

SEAFARERS LOG

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SEAFARERS INTERNATIONAL UNION • ATLANTIC, GULF, LAKES AND INLAND WATERS

Union Dedicates El Faro Memorial

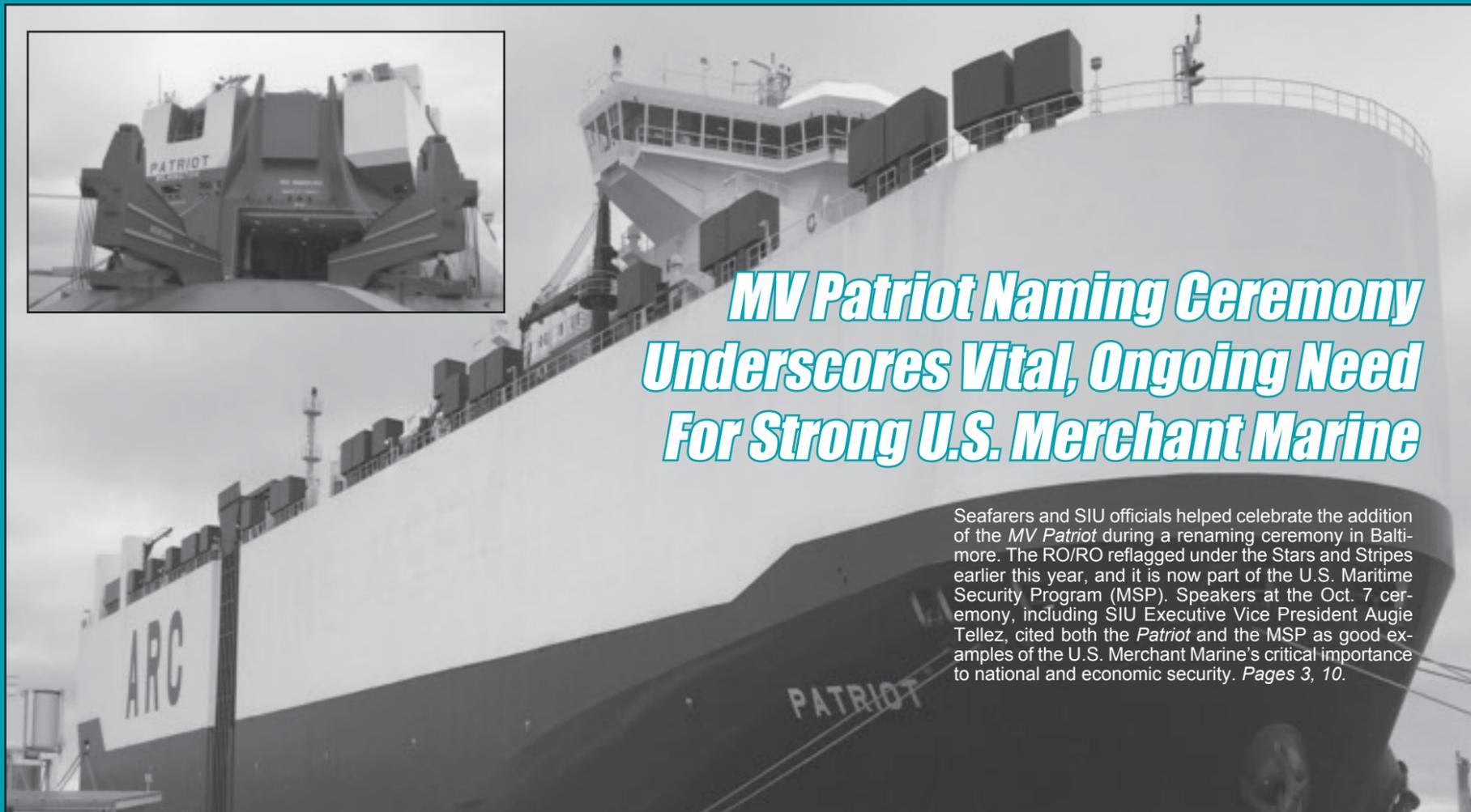
SIU Solemnly Observes Anniversary of Tragedy

At sea and ashore, the union on Oct. 1 honored the memory of the *El Faro's* final crew, one year after the ship sank near the Bahamas, claiming the lives of all 33 people aboard (including 17 SIU members). Of particular note, the SIU dedicated a memorial lighthouse (photo at right) at the hall in Jacksonville, Florida (home port for many of the crew and also the last point of departure for the ship). Some of the attendees are pictured below. Moments of silence were observed at all SIU halls and aboard many vessels, and a brief ceremony also happened at the union-affiliated school in Piney Point, Maryland. Vessel owner Tote Services also dedicated a memorial in Jacksonville. *Pages 4-6, 24.*



MV Patriot Naming Ceremony Underscores Vital, Ongoing Need For Strong U.S. Merchant Marine

Seafarers and SIU officials helped celebrate the addition of the *MV Patriot* during a renaming ceremony in Baltimore. The RO/RO reflagged under the Stars and Stripes earlier this year, and it is now part of the U.S. Maritime Security Program (MSP). Speakers at the Oct. 7 ceremony, including SIU Executive Vice President Augie Tellez, cited both the *Patriot* and the MSP as good examples of the U.S. Merchant Marine's critical importance to national and economic security. *Pages 3, 10.*



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President's Report

Remembering Friends and Looking Ahead

There is good news to report this month, but first I want to begin this column by acknowledging the recent passing of two longtime friends of the SIU: Mike DiPrisco and Tom Mackell. I don't know how many of our younger members recognize those names, but Mike was a terrific labor relations professional and chairman of the trustees for the Seafarers Plans. He's been retired for several years but remained a respected figure. Tom wore many hats in our industry, and his work with the SIU went all the way back to the heyday of our union's late President Paul Hall. Tom was sharp on any subject you could think of, especially politics, and much of his career involved the administration and investment management of employee benefit funds. He, too, was someone we could always count on.

It has been a rough year when it comes to friends and family crossing the final bar. Nevertheless, as I mentioned last month both at the SIU's *El Faro* dedication in Jacksonville and again less than two weeks later at a seamen's center ceremony for my late son, we can choose to remember people for how they lived – doing the things they enjoyed. That's the approach I'm taking with Mike DiPrisco and Tommy Mackell, two individuals who worked hard for the men and women of the U.S. Merchant Marine.

Without question, both of them were happy to see so much new tonnage entering the American-flag fleet. And that's where we pick up with some of the positive developments happening in our union. Most months, we are able to report on new ships being built for our contracted operators, or flagging in. None of these gains happens by accident. Our formula for success starts with providing qualified, reliable shipboard manpower, but it also features constant political outreach. Without support for the Jones Act, the Maritime Security Program, and cargo preference laws, our industry wouldn't survive. That's why we're on Capitol Hill just about every day, and it's why we're active at other levels of government, too. Whether we're on our own or, more commonly, working with industry partners, we never stop promoting you and your work.

Unfortunately, our industry also is losing tonnage even while new tankers, RO/ROs, containerships, passenger ferries and other vessels are being built. A weakening of cargo preference laws, drastic reduction of military cargoes, and a political ploy that's hampering the U.S. Export-Import Bank are key factors here. I'm cautiously optimistic, however, that in the next Congress, we'll truly start to revitalize the American-flag fleet. We have strong bipartisan support and very solid backing from military leaders. They understand that America's safety and wellbeing depend in part on maintaining a strong U.S. Merchant Marine in times of peace so that we're able to deliver the goods in times of war. I like our chances of gaining ground in the New Year.

Again, nothing will be achieved automatically or by accident. But we've never been afraid of hard work in the SIU, whether aboard ship or ashore. We'll keep swinging, together, no matter what obstacles are in front of us.

Happy Thanksgiving

Can you believe the winter holidays are almost here? We're having an unusually warm day as I write this column (mid-80s in Camp Springs), so it doesn't quite seem possible. But that's where we are on the calendar, so I don't want to miss a chance to say Happy Thanksgiving to all of our SIU members, retirees and family members. Whether you're working this holiday or enjoying time on the beach, be safe.

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The Seafarers International Union engaged an environmentally friendly printer for the production of this newspaper.

Keels Laid, Tanker Delivered

Both General Dynamics NASSCO and Philly Shipyard recently laid the keels of future SIU-crewed Jones Act vessels, with NASSCO delivering a new product tanker that same week. Both shipyards are union facilities.

On Sept. 23, representatives from Philly Shipyard and Kinder Morgan, Inc. were in attendance to place the coins as a sign of good fortune and safe travels on one of the keel blocks of the third product tanker in a four-vessel order for American Petroleum Tankers (APT), a Kinder Morgan subsidiary. The most recent class of graduates from Philly Shipyard's apprentice program were also in attendance, which added 15 skilled shipbuilders to the workforce. The shipyard expanded the program this year and has hired 50 apprentices, with intent to hire another 50 apprentices in 2017.

Philly Shipyard's President and CEO Steinar Nerbovik remarked, "Today we celebrate our 15 new shipbuilders and the twenty-seventh keel laid in our 17-year history. Both will set the standard for shipbuilding activities well into our future. Congratulations to our graduates and to the men and women of Philly Shipyard for another milestone progressing toward our ongoing goal of being the premier U.S. commercial shipyard."

When completed in 2017, the product tanker will be 600 feet long and capable of carrying 50,000 tons of crude oil or refined petroleum products. The Tier II 50,000 dead weight ton (dwt) product tankers are based on a proven Hyundai Mipo Dockyards (HMD) design which incorporates numerous fuel efficiency features, flexible cargo capability and the latest regulatory requirements, Philly Shipyard reported. The vessels will be constructed with



The Jones Act tanker *Bay State* is a new addition to the SIU-contracted fleet. (Photo courtesy General Dynamics NASSCO)

consideration for the use of LNG for propulsion in the future.

In San Diego, NASSCO held a keel laying for the *Palmetto State*, the final ECO Class tanker to begin construction for American Petroleum Tankers (it's scheduled to be delivered in 2017). The keel was laid by Master Shipbuilder and NASSCO General Supervisor Bill Johnson, who welded his initials onto a steel plate in the vessel's inner structure, in a ceremony conducted Sept. 26.

NASSCO Vice President and General Manager Kevin Graney said: "Bill Johnson has served NASSCO and our nation by dedicating his career to building ships that are critical to our economy and our defense. He is an expert at the craft of shipbuilding and serves as a leader and mentor for his fellow shipbuilders so that their careers can continue to build upon this legacy. Today's keel laying is a celebration to give thanks to the many thousands of hardworking NASSCO men and women who have

chosen shipbuilding as their profession – past and present."

Additionally, on Sept. 27 NASSCO delivered a sister ship of the *Palmetto State*, the *Bay State*. That ship had been christened 10 days earlier.

"The *Bay State* is the product of world-leading design, engineering and construction," said Graney. "We take pride in knowing we are delivering another high-quality vessel to our partner, American Petroleum Tankers."

Each vessel in the ECO Class program is 610 feet long, 50,000 dwt, has a 330,000-barrel cargo capacity and is LNG-conversion-ready. Boasting outstanding fuel efficiency, the first five ships have already been delivered, while the remaining three are under construction.

According to NASSCO, the ships were designed by DSEC, a subsidiary of Daewoo Shipbuilding & Marine Engineering (DSME) of Busan, South Korea.

Center Dedicated in Memory of ITF Inspector



The Charleston Port and Seafarers' Society on Oct. 5 dedicated the seamen's center at the North Charleston Terminal of the South Carolina State Ports Authority in memory of Tony Sacco, who passed away earlier this year at age 55. A longtime inspector for the International Transport Workers' Federation, Sacco previously served as an SIU official and also sailed with the union for many years. The sea-

men's center typically is very active – more than 65,000 mariners arrive in Charleston each year, on average, and more than 50 volunteers work at the facility. SIU President Michael Sacco spoke at the dedication, which was also attended by SIU Secretary-Treasurer David Heindel, local dignitaries and port officials. Fr. Len Williams is pictured at the podium in the photo above, while the snapshot at right shows a few of the guests arriving before the gathering. The facility is now named the Tony Sacco Seafarers' Center.





Chip Jaenichen
U.S. Maritime Administrator



Alan Estevez
Keynote speaker



Eric Ebeling
ARC CEO

New MSP Ship Shows ‘Commitment’

MV Patriot Reflects Program Strength, Sealift’s Importance

The naming ceremony for the SIU-crewed *MV Patriot* proved suitably celebratory, but the featured speakers also cautioned that much work lies ahead in revitalizing the U.S. Merchant Marine.

The gathering took place Oct. 7 at the cruise terminal in Baltimore, very close to the roll-on/roll-off (RO/RO) ship that entered the U.S. Maritime Security Program (MSP) fleet earlier this year. Operated by Tote Services for vessel owner American Roll-On/Roll-Off Carrier (ARC), the *Patriot* was preparing to shove off for Bremerhaven the following day.

SIU Executive Vice President Augie Tellez (one of the speakers) and Vice President Atlantic Coast Joseph Soresi were among those in attendance, as was a group of apprentices from the union-affiliated Paul Hall Center for Maritime Training and Education.

Alan Estevez delivered the keynote address. He’s the Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics. The other speakers were ARC CEO Eric Ebeling and Maritime Administrator Chip Jaenichen.

Vessel tours preceded the naming cere-

mony – and visitors came away impressed with the state-of-the-art, 653-foot-long vessel. Built in 2006, the *Patriot* features 13 decks plus crew accommodations including a sauna, pool and gym.

Tellez set the tone for many of the other remarks when he said that while *Patriot* is an appropriate name, the ship might just as easily have been called the *Commitment* “because that’s what she truly represents.” Tossing aside his prepared speech, he said the RO/RO signifies commitment on the part of ARC to its commercial partners for reliable, on-time delivery, and it also reflects assurance to the Department of Defense that modern ships and reliable crews are available to help meet tactical and strategic military goals.

“It’s a commitment by this company and by this program to the fighting men and women of this country,” Tellez said, “that they’ll have the materiel and supplies when needed to get their jobs done and come back home safely. It’s a commitment to the men and women who are going to work on this vessel and to the khaki-clad apprentices of the Paul Hall Center that they will be offered an oppor-

tunity to attain their piece of the American dream.

“Our commitment is going to be that when the balloon goes up and when we’re needed, the men and women of the U.S. Merchant Marine are going to be there to answer the call,” he added.

He was lighthearted at times but turned serious in describing the teamwork needed to promote the U.S. Merchant Marine wherever needed, whether in the White House or Congress or any of the numerous agencies that affect the industry.

Estevez, whose wife sponsored the vessel, immediately picked up on that unofficial theme, addressing Tellez directly on the stage when he said, “You have my commitment to fight for mariners, to fight for sealift, to fight for this infrastructure like this port facility, because we in the United States cannot defend ourselves if we do not have that capability. We live in a dangerous world and it’s getting more dangerous.”

Estevez said the Defense Department “cannot do what we do on our own. We need commercial vessels; we need merchant mariners; and we need the infrastructure to go along with that, or we will not have the strategic capability that we need to support our forces.”

Like the other speakers, he credited civilian crews and commercial ships for sustaining U.S. forces in Operation En-

during Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, and he also described the MSP as a huge bargain to the American taxpayer.

“We would break the bank if we had to go out and buy vessels to replace the capacity that we are fortunate to have (through MSP),” he said.

Jaenichen said the ship “is representative of what the MSP is all about. The MSP is a cost-effective tool. It provides that guaranteed access to commercial sealift and the intermodal capabilities that come with it, necessary to meet both U.S. wartime and also contingency requirements.”

He declared that American-flag capacity “is absolutely vital to our national security. It enables the nation to project and to sustain our armed forces. More importantly, they get there on U.S.-flag vessels, crewed by U.S. mariners.”

Jaenichen also pointed out that a benefit of the MSP is it encourages the replacement of older vessels with more modern, capable ships. There have been 62 such replacements in the program’s 20-year history, meaning the entire fleet

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The ceremony took place at the cruise terminal in Baltimore.



Susan Pearson
Vessel sponsor



President Sacco speaks to the families of those lost on the *El Faro*.



AMO President Paul Doell addresses the crowd.

El Faro Memorial Dedicated in Jacksonville

SIU Members at Sea and Ashore Observe Anniversary of Tragic Loss

Editor's note: During SIU election years, the Seafarers LOG normally refrains from publishing photos of anyone who is on the ballot. An exception is being made this month for the El Faro anniversary coverage, due to the important nature of the content and our desire to help ensure its historical accuracy.

SIU President Michael Sacco opened his speech at the at the SIU hall in Jacksonville, Florida, on Oct. 1 with a reminder: "One year ago, I promised that we will never forget the men and women of the *El Faro's* final crew. Today, both here and in Piney Point, Maryland, the SIU is living up to that solemn pledge."

In early October 2015, the maritime community was rocked with the loss of the 33 crew members of the roll-on/roll-off containership *El Faro*, operated by Tote Maritime. The vessel, crewed in all unlicensed positions by SIU members, sank near the Bahamas during Hurricane Joaquin. (At that time, the exact date of the sinking wasn't known, but it eventually was determined that the ship went down on Oct. 1.)

One year later, many of the families and friends of those lost gathered at the Jacksonville hall for a time of remembrance, as well as the dedication of a memorial lighthouse built on the property. The lighthouse, adorned with 33 stars and paid for with a donation made by the union, serves as a daily reminder of the 17 SIU members, 11 members of the Seafarers-affiliated American Maritime Officers (AMO) and five Polish nationals who perished on that fateful voyage.

The ceremony began with an emotional address from Capt. Jeffrey Dixon, commanding officer of Coast Guard Sector Jacksonville, who offered his heartfelt condolences as well as advice on coping with the loss. Dixon told the crowd of roughly 300 attendees, "It does get better.... You just have to take one step. And then another. Take one day at a time, and it gets a little easier."

He made it clear that his speech was not being made on behalf of the Coast Guard, but that his remarks were meant as a personal conveyance of sympathy to the families gathered outside the

hall. He described having to relay the news that the Coast Guard was suspending their search as one of the hardest things he's ever had to do.

He was followed by speakers who offered sentiments of support and perseverance, including President Sacco, Assistant Vice President Archie Ware, AMO President Paul Doell, and a representative from the Office of Senator Bill Nelson (D-Florida.) SIU Secretary-Treasurer David Heindel, Vice President Government Services Kermett Mangram and Vice President Gulf Coast Dean Corgey were also in attendance.

Sacco said, "This monument here in Jacksonville is a fitting tribute to the 33 individuals who were lost in the hurricane one year ago. It's a reminder of the bravery it takes to go to sea under any circumstances. And it's a permanent fixture that honors the SIU members, AMO members and Polish riding-gang members who last set sail from this port and left us last year."

In addition to the lighthouse, several other memorials have been added to the union hall, including a brick display that includes the names of all 17 SIU members who served aboard the *El Faro*, as well as many gifts donated by members.

During his remarks, Ware informed all those in attendance that, in the face of such personal tragedy, relatives of *El Faro* crew members **James Porter** and **Frank Hamm** will soon depart Florida and attend the SIU-affiliated Paul Hall Center for Maritime Training and Education as part of the apprentice program. Additionally, members of **Jackie Jones, Jr.'s** family are currently sailing as C-book SIU mariners, continuing a legacy of service under the U.S. flag.

Following the remarks, President Sacco was presented with a memorial plaque created by Bob Hunt, a retired Jacksonville local who followed the story and became deeply involved. Hunt attended every National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) hearing on the sinking, and decided to donate the plaque a token of his empathy for the families.

Members of each family in attendance also received mementos of the anniversary, in both a public presentation and a private affair inside the union hall.

After the event at the union hall, invited

guests attended a separate memorial dedication hosted by Tote at nearby Dames Point. The waterfront park located there was renamed the *El Faro* Memorial Park, marked by another lighthouse statue, the beam of which points southeast toward Puerto Rico. Eventually, a similar lighthouse will be installed in Puerto Rico, with its beam pointed toward Jacksonville. Sacco, Heindel and Ware were in attendance.

The park includes a memorial walk, which will be decorated with personalized nameplates from each of the families. The path itself is aligned with the nautical route between Jacksonville and San Juan, the intended destination of the *El Faro*.

The SIU also conducted a brief ceremony in Piney Point, where a formal dedication had taken place earlier in the year. (The pre-

Continued on next page



The *El Faro* memorial lighthouse, adorned with 33 stars, is a symbol of remembrance for the lives lost.



USCG Capt. Jeffrey Dixon speaks to the assembled crowd in front of the Jacksonville hall.



SIU VP Government Services Kermett Mangram, SIU VP Gulf Coast Dean Corgey



Memorial bricks are among the items in place at the Jacksonville hall.



SA Tamara Russ rings the memorial bell.



Seafarers, retirees, friends and other guests gather at the hall.

Continued from Page 4

vious ceremony involved memorial bricks, a plaque and a bell inscribed with the ship's name that is affixed to a miniature lighthouse.)

During the recent ceremony at the school, remarks were offered by SIU Executive Vice President Augie Tellez and Vice President Great Lakes Tom Orzechowski. Vice President Atlantic Coast Joseph Soresi read the "Seamen's Prayer," and Port Agent Pat Vandegrift read the 33 names as Apprentice **William Cannon** rang the bell.

A lifelong Seafarer who grew up in an SIU family, Tellez noted that the *El Faro* was the fourth Seafarers-crewed vessel lost that he has personally been involved with, one way or another.

"These are things that happen," he said. "These are the perils of the sea.... It doesn't happen often, but it does happen. We should be aware of it but we shouldn't be afraid of it."

He described the *El Faro's* sinking as "one of those situations when everything converged to make a bad thing happen to good people."

In addition to remembering the *El Faro* crew, he asked that everyone at the gathering also keep in mind all Seafarers whose lives have been lost at sea dating back to the union's earliest years.

Meanwhile, many SIU members at sea on Oct. 1 also conducted memorial ceremonies,

while moments of silence were observed at all SIU halls at 11 a.m. local time.

The NTSB's investigation into the contributing factors of the loss is ongoing. The vessel's voyage data recorder (VDR) was recovered, and the data is in the process of being analyzed. Once the final audio transcript has been prepared, the NTSB will schedule a final Marine Board of Investigation hearing.

It is unknown whether the families will get to hear any of the audio recovered from the VDR. According to at least one published report, after the agency has concluded its investigation, the VDR itself will be returned to Tote, who can decide whether or not to release the audio to the families.

The SIU members aboard the ship were Bosun **Roan Lightfoot**, ABs **Carey Hatch**, **Jackie Jones**, **Jack Jackson**, **Brookie Davis** and **Frank Hamm**, QEE **Sylvester Crawford**, RE1 **Louis Champa**, OMUs **Anthony Thomas**, **German Solar-Cortes** and **Joe Hargrove**, GUDEs **Mariette Wright**, **James Porter** and **Roosevelt Clark**, Steward/Baker **Theodore Quammie**, Chief Cook **Lashawn Rivera** and SA **Lonnie Jordan**.

The American Maritime Officers (AMO) members were Capt. Michael Davidson, Chief Mate Steven Shultz, Second Mate Danielle Randolph, Third Mate Jeremie Riehm, Chief Engineer Jeffrey Mathias, Chief Engineer Richard Pusatere, First As-

sistant Engineer Keith Griffin, Second Assistant Engineer Howard Schoenly, Third Assistant Engineer Michael Holland, Third Assistant Engineer Mitchell Kuflik and

Third Assistant Engineer Dylan Meklin.

The Polish riding gang consisted of Piotr Krause, Marcin Nita, Jan Podgorski, Andrzej Truskowski and Rafal Zdobych.



From left to right: SIU VP Gulf Coast Dean Corgey, Secretary-Treasurer David Heindel and President Michael Sacco greet USCG Capt. Jeffery Dixon.



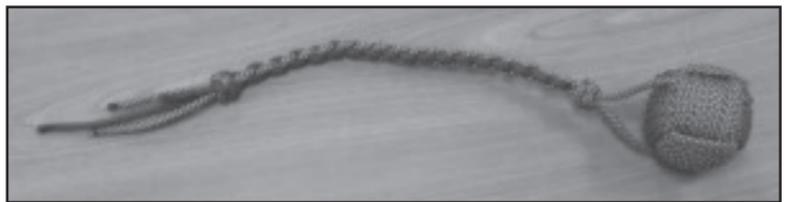
Mariners and their families (photo at left) enjoy a luncheon following the dedication. In the photo below at left, Chief Steward Adam Bucalo poses for a picture with Administrative Assistant Karen Shuford inside the Jacksonville hall. Jacksonville local Bob Hunt (photo immediately below) displays a commemorative plaque he made, which was presented to President Sacco.

*See Pages 6 and 24
For Additional El Faro
Memorial Coverage*



El Faro Remembrances . . . Aboard the SIU-Crewed Perla Del Caribe

The ceremony on the *Perla Del Caribe* included readings of the Seamen's Prayer and the poem "Down to the Sea in Ships." Crew members committed a wreath to the sea while underway from San Juan to Jacksonville, and Recertified Bosun James Walker (speaking in group photo at the far right) explained that the monkey fist he created (bottom photo at far right) features 33 wraps (11 in each direction) and 17 red stitches for the SIU members of the *El Faro*. Walker is also pictured at left in photo below, with Oiler Fernandez Wilcox (right) and Jamie Torres sending off the wreath. The photo at the immediate right shows Recertified Bosun Noel Otero.



SIU hall in Oakland, California



SIU hall in San Juan, Puerto Rico



SIU hall in Philadelphia



SIU hall in Norfolk, Virginia



SIU hall in Jersey City, New Jersey



Union Election Voting Began Nov. 1

Voting started Nov. 1 for the election of officers for the Seafarers International Union Atlantic, Gulf, Lakes and Inland Waters. SIU members will be able to cast secret ballots at union halls or by mail through Dec. 31, 2016.

Seafarers eligible to vote in this election to determine union officials for the 2017-2020 term are full-book members in good standing. This eligibility criteria is spelled out in the union's governing document, the constitution.

The ballot will list the names of all qualified candidates as determined by the credentials committee, a group made up of six rank-and-file Seafarers who reviewed the nominating petitions of all SIU members seeking office in this district-wide election. A sample of this ballot was published in last month's LOG. The credentials committee report, which was prepared Aug. 16, and submitted to the membership at the September monthly meetings, indicated 26 candidates had qualified to run for 25 positions. (The committee's report was

published in the September 2016 *Seafarers LOG*.) Subsequently, the union determined that 27 candidates were qualified. This finding was approved by rank-and-file voting at the September membership meetings.

The 25 posts for which Seafarers will cast their ballots are president, executive vice president, secretary-treasurer, six vice presidents, six assistant vice presidents and 10 port agents.

20 Polling Places

The election will be conducted by mail ballot as provided by the union's constitution. Secret ballots, accompanied by envelopes marked "Ballot" and postage-paid envelopes printed with the address of the bank depository where the ballots are kept until submitted to the tallying committee, will be available to full-book members in good standing at 20 union halls around the country. (See list of voting locations on this page.)

Eligible Seafarers may pick up their

ballots and envelopes marked "Ballot" and mailing envelopes at these halls between 9 a.m. and 12:00 noon, Monday through Saturday, except legal holidays, from Nov. 1 to Dec. 31.

Each member must present his or her book to the port agent or the agent's designated representative when receiving the ballot, the envelope marked "Ballot" and the mailing envelope. When the Seafarer receives the ballot and envelopes, his or her book will be marked with the word "Voted" and the date.

If a member does not present his or her book, or if there is a question in regard to his or her eligibility to vote, the Seafarer will receive a mailing envelope of a different color marked with the word "Challenged." His or her book will be stamped with the words "Voted Challenge" and the date.

For members who believe they will be at sea during this time, the SIU constitution provides for absentee voting procedures. Full-book members in good

standing who need to vote by absentee ballot should direct a request for the ballot to the union's secretary-treasurer at SIU headquarters - 5201 Auth Way, Camp Springs, MD 20746.

Secret Ballots

Once the Seafarer has received his or her ballot and envelopes, he or she marks the ballot for the candidates of his or her choice and puts it in the envelope marked "Ballot." This envelope is sealed by the member and then dispatched in the mail. These steps ensure the integrity of the secret ballot process.

The union's constitution, in Article XIII, details the procedures for voting in union elections.

All ballots will be counted by the rank-and-file committee consisting of two members elected from each of the union's constitutional ports. These committee members will be elected in December. They will convene in early January 2017.

Notice of 2016 Election For Election of 2017-2020 Officers - Seafarers International Union of North America Atlantic, Gulf, Lakes & Inland Waters

Elections will be conducted by secret mail ballot.

Ballots may be obtained at the following locations from 9 a.m. to noon (local time), Mondays through Saturdays, excluding holidays, during the voting period. The voting period shall commence Nov. 1, 2016 and shall continue through Dec. 31, 2016.

Voting Locations

Algonac	520 St. Clair River Dr.	Algonac, MI 48001
Anchorage	721 Sesame Street, Suite 1C	Anchorage, AK 99503
Baltimore	2315 Essex St.	Baltimore, MD 21224
Ft. Lauderdale	1221 South Andrews Ave.	Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316
Guam	Cliffline Office Ctr., Suite 103B, 422 West O'Brien Dr.	Hagatna, Guam 96910
Honolulu	606 Kalihi St.	Honolulu, HI 96819
Houston	1730 Jefferson St.	Houston, TX 77003
Jacksonville	5100 Belfort Road	Jacksonville, FL 32256
Joliet	10 East Clinton	Joliet, IL 60432
Mobile	1640 Dauphin Island Pkwy.	Mobile, AL 36605
New Orleans	3911 Lapalco Blvd.	Harvey, LA 70058
Jersey City	104 Broadway	Jersey City, NJ 07306
Norfolk	115 Third St.	Norfolk, VA 23510
Oakland	1121 7th St.	Oakland, CA 94607
Philadelphia	2604 South Fourth St.	Philadelphia, PA 19148
Piney Point	Seafarers Harry Lundeberg School of Seamanship	Piney Point, MD 20674
Puerto Rico	1057 Fernandez Juncos Ave., Stop 16	Santurce, PR 00907
St. Louis	4581 Gravois Ave.	St. Louis, MO 63116
Tacoma	3411 South Union St.	Tacoma, WA 98409
Wilmington	510 North Broad Ave.	Wilmington, CA 90744

Absentee Ballots Are Available for Members at Sea

Elections for the SIU Atlantic, Gulf, Lakes and Inland Waters are scheduled for this year. In the case of members eligible to vote who believe they will be at sea during the Nov. 1 through Dec. 31, 2016 voting period or who otherwise think they will need absentee ballots, absentee ballots will be available.

The SIU constitution ensures that members who are eligible to vote and who find themselves in this situation may vote. Proce-

dures are established in the SIU constitution to safeguard the secret ballot election, including the absentee ballot process.

Following is the procedure which members should utilize when requesting absentee ballots:

1. Make the request in writing to the SIU office of the secretary-treasurer, 5201 Auth Way, Camp Springs, MD 20746.

2. Include in the request the correct address where the absentee ballot should be mailed.

3. Send the request for an absentee ballot by registered or certified mail.

4. The registered or certified mail envelope must be postmarked no later than midnight, Nov. 15, 2016 and must be received at 5201 Auth Way, Camp Springs, MD 20746 no later than Nov. 25, 2016.

5. The secretary-treasurer, after confirming eligibility, will send by registered mail, return

receipt requested, to the address designated in the request, a ballot, together with an envelope marked "Ballot" and a mailing envelope no later than Nov. 30, 2016.

6. Upon receiving the ballot and envelope, vote by marking the ballot. After voting the ballot, place the ballot in the envelope marked "Ballot." Do not write on the "Ballot" envelope.

7. Place the envelope marked "Ballot" in the mailing envelope which is imprinted with the mailing address of the bank depository where all ballots are sent.

8. Sign the mailing envelope on the first line of the upper left-hand corner. Print name and book number on the second line. The mailing envelope is self-addressed and stamped.

9. The mailing envelope must be postmarked no later than midnight, Dec. 31, 2016 and received by the bank depository no later than Jan. 5, 2017.



Spotlight on Mariner Health

Alternative Treatments for High Blood Pressure

There are numerous alternative treatments believed to help in the management of high blood pressure. Evidence is strong that a diet low in saturated fats and salts, along with exercise, will help to reduce hypertension.

Eating complex carbohydrates such as vegetables, whole grains, legumes, fruits and low-fat dairy foods will help to keep the patient's blood pressure down. Maintaining a healthy weight is also very important, as is cutting back on foods that are high in saturated fats and cholesterol.

It is also recommended to: eat more whole grains, fish, poultry and nuts; eat less red meat and fewer sweets; limit palm and coconut oil in the diet; eat foods that are rich in magnesium, potassium, and calcium. All of this will help you in the fight to keep your blood pressure at a healthful level.

There's a lot of evidence that shows men and women of all age groups who are physically active, have a decreased risk of developing high blood pressure. Exercise such as walking, jogging, cycling or in combination will help to keep your pres-

sure down.

Relaxation methods that included controlled breathing and gentle physical activity, such as yoga and Tai Chi, are also very helpful with regard to hypertension. Listening to music can also be a calming and relaxing experience for many people.

Limiting your alcohol intake to (at most) one or two drinks a day is important in trying to keep your blood pressure down. This will decrease the intake of sodium/salt in your diet, and keep the triglyceride/fat levels lower. It will also limit the calories that you ingest with each drink. The bottom line is that lower weight means decreased blood pressure, for the most part.

The most important step for preventing hypertension is to limit or stop smoking. Each time you smoke, your blood pressure goes up, your arteries constrict, and the risk of clot formation increases. Blood pressure is highest right after you smoke, and stays that way for about 15 to 20 minutes.

Remember, never smoke before your doctor's visit. You want to have an accurate blood pressure reading when it is taken

Healthful Recipe

Rigatoni with Hearty Lamb Sauce Ragù

Servings: 25

4-1/4 pounds rigatoni, medium shells, or other medium pasta shape, uncooked
 3-1/4 pounds lamb leg, ground
 4-1/4 cups canned Italian plum tomatoes, crushed
 4-1/4 tablespoons olive oil
 8-1/3 cloves garlic, peeled and finely chopped
 4-1/4 medium onion, finely chopped
 2 teaspoons dried rosemary*
 1 teaspoon dried thyme
 6-1/4 cups dry red wine
 1/8 teaspoon ground cloves
 1/8 teaspoon ground nutmeg
 Salt and pepper, to taste
 1-3/8 cups grated parmesan cheese

Heat oil in a medium saucepan over medium-high heat. Add the lamb and garlic and cook until the meat begins to brown, about three minutes. Add the onion, rosemary and thyme; cook one minute. Add the crushed tomatoes, wine, nutmeg, cloves and salt and pepper to taste. Heat to a boil and reduce the heat to simmering.

Cook, uncovered, until the lamb is very tender, about 45 minutes. Check the lamb occasionally. There should always be enough liquid to cover the meat. If not, add a small amount of water.

Prepare pasta according to package directions; drain. Return the pasta to the pot. Add the lamb sauce to the pot and cook over low heat until heated through, stirring constantly. Stir in half the parmesan cheese. Place in 2" hotel pans equally. Sprinkle with remaining cheese and serve.

*If using dried rosemary, soften it as follows: Place the rosemary in a heatproof bowl and pour about 1 cup boiling water over it. Let it stand five minutes. Drain before using.

Per serving (excluding unknown items): 501 calories; 15g fat (29.4 percent calories from fat); 20g protein; 61g carbohydrate; 2g dietary fiber; 37mg cholesterol; 155mg sodium. Exchanges: 4 grain (starch); 1-1/2 lean meat; 1/2 vegetable; 2 fat.

(Provided by the Paul Hall Center's Harry Lundeberg School of Seamanship)



At Sea and Ashore With the SIU



ABOARD ISLA BELLA – The large group photo at left above was taken after a recent shipboard union meeting. The snapshot at right shows (from left) Chief Cook Bryan Alvarez, SA Sheila Daguio and Steward/Baker Bob Wilcox. The vessel is operated by Tote Services.



AT THE HALL IN PUERTO RICO – Port Agent Amancio Crespo is pictured with Seafarers at the union hall. With him in photo at left is Chief Cook Jesus Pacheco, preparing to ship out aboard the *Green Lake*. In the photo second from left AB Luis Ramos Rosa proudly displays a recently earned certificate from the Paul Hall Center. The remaining photos show AB Kemer Rojas (photo third from left) and Jr. Engineer Richard Vega receiving their respective A-seniority books.



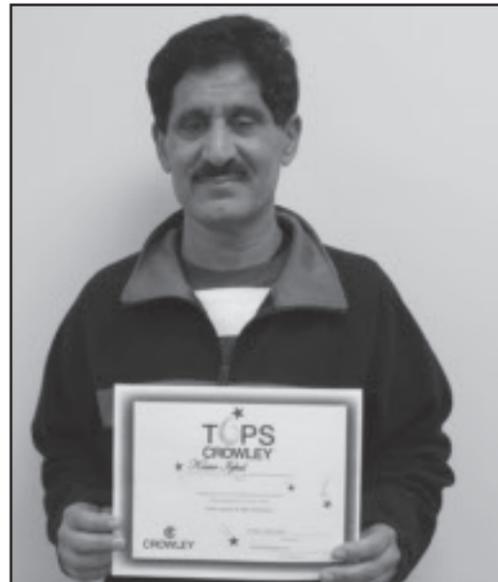
CROWLEY CREWS VOTE – Port Agent Jeff Turkus submitted this photo of SIU members who work aboard Crowley tugs in the Los Angeles/Long Beach area. The Seafarers voted on a new contract, details of which will be featured in an upcoming edition of the *LOG*.

ABOARD MAERSK WISCONSIN – Pictured from left are Steward/Baker Norman Bush, QEE Hector Solis, Patrolman J.B. Niday and Chief Cook Chris Coston.



AT THE HOUSTON HALL – These snapshots (both including Patrolman J.B. Niday) show Chief Engineer Bruce Williams (photo at left above) picking up his first retirement check following a 23-year career at G&H Towing, and SA Delmis David (photo at right above) receiving her full book and B seniority.

NEW FERRY – NY Waterway recently added its newest boat, the *Betsy Ross*. Pictured aboard the luxury commuter ferry in mid-October are (from left) Deckhand Peter Capo, Capt. Thomas Jansen, Deckhand Vijay Jainauth and Deckhand Daniel Colon. Thanks to Patrolman Ray Henderson for the photo.



KUDOS FOR INDEPENDENCE II GALLEY GANG – During a recent servicing of the car carrier *Independence II*, vessel master Capt. Ken DeGroff (left in photo at left above, with Chief Steward Raul Napoles) raved about the performance of the entire steward department, which also includes SA Kipp Worthy (right) and Chief Cook Robert Maschmeier. Per the captain, not only is the food far beyond expectations, but also the morale in every department is boosted by the galley gang. The ship is operated by Tote Services.

SAFETY AWARD – AB Kosar Iqbal recently earned a safety award for his consistently outstanding work aboard the Crowley-operated *USNS Victorious*. Vessel master Capt. Peter A. Jorgensen nominated Iqbal for the recognition, citing (among other positives) the Seafarer's "punctuality, hard work, conscientiousness, reliability and professionalism."

At Sea and Ashore With the SIU



PREVENTIVE STEPS – Members recently prepped the Fort Lauderdale hall for severe weather. Pictured are Seafarers Emanuel Paul, Ryan Boltz, Michael Bowen, Cielo Ojano and Vasil Cholakovski.

ABOARD MAERSK CHICAGO – Thanks to AMO Second Mate Michael Thomas for this photo of two longtime SIU members and the following note: "LAST TRIPS – AB James Coleman (left) and Rubin Mitchell are pictured Sept. 28 aboard the *Maersk Chicago* in Salalah, Oman. James started his sailing career in 1968, and Rubin acquired his sea legs in 1973. You can bet these two have some colorful sea stories! Catch them at their halls (Jersey City and Jacksonville, respectively)."



B-BOOK IN BALTIMORE – OMU Buzz Engelke (right) takes the union oath in Charm City as he picks up his full B-book from Port Agent Elizabeth Brown.

ABOARD RED CLOUD – Recertified Bosun Gerry Gianan sent this pic of the SIU steward department on the Patriot-operated *USNS Red Cloud*, which he described as a good feeder. From left: SA Emily Lepley, SA Howard Brooks, Chief Steward Rudy Lopez and Chief Cook Dennis Dizon.

WELCOME ASHORE IN JACKSONVILLE – Mario Morante (right) picks up his first pension check from Patrolman Joseph Koncul at the union hall. Morante sailed with Crowley Towing and Transportation for 21 years.



Paul Hall Center apprentices tour the vessel.



The ship reflagged earlier this year under the Stars and Stripes

SIU-Crewed MSP RO/RO Vessel Renamed in Port of Baltimore

Continued from Page 3

has been turned over.

The administrator also discussed the overall decline in U.S.-flag tonnage in recent years and echoed Tellez's point about "having to do this together" when it comes to advancing the industry.

Ebeling pointed out the *Patriot* will support U.S. sealift requirements around the globe, and added the ceremony occurred 15 years to the day "that Operation Enduring Freedom commenced in Afghanistan. We are still fighting there today, and the U.S. military is currently engaged in numerous other operations and exercises to protect human rights and to promote free-

dom and democracy around the world. This great ship will assist in that mission."

He continued, "The U.S.-flag commercial fleet has long been and remains the most cost-effective means of sealift available, saving the nation billions in capital and operating costs. Most critically, the American mariners that sail aboard these ships are the most reliable and dedicated in the business."

Several of the SIU and AMO mariners aboard the ship described the vessel appreciatively.

Chief Steward **Jayne Peterson**, for instance, who has been a Seafarer since 1988, said, "This is one of the nicest galleys I've had. I'm not used to having such a big galley."



Bosun Ion Irimia



AB Scott Wilson



Oiler Mohamad Kammoun, OS Abdulsalam Issa



Chief Steward Jayne Peterson



SA Eric Mose



Chief Cook Richard Torres

MSC Official Praises Crew Of Ocean Glory

The SIU-crewed *MV Ocean Glory*, operated by Crowley, recently completed the final mission stop of Pacific Pathways 16-2, offloading military cargo in Pearl Harbor. An official from the U.S. Military Sealift Command (MSC) commended the crew's performance, as did the vessel master.

During the last stop, the U.S. Army's 599th Transportation Brigade partnered with Fleet

Logistics Center Pearl Harbor to discharge 25th Infantry Division cargo and equipment off the *Ocean Glory* from September 7-9.

"This is our eighth of nine ports for Pacific Pathways 16-2," said Christopher Hill, captain of the *Ocean Glory* since 2011. "It has been one of the best voyages of my entire career. The professionalism on display by the U.S. Army and how they helped our crew has been amazing."

"As Americans we are proud to do our part anyway, but this has been a pure pleasure," Hill added. "I wish I could do this every day for the rest of my career. Working with the military hand in hand was a positive and unique experience."

The captain and crew of the *Ocean Glory* received praise from Chris Thayer, Director of Contractor Operated Ships for MSC, in an official Bravo Zulu transmitted on Sept. 27. In the letter addressed to the captain

and the owners of the vessel (Intermarine), Thayer said, "I wanted to take a moment to personally thank you and the crew of *M/V Ocean Glory* for your role in the delivery of critical PACIFIC PATHWAYS 16 exercise equipment while under charter to MSC. You delivered critical military exercise enablers to build and maintain relationships with our nation's Pacific regional partners. During the performance of the mission, I often heard of the reliability of your ship and the professionalism of your crew. The superb level of service illustrates your company's focus on customer fulfillment and your efforts did not go unnoticed."

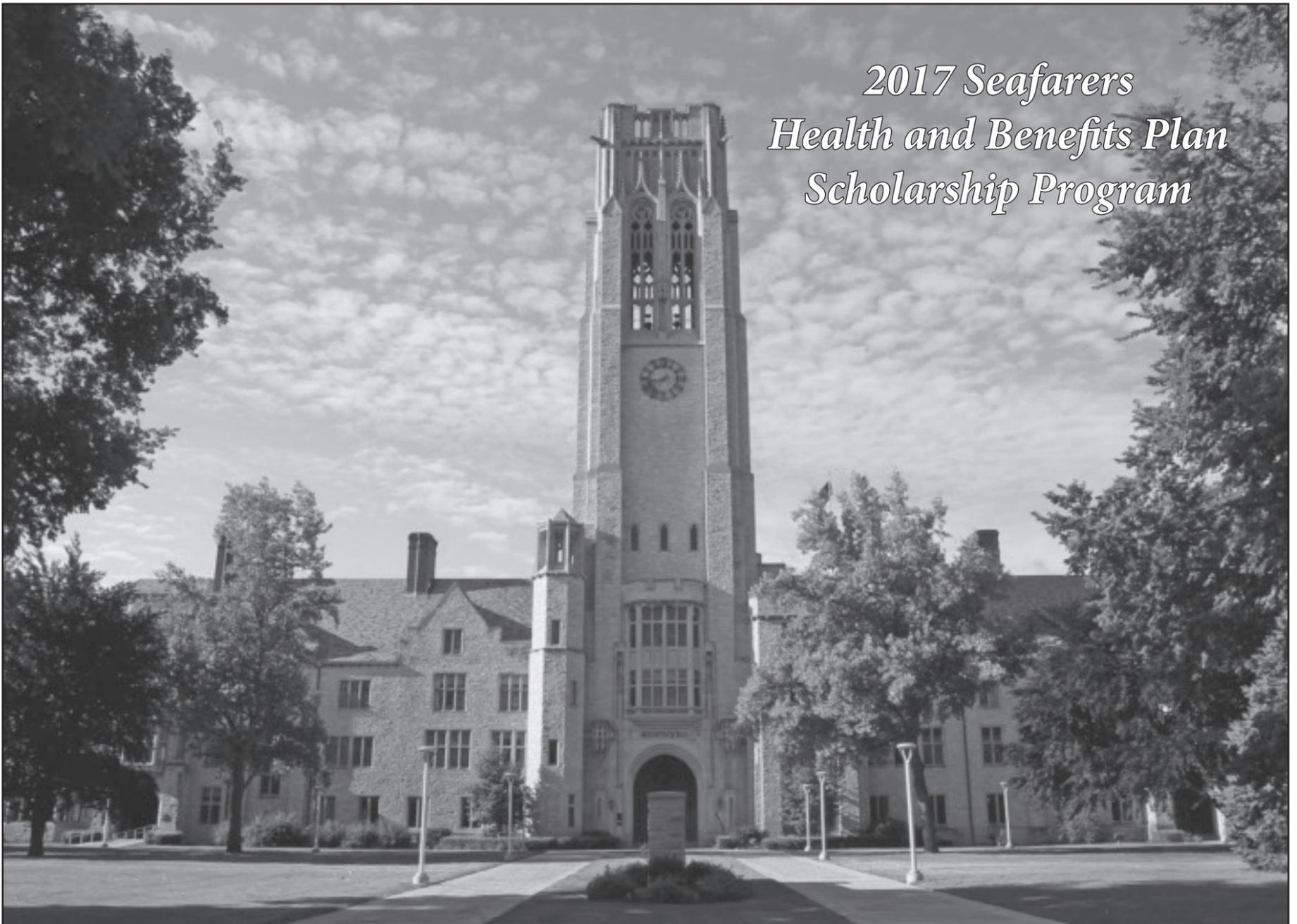
He concluded, "The performance of Captain Hill and the crew of *M/V Ocean Glory* was exemplary and fortifies the strong and honorable traditions of the U.S. Merchant Marine and the Military Sealift Command. The dedication, teamwork, and professionalism of

all involved was extraordinary."

The *Ocean Glory* is part of the Maritime Security Program (MSP), which features American-flag ships that are assets which the U.S. military can draw upon during contingencies. The vessel is a multi-purpose dry cargo ship equipped for carriage containers and strengthened for heavy cargo. She is equipped with three shipboard cranes

Pacific Pathways 16-2 was a U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC) mobility operation that supports three USARPAC exercises and links them into a single operation by using one commercial vessel to carry a designated task force and their force package equipment for the duration. PP16-2 was a combined operation between the U.S. Army and each of the armed forces of Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia – where the last of the U.S. Army's equipment was back-loaded for return to Pearl Harbor and Tacoma, Washington.

*2017 Seafarers
Health and Benefits Plan
Scholarship Program*



University Hall, University of Toledo

Scholarships totalling \$132,000 are available to Seafarers and their dependents looking to continue their education. Allocations for each category will be as follows:

Seafarers Scholarships

Three scholarships designated for active Seafarers:

- One \$20,000 offering for a four-year course of study at an accredited college or university
- Two scholarships (\$6,000 each) for Seafarers interested in pursuing two-year courses of study at a community college or vocational school

Dependents Scholarships

Five scholarships designated for dependents:

- A total of five scholarships, each worth \$20,000, are being offered to dependents (spouses included) to attend four-year courses of study at accredited colleges or universities. Dependents and spouses of active as well as retired Seafarers may apply.

To take advantage of these opportunities, clip, complete and mail the form below, or visit www.seafarers.org, go to the Member Benefits tab, navigate to the Seafarers Health and Benefits Plan menu and select Scholarship Booklet (PDF).

Please send me the 2017 SHBP Scholarship Program Booklet which contains eligibility information, procedures for applying and a copy of the application form.

Name.....

Street Address.....

City, State, Zip Code.....

Telephone Number ()

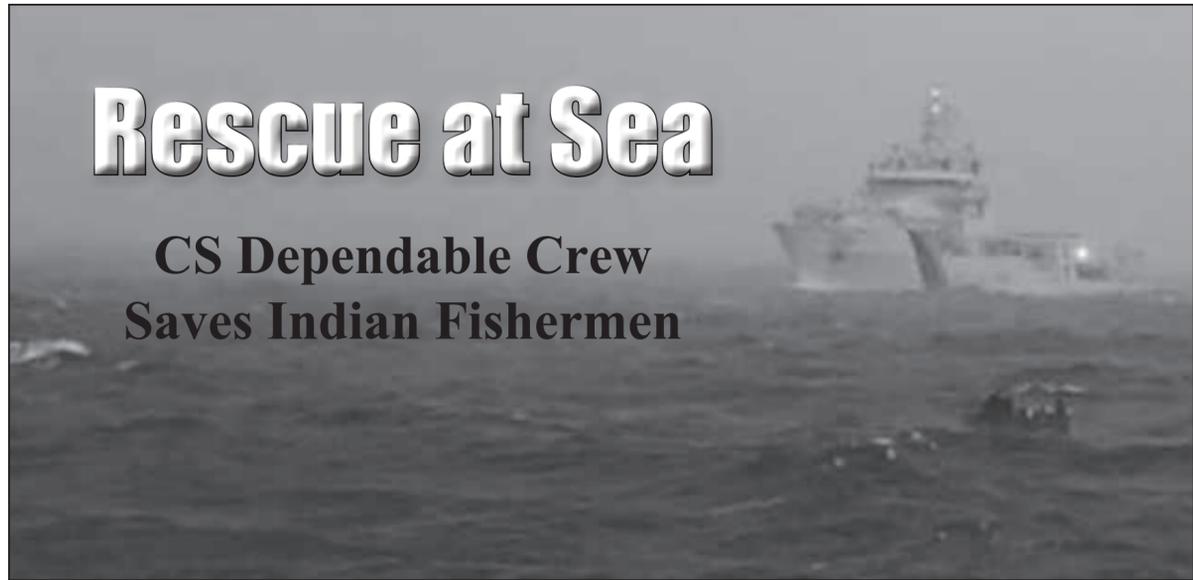
This application is for: Self Dependent

Mail this completed form to: Scholarship Program, Seafarers Health and Benefits Plan, 5201 Auth Way, Camp Springs, MD 20746

11/16

Rescue at Sea

CS Dependable Crew Saves Indian Fishermen



The Indian Coast Guard vessel CG 201 is visible in the background, with another rescue boat in the foreground.

Editor's note: Special thanks to the Dependable's master, Capt. Yann Durieux, who provided the photos and details of the rescue.

The Brotherhood of the Sea came through again on Sept. 17 when the crew of the SIU-contracted *CS Dependable* saved the lives of 14 fishermen while travelling between two work sites off the Maharashtra Coast near Mumbai, India. The fishermen were clinging to floating debris – all that was left of their sunken vessel – when the Tyco-owned-and-operated cable ship arrived on the scene.

The crew sprang into action, spread out on every deck to keep watch on the distressed fishermen as the deck department and security team worked to bring the imperiled men aboard. All hands were busy, tossing life rings to survivors in the water or manning radios to communicate the positions of the fishermen. Visibility was low due to rain, but a group effort resulted in the rescue of 14 men, with another man being rescued by the Indian Coast Guard.

The SIU crew included Bosun **Jerry Dingal**, MDR **Jack Ford**, ABs **Alejandro Cusi**, **Joel Saul**, **Ronnie Rodriguez**, **Mohamed Saleh**, **Arsenio Breccio** and **Michael Pockat**, GVA **Peter Mensah**, Chief Steward **Robert Haggerty**, Chief Cook **Joel Ramos**, SA **Joselito Vicente**, OMU **Nasser Ahmed**, **Kasim Ahmed** and **Leonardo Cortez**, and Wiper **Salah Ahmed**.

The licensed crew is represented by the Seafarers-affiliated American Maritime Officers: Captain Yann Durieux, Chief Mate Tristan Schulz, First Officer Erick Amicosa, Third Mates Allison Lashmet, Michael Squillacote and John Locks, Chief Engineer Curtis King, First Engineer Robert Carlstad, Second Engineers Isabelo Fernandez and John Crawford, and Third Engineers Ryan Mulligan, Matthew Pastuszak and Gregory Thomas.

The rescued crew was attended to by the medical team on the cable highway, as mattresses were placed there to allow the fishermen to stay together. The men were given food and dry clothes, before getting some much-needed rest. As the weather continued to prove challenging, the men were transferred to the Indian Coast Guard seven at a time. Despite the rough seas, all 14 men were safely transferred, and the *CS Dependable* was released by the Coast Guard.

Capt. Durieux, praised the efforts of his crew: "The value of this crew was in its attitude and commitment to this rescue. Some in very visible ways like fishing men out of the water or throwing life rings to men in the water and others in subtle ways, like bringing food to the victims, helping them up the gangway, tending to their needs, etc. I truly am proud to have worked with all persons aboard. They should all be commended for their efforts."

The Indian Coast Guard also commended the work of the crew of the *CS De-*



Second Engineer Crawford and Wiper Ahmed throw life rings to the imperiled fishermen.



AB Mohammed Saleh and a security team member keep an eye on those still in the water from the gangway, while others also continue assisting with the rescue.



A father and son swim towards safety. In photo below, a survivor clings to a life ring as it is hauled in by the crew of the *CS Dependable*.



A makeshift sick bay is set up aboard the ship. In the inset photo, GVA Peter Mensah, MDR Jack Ford and ROV Carl Stones help the fishermen recovering on the cable highway.



Pictured from left to right are AB Mohamed Saleh, GVA Peter Mensah, AB Michael Pockat, AB Arsenio Breccio, AB Ronnie Rodriguez, AB Joel Saul, MDR Jack Ford, Bosun Jerry Dingal and AB Alejandro Cusi.



Crew members share a meal with the rescued fishermen.



From left to right: Chief Cook Joel Ramos, Chief Steward Robert Haggerty and SA Joselito Vicente

pendable, in a letter to the captain. "With deep appreciation, I am writing this missive to bring to the notice of all concerned regarding the role played by your esteemed crew, with you at the helm, in saving 14 precious lives at sea," the letter read. "The proactive and timely response of *Dependable*, which aided in the rescue operation of the crew of distressed Fishing boat *Om Sai Datta*, is in accordance with the best traditions of mariners and well appreciated."

The *CS Dependable* was built in 2002. It has a length of 459 feet and a cable capacity of 6,025 tons. It can carry a crew of 80 at a speed of 13 knots, and is part of the Tyco Telecommunications cable-laying fleet.

Tyco augments its fleet with a large collection of technologically advanced submersible vehicles.



The entire crew of the *CS Dependable* gathers for a post-rescue photo.



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11/16

November & December Membership Meetings

Piney Point.....	Monday: November 7, December 5
Algonac.....	*Monday: November 14, Friday: December 9
Baltimore.....	Thursday: November 10, December 8
Guam.....	Thursday: November 24, December 22
Honolulu.....	Friday: November 18, December 16
Houston.....	Monday: November 14, December 12
Jacksonville.....	Thursday: November 10, December 8
Joliet.....	Thursday: November 17, December 15
Mobile.....	Wednesday: November 16, December 14
New Orleans.....	Tuesday: November 15, December 13
Jersey City.....	Tuesday: November 8, December 6
Norfolk.....	Thursday: November 10, December 8
Oakland.....	Thursday: November 17, December 15
Philadelphia.....	Wednesday: November 9, December 7
Port Everglades.....	Thursday: November 17, December 15
San Juan.....	Thursday: November 10, December 8
St. Louis.....	Friday: November 18, December 16
Tacoma.....	Friday: November 25, December 23
Wilmington.....	Monday: November 21, December 19

*Algonac Change created by Veterans Day Holiday

Each port's meeting starts at 10:30 a.m.

Dispatchers' Report for Deep Sea

September 16, 2016 - October 15, 2016

Port	Total Registered			Total Shipped			Trip Reliefs	Registered on Beach		
	All Groups A	All Groups B	C	All Groups A	All Groups B	C		All Groups A	All Groups B	C
Deck Department										
Algonac	11	12	0	15	5	0	3	21	21	1
Anchorage	0	3	1	0	3	0	1	3	1	0
Baltimore	5	2	0	1	1	0	0	5	7	0
Fort Lauderdale	13	7	3	17	9	2	7	28	16	4
Guam	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0
Harvey	10	2	2	10	0	2	2	24	3	2
Honolulu	9	3	0	3	1	0	0	17	10	0
Houston	44	10	5	34	5	5	19	103	21	19
Jacksonville	42	15	8	29	10	5	8	73	28	13
Jersey City	36	10	2	34	7	0	11	67	25	7
Joliet	3	2	1	3	1	0	0	7	5	1
Mobile	11	3	1	9	4	1	4	16	5	2
Norfolk	20	11	5	12	9	2	3	35	31	4
Oakland	13	1	2	6	4	0	2	36	8	2
Philadelphia	4	4	0	2	3	0	0	8	5	0
Piney Point	1	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	4	0
Puerto Rico	1	2	0	2	3	0	3	9	7	0
Tacoma	32	9	3	22	4	2	6	71	13	7
St. Louis	3	1	2	1	0	1	0	5	1	2
Wilmington	16	12	4	14	7	3	6	36	20	14
TOTALS	276	114	39	216	77	23	75	568	235	78
Engine Department										
Algonac	4	6	0	3	5	0	0	6	4	1
Anchorage	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Baltimore	1	7	3	0	7	1	1	7	5	2
Fort Lauderdale	10	5	1	3	2	0	1	16	9	2
Guam	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Harvey	1	4	0	0	1	0	0	8	4	0
Honolulu	3	5	0	5	0	0	1	15	5	0
Houston	16	8	2	15	6	0	8	26	12	3
Jacksonville	15	14	1	13	10	0	4	34	20	2
Jersey City	14	8	1	7	4	0	5	24	14	3
Joliet	1	3	0	2	0	0	0	1	3	0
Mobile	3	4	0	2	0	0	1	11	8	3
Norfolk	12	11	2	12	6	0	1	19	14	3
Oakland	12	5	2	6	6	1	4	22	7	1
Philadelphia	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	1
Piney Point	0	4	1	0	2	1	0	3	4	0
Puerto Rico	1	2	0	1	3	0	0	5	5	0
Tacoma	14	12	2	14	7	0	6	19	15	5
St. Louis	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	3	2	0
Wilmington	16	13	0	8	7	0	6	30	14	6
TOTALS	129	114	15	92	67	3	38	255	149	33
Steward Department										
Algonac	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	5	2	0
Anchorage	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Baltimore	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	4	1	0
Fort Lauderdale	5	1	0	8	3	0	3	15	2	0
Guam	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
Harvey	4	1	0	1	0	0	2	10	1	0
Honolulu	16	0	1	6	0	0	1	24	2	1
Houston	14	4	0	11	2	0	4	28	9	0
Jacksonville	22	6	2	19	4	1	8	32	13	3
Jersey City	11	3	0	12	1	0	6	14	5	0
Joliet	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	1
Mobile	3	5	0	3	2	0	2	6	4	0
Norfolk	10	11	2	11	2	0	5	31	19	5
Oakland	19	5	1	16	3	0	5	37	9	1
Philadelphia	3	0	0	4	0	0	0	2	1	1
Piney Point	1	2	2	1	0	1	0	3	3	1
Puerto Rico	1	2	2	3	2	1	1	1	6	2
Tacoma	9	2	0	2	2	0	1	24	3	1
St. Louis	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	0
Wilmington	22	8	1	11	4	0	4	32	16	3
TOTALS	150	55	12	113	28	3	43	274	97	19
Entry Department										
Algonac	3	11	3	1	7	3	1	1	14	7
Anchorage	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
Baltimore	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0
Fort Lauderdale	0	3	4	0	0	3	1	1	6	5
Guam	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Harvey	0	2	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	3
Honolulu	0	7	8	0	0	4	0	2	16	10
Houston	2	8	5	3	4	2	2	10	20	15
Jacksonville	4	9	23	2	8	14	0	3	19	54
Jersey City	1	18	2	1	5	0	1	7	25	5
Joliet	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1
Mobile	0	2	3	0	0	1	0	2	2	3
Norfolk	0	14	6	0	5	7	2	0	31	14
Oakland	0	10	3	1	6	2	1	5	14	16
Philadelphia	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Piney Point	0	2	7	0	0	2	0	0	2	16
Puerto Rico	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0
Tacoma	5	5	2	2	9	4	2	9	18	13
St. Louis	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0
Wilmington	1	10	16	1	9	10	6	6	29	39
TOTALS	16	105	87	11	55	55	17	55	208	204
GRAND TOTAL:	571	388	153	432	227	84	173	1,152	689	334



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1640 Dauphin Island Pkwy, Mobile, AL 36605
 (251) 478-0916

NEW ORLEANS

3911 Lapalco Blvd., Harvey, LA 70058
 (504) 328-7545

NORFOLK

115 Third St., Norfolk, VA 23510
 (757) 622-1892

OAKLAND

1121 7th St., Oakland, CA 94607
 (510) 444-2360

PHILADELPHIA

2604 S. 4 St., Philadelphia, PA 19148
 (215) 336-3818

PINEY POINT

P.O. Box 75, Piney Point, MD 20674
 (301) 994-0010

PORT EVERGLADES

1221 S. Andrews Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316
 (954) 522-7984

SANTURCE

1057 Fernandez Juncos Ave., Stop 16
 Santurce, PR 00907
 (787) 721-4033

ST. LOUIS/ALTON

4581 Gravois Ave., St. Louis, MO 63116
 (314) 752-6500

TACOMA

3411 South Union Ave., Tacoma, WA 98409
 (253) 272-7774

WILMINGTON

510 N. Broad Ave., Wilmington, CA 90744
 (310) 549-4000



Inquiring Seafarer

This month's question was answered by Seafarers at the Jacksonville hall on Oct. 1, the day the union christened the El Faro memorial there.

Question: Where were you when you heard about the loss of the El Faro?



Carlos Olascoaga
Chief Steward

I was on the *Green Bay* in the Virgin Islands when I heard the news. The *El Faro* was headed to San Juan, while we were headed around the world, through the Strait of Gibraltar. I knew every person on the *El Faro*, so the loss really hit home for me.



Breon Lucas
Chief Steward

I was on the *Maersk Pittsburgh* in Spain. Initially, there was a slow reaction, and then I started getting phone calls, checking to see if I was okay. I didn't know for sure what had happened until Karen Shuford from the hall told me. I knew all those guys on the *El Faro*.



Brian Guiry
Bosun

I was on the *USNS Williams* in Saipan. I used to be a patrolman, and before then I shipped out of Jacksonville, so I knew all those guys. I shipped with some of those guys. It was devastating to me, and it's still devastating.



Allen Van Buren
Chief Cook

I was in Singapore, on the *APL Cyprine*. My chief cook at the time found out through Facebook, and then he told me. Then I started getting calls from home, checking on me, because I had just gotten off the *El Faro* on June 30.



Adam Bucalo
Chief Steward

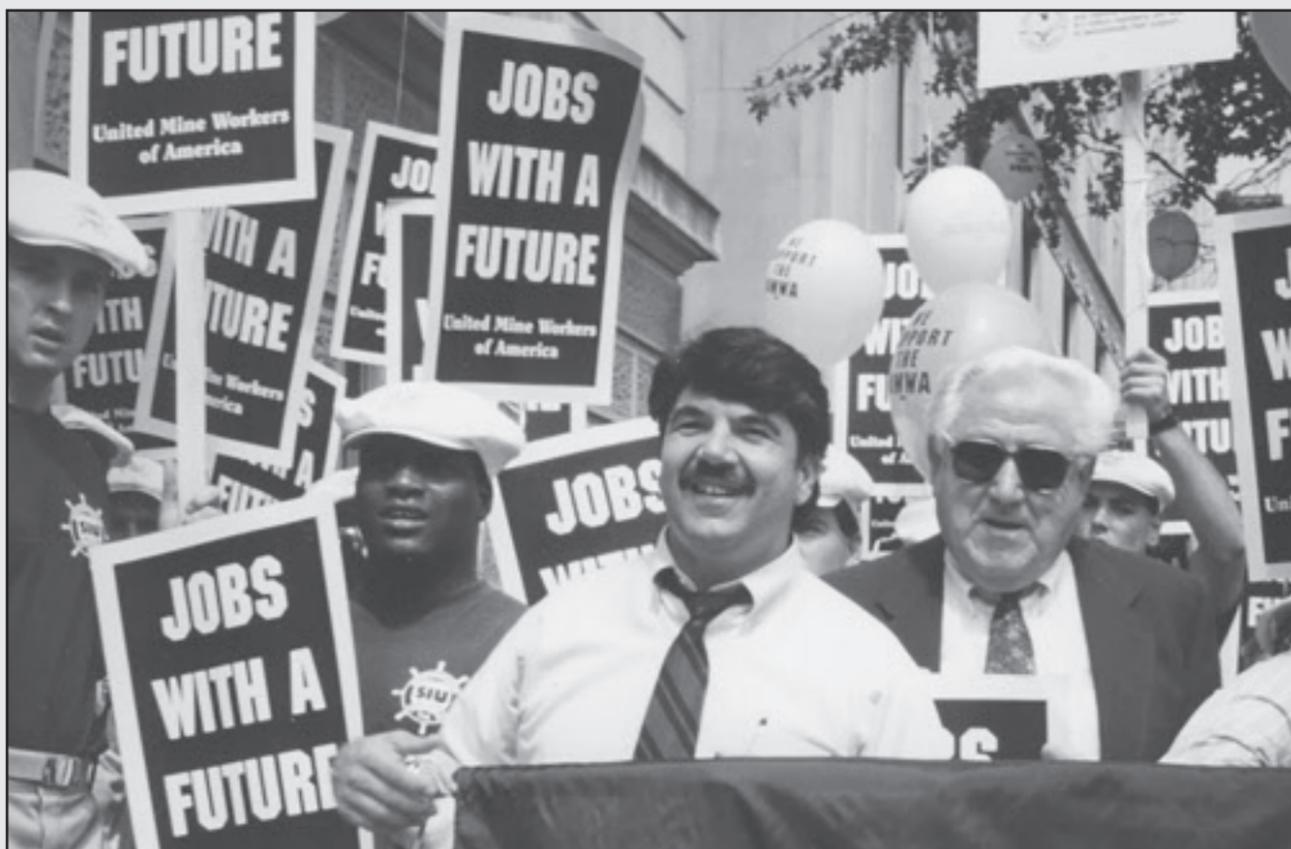
I was in Japan, on the *USNS Victorious*. I ship out of Jacksonville, and I sailed with the Chief Cook (*Lashawn Rivera*) and the Chief Steward (*Theodore Quammie*) before – they're great guys. The new lighthouse at the Jacksonville union hall serves as a reminder to carry the torch, and always keep the light on.



Jose R. Morales
Chief Steward

I was talking with OMU *German Solar* on the phone on the Thursday before they sailed, and he assured me that they were monitoring the storm. When I heard what had happened to my friend, I started coming to the hall regularly and getting more information. I knew all those guys.

Pic From The Past



Recently, the SIU turned out for a rally in the nation's capital in support of our brothers and sisters from the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA). Solidarity between the SIU and UMWA is nothing new, as reflected by this 1993 snapshot of another Mine Workers rally in Washington, D.C. Front and center is then-UMWA President Rich Trumka, currently the president of the AFL-CIO. Trainees from the SIU-affiliated Paul Hall Center (left) were part of a sizable SIU contingent.

If anyone has a vintage union-related photograph he or she would like to share with other Seafarers LOG readers, please send it to the Seafarers LOG, 5201 Auth Way, Camp Springs, MD 20746. Photographs will be returned, if so requested. High-resolution digital images may be sent to webmaster@seafarers.org

Welcome Ashore

Each month, the Seafarers LOG pays tribute to the SIU members who have devoted their working lives to sailing aboard U.S.-flag vessels on the deep seas, inland waterways or Great Lakes. Listed below are brief biographical sketches of those members who recently retired from the union. The brothers and sisters of the SIU thank those members for a job well done and wish them happiness and good health in the days ahead.



DEEP SEA

BONNIE AGNO

Brother Bonnie Agno, 71, first donned the SIU colors in 2001 when the NMU merged into the Seafarers International Union. He was a steward department member. Brother Agno upgraded in 2001 at the Piney Point school. He last worked on the *Green Ridge*. Brother Agno lives in San Pablo, California.

LLOYD BETHEA

Brother Lloyd Bethea, 71, became an SIU member in 2001. He sailed in the engine department, most recently aboard the *Benavidez*. Brother Bethea attended classes in 2001 and 2007 at the maritime training center in Piney Point, Maryland. He was born in Jersey City, New Jersey, and now calls Houston home.

PAULA BROOKSHIRE

Sister Paula Brookshire, 68, joined the SIU in 2000. Her first trip was aboard the *Patriot*. Sister Brookshire sailed in the steward department. She upgraded on three occasions at the Paul Hall Center for Maritime Training and Education in Piney Point, Maryland. Sister Brookshire last worked on the *USNS Invincible*. She was born in Santa Monica, California, and now resides in Clyde, North Carolina.



GENE BUTSON

Brother Gene Butson, 65, started sailing with the union in 1996. He originally worked aboard the *USNS Silas Bent*. Brother Butson enhanced his skills on two occasions at the Piney Point school. The deck department member last shipped on the *Alaskan Legend*. Brother Butson lives in Twentynine Palms, California.



RAMON CASTRO

Brother Ramon Castro, 63, became a union member in 1977. He initially worked on the *Point Julie*. Brother Castro sailed in the deck department. In 1996 and 1998, he took advantage of educational opportunities available at the maritime training center in Piney Point, Maryland. Brother Castro's most recent voyage was aboard the *Evergreen State*. He is a native of Honduras and now makes his home in New Orleans.

PASQUALE DIBIASE

Brother Pasquale DiBiase, 61, joined the SIU ranks in 1982. He



originally sailed on the *Constitution*. Brother DiBiase shipped in the engine department. He upgraded twice at the Seafarers-affiliated school in southern Maryland. Brother DiBiase's most recent ship was the *Green Point*. He is a resident of Portland, Maine.

FRANCISCO DIEGO

Brother Francisco Diego, 65, began sailing with the union in 1997. He was first employed on the *Cleveland*. Brother Diego was born in Honduras. He enhanced his skills in 2001 at the Paul Hall Center. The deck department member most recently worked aboard the *Maersk Georgia*. Brother Diego makes his home in Bronx, New York.

WILLIAM DRUMMOND

Brother William Drummond, 60, joined the union in 1978. His first ship was the *Santa Magdalena*; his most recent, the *Philadelphia Express*. Brother Drummond worked mainly in the engine department. He upgraded in 2002 at the Piney Point school. Brother Drummond resides in Jacksonville, Florida.

MOSTAFA FAHMY

Brother Mostafa Fahmy, 65, signed on with the Seafarers in 1980. His first trip was on the *Brooks Range*. In 1991 and 2001, Brother Fahmy took advantage of educational opportunities available at the maritime training center in Piney Point, Maryland. He was born in Egypt and sailed in the engine department. Brother Fahmy last sailed aboard the *Liberty Star*. He lives in Brooklyn, New York.



SCOTT HEGINBOTHAM

Brother Scott Heginbotham, 55, began shipping with the SIU in 1991. He initially worked on the *Pfc William Baugh*. Brother Heginbotham, who sailed in the deck department, enhanced his skills often at the Piney Point school. The New York native most recently shipped aboard the *Maersk Hartford*. Brother Heginbotham now calls League City, Texas, home.



RICHARD HINDSON

Brother Richard Hindson, 71, joined the Seafarers in 1993. He first sailed on the *Atlantic*, as a member of the deck department.



Brother Hindson upgraded frequently at the union-affiliated school in Piney Point. He last shipped aboard the *Yorktown Express*. Brother Hindson is a resident of South Padre Island, Texas.

CHRISTOPHER HYATTE

Brother Christopher Hyatte, 65, signed on with the SIU in 1989. His first trip was on the *Independence*. Brother Hyatte attended classes on three occasions at the Paul Hall Center. He worked in the steward department, most recently aboard the *Liberty Promise*. Brother Hyatte resides in Honolulu.



ANTENOR LINARES

Brother Antenor Linares, 72, started sailing with the Seafarers in 1981. He originally sailed aboard the *Sugar Islander*. Brother Linares worked in all three shipboard departments. He last shipped on the *Elizabeth* and now makes his home in Elizabeth, New Jersey.



JAMES OTANI

Brother James Otani, 77, joined the union in 1982. He initially worked aboard the *Constitution*. A member of the steward department, Brother Otani's most recent ship was the *Independence*. He calls Hilo, Hawaii, home.



RICHARD SZABO

Brother Richard Szabo, 71, became a Seafarer in 2001. His first trip was on the *Samuel L. Cobb*. Brother Szabo upgraded twice at the Paul Hall Center and worked in the deck department. His last vessel was the *Overseas Boston*. Brother Szabo lives in Port Angeles, Washington.



JIMMY WILLIAMS

Brother Jimmy Williams, 66, first donned the SIU colors in 1983. He originally sailed on the *Santa Maria*. Brother Williams enhanced his skills frequently



at the Piney Point school. He was a member of the steward department and last shipped aboard the *Korea*. Brother Williams is a resident of Jacksonville, Texas.

DAVID ZUREK

Brother David Zurek, 65, signed on with SIU in 1989. He was initially employed on the *Julius Hammer*. Brother Zurek was a member of the deck department. He often took advantage of educational opportunities available at the Seafarers-affiliated school in southern Maryland. Brother Zurek's most recent voyage was aboard the *Courage*. He resides in Orland, Maine.



INLAND

ANTONIO AMALFITANO

Brother Antonio Amalfitano, 65, started shipping with the union in 1984. He mainly sailed aboard vessels operated by Crowley Towing & Transportation of Wilmington. Brother Amalfitano was born in Italy. The deck department member makes his home in San Pedro, California.



JOHN ASHLEY

Brother John Ashley, 62, joined the SIU in 2003. He originally shipped aboard the *Green Mountain State*. Brother Ashley was a member of the engine department. He upgraded in 2014 at the Piney Point school. Brother Ashley most recently worked aboard the *Vision*. He lives in Adna, Washington.

MAGDALENO CASTILLO

Brother Magdaleno Castillo, 64, started his SIU career in 2002. He primarily worked aboard American Marine Corporation vessels. Brother Castillo sailed in the engine department. He is a resident of Las Vegas.



ELIOT DALTON

Brother Eliot Dalton, 64, first donned the SIU colors in 1973. He worked with Interstate Oil Transportation for the duration of his career. The deck department member upgraded twice at the union-affiliated school. Brother Dalton calls Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, home.



CHARLES FOX

Brother Charles Fox, 65, joined the union in 1989. He originally shipped with Moran Towing of Philadelphia. Brother Fox worked in the deck department. He was last employed with Crowley Liner Service. Brother Fox makes his home in Mount Royal, New Jersey.



LARRY PIERCE

Brother Larry Pierce, 66, started shipping with the SIU in 1977. He first worked with Dixie Carriers. Brother Pierce sailed in the deck department. His final trip was with G&H Towing. Brother Pierce retired to San Leon, Texas.

LAWRENCE ROTH

Brother Lawrence Roth, 58, began his seafaring career in 1978. He initially shipped with Northern Towing Company. Brother Roth sailed as a member of the deck department. In 1993, he took advantage of educational opportunities available at the union-affiliated school in Maryland. Brother Roth's most recent trip was with G&H Towing. He settled in Houston.



NATIONAL

MARITIME UNION

STERLING ADAMS

Brother Sterling Adams, 61, signed on with the NMU in 1977, prior to the 2001 merger with the SIU. He resides in Minneapolis, Minnesota.



WILLIAM SHANNON

Brother William Shannon, 65, began his SIU career in 2001 when the NMU merged into the Seafarers International Union. He was a steward department member. Brother Shannon lives in Rocky Face, Georgia.



Final Departures



DEEP SEA

STEPHEN AKENS

Brother Stephen Akens, 89, died June 22. He joined the Marine Cooks and Stewards in 1978 in the port of San Francisco, the same year that union merged into the SIU. Brother Akens was born in Tennessee and shipped as a member of the steward department. He made his home in California.

JOSE DECASTRO

Brother Jose DeCastro, 68, passed away February 27. He became a union member in 2005. Brother DeCastro was born in the Philippines. The steward department member called Guam home.

ROBERT GUERRERO

Pensioner Robert Guerrero, 90, died July 4. Born in Colorado, he started shipping with the Seafarers in 1946. Brother Guerrero initially worked on a Delta Steamship Lines Inc. vessel. He sailed in the deck department. Brother Guerrero last shipped aboard the *Bay Ridge*. He became a pensioner in 1986 and lived in California.

JUNIOR HUGHES

Brother Junior Hughes, 90, passed away August 2. He signed on with the Marine Cooks and Stewards in 1971. Brother Hughes was a native of South Carolina. He worked in the steward department and lived in Mullins, South Carolina.

GEORGE KOULOURIS

Pensioner George Koulouris, 81, died July 7. He began his seafaring career in 1990. Brother Koulouris' first ship was the *Cape Carthage*; his last was the *Producer*. He sailed in the steward department. Brother Koulouris began collecting his pension in 2001. He was born in Greece, and most recently resided in Florida.



EDRICK LOPEZ

Brother Edrick Lopez, 27, passed away June 4. He began sailing with the SIU in 2014. Brother Lopez initially sailed aboard the *Sgt. William R. Button*. He worked in the steward department. Brother Lopez's final vessel was the *Perla Del Caribe*. He was a native of Puerto Rico.

MARIO LOPEZ

Pensioner Mario Lopez, 71, died July 6. He joined the SIU in 1966. Brother Lopez was born in Guatemala. He originally sailed on the *Maiden Creek*. Brother Lopez concluded his seafaring career aboard the *Astrachem*. A member of the engine department, he started collecting his retirement compensation in 2010. Brother Lopez continued to call Guatemala home.



HARRY PETERSEN

Pensioner Harry Petersen, 70, passed away July 6. Brother Petersen started sailing with the Seafarers in 1967. He was originally employed with Pringle Barge Lines. A member of the steward department, Brother Petersen last shipped on the *Sgt. Matej Kocak*. He went on pension in 2011 and was a resident of Milwaukee.



JAMES RICHARDSON

Brother James Richardson, 76, died July 8. He became a union member in 1968 in San Francisco. Brother Richardson sailed in the steward department, most recently aboard the *Cape Mohican* in 1998. He was born in Mississippi and called Henderson, Nevada, home.

MARILYN SANTOS

Pensioner Marilyn Santos, 76, passed away June 29. She began her SIU career in 1989. Sister Santos was a steward department member. She primarily worked aboard the *Independence*. Sister Santos started collecting her pension in 2004 and made her home in Kaneohe, Hawaii.



THOMAS SWANSON

Pensioner Thomas Swanson, 74, died July 26. He signed on with the Seafarers in 2001 when the NMU merged into the Seafarers International Union. Brother Swanson was born in



New York and shipped as a deck department member. He was last employed on the *Safmarine Ngami*. Brother Swanson lived in Florida.

GEORGE TELEGADAS

Pensioner George Telegadas, 83, passed away July 2. He became a union member in 1961. Brother Telegadas initially sailed in the deep sea division aboard the *St. Titan*. Prior to his retirement in 1978, he worked with JW Wescott. Brother Telegadas was a resident of Huntington Beach, California.



INLAND

FRANCIS O'BRIEN

Brother Francis O'Brien, 89, died June 14. He joined the SIU in 1947. Brother O'Brien was born in New York. Among other vessels, he sailed aboard the *Suzanne*. Brother O'Brien settled in Spring Hill, Florida.



JOHN RICHARD

Pensioner John Richard, 80, passed away July 8. Brother Richard signed on with the union in 1963. He was employed with HVIDE Marine for the duration of his career. Brother Richard was a deck department member. He began receiving his pension in 1994 and lived in Orange, Texas.

NATIONAL MARITIME UNION

RICARDO AQUINO

Pensioner Ricardo Aquino, 90, passed away July 17. Brother Aquino was born in Puerto Rico. He went on pension in 1982 and called Bronx, New York, home.

WILLIE BELL

Pensioner Willie Bell, 87, died July 17. Born in Maryland, Brother Bell started receiving his pension in 1984. He resided in Pikesville, Maryland.

BRIGIDO COFRESI

Pensioner Brigido Cofresi, 96, passed away June 2. He was a native of Puerto Rico. Brother

Cofresi began collecting his pension in 1968. He lived in Palm City, Florida.

JACK DELANO

Pensioner Jack Delano, 91, died June 3. Brother Delano was born in California. He went on pension in 1987 and made his home in Santa Barbara, California.

CLINE GLIDDEN

Pensioner Cline Glidden, 91, passed away June 27. Born in the West Bay, Cayman Islands, Brother Glidden started receiving his pension in 1982. He was a resident of Grand Cayman.

PABLO GONZALEZ

Pensioner Pablo Gonzalez, 87, died June 1. Brother Gonzalez was born in Lares, Puerto Rico. He retired in 1986 and continued to reside in Puerto Rico.

BERNARD GRAZIANO

Pensioner Bernard Graziano, 91, passed away July 4. The Hoboken, New Jersey, native became a pensioner in 1987. Brother Graziano called Pompano Beach, Florida, home.

DARDEN HUDGINS

Pensioner Darden Hudgins, 78, died June 11. Brother Hudgins was born in Virginia. He started collecting his pension in 2003 and was a resident of Mathews, Virginia.

GEORGE HYNES

Pensioner George Hynes, 92, passed away June 16. A native of Canada, he became a pensioner in 1986. Brother Hynes made his home in Texas.

LEE KONG

Pensioner Lee Kong, 95, died June 12. He was born in China. Brother Kong started collecting his retirement pay in 1970 and lived in New York.

ROBERT MAUGER

Pensioner Robert Mauger, 87, passed away June 13. The Indiana native retired in 1992. Brother Mauger called Leesburg, Florida, home.

MELVIN MCCRAY

Pensioner Melvin McCray, 84, died July 18. He was born in Virginia. Brother McCray began receiving his pension in 1973. He was a resident of Norfolk, Virginia.

FRANCISCO MOLINA

Pensioner Francisco Molina,

87, passed away June 20. A native of Puerto Rico, Brother Molina went on pension in 1988. He resided in Jacksonville, Florida.

ANTONIO RADILLO

Pensioner Antonio Radillo, 88, died June 18. The Honduras-born mariner began receiving compensation for his retirement in 1994. Brother Radillo made his home in St. James, New York.

HERMAN SCYPION

Pensioner Herman Scypion, 82, passed away June 14. He was born in Port Arthur, Texas, and became a pensioner in 1991. Brother Scypion continued to live in Texas.

KARL STOCK

Pensioner Karl Stock, 90, died June 2. Brother Stock was a native of Home, Kansas. He went on pension in 1976 and settled in Pasadena, Texas.

JOSEPHINE VENTURA

Pensioner Josephine Ventura, 92, passed away June 21. Sister Ventura was born in Ravena, New York. She started collecting her retirement pay in 1979 and called Greenacres, Florida, home.

WILLIAM WAGNER

Pensioner William Wagner, 90, died June 24. The Alabama native became a pensioner in 1995. He was a resident of Mobile.

Name	Age	DOD
Barton, Thomas	92	July 18
Cabrera, Miguel	94	July 27
Gomez, Joseph	94	July 6
Hernandez, Ben	91	May 3
Hurd, Harold	79	June 17
Kambar, William	91	May 29
King, Robert	85	May 15
Kramer, Samuel	78	June 25
Najar, Paul	89	June 10
Petrino, Robert	84	June 7
Robles, Alejandro	98	July 11
Ryce, Byron	72	July 2
Silva, Israel	90	June 4
Taylor, Arthur	93	July 8
Thomas, Carlos	74	July 18
Valente, Santiago	90	July 27
Veloso, Antonio	92	June 16
Walker, Leon	92	July 18



Digest of Shipboard Union Meetings

The Seafarers LOG attempts to print as many digests of union shipboard minutes as possible. On occasion, because of space limitations, some will be omitted.

Ships' minutes first are reviewed by the union's contract department. Those issues requiring attention or resolution are addressed by the union upon receipt of the ships' minutes. The minutes are then forwarded to the Seafarers LOG for publication.

MAERSK IDAHO (Maersk Line, Limited), July 23 – Chairman **Ronald Mena**, Secretary **Scott A. Opsahl**, Educational Director **David Vega**, Steward Delegate **Fernando Lopez**. Chairman reported smooth sailing and thanked crew for their hard work. He reminded mariners to ask the captain for a completed tour of duty form. Secretary expressed gratitude for crew members helping keep lounge and mess hall clean. They were urged to leave rooms clean and supplied with fresh linen for reliefs. Educational director advised members to check expiration dates on documents and start renewal process early. He also advised mariners to take advantage of upgrading opportunities available at the Paul Hall Center in Piney Point, Maryland. Treasurer stated \$3,000 in ship's fund. No beefs or disputed OT reported. Suggestion was made to reduce the number of physicals required and increase optical allowance. Requests were made for new chairs, mattresses and refrigerator. All aboard thanked the steward department for a job well done. Next ports: Newark, New Jersey and Baltimore.

MAERSK KINLOSS (Maersk Line, Limited), July 16 – Chairman **Ferdinand Gongora**, Secretary **Juan Vallejo**, Educational Director **Tijani Rashid**, Deck Delegate **Peter Wojcikowski**, Engine Delegate **Reynaldo Lacayo**, Steward Delegate **Stanford Drakes**. Bosun talked about importance of safety aboard vessel and urged mariners to keep documents up-to-date. Secretary expressed gratitude to SIU President Michael Sacco and Executive Vice President Augie Tellez for great job defending the Jones Act. Educational director advised mariners to enhance skills at maritime training center in Piney Point, Maryland. No beefs or disputed OT reported. Motion was made to increase pension benefits. Steward department was thanked for excellent food.

USNS FRED STOCKHAM (Crowley), July 17 – Chairman **Munasser H. Ahmed**, Secretary **Harlan G. Alonzo**, Educational Director **Randy Slue**, Deck Delegate **George Phillips**, Steward Delegate **Shanita Flachbart**. Chairman advised all aboard to secure personal property. Secretary gave kudos to fellow crew members for successful exercise in San Diego. Educational director urged mariners to keep documents up-to-date and reviewed requirements for STCW Basic Training when renewing merchant mariner credential after January 1, 2017. Seafarers were also advised to upgrade skills at the Piney Point school. No beefs or disputed OT reported. It was reported that new TV had been purchased for crew members. Next port: Jacksonville, Florida.

JEAN ANNE (TOTE), August 21 – Chairman **Noel R. Camacho**, Secretary **Ingra L. Maddox**, Educational Director **Grayson W. Ross**, Deck Delegate **Dennis Bracamonte**, Engine Delegate **Samir Tarsha**, Steward Delegate **Adele Williams**. Chairman reported smooth voyage with no injuries. Secretary discussed new BT requirements and clarified that as long as your MMC is good past January 1, 2017 you can continue to sail without getting a new BT before your current MMC expires – but you must have a new BT to renew it. Educational director urged members to enhance their skills at the Paul Hall Center to excel in their positions. He also mentioned there has been an issue with lashing gear in holds being a potential trip hazard. He advised

With Seafarers in Hawaii



Seafarers aboard the *Marjorie C*



Chief Cook Frank Ramones, Recertified Steward Gerald Figg, ACU David Hilario
Manoa



Chief Cook Benjamin Feria Jr., OBS Rene Caballero, Chief Steward Raul Napoles
Maui



ACU Ruben Siclot, Chief Cook Marcelo Rodriguez
Manulani



OS Mark Baclayon picks up his full B book at the union hall.

members to report loose lashings to bosun or chief mate. No beefs or disputed OT reported. Discussion was held regarding importance of registering to vote and signing up for absentee ballot. Recommendation was made to increase vacation benefits. It was noted that money from recycling was used to purchase movies for crew use.

MAERSK CAROLINA (Maersk Line, Limited), August 21 – Chairman **Koksal Demir**, Secretary **Alexander Banky III**, Educational Director **Kevin M. Cooper**, Engine Delegate **James Sieger**. Under old business, it was mentioned that there's still some unresolved disputed OT involving deck and steward departments. Chairman reported safe trip and announced upcoming payoff in Norfolk, Virginia. Secretary reminded everyone to vote in general election and also

contribute to SPAD, the union's voluntary political action fund, because it works. Educational director encouraged fellow mariners to take advantage of upgrading opportunities at union-affiliated school in Piney Point, Maryland. No new beefs or disputed OT reported. Crew noted current issue of *Seafarers LOG* is available online (as are back issues). They discussed efforts to recruit new mariners and offered candid assessments of some of the challenges, including requirements for documentation and numerous physical exams. Crew thanked steward department for good meals. They listed many suggestions for the next contract and (separately) proposed changes to the medical, pension, and vacation plans.

MAERSK KENTUCKY (Maersk Line, Limited), August 28 – Chairman **Albert C. Williams**, Secretary

Emmanuel F. Laureta, Educational Director **Kareim T. Wright**, Deck Delegate **Aretta Jones**, Engine Delegate **Arnold Williams**, Steward Delegate **Teresito Reyes**. Chairman thanked all departments for working safely. Secretary encouraged fellow members to upgrade at Paul Hall Center. Educational director reminded everyone to keep documents and physicals current. No beefs or disputed OT reported by deck or engine delegates; steward delegate reported disputed OT. Crew asked for increase in vacation benefits. They thanked galley gang for job well done. Next port: Houston.

OVERSEAS NIKISKI (OSG), August 8 – Chairman **Aristeo M. Padua**, Secretary **Richard B. Sanderson**, Educational Director **Benjamin E. Matthews**, Deck Delegate **Obaid Ali**, Steward Delegate **Jason Beckford**. Chairman reported every-

thing running smoothly. Secretary discussed improved dental benefits, news of which was well-received by crew. Educational director encouraged everyone to upgrade and reminded them to keep all documents and paperwork up-to-date. No beefs or disputed OT reported. Chief Cook Beckford was thanked for outstanding food.

YORKTOWN EXPRESS (Crowley), August 29 – Chairman **Michael D. Ratigan**, Secretary **Jeffrey J. Badua**, Educational Director **James W. Demouy**. Chairman encouraged crew to read the *LOG*, upgrade, and keep all documents current. No beefs or disputed OT reported. Crew was encouraged to ask questions if they have any issues. They made suggestions pertaining to shuttles, retirement benefits and STCW Basic Training. Steward department was thanked for excellent trip.

Letters may be edited for conciseness and clarity. Submissions may be mailed to 5201 Auth Way, Camp Springs, MD 20746 or e-mailed to webmaster@seafarers.org.

MARAD Authorizes Awarding of the Marine Expeditionary Medal for Somalia Operations

Editor's note: The following news release was issued by the Maritime Administration.

In keeping with its tradition of honoring the men and women of the U.S. Merchant Marine, the Maritime Administration (MARAD) has authorized award of the Merchant Marine Expeditionary Medal (MEM) for service aboard U.S.-flag vessels in support of Operations Restore Hope and United Shield and related operations in Somalia from December 5, 1992 to March 31, 1995.

Under the authority of 46 U.S.C. 51901, the Secretary of Transportation has the authority to establish and award "... a decoration or medal to an individual for service ... during operations by the Armed Forces of the United States outside the continental United States under conditions of danger to life and property." The MEM was created under this authority as a multi-purpose award to recognize the contributions of U.S. Merchant Mariners under conditions, and in times of, national conflict or emergency. The medal has been previously awarded for merchant marine service in Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm, as well as service in support of Operations Enduring Freedom/Iraqi Freedom.

To be eligible for award of the MEM for Somalia service, civilian U.S. Merchant Mariners would have to have been employed on U.S.-flag vessels actually engaged in direct support of Operations Restore Hope and United Shield and related operations. "Direct support"



The Merchant Marine Expeditionary Medal

includes, but is not limited to, delivery of cargo and supplies for use by deployed United States military, Allied and United Nations (UN) forces during the above operations in Somalia, as well as support for any associated humanitarian cargo and personnel movements, to and from the Port of Mogadishu and/or other Somalia port facilities utilized for support of operations during the period cited. It also includes any re-supply of U.S. Navy and Allied ships in Somalia's national and proximate waters engaged in direct support of the above operations during the stated period.

For purposes of awarding the MEM to mariners, MARAD designated the Area of Operations cited for award to U.S. military

personnel of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for direct support of UN operations during Operations Restore Hope and United Shield. This area, to be used as a point of reference in awarding the MEM, extends from approximately 02 degrees Latitude North, to 3-30 degrees Latitude North, and from approximately 45 degrees Longitude East to 63 degrees Longitude East. However, this definition is intended to cover some, but not all of the instances of, direct support to United States and United Nations operations in Somalia.

Civilian U. S. Merchant Marine applicants who seek the medal but have not performed the work described above must explain in their applications the merchant mariner work they performed and why it constituted "direct support." Such applications will be evaluated as to whether the work described provides an alternate basis for direct support. Personnel aboard U.S.-flag commercial vessels sailing in the designated area of hostilities but not rendering "direct support" would not be eligible for this award.

In order to validate their service, mariners seeking award of the MEM for Somalia must submit a copy of their Certificate of Discharge in foreign ocean going waters to MARAD. The Certificate of Discharge time period must be between December 5, 1992 and March 31, 1995. The application form for a Certificate of Discharge (Form CG-718A), may be downloaded from the US Coast Guard website at <https://www.uscg.mil/forms>.

Retiree Has Fond Memories, Still Sports Strong SIU Pride

Dear Union Brothers:

I am retired Seafarer Matthew (Matt) Carroll, C1054. My last ship was the *Sea-Land Defender* in 1984. I have been enjoying my SIU pension since 2009. On the beach I have been a shopkeeper and zookeeper, plant operator and politico, to name just a few.

I am proud of my service on ships contracted with the SIU, one of the few unions that still believes in the brotherhood of workers everywhere, and backs this belief with actions.

When participating in my city's Cesar Chavez Day activities, I remind everyone of the SIU's role in supporting his mission. I have run for mayor of El Paso and served on many city boards and commissions. I currently work with Congressman Beto O'Rourke (D-Texas), a champion of veterans' issues, promoting the creation of a monument which would preserve a key section of the mountain overlooking El Paso.

Former shipmates probably remember me for my frugality and skill at picking up languages to quickly blend into local life in every port of call. I would welcome correspondence from both former shipmates and currently active Seafarers.

I appreciate getting the *Seafarers LOG* in the mail. It keeps me in touch with an industry that has changed so much since my seagoing days. I am even more impressed by the evolution of our membership into the highly skilled and dedicated professionals of today.

Even as a retiree living in a remote corner of a blood-red state, I can be an advocate of the SIU and the principles of organized labor.

Fraternally yours,
Matt Carroll
1011 N. Saint Vrain St.
El Paso, TX 79902-4510

Know Your Rights

FINANCIAL REPORTS. The Constitution of the SIU Atlantic, Gulf, Lakes and Inland Waters District/NMU makes specific provision for safeguarding the membership's money and union finances. The constitution requires a detailed audit by certified public accountants every year, which is to be submitted to the membership by the secretary-treasurer. A yearly finance committee of rank-and-file members, elected by the membership, each year examines the finances of the union and reports fully their findings and recommendations. Members of this committee may make dissenting reports, specific recommendations and separate findings.

TRUST FUNDS. All trust funds of the SIU Atlantic, Gulf, Lakes and Inland Waters are administered in accordance with the provisions of various trust fund agreements. All these agreements specify that the trustees in charge of these funds shall equally consist of union and management representatives and their alternates. All expenditures and disbursements of trust funds are made only upon approval by a majority of the trustees. All trust fund financial records are available at the headquarters of the various trust funds.

SHIPPING RIGHTS. A member's shipping rights and seniority are protected exclusively by contracts between the union and the employers. Members should get to know their shipping rights. Copies of these contracts are posted and available in all union halls. If members believe there have been violations of their shipping or seniority rights as contained in the contracts between the union and the employers, they should notify the Seafarers Appeals Board by certified mail, return receipt requested. The proper address for this is:

Augustin Tellez, Chairman
Seafarers Appeals Board
5201 Auth Way
Camp Springs, MD 20746

Full copies of contracts as referred to are available to members at all times, either by writing directly to the union or to the Seafarers Appeals Board.

CONTRACTS. Copies of all SIU contracts are available in all SIU halls. These contracts specify the wages and conditions under which an SIU member works and lives aboard a ship or boat. Members should know their contract rights, as well as their obligations, such as filing for overtime (OT) on the proper sheets and in the proper manner. If, at any time, a member believes that an SIU patrolman or other union official fails to protect their contractual rights properly, he or she should contact the nearest SIU port agent.

EDITORIAL POLICY — THE SEAFARERS LOG. The *Seafarers LOG* traditionally has refrained from publishing any article serving the political purposes of any individual in the union, officer or member. It also has refrained from publishing articles deemed harmful to the union or its collective membership. This established policy has been reaffirmed by membership action at the September 1960 meetings in all constitutional ports. The responsibility for *Seafarers LOG* policy is vested in an editorial board which consists of the executive board of the union. The executive board may delegate, from among its ranks, one individual to carry out this responsibility.

PAYMENT OF MONIES. No monies are to be paid to anyone in any official

capacity in the SIU unless an official union receipt is given for same. Under no circumstances should any member pay any money for any reason unless he is given such receipt. In the event anyone attempts to require any such payment be made without supplying a receipt, or if a member is required to make a payment and is given an official receipt, but feels that he or she should not have been required to make such payment, this should immediately be reported to union headquarters.

CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS. Copies of the SIU Constitution are available in all union halls. All members should obtain copies of this constitution so as to familiarize themselves with its contents. Any time a member feels any other member or officer is attempting to deprive him or her of any constitutional right or obligation by any methods, such as dealing with charges, trials, etc., as well as all other details, the member so affected should immediately notify headquarters.

EQUAL RIGHTS. All members are guaranteed equal rights in employment and as members of the SIU. These rights are clearly set forth in the SIU Constitution and in the contracts which the union has negotiated with the employers. Consequently, no member may be discriminated against because of race, creed, color, sex, national or geographic origin.

If any member feels that he or she is denied the equal rights to which he or she is entitled, the member should notify union headquarters.

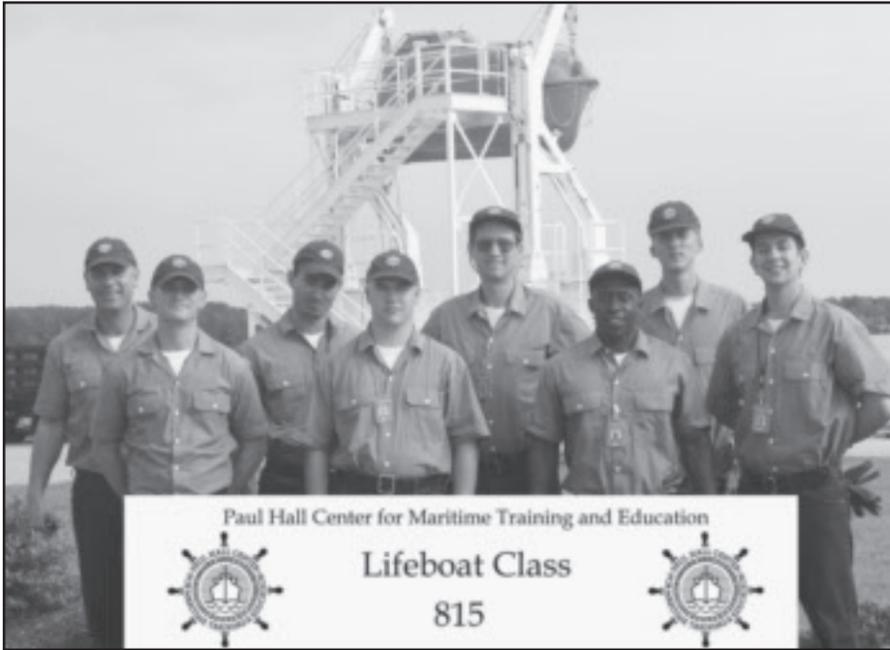
SEAFARERS POLITICAL ACTIVITY DONATION — SPAD.

SPAD is a separate segregated fund. Its proceeds are used to further its objects and purposes including, but not limited to, furthering the political, social and economic interests of maritime workers, the preservation and furthering of the American merchant marine with improved employment opportunities for seamen and boatmen and the advancement of trade union concepts. In connection with such objects, SPAD supports and contributes to political candidates for elective office. All contributions are voluntary. No contribution may be solicited or received because of force, job discrimination, financial reprisal, or threat of such conduct, or as a condition of membership in the union or of employment. If a contribution is made by reason of the above improper conduct, the member should notify the Seafarers International Union or SPAD by certified mail within 30 days of the contribution for investigation and appropriate action and refund, if involuntary. A member should support SPAD to protect and further his or her economic, political and social interests, and American trade union concepts.

NOTIFYING THE UNION. If at any time a member feels that any of the above rights have been violated, or that he or she has been denied the constitutional right of access to union records or information, the member should immediately notify SIU President Michael Sacco at headquarters by certified mail, return receipt requested. The address is:

Michael Sacco, President
Seafarers International Union
5201 Auth Way
Camp Springs, MD 20746

Paul Hall Center Classes



Apprentice Water Survival Class #815 –The following Phase I apprentices (above, in alphabetical order) graduated from this course Sept. 9: Adam Brundage, William Cannon, Dion Cheeseborough, Neil Donegan, Kevin Franklin, Will Jordan, Robert Lanier and Kyle Williamson.



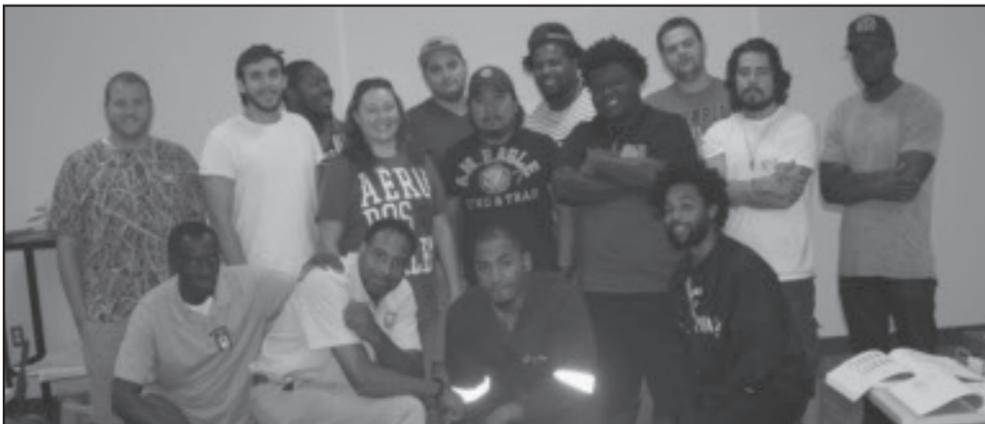
Tank Ship Familiarization – Nine Phase III apprentices graduated from this course Sept. 2. Completing their requirements (above, in alphabetical order) were: Saleh Ali Almatari, Alexander Ayers, Toby Blunt, Todd Colabella, Andrew King, Joshua Lux, Mark Smith II, Matthew Szczepaniak and Brandon Yedoroz. Upon the completion of their training, each plans to sail in the deck departments aboard SIU-contracted vessels.



Tank Ship Familiarization – The following Phase III apprentices, (above, in alphabetical order) graduated from this course Sept. 2: Marquez Fields, Gabriel Freeman, Deondre Gardner, Ryan Howard, Paul Ianni, Marcus Jimenez, Mason McGowan, Daniel Joshua Ramos Resultan, Dequan Jamal Rivera, Jesse Sigurdson and Daniel Lowie Rivera Surell. Each plans to sail in the engine department on union-contracted vessels once they complete their training.



Tank Ship Familiarization – Four Phase III apprentices (above, in alphabetical order) graduated from this course Sept. 2: Dorothea Fabrizious, Antonio Holmes, John Jewell and Todd Pryor. Once their apprentice training is completed, each plans to work in the steward department on SIU-contracted vessels.



UA to AS-D – The following individuals (above, in alphabetical order) graduated from this course Sept. 9: Deontre Blount, Tyler Cook, Dominick Corbitt, Hunter Cox, Thyron Simbajon Dy, Joseph Evans, Charlie English III, Joseph Gil, Melvin Hunter Jr., Tasha Pauley, Cameron Peake, Joshua Saldana, Jeffrey Thomas and Joshua Welcome. Instructor Welton Grooms is second from left in the front row.



UA to FOWT – Thirteen upgraders (above, in alphabetical order) graduated from this course Sept. 9: Jarion Andrews, Clayton Black, Francois Bonilla, Cameron Cobb, Monica Coffelt, Mark Feldhaus, Tre Hill, David Kessler, Asadullah Khan, Yves Mbuiti Nsuami, Tyler Perry, Gerardo William Rosaly Martinez and Daquan Wallace. Class instructor Keith Adamson is at the far right.



Welding – Upgrader Arthur Bailey, above left, completed his requirements and graduated from this course Sept. 9. Helping him celebrate his achievement is his instructor, Chris Raley.



ECDIS – Three upgraders completed this course Sept. 23. Graduating (above, in alphabetical order) were: Efren Lambinico Pahinag, Keith Reeder and Mykola Smirnov. Class instructor Patrick Schoenberger is at the far left.



Basic Firefighting – Seafarer Nilsa Manazia, above center, completed the enhancement of her skills and graduated from this course Sept. 16. Celebrating the achievement with her are instructors Mike Roberts and Wayne Johnson Jr., who are situated at the far left and far right, respectively.

Paul Hall Center Classes



ECDIS – Eight upgraders completed this course Sept. 30. Graduating (above, in alphabetical order) were: Roy Carey, Jonathan Omar Chaparro Lorenzo, John Clare, Adolf Lopez Floresca, Bud Sok Khuth, Clayton Lupton, Jarred Moylan and Julio Enrique Perez. Patrick Schoenberger, their instructor, is at the far left.



OL (Basic Motor Plant) – The following Seafarers (above, in alphabetical order) graduated from this course Sept. 9: Antonio Griffin, Letwan Jackson and Joseph Ritchey. Class instructor Keith Adamson is at the far right.



Medical Care Provider – Seven upgraders enhanced their skills by graduating from this course Sept. 9. Completing their requirements (above, in alphabetical order) were: Yosluvy Baro Laza, Alex Canada, Kevin Chenault, James Fells, Valentine Oghenewegba Okei, John Reyes and Jome Gayo Zerna. Their instructor, Wayne Johnsn Jr., is at the far left.



Tank Ship Familiarization LG – Fourteen Seafarers improved their skills by finishing this course Sept. 9. Graduating (above, in alphabetical order) were: Derrick Alexander, Tysha Boyd, Jose Amaldo Chumpitaz, James Davis Jr., Archie Eldridge Jr., Juan Ramon Iglesias, Jonas Paul Panghulan Libang, Anecito Taladua Limboy, David Martinez, Patrick Ray Jr., Walenda Reynolds, Anthony Rutland, Anthony Sumlar and Daniel Tennant.



Tank Ship Familiarization LG – The following upgraders (above, in alphabetical order) graduated from this course Sept. 30: Arthur Bailey, Patrick Brill, Lonnie Carter, Daniel Coffman, Donell Criswell, Kirk Fisher, Barney George, Antonio Griffin, Lawrence Hernandez Jr., Steven Horta Jr., Luis Guillermo Ramos Rosa, Stephen Roell, Tyrell Nasheed Thabit, Hector Ivan Triado-Surillo and Charlie Wescott III. (Note: Not all are pictured)



Government Vessels – Nineteen upgraders graduated from this course Sept. 23. Completing all of their requirements (above, in alphabetical order) were: Daniel Coffman, Donell Criswell, Antonio Cummings, Michael Curtis, Belarmino Da Rosa, Asifamaka Egerton Wakama, Lee Eludo Jr., Shanita Flachbart, Barney George, Corey Hill, Christopher Hunnings, Claude Letts, Nilsa Manaiza, Patrick McCarthy, John Mendez, Stephen Roell, Nicholas Sampson, Tirso Diaz Sarmiento and Steven Supplee. Class instructor Stan Beck is at the far right.



Junior Engineer (Basic Electricity) – The following Seafarers (above, in alphabetical order) graduated from this course Sept. 23: Carlos Eduardo Amaya-Avila, Alvin Cabahit, Kenneth Cabrera, Rodriques Antwan Carson, Jonathnan Collier, Adrian Darden, **Domingos Dos Anjos Ferreira**, Michael Flynn, Cortney Gantt, Noah Hughes, Lucian Lepadatu, Mark Menton, Martin O'Brien, Yuri Adrian Oliveros, Russell Pilchard IV, Luis Alberto Sepulveda, William Sharp, Marijan Strk, Derrick Sullivan and Jeffrey Thrash. John Wiegman III, their instructor, is at the far left.

SEAFARERS LOG



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SEAFARERS INTERNATIONAL UNION • ATLANTIC, GULF, LAKES AND INLAND WATERS

**Paul Hall Center
Class Photos
Pages 22-23**

El Faro Remembrances . . . At the SIU-affiliated Paul Hall Center in Piney Point, Maryland



The photos on this page and on Pages 4-6 show some of the many observances conducted Oct. 1 for the final crew of the *El Faro*. Pictured at the Paul Hall Center in Piney Point, Maryland: Apprentice William Cannon (photo at right) rings the *El Faro* memorial bell; (in photo below) attendees stand for a moment of silence; and officials (photo above, from left, on stage) VP Atlantic Coast Joseph Soresi, VP Great Lakes and Inland Waters Tom Orzechowski, Executive VP Augie Tellez and Port Agent Pat Vandegrift start the ceremony.

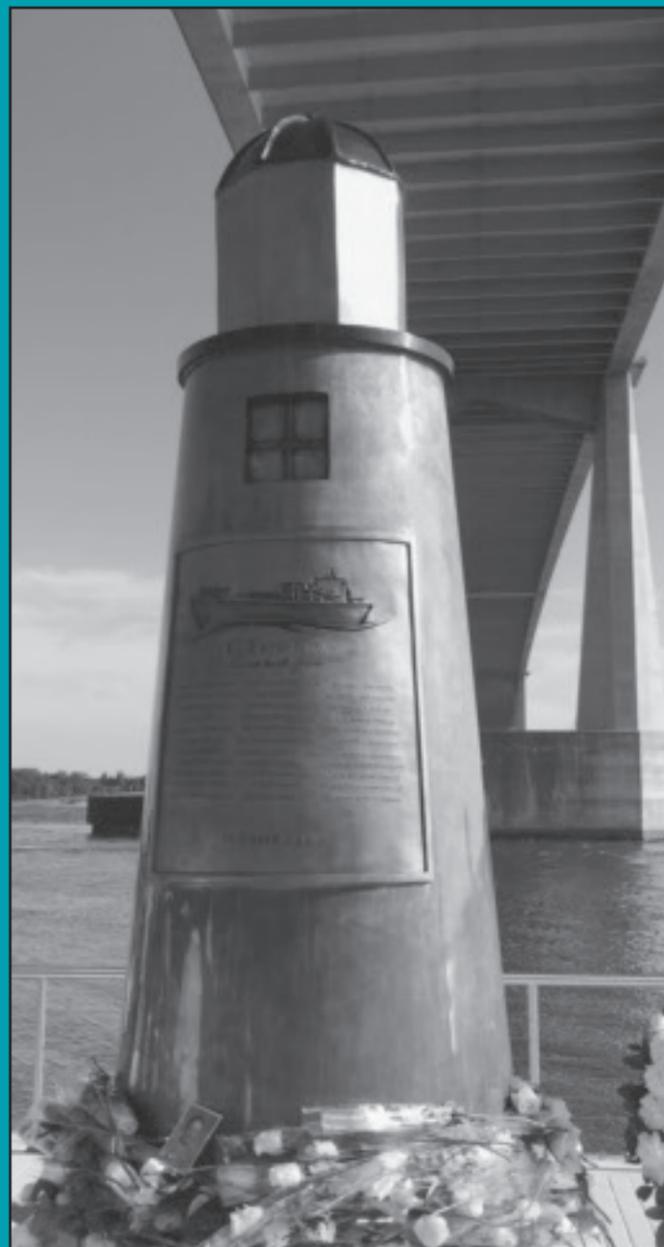


Aboard the SIU-Crewed Isla Bella

Tote Lighthouse



Mariners aboard the *Isla Bella* gather for remembrance en route to Puerto Rico.



Tote dedicated this memorial lighthouse in Jacksonville.

SIU hall in Tacoma, Washington

