



The International Propeller Club of the United States

Promoting the Maritime Industry Since 1927

Newsletter - January 2021

Message from the President



It's the start of the New Year. Unfortunately, for most of our Clubs it is the same as the way 2020 ended – unable to have in-person meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, with over 1 million vaccinations being given each day, I am hopeful that our Clubs will be able to have face-to-face meetings and events later this year.

This has put a significant strain on many of our Clubs – both socially and financially. Membership levels have declined in many Clubs because some members will not pay if they are not getting together or they cannot afford the dues. However, most of our Clubs have been active with webinars and

“virtual meetings” with speakers from their port, corporate leaders, and Members of Congress etc. At headquarters, we have increased our outreach to Regional Vice Presidents and local Clubs with quarterly Zoom meetings. We are planning to conduct webinars that are of national and international interest. It has given us the time to energize many committees on policy, education, communications, and sponsorship to improve our outreach and advocacy for the maritime industry. We continue to be impressed by the strong interest in our Committees and are moving ahead with scheduling the Salute to Congress as a “virtual event” this spring. Our Leadership conference is scheduled for this Fall.

Spring is around the corner and there is plenty of reason to be optimistic about the future of our great organization. With the new Administration in Washington, there will be a resetting of priorities that will affect the U.S. and global maritime industry. It is time to get engaged to make sure that the voice of the maritime industry is heard along the Potomac.

Our headquarters staff stands ready to provide you with the information and resources you need to advocate for the U.S. and international maritime industry. Please let them know how they can be of service to you. If you would like us to speak at one of your local virtual club meetings – John, Cheryl, and I would be more than happy to join in your event.

So stay in touch – and we will make 2021 a great year for the International Propeller Club!

Stay Safe -

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Trademark Registration ®

Questions have been raised regarding whether the International Propeller Club name and logo are trademarked. Yes, our name and logo are registered in the United States and European Union. Because the EU registration occurred before December 31, 2020, the registration also covers Great Britain. (See: [EU Trademark registration](#)). In addition, IPCUS has been using that name and logo since our founding in 1927 which is before any other organization and under the legal doctrine of “Prior Use”, IPCUS owns the rights to the name “Propeller Club” and logo.

Therefore, any use of the name “Propeller Club” and a logo featuring a ship's wheel similar to ours is reserved to the exclusive use of the International Propeller Club. We then allow Clubs that are chartered by IPCUS and in good standing to use that title and logo and variations of that name and logo.

There are organizations in Europe that are currently using the term “Propeller Club” in their title and a logo that is very similar to ours. Some of these organizations were chartered by IPCUS but have resigned from IPCUS or had their charter revoked. Those organizations are not allowed to use our name and logo. This month we sent a letter to the leaders of two of these European organizations informing them of the trademark infringement and directing that they stop using our name and logo.

We urge all of our Clubs to use the Registered Trademark symbol - ® on your web page banner and all other applications next to our logo so the public will be aware of that registration.

What to look for this coming year

It was a busy legislative year in Washington for the maritime industry. This included enactment of many laws that will be implemented by Federal agencies this year such as:

- The Water Resources Development Act of 2020
- The Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2020
- The Maritime Administration Authorization Act
- The Federal Maritime Commission Authorization Act.

Summaries of these laws can be found at these links: [CG/MarAd/FMC Authorization summary](#) and [WRDA Summary](#)

You can anticipate regulatory projects being initiated by these agencies based on these new laws.

In addition, the Biden Administration will be developing their own maritime initiatives for 2021. There has been much discussion regarding the need to decarbonize the transportation industry. How this decarbonization will occur in the maritime industry and any timeline has not been announced. However, decarbonization is coming between now and 2050 – so our industries need to be involved in the planning and implementation of these initiatives including marketplace solutions. This has the potential to create maritime jobs while also protecting the environment.

Jones Act & Cargo Preference in Executive Order



On January 25, President Biden signed an Executive Order that confirms his strong support for the Jones Act (the Merchant Marine Act of 1920) and the Cargo Preference Laws that apply to U.S. Government cargoes.

According to the release accompanying the Executive Order:

“The President will continue to be a strong advocate for the Jones Act and its mandate that only U.S.-flag vessels carry cargo between U.S. ports, which supports American production and America’s workers. With the signing of the 2021 National Defense Authorization Act, the Jones Act has also been affirmed as an opportunity to invest in America’s workers as we build offshore renewable energy, in line with the President’s goals to build our clean energy future here in America.”

The Executive Order can be viewed at this link:

[Executive Order regarding Made in America Policy](#)

Mariner Mental Health Survey



The Committee on the Marine Transportation System (CMTS) is sponsoring a survey that “will be used by federal agencies, vessel owners/operators, mariner unions, maritime training institutions, seafarer welfare organizations and MTS stakeholders to develop effective solutions that benefit our mariners' mental health.” The confidential survey is being carried out by the University of Washington School of Public Health.

If you are a mariner, we recommend that you take 10 minutes to complete this confidential survey. If you know a mariner – please forward this link to them:

[Mariner Mental Health Needs During COVID-19](#)

Mask Requirement on Vessels



On February 1, the Coast Guard issued a Marine Safety Information Bulletin (02-21) that implements the Executive Order issued by President Biden that requires masks be worn on all “public maritime vessels, including ferries” to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19. This requirement applies to mariners and passengers.

MSIB 02-21 can be viewed at this link: [MSIB: Mask Requirements](#)

Regional Vice Presidents

To help members get to know their leaders, this column profiles three of our Regional Vice Presidents:

- Bill Van Voorhis, North Atlantic Region
- Candy Nigretto, Pacific Coast Region
- Michel Derrouazi, Western Europe Region



Bill Van Voorhis.

A civil engineer by training, Bill has over 45 years experience in the maritime industry including as a dredge supervisor, 200 ton licensed master, Vice-Chair of the Portland Harbor Commission, and owner of Eastcoast Maritime Solutions, LLC. Bill is also at the Northeast Maritime Institute and a Designated Examiner for U.S. Coast Guard licenses.

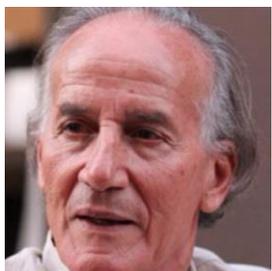
An active member of the Portland Propeller Club and IPCUS, Bill has served as our Vice President of Student Ports, as a Vice President, and member of our Executive Committee. For more information see: [Van Voorhis on LinkedIn](#)



Candy Nigretto

Candy is the Regional Vice President for the Pacific Coast Region. Candy retired in 2019 after working for the Port of Tacoma for 22 years. Previously she worked for SeaLand Services for 5 years and Tacoma Boatbuilding Company for 18 years. She is currently the Executive Director of the Tacoma Propeller Club, where she has been a member since 1987. She was given the Pierce County Maritime Person of the Year award by her local club in 2005, and was The Propeller Club of the United States 2005 Maritime Person of the Year. Candy is also the President of the Women's Propeller Club of the United States. She has been attending every National Convention since 1989, and has been part of the Organizing Committee for 2 conventions hosted by Tacoma.

For more information see: [Nigretto on LinkedIn](#)



Michel Derrouazi

Michel is a marketing executive with SeaMove with over 35 years of experience in the international maritime industry. He has also worked with the construction of Container Modular Housing using old shipping containers for communities in Africa, Haiti, and South America.

Michael was President of our Antwerp Club and has been actively involved in helping starting our new Club in Morocco. For more information see: [Derrouazi on LinkedIn](#)

On Deck

Congress

National Defense Authorization Act veto overridden

On January 1, the House Armed Services Committee issued a [press release](#) announcing that the President's veto of the National Defense Authorization Act ([H.R. 6395](#)) has been overridden and it now becomes law. This law also includes the Coast Guard Authorization Act as well as the authorization acts for the Maritime Administration and the Federal Maritime Commission. The Full Press release can be read at this link: [Smith Statement on Final FY21 NDAA Veto Override Vote - Press Releases - House Armed Services Committee - Democrats](#). An IPCUS summary of these maritime provisions in this bill can be found at this link: [NDAA Maritime Summary](#)

WWII merchant mariners

On January 4, Representative Green (D-TX) introduced H.R. 39 to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish the Merchant Mariner Equity Compensation Fund to provide benefits to certain individuals who served in the United States merchant marine (including the Army Transport Service and the Naval Transport Service) during World War II. The text of this legislation is available at this link: [HR39IH](#)

Jones Act - noncontiguous trade

On January 13, Representative Case (D-HI) introduced H.R. 298 to amend title 46, United States Code, to exempt certain noncontiguous trade from the coastwise laws. The text of this legislation is not available yet.

Jones Act - reasonable rate for noncontiguous trade

On January 13, Representative Case (D-HI) introduced H.R. 299 to provide a definition of reasonable rate for noncontiguous domestic ocean trade, and for other purposes. The text of this legislation is not available yet.

Jones Act - bill introduced re foreign vessel noncontiguous trade

On January 13, Representative Case (D-HI) introduced H.R. 300 to amend title 46, United States Code, to allow transportation of merchandise in noncontiguous trade on foreign-flag vessels, and for other purposes. The text of this legislation is not available yet.

White House

Made in America initiative

On January 25, President Biden issued an [Executive Order](#) directing that the federal government improve its 'Made in America' efforts. The EO specifically notes that Made in America Laws include laws requiring domestic preference for maritime transport, including the Merchant Marine Act of 1920 (Public Law 66-261), also known as the Jones Act. The text of this Executive Order can be found at this link: [Executive Order on Ensuring the Future Is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers | The White House](#)

National Maritime Cybersecurity Plan

The White House released the [National Maritime Cybersecurity Plan](#) to the National Strategy for Maritime Security. The plan sets forth how the United States government will defend the American economy through enhanced cybersecurity coordination, policies, and practices, aimed at mitigating risks to the maritime sub-sector, promoting prosperity through information and intelligence sharing, and preserving and increasing the nation's cyber workforce. (1/5/21) [[12.2.2020-National-Maritime-Cybersecurity-Plan.pdf \(whitehouse.gov\)](#)].

Library of Congress

USACE FY2021 appropriations

On January 4, the Congressional Research Service (CRS) issued a [report](#) on US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) FY2021 appropriations. The report can be found at this link: [Army Corps of Engineers: FY2021 Appropriations \(congress.gov\)](#)

Water Resources Development Act of 2020

On January 5, the Congressional Research Service issued a [report](#) on the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2020, signed into law on 27 December 2020. The report can be found at this link: [Water Resources Development Act of 2020 \(congress.gov\)](#)

USACE Continuing Authorities Programs

On January 5, the Congressional Research Service (CRS) issued a [report](#) on US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Continuing Authorities Programs. These are cost-shared programs of limited scope and cost and include qualifying navigation improvement projects. The report can be found at this link: [Army Corps of Engineers: Continuing Authorities Programs \(congress.gov\)](#)

MARAD Shipping and Shipbuilding Support Programs

On January 8, the Congressional Research Service (CRS) issued a [report](#) on the Maritime Administration's Shipping and Shipbuilding Support Programs. The report can be found at this link: [U.S. Maritime Administration \(MARAD\) Shipping and Shipbuilding Support Programs \(congress.gov\)](#)

USACE Civil Works Infrastructure Financing Program

On January 14, the Congressional Research Service (CRS) issued a [report](#) on the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Civil Works Infrastructure Financing Program (CWIFP). The report can be found at this link: [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works Infrastructure Financing Program \(CWIFP\): Status and Issues \(congress.gov\)](#)

US Coast Guard

MERPAC nominations sought

On January 12, the US Coast Guard is re-soliciting applications from persons interested in membership on the National Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (MERPAC) to represent the viewpoint of those credentialed with ratings as a qualified member of the engine department (QMED). Applications must be received by 15 March. The Federal Register notice can be found at this link: [86 Fed. Reg. 2424](#)

Proceedings

On January 13, the US Coast Guard issued the [Winter 2020](#) edition of the Proceedings of the Marine Safety & Security Council. The theme of this edition is 'Leaders in Crisis Response'. This issue of Proceedings can be found at this link: [Vol77 No3 Wint20 Proceedings.pdf \(uscg.mil\)](#)].

Safety Management Systems for domestic passenger vessels

On January 15, the US Coast Guard (USCG) is evaluating the potential use of Safety Management Systems (SMSs) to improve safety and reduce marine casualties on board US-flagged passenger vessels. In this document, the Coast Guard is seeking public input and responses to specific questions on the feasibility, applicability, and nature of SMSs for potential use on U.S.-flagged passenger vessels. Comments must be received by 15 April. The Federal Register Notice can be found at this link: [86 Fed. Reg. 3899](#)

Department of Homeland Security

Strategic Approach for Arctic Homeland Security

On January 13, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued the Department's [Strategic Approach for Arctic Homeland Security](#), a document that positions DHS to more effectively tackle

emerging risks in the region as geopolitical interest and competition grows. The report can be found at this link: [Strategic Approach for Arctic Homeland Security](#)

Committee on the Marine Transportation System (CMTS) – 2017-2019 Hurricanes Report

On January 12, the Committee on the Marine Transportation System (CMTS) issued a bulletin stating that its Resilience Integrated Action Team (RIAT) has released a report that incorporates impacts and observations of the 2018-2019 hurricane seasons into those from the 2017 hurricane season regarding the ways in which the MTS has become more resilient. The report can be viewed at this link: [CMTS Hurricane Report](#)

New York State – offshore wind workforce training proposal

On January 13, New York State issued a [news release](#) announcing the Program Opportunity Notice (PON) of the NYS Offshore Wind Training Institute (OWTI).

Under this Program Opportunity Notice (PON), NYSEDA is seeking proposals for training initiatives focused on advancing skills and preparing workers for jobs related to the assessment and permitting, design, construction, assembly, deployment, and operation and maintenance (O&M) phases associated with offshore wind (OSW) projects. Workforce training initiatives that either expand existing programs or develop new training programs to support the growing OSW industry in New York will be considered. Applications must be received by 16 March. The notice can be found at this link: [NYS Offshore Wind Training Institute - Workforce Training & Skills Development \(PON 4595\)](#)

Maritime Administration (MARAD)

NSMV second tranche authorized

On January 19, the Maritime Administration (MARAD) issued a [press release](#) stating that it has authorized the construction of two additional National Security Multi-Mission Vessels (NSMV), which will replace aging training vessels at Maine Maritime Academy in Castine, Maine, and Texas A&M Maritime Academy in Galveston, Texas. MARAD previously authorized the construction of the first two NSMVs, destined for SUNY Maritime College in Bronx, New York, and Massachusetts Maritime Academy, in Bourne, Massachusetts, on April 8, 2020. The release can be viewed at this link: [MARAD Authorizes the Construction of Two Additional National Security Multi-Mission Vessels | MARAD \(dot.gov\)](#)

Small Shipyard Grant Program

On January 19, the Maritime Administration (MARAD) issued a [press release](#) announcing the availability of \$19.6 million in Federal funding to U.S. small shipyards through the Small Shipyard Grant Program. These investments support efficiency improvements and modernizations that allow U.S. shipyards to compete more effectively in the global marketplace. The release can be viewed at this link: [Maritime Administration Announces Notice of Funding Opportunity for America's Small Shipyard Grant Program | MARAD \(dot.gov\)](#). Applications must be received by 25 February. The Federal Register notice can be found at this link: [86 Fed. Reg. 6733](#)

Air travel requirements for mariners

On January 19, the Maritime Administration (MARAD) posted an [Alert](#) stating that, effective January 26, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will require all air passengers arriving in the United States (including US citizens and Legal Permanent Residents) to present a negative COVID-19 test, taken within three calendar days of departure, or proof of recovery from the virus within the last 90 days. Note that this includes mariners arriving for crew change. The Alert can be viewed at this

link: [2021-002A-Worldwide \[for all air passengers entering the United States\]-Upcoming Mariner Travel Requirements Change | MARAD \(dot.gov\)](#)

Cable Security Fleet

On January 5, the Maritime Administration (MARAD) issued a notice requesting applications from owners and/or operators of eligible vessels to enroll such vessels in the Cable Security Fleet (CSF). The CSF Program is a newly-authorized program intended to maintain a fleet of active, commercially viable, privately owned United States-flag cable vessels to meet national security requirements and to maintain a United States presence in the international submarine cable services market. The CSF will consist of two vessels. This Notice describes, among other things, statutory requirements to apply and to participate in the CSF, recommendations as to the form and substance of applications, and a deadline for submitting applications for vessel enrollment in the CSF program. The Maritime Administration will negotiate agreements ready for execution with the successful applicants. Applications must be received by 4 February. The Federal Register notice can be found at this link: [86 Fed. Reg. 355](#)

Maritime Transportation System National Advisory Committee (MTSNAC) nominations sought

On January 8, the Maritime Administration (MARAD) issued a notice requesting nominations for membership on the US Maritime Transportation System National Advisory Committee (MTSNAC). Nominations must be received by 8 February. The Federal Register Notice can be viewed at this link: [86 Fed. Reg. 1576](#)

International

Tokyo MOU – virtual meeting

On January 26, the Tokyo MOU issued a [news release](#) stating that the Port State Control Committee, the governing body under the Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control in the Asia-Pacific Region (Tokyo MOU*), held its 31st meeting remotely via virtual means from 21 to 22 January 2021. The release can be viewed at this link: [PSCC31vm PRESS-final.pdf \(tokyo-mou.org\)](#)

Satellites to track ship GHG emissions

On January 6, the UK Space Agency issued a [news release](#) stating that a cash injection is being provided to 5 projects specifically designed to bring together UK business expertise with universities to help build space solutions to global problems, on UK soil. One of the projects, involving the University of Southampton, will use artificial intelligence to automatically detect buried archaeological remains on satellite imagery, providing construction companies with higher accuracy at an earlier stage. This will save them time and money during the planning permission process and help them to reduce their carbon footprint. Meanwhile the University of Leicester will use satellite analytics to track the greenhouse gas and pollution emissions of shipping fleets, ushering in a new approach that could help shipping companies to face down climate change. The release can be viewed at this link: [New funding for innovative space tech to help solve problems on Earth - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Around the Clubs



Canaveral

The Port Canaveral Club held a luncheon on January 13 and heard from the chairman of the Canaveral Port Authority Commission Chairman, RADM Wayne Justice (USCG Ret.).



Houston

The Houston Propeller Club awarded a scholarship to Willi Gerami for his excellence in academic achievements and club involvement. (see photo)

Northern California

On January 12, the Northern California Club held a Zoom Meeting featuring Ed Denike, the President of SSA Containers who discussed issues related to detention & demurrage; competitiveness of U.S. West Coast ports, zero emissions, congestion, COVID challenges, relations with the ILWU, and cybersecurity.



Los Angeles/Long Beach

On January 12, the Los Angeles/Long Beach Club held a meeting featuring State Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell who represents Long Beach and San Pedro. Representative O'Donnell is known as "the voice of the ports" in Sacramento.

Jacksonville

On January 28, the Jacksonville Club held a networking event at an outdoor area of a local restaurant.

Manatee

On January 28, the Port Manatee Club held a virtual meeting to hear from a panel on COVID-19 and how it is affecting their maritime businesses.



Tampa

On January 8, the Tampa Club held their Inaugural Clay Shoot. It was a big success and they hope to make it an annual event!

On January 29, the Tampa Club held an event at which they honored the men and women in the Coast Guard from Air Station Clearwater and Sector St. Petersburg



Savannah

On January 15, the Savannah Club held an oyster roast at the Savannah Yacht Club and on January 21, their Board meeting via Zoom.



Seattle

On January 6, the Seattle Club held a “Meet for Virtual Coffee” event. Their goal is to create smaller group environments to encourage networking with other members!

On January 20, the Seattle Club sponsored a “Maritime Innovation in Seattle” initiative supported by the Port of Seattle and Maritime Blue Accelerator.

Monaco

On January 14, the Monaco Club sponsored a Webinar featuring a panel that discussed ship finance and the market outlook for 2021.

Be safe - and here's to a Great 2021

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