

# 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 EAGLE UNDERWAY AS MSP FLEET GETS YOUNGER**

Expert M.E.B.A. engineering officers are propelling the latest entry into the U.S.-flag fleet as the American President Lines vessel APL EAGLE raised the Stars and Stripes this last week. The container ship, built in 2016, relieved the aging M/V GULF EXPRESS in Jebel Ali (UAE) and crewmembers from the older vessel began operations aboard the EAGLE, a vessel that is 14-years younger than the EXPRESS and which meets new requirements for CO<sup>2</sup> emissions.

APL swapped-out the vessel in advance of Maritime Security Program age restrictions. The new ship, which formerly sailed as the CNC MERCURY in the CMA CGM international fleet, takes over the MSP chit from the GULF EXPRESS.

The APL EAGLE continues operation with a crew represented by the M.E.B.A., MM&P, SIU, SUP and MFOW. Hardworking engineers aboard the vessel include C/E Kevin Parsons, 1<sup>st</sup> A/E Justin Whitton, 2<sup>nd</sup> A/E John Powers/Marijan Mustac and 3<sup>rd</sup> Alex Tapia. The EAGLE's main propulsion power comes from two electronically-controlled, two-stroke MAN B&W-6S60ME-C8.2-TII engines.

### **HORIZON RELIANCE RENAMED AFTER PASHA FOUNDER**

The HORIZON RELIANCE is being redubbed to honor The Pasha Group's founder – George Pasha II. The Sunrise/Pasha vessel that will soon be renamed GEORGE II is undergoing an LNG retrofit from steam propulsion power to dual fuel. The work involves installation of a high-pressure fuel gas supply system, power management system, ship performance monitor and digital solutions for data collection, along with full automation of new systems onboard the ship.

George W. Pasha IV, the President and CEO of The Pasha Group, announced the vessel would be named after his grandfather once it completes yard work.

George W. Pasha II, was known as "Senior" and founded the company in 1947. The company built itself up and expanded exponentially when Senior's son George III brought his talents to the organization in 1960. The newbuild LNG-fueled containership GEORGE III entered the U.S.-flag fleet last year crewed up with M.E.B.A. officers. Pasha will bring in a second newbuild – the M/V

JANET MARIE - in the very near future to join the GEORGE III serving the Hawaii/Mainland trade lane.

Powered by expert M.E.B.A. officers, the former-HORIZON RELIANCE has been presented with Certificates of Environmental Achievement by the Chamber of Shipping of America every year for the last two decades. The ship has had a long and celebrated career at sea and is poised for continued glory and on-time deliveries in its new incarnation as the GEORGE II.

### **MATSON COMMITS TO GUAM RELIEF EFFORT**

Matson announced it is contributing \$350,000 in transportation and in-kind services for disaster relief in Guam, Micronesia and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). Typhoon Mawar brought hurricane-force winds and heavy rain to those countries in late May that made a mess - though casualties were thankfully light.

Matson is delivering relief supplies aboard the MANUKAI as soon as this weekend.

On Sunday, May 28, Matson's vessel MAUNAWILI, which had been positioned offshore earlier in the week to shelter from Typhoon Mawar, was the first containership to arrive following the reopening of the Port of Guam and began discharging 454 containers of general goods.

Matt Cox, chairman and CEO of Matson, said "We want the people of Guam, Micronesia and CNMI to know that they can count on Matson to help our communities recover in the difficult weeks ahead. We are committed to helping with recovery efforts in the way we know best -- by delivering needed supplies, equipment, and donations to Guam as quickly and efficiently as possible."

### **MARINERS CRUCIAL FOR GLOBAL SHIPPING'S TECHNOLOGICAL FUTURE**

Autonomous ships can prove beneficial for both safety and the climate fight, but mariners must be integral to decision-making to guarantee success, says a new report from a handful of maritime coalitions including the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF).

"Developments in artificial intelligence are making the possibility of fully autonomous ships more real," said David Heindel, Chair of the ITF's Seafarers' Section. "These ships are already being tested, though most seafarers don't envisage them becoming a practical reality for many years. What we are likely to see is a gradual process where levels of automation steadily increase. Far from considering this a threat to jobs, unions believe it is an opportunity to make shipping safer, with more skilled, better-quality work, putting the industry in a better place to tackle big issues like climate change."

The research indicates that demand for seafarers' skills and competences will keep rising until at least 2040, as the shipping industry continues to boom, although it recognizes that the rate of employment growth may ease slightly because of automation.

Heindel pointed out that we are on the brink of a huge technological change in the way shipping operates – both due to technological advances and the urgent need to shift to sustainable energy sources in response to the climate crisis. He said that we need to take account of seafarers'

perspectives, ensuring a worker-led just transition, and making the most of their practical day-to-day expertise and experience to ensure technology protects decent working conditions at sea.

“That’s why this report is so important,” said Heindel. “As all parties come to grips with the changes required in regulations and ship operation, and the skills that will be needed, it is crucial that we include the voices of those who will be expected to make the new technology work.”

The report, “The Mass Human Element - Collating Seafarers' Voices: Perspectives and Expectations,” is available at <https://tinyurl.com/seavoice>

### **AFL-CIO: SCOTUS SIDED WITH CORPORATIONS OVER WORKING PEOPLE**

The US Supreme Court has ruled that federal labor law does not prohibit a ready-mix concrete company from taking legal action against a union in state court.

The case involved a construction service named Glacier Northwest which alleged damages caused by a Teamsters work action in 2017. (*See Telex Times #2 - 1-12-23*)

In a notable 8-1 decision on Thursday, the justices' ruling dealt a minor setback to organized labor. The decision possibly paves the way toward expensive lawsuits against striking unions, based on the economic impact of their protests.

AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler said, “Today, the U.S. Supreme Court sided with corporations over working people. But when the facts are revealed on remand, it will be clear the union acted properly and the truck drivers’ strike was protected by federal law.”

...“This decision will in no way deter workers from going on strike. Working people are standing up for our rights and fairness in the workplace at a rate not seen in generations. Striking for justice on the job is a critical part of the labor movement’s resurgence. Public support for unions is at its highest level since 1965, and organizing drives are taking place in every state. The bottom line is that the energy, enthusiasm and effectiveness of working people cannot, and will not, slow down in the wake of this ruling. The AFL-CIO and our more than 12.5 million members will continue to fight for workers, and we know that we will succeed.”

### **NOAA PREDICTS TAMER HURRICANE SEASON**

NOAA forecasters with the Climate Prediction Center predict near-normal hurricane activity in the Atlantic this year. Their outlook for the 2023 Atlantic hurricane season, which goes from June 1 to November 30, predicts a 40% chance of a near-normal season, a 30% chance of an above-normal season and a 30% chance of a below-normal season.

NOAA forecasts a range of 12 to 17 total named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher). The upcoming Atlantic hurricane season is expected to be less active than recent years, due to competing factors — some that suppress storm development and some that fuel it — driving this year's overall forecast for a near-normal season. After three hurricane seasons with La Nina present, NOAA scientists predict a high potential for El Niño to develop this summer, which can suppress Atlantic hurricane activity. El Niño’s potential influence on storm development could be offset by favorable conditions local to the tropical Atlantic Basin. Those conditions include the potential for an above-normal west African monsoon, which produces African easterly waves and seeds some of the

stronger and longer-lived Atlantic storms, and warmer-than-normal sea surface temperatures in the tropical Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea which creates more energy to fuel storm development.

### **REMINDER! ONLINE MEMBER PAYMENT & UPDATE PORTAL**

M.E.B.A.'s online Member Payment and Update Portal (PUP) allows the membership the ease of making online monetary transactions and gives them the opportunity to verify their credentials and contact information on file, as well as submitted sea time.

Members and applicants can use the Member PUP to pay their dues or service charges by credit card, debit card or through their checking account. They can also set up a recurring payment schedule to automatically keep them current. The site also allows users to view their transaction history online in a secure manner.

### **PLAN TO ATTEND THE CAA REUNION THIS SUMMER!**

Members, applicants and retirees, along with their friends and families, should sign up for the upcoming Calhoun Alumni Association Reunion this summer. The festivities take place at the Calhoun M.E.B.A. Engineering School from June 16-18. Information, event forms and fees can be found on the CMES website ([www.mebaschool.org](http://www.mebaschool.org)) by following the link for the CAA. Questions about the event should be directed to: [caa@mebaschool.org](mailto:caa@mebaschool.org)

The schedule of events looks like this: Friday, June 16 - Golf Outing Afternoon; Saturday, June 17 - Party on the Manor House Lawn; Sunday, June 18 - Clean Up and Departure.

Besides the 2023 CAA Reunion, there will be a Silent Auction and three-hole Disc Golf Challenge on Wednesday, June 14 leading up to the Reunion. These Fundraisers benefit the M.E.B.A. Merchant Marine Memorial Foundation and the upkeep of the Memorial Garden. Donations of items for the Auction (they don't have to be nautical items) or a monetary contribution are greatly appreciated. The 4MF is a 501(c)(3) entity under IRS rules, so all donations are tax deductible. For further info, contact 4MF Chairman Bill Van Loo at (443) 676-6248 or [bvanloo@bvlworks.org](mailto:bvanloo@bvlworks.org)

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

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

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

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

Thursday, June 8 – **L.A. (San Pedro)@1230; NY/NJ@1300; Norfolk@1300; Tampa@1300.**

Friday, June 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.***