

MARINE ENGINEERS' BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION (AFL-CIO)

"On Watch in Peace and War since 1875"



M.E.B.A. TELEX TIMES

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SEAPOWER SUBCOMMITTEE CALLS FOR 10 U.S.-BUILT SEALIFT SHIPS

In the early stages of a defense policy bill, Members of Congress on the House Seapower & Projection Forces subcommittee called for full funding of the Maritime Security Program, Tanker Security Program and the construction of 10 new U.S.-built ships to supplement strategic sealift goals. The subcommittee, part of the House Committee on Armed Services, marked up the Fiscal Year 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) on Wednesday. The NDAA is an annual bill establishing defense priorities and setting guidelines for military-related spending. Several other Armed Services subcommittees are hosting their own mark-ups in their NDAA areas of jurisdiction this week.. The NDAA provisions passed by the subcommittees will be consolidated into a single measure that will be addressed by the full Committee at a mark-up set for June 22nd.

The Seapower subcommittee proposed that the Maritime Administration begin plans for the design and construction of ten new roll-on/roll-off vessels, built in U.S. shipyards, for use in the National Defense Reserve Fleet, which includes the Ready Reserve Force. MarAd performed a similar role when they assisted in the development of the National Security Multi-Mission Vessel program, the newbuild Academy ships being constructed at Philly Shipyard.

Subcommittee Chairman Joe Courtney (D-Conn.) pointed out that, in the past he has supported the Navy's recapitalization of the RRF utilizing used ship acquisition only "as a temporary bridge towards a domestic new-build program." However, he said, the Navy has continued to pursue the used vessel strategy "despite drastically changing market conditions for militarily useful ships."

Rep. Courtney noted, "a domestic newbuild plan is...an unparalleled opportunity to boost our domestic shipbuilding industry and supply chain – and, with it, good American jobs."

NMC MARINER EXAM GROUP NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

The National Maritime Center (NMC) is hosting an examination working group from July 19-21, 2022, to review USCG Deck Officer examination questions and is soliciting participants. The working group will review questions from various topics on the Navigation General, Oceans, and Navigation Problems, Oceans modules. Those desiring to participate should visit the Examinations page of the NMC Website(https://www.dco.uscg.mil/national_maritime_center), open the Working Group tab, and follow the instructions. The complete schedule of upcoming sessions is also posted on the Examinations page.

PUSHBACK ENSURES ACADEMY TRAINING SHIPS WILL DISPLAY ORIGINAL HOMEPORTS

The new National Security Multi-Mission Vessels (NMSVs) being built for state maritime academies will display their original homeport names on their sterns, not “Norfolk, VA” as previously proposed by the Maritime Administration. The vessels, currently under construction at Philly Shipyard, will serve as educational platforms but are also designed to assist Government response missions. Maine Maritime Academy, upon learning that “Norfolk, VA” would replace “Castine, ME” on the stern of the new replacement ship for their aging STATE OF MAINE training vessel, reached out to Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) for an assist. Sen. Collins, along with lawmakers from Texas, California, New York and Massachusetts representing the other state schools replacing aging training ships with multi-mission vessels, penned a letter to Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg asking for his intervention in the matter. “The STATE OF MAINE training vessel is a great source of pride for Maine Maritime Academy and for the students and instructors who serve as the ship’s crew,” said Senator Collins. “MMA’s training vessels have always borne the home port of Castine, Maine, on their sterns, carrying Maine’s rich maritime heritage to ports around the world.” As a result of the coordinated effort, MarAd will revise the labeling of the hailing ports on the training vessels to reflect the locations of the respective colleges.

The first vessel in the series will replace the almost 60-year old SUNY training ship EMPIRE STATE VI by early 2023. The second will relieve the 54-year old TS KENNEDY at Massachusetts Maritime Academy. The third and fourth newbuilds will replace vessels at Maine Maritime Academy and Texas A&M Maritime Academy. The fifth will go to the California State University Maritime Academy (CMA). Construction for the fifth will begin in 2023 and delivery is set to take place in 2026.

THE RIGHT TOOL FOR THE JOB: FATHER’S DAY GIFTS, UNION-STYLE

With warm weather here, a lot of dads will be outside repairing, and improving their homes, cars and boats. So why not buy the dad in your life some brand new tools from companies that give their workers a voice on the job? Here are some tool ideas to make it a happy Father’s Day on Sunday, June 19th. Don’t screw around - hit the nail on the head and hammer home a Father’s Day gift from these fine toolmakers:

Union-Made Tools - Armstrong (IBEW, UAW); Black & Decker (UAW); Channellock (IBEW, UAW); Craftsman (IBEW, IBT); Eklind Tool Co. (IBEW); Hardcore Hammers (IBEW); Klein Tools (IBEW); Loggerhead Tools (IBEW); Moody Tools (IBEW); Park Tools (IBEW); Rigid (IBT); S-K Handtool (IBEW); SnapOn Tools (IBEW, UAW); Stanley Hand Tools (IBEW); Stiletto Tool Co. (IBEW, UAW); Wilde Tool (IBEW); Wright Tool (IBEW).

MEMBERS SHOULD KEEP A CHECK ON DOCS & NOTICES SITE

Members and applicants are reminded to make use of the “Documents & Member Notices” section of the M.E.B.A. website (www.mcbaunion.org) to find important notices and forms relating to the Union and our industry. There you’ll find hall and operational notices including announcements for upcoming online membership meetings that require a registration period. If a Union hall is closed for a national or local holiday, that information will be reflected in this section. You might want to double-check the site before making a hall visit. Important District election information is available on the site as well as COVID-19 updates. NMC/Coast Guard notices are posted as well including REC information and Marine Safety Information Bulletins.

In addition, you'll find application forms for Deep-Sea, Government Fleet and the various bargaining units. Also posted are Group Seniority Card application forms, Sailing Time Verification & Transmittal forms and Change of Bargaining Unit Affiliation forms. In addition, the M.E.B.A. By-Laws, Constitution and Shipping Rules are there as well as many other important documents including the Recommendation Form - (*Reminder: two recommendation letters are needed from a Senior officer who sailed with the Applicant for at least 60 days.*)

Please make it a habit to get familiar with that web page. To get there, go to the M.E.B.A. website (www.mebaunion.org) and scroll down to the large "Documents & Member Notices" box on the right side of the main page.

HOLE SPONSORSHIPS FOR NEXT WEEK'S 4MF DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT

The M.E.B.A. Merchant Marine Memorial Foundation (4MF) will host its second annual Leroy Koehler Disc (Frisbee) Golf Tournament on Friday, June 17th at the Calhoun M.E.B.A. Engineering School. Everyone is invited. The tournament benefits the Memorial Park at the CMES. Hole (or general) sponsorships are still available so help make the 4MF a winner!

As you know, the Memorial was created to honor fallen seafarers who have delivered the goods and answered the call of this country since 1775. The Foundation supporting the Memorial is a section 501(c)(3) entity under Internal Revenue Service rules, so all donations are tax deductible. Leroy Koehler was a greatest generation mariner and consummate Chief Engineer who deeply cared about the M.E.B.A. heritage and made a generous financial contribution to the Memorial Park. There is a \$25 entry fee for the tournament which will begin at 1300. For further information, and to become a hole sponsor, contact 4MF Chairman Bill Van Loo at (443) 676-6248 or bvanloo@bvlworks.org

ENTER THE AFL-CIO "JUMP IN A JEEP" SWEEPSTAKES

The AFL-CIO is giving away a union-made Jeep in celebration of its upcoming "Building the Movement to Meet the Moment" convention next week. You could win a 2022 Jeep Wrangler Willys but you have to enter by Saturday.

Go to www.unionplus.org/jeepsweeps to get in on the action. You can earn extra entries by uploading a photo of you and your car, or inviting friends to enter.

HONOLULU HALL HOLIDAY TO HONOR WARRIOR KING

M.E.B.A.'s Honolulu Union hall will be closed tomorrow (Friday, June 10) to honor one of the great Hawaiian kings. The Honolulu hall will host its June Membership meeting on Monday.

King Kamehameha I Day honors the chief of the Big Island district who, through conquest, united the eight major islands of Hawaii under his rule in the early 1800s. Legend says that Kamehameha was able to roll over the 7,000 pound volcanic Naha Stone when he was 14 years old, thus revealing that he would be the chosen one to unify Hawaii. A gifted surfer, he was said to be 7 feet tall and weigh over 300 pounds.

Kamehameha became chief of the Big Island district in 1791 after vanquishing his island enemies in a series of bloody civil wars. His cause was aided in part by a timely eruption of Mt. Kilauea which covered a third of the enemy's forces in lava. This event was considered a sign that the fire goddess Pele favored him. As the Big Island ruler, Kamehameha, which translates to "The Lonely One," led his Kipuupuu warriors on a systematic conquest of the Hawaiian Islands which fell one by one to his

war machine. His renowned battle cry “Imua!” which means “Go forth!” is a shortened version of his extended battle call, "Imua e na pokii a inu I ka wai awaawa aohe hope e hoi mai ai" which is "Go forth my young brothers and drink of the bitter waters of battle for there is no turning back until we are victorious!"

However, his grand-scale designs to swallow up the island of Kauai were repeatedly thwarted which temporarily stifled his plans for domination. But in 1810, in the face of a massive invasion and certain defeat, the king of Kauai came groveling to Kamehameha and pledged his loyalty. This triggered the eight major islands of Hawaii to finally unite under one ruler – King Kamehameha I. Dwayne Johnson (The Rock) will supposedly portray the great king in an upcoming Robert Zemeckis film called “The King,” which has not yet begun production. Kamehameha was a wise and popular peacetime king who adopted a legal system and outlawed human sacrifice. He had as many as 30 wives, but his favorite was Ka'ahumanu who later served as Queen Regent and who championed the rights of Hawaiian women and engineered a ban of the hula dance that was later overturned. Kamehameha helped rebuild battle-torn Hawaii while promoting trade and fostering the agriculture of what would become our 50th state. He continued to serve as king, ruling in peace until his death on June 11, 1819. His burial site is still a mystery today but his legacy looms large. He was succeeded by his firstborn son Liholiho (King Kamehameha II), one of his 35 children. All hail Kamehameha the Great!

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

Friday, June 10 – Honolulu Hall Closed (King Kamehameha Day)

Monday, June 13 – Honolulu@1100.

Monday, July 4 – Independence Day - Halls Closed

Tuesday, July 5 – Boston@1200; CMES@1430; Charleston@1400; Houston@1315; Oakland@1230; Seattle (Fife)@1300.

Wednesday, July 6 – Jacksonville@1300; New Orleans@1315; **Online HQ “Town Hall” Meeting@1300 (No Voting) – Register by emailing mebahq@mebaunion.org**

Thursday, July 7 – L.A. (San Pedro)@1230; NY/NJ@1300; Norfolk@1300; Tampa@1300.

Friday, July 8 – 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.