



The International Propeller Club of the United States

Bringing the Maritime Community Together

June 2019

Message from the New Executive Vice President

I am John Cullather, the new Executive Vice President of the International Propeller Club of the United States. By way of background, I worked for the U.S. House of Representatives for over 30 years helping to develop U.S. maritime policy – including the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, the Maritime Security Program, the Maritime Transportation Security Act, and numerous other provisions of law that affect the maritime industry. Over those decades I have attended numerous International Propeller Club activities in the Washington D.C. area. I am very excited to have the opportunity to work with you to help grow our club and help expand our maritime community.

The International Propeller Club has the distinction of having members from all sectors of the global maritime transportation system – from inland towing companies, to shipyards, containership operators, freight forwarders, lawyers, bankers, and insurers. If you are in any way involved in transporting cargo or passengers by water you can be a member of the Propeller Club. While there are trade associations that represent corporations involved in the various maritime sectors, the Propeller Club is the “grass roots” organization that brings together the employees of these sectors into one community.

Propeller Club members get together to build business networks, raise money for numerous charities, hear from local, state, and federal officials regarding their activities that impact on the marine transportation system, or just getting together for a social activity such as golfing or a crab feast.

In the coming months you are going to receive additional information and support from the international office of the Propeller Club. We have already been expanding the WAVES features on our web page. In addition to local port communities – we have created communities based on the various sectors of the maritime industry (i.e. towing vessels, passenger vessels, etc.) or topics (the environment or Zero Emission vessels). The idea is that there are Propeller Club members around the world that share a common interest – and we should provide them a forum to share information and help answer each other’s question. Samples of some of our Communities are shown at the end of this newsletter. Please email us at info@propellerclubhq.com if you are interested in any of these or if there is a community you would like to see established

We are currently redesigning our web page to provide you timely maritime news as well as information regarding Propeller Club activities from around the globe. After that is launched, we plan on implementing a social media campaign to build “brand awareness” of the Propeller Club, inform more people about the benefits of joining the Propeller Club, and relay more membership inquiries to your local club.

We are here to support your Club and help grow your membership. As a volunteer-based organization, we are grateful for the time and effort that our members contribute to making our Clubs a success. Please let us know what ideas you may have to help the International Propeller Club build on our past success and meet the changing needs of our members.

Thanks,

John

New Clubs:

- Port of Anchorage
- Port of Casablanca
- Port of Lugano
- Student Port of Texas Southern University



Sailing into the Future

International Propeller Club of the United States
Port of New Orleans
October 14-17, 2019

For further information click on this link: [Convention 2019](#)

Sponsors and volunteers are needed for this well attended event by Propeller Club chapters from around the world!

[Sponsors](#)

Around the Ports

(Let us know what about your Club's activities!)

International Club:

On May 1, 2019, the International Propeller Club of the United States held the 35th Maritime Industry Salute to Congress Dinner at the Army Navy Country Club in Arlington, Virginia. Rear Admiral Joel Whitehead, U.S. Coast Guard (Ret.), President of the Club, presented their award to the Honorable Cedric Richmond (D-LA).



Propeller Club members and guests were called to dinner by the rousing herald trumpets of the United States Merchant Marine Academy cadets who came down from Kings Point, New York for the event.



Paducah:



International President Joel Whitehead visited the Port of Paducah for National Maritime Day on May 18, 2019 at which Governor Matt Bevin (KY) was named Propeller Club Port of Paducah's Maritime Person of the Year for his support of the river industry. (l-r Adm. Joel Whitehead, Governor Bevin, Paducah Propeller Club President Caleb T. King, Paducah Propeller Club Chairman Andrew Gates).

Seattle:

Family Fun Day!

The Family Fun Day, Seattle's largest maritime industry celebration, was held on May 11, 2019 and featured a wide variety of Maritime activities, displays and food trucks. Activities included hands-on programs such as kids boat building, welding, oceanography, emergency signals/flares, emergency environmental response, life raft and boat tours, and line tossing, and a chance for the public to pilot a tugboat at the Academy's bridge simulator.

Tacoma:



The Charles N. Curtis Sea Scouts, chartered by the Propeller Club of Tacoma, was awarded the "Dress Power" award at the Opening Day parade sponsored by the Seattle Yacht Club.

Mobile:

The Port of Mobile had a Gumbo Cookoff on May 17, 2019 that included many types of activities for children included:

- Tours of a Coast Guard cutter
- GulfQuest tent – oyster shell painting, fish printing, side walk chalk, corn hole
- 5 Rivers Delta Center tent - chance to interact with delta creatures
- Dauphin Island Sea Lab tent – touch lab will have marine life
- U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary tent – life jacket safety training

Savannah:



On National Maritime Day, the Port of Savannah celebrated the 200th anniversary of the first trans-Atlantic voyage by a steam vessel, the S.S. SAVANNAH. The day also remembered members of the Savannah maritime community that had died in the past year as well as announcing the scholarship winners for students that will be studying logistics or maritime education in college.

Narragansett Bay:

The Propeller Club of Narragansett Bay has named Captain John O’Keeffe, Director of U.S. Marine Affairs for Orsted U.S. Offshore Wind, as Maritime Person of the Year as part of the club’s annual National Maritime Day celebration. O’Keeffe is a professional mariner and has worked for several organizations before joining the offshore wind industry in 2016, including the Sea Education Association (S.E.A) of Woods Hole, Mass., the Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences (BIOS), based in St. George’s, Bermuda, and as manager of operations and maintenance for the Block Island Wind Farm.

Lugano:



In February, 2019, the Propeller Club of Lugano had its first General Meeting that was chaired by Michel’ Angelo Piccinini as president, and by Thomas Schwenke as vice president: 21 members (out of 27) were attending, including three travelling on purpose from London, Hamburg and Zug.

Anchorage:

From Facebook:



“Look what finally came in the mail from the International Propeller Club HQ! If this 8' wide banner doesn't make us official, nothing will!

“Hanging for now in the ‘boathouse’ at Vitus Marine. Come see it at our next monthly meeting in June.”



The WAVES community web site has been expanded to include many additional communities and information. Check out these communities that are based on industry sector or topics. Post additional information or comments to share with Club members throughout the world in communities that you have joined. Please let us know if you would like us to create additional communities to bring our clubs together! Here are some examples of the new communities and stories:

Zero Emission Vessel Community:

The European innovation project FLAGSHIPS has been awarded 5 Million Euros from the EU to support deploying two commercially operated zero-emission hydrogen fuel cell vessels in France and Norway.

The FLAGSHIPS project contributes in building two new build vessels, one in Lyon, France and one in Stavanger, Norway. In Lyon, a hydrogen push-boat operated by Compagnie Fluvial de Transport (CFT) will serve as a utility vessel on one of its most demanding rivers, the Rhône. In Stavanger, hydrogen is intended to power a passenger and car ferry operated by Norled as part of the local public transport network.

The funds awarded to the FLAGSHIPS project have been granted from EU's Research and Innovation programme Horizon 2020 under the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking.

Green and sustainable shipping is a prerequisite for reaching national and international emission reduction targets. With increasing pressure for shipping to reduce harmful emissions, fuel cells and hydrogen are key technologies in providing a sustainable transportation option for the international shipping industry.

"Both the EU and the shipping industry see hydrogen as a key contributor in the work to mitigate climate change. The FLAGSHIPS project sets out to raise the readiness of hydrogen-powered waterborne transport to a new level globally", says Senior Scientist and Project Manager Antti Pohjoranta from VTT Technical

Research Centre of Finland who will be coordinating the project.

The project aim is that both vessels will run on hydrogen produced from renewable energy. This will not only enable truly zero-emission operation of the ships, but also create a solid basis for further local zero-emission transport deployment both at sea as well as on land.

"Norled has taken a leading role in the development of zero emission ferries. This innovation project will be an important next step when it comes to proving the maritime fuel cell technology and illustrating its business viability. By leveraging knowhow from existing on-shore and marine system integration activities the project will also reduce the cost of marine fuel cell power systems significantly", says Norled CTO, Sigvald Breivik.

This innovation project will look at the possibility to replace bio-diesel with hydrogen on one of the ferries to be built for the Finnøy-route north east of Stavanger. The route serves several islands with short and several stops, which makes it difficult to realize effective shore charging required for battery-powered vessels. Norled's intention is to apply the hydrogen technology being developed by the company in several other ongoing hydrogen-related projects, such as building the world's first ship powered by liquid hydrogen for the Hjelmeland connection in Western Norway.

In addition to the project funding, significant additional investment to build the ships is made by the ship owners CFT and Norled as well as the consortium partners.

An important part of the project will also be the building of European support networks covering hydrogen fuel supply chains, vessel design and manufacturing competence networks as well as significantly broad-based regulatory expertise.

Congressional Activity Community:

REPEAL OF U.S.-BUILD REQUIREMENT OF THE JONES ACT

On March 7, 2019, Sen. Mike Lee, (R-Utah), introduced S. 694, the [Open America's Water Act of 2019](#), a bill that would repeal the U.S.-build requirement of the Jones Act. Enactment of this bill

could have a devastating impact on the U.S. coastwise and shipbuilding industry. For the text of this legislation click on this link: [S. 694 TEXT](#). To see the status of this legislation click on this link: [S. 694 STATUS](#).

If you have any questions about these or other matters, please let us know how we can assist you or your Port: call 703-691-2777 or [e-mail us](#).

John Cullather, Executive Vice President
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