



International Propeller Club of the United States

Promoting the Maritime Industry Since 1927

May 2022 Newsletter

Message from the President



The International Propeller Club is proud to join with others in the maritime industry in saluting America's World War II merchant marine veterans and the leadership of the American Merchant Marine Veterans Association on the occasion of the presentation of a Congressional Gold Medal to these true American heroes. On May 17th, after many years of struggling to gain the recognition

they so richly deserve, America's World War II merchant marine veterans were finally honored at a ceremony in the Nation's Capital for their service to country and to their fellow citizens.

The International Propeller Club joins our entire industry in thanking these merchant marine veterans for all that they did for our country and for our industry. Their record of service and sacrifice has set the standard for all American mariners to follow - a standard that says that service to one's country, and service to one's fellow citizens, comes before any regard for one's own safety and well-being.

Whether it was being called upon to support and supply troops deployed overseas during World War II or in Afghanistan or in some other corner of the world, American mariners have never said no, not me, send someone else.

As we saw during the waterborne evacuation of 500,000 of their fellow citizens on 9-11, when no one knew what the risk was or what would happen next, Coast Guard personnel and American mariners working on towboats, on excursion vessels, on ferries and pilot boats put their own safety aside to help bring their fellow citizens to safety.

As we saw during these past two years as the world was ravaged by the COVID 19 pandemic, American mariners still made sure American ships would sail and goods would be delivered to American forces overseas and to their fellow citizens here at home despite the unavailability of vaccines and the restrictions to vessels and extension of the time onboard ship and away from their families.

There are numerous statistics that clearly illustrate the service and sacrifice by our World War II merchant mariners: That 1 in 26 mariners serving aboard merchant ships in World War II died in the line of duty; that the merchant marine suffered a higher casualty rate than any branch of the military; that more than 8,000 merchant mariners were killed at sea during World War II.

And yet, despite the threat to their own personal safety, they were the supply line that provided everything the American and allied forces needed in order to fight and survive and win. They were, in every respect, the true unsung heroes of World War

II.

Congratulations to the class of World War II merchant marine veterans and to their families for never giving up the fight for your just recognition.

C. James Patti
International President
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From the Executive Vice President

In the United States, we will celebrate National Maritime Day as a 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.



Many of our Ports in the United States will have special events to educate the public and to honor the men and women in our industry who enable the products from around the world to reach our shores, and who send America's food and manufactured goods to foreign lands.

We honor those - from the Revolutionary War until today - who served at sea. More recently, we honor the sacrifices made by the U.S. Merchant Marine to ensure our national defense. The U.S. Merchant Marine provided crucial, yet often overlooked, logistical support for the Allied war effort in WWII and afterward. The National World War II Museum notes "There were 243,000 mariners that served in the war. And 9,521 perished while serving—a higher proportion of those killed than any other branch of the US military. Roughly four percent of those who served were killed, a higher casualty rate than that of any of the American military services during World War II. There were 733 Merchant Marine ships sunk due to enemy attacks. Though they did not see combat, mariners risked their lives supplying the various branches of the armed forces and joint operations with the tools needed to win the war."

Celebration of our merchant mariners and our maritime industry is not purely an American thing, because on September 30th, with our international friends, we will recognize World Maritime Day. On both days, pause for a moment to reflect on the importance of our industry and the merchant marine!

Joel Whitehead, Executive Vice President

International Propeller Club
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International President James Patti is Recognized by the Seafarers International House



C. James Patti, President of the International Propeller Club was awarded the "Outstanding Friend of Seafarers Award" on April 27th by the Seafarers International House in New York, New York. The Seafarers International House was founded in 1873 and was the Lutheran response to the urgent needs of vulnerable seafarers and immigrants, assisting over 20,000 seafarers per year. Seafarers International House honored Jim as an outstanding shipping industry leader

who has significantly helped improve the welfare of seafarers.

With more than 50 years of working in the maritime industry, Jim Patti has played an active leadership role in all major legislative efforts affecting the operation of U.S.- flag vessels in the foreign and domestic trades and the employment of American mariners. He joined the Maritime Institute for Research and Industrial Development (MIRAID) in 1980 and became President of MIRAID in 1985, a position he still holds today. Jim is also Chairman of USA Maritime, a coalition representing U.S.- flag shipping companies operating U.S.- flag vessels in America's foreign trades and the maritime unions which provide the licensed and unlicensed crews for these vessels and their related maritime associations.

In addition, he is currently a Member of the Board of the United Seamen's Service. Patti, a long-time member of the International Propeller Club, earlier served as the President of the Propeller Club of Washington, DC, and was a recipient of the International Propeller Club's prestigious Maritime Person of the Year award. Congratulations President Patti!

Around our Propeller Club Ports



Port of Port Canaveral

The Propeller Club's May event was the Annual Education Luncheon which highlighted the Rockledge High School HELM Maritime Studies Program and awarded scholarships to students going on to post-secondary education in a maritime-related field. The luncheon featured as its guest speaker, Brevard School Board Chair Misty Belford. Rockledge High School HELM Maritime Director and Teacher Sarah Hardy gave an overview of the past year of the program highlighting Field

Trips, Career Shadow opportunities, and the Desktop Ship Navigation Simulators in the classroom.



Port of Houston

The Propeller Club of Houston held its annual Industry Leadership Speaker Luncheon and 2022 Scholarship Award Ceremony on March 24th. Capt. Bill Diehl, USCG (Ret) P.E., President of The Greater Houston Port Bureau spoke on Supply Chain Evolution in the Port of Houston.



Port of Monaco

The Port of Monaco sponsored a webinar on the current sanctions regime against the Russian Federation. Mr. Daniel Martin, Global Head of Sanctions Team at Holman Fenwick Willan, LLP in London spoke on Russia's invasion of Ukraine that has triggered an unprecedented wave of sanctions imposed by the UK, EU, US, and others. The

wide-ranging restrictions, coupled with the rate of change, have led to particular challenges for the shipping industry. Mr. Martin highlighted the main areas of risk for the industry and provided his insight into practical measures to mitigate the risk, and presented some thoughts about what might happen next.

Port of New Orleans

On May 10th, the Propeller Club of New Orleans hosted its annual crawfish boil and Board meeting. "Crawfish &



Conversation" was a big hit with over forty members and prospective members attending. President Leo Falgout led the festivities in this annual event.



Port of Piraeus

The Port of Piraeus hosted a private farewell luncheon in honor of the outgoing US Ambassador to Greece, the Honourable Geoffrey Pyatt, on Friday 29 April. The Ambassador was presented with an honorary plaque as well as a certificate of lifetime honorary membership of the Propeller Club, Piraeus. Port President Costis Frangoulis, expressed gratitude for the Ambassador's exceptional contribution to the strengthening of the relationship between Greece and the United States. He also thanked the Ambassador for his solid and consistent support of the Propeller Club of Piraeus in his role as Honorary President during his 6-year term in Greece. He wished him continued success and expressed the hope that his relationship with the Club would continue in the future. "I'm sure that a new, very important page in Mr. Pyatt's career will start soon," Mr. Frangoulis said, "and that we will have the pleasure to work together and maintain our excellent relationship in new, creative ways".



Port of Tacoma

The Port of Tacoma held a "Bridge of Honor" ceremony recognizing Tacoma area Sea Scouts. Port President Todd Vincent bestowed the Qualified Deck Hand Award to two scouts. Two other youths earned the highest rank in Sea Scouts, Quartermaster. Over 65 youths received awards representing advancement and achievements.

MEMBER IN THE SPOTLIGHT:



Sean Duffy, Port of New Orleans



Mr. Sean Duffy, this month's "Member in the Spotlight," has been a longtime member of the Propeller Club of New Orleans. He has also served for over five years as a valuable member of its Board of Directors. He is a great example of another Propeller Club member's positive impact on the maritime industry.

As Executive Director of Big River Coalition and Executive Vice President of the Louisiana Maritime Association, Duffy is a well-known leader in the maritime industry, regionally and nationally. The Big River Coalition is committed to protecting and maximizing efficient transportation on the deep-draft ship channel from Baton Rouge to the Gulf of Mexico. Its mission is focused on securing increased funding from the Harbor Maintenance Tax and Inland Waterways Fuel Tax, and in particular, efforts to deepen the Lower Mississippi River to 50 feet and to increase the beneficial use of dredge material. The Louisiana Maritime Association provides local members with valuable information such as river conditions, advisories, vessel

movements, and shipping statistics.

Because of his leadership and persistence in advocating for efficient transportation on the Mississippi River, he was recently announced as the recipient of the 2022 Bertel Award from the World Trade Center of New Orleans. The Bertel Award was established in 1967 and is presented each year to an individual who has made significant contributions to the Louisiana port and maritime community. It will be presented at a ceremony and luncheon on June 24 in the Plimsoll Ballroom at the Four Seasons Hotel.

“Sean’s leadership at the Big River Coalition is critical to Louisiana,” said Ed Webb, CEO of the World Trade Center of New Orleans. “U.S. economic estimates indicate that maritime commerce across the Mississippi River and its tributaries has an annual impact of over \$735 billion on the U.S. economy and is responsible for 2.4 million jobs.” He added, “Louisiana and its leadership is working hard to grow its recognition as an international and domestic port of choice. I believe that there is no one more experienced or more passionate than Sean to lead this effort.”

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

Maritime News

Russia Struggles to Find New Buyers for Commodities as Europe Severs Links

10 May - With Europe weaning itself off Russian oil, natural gas and coal, President Vladimir Putin has ordered a full-scale reorientation of Russia’s commodity exports by shipping more cargoes to Asia, building new pipelines and expanding railroad links to the East. But in redrawing its exports map, Moscow faces significant hurdles, putting its sanctions-stricken economy further at risk.

European Union officials this week are preparing a sixth round of sanctions that aim to undercut Russia’s energy exports. Among the proposals are a phased ban on Russian oil purchases as well as sanctions on service providers, such as ship insurers, that would stifle Russian crude shipments to other parts of the world.

The new infrastructure that Russia needs to transport the exports that Europe used to buy will take years to build. It is experiencing difficulties chartering ships to transport its oil as insurers and banks fear the impact of sanctions. Major trading houses, meanwhile, are cutting their Russian business. It is also uncertain how much of Russia’s commodities big buyers such as China would be willing to buy, as Beijing looks to diversify its suppliers.

International Shipping News Read [more](#)

World’s first autonomous commercial ship voyage in congested water successfully completed

11 May - The world’s first autonomous commercial ship voyage in congested waters, powered by Orca AI, in partnership with the Designing the Future of Full Autonomous Ships (DFFAS) and The Nippon Foundation, has been successfully completed after 40 hours of navigation, with full autonomy being activated 99% of the journey’s time.

The trial was performed by the cargo ship Suzaku, a 749 Gross ton vessel chosen for the project by the DFFAS consortium, comprising 30 Japanese companies and led by NYK group company - Japan Marine Science Inc. (JMS) and MTI.Co., Ltd.

During the trial, the vessel automatically performed 107 collision avoidance maneuvers on the outbound voyage alone, with the program director at the consortium suggesting that the system avoided a total of 400 to 500 ships. The voyage, which started from Tokyo Bay - one of the most congested routes in the world - sailed towards the port of Tsumatsusaka

China's widening COVID curbs threaten global supply chain paralysis

15 Apr - China's race to stop the spread of COVID-19 is clogging highways and ports, stranding workers and shutting countless factories – disruptions that are rippling through global supply chains for goods ranging from electric vehicles to iPhones.

While some factory owners try to tough it out through “closed loop” management that keeps workers isolated inside, some said that is becoming harder to sustain given the extent of local COVID-19 curbs aimed at heading off the Omicron variant, complicating efforts to procure materials or ship products. **Hellenic Shipping News** Read [more](#)

Europe readies further Russian shipping bans

5 May - The European Commission's plans to ban Russian oil imports into the continent this year, as reported by Splash yesterday, are set to face a very significant fallout for shipping. Reuters is reporting that the European Commission has proposed to ban from June all shipping, brokerage, insurance, and financing services offered by EU companies for the transport of Russian oil worldwide. Citing an unnamed EU official as a source, the shipping and ship services ban would apply to Russian exports of oil worldwide, albeit that Russian exporters could still source such services from outside the bloc.

Many P&I clubs, banks as well as class societies have already suspended doing business with Russia since it invaded Ukraine on February 24. European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen, addressing the European Parliament in Strasbourg yesterday, proposed to EU's member nations to phase out imports of crude oil within six months and refined products by the end of the year, something she conceded would take some persuading to pass via all 27 members, many of whom are especially reliant on Russia for energy security. **Splash 247** Read [more](#)

US imposes ban on Russian-affiliated vessels from US ports

22 Apr - The US has banned Russian-affiliated ships from entering its ports in the wake of Moscow's military incursion on Ukraine. President Joe Biden's decision is the latest step aimed at building pressure on Russia, reported Reuters.

The president said: “That means no ship, no ship that sails under the Russian flag or that is owned or operated by a Russian entity, will be allowed to dock in a United States port or access our shores. None.”

The order, released by Biden, stated: “The policies and actions of the government of the Russian Federation to continue the premeditated, unjustified, unprovoked and brutal war against Ukraine constitute a national emergency by reason of a disturbance or threatened disturbance of international relations of the United States.”

Ship Technology Read [more...](#)

Ports on Both Coasts Set Records in March

20 Apr - Container ports in March were operating at, or near, record levels on the Pacific and Atlantic coasts.

The nation's busiest facility, the Port of Los Angeles, processed 958,674 20-foot-equivalent units — a March record. That's up from 2021's record 957,599 TEUs. The port also notched its best first quarter ever at 2,682,033, tracking 3.5% above last year's record.

“With improved fluidity on our docks and fewer vessels waiting to enter the port, our terminals are processing cargo at record levels,” Port of Los Angeles Executive Director Gene Seroka said. “Yet we’re not taking anything for granted. We’re using our Port Optimizer data to find developing issues and adjust to market demands.

Transport Topics Read [more](#)

US container prices tumble as yards overflow with empties

19 Apr - Container prices in the US have fallen dramatically in recent months and will fall further, according to Container xChange.

The company’s analysis showed that in LA, 40ft HC containers had fallen from \$3467 in late February 2022 to \$2754 in April 2022, while 20ft DC containers were at an average price of \$1661 in April 2022, down from highs of \$3080 late in August 2021.

“In general, logjams and disruptions lead to increase in container prices, especially in second-hand container prices because more container volume is tied up along the logistic supply chain. However, in the United States, there is a pile-up of empties as those containers cannot be repatriated back to Asia because of several disruptions one after the other in the past two years, and more recently due to the China lockdowns and Russia Ukraine crisis,” said Christian Roeloffs, cofounder and CEO, Container xChange.

SeaTrade Maritime News Read [more](#)

Greece seizes Russian tanker as part of EU sanctions

19 Apr - Greece has seized a Russian oil tanker off the island of Evia as part of European Union sanctions imposed on Moscow over its invasion of Ukraine, the Greek coast guard said on Tuesday.

Earlier this month the EU banned Russian-flagged vessels from the 27-nation bloc’s ports, with some exemptions, as it adopted new sweeping sanctions against Russia.

The Russian-flagged Pegas, with 19 Russian crew members on board, was seized near Karystos on the southern coast of Evia, which lies just off the Greek mainland near the capital Athens. **Hellenic Shipping News** Read [more...](#)

Government Highlights



100th ratification of Maritime Labour Convention welcomed

IMO has welcomed the 100th ratification of the International Labour Organization (ILO)'s Maritime Labour Convention (MLC), 2006, which is the global instrument mandating seafarers' employment rights and

decent working conditions. Oman deposited its instrument of ratification with the ILO on 11 April 2022.

The MLC, 2006, is considered the fourth pillar of the international regulatory regime for quality shipping, complementing three key IMO treaties on safety of life at sea (SOLAS), training of seafarers (STCW) and marine pollution prevention, (MARPOL). The MLC, 2006 lays out requirements for payment of wages, leave, repatriation and medical care of seafarers, creating regulatory obligations for States, ship owners and operators.

IMO Read [more](#)



President Biden Adds \$234.3 Million to Bolster America's Port Infrastructure

May 9 -Today, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration (MARAD) announced that up to \$684.3 million is now available for Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) grants, to be awarded on a competitive basis to projects that improve the safety, efficiency, and reliability of the movement of goods into, out

of, around, or within a port. This marks the most, annual funding for PIDP in history and will help improve our supply chains, speed up the safe, efficient, and reliable movement of goods, and ultimately work to make goods more affordable for Americans.

On February 23, 2022, MARAD issued a notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) announcing the availability of \$450 million for the PIDP program under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The FY 2022 Appropriations Act appropriated an additional \$234.3 million in funding for the program and this money has been added to the NOFO. [MARAD Read more](#)

Maritime & Coastguard Agency

Keeping you safe at the coast for 200 years: HM Coastguard celebrates landmark birthday

From its beginnings with coastal lookouts to today's hi-tech national network of coordination centers, from small localized beginnings to international players – one thing has stayed the same for two centuries – Her Majesty's Coastguard seeks to search, to rescue, and to save. Two hundred years of saving lives along the UK coast and at sea, as well as coordinating rescues for those in distress in international waters, is being marked this year as HM Coastguard celebrates its milestone anniversary.

It was on 15 January 1822, that HM Coastguard was formally brought into existence and has been working to keep people safe at the coast and sea ever since.



NTSB Warns Mariners of the Hazards of Sleep Inertia

6 Apr - In an after-accident report released Tuesday, the National Transportation Safety Board warned of the risk of "sleep inertia" - the temporary feeling of grogginess felt after waking up - for mariners on a rotating watch schedule.

According to NTSB, sleep inertia usually lasts for about 30 minutes after waking, and it may last longer if a person is sleep-deprived. It is a common condition for shift workers in all industries, according to the Sleep Foundation. NTSB advises that mariners should allow enough time to fully recover from sleep inertia before taking a watch or performing critical duties - a challenging order since mariners are on call at all hours and often face challenges getting enough rest.

Maritime Executive [Read more...](#)

Federal Maritime Commission: Record penalty sought

The U.S. Federal Maritime Commission's Bureau of Enforcement filed an opening brief seeking a \$16.5 million penalty and a cease and desist for eleven alleged violations against Hapag-Lloyd, A.G. and Hapag-Lloyd (America) LLC



for possible violations of 46 U.S.C. section 41102(c), which states that a common carrier, marine terminal operator, or ocean transportation intermediary may not fail to establish, observe, and enforce just and reasonable regulations and practices relating to or connected with receiving, handling, storing, or delivering property. **FMC** [See the brief](#)

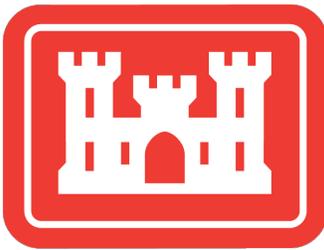


MARAD Increases Funding 50 Percent for Marine Highway Program

2 May - In the continuing effort to increase investment into the U.S.'s maritime infrastructure, MARAD announced a better than 50 percent increase in funding for the 2022 grants to be awarded for America's Marine Highway Program. The increase adds to the previously announced program which was already set to receive the largest single appropriation of funding provided for America's

Marine Highway Program. Established in 2007 to reduce landside congestion through the designation of marine highway routes, the program supports the development and expanded use of America's navigable waterways.

MARAD announced in March 2022 plans to nearly double funding for the grants in 2022 to \$25 million up from \$12.6 million in grants awarded to nine marine highway projects in December 2021. Under the revised details of the program released last week by the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Maritime Administration (MARAD) an additional \$14.8 million is being added to the program for 2022. Total funding available for the America's Marine Highway Program will now total \$39.8 million. MARAD also extended the deadline for applicants to apply for funding to June 17, 2022. **Maritime Executive** [Read more](#)



Army Corps of Engineers turns to private sector in face of budget cuts

16 April - Civil infrastructure has been deteriorating faster than the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers can keep up with for years, and the 31 % cut to their funding called for in the President's budget proposal won't help the situation.

That's why it's asking Congress to sign off on new tools in their fiscal 2020 budget that would help them reduce a \$98 billion backlog of civil works construction projects by involving the private sector.

"The effort to revolutionize the Civil Works program focuses on accelerating project delivery, transforming project financing and budgeting, and permitting and regulation reform," Lt. Gen. Todd Semonite, commanding general and chief of engineers at USACE said in his written testimony at an April 10 hearing of the Senate Appropriations Energy and Water Development subcommittee. "The FY 2020 Budget seeks to transform project financing by proposing two new, innovative construction programs in the FY 2020 Budget." **Federal News Network** [Read more](#)

Upcoming Webinars

In Honor of National Maritime Day, May 22nd, the Port of Northern California and the International Propeller Club will Present:

May 16th - "Do U.S. Exporters Need New U.S. Ships?"

A panel will discuss the problems associated with today's supply chain and remedies that might ameliorate the situation. [Register here](#)

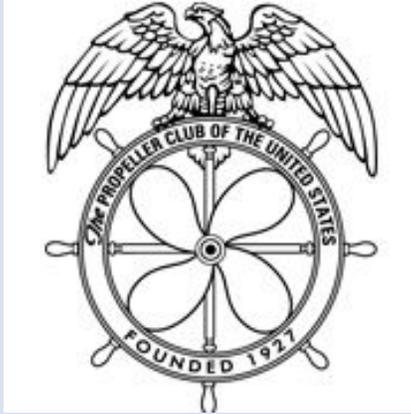
May 18th (AM) - "A Report on the U.S. Inland Waterways and the Great Lakes"

A panel will discuss the infrastructure needed in the inland waterways and the Great lakes.

May 18th (PM) - "A Report from Jones Act Carriers"

A panel will discuss the current state of Jones Act shipping in the United States.

[Register here for both panels on May 18th](#)



PROPELLER CLUB FACTOID:

How long has the International Propeller Club recognized U.S. legislators who are champions of the maritime industry?

The first "Salute to Congress" was held in 1985 when Speaker of the House Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, Jr. was the first Propeller Club honoree.



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

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

97th Annual International Propeller Club Convention, Charleston, SC

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