



# International Propeller Club of the United States

Promoting the Maritime Industry Since 1927

## March 2022 Newsletter

### Message from the President



The International Propeller Club of the United States joins with our colleagues throughout the international maritime industry in calling on all governments to ensure and safeguard the protection of seafarers, many of whom are still dealing with the effects and impact of the last two years of the COVID 19 pandemic. For far too many mariners, crew changes and rotations, and the freedom to leave their ships, are still largely

unavailable to them and steps must be taken to address these issues not only for humanitarian reasons but to prevent the mariner crisis from becoming even worse.

In addition, as the world reacts to the attack by Russia against Ukraine, we join with the International Transport Workers Federation, the International Maritime Organization, and other organizations in drawing attention to the situation facing Ukrainian seafarers. As recently reported by the Financial Times, according to estimates, “55 to 60 percent of Ukraine’s 80,000 seafarers are currently on ships, about 20 percent want to return to Ukraine to fight against Russia, and a significant number fear they will be arrested – or worse – if their ships enter Russian ports.” The suffering inflicted upon the Ukrainian people is horrific and we must not and should not compound this situation but instead, take every precaution to protect mariners and their vessels from sailing into ports in areas where they are likely to be seized.

I am pleased to report that the International Propeller Club of the United States joins with the American Merchant Marine Veterans in calling on the United States Department of Defense to include the United States Merchant Marine in its annual Memorial Day tribute concert to be aired by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. The facts relating to the merchant marine and WW II are well known: from the beginning of hostilities through VJ Day, approximately 6,830 mariners were killed, another 11,000 were wounded, and more than 600 were taken prisoner. As General of the Army Dwight Eisenhower stated in 1945: “The officers and men of the merchant marine, by their devotion to duty in the face of enemy action, as well as the natural dangers of the sea, have brought us the tools to finish the job. Their contribution to final victory will be long remembered.”

The American Merchant Marine Veterans Association is asking that the merchant marine and American mariners be recognized and included in the “Salute to Services” during the airing of the concert. We join in their request.

Finally, I am incredibly pleased and proud to announce that we will be presenting the 2022 International Propeller Club of the United States Salute to Congress award to the Honorable Joe Courtney at our ceremony in Arlington, Virginia, on May 17th. Congressman Courtney, first elected to Congress in 2006, is the Chair of the

House of Representatives Armed Services Committee Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces. He is being honored for his longtime, consistent and vigorous support of the U.S. maritime industry. Check out our website for additional information to purchase tickets and for sponsorship opportunities.

C. James Patti  
International President

## From the Executive Vice President

At International Headquarters, we are preparing to hold our annual "Salute to Congress" in May and recognize a Member of Congress who has distinguished himself by his support of the maritime industry, Representative Joe Courtney of Connecticut. You'll see more about this below. I hope each of your Ports will send at least one representative. A trip to Washington, DC is also the perfect time to meet with your Members of Congress and let them know what is important in your part of the maritime world. If you need help setting up such a meeting, IPC Headquarters can help; just give us a call.



Our webinars - two so far in 2022 - have been wildly successful with several hundred people attending each. In April, we will have a special webinar for students, recent graduates, and teachers entitled "Preparing Students for Maritime and Logistics Careers." In May, we'll have a two-day webinar hosted by the Propeller Club of Northern California in celebration of U.S. Maritime Day. Look for registration information in the coming days.

Finally, the International Propeller Club was privileged to have been asked to submit a nominee for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Hydrographic Services Review Panel. This panel advises the Administrator of NOAA on numerous topics of importance to mariners and the public in general. We will soon submit a nominee from among several members of the International Propeller Club.

Thank you for all you do to keep our ships moving and our ports busy!

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### SAVE THE DATE SALUTE TO CONGRESS AWARDEE: REP JOE COURTNEY (CT)

The International Propeller Club of the United States will be presenting its 2022 Salute to Congress to the Honorable Joe Courtney, Chair of the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee at its Award Dinner on May 17th. The event will take place at the Army-Navy Country Club in Arlington, VA.

Additional details about the 2022 Salute to Congress, and information regarding the purchase of tickets and sponsorship opportunities for this event will soon be available on the International Propeller Club website at [propellerclub.us](http://propellerclub.us)

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: LIZ MILLER PORT OF JACKSONVILLE



Never saying no to an opportunity led Liz Miller to be involved with the Propeller Club of Jacksonville for over 22 years. Her Propeller Club experience started from the ground up supporting the administrative needs. Working behind the scenes ignited her enthusiasm for the Propeller Club and the Maritime, Transportation & Logistics industry, ultimately serving as President in 2014-2015 for the Propeller Club of Jacksonville. Liz continues to serve in the International Propeller Club of the United States as a Board Member, Southeast Region Vice President.

At the local level, she is an honorary member and Student Port Liaison, helping to develop scholarships for the University of North Florida and Keiser University logistics programs.

*"We are lucky to call Liz an Honorary Member of the Jacksonville Propeller Club. She has been a long-standing supporter of the club not only serving as President (2014-2015) but also dedicated years to managing the club's operations as secretary; today, she supports the club's investment in our Student Ports, and continues to advise the Board with her historical knowledge and expertise. Her energy is contagious and her heart for the industry and the people in it is on display in everything she does. I am thankful to have Liz as a mentor not only in my leadership of the club this year but also as a woman pursuing a career in transportation and logistics."*

*-Whitney Croxton, President, Propeller Club - Port of Jacksonville*

Liz had a long-standing career in the Maritime, Transportation & Logistics industry, working at various companies at the ports in Jacksonville up until her retirement from Wallenius Wilhelmsen Logistics in 2017. Liz continues to serve the industry through her consulting firm, Liz Miller Solutions, and as a Dale Carnegie Training graduate and leadership coach, assisting the local Dale Carnegie franchise in bringing awareness of Dale Carnegie programs, providing opportunities for leadership development within the community, and the industry.

"People I have met over the years through The Propeller Club, and the tradition, mission, and values of the organization are in line with who I am." Liz credits the Propeller Club to meeting some of the finest maritime industry professionals. Those leaders whom she recognizes for igniting her passion for the Propeller Club, encouraging her to pursue success, are Mr. James Moseley, Sr., Philip Buhler, Jay Knight, George Dubois, and Rick Schiappacasse, just to name a few.

Having a strong family core and with a background of work experience as a paralegal in maritime law, logistics, and supply chain management, with a strong focus on customer service, and as a coach in leadership development, has led her to find her purpose within the community and industry.

**Does your Port have an outstanding member we can highlight in our newsletter?**

Let [Joel](#) know!

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## **Mark your Calendars for these Upcoming Webinars:**

### **20 April - "Preparing Students for Maritime and Logistics Careers"**

This webinar is designed specifically for High School to University Students, recent graduates, teachers, and maritime stakeholders such as HR departments.

**In celebration of U.S. Maritime Day, here are two webinars sponsored by the Propeller Club of Northern California**

Jim Patti, President of the International Propeller Club will welcome speakers from: The Waterways Council Inc., Pasha Group, Brookings Institution, Port of South Louisiana, National Shipping, Vespucci Maritime, Campbell University & Seafarers International Union.

**16 May - "Do U.S. Exporters Need U.S. Ships?" @ 1200-1330 Eastern Via Zoom**

[Registration info will be sent separately](#)

Previous webinars can be found on the International Propeller Club website under "News" and "Webinars" [here](#).

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## Around our Propeller Club Ports

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### Propeller Club Port of Mobile

Mar 10 - The International Propeller Club - Port of Mobile, AL Chapter held a joint luncheon with Oilfield Connections International (OCI), Mobile, AL Chapter at Moe's Original BBQ Downtown Mobile. The OCI is an organization of Oil & Gas professionals that fosters fellowship, networking, and mentorship of individuals in the Oil & Gas industry. The Propeller Club Board saw this as an opportunity to connect their members with another local organization that has many of the same goals and interests along the Gulf Coast.



### Propeller Club Port of Washington, DC

The Propeller Club Port of Washington, DC will hold a virtual discussion with Senator Roger Wicker on Tuesday, April 5 at 11:00 AM. Senator Wicker is the lead Republican on the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and has been a key figure in the development and enactment of numerous maritime legislative initiatives. He was also the recipient of the 2016 International Propeller Club Salute to Congress award in recognition of his long-standing support for the maritime industry.

Anyone interested in attending this free virtual event must register by Monday, April 4 at this link: [DC Propeller Club presents: Senator Roger Wicker Tickets, Tue, Apr 5, 2022, at 11:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

Please go to the Port of Washington, DC, website or Facebook page for additional information.



### Propeller Club Port of Jacksonville

Jacksonville Port Authority (JAXPORT) Chief Executive Officer Eric Green outlined the port's growth opportunities and plans for the future during a sold-out State of the Port address. Hosted by the Propeller Club of the United States – Port of Jacksonville, the event provided updates on JAXPORT's major projects, business growth, and supply chain trends impacting Northeast Florida's maritime industry to a crowd of nearly 400 transportation and logistics professionals. The Propeller Club also presented a check for \$5,000 to its Student Port at Keiser University.

## **IMO seeks safe corridor for ships and crew from Ukraine conflict**

14 March - An IMO Extraordinary Council Session held at the end of last week on the impact on seafarers and shipping in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov from the conflict in Ukraine stated it “deplored the attacks of the Russian Federation aimed at commercial vessels, their seizures, including Search-and-Rescue vessels, threatening the safety and welfare of seafarers and the marine environment.”

It said the situation underscored the importance of preserving the safety and welfare of seafarers and urged member states to provide the maximum level of assistance.

[Seatrade Maritime News](#)

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## **U.S., U.K. ban Russian Oil as EU eyes bonds**

8 Mar - The U.S. and the U.K. banned the import of Russian oil while the European Union is considering issuing joint bonds to help counter the fallout from President Vladimir Putin’s invasion of Ukraine.

President Joe Biden announced measures against Russian oil, LNG and coal Tuesday while the U.K. plans to phase in the restrictions over several months. The U.K. ban won’t affect gas imports.

The EU, which is more heavily reliant on Russian energy, has been split on whether to halt energy imports from Russia with Germany particularly concerned about the economic impact. The European Commission has set out its plans to end the EU’s reliance on Russian energy Tuesday. [AJOT.COM](#)

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## **War in Ukraine will hurt growth in all shipping segments**

8 Mar - Though much uncertainty remains, the immediate commodity price increases and supply challenges caused by Russia’s invasion of Ukraine are likely to be felt throughout 2022. Also, recently implemented sanctions on Russia are not likely to be lifted any time soon. This may have sustained spill-over impact on the global economy.

Ukrainian ports are closed and though apparently not yet hindered much by sanctions, many shipping companies have vowed to disengage from the Russian export and import markets. Many other companies are divesting or putting their activities in Russia on hold. At the same time, the EU is contemplating to follow the UK and ban Russian-owned vessels from the region’s ports.

The global economy is already suffering from increased commodity prices. Oil, wheat, and maize (all key exports from Russia and Ukraine) are trading at decade highs, at least. This will fuel further inflation that in many countries is already at its highest level in memory. Increased shipping costs due to historically high bunker prices will only add to the inflationary pressure. The increased prices may also lead to destruction of demand as consumers and businesses prioritise spending. [Hellenic Shipping News](#)

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## **Russian and Ukrainian seafarers make up 14.5% of global shipping workforce, according to the International Chamber of Shipping**

8 Mar - The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS), representing 80% of the world’s merchant fleet, has warned of supply chain disruption should the free movement of Ukrainian and Russian seafarers be impeded.

The Seafarer Workforce Report, published in 2021 by BIMCO and ICS, reports that 1.89 million seafarers are currently operating over 74,000 vessels in the global merchant fleet.

Of this total workforce, 198,123 (10.5%) of seafarers are Russian of which 71,652 are officers and 126,471 are ratings[1]. Ukraine accounts for 76,442 (4%) of seafarers of which 47,058 are officers and 29,383 are ratings. Combined they represent 14.5% of the global workforce.

Shipping is currently responsible for the movement of near 90% of global trade. Seafarers have been at the forefront of the response to the pandemic, ensuring essential supplies of food, fuel and medicine continue to reach their destinations. [Hellenic Shipping News](#)

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## **How US ports may have contributed to the global lag in container turnaround times**

9 Mar - The global supply chain and specifically the ocean freight industry and ports and terminals have gone through a very trying and tough time in the last two years.. Starting with COVID-19 which was the genesis of the unprecedented supply chain disruption, the industry has seen many issues, especially at the US ports..

A record number of ships were lined up outside many US ports for a berth for many months in 2021 increasing the port and yard congestion across the country.. Increased container dwell times also caused dockworkers and truckers to struggle to keep up..

US ports have come up as some of the most inefficient ports in the world per container dwell time.. Other regions of the world, like the APAC region, have managed to not only keep containers flowing smoothly through ports but have cut their container dwell time considerably. [Shipping and Freight Resource](#)

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## **ONE's Nixon says U.S. supply chain needs major upgrades**

2 Mar - ONE's Chief Executive Officer Jeremy Nixon spoke out against what he described as inefficiencies in U.S. and North American container terminal operations, warehousing, chassis handling and a lack of 24/7 operations.

His remarks came at a time when U.S. agricultural exports are struggling to book freight on ocean carriers while other U.S. shippers are complaining of high ocean carrier rates and reliability. Meanwhile, the Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) says it is not finding evidence of ocean carrier wrongdoing.

Nixon was speaking to the Trans-Pacific Maritime Conference in Long Beach on March 1st and answered questions from moderator Lars Jensen, Partner Vespucci Maritime. Nixon reported there are currently about 140 ships slow steaming to North American ports and that number could increase once shipments are expedited from China following the end of the Chinese New Year.

Nixon focused on the difference between Asian terminal operations and those in the United States following the COVID outbreak and the surge in imports that began flowing from Asia to U.S. ports in July 2020. Although Nixon repeatedly referred to problems in North American operations, it was apparent in his examples that he was focusing on problems in the United States.

Nixon noted there is a huge gap in the efficiency and productivity of cargo-handling between Asia and the United States and he blames U.S. supply chain problems caused by the failure of U.S. companies to sufficiently invest in supply chain operations and rationalize this with just in time methods that did not provide a buffer for the shortages and bottlenecks that have plagued the United States since 2020. [AJOT.com](#)

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## **US East Coast container port congestion grows as more shippers divert from West Coast**

26 Feb - Congestion at East Coast North America container ports worsened as more ships diverted to avoid West Coast gridlock, further delaying the flow of goods to consumers and driving up costs, sources said.

There were 31 ships anchored off the Port of Charleston, South Carolina, Feb. 22 while another 13 were waiting off the coast of Norfolk, Virginia, according to Platts cFlow trade-flow analytics software. At the Port of Houston, 11 ships were anchored in queue to berth and near the Port of New York and New Jersey, nine ships were queued.

[Hellenic Shipping News](#)

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### **IMO, WISTA and Maritime SheEO launch Leadership Accelerator Programme 2022**

8 Mar - The IMO has sponsored 30 women from developing countries to participate in the programme, chosen from the eight IMO Women in Maritime Associations and Women's International Shipping & Trading Association (WISTA) International. The eight-week programme will require 3-4 hours of weekly learning.

"The women who graduate from this program will gain insight and understanding, they will have extra tools to approach their careers and business challenges. They will hopefully have greater drive and opportunity. They will have more confidence in their ability and the future of our industry. They will be able to show leadership, and be role models and mentors in their own right," said WISTA International president Despina Panayiotou Theodosiou at a webinar launching the programme on March 8.

[Seatrade Maritime News](#)

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### **New funding made available for America's Marine Highway Program**

The US Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration (MARAD) announced this week the availability of \$25m in funding for America's Marine Highway Program (AMHP), which supports the increased use of US navigable waterways to relieve landside congestion, provide new and efficient transportation options, and increase the productivity of the surface transportation system. The new funding is the largest single appropriation of funding ever provided to the AMHP.

"This historic funding for the Marine Highways program will expand waterborne transportation options while helping project sponsors increase energy conservation, improve safety, reduce landside infrastructure costs, and reduce travel delays caused by congestion," said acting Maritime Administrator Lucinda Lessley. Applications for grants are due on April 29. [Splash247](#)

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### **MARAD'S Lessley says ports will receive \$2 billion**

25 Feb - Lucinda Lessley, Acting Administrator for the U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD) said that MARAD would be responsible for awarding \$2 billion in funding created by the President's Bi-Partisan Infrastructure law through the Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP): "The PIDP grants are awarded on a competitive basis to port projects that will improve the movement of goods to, through and around ports."

Lessley was the keynote speaker at the CapitalLink Jones Act & US Flag Shipping Forum on February 24th. She said the MARAD had distributed \$51 million to 25 marine highway projects for Jones services "ranging from tugs and barges to ocean-going vessels."

She noted a major success of the Marine Highway program: "Our oldest Marine Highway project the James River Expansion project moves tens of thousands of trucks from the I-64 corridor between Richmond and Hampton Roads... The service has also attracted 1,000 warehouse jobs to the region."

Lessley said: "The U.S. is facing a shortage of mariners with unlimited tonnage credentials as such we are working on the fiscal year 2022 through fiscal year 2026 mariner workforce development plan ...and support mariner workforce diversity and workplace safety. We anticipate this will help nurture .... a strong U.S. merchant marine ...To attract the next generation of mariners we have to ensure that our merchant marine reflects the diversity and values of the nation it serves." [AJOT](#)

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## Shipping's Green Future: Decarbonisation Digest

28 Feb - Despite the long road that lies ahead, after years of lobbying efforts there is finally a shift in the collective mindset of the shipping industry to put more emphasis on its carbon footprint. This report highlights key regulations, actions, and initiatives that shape the green shipping narrative.

Shipping is responsible for the transportation of 90% of the world's trade and contributes to about 2.5% of the global emissions.

2021 ended with total shipping emissions surpassing the 800 million metric tonnes mark, higher than the previous two years; the increase comes against the efforts to reach net-zero and is largely attributed to the recovery of the world's economy, which triggered demand for goods and seaborne trade and eventually generated more maritime emissions.

However, the urgency to reduce emissions is imperative: a study published by the European Parliament has underlined the critical need for more regulations, otherwise the shipping industry would be responsible for nearly 40% of all carbon dioxide emissions by 2050. [Hellenic Shipping News](#)

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## Polar Star reaches southernmost navigable waters on Earth

Mar 2 - U.S. Coast Guard cutter Polar Star (WAGB 10) reached the southernmost navigable waters on the planet Feb. 17 while underway in the Bay of Whales, Antarctica. Polar Star reached a position of 78 degrees, 44 minutes, 1.32 seconds south latitude at 12:55 p.m. New Zealand time, holding a distance of approximately 500 yards from the edge of the Ross Ice Shelf, farther south than the current Guinness World Record holder.

While underway, Polar Star sailed in waters previously charted as part of the ice shelf that are now navigable waters. Today, portions of the Ross Ice Shelf deviate approximately 12 nautical miles from the positions depicted on official charts. [Professional Mariner](#)

## On Deck



### The Biden-Harris Plan to Revitalize American Manufacturing and Secure Critical Supply Chains in 2022

24 Feb - One year ago, President Biden signed Executive Order 14017 directing an all-of-government approach to assessing vulnerabilities in – and strengthening the resilience of – the United States' critical supply chains.

Within six months of taking office, the Administration completed a comprehensive review of the supply chains for four critical products, identified solutions to secure those supply chains against a wide range of risks and vulnerabilities, and established a first-of-its-kind Supply Chain Disruptions Task Force (SCDTF) to address the challenges arising from a pandemic-affected economic recovery.

Today, on the one-year anniversary of President Biden's executive order, seven cabinet agencies published reports identifying key weaknesses in some of the nation's most crucial supply chains, and devising multi-year strategies to address those weaknesses. The White House also published a capstone report that provides an overview of the key actions the Biden-Harris Administration has taken over the past year to reduce the vulnerability of U.S. supply chains across a range of key sectors. And in the coming months, a number of federal departments and agencies, including the Department of

Commerce and the Department of Labor (DOL), will host regional summits that will bring together stakeholders to discuss opportunities to align regional economic development strategies with the national supply chain strategy. See the details [here](#).

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## President Biden targets container lines for ‘overcharging’

2 Mar - US President Joe Biden’s State of the Union Address singled out shipping lines as anti-competitive in raising freight rates by over 1000%, which the industry described as “unfounded” allegations.

In his address, President Biden stated that capitalism needs competition to function properly. “I am a capitalist, but capitalism without competition is not capitalism. Capitalism without competition is exploitation, it drives up profits — without competition is exploitation. It drives up profits, when corporations don’t have to compete, their profits go up.” Biden turned his attention to container lines, all of which are based outside of the country, serving US import and export markets

“During the pandemic, about half a dozen or less foreign-owned companies raised prices by as much as 1000% and made record profits. Tonight, I am announcing a crackdown on companies overcharging American businesses and consumers,” he said. [Seatrade Maritime News](#)

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## U.S. Senate

U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.), Chair of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, held a full committee hearing on Thursday, March 3, 2022, to examine S. 3580, the Ocean Shipping Reform Act, and ways to strengthen oversight of international ocean carriers. President Biden emphasized the importance of congressional action on ocean shipping reform in the State of the Union Address.

“Too many farmers, manufacturers and other American businesses have been hit by skyrocketing shipping fees, unprecedented delays and schedule changes, while foreign shipping companies reap record profits,” said Sen. Cantwell regarding the importance of Thursday’s hearing. “Congress must take bipartisan action to protect our agriculture producers and export businesses from unfair ocean carrier practices so they can get their goods to the global marketplace, and we can further relieve port congestion, reduce supply chain backlogs, and lower prices for consumers.” [Senate Commerce Committee](#)

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## U.S. Coast Guard: COVID-19 Safety Requirements in the Maritime Transportation System

The Coast Guard Assistant Commandant for Prevention Policy has published Marine Safety Information Bulletin 02-21 Change 4 “COVID-19 Safety Requirements in the Maritime Transportation

System”. Change-4 to this MSIB reflects that the CDC has issued no new guidance for maritime travel and continues to require mask wear in indoor areas of conveyances and US transportation hubs. [USCG](#)

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## DOT Lays Out Actions to Strengthen Supply Chains and Revitalize the Economy

24 Feb - "Today, on the one-year anniversary of President’s Executive Order on Supply Chains, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) is publishing a

report that lays out vulnerabilities in our freight and logistics supply chain and clear-cut actions needed to speed up the movement of goods from ships to shelves. Building a resilient and efficient supply chain that can withstand the shocks of future large-scale weather, health or other events that will spur economic growth, lower costs for Americans, and create good-paying jobs in the process. The Biden-Harris Administration has made this work a top priority-- including passing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law that makes the largest investment in ports in American history, reversing decades of underinvestment in our country's critical infrastructure. DOT has already taken both immediate and long-term actions to bolster our supply chains and cut costs for the American people and this report provides a path forward to continue that work, including announcing the availability of \$450 million for American ports from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law this week, by far the Department's largest investment ever, informed by the report's recommendations." [DOT](#)

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## **PROPELLER CLUB FACTOID:**



**In just five years, the International Propeller Club of the United States will be 100 years old!**



## **Mark your calendars!**

**The 96th International Convention and Port Presidents Meeting will be held in Athens, Greece from September 20 - 22, 2022!**

**Keep your eyes out for Registration information!**

## **Upcoming Events**

Webinar: "Preparing Students for Maritime and Logistics Careers," April 20, 2022

Webinar: "Do U.S. Exporters Need U.S. Ships?," May 16, 2022 at 1200-1330 Eastern Via Zoom

Webinar: "U.S. Inland Waterways & Jones Act Carrier Reports," May 18, 2022 at 1200-1330 Eastern Via Zoom

Salute to Congress, May 17, 2022, in Arlington, VA

National Maritime Day, May 22, 2022

European Propeller Club Conference, June 28 - 29, 2022

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

World Maritime Day, September 30, 2022

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***Our Headquarters staff is always happy to help you - just call us!***

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