



International Propeller Club of the United States

Promoting the Maritime Industry Since 1927

December 2021 Newsletter

Message from the President



As we happily say goodbye to 2021 and celebrate the end of one of the most difficult years in the recent history of the International Propeller Club, we can do so proud of how we – the International Officers, Regional Vice Presidents, local port officers, and members and ports throughout the United States and Europe – responded to the challenges presented by COVID-19.

It became clear, as the pandemic rapidly worsened and the world went into lockdown, that companies and organizations in our industry would be laying-off their workers, creating an enormous emotional and financial toll on our members, our local ports, and the International Propeller Club itself. It also became clear that we needed to adapt to the new normal caused by COVID-19 and to do whatever we could to keep the International Propeller Club active and to make sure we were available to support our members and our clubs, especially those that experienced a decline in membership and a reduction in their dues revenue.

Thanks to the exceptional leadership of Niels Aalund, who served as International President through October 2021, and the international officers and staff, Regional Vice Presidents, and local port officers, we did just that. The international officers met on a weekly basis to exchange information and to discuss the measures that needed to be taken to assist the individual ports. Meetings were held throughout the year with the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors, allowing us to capitalize on their experience and expertise. Regular virtual meetings were also held with Regional Vice Presidents and Port Presidents so we could all learn about, duplicate, and support the steps being taken by the Regions and Ports to hold new and less traditional meetings and events.

We now find ourselves ready to begin a new year – a year that at least for now is dominated by the latest variant of the COVID 19 virus. While we anticipate doing more in-person events in 2022, including our Salute to Congress dinner on May 17 and our International Convention and Conference in September, the short term will still be “virtual.”

Regardless, as International President I can assure you that regardless of how we are forced to hold meetings and events we will still be focusing our efforts on two primary goals and objectives: First, to improve the financial condition of the International Propeller Club through, among other things, our newly adopted corporate sponsorship program. We will be reaching out to companies and organizations throughout the maritime industry to encourage them to partner with us through the sponsorship program so that together, we can expand our efforts to support and promote the maritime industry. The importance of our industry has come to the forefront as a result of the current supply chain issues and disruptions

caused by the worldwide pandemic. We need to ensure that policymakers and the general public fully understand that the maritime industry is a critical component of economic security and that steps must be taken now to protect us from the next round of supply chain issues.

Secondly, we will continue to expand our promotional and advocacy efforts and thereby the visibility of the International Propeller Club in order to help our Ports attract and retain members. Our first such event in the new year will be the rescheduled conversation with The Honorable John Porcari, Port Envoy to the White House Supply Chain Disruptions Task Force, on Tuesday, January 11 at 11:00 am est. Registration information for this event will be available shortly.

As 2021 comes to a close, we should all take a moment to remember all those in our industry who have died from or have been affected by COVID 19. We are all part of the maritime community, and our actions must reflect the respect and concern we should all have for one another.

On behalf of the International Officers and Headquarters Staff, we wish you all a healthy and happy new year.

C. James Patti
International President

From the Executive Vice President

As Jim Patti expressed above, it's been a difficult year with the continuing pandemic, but it's my opinion that things are looking up. More and more Ports are meeting in person, and even with the Omicron variant, I think most Ports are looking forward to a great year ahead. I know I am!

I had a great honor this month to be hosted by the Propeller Club of Piraeus, Greece to attend their annual AMVER Awards dinner and present two of our International awards there. You can read a little more about that below. While there, I met with the 2022 Convention planning committee and I can tell you this year's Convention in Piraeus will be one to remember. We toured the venue of the Convention - the Athens Marriott - and I think we will have a spectacular Convention. Spouses attending will also have a fantastic series of events in Athens, Piraeus, and nearby locales. Don't miss it - our 96th Annual Convention will be one you'll always remember. Registration details will be forthcoming early in 2022.



I look forward to a great Propeller Club Year in 2022,

Joel Whitehead
Executive Vice President
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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

DAVID ST. PIERRE
PORT OF PORT MANATEE

David was one of the charter members of the Port Manatee



Propeller Club and served an unprecedented 11-year term as President of the Port from 2005 - 2016. When David first joined, he asked local leader Steve Tyndall what the Propeller Club was all about. "Steve's response was 'you need to become a board member to figure that out,' so he did. The club truly is what you make of it. To get the most out of it, participate more." He also served as the Southeast Region's VP, and never hesitated tackling difficult issues. David currently heads up the education committee which will award \$20,000 in scholarship money this year to well-deserving students entering college.

As Director of Public Safety & Security for Port Manatee, David is responsible for the development, implementation, and maintenance of the port's security and emergency action plans and manages the daily activities of the Port Manatee security department. He also oversees the port's licensing and permitting programs. In addition to his routine duties, he is the course writer and lead instructor for the port's Certified Facility Security Officer training program where he has trained over 1,000 people nationwide.

David retired from the United States Coast Guard in 2002 as a Master Chief Petty Officer after 22 years of honorable service and has been employed at Port Manatee since 2005. He holds a degree in Homeland Security from Keiser University, is a Certified Port Executive, and is a member of the Tampa Bay - Area Maritime Security Committee.

Does your Port have an outstanding member we can highlight in our newsletter?
Let [Joel](#) know!

2020 SALUTE TO CONGRESS AWARD PRESENTED TO REPRESENTATIVE PETER DEFAZIO



International President Jim Patti personally presented the International Propeller Club's "Salute to Congress" award for 2020 to Representative Peter DeFazio, Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Chairman DeFazio is a long-time supporter of the maritime industry. The award presentation had been delayed due to the Covid pandemic.

Jim Patti said "Mr. Chairman, when I had the honor to present you with the International Propeller Club's Salute to

Congress award during our virtual event this past April, I noted that in every year since it was first presented in 1985 it has been awarded to Members of Congress who have throughout his or her career demonstrated a keen awareness of the importance of all segments of our industry to the economic, homeland and national security of the United States.

I said then and I will say now that not only does your Congressional career meet this standard but your record of support and leadership has significantly raised the bar for those who will be considered for this award in the future.

Once again, on behalf of the International Propeller Club and all your friends in the maritime industry, I am proud to present you with the International Propeller Club's Salute to Congress award. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do for our industry and for our country."

Around our Propeller Club Ports



Port of Piraeus

Dec 14 - The Propeller Club of Piraeus, led by President Costis J. Frangoulis, held its annual AMVER Awards dinner with over 600 persons attending. Greek ships received more than 2,000 AMVER awards for 2021, making the fleet the leading recipient for the third consecutive year. Another first for Greek shipping saw 17 Greek-owned shipping companies honored with Special Rescue Awards after 22 of their ships rescued 505 people who were in danger at sea. The AMVER [Automated Mutual-Assistance Vessel Rescue] program has saved thousands of lives at sea and was started as a US Coast Guard initiative in 1957.

Also at this event, Rear Adm Joel Whitehead, Executive VP of the International Propeller Club presented two International Awards. The first was the award of the Port of the Year to the Propeller Club of Piraeus. It was accepted by President Costis Fangoulis on behalf of the Board of Governors and members of the Propeller Club. The second award was the International Propeller Club Member of the Year to Mr. Dimitris Fafalios. Mr. Fafalios is president of Fafalios Shipping SA, a traditional, family-run bulk carrier shipping company that traces its roots back to the 1860s. He is chairman of The International Association of Dry Cargo Shipowners (INTERCARGO) and chairs the Bulk Carrier Panel of the International Chamber of Shipping and the Maritime Safety and Marine Environment Protection Committee of the Union of Greek Shipowners.



Port of Narragansett Bay - Northeast Maritime Insitute

The Northeast Maritime Institute, a Student Port of the Propeller Club Port of Narragansett Bay, awarded North Atlantic Regional VP Bill Van Voorheis an honorary Associates of Arts Degree in Educational Services. Bill has served as a longtime Professional Maritime Instructor at NMI and has been a stalwart member of the International Board of Directors for many years.

Congratulations, Bill!



Port of Nantes Saint-Nazaire

Dec 9-10 - The Student Port of the International Propeller Club Nantes Saint-Nazaire conducted a very well-received conference on "Decarbonizing Maritime Transport" at the Nantes French Maritime Academy, ENSM. The Academy provides high-level education and training programs for the maritime industry at large and trains Merchant Navy Officers. The Academy shares values well known by seafarers and the maritime world: open-mindedness, intellectual curiosity, and rigor, respect for others and the environment, honesty, loyalty, humility, versatility, sense of responsibility, autonomy, trust in others, solidarity, mutual aid, social awareness.

Maritime News

Shipping Expected to Do its Part to Reduce Emissions

22 Nov - Major changes are underway, as shipping needs to pick up the pace regarding its efforts to lower emissions from ships. In its latest weekly report, shipbroker Gibson said that “as the dust settles on COP26, it is time to reflect on what has actually been achieved. A number of agreements were reached, although not all are related to shipping. Perhaps the most important outcome is the pledge signed by 100+ countries to cut methane emissions by 30% by 2030. Reducing methane emissions is arguably the fastest opportunity today to slow the rate of global warming. Will this potentially improve the environmental credentials of LNG?” [Hellenic Shipping News](#)

Shipbuilders accelerate drive to make eco-friendly vessels

21 Dec - A growing number of shipbuilders are turning to eco-friendly vessels as the shipping industry will face strengthened requirements on carbon emissions in the coming years. Shipping accounts for about 3 percent of the world’s annual carbon emissions.

The International Maritime Organization has ordered shipping companies to cut their greenhouse gas emissions by at least 30 percent by 2025 compared to 2008. Emission levels need to be cut by 70 percent by 2050.

Currently, the most widespread alternative fuel is liquefied natural gas (LNG). Korea’s three major shipbuilders — Korea Shipbuilding & Offshore Engineering (KSOE), Daewoo Shipbuilding & Marine Engineering (DSME) and Samsung Heavy Industries — have focused on LNG carriers.

Out of total orders received by the three this year, 60 percent were for vessels fueled by LNG and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG).

LNG emits 15 percent to 21 percent less CO₂ than existing fuel for vessels. But when engines use LNG, they are exposed to the problem of methane slip, in which unburned fuel is expelled in the exhaust.

Methanol is another alternative fuel. KSOE won a 1.65 trillion won (\$1.39 billion) order in August to build eight methanol-powered containerships from Denmark’s A.P. Moller-Maersk. The vessels will be the world’s first large-size ships to be powered by methanol.

Other alternative fuels include ammonia and hydrogen, which do not emit greenhouse gases when burnt. The America Bureau of Shipping forecast ammonia and hydrogen will make up nearly 40 percent of marine fuel consumption in 2050, from 3 percent in 2030.

Hyundai Mipo Dockyard, Samsung and Daewoo have received approvals for ammonia-powered ships from the British quality assurance firm, Lloyd’s Register. They plan to commercialize the tankers as early as 2024.

Korea’s lead in eco-friendly vessels is set to benefit the shipbuilders, as moves to cut carbon emissions in the industry accelerate.

[Hellenic Shipping News](#)

Spending on ships hitting highs not seen since the global financial crisis

20 Dec - The amount of money spent on ships – both newbuilds and secondhand – could be the largest recorded since the global financial crisis of 2008. Total spending on newbuild and secondhand tonnage combined stood at an estimated \$147bn as of last Friday according to data from Clarkson Research Services. By comparison, just \$74bn was spent in 2020, the first year of the pandemic.

“[W]ith 2 weeks of the year to go, and allowing for some late reporting, the final total could even be the largest total since the financial crisis,” Clarksons suggested in its latest weekly report. Investment in newbuild tonnage this year has so far totalled \$103bn, set to be the highest level seen since 2013.

Overall, a total of 7% of the start year fleet in dwt has so far changed hands. Greeks have been the most active buyers followed by Chinese owners. [Splash](#)

Shipping disappointed as IMO kicks the can down the road on climate change

29 Nov - Hope that positive statements on commitments to climate change made by governments at COP26 would translate into positive action turned to frustration as IMO member states at MEPC failed to agree either an increase in shipping’s ambitions to net zero carbon emissions by 2050, or agree a \$5bn R&D fund which has now been on the table for nearly two years.

ICS Secretary General, Guy Platten, said: “We are disappointed that the words and commitments made by governments at COP26 have not yet been translated into action.” He described the events at the MEPC meeting as a “missed opportunity”.

The World Shipping Council (WSC) expressed disappointment that the same governments that made lofty declarations at COP26 failed to walk the talk when it came to shipping at the MEPC meeting. [Seatrade Maritime News](#)

MEPC 77: For climate progress, shipping needs action from IMO member states on concrete initiatives

29 Nov - During COP26 it was encouraging to see the maritime sector being included in the discussion between governments. International liner shipping companies, who for some time have been taking the lead when it comes to commitments as well as investments in actual technology development, were at the fore in Glasgow calling for government action. Some promising coalitions and declarations were launched and going into the IMO MEPC 77 this week there was a positive undercurrent.

It is then all the more disappointing to watch the same governments that were making lofty statements at COP26 just days ago, again fail to walk the talk when it comes to real action at the IMO. See more at [International Shipping News](#)

MarAd Announces Marine Highway Grants

17 Dec - The U.S. Maritime Administration announced the award of nine America’s Marine Highway grants December 10, including three projects that impact the inland waterways system.

The grants total \$12.6 million. The funding will help address supply chain disruptions, enhance the movement of goods along the nation’s navigable waterways and expand existing waterborne freight services in Delaware, Hawaii, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, North Carolina, New York, New Jersey, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia, MarAd said.

“These investments through the America’s Marine Highway Program will help us move more goods, more quickly and more efficiently,” U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg said. “In this moment of record demand for goods and shipping, this is an important piece of the Administration’s Port Action Plan to strengthen supply chains, modernize port operations, and lower the cost of goods for American families.”

Since its inception, the program has designated 52 marine highway projects. Since 2016, MarAd has received \$44.6 million in funding for grants under the program. Twenty-four eligible marine highway projects have received grant funding. [The Waterways Journal](#)

The White House



President Biden's Supply Chain Convening

22 Dec - The meeting first focused on ports and retail inventories. Envoy Porcari noted the progress in moving containers at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach as well as the Administration's investment in pop-up container yards that are helping reduce congestion at the Port of Savannah, the country's fourth-largest container port.

Participants noted that ports nationwide are working well. CEOs noted their efforts to successfully stock shelves, move goods, and work toward 24/7 operations. They discussed the investments they made in their supply chains to improve efficiency and throughput and commended their workforce for handling record levels of goods. They welcomed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and noted that it will help reposition the U.S. to be more competitive in global trade and draw in more private sector investment in the supply chain. Secretary Vilsack discussed the work the U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Department of Transportation are doing to improve agricultural exports. Secretary Raimondo noted the long-term solution is to make more goods in America and discussed the new investments being made in U.S. manufacturing. [White House.gov](https://www.whitehouse.gov)



Coast Guard

Reporting sexual assaults on U.S. vessels

17 Dec -The Coast Guard Assistant Commandant for Prevention Policy has published [Marine Safety Information Bulletin 11-21](#) "Reporting Sexual

Assaults on U.S. Vessels" to emphasize that sexual assault is a crime, and when the assault occurs aboard a U.S. documented vessel, the Coast Guard must be notified. While the law requires the master or individual in charge of a U.S. documented vessel to make that report, too often sexual assaults go unreported. To overcome this challenge, the Coast Guard encourages all victims and witnesses of sexual assaults onboard U.S. vessels to report directly to the Coast Guard. Reports can be made via phone to the National Command Center at 202-372-2100, which is available 24/7 to field reports that initiate investigations. To encourage more reporting the Coast Guard Criminal Investigative Service (CGIS) has also established a website and mobile app that enables ANYONE to report criminal offenses directly to the Coast Guard. These reports can be made anonymously or with attribution. The Coast Guard will respond to any reports of sexual assault with trained investigators and will hold offenders accountable through criminal prosecution and, or, actions against USCG issued merchant mariner credentials (MMCs).. [Coast Guard Maritime Commons](#)

U.S. Maritime Administration

U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg Announces Over \$241 Million in Grants for America's Ports

23 Dec - The U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary today announced the award of more than \$241 million in discretionary



grant funding for 25 projects to improve port facilities in 19 states and one territory through the Maritime Administration's (MARAD) Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP).

These grants demonstrate rapid action on commitments in the Biden-Harris Port Action Plan, which will strengthen our supply chains to meet demand resulting from the rapid economic recovery over the past year, and help address inflationary pressures.

"U.S. maritime ports play a critical role in our supply chains," said U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg. "These investments in our nation's ports will help support American jobs, efficient and resilient operations, and faster delivery of goods to the American people." [MARAD](#)



European Maritime Safety Agency

European Maritime Safety Agency Annual Overview of Marine Casualties and Incidents

15 Dec - The EMSA published its Annual Overview of Marine Casualties and Incidents. It consists of a high-level analysis of marine casualties or incidents accidents reported until 31 December 2020 by the EU Member States in the European electronic database (EMCIP) established by the Directive 2009/18/EC. [EMSA](#)

ITF Seafarers

Shipping industry, unions launch fresh quarantine program to combat Omicron crew crunch

16 Dec - Shipowners, seafarers' unions, and maritime employer groups are establishing their own approved international network of quarantine facilities to ensure seafarers can safely join ships, despite unpredictable changes to government border policies.

The move comes as the Omicron variant spurs governments to close their borders to seafarers needing to leave and join ships.

The Crew Enhanced Quarantine International Programme (#CrewEQUIP) is a partnership between the International Maritime Employers' Council (IMEC); the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS); and the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF). Collectively, the organizations represent more than 80 percent of the global merchant fleet and nearly one million international seafarers through almost 200 affiliated unions.

#CrewEQUIP will create a list of trusted hotels available for crew quarantines that are independently reviewed. The programme is designed to overcome frequent changes in government border policies affecting international crew by having the highest standards and industry-best protocols in place, ensuring the scheme will continue to safely get crew to vessels even if governments increase their quarantine requirements.

The groups said the programme is urgently needed to avoid the shipping industry returning to the worst extremes of the crew change crisis, which saw 400,000 seafarers trapped working aboard vessels beyond their initial contracts in late 2020, with an equivalent number unable to join vessels and earn income. [ITF](#)

PROPELLER CLUB FACTOID:

National Maritime Day



Did you know that National Maritime Day is a United States holiday created to recognize the maritime industry? It is observed on May 22, the date in 1819 that the American steamship *Savannah* set sail from Savannah, Georgia on the first-ever transoceanic voyage under steam power. The holiday was created by the United States Congress on May 20, 1933, and the International Propeller Club ports in the U.S. began celebrating this day in 1934.

Upcoming Events

Webinar: "A Conversation with John Porcari" - 11 January, 2022 (Info to follow)

European Propeller Club Conference – Date to be determined

Salute to Congress, May 17, 2022, in Arlington, VA (Note date change)

National Maritime Day, May 22, 2022

96th Annual International Propeller Club Convention, Athens, Greece, Sept. 20-22, 2022

World Maritime Day, September 30, 2022

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