547-9111 or [www.mebaplans.org](http://www.mebaplans.org)*