

MARINE ENGINEERS' BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION (AFL-CIO)

"On Watch in Peace and War since 1875"



M.E.B.A. TELEX TIMES

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RE-IMPLEMENTATION OF HALL CLEARANCES FOR PERMANENTS

As a reminder, as of Wednesday, September 1, the Union returned to the pre-COVID standard shipping rules and once again require permanents to clear the hall in person. The M.E.B.A. will no longer allow the COVID-related remote clearances for permanents or other members returning to work after a leave of absence.

Union halls maintain an emphasis on protecting the safety of our membership as our officers continue to perform vital service to our nation's economy and national security.

PASS ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT

M.E.B.A. affiliate PASS (Professional Aviation Safety Specialists) will have a new leader in October after the results of a secret ballot election were certified this week. PASS represents more than 11,000 Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Defense Department workers throughout the air traffic control system.

Members elected David J. Spero to a three-year term as the next PASS national president, in a term that begins on October 1. Since 2003, Spero has been the PASS Region II vice president, responsible for the union's labor relations matters for FAA Technical Operations employees.

"I am ready to hit the ground running," said Spero. "My experience of working as a regional vice president and dealing with contractual, constitutional, political and legal issues put me in a place that requires no 'on-the-job' training. I am prepared and motivated to lead PASS and meet the challenges of this decade and beyond."

Current leader Mike Perrone is retiring after serving three terms as President and three terms as national vice president. National Secretary-Treasurer Carlos Aguirre was unopposed and will serve another three-year term. Congratulations all!

MANY THANKS TO P.A.F. HERO MARK ENGBERG

The Union issues strong appreciation for retired M.E.B.A. Chief Engineer and Calhoun School graduate (class 70A) Mark Engberg who recently spearheaded an extremely successful Political Action Fund pledge drive. Mark helped shine a light on this critical fund that strengthens the Union and helps guarantee the ongoing viability of the M.E.B.A. Benefit Plans.

Brother Engberg matched \$10,000 of his own money to the Fund on the condition that 20 M.E.B.A. retirees commit to supporting the PAF with at least \$500 a year over a 5-year period. Even with the onset of a pandemic that could have helped mute the campaign, more than 20 retired members heard Mark's passionate defense of the fund and joined him in the effort. Mark followed-through with his promise that will help this important fund pack more of a punch.

A current financial advisor, Mark had a 20-year sailing career with the M.E.B.A. including eight as Chief Engineer. He is a 1980 graduate of the Calhoun M.E.B.A. Engineering School (class 70A) and has stayed active with the Union since his retirement. He is a past recipient of the Calhoun Alumni Association "Man of the Year" Award as well as the Jefferson Award which honors those who have provided meaningful service to helping people with disabilities. A heartfelt "thank you" to Mark Engberg – a "Hall of Fame" M.E.B.A. member!

As you know, contributing to the M.E.B.A. PAF is one of most important things you can do as a member of this Union. The PAF helps advance the interests of the U.S. Merchant Marine through the funding of key maritime provisions including the Maritime Security Program, protecting the Jones Act, as well as our health care and pensions. Members, applicants and retirees are encouraged to contribute to the M.E.B.A. Political Action Fund online by visiting the Union homepage at www.mebaunion.org and selecting "Political Action Fund" to support this important cause.

MARAD UPDATES ADVISORY FOR SHIPPING NEAR IRAN

The Maritime Administration has updated an advisory for commercial vessels transiting in waters near Iran reiterating the perils that have befallen vessels and mariners in the region over the last several years. The MSCI – Maritime Security Communications with Industry – issues guidance to mariners in the Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, Gulf of Oman, Arabian Sea, Gulf of Aden, Bab al Mandeb Strait, Red Sea, and Western Indian Ocean. The updated advisory summarizes the threats to vessels in those areas including regional conflicts, heightened military activity, and increased political tensions. It details specific incidents such as explosive unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) attacks on merchant vessels, limpet mine attacks, explosive boats, navigation and communication disruptions and general piracy that mariners must be vigilant against.

The advisory remains in effect until February 28, 2022. For more information about this and other alerts and advisories, visit <https://go.usa.gov/x6pSZ>

REMEMBER: UNION MATCHING G&W CONTRIBUTIONS DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR

M.E.B.A.'s homegrown fund that helps members in times of need is getting an added boost from every donation made this year since the Union announced that it is matching contributions made to the Good & Welfare Fund dollar-for-dollar - up to \$10,000. The top G&W contributor through December 31st will earn the coveted M.E.B.A. "Swag Bag" – a bag stuffed to the gills with fabulous M.E.B.A. prizes worth an estimated \$200.

The Good & Welfare Fund assists active and retired members and their families in times of crisis. It helps remove some of the sting and burden of unexpected tragedy and lends a hand to those within the M.E.B.A. family. This is a wonderful cause, but we must constantly strengthen the fund to allow additional assistance to members and retirees in times of hardship.

You can contribute to the G&W Fund anytime. But right now would be the best time now that the Union has pledged to make your generous contribution really pack a punch. The Fund is exempt from Federal Income tax. You can make a contribution at a Union hall or support the Fund through an electronic payment made using the link on the M.E.B.A. website (www.mebaunion.org).

OCEANS, SURFACE TEMPS AT RECORD HIGHS SAYS NEW NOAA REPORT

A newly issued report from NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) paints a grim picture of earth health as scientists acknowledge that 2020 set new records for global greenhouse gas concentrations, highest sea levels, warmest surface temperatures and highest ocean heat content.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic that resulted in an estimated 6%–7% reduction in human-caused carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions into the atmosphere, the accumulation of concentration levels still reached a record high. Above-average temperatures were widespread across the globe during 2020. Already this year, July 2021 has set a new global record as the hottest month ever recorded.

The report says that in 2020, the globally averaged ocean heat content was at a record high, and the global sea surface temperature was the third highest on record, surpassed only by 2016 and 2019. The annual global mean sea level set a new record for the ninth consecutive year. Since 2005, ocean warming has contributed to about one-third of the rise on average, as the warming causes seawater to expand, while increasing mass, mostly from melting ice glaciers and ice sheets, accounts for two-thirds. The report states that oceans absorbed about 3.0 billion more metric tons of anthropogenic carbon dioxide than it released into the atmosphere in 2020. This is the highest amount since the start of the record in 1982 and almost 30% higher than the average of the past two decades. More carbon dioxide stored in the ocean means less remains in the atmosphere, but also leads to increasing acidification of the waters, which can greatly harm or shift ecosystems.

UNION-MADE LABOR DAY

Labor Day is Monday and we should honor working families and recommit ourselves to updating labor laws that will help strengthen the hand of working men and women. But hey, it's also a holiday weekend - you've worked hard and you deserve a break. With a raging pandemic, maybe it's not the greatest time to travel. But here's a list of union-friendly movies, beverages, and grilling products that will help you intensify your weekend of slack.

Labor Day Movie Selection - 10,000 Black Men Named George (1992); American Dream (1990); American Factory (2019); At the River I Stand (1993); Blue Collar (1978); Bound for Glory (1976); Boxcar Bertha (1972); Brassed Off (1996); Bread and Roses (2000); Comrades (1986); Cradle Will Rock (1999); F.I.S.T. (1978); Germinal (1993); Glengarry Glen Ross (1992); Gung Ho (1986); Harlan County U.S.A (1976); Hoffa (1992); How Green Was My Valley (1941); I'm All Right, Jack (1959); Justice on Wheels: The Diana Kilmury Story (Mother Trucker) (1996); Live Nude Girls Unite! (2000); Made in Dagenham (2010); Matewan (1987); Miles of Smiles: Years of Struggle (1982); Native Land (1942); Newsies (1992); Norma Rae (1979); North Country (2005); On the Waterfront (1954); Pride (2014); Reprise (1996); Roger & Me (1989); Salt of the Earth (1954); Silkwood (1983); Sometimes a Great Notion (1971); Still the Enemy Within (2014); The Burning Season: The Chico Mendes Story (1994); The Devil and Miss Jones (1941); The Fight in the Fields (1997); The Grapes of Wrath (1940); The Molly Maguires (1970); The Organiser (1963); The Pajama Game (1957); The Triangle Factory Fire Scandal (1979); The Willmar 8 (1981); With Babies and Banners (1979).

Union-Packaged Grilling - Draper Valley; Earth's Best; Empire Kosher; Foster Farms; Fresh Pack; Healthy Choice; Holly Farms; Maple Leaf Farms; Park Farms; Sanderson Farms; Smithfield; Tyson; Valley Fresh; Wayne Farms.

Union-Made Beer & Sodas (*There are so many more! Visit www.unionplus.org/blog/union-made/union-made-beer*): Bass Pale Ale; Bud and Bud Light; Coors Light; Killian's Irish Red; Landshark Lager; Mad River Brewing Jamaican Red Ale; Miller Genuine Draft; Sam Adams; Barq's Root Beer; Coca-Cola; Dr Pepper; Pepsi.

Union-made BBQ Supplies - Durex Maverick Barbeque Tools; Igloo Cooler; Rubbermaid coolers; Solo cups, plates, and bowls; Thermador Grills; Weber Grills (Genesis, Summit and Q Series).

JAMIE BUTLER FRISBEE GOLF TOURNAMENT IS SUNDAY, SEPT. 19

The M.E.B.A. family is invited to take part in a Disc Golf Tournament at the Calhoun M.E.B.A. Engineering School to benefit the M.E.B.A. Merchant Marine Memorial Foundation (4MF). The M.M.M.M.F. Invitational Jamie Butler Memorial Disc Golf Tournament will take place on Sunday, September 19th (at 1300). Jamie 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 late last year at the age of 59. The Disc Golf Invitational will be open only to Members, Applicants, Retirees, staff and employers. 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.M.M.M.F. 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

HALLS, OFFICES CLOSED MONDAY FOR LABOR DAY

M.E.B.A. halls and offices will be closed on Labor Day - Monday, Sept. 6th, but will reopen on Tuesday. Union halls which usually have their regular membership meetings on the Monday of meeting week (Boston & Seattle) will instead conduct their meetings on Tuesday, September 7th at the regular time. Labor Day is observed on the first Monday in September to pay tribute to the contributions and achievements of everyday working families. The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated in New York City on Tuesday, September 5, 1882. Following the deaths of 13 workers during the Pullman Strike in June of 1894, President Grover Cleveland made the reconciliation with the labor movement a top political priority, and Labor Day become a federal holiday in 1894.

SIGN UP NOW FOR WEDNESDAY'S NOON-TIME HQ INFORMATIONAL ONLINE MEETING

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, Sept. 8th at **1200** (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 Be aware that the meeting time was recently rescheduled to 1200 eastern time on Wednesday.

When registering for the Online Headquarters Informational Meeting you must 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.

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS *(All times are local)*

Monday, September 6 – Labor Day – *All Halls Closed*

Tuesday, September 7 – Boston@1200; CMES@1430; Charleston@1400; Houston@1315; Oakland@1230; Seattle-Fife@1300;

Wednesday, September 8 – Jacksonville@1300; New Orleans@1315; Online Headquarters “Town Hall” Meeting@1200 (**Note - the time was recently changed from 1300 to 1200**). (No Voting) – You can register for the 9/8 HQ meeting at mebahq@mebaunion.org – provide your details).

Thursday, September 9 – L.A.-San Pedro@1230; NY/NJ@1300; Norfolk@1300; Tampa@1300;

Friday, September 10 – Honolulu@1100

-----FINISHED WITH ENGINES-----



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. Visit us on Facebook. 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.