

# MARINE ENGINEERS' BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION (AFL-CIO)



*"On Watch in Peace and War since 1875"*  
**M.E.B.A. TELEX TIMES**  
*The Official Union Newsletter – "The Word to the Wise"*  
Number 45 – November 10, 2022



*In this issue//Charles Jerrier Sails into the Sunset, Service This Weekend//OSG Incentives//Latest Staten Island Ferry Commissioned//Great Lakes Green Shipping Corridor//Honoring Gene Daisey//Vacation Benefits, Year-End Closing//M.E.B.A. Halls & Offices Closed for Veterans Day//*

## **FINISHED WITH ENGINES: POPULAR MEMBER CHARLES JERRIER JR.**

Charlie Jerrier, who shipped out for years with the Union and bled M.E.B.A. blue & gold, sailed into the sunset on November 6<sup>th</sup> at the age of 54. He had been part of the M.E.B.A. since 1990, following his graduation from Maine Maritime and he was a dedicated engineer, good conversationalist and passionate about the M.E.B.A. and the Merchant Marine. He was a resident of Milton, MA, had a Chief Engineer's license and shipped out of the Boston hall for years. In his later career, he primarily sailed relief onboard Maersk Line vessels. He retired earlier this year as he battled against cancer.

There will be a visitation this weekend for Charlie at Dolan Funeral Home (460 Granite Avenue) in Milton, MA. It will take place on Sunday, November 13 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM with a celebration of Charlie's life at 3:00 PM. The funeral procession from Dolan Funeral Home will take place on Monday November 14 at 12 noon and the interment at New Calvary Cemetery, 800 Harvard Street, Mattapan will begin at 1:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, donations in Charlie's memory may be made to: American Merchant Marine Veterans ([www.ammv.us](http://www.ammv.us)) whose mission is to preserve Merchant Marine history and the mariner's devotion to our country and the world in peace and war. To send a condolence message to the Jerrier family, please visit [www.dolanfuneral.com](http://www.dolanfuneral.com)

## **OSG INCENTIVES TO BETTER ATTRACT & RETAIN ENGINEERS**

M.E.B.A. worked out an agreement with OSG Ship Management to provide additional incentives for our hardworking members in the fleet in an effort to better attract and retain high quality officers working for the company. The Union's contract with OSG covering licensed engineers runs to June 15, 2026.

M.E.B.A. Gulf Coast V.P. Adam Smith signed an MOU with OSG Chief Administrative Officer Damon Mote to provide additional wages for those that sail as 2<sup>nd</sup> A/E who complete a sailing assignment at the First Assistant rating within six months - where they will receive the difference in onboard wages between first and second for their trip as second. This enhancement will encourage those needing to acquire a Tankerman endorsement as well as those thinking about stepping up to 1<sup>st</sup> A/E. The change was made retroactive to January 1, 2022 and will remain in effect until June 30, 2023.

The company will also replace their direct-hire 270-day assignments with 180-day rotary assignments which puts the Third Engineer jobs back in the Union hall and on the job board.

### **LATEST STATEN ISLAND FERRY COMMISSIONED**

New York City Mayor Eric Adams officially commissioned the DOROTHY DAY this week, the third and final new 4,500-passenger Ollis-class Staten Island Ferry vessel joining the fleet this year. The \$85 million, state-of-the-art ferry is named for the 20th-century peace activist who led the Catholic Worker movement, founded during the Great Depression. The vessel has completed harbor trials and passed U.S. Coast Guard inspections — and will serve passengers for the first time later this year.

The vessel is preceded by two new ferries this past year, all constructed by Eastern Shipbuilding in Panama City, FL - the STAFF SGT. MICHAEL H. OLLIS which began passenger service in February, and the SANDY GROUND which began regular passenger service in June.

The M.E.B.A. continues to work with the City and the office of Mayor Eric Adams to cover the Staten Island Ferry workers with a fair contract that has been withheld from them for over a decade. Staten Island ferry mariners haven't had a pay raise in almost 12 years after the contract expired in 2010 and underpaid workers in the fleet have sought opportunities elsewhere through the years. The City's inability to attract and retain qualified mariners has created service disruptions that occasionally boils over into frustration for commuters who rely on the ferry service during their daily lives.

But recently, a New York City Administrative Law Judge ruled that engine work aboard Staten Island Ferry vessels is commensurate to such jobs in the U.S.-flag Maersk fleet and that those ferry workers should be paid comparably.

The Union continues to meet in good faith in furtherance of a new and fair contract covering each of the ratings we represent.

### **GREAT LAKES GREEN SHIPPING CORRIDOR**

The U.S. and Canada jointly announced a plan to promote the adoption of zero-emission fuels and technologies by establishing a Green Shipping Corridor Network in the Great Lakes–St. Lawrence Seaway System.

The U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Department of State, and Transport Canada will work with state, provincial, local, private-sector, non-governmental leaders, and indigenous peoples in Canada and the U.S. to host consultations with ports and other stakeholders in furtherance of the initiative.

It was noted that the initiative could expand in the future to support green shipping corridors on U.S. and Canadian routes along both countries' coasts.

### **HONORING GENE DAISEY**

Past students and friends are drumming up support to honor retired Calhoon M.E.B.A. Engineering School Instructor Gene Daisey who passed away on October 5, 2022 at the age of 87. He was a popular firefighting instructor at the CMES during the facility's cadet school days on Light Street in Baltimore, MD.

Donations are being accepted to place a plaque for him at the M.E.B.A. Merchant Marine Memorial on School grounds in Easton, MD.

Anyone wishing to contribute may send a check to: M MMMF, 27050 St Michaels Road, Easton, MD 21601. The check should be made out to the M MMMF (4MF) and should list Gene Daisey in the memo area.

### **VACATION BENEFITS – 2022 YEAR-END CLOSING**

Apply for Vacation and Port Relief Benefits early to avoid the year-end rush.

- **FILING DEADLINE:** The deadline for issuing checks dated in 2022 in the Outports *and* the Plan Office is Friday, December 16, 2022.
- **DIRECT DEPOSIT:** The final Direct Deposit Transfer for 2022 will be made on 12/19/2022 and the funds will be deposited into bank accounts on 12/21/2022.
- Any requests for Port Relief and Vacation checks received after 12/16/22 at 12:00 PM EST will be paid in the order received beginning 1/3/2023.

Any member who requires that his/her check be dated in 2022 must file before this deadline. Remember, Monday December 26, 2022 and Monday January 2, 2023 are holidays and the Outports and the Plan Office will be closed. It is always wise to plan ahead, so you should verify the specific holiday schedule with the Plan Office Representative.

### ***Split Your Vacation Payments between 2022 and 2023***

You can submit an Application for Vacation Pay prior to the end of the year and request that the payment of your vacation benefits be split. Two checks will be issued to you, one in 2022 and a second in 2023. The 12/16/2022 deadline applies to split claims also. The vacation benefits paid in this manner MUST be a **continuous vacation period**.

Please contact the Vacation Plan staff in Baltimore at 800-811-6322 or 410-547-9111 if you have any questions.

### **M.E.B.A. HALLS AND OFFICES CLOSED FOR VETERANS DAY**

Veterans Day will be observed tomorrow – Friday, Nov. 11 – and all M.E.B.A. halls and offices will be closed.

The Honolulu Union hall will host its regular membership meeting on Monday.

Veterans Day marks the anniversary of the agreement that ended World War I in 1918. Originally known as Armistice Day, it is now celebrated as a day to commemorate all veterans in the U.S. including Merchant Marine veterans. It is observed as Remembrance Day in the Commonwealth nations, and as Armistice Day in France and Belgium. Birmingham, AL hosted the very first Veterans Day parade in 1947 and it continues today as an annual tradition. Each year on Veterans Day, right at 11 a.m. (11/11 at 11), a wreath-laying ceremony is held at Arlington National Cemetery at the at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on the outskirts of Washington D.C.

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

**Friday, November 11 – Halls Closed – Veterans Day**

**Monday, November 14** – Honolulu@1100.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:marco@mebaunion.org) Visit us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter and check us out on Instagram.*