

MARINE ENGINEERS' BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION (AFL-CIO)

"On Watch in Peace and War since 1875"



M.E.B.A. TELEX TIMES

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NEW THREE-YEAR AGREEMENT WITH SEACOR FINALIZED

M.E.B.A. has finalized new three-year Collective Bargaining Agreements with Seacor/Waterman retroactive to June 3rd. The new agreements cover both licensed engineers for the Pure Car/Truck Carriers (PC/TCs) GREEN COVE, GREEN LAKE, GREEN POINT, GREEN RIDGE, as well as engineers onboard the heavylift vessels OCEAN GIANT and OCEAN GLADIATOR.

Among other items, the new agreements bring in strong wage and wage related items increases, OT, duty pay and MPB improvements, medical, training and JEC bumps, as well as a slew of work right upgrades.

The M.E.B.A. negotiating team was led by Gulf Coast Vice President Adam Smith, along with Tampa Branch Agent Nicole Greenway and Headquarters Contracts Officer Mark Gallagher. Input was delivered by Seacor sailing members and rank-and-file participating in negotiations included Doug Berdel, Brian Kane, Seth Kaye, Pat Lowe, Eric White and Alex York.

The agreements are available for review by members and applicants in good standing at the M.E.B.A. Union halls.

SENATE CG BILL AUTHORIZES SA/SH REFORMS, SHORESIDE INFRASTRUCTURE, OCS CREWING PROVISION EXCLUDED

The newly introduced Senate Coast Guard Authorization bill calls for funding to enhance Coast Guard operations, help the service replace and modernize its cutters, and make big shoreside and cyber infrastructure improvements, among other provisions.

It also includes major reforms to prevent sexual assault and sexual harassment in the maritime industry, but does not include a provision, championed by U.S.-flag shipping interests, that would require that mariners serving on foreign-flagged vessels on the Outer Continental Shelf be either U.S. citizens or citizens of the nation where the vessel is flagged. That provision was part of the Coast Guard bill passed in the House. While the Senate's exclusion of the crewing language from the bill darkens its chances of inclusion in a final Coast Guard package, final details will need to be ironed out in a conference committee before it heads to the President's desk.

Current law requires that all vessels, rigs, platforms, or other offshore structures be manned by U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents, but the law has been exploited and a loophole has allowed foreign companies to utilize low-wage foreign mariners for this work, allowing them to skirt U.S. taxes and labor laws.

Among other things, the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022 would authorize \$3 billion to address infrastructure repair and replacement backlogs. It would also require better transparency regarding the outstanding shoreside infrastructure needs by requiring an annual submission to Congress. It would also improve oversight and investigations of sexual assault and harassment in the maritime industry and within the Coast Guard.

It would provide the authority to the Coast Guard to revoke mariner credentials if the mariner has committed certain sex crimes. It defines sexual harassment and establishes a process for mariners to report crimes to the Coast Guard. The bill would also strengthen Coast Guard policy to ensure that victims of sexual assault are provided care as soon as possible when deployed upon a vessel, and would expand penalties for the failure to report a sexual assault and harassment at sea.

M.E.B.A. MARCHES FOR FERRY WORKERS AT NYC LABOR PARADE

Last Saturday (9/10), M.E.B.A. took part in New York City's annual march celebrating America's workforce in Midtown, with Labor Secretary Marty Walsh leading the way as Grand Marshal. Sponsored by the AFL-CIO and the New York City Central Labor Council, with the theme "Workers Leading, Workers Rising," the parade also featured AFL-CIO's Secretary-Treasurer Fred Redmond and State Labor Commissioner Roberta Reardon as co-chairs - along with tens of thousands of unionized essential workers who weathered the COVID-19 pandemic to keep the city and country running. M.E.B.A. had a large contingent of members and family march in the parade led by Atlantic Coast V.P. Jason Callahan. Organization of Staff Analyst (OSA) members and their president Bob Croghan marched alongside M.E.B.A. in support of a Staten Island Ferry worker contract.

"One hundred forty years after the first New York City Labor Day parade, we...march by the thousands once again to celebrate not just the union champions who came before us, but the working people across this country who are standing up, taking risks and fighting to organize their workplaces," said Redmond. "This holiday is brought to you by the labor movement, and after the events of the last several years, it [is] an honor to walk alongside the countless workers who have sacrificed so much to move our country forward."

TENTATIVE RAIL AGREEMENT COULD AVERT FURTHER NIGHTMARE SUPPLY CHAIN HEADACHES

A tentative agreement, reached early this morning after a final grueling 20-hour bargaining session between an railroads and unions representing engineers and conductors, may avert a threatened strike that would have likely begun tomorrow. The unions had been seeking a fair deal for the last three years. In a process that may take a few weeks, the tentative agreement must be ratified by the memberships before it takes effect.

Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen (BLET) President Dennis Pierce and SMART Transportation Division (SMART-TD) President Jeremy Ferguson issued a joint statement saying that their unions reached a tentative agreement "with the nation's largest freight rail carriers which

includes wage increases, bonuses, and no increases to insurance copays and deductibles. For the first time our unions were able to obtain negotiated contract language exempting time off for certain medical events from carrier attendance policies. Our Unions will now begin the process of submitting the tentative agreement to the rank and file for a ratification vote by the memberships of both unions.”

The SMART Transportation Division is comprised of approximately 125,000 active and retired members of the former United Transportation Union, who work in a variety of crafts in the transportation industry. The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen represents nearly 57,000 professional locomotive engineers and trainmen throughout the United States. The BLET is the founding member of the Rail Conference, International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

CMES CONTINUES TO ACCEPT RÉSUMÉS FOR ADJUNCT INSTRUCTORS

The Calhoun M.E.B.A. Engineering School (CMES) is accepting résumés for a variety of adjunct instructor positions. They are searching for the following disciplines:

- Steam Engineering
- Gas Turbine Engineering
- Diesel Engineering
- Refrigeration
- Container Refrigeration
- Advanced Fire Fighting
- Basic Training
- Proficiency in Survival Craft
- Electrical – various disciplines
- Any other relevant marine engineering experience

Qualifications: Candidates must hold either a Chief Engineer or Captain’s (BST subjects) license; Operational and/or sailing experience within the discipline willing to teach; 40-hr Train-the-Trainer certification is a plus but is not required for applications. Any candidates who are hired that do not have this certification will be required to take this course prior to being submitted for USCG instructor approval. Computer knowledge of Microsoft Word and PowerPoint is helpful.

Please submit résumés via email to resume@mebaschool.org

GPS INTERFERENCE, SPOOFING CONTINUES TO BE A THING

The Maritime Administration has issued a new Maritime Security Communications with Industry (MSCI) (No. 2022-010) to highlight continued instances of worldwide GPS interference involving increasingly sophisticated malicious email spoofing techniques within the Marine Transportation System (MTS).

Such interference can result in lost or inaccurate GPS signals affecting bridge navigation, GPS-based timing, and communications equipment (include satellite communications equipment). Over the last six months, areas from which multiple instances have been reported include the eastern and central Mediterranean Sea, Persian Gulf, and the Red Sea. The U.S. Coast Guard Navigation Center (NAVCEN) web page, <https://navcen.uscg.gov/gps-problem-report-status> contains a chronological list of recently reported GPS problems.

Maritime GPS disruptions or anomalies should be reported immediately to the NAVCEN at <https://www.navcen.uscg.gov/report-a-problem> or via phone at (703) 313-5900, 24-hours a day.

CMES TEXT ALERT SYSTEM – SIGN UP NOW!

The Calhoun M.E.B.A. Engineering School has a handy text message alert system that is available to the M.E.B.A. membership. Text alerts include announcements about recently added classes, open spots on a roster, availability of the next year's course schedule, and other items of interest.

To start receiving texts, members must opt-in by texting CMES to (410) 822-9600. This is completely voluntary, and members may opt-out at any time by replying STOP to the last text they received. The CMES will also continue to distribute notices via All Ports Bulletins, the *Telex Times*, and on the School's website. By texting CMES, you agree to receive automated promotional/informational messages from the Calhoun M.E.B.A. Engineering School. This agreement is not a condition of registration or any other transaction from the school. Terms and the Privacy Policy can be found at mebaschool.org/terms. Message frequency varies.

SPACE AVAILABLE FOR CERTAIN UPCOMING CMES COURSES

The Calhoun M.E.B.A. Engineering School announced that several of its upcoming courses are filling up, but still have more room available. They include:

- Tank Ship LNG - September 19 – 30
- Vessel Security Officer - October 3 – 7
- Marine Electric Propulsion / High Voltage Safety - October 17 – 28
- Tankerman DL - October 17 – 21
- BST Revalidation - October 24 – 26 (reminder, this is a 3-day class)
- LNG as a Fuel - October 24 – 27 (reminder, this is a 4-day class)

Applications can be sent via the CMES website (www.mebaschool.org), faxed to (410) 822-7220, or emailed to applications@mebaschool.org

DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT, SILENT AUCTION TO RAISE MONEY FOR MEMORIAL SCHEDULED; ITEM DONATIONS WELCOMED & APPRECIATED!

The M.E.B.A. family is invited to take part in a fundraiser at the Calhoun M.E.B.A. Engineering School to benefit the M.E.B.A. Merchant Marine Memorial Foundation (4MF). The Second Annual M MMMMF Invitational Jamie Butler Memorial Disc Golf Tournament will take place on Thursday, October 20th (at 1300). There will also be a Silent Auction soon after as well as a karaoke challenge to take place at the CMES Lounge.

Donations of auction items are appreciated. If you have an item of value that you feel could raise money for this great cause, please contact the Foundation. The 4MF is a section 501(c)(3) entity under Internal Revenue Service rules, so all donations are tax deductible.

Jamie Butler was a 1983 CMES cadet school graduate who shipped as an M.E.B.A. Chief Engineer for years and served as the Baltimore hall dispatcher before he sailed into the sunset in late 2020 at the age of 59.

The \$25 entry fee will benefit the 4MF and the Memorial Park. 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 tournament winner will have his or her name engraved on the M MMMF Maritime Heritage Cup proudly displayed at the CMES Lounge. You can contact 4MF Chairman Bill Van Loo for additional information. He can be reached at bvanloo@bvlworks.org or call/text him at (443) 676-6248.

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

Monday, October 3 – Boston@1200; Seattle (Fife)@1300.

Tuesday, October 4 – CMES@1430; Charleston@1400; Houston@1315; Oakland@1230.

Wednesday, October 5 – Jacksonville@1300; New Orleans@1315; Online HQ “Town Hall” Meeting@1300 (No Voting) – Register by emailing mebahq@mebaunion.org

Thurs. October 6 – L.A. (San Pedro)@1230; NY/NJ@1300; Norfolk@1300; Tampa@1300.

Friday, October 7 – 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.