

MARINE ENGINEERS' BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION (AFL-CIO)



"On Watch in Peace and War since 1875"
M.E.B.A. TELEX TIMES
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CONTRACT FORCED ON RAIL WORKERS CUTS LEGS OUT FROM UNIONS

The panic to avoid a perceived economic disaster with a possible railroad worker strike led Congress to finalize legislation forcing workers to swallow an imperfect contract. Tentative agreements reached in September between rail freight carriers and 12 unions, negotiated with federal assistance, improved the wage structure and maintained the status quo on insurance copays and deductibles but failed to fix the egregious sick day policy. There are no paid sick days under the agreements and 4 of the 12 affected rail unions voted the contracts down. The Tentative Agreements had averted a strike at the time but the failure to satisfy the four unions that rejected the agreements set up a new deadline if the sides failed to reach compromise. As the clock ticked toward December 9 when railroads could lock out workers or the unions could strike, the White House declared that scenario unpalatable and asserted that rail work disruptions would translate into an economic disaster.

The President called on Congress "to pass legislation immediately to adopt the Tentative Agreements between railroad workers and operators – without any modifications or delay – to avert a potentially crippling national rail shutdown." Congressional passage ensures that the Tentative Agreements will be imposed on rail workers absent of paid sick days. As the deadline approached, there still was time for a deal to be reached, but rail employers, who have enjoyed record profits, knew the impending Congressional action would cut the legs out from under the unions and they were not in a charitable mood during this holiday season.

On Wednesday, the House passed a bipartisan bill [H.J. Res 100] by a 290-137 vote to impose the rail agreement, with no modifications, in order to head off a strike. Unions had called on Congress to add a stipulation into the bill providing paid sick days for rail workers. House Democrats instead pushed ahead a two-part approach with a second bill [H. Con. Res 119], adding seven sick days for rail workers. That bill passed 221-207 with only three Republicans lending support. Both bills advanced to the Senate with each bill requiring 60 votes in favor to pass. Earlier this afternoon, the Senate rejected the sick leave bill after it only garnered 52 "yes" votes. Another measure to extend the "cooling-off" period failed in the Senate by a 26-69 vote later this afternoon. In a third vote, Senators passed the bill to impose the contract on the unions in an 80-15 vote. The President is expected to sign off on the measure.

One of the rail unions, the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters expressed their deep disappointment with the heavy-

handed Congressional approach. They said that forcing the adoption of the Tentative Agreements will fail to iron out rail service problems and instead will “worsen supply chain issues and further sicken, infuriate, and disenfranchise Railroad Workers as they continue shouldering the burdens of the railroads’ mismanagement.” Rail workers have been without a contract for three years. Even though they have zero days of paid sick leave, they have labored tirelessly during the pandemic to keep the nation’s supply chain running.

Earlier this week, AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler said, “To be clear, rail companies could do the right thing today and grant workers paid sick leave. But they've refused, putting profits over people. That's how we got here. Regardless of what happens in the next few days, the fight for paid sick leave won't end. Calling workers “essential” one minute and treating them as dispensable the next is abhorrent. We join rail workers—and all America's workers—in securing paid sick leave, fair scheduling, and the dignity and respect they deserve.”

AFL-CIO’s Transportation Trades Department (TTD) President Greg Regan and Secretary-Treasurer Shari Semelsberger released a statement saying, “A worker should not be fired for going to the doctor. Yet it is 2022 and railroaders are fighting for sick leave in the richest country on Earth. It is unacceptable when the vote for a contract is denied to the union membership. It is also a violation of the core democratic nature of unions and the membership’s right to vote.”

PASHA HAWAII FLEET NABS ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS

Honolulu, HI-based Pasha Hawaii announced that its fleet in the Hawaii/Mainland trade was recognized with Certificates of Environmental Achievement by the Chamber of Shipping of America for operating over 60 years of environmental excellence

HORIZON PACIFIC was honored for 22 consecutive years, HORIZON RELIANCE for 21 years, HORIZON ENTERPRISE and HORIZON SPIRIT each at 11 years.

“These awards celebrate the dedication to environmental excellence of our seafarers and the company personnel ashore who operate their vessels to the highest standards” said Kathy Metcalf, President of CSA. George W. Pasha, IV, President and CEO of Pasha Hawaii added, “We take our environmental stewardship responsibility seriously and are extremely proud of our captains, crew members, and operations staff for their ongoing commitment to safety and environmental responsibility at sea and ashore. We are honored to be recognized among this list of esteemed vessels and crews.”

LABOR-FRIENDLY GIFT GUIDES

The holiday season is a season of giving and Labor 411 is making it easier for you to support union-friendly companies where workers have a voice on the job and get fair wages and good benefits.

Labor 411, a research organization that raises awareness of worker-friendly goods and services, is challenging consumers to allocate at least 10% of their spending on goods produced by companies that treat their workers well, or at establishments that do the same.

You'll find plenty of gift ideas in the 2022 Labor 411 Holiday Gift Guide. You can find more at <https://tinyurl.com/u-made>

There are also some great suggestions from the Alliance for American Manufacturing which just released their ninth annual Made in America Gift Guide, featuring gift ideas from all 50 states, Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico. There are a variety of products at a variety of price points, so there's something for everyone on your holiday shopping list. Check it out at <https://tinyurl.com/p3v8jwa>

INOUYE ENGINE RETROFIT TAKING SHAPE

Matson is moving ahead with the main engine retrofit of their containership DANIEL K. INOUYE to dual-fuel LNG. MAN Energy Solutions is heading up the conversion and say the MAN B&W 7S90ME-GI will be capable of operating on LNG and fuel oil.

C-LNG Solutions has contracted TMC Compressors (TMC) to deliver boil-off gas compressors to the vessel. C-LNG Solutions is providing its LNG fuel gas supply system (FGSS) to the INOUYE. Under its contract, they will supply three 1350-cbm type C LNG fuel tanks with in-tank pumps and tank gauging system, low-pressure vaporizer and buffer tank, glycol-water system, and N2 system. TMC will provide the boil-off gas compressors to C-LNG's fuel gas supply system. These boil-off gas compressors can be used on both dual-fuel vessels, for example LNG in combination with bunker oil, and single-fuel LNG vessels.

THE LOWDOWN ON THE THROWDOWNS: UPCOMING M.E.B.A. HOLIDAY PARTIES

Somebody said, "Today, we work. Tomorrow, we rest. But tonight, we party!" Work be damned, it's time to bust loose and make merry – M.E.B.A.-style. Here's the 411 to enjoying the M.E.B.A.-sanctioned revelry and let the good times roll:

Members at the **Boston** hall get funky first with an onslaught of merrymaking immediately after the membership meeting on Monday, December 5th. On Tuesday, December 6th in **Charleston**, members will gather at 4 pm for the real business of the day at Madra Rua (The Red Fox) 1034 E Montague Ave, North Charleston, SC. Call the hall to confirm! The good times roll in the Big Easy on Wednesday, December 7 after the **New Orleans** membership meeting when the party portion of the program prevails and members can begin filling their faces with food. The Cajuns will be ragin'!

On Thursday, December 8th, **Norfolk** members go full force on a free-form fiesta of fun after the membership meeting. Party-goers at the **New York/New Jersey** hall will wait for the final gavel of their membership meeting on Thursday, December 8 before they raise the roof and "get their groove on." Down in **Tampa** that same day, the hot and heavy holiday hullabaloo will be historic with plenty of hootin' and hollerin'. M.E.B.A. Tampa will have their party at Gaspar's Grotto beginning at 3 p.m. at 1805 E 7th Avenue.

There's no sanctioned revelry at the **Cleveland** hall - though Cheryl will keep the cookie tray loaded up with goodies. So, stop by and get your paws on some sweet treats.

Oakland will be whooping it up with holiday hubbub at the hall at 12:30 on Friday, December 9. Also on Friday, December 9, M.E.B.A. **Jacksonville** members, applicants, retirees, friends and families will converge at Pat's Lounge from 2 - 7 p.m. on 4870 Hwy Avenue. The party pace will get frenetic and the holiday hoopla goes into hyperdrive.

M.E.B.A. Headquarters & the American Maritime Congress get down to party business on Wednesday, December 14th at 3 p.m. Similar to the Beatles final concert, the big bash and life-affirming fun will take place on the rooftop. You're all invited but contact HQ in advance to let us know.

In the Aloha State, the "Big Kahuna" of parties cuts loose on Thursday, December 15th at the **Honolulu** hall. The muumuu-sized revelry gets going at 11 a.m. on Hawaiian time. In **Houston**, the cork pops at 3 pm on Friday, December 16 at the Karbach Brewery (in the outdoor biergarten – 2032 Karbach Street) where they'll turn up the power for hours. **Seattle** members let it all hang out on Friday December 16 at our Union hall in Fife where the celebration of the holidays gets on its way at 1 pm. Members shift into high gear in **Baltimore** on Wednesday December 21 at 1 p.m. where Charm City revelers will be high stepping at the hall. The action keeps going until around 5 pm.

Someone said, "You only have one life. But if you do it right, it's more than enough." So, don't be tardy for the party, Marty! Stop on by. Catch up with old shipmates, meet new friends and raise a glass to those who can't attend. Be safe!!! And make it a joyful holiday season!

M.E.B.A. HQ ONLINE MEETING ON WEDNESDAY – SIGN UP NOW

The monthly town-hall style M.E.B.A. Headquarters informational meeting will be held online – with no voting and no resolutions introduced - on Wednesday, December 7 at 1300 (Eastern Time). This is not an actual membership meeting, but it is an excellent opportunity for Members, Applicants and Retirees to discuss M.E.B.A. business, exchange information and learn more about the latest Union initiatives. Members, applicants and retirees need to register in advance for this meeting to mebahq@mebaunion.org When registering for the Online HQ Informational Meeting, provide your full name and proof of good standing - such as your last dues receipt/service charge number or statement that you are enrolled in Dues Check-Off (DCO) with a particular bargaining unit. Retirees should provide their full name and indicate their retired status. Upon confirmation of your status, the Zoom access link will be emailed to you shortly before the meeting.

TRUSTEES STEP UP SEARCH FOR PERMANENT CMES DIRECTOR

M.E.B.A. Trustees have renewed their search for the next permanent Director of the Calhoon M.E.B.A. Engineering School. Longtime School Director Chuck Eser retired from the post in May. Since then, the School's Deputy Director Bryan Jennings has served as Interim Director.

The CMES is seeking a highly qualified, innovative, and motivated leader who can build upon the School's successful track record and strong reputation. The School Director oversees the day-to-day operations of the School and programs in such a way as to ensure that the CMES maintains and builds on its reputation in the industry and the Department of Defense. Among many other responsibilities, the next Director will be responsible for leadership with administrative authority with respect to all aspects of the School including, but not limited to, instructional programming; student services; supervision and evaluation of employees; planning and budgeting; technology; outreach and public relations.

They are seeking an innovative thinker and action-oriented individual to develop and implement a plan for high-quality educational programs that will enhance CMES's visibility, reputation and meet the needs of an evolving industry. In addition, the School Director serves as an enthusiastic and engaged ambassador, articulating, and communicating CMES' vision and mission to a wide range of

maritime industry audiences and stakeholders. The School Director will host meetings and conferences that deal with the future of the maritime industry. Qualifications sought include Bachelor of Science/Arts Degree or the equivalent; A background of high-level executive experience with a minimum of 5 years of senior level, full time leadership experience in charge of an educational institution, government agency or industry; Experience in budget formulation, facilities management, public relations, and personnel management; Extensive experience and demonstrated success in developing and implementing hiring, evaluation, and professional development strategies and activities that ensure a high-quality teaching and administrative staff.

The Trustees prefer a candidate who possesses a strong school administrative background and a valid school administrator license (or equivalent); Master's degree; Knowledge of and/or experience in the maritime industry and familiarity with the key stake holders involved (MarAd, labor unions, commercial shipping companies, department of defense, IMO, etc.). Senior Merchant Marine license and experience are preferred, but not required. A retired senior military sea service officer is acceptable.

Those interested should email a cover letter and resume to Tom Lord, Executive Vice President Seiden Krieger Associates, Inc., (610) 312-4001 - tom@seidenkrieger.com

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

Monday, December 5 – Boston@1200; Seattle (Fife)@1300.

Tuesday, December 6 – CMES@1430; Charleston@1400; Houston@1315; Oakland@1230.

Wednesday, December 7 – Jacksonville@1300; New Orleans@1315; **Online HQ “Town Hall” Meeting@1300 (No Voting) – Register by emailing mebahq@mebaunion.org**

Thurs. December 8 – L.A. (San Pedro)@1230; NY/NJ@1300; Norfolk@1300; Tampa@1300.

Friday, December 9 – 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. 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.