

SEAFARERS LOG

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

U.S. Mariners 'Are True Patriots'

Gen. Van Ovost Praises Merchant Marine; SIU's Heindel Receives AOTOS Award



Addressing a maritime industry audience of more than 600, Gen. Jacqueline Van Ovost (right in photo directly above, with SIU President Michael Sacco, left, and AMO President Paul Doell) on Dec. 3 offered unequivocal support for American mariners and the industry. The commanding officer of the U.S. Transportation Command described U.S. Merchant Mariners as "true patriots" and said the nation must maintain a viable American-flag fleet. She made the remarks in New York during the annual Admiral of the Ocean Sea awards dinner, a prestigious event sponsored by the United Seamen's Service. SIU Secretary-Treasurer David Heindel (photo at left) was a main honoree. *Page 3.*

Holiday Event Returns

Following a pause in 2020 for safety reasons, the yearly pre-Thanksgiving feast at the hiring hall in Oakland, California, returned to action Nov. 23. Always a popular and well-attended event, the 2021 iteration featured remarks by several U.S. congressional representatives. Pictured before the gathering are (front, from left) Seafarers James Abilad, Michael Todman, Ali Munsar and Abdulla Mused. Those standing include SIU VP Nicholas Celona (second from right), SIU Port Agent J.B. Niday (far right), retired Recertified Steward George Pino (second from left) and members of the 4th Marine Division, 23rd Regiment Color Guard. *Page 5.*



SIU's Year in Review

While the ongoing pandemic was an ever-present factor, the year 2021 for the SIU could have been nicknamed the year of the contract. No fewer than 15 new agreements were reached during that span, including ones at Crescent Towing in New Orleans and in Mobile, Alabama. In photo above, Mobile-area boatmen are pictured with SIU Port Agents Jimmy White (second from left) and Chris Westbrook (sixth from right). *Page 20.*

CIVMARS to the Rescue
 _____ *Page 4*

Thanksgiving at Sea
 _____ *Pages 10-11*

President's Report

America's Shipyards

The state of American shipbuilding is a noteworthy example of the effects of government policy.

While we in the SIU remain justifiably proud of the outstanding work performed by union shipyard employees, the worldwide shipbuilding statistics are sobering. Only one-third of a percent of the world's ships carry the "Made in the USA" label. By contrast, China produces around 40 percent, while Korea and Japan account for 25 percent each.



Michael Sacco

The main reason for that disparity is straightforward: the U.S. eliminated its construction differential subsidy program in 1981 but didn't attempt to secure any sort of reciprocity from other shipbuilding nations. Asian yards, buoyed by billions of dollars in subsidies, took over the global market.

It only took a little more than a decade for America to go from being the biggest commercial shipbuilder in the world to no longer producing any vessels for international trade.

All of that said, things are hardly hopeless. We still have more than 100 shipyards in the U.S., most of them smaller facilities but all crewed by capable, well-trained employees, many of whom belong to unions, including ones affiliated with the Maritime Trades Department (where I also serve as president). In particular, union yards in Philadelphia and San Diego in recent years have constructed some of the world's most modern, state-of-the-art tonnage, including tankers, containerships, and container/roll-on, roll-off vessels.

But those ships are for the Jones Act trade, which largely has been recapitalized. In order to truly bounce back, our shipyards need a commitment from the federal government and a solid plan to rebuild the Navy. Legislation has been introduced in Congress to do both. Bringing back a modern version of the construction subsidy program also would help level the playing field for securing contracts to build commercial vessels for global trading.

In the interim, America would benefit by taking better advantage of the Title XI Shipbuilding Loan Guarantee Program. According to the U.S. Maritime Administration, Title XI "provides for a full faith and credit guarantee by the United States Government to promote the growth and modernization of the U.S. merchant marine and U.S. shipyards. The program ... provides U.S. Government guaranteed debt issued by (1) U.S. or foreign shipowners for the purpose of financing or refinancing either U.S.-flag vessels or eligible export vessels constructed, reconstructed or reconditioned in U.S. shipyards and (2) U.S. shipyards for the purpose of financing advanced shipbuilding technology and modern shipbuilding technology of a privately owned, general shipyard facility located in the U.S."

Title XI is not a subsidy program and it has been under-utilized for too long. Studies have shown that for every dollar invested in the program, \$20 worth of economic activity is generated.

America's shipbuilding capability, like other parts of the maritime industry, is vital to national, economic and homeland security. That's why the SIU believes it is of utmost priority to promote, protect and grow United States shipyards from coast to coast. (More U.S.-flag ships also mean more SIU jobs.) To do otherwise is to risk eventual full dependence on foreign countries both for the nation's commercial trade and, more importantly, supporting the troops. Those risks are obvious and unacceptable. We need to do something about it.

Administrator Reports More Progress with CHS

The union and the Seafarers Plans are continuing to work with Comprehensive Health Services (CHS) to identify and implement improvements in services for SIU members.

In mid-November, the union and Seafarers Plans hosted a meeting at SIU headquarters that included the CHS CEO and their program manager for the Seafarers Health and Benefit Plan. Attendees thoroughly discussed ways to speed up the physical exam steps used by SIU members.

Seafarers Plans Administrator Maggie Bowen, in her December report to the SIU membership, noted, "We met with them to reiterate the seriousness of the problems our participants have been facing during the exam process. They once again committed to providing the quality of service that you need and deserve. CHS indicated that they are in the process of upgrading their technology to make the communication and flow of information between them and the clinics a more seamless process. These major upgrades are due to take place during second quarter of 2022. They are also developing new surveys to identify areas that con-

tinue to need improvement. We will monitor their progress in all areas to ensure that they deliver on their promises, and will keep you posted on the outcomes."

In a previous report, Bowen said CHS had eliminated most of its backlog of exams that were awaiting review through mid-September. That improvement "is a direct result of our demand that more resources were required to fulfill our agreement with CHS, including adding additional doctors," she stated.

Meanwhile, the administrator in the December report also mentioned that multiple mailings were sent to SHBP participants in November. They included a cover letter and notice outlining the positive changes to the SHBP due to the No Surprises Act. The changes include out-of-network emergency treatment being covered at the 90% in-network levels; out-of-network ancillary services at an in-network facility (such as an anesthesiologist, radiologist or surgeon) will be covered at 90% of the qualifying payment amount; and, out-of-network air ambulance service will be covered at 90% of the qualifying payment amount.

NASSCO Christens USNS Milk

New jobs are on the horizon for members of the SIU Government Services Division following the Nov. 6 christening and launch of the *USNS Harvey Milk*.

The ceremony took place at union shipyard General Dynamics NASSCO in San Diego, where the vessel was built.

According to NASSCO, the *USNS Harvey Milk* is the second ship for the U.S. Navy's John Lewis-class fleet oiler program. The new vessel's crew will include SIU CIVAMARS.

Stuart Milk, nephew of the ship's namesake and co-founder and president of the Harvey Milk Foundation, served as the principal speaker at the ceremony, which also featured remarks from NASSCO and U.S. Navy representatives.

U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-California) and Paula Neira, Navy veteran and clinical program director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Transgender Health, were the ship's sponsors. Prior to launching the 742-foot-long ship down the ways, Neira christened the vessel with the traditional champagne bottle break alongside the hull.

"We are justifiably proud of every ship we build, but this one is special because of her namesake. Today, we are honoring Stuart's lifetime of selfless service, his hope for equality, and a world without hate," said David Carver, president of General Dynamics NASSCO. "On behalf of the 3,500 employees of General Dynamics NASSCO, I am proud to present the future *USNS Harvey Milk* for christening."

Former Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus declared the John Lewis-class of oilers be named after leaders who fought for civil and



Above, guests listen to remarks during the christening ceremony for the *USNS Harvey Milk*. In photo at left below, Paula Neira does the honors, breaking a champagne bottle alongside the hull. (Photos courtesy General Dynamics NASSCO)

human rights. The second of six ships honors Harvey Milk, an activist who dedicated his life promoting equality.

"Leaders like Harvey Milk taught us that diversity of backgrounds and experiences help contribute to the strength and resolve of our nation," said Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro. "There is no doubt that the future Sailors aboard this ship will be inspired by Milk's life and legacy."

"The christening of the *USNS Harvey Milk* marks another historic milestone in the history of our Navy and our country. Harvey Milk's

words and actions brought hope and inspiration to many for whom our nation's lofty rhetoric of equality and inclusion were not yet reality," said Neira. "Today, while we must continue to carry on his work, and much work still needs to be done, by christening and launching this ship we honor his legacy, celebrate the progress that has been made in advancing diversity and inclusion for so many, and we know that wherever the *USNS Harvey Milk* will sail, she will bring that message of hope and inspiration to present and future generations."

In 2016, General Dynamics NASSCO was awarded the contract by the U.S. Navy for the detailed design and construction of the next generation of fleet oilers, the John Lewis class. The contract calls for the design and construction of six 742-foot-long oilers with a full load displacement of 49,850 tons. Designed to transfer fuel to U.S. Navy carrier strike group ships operating at sea, the oilers have the capacity to carry 157,000 barrels of oil, a significant dry cargo capacity, aviation capability and up to a speed of 20 knots. These vessels will replace the current T-AO 187-class fleet replacement oilers.

In addition to the christening of this ship, two vessels in the T-AO class fleet oiler program for the U.S. Navy – the future *USNS Earl Warren* (T-AO 207), and the future *USNS Robert F. Kennedy* (T-AO 208) – are currently under construction. The lead ship, the future *USNS John Lewis* (T-AO 205), was launched earlier this year.



SEAFARERS LOG

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SEAFARERS INTERNATIONAL UNION - ATLANTIC, GULF, LAKES AND INLAND WATERS, AFL-CIO

Volume 84 Number 1

January 2022

The SIU online: www.seafarers.org

The Seafarers LOG (ISSN 1086-4636) is published monthly by the Seafarers International Union; Atlantic, Gulf, Lakes and Inland Waters, AFL-CIO; 5201 Capital Gateway Drive; Camp Springs, MD 20746. Telephone (301) 899-0675. Periodicals postage paid at Southern Maryland 20790-9998. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Seafarers LOG, 5201 Capital Gateway Drive, Camp Springs, MD 20746.

Communications Director, *Jordan Biscardo*; Assistant Communications Director & Managing Editor/Production, *Jim Guthrie*; Assistant Editor, *Nick Merrill*; Administrative Support, *Jenny Stokes*; Content Curator, *Mark Clements*.

Copyright © 2021 Seafarers International Union, AGLIW. All Rights Reserved.



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

Van Ovost Backs Jones Act, U.S. Mariners



Gen. Van Ovost describes U.S. mariners as "true patriots."

The commanding officer of the U.S. Transportation Command (TRANSCOM) recently voiced her strong backing of the U.S. Merchant Marine and the laws and programs that keep it afloat.

Gen. Jacqueline D. Van Ovost (USAF) addressed more than 600 attendees Dec. 3 in New York during the annual Admiral of the Ocean Sea event, sponsored by the United Seamen's Service. The audience included maritime labor leaders (many from the SIU), industry executives, other military officers, international maritime officials and others (see story, this page).

Gen. Van Ovost was the first speaker. She said, "The Department of Defense relies on you to deliver our decisive military force – a job you have done for decades. This industry is critical to advancing American interests. As a seafaring nation, our country has been, and is, and will continue to be reliant on the strength of the maritime industry and the many mariners who are known for their determination,

their grit and selfless service. You are true patriots."

She pointed out that mariners "are the first to go and the last to return" during major conflicts, and added that their role isn't limited to those periods. "You are America's economic lifeline during peacetime," she stated. "I've referred to you as TRANSCOM's fourth component."

Gen. Van Ovost touched on current challenges facing both the armed services and the maritime industry. She emphasized the partnership between the public and private sectors, their shared goals, and the value of regular sealift exercises. She also underscored the importance of "minimizing our reliance on foreign entities"

She referred to a relatively recent study that led to the creation of the new U.S. Tanker Security Program and added, "Programs such as the Tanker Security Program, the Maritime Security Program

and the Jones Act ensure that we have reliable access to industry capabilities to meet our needs."

The general then recalled a quote from retired Gen. Henry Hugh Shelton, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who said: "Our national security depends on a vital merchant marine foundation."

Gen. Van Ovost concluded, "I could not be more proud of the relationship between TRANSCOM and the maritime industry. We value the U.S. mariners operating U.S. vessels, and we recognize the important role our mariners play in the strength of our nation."

SIU Secretary-Treasurer David Heindel was one of the main honorees at the awards dinner, and the union had a strong turnout that included SIU President Michael Sacco, Executive Vice President Augie Tellez, Vice Presidents Dean Corgey, Tom Orzechowski, Joseph Soresi, Nick Marrone and Nicholas Celona and many other officials.



Pictured from left are honorees Tony Naccarato, Kathy Metcalf and David Heindel.



Rear Adm. Michael Wettlaufer
Commander, MSC

SIU's Heindel Honored with AOTOS Award *Metcalf, Woodhour, Naccarato, Mariners Also Recognized*

On a night when much of the spotlight focused on him, SIU Secretary-Treasurer David Heindel mainly wanted to talk about others.

Heindel on Dec. 3 received the Admiral of the Ocean Sea (AOTOS) Award in New York, a prestigious honor presented each year by the United Seamen's Service (USS). This year's honorees also included Bill Woodhour, president and CEO of Maersk Line, Limited (MLL); Kathy Metcalf, president and CEO of the Chamber of Shipping of America; and longtime labor relations icon Tony Naccarato, who garnered what is dubbed a Special AOTOS Award.

Three Seafarers-crewed vessels also were recognized with USS Mariners' Plaques: the *USNS Patuxent*, *American Pride*, and *Horizon Reliance*. The plaques, bestowed for various acts of heroism at sea, were presented by Rear Adm. Michael Wettlaufer, USN, commander of the U.S. Military Sealift Command.

Prior to those presentations, Gen. Jacqueline D. Van Ovost, USAF, commander of the U.S. Transportation Command, addressed the audience of more than 600, including SIU President Michael Sacco, Executive Vice President Augie Tellez and others (see story, this page).

Heindel called his award "the honor of a lifetime," and he thanked many people for supporting his work throughout the years, including his family, Sacco, other SIU officials, and colleagues from the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF), several of whom travelled to the awards dinner from overseas. (Heindel chairs the ITF Seafarers' Section.)

He emphasized that throughout his decades as a union official, following several years as a rank-and-file mariner, his aim remained constant.

"Whether we're talking about the crew-change crisis that has consumed our many hours on Zoom or the latest issue with the supply chain, shipboard automation, alternative fuels, training requirements or almost any other maritime-related topic, my focus ultimately is on the wellbeing of the individual seafarer," Heindel said. "That's what motivates me, and on the rare occasions I look back, it's what I'm most proud of."

Reflecting on his time with the union, Heindel recalled, "I joined the SIU in the early 1970s, and one reason I've always believed in the union is that we don't stand still. We constantly strive to make improvements, and the results speak for themselves. Today, our members have free access to world-class vocational training at our affiliated school in Piney Point, Maryland. They're part of a top-of-the-line, fully funded pension plan that gives them security when they look ahead to retirement. They're covered by excellent medical benefits, and they're protected by great contracts – which means their families are protected, too.

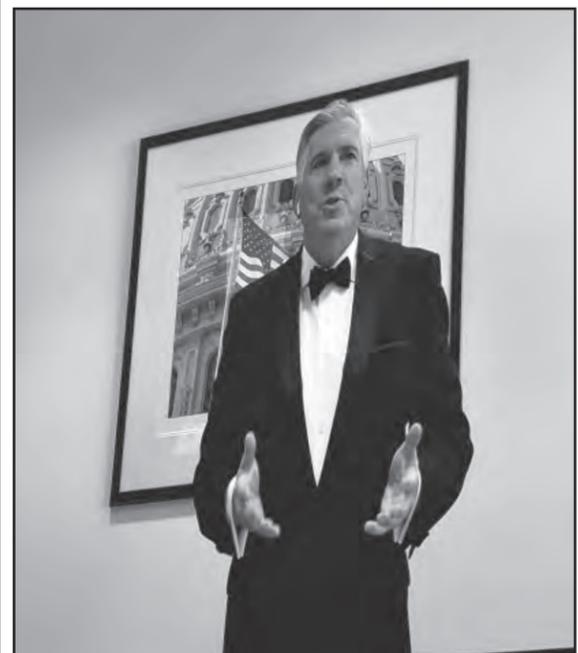
"Another way we've helped our rank-and-file members is by keeping up with the times regarding recordkeeping, getting them easy access to their individual shipping and registration information, and being able to communicate quickly using multiple outlets, regardless of whether they're at sea or ashore," he continued. "That's been a main focus throughout my tenure as the SIU's secretary-treasurer, and while – like so many other things – the work is always ongoing, and we've made extraordinary progress over the years."

He also credited the USS and ITF and cited examples of their recent accomplishments.

Metcalf and Naccarato both applauded the industry

for its collectively cooperative nature, while also sharing insights about their respective backgrounds.

Woodhour, unable to attend because of a medical procedure, delivered his remarks via recorded video. He stressed the critical importance of the U.S. maritime industry and listed potential steps to expand it.



MLL President/CEO Bill Woodhour delivers his remarks via video.



SIU Port Agent Nick Marrone II (left) meets with Chef Kellie Puff, a professor and chair of the culinary department at the University of Alaska Anchorage. Part of the union's outreach includes stops at the Alaska Youth Military Academy, which is where the photo at right was taken. Marrone is in the foreground, with students.



Union Ramps Up Recruiting in 'Last Frontier'

It's nothing new for the SIU to help make Alaskans aware of maritime career opportunities, but the union in recent months has increased its outreach in the Last Frontier.

SIU Port Agent Nick Marrone II has spearheaded a broad outreach for prospective applicants to the apprentice program at the union's affiliated school in Piney Point, Maryland; and for individuals already working as credentialed mariners.

"We have gotten an enthusiastic reception everywhere we've gone" Marrone said. "People are very interested in the union and receiving their training at the school. They're eager to work!"

Such was the case Nov. 12 at the Alaska Military Youth Academy, where Marrone spoke separately with each platoon. Afterward, around two dozen students showed interest in the apprentice program, which is certified by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Another recruiting stop a few days later proved it's a small world. While manning a booth at the Anchorage Job Expo, Marrone met STOS **Melvin Mitchell**, an active Seafarer. (The SIU booth received very favorable reviews from attendees and from Alaska Works Partnership, the sponsoring entity.)

Other stops for the port agent have included Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (where he regularly meets with separat-

ing military members); King Tech Career Center/Alaska Middle College School (AMCS); the State of Alaska Anchorage/Muldoon/Mat-Su D.O.L. Job Center Network; West Anchorage High; and the Culinary Arts University of Alaska Anchorage.

Meanwhile, upgrades are happening at the hiring hall in Anchorage, including adding phone lines, improving internet connectivity and modifying some of the interior layout to facilitate daily operations.

Members Ratify 5-Year Contract With Virginia Pilot Association

Wage Hikes, Improved Benefits Highlight Package

SIU members at Virginia Pilot Association late last year secured a new five-year contract that increases wages and improves benefits.

The agreement covers 24 Seafarers who work at the Virginia Beach, Virginia-based company.

"We did really well. This is the best contract we've ever had," said **Oliver Meyer**, a launch operator who served on the negotiating committee along with fellow member **John Cameron**, SIU Vice President Atlantic Coast Joseph Soresi and SIU Port Agent DeCarlo Harris.

Meyer said he particularly appreciates the increased pension credits, along with the pay raises. He credited Soresi ("Joe was awesome") and also noted this was the first contract negotiated with new management at the company.

Like Meyer, Cameron hadn't previously served on a bargaining com-

mittee, but he said the experience went well.

"I'd heard some horror stories and I know it's never easy, but Joe was fantastic," said Cameron, who also is a launch operator. "We chimed in and voiced our opinion while remaining professional. Overall, we're really impressed and really thankful. It's the best contract we've ever gotten."

Seafarers at Virginia Pilot Association typically work one week on (with each work day consisting of a 12-hour shift) followed by a week off. During a work week, they sleep ashore at a headquarters facility that Cameron said functions similarly to a firehouse.

Soresi stated, "I'm glad the members are pleased with the contract, which I believe is a very fair agreement both for the union and for the company. This agreement means stability for everyone concerned."



Pictured from left are Seafarers Randy Grinnan and John Cameron, SIU Port Agent DeCarlo Harris and Seafarers Gage Harper, Tyler Elswick, Oliver Meyer, Joel Otroba and Will Henson.



Two Iranian fishermen signal for assistance Nov. 27 after their boat had been adrift for eight days in the Gulf of Oman. (U.S. Navy photo)

SIU CIVMARS Help Rescue 2 in Gulf of Oman

CIVMARS from the SIU Government Services Division helped rescue two fishermen who'd been stuck at sea for more than a week.

On Nov. 27, the *USNS Charles Drew* was involved in a rescue in the Gulf of Oman. The dry cargo ship received word of a distress call at 10 a.m. local time from Combined Maritime Forces, an international maritime coalition headquartered in Bahrain. The *Charles Drew* proceeded to the site of a stranded fishing vessel, and provided food, water and medical care to the

two occupants – who had been adrift at sea for eight days. The men from the disabled craft were then transported to an Omani coast guard vessel.

"This is what we are trained and ready to do," said Vice Adm. Brad Cooper, commander of U.S. Naval Forces Central Command, U.S. 5th Fleet and Combined Maritime Forces. "As professional mariners, we have a responsibility to help people in need at sea. We appreciate the government of Oman for its assistance and support in helping us return the mariners home."



Pictured from left in photo at immediate left are U.S. Rep. Jerry McNerney (D-California), SIU VP Nick Marrone, U.S. Rep. John Garamendi (D-California), SIU VP Nicholas Celona and U.S. Rep. Jim Panetta (D-California). In photo above, U.S. Rep. Barbara Lee (D-California) addresses the crowd.

Oakland Thanksgiving Event Resumes

Locally Renowned Gathering Features Congressional Remarks

Some of the details were different, for precautionary reasons – but the enthusiastic fellowship and great food were familiar to those attending the annual pre-Thanksgiving feast at the hiring hall in Oakland, California.

The popular gathering skipped 2020 for safety reasons, but returned on Nov. 23, 2021 (in its usual slot, which is the Tuesday of Thanksgiving week).

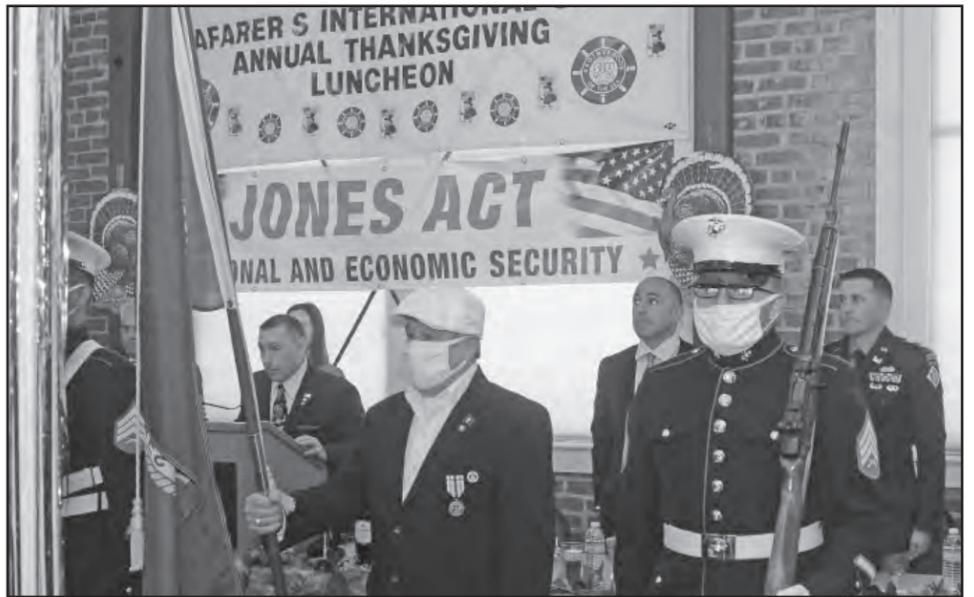
Guest speakers included U.S. Reps. Barbara Lee, John Garamendi, Jerry McNerney and Jim Panetta (all California Democrats). Other guests included military personnel; maritime union members, pensioners and officials; numerous building-trades union personnel; shipping company executives and staff; and others.

SIU Vice President Government Services Nicholas Celona, long the

driving force behind the decades-old yearly event, said the mood was upbeat for the 2021 feast.

“We took many precautions, including serving the meals in individual containers instead of going with the usual buffet-style arrangement,” Celona said. “We made sure plenty of hand sanitizer was available and we asked that everyone bring their vaccination cards. We also spaced out the tables more than usual. People said they were glad to be back.”

With 120 people in attendance, the congressional representatives gave brief remarks mainly focusing on the holiday season, the infrastructure bill, and the importance of creating and maintaining good jobs in the U.S. They also emphasized the country’s ongoing need for American mariners and U.S.-flag ships.



Retired Recertified Steward George Pino (center) displays the U.S. Merchant Marine flag.



Yardena Wolf (left), chief of staff for U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-California), and SIU VP Nick Marrone



Lt. Col. Kevin P. Arnett, commander of the San Francisco District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and retired Recertified Steward George Pino



SIU VP Nicholas Celona (second from right) welcomes guests



The hall hosted 120 people for the Thanksgiving gathering.



Guests enjoy the holiday event in Oakland, California.



HONORING VETERANS IN HOUSTON – Seafarers and SIU officials are pictured with U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (front, wearing mask) at a Veterans Day event. SIU Asst. VP Mike Russo is second from left. Among those also pictured are Bosun German Nunez (right), Recertified Steward Fausto Aranda (left), SIU Port Agent Joe Zavala (directly behind the congresswoman), SIU Patrolman Kelly Krick and ITF Inspector Shwe Aung.



BACKING PRO-WORKER REP. – The hiring hall in Philadelphia hosted an outdoor labor breakfast for Pennsylvania State Rep. Elizabeth Fiedler (D). She's in the center, with SIU Port Agent Joe Basalice (right) and SIU Safety Director Andre MacCray.

At Sea and Ashore with the SIU



FINAL FRONTIER – Bosun Kyle Silva (left) is pictured with astronaut Mike Foreman at San Jacinto Maritime in La Porte, Texas. The occasion was a "pool session" conducted by Bastion Technologies of Houston. "Bastion engineers equipment for NASA as well as the maritime industry," explained Silva.



ABOARD ALASKAN NAVIGATOR – SIU Safety Director Ben Anderson snapped this photo during a mid-November servicing of the Alaska Tanker Co. vessel. Pictured from left are QMED Leland Peterson, Steward/Baker Albert Sison, SA Ahmed Moosa, Chief Cook Nasr Almusab, GUDE Abdulrehman Shayef, AB Bonifacio Fortes and Recertified Bosun Greg Hamilton.

WITH SEAFARERS IN JACKSONVILLE

– Pictured from left near the hall are Chief Cook Larry Griffin, Recertified Steward Breon Lucas and Chief Steward Robert Seim. SIU Patrolman Adam Bucalo submitted the photo and noted, "As someone who also sailed in the steward department, it would be a real honor to work with any of these men. It's why I took the photo."



GENEROSITY IN TACOMA – Retired Recertified Bosun Dana Cella (left) donates two bikes for the annual Santa's Castle toy drive. He's pictured at the hall with SIU Asst. VP Joe Vincenzo.



UPGRADE COMPLETE – Seafarer Luis Ricardo Venegas Nolasco (right) proudly displays his first ABW registration after recently upgrading at the SIU-affiliated school in Piney Point, Maryland. He's pictured at the hall in San Juan, with SIU Asst. VP Amancio Crespo.



WELCOME ASHORE IN JACKSONVILLE – Bosun Denyse Sineath (right) picks up her first pension check at the hall. She's pictured with SIU Port Agent Ashley Nelson. Sineath sailed with the SIU beginning in 1997.



PHILANTHROPY IN PUERTO RICO – SIU Safety Director Kevin Sykes (right) and Juan Sanchez of the AFT check inventory of books stored at the San Juan hall for eventual donation to area students. The donations are part of a long-running outreach called BookWaves.



FULL BOOK IN HOUSTON – SIU VP Gulf Coast Dean Corgey (left) congratulates AB Luis Mena after swearing him in for a full B-book at the hiring hall.



ABOARD ATB MILLVILLE – Pictured aboard the Key Marine vessel in Florida are Chief Mate Ed Melvin, AE Duncan Markie, SIU Asst. VP Kris Hopkins and ABT John Daunoras. Thanks to Capt. Michael O'Connell for the photo.



At Sea and Ashore with the SIU



ABOARD HUDSON EXPRESS – Pictured at the gangway in Jacksonville, Florida, (photo at left) are AB Anthony Ellison (right) and SIU Patrolman Eddie Pittman. The group photo above includes (from left) Chief Cook David Johnson, Steward/Baker Antonio Holmes, GSTU Kanish Johnson, AB Falando Williams, Wiper Terence Trip, AB Andrew Graham, Bosun Zeki Karaahmet, AB Glenn Davis (seated), Pittman, Relief Bosun Damon Anderson and AB Jonathon Eitz. The Marine Personnel and Provisioning ship is one of the reflagged vessels that have replaced the older Express ships running to Europe and back. Thanks to SIU Patrolman Adam Bucalo for the photos.



ABOARD CS DEPENDABLE – Now sailing under the Stars and Stripes, the SubCom ship will serve in the newly established U.S. Cable Security Fleet. These snapshots – courtesy of vessel master Capt. Yann Durieux – were taken in Guam. The photo at left includes Bosun's Mate Mohamed Saleh, OMU Abdullah Alamri, OMU Nasser Ahmed, GVA Fayez Obad, AB Altoria McKinney, OMU Damian Langley, Apprentice Patrick Estavillo, AB/SJ Dominador Diaz, GVA/SA Julien Arevalo, GVA Kyree Carter, GVA Sarah Wilson, AB/SJ Alejandro Cusi, GVA Nirale Rolle, Chief Electrician Boyko Kovatchev, Apprentice Bjorn Anthony, AB/SJ Hunter Cox, GVA Kenard Turner, GVA Travis Smith, AB/SJ Joel Saul and Bosun Steven Whiting. The photo at right includes (from left) GVA/SA Philip Agcaoli, GVA/SA Julien Arevalo, Chief Steward Raul Napoles, 3rd Cook Ammar Sailan, SA Shamori White and Chief Cook Leone Buggage.



ABOARD ARC INDEPENDENCE – These photos were taken during a weekend servicing in Jacksonville, Florida, in late October aboard the TOTE Services ship. Pictured from left in photo at left are Bosun Edward Wright, SIU Port Agent Ashley Nelson and Recertified Steward Gerald Hyman. The photo at right includes (from left) SIU Patrolman Eddie Pittman, Hyman, Chief Cook Jasmin Franklin, Oiler David Hain-Mendez, Wright and AB Rodney Edwards.



Car Rental Discounts for Union Families



With Union Plus car rental discounts,
your next trip just got a lot cheaper.
Union members can save up to 25% with
exclusive deals at six nationwide car
rental companies.



1/22

Learn more at unionplus.org/carrental

Organized Labor Applauds Passage Of Infrastructure Bill

Leaders of the AFL-CIO and affiliate unions, including the SIU, hailed congressional passage of the five-year \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill, which President Joe Biden signed on Nov. 15.

SIU Executive Vice President Augie Tellez was an invited guest at the outdoor signing ceremony.

"The Seafarers International Union enthusiastically applauds President Biden and Congress for enactment of the bipartisan Infrastructure and Jobs Act," the SIU said in a prepared statement. "This legislation is a massive victory for our country, and a credit to President Biden, Vice President Harris and the legislators who supported it.

"We are confident that, in addition to many other worthwhile outcomes, the bill will directly lead to new investment in America's maritime industry," the statement continued. "The legislation holds great promise for building new U.S.-flag vessels and creating new job opportunities for the U.S. Merchant Marine. The SIU is honored to have been invited to the signing ceremony – a further reflection of the Administration's respect for the labor movement. We look forward to supporting the resultant efforts to help revitalize American maritime."

AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler said, "Victories like this are why we campaigned so hard for President Biden." She called the legislation "a monumental political and legislative accomplishment. After decades of delay and decline, America's workers stand ready to rebuild our country. This \$1 trillion investment in roads, bridges, transit, rail, climate change mitigation, electric vehicles, clean drinking water, high-speed Internet, resilient transmission lines and more is centered around the creation of good union jobs."

The law includes a number of strong "Buy America" provisions, which U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) had strongly pushed for several years.

"America's infrastructure used to be the envy of the world," said Brown. "But after years of neglect, we see it crumbling all around us – at our airports, on bridges and roads. We have lead in too many pipes, transit systems in need of upgrades, and too many communities still without broadband. Plenty of politicians have talked about fixing this infrastructure, but it's all been empty talk – until now. Now, under President Biden, we are finally getting this done, with the bipartisan infrastructure bill."

A White House statement described the bill as "the largest investment in the resilience of physical and natural infrastructure in American history. Millions of Americans feel the effects of climate change each year when their roads wash out, airport power goes down, or schools get flooded. People of color are more likely to live in areas most vulnerable to flooding and other climate change-related weather events. The law makes our communities safer and our infrastructure more resilient to the impacts of climate change and cyber-attacks, with an investment of over \$50 billion to protect against droughts, heat waves, wildfires, and floods – in addition to a major investment in the weatherization of American homes.... These investments will unlock the full potential of a clean energy economy that combats climate change, advances environmental justice, and creates good-paying, union jobs."

January & February Membership Meetings

Piney Point.....	Monday: January 3, February 7
Algonac.....	Friday: January 7, February 11
Baltimore.....	Thursday: January 6, February 10
Guam.....	Thursday: January 20, February 24
Honolulu.....	Friday: January 14, February 18
Houston.....	Monday: January 10, February 14
Jacksonville.....	Thursday: January 6, February 10
Joliet.....	Thursday: January 13, February 17
Mobile.....	Wednesday: January 12, February 16
New Orleans.....	Tuesday: January 11, February 15
Jersey City.....	Tuesday: January 4, February 8
Norfolk.....	Friday: January 7, February 11
Oakland.....	Thursday: January 13, February 17
Philadelphia.....	Wednesday: January 5, February 9
Port Everglades.....	Thursday: January 13, February 17
San Juan.....	Thursday: January 6, February 10
St. Louis.....	Friday: January 14, February 18
Tacoma.....	Friday: January 21, February 25
Wilmington.....	*Tuesday: January 18, *Tuesday: February 22

*Wilmington changes in January and February due to Martin Luther King Day and President's Day observances, respectively.

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

Dispatchers' Report for Deep Sea

"Total Registered" and "Total Shipped" data is cumulative from Nov. 9 - December 9. "Registered on the Beach" data is as of Dec. 9.

Port	Total Registered			Total Shipped			Trip Reliefs	Registered on Beach		
	All Groups			All Groups				A	B	C
	A	B	C	A	B	C				
Deck Department										
Algonac	15	6	2	13	3	1	6	25	8	3
Anchorage	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	1
Baltimore	5	6	1	4	5	1	6	3	3	0
Fort Lauderdale	18	11	1	15	4	2	12	28	19	2
Guam	0	1	0	3	1	0	0	8	1	0
Harvey	6	5	1	9	8	2	9	7	10	1
Honolulu	9	4	1	8	3	0	7	13	5	1
Houston	53	16	8	34	11	6	22	75	29	10
Jacksonville	30	26	3	16	18	2	14	57	50	8
Jersey City	28	2	2	23	5	0	16	45	7	5
Joliet	3	3	1	2	1	1	2	4	3	0
Mobile	10	1	5	5	1	3	1	17	6	0
Norfolk	24	10	1	15	7	1	9	27	18	7
Oakland	10	4	3	9	3	1	5	19	3	4
Philadelphia	5	4	0	4	2	0	4	5	4	1
Piney Point	1	5	2	1	3	0	3	2	6	1
Puerto Rico	8	4	1	4	7	0	4	8	4	1
Tacoma	30	5	5	17	4	4	14	47	15	1
St. Louis	4	2	0	2	2	0	1	2	1	0
Wilmington	22	11	5	16	6	2	6	36	13	5
TOTALS	281	128	42	200	95	26	141	430	207	51

Port	Total Registered			Total Shipped			Trip Reliefs	Registered on Beach		
	All Groups			All Groups				A	B	C
	A	B	C	A	B	C				
Engine Department										
Algonac	6	2	0	3	0	0	3	6	2	1
Anchorage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Baltimore	2	5	0	5	4	0	2	1	1	0
Fort Lauderdale	8	8	1	6	5	0	8	10	14	2
Guam	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
Harvey	3	3	1	3	2	1	4	3	5	0
Honolulu	4	3	0	3	2	0	1	11	5	0
Houston	9	6	3	8	4	2	8	12	13	2
Jacksonville	18	17	1	11	11	2	4	27	30	0
Jersey City	11	2	0	16	3	0	11	16	9	1
Joliet	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	3	0	1
Mobile	0	2	0	2	1	1	2	3	5	0
Norfolk	10	14	5	6	6	1	5	16	22	8
Oakland	6	4	0	2	7	1	4	9	5	0
Philadelphia	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	2	0	0
Piney Point	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	3	0
Puerto Rico	2	1	0	4	1	0	1	2	3	0
Tacoma	15	7	1	9	3	1	5	21	10	2
St. Louis 1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	0
Wilmington	9	8	0	7	4	3	6	19	11	0
TOTALS	108	89	13	88	55	12	66	165	142	18

Port	Total Registered			Total Shipped			Trip Reliefs	Registered on Beach		
	All Groups			All Groups				A	B	C
	A	B	C	A	B	C				
Steward Department										
Algonac	5	1	0	3	0	0	0	8	1	0
Anchorage	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0
Baltimore	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Fort Lauderdale	9	4	0	7	2	1	7	16	11	1
Guam	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	0
Harvey	5	0	0	3	1	0	3	5	0	0
Honolulu	9	1	0	1	1	0	1	14	2	0
Houston	16	3	2	11	2	0	5	28	7	3
Jacksonville	16	10	1	8	8	1	10	32	17	1
Jersey City	9	4	1	6	4	1	4	10	4	1
Joliet	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Mobile	1	2	0	0	2	1	1	6	5	0
Norfolk	15	12	1	8	7	1	6	22	18	5
Oakland	9	8	0	6	6	0	7	19	10	2
Philadelphia	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	0
Piney Point	0	5	3	1	5	1	2	3	6	0
Puerto Rico	5	2	1	3	0	1	2	4	4	1
Tacoma	16	4	0	1	2	1	4	20	6	1
St. Louis	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilmington	19	12	0	13	4	0	5	31	19	0
TOTALS	141	72	9	77	47	8	58	223	114	15

Port	Total Registered			Total Shipped			Trip Reliefs	Registered on Beach		
	All Groups			All Groups				A	B	C
	A	B	C	A	B	C				
Entry Department										
Algonac	0	13	8	0	6	5	5	0	15	9
Anchorage	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1
Baltimore	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	1	3
Fort Lauderdale	0	0	4	0	1	1	1	0	6	7
Guam	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
Harvey	1	2	2	1	0	1	1	2	3	2
Honolulu	0	4	7	0	1	2	2	2	6	14
Houston	2	7	19	1	4	6	2	3	16	23
Jacksonville	3	15	38	3	7	27	9	3	34	82
Jersey City	1	7	11	1	7	2	0	1	19	21
Joliet	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Mobile	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	2
Norfolk	0	11	15	0	8	12	3	1	23	31
Oakland	0	8	2	1	7	1	1	1	17	4
Philadelphia	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Piney Point	0	1	10	0	0	6	0	0	1	11
Puerto Rico	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	6
Tacoma	5	13	7	3	6	4	7	8	18	12
St. Louis	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	2
Wilmington	2	16	4	1	11	3	3	4	19	11
TOTALS	15	102	137	11	60	75	34	26	185	244

GRAND TOTAL: 545 391 201 376 257 121 299 844 648 328

Thanksgiving

SIU Steward Department

The tradition of SIU steward department members putting forth extra effort to make holidays special for their shipmates is practically as old as the union itself. Thanksgiving 2021 proved no exception, as galley gangs on SIU-crewed ships around the world went all-out with traditional menus, decorations and good cheer. Based on emails sent to the LOG and reactions observed online, the food itself and the work that

went
For
"The
Fault
of Th
enou
Al
mem
"I
Or
SIU'
deav
Si
Stew
ment
W
skill

Ed
imme



ABOARD USNS RED CLOUD – Recertified Steward Dennis Dizon (far right, wearing white top in photo directly above) submitted these photos (at immediate left and above) from the Patriot ship.

ABOARD MOKIHANA – Pictured from left in the photo at the immediate right aboard the Matson ship are ACU Marilou Gumapas, Chief Cook Salah Omar, Recertified Steward Fakhrudin Malahi and vessel master Capt. Dean Ventimiglia. The photo below shows some of the Thanksgiving fare that was served aboard the vessel.



ABOARD MAERSK HAP
Bernardez, Recertified Steward
The two photos at the im

g at Sea

s Brighten Holiday

were greatly appreciated. For example, *Maersk Peary* vessel master Capt. Michele Laycock (an SIU hawsepiper) wrote, "The steward department did an excellent job preparing Thanksgiving dinner. Chief Steward Lamont and the rest of the department stayed up late the night before and rose early on the morning following to make sure everything was ready to go for our 1400 feast. The vessel was lucky to be in port at the time in Souda Bay, Crete. Lovely weather and a lovely dinner." On the *USNS Red Cloud* (Patriot), Chief Steward Dennis Dizon praised his department Chief Cook Vanessa Brumsey, SA Emily Lepley and SA Salman Alhobabi. "I'm so proud of my whole team," he said. They appreciated their work, too. Reactions to *Red Cloud* Thanksgiving photos posted on the Facebook page included requests for home delivery and kudos for an obviously spirited en-

joy, Steward/Baker Fakhruddin Malahi (aboard Matson's *Mokihana*) and Recertified Chief Cook Ali Matari (*Maersk Hartford*) said they greatly appreciated the Thanksgiving compliments from shipmates aboard their respective vessels. This is only a representative sample, many online commenters said it speaks well of the enthusiasm demonstrated by SIU members sailing in the steward department.

Note: The photos on these two pages were submitted on Thanksgiving and in the days following afterward. Many more are available for viewing on the union's Facebook page.



ABOARD G&H BOAT – Crew members aboard the *Mark K* enjoy the feast. Pictured from left are Chief Engineer Peter Ntaamah, Oiler Daniel Reas, Mate Kent Hayward and DDA Ken Meaney. Thanks to Capt. John Cox for the photo.



ABOARD MAERSK PEARY – Pictured in the galley (photo at left, from left) are SA Lakeeba Bazemore, Chief Steward Lamont Faulks and Chief Cook Osmar Ramos. Seated in the crew mess in the photo above are AB Doug Hemphill, QMED Mike Joel, Bosun Orvin Mejia and Wiper Laith Ali.



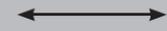
ABOARD MAERSK PEARY – Pictured in the photo above are SA Mario Ali Matari and Chief Cook Christopher Coston. The photo on the right also came from the vessel.



ABOARD EL COQUI – Chief Cook Steven Lopez and Chief Steward Bryan Alvarez are pictured during Thanksgiving dinner prep aboard the *Crowley* ship.

Seafarers International Union Directory

Michael Sacco, President
 Augustin Tellez, Executive Vice President
 David Heindel, Secretary-Treasurer
 George Tricker, Vice President Contracts
 Tom Orzechowski,
 Vice President Lakes and Inland Waters
 Dean Corgey, Vice President Gulf Coast
 Nicholas J. Marrone, Vice President West Coast
 Joseph T. Soresi, Vice President Atlantic Coast
 Nicholas Celona, Vice President Government
 Services



HEADQUARTERS

5201 Capital Gateway Drive
 Camp Springs, MD 20746 (301) 899-0675

ALGONAC

520 St. Clair River Dr., Algonac, MI 48001
 (810) 794-4988

ANCHORAGE

721 Sesame St., #1C, Anchorage, AK 99503
 (907) 561-4988

BALTIMORE

2315 Essex St., Baltimore, MD 21224
 (410) 327-4900

GUAM

P.O. Box 3328, Hagatna, Guam 96932
 Cliffline Office Ctr. Bldg., Suite 103B
 422 West O'Brien Dr., Hagatna, Guam 96910
 (671) 477-1350

HONOLULU

606 Kalihi St., Honolulu, HI 96819
 (808) 845-5222

HOUSTON

625 N. York St., Houston, TX 77003
 (713) 659-5152

JACKSONVILLE

5100 Belfort Rd., Jacksonville, FL 32256
 (904) 281-2622

JERSEY CITY

104 Broadway, Jersey City, NJ 07306
 (201) 434-6000

JOLIET

10 East Clinton St., Joliet, IL 60432
 (815) 723-8002

MOBILE

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

45353 St. George's Avenue, Piney Point, MD
 20674
 (301) 994-0010

PORT EVERGLADES

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

SAN JUAN

659 Hill Side St., Summit Hills
 San Juan, PR 00920
 (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) 549-4001/4002

Inquiring Seafarer

This month's question was answered by students at the SIU-affiliated school in Piney Point, Maryland, in November 2021

Question: What are some of your plans for the rest of this year and/or the New Year?



Bernard Nieves
Chief Cook

To complete this class and to become a full-fledged chief cook, and after that, go on vacation in the Philippines.



Abraham Allamoth
Chief Steward

Go out there, make some money and enjoy the shipping life. Buy a new house.



Brandy Griffin
Chief Cook

Finish my chief cook class, go out and make a ton of money, and spend time with my family. They're in Virginia, Philly and Michigan.



Naila Kling
Apprentice

To be experiencing the stars and the moon and, instead of fireworks, the real world. Meeting people who are seasoned travelers and who want to explore the world.



Sophia Lewis
Chief Cook

Travelling to all the places I have dreamed about but haven't been able to get there until now, and learning all of the flavored dishes that each country offers.



Cody Quinn
Apprentice

Hopefully, in the New Year, I'm looking forward to being on a ship. This has been a good experience at the school but I'm ready to get out there and get started.

Pic From The Past



Original caption from the January 1975 LOG: "Deck delegate AB Aden Ezell Jr. (center) tells AB Ed Spooner it doesn't hurt a bit as Dr. Manuel Alvarez administers the first of seven shots needed for the trip." Photo was taken aboard the *Sam Houston* in Brooklyn, New York, before the Waterman vessel began its first overseas voyage.

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 Capital Gateway Drive, 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

KAREEM AHMED

Brother Kareem Ahmed, 50, joined the Seafarers International Union in 1992, initially sailing aboard the *Independence*. He upgraded at the Piney Point school on multiple occasions and shipped in the deck department. Brother Ahmed's final vessel was the *Horizon Anchorage*. He is a resident of University Place, Washington.



MARTIN ALLRED

Brother Martin Allred, 57, began sailing with the SIU in 1989. An engine department member, he first sailed aboard the *Green Valley*. Brother Allred upgraded at the Paul Hall Center on multiple occasions. He most recently sailed aboard the *Cape Race* and lives in Little River, South Carolina.



JOSEPH ARTIS

Brother Joseph Artis, 65, signed on with the SIU in 1975, first sailing aboard the *Baltimore*. He shipped in the deck department and upgraded at the union-affiliated Piney Point school on numerous occasions. Brother Artis last shipped on the *Mokihana* and resides in Cathedral City, California.



PAUL CALIMER

Brother Paul Calimer, 65, became a member of the Seafarers International Union in 1977. He worked in the steward department and upgraded often at the Paul Hall Center. Brother Calimer's first vessel was the *St. Louis*; his last, the *Beaver State*. He resides in Aberdeen, Washington.



DONOVAN CHRISTIE

Brother Donovan Christie, 65, embarked on his career with the Seafarers in 1983, initially sailing on the *Aquarius*. He was a member of the deck department and upgraded at the Piney Point school on numerous occasions. Brother Christie last shipped on the



Performance and makes his home in Cleveland.

DEBRA GARDINER

Sister Debra Gardiner, 65, signed on with the union in 1991. She first sailed aboard the *Independence* and worked in the steward department. Sister Gardiner upgraded at the Paul Hall Center on multiple occasions. She last shipped on the *USNS Regulus* and is a resident of Monroe, North Carolina.



ISABEL MIRANDA

Brother Isabel Miranda, 65, signed on with the union in 1991, initially shipping on the *Independence*. He sailed in the steward department and upgraded at the Paul Hall Center on multiple occasions. Brother Miranda last shipped aboard the *Resolve*. He lives in Missouri City, Texas.



AHMED MOZEB

Brother Ahmed Mozeb, 65, donned the SIU colors in 1999. He first sailed aboard the *USNS Henson* and worked in the steward department. Brother Mozeb upgraded at the Piney Point school on multiple occasions. He last sailed aboard the *President Adams* and is a San Francisco resident.



TIMOTEO NUNEZ

Brother Timoteo Nunez, 66, started sailing with the union in 2004, initially shipping on the *Cape Douglas*. A steward department member, Brother Nunez upgraded at the Paul Hall Center on numerous occasions. He concluded his career aboard the *USNS Pomeroy* and lives in Miami.



JOSEPH QUITUGUA

Brother Joseph Quitugua, 73, joined the union in 2001 and first sailed aboard the *Patriot*. He sailed in both the deck and engine departments and upgraded at the union-affiliated Piney Point school in 2006. Brother Quitugua last shipped on the *Dewayne T.*



Williams and resides in Guam.

JOHN RUIZ

Brother John Ruiz, 67, began his career with the SIU in 1971. An engine department member, he initially sailed aboard the *Overseas Progress*. Brother Ruiz upgraded at the Paul Hall Center in 1974. He concluded his career aboard the *Star of Texas* and makes his home in Houston.



MIGUELITO SALADA

Brother Miguelito Salada, 65, embarked on his career with the SIU in 1998 when he sailed aboard the *USNS Pathfinder*. He shipped in the deck department and upgraded at the Piney Point school on multiple occasions. Brother Salada concluded his career on the *Maersk Montana* and settled in Toms River, New Jersey.



DENYSE SINEATH

Sister Denyse Sineath, 65, became a member of the Seafarers International Union in 1997, initially sailing aboard the *USNS Silas Bent*. She worked in the deck department and upgraded often at the Paul Hall Center. Sister Sineath's final vessel was the *Alliance Fairfax*. She calls Hilliard, Florida, home.



JOHN THOMPSON

Brother John Thompson, 65, started his career with the Seafarers in 1978 and first sailed aboard the *Thomas Lynch*. He sailed in the deck department and upgraded often at the Paul Hall Center. Brother Thompson's final vessel was the *Gemini*. He makes his home in Canton, Maine.



GREAT LAKES

MARC TANTRE

Brother Marc Tantre, 66, signed on with the SIU in 1989. He initially shipped aboard the *Adam E. Cornelius* and was a deck department mem-



ber. Brother Tantre upgraded at the Piney Point school multiple occasions. He most recently sailed on the *John Boland* and resides in Fairport Harbor, Ohio.

INLAND

PETER BISHOP

Brother Peter Bishop, 71, donned the SIU colors in 1971. A deck department member, he first shipped aboard the *Ponce*. Brother Bishop concluded his career working for Crowley Towing and Transportation. He is a resident of Venice, Florida.

JAMES CHASE

Brother James Chase, 66, embarked on his career with the Seafarers in 2007 when he shipped aboard the *Terrapin Island*. He was a member of the deck department and upgraded at the Piney Point school in 2015. Brother Chase was employed by Great Lakes Dredge and Dock for the duration of his career. He resides in Carriere, Mississippi.



SCOTT CHEW

Brother Scott Chew, 61, signed on with the union in 2000. He sailed in the deck department and upgraded often at the Paul Hall Center. Brother Chew worked for the Penn Maritime for his entire career. He settled in Bangor, Michigan.



RICHARD CORNELIUS

Brother Richard Cornelius, 64, joined the Seafarers International Union in 1976 when he sailed with Mariner Towing. He was a member of the deck department and upgraded at the Paul Hall Center within his first year of membership. Brother Cornelius concluded his career with OSG Ship Management and lives in Delmar, Delaware.

DAVID FINDLEY

Brother David Findley, 61, started sailing with the Seafarers in 1982. An engine department member, he worked for Crescent Towing and Salvage for the duration of his career. Brother Findley resides in Belle Chasse, Louisiana.

RONALD FREITAS

Brother Ronald Freitas, 71, signed on with the union in 2004. He sailed in the deck department and upgraded at the Paul Hall Center



in 2005. Brother Freitas worked for Penn Maritime for his entire career. He makes his home in Oviedo, Florida.

SERVILLANO LOZANDI

Brother Servillano Lozandi, 65, joined the SIU in 2002 when he sailed on the *McDonnell*. He was a deck department member and upgraded at the Piney Point school on numerous occasions. Brother Lozandi most recently shipped on the *Legacy* and makes his home in Miami.



DOMENIC MALLACE

Brother Domenic Mallace, 63, donned the SIU colors in 2003, initially working for Crowley. He upgraded at the Paul Hall Center in 2008 and continued his employment with the same company for the duration of his career. Brother Mallace is resident of Collingdale, Pennsylvania.



MICHAEL MULHARAN

Brother Michael Mulharan, 62, embarked on his career with the SIU in 1978 when he sailed with CSX Lines. He was a member of the deck department and upgraded at the Piney Point school on multiple occasions. Brother Mulharan was last employed by OSG Ship Management. He makes his home in Chiefland, Florida.



OWEN O'KEEFE

Brother Owen O'Keefe, 64, joined the Seafarers International Union in 1983, initially sailing on the *Aquarius*. A deck department member, he most recently sailed with Crowley Towing and Transportation. Brother O'Keefe lives in Jacksonville, Florida.



GARY SMITH

Brother Gary Smith, 62, started sailing with the Seafarers in 1978. He first shipped on the *Maryland* and worked in the deck department. Brother Smith upgraded at the Paul Hall Center on multiple occasions. He last worked for Crowley Towing and Transportation and resides in Rogersville, Tennessee.



Final Departures



DEEP SEA

WILLIAM BAKER

Pensioner William Baker, 96, died October 8. He joined the Seafarers International Union in 1943 and first shipped with Joshua Hendy Corporation. Brother Baker sailed in the deck department and concluded his career aboard the *Ultrasea*. He became a pensioner in 1995 and settled in Sugarland, Texas.

BYRON COLEMAN

Pensioner Byron Coleman, 66, passed away August 25. He signed on with the SIU in 1991, initially sailing aboard the *USNS Titan*. Brother Coleman was a deck department member. He last shipped on the *Liberty Wave* in 2003 and went on pension in 2019. Brother Coleman lived in Seattle.



DOMINICO DACUA

Pensioner Dominico Dacua, 82, died November 3. He began his career with the Seafarers in 1989. A steward department member, his first vessel was the *Independence*. Brother Dacua last shipped on the *R. J. Pfeiffer* before retiring in 2005. He resided in Kapolei, Hawaii.



LOUIS ESCARRA

Pensioner Louis Escarra, 96, passed away August 24. He joined the SIU in 1957, initially working for Penn Navigation. Brother Escarra was a member of the deck department and last sailed aboard the *Voyager*. He became a pensioner in 1992 and settled in Hollywood, Florida.



RICHARD GEGENHEIMER

Pensioner Richard Gegenheimer, 70, died October 28. He signed on with the Seafarers International Union in 1974. A steward department member, Brother Gegenheimer first sailed with States Steamship. After concluding his career aboard the *Maui*, he retired in 2011. Brother Gegenheimer made his home in Dunnellon, Florida.



ERASMO GUEVARA

Pensioner Erasmo Guevara, 79, passed away October 31. He em-



barked on his career with the SIU in 1993, initially sailing aboard the *Independence*. Brother Guevara was a steward department member. He most recently sailed on the *Sunshine State* last year before becoming a pensioner. Brother Guevara called Jacksonville, Florida, home.

DAVID KOORY

Pensioner David Koory, 71, died October 24. He joined the union in 1990 and was a deck department member. Brother Koory first sailed aboard the *Walter J. McCarthy*. He last shipped on the *Patriot* and went on pension in 2015. Brother Koory was a resident of Ann Arbor, Michigan.



CLIFFORD LACON

Pensioner Clifford Lacon, 82, passed away November 7. He donned the SIU colors in 2001 and first sailed aboard the *Anders Maersk*. A deck department member, Brother Lacon last shipped on the *Maersk Kentucky*. He retired in 2010 and made his home in Mechanicsville, Virginia.



DAVON MCMILLAN

Brother Davon McMillan, 65, died September 4. Born in Monroeville, Alabama, he signed on with the union in 1978. Brother McMillan's first vessel was the *Great Land*. He shipped in both the deck and engine departments and most recently sailed aboard the *Resolve*. Brother McMillan resided in Pensacola, Florida.



ALBERT MOORE

Pensioner Albert Moore, 80, passed away November 5. He joined the SIU in 1960 when he sailed on the *Arizpa*. Brother Moore shipped in the deck department and concluded his career on the *Explorer*. He became a pensioner in 2005 and lived in Mesa, Arizona.



HERMUS PATRICK

Pensioner Hermus Patrick, 85, died May 15. He began shipping with the Seafarers International Union in



1976, initially sailing on the *Trans-Indiana*. Brother Patrick worked in the engine department. He last sailed on the *USNS Denebola* and went on pension in 2001. Brother Patrick resided in Brooklyn, New York.

RICHARD PROVOST

Pensioner Richard Provost, 69, passed away October 12. He donned the SIU colors in 1971 when he shipped on the *William Reiss*. Brother Provost was a member of the deck department. He last shipped aboard the *Anders Maersk* and began collecting his pension in 2017. Brother Provost lived in Marengo, Wisconsin.



FRANCISCO SANCHEZ

Pensioner Francisco Sanchez, 89, died November 4. He joined the union in 2001 and initially sailed on the *Cape Victory*. Brother Sanchez shipped in the steward department and concluded his career on the *USNS Fisher*. He retired in 2006 and made his home in Corpus Christi, Texas.



ALI SHAIBI

Pensioner Ali Shaibi, 65, has passed away. He signed on with the SIU in 1978 and first shipped on the *TransColorado*. A deck department member, Brother Shaibi last sailed on the *Philadelphia* in 1996. He went on pension in 2019 and called the Bronx, New York, home.



WILLIAM STEELE

Pensioner William Steele, 80, died November 19. He started sailing with the Seafarers in 1967. A deck department member, Brother Steele was first employed by Higman Barge Lines. He last shipped aboard the *USNS Algol* before retiring in 1998. Brother Steele was a resident of Buna, Texas.



GREAT LAKES

ALBIN FILARSKI

Pensioner Albin Filarski, 85, passed



away October 30. He signed on with the SIU in 1988 when he sailed aboard the *Paul H. Townsend*. Brother Filarski worked in the deck department and last shipped on the *Presque Isle*. He became a pensioner in 2001 and resided in Alpena, Michigan.

INLAND

WILLIAM FURMAN

Pensioner William Furman, 80, died November 22. A member of the deck department, he joined the union in 1970. Brother Furman was employed with Allied Transportation until his retirement in 1998. He made his home in Portsmouth, Virginia.



MICHAEL LEAGER

Pensioner Michael Leager, 66, passed away November 17. He began sailing with the SIU in 1973 and worked in the deck department. Employed by Interstate Oil for most of his career, Brother Leager last sailed in 1987. He became a pensioner in 2020 and settled in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania.



JASPER MAMOLITI

Pensioner Jasper Mamoliti, 98, died November 6. He became a member of the Seafarers International Union in 1962. Brother Mamoliti sailed with Moran Towing of Maryland for the duration of his career. He began collecting his pension in 1984 and resided in Lewes, Delaware.

DONALD MORGAN

Pensioner Donald Morgan, 91, passed away October 4. He donned the SIU colors in 1972, initially sailing with Moran Towing of Texas. Brother Morgan was a member of the deck department and was last employed by Allied Transportation. He became a pensioner in 1992 and settled in Newport News, Virginia.



MELVIN POTTER

Pensioner Melvin Potter, 74, died October 28. He embarked on his career with the union in 1965 when he worked for R.K. Davis Transportation. Brother Potter sailed in the deck department and was last employed by Express Marine. He retired in 2010 and lived in Bath, North Carolina.

DANIEL WEBSTER

Pensioner Daniel Webster, 82, passed away June 11. He joined the SIU in 1973 when he worked for Interstate Oil. Brother Webster last sailed with Mariner Towing. He began collecting his pension in 1993 and called Saugus, Massachusetts, home.

NMU

In addition to the foregoing individuals, the following union members have also passed away. Insufficient information was available to develop summaries of their respective careers.

NAME	AGE	DOD
Cloutier, Richard	80	10/07/2021
Del Rio, Jose	98	09/28/2021
Dias, Arthur	72	09/24/2021
Holloway, Jay	93	08/19/2021
Mitchell, Claude	89	10/01/2021
Mojica, Gloria	90	06/05/2021
Palmore, Walter	93	11/08/2021
Patiniotis, Roseto	90	08/28/2021
Seace, Rodman	92	09/10/2021
Sims, Harold	94	10/04/2021
Townsend, Albert	92	11/10/2021

Missed an Issue of the Log?

PDF versions of nearly every edition are available at seafarer-slog.org. You can also scan this QR code to go directly to the website.



Digest of Shipboard Union Meetings

GARDEN STATE (Intrepid Personnel and Provisioning), July 21 – Chairman **Carlos Arauz**, Secretary **Pedro Castillo**, Educational Director **William Mercer**, Deck Delegate **Michael Sinclair**, Engine Delegate **Brandon Purcell**, Steward Delegate **Santiago Amaya**. Chairman reminded everyone to sanitize quarters and wash hands regularly. Educational director advised crew to go to the Piney Point school and upgrade. No beefs or disputed OT reported. Members requested Wi-Fi. Steward department was thanked for a job well done.

AMERICAN PHOENIX (Phoenix Crew Management), July 29 – Chairman **Charles Hill**, Secretary **Shari Hardman**, Educational Director **Robert Noble**, Steward Delegate **Juan Palacios Clother**. Chairman discussed COVID-19 vaccines and encouraged crew to get vaccinated. Members discussed pay for sanitation and union meetings. Secretary reported transportation problems when going from ship to gate in Port Arthur, Texas. No beefs or disputed OT reported. Crew requested 20 vacation days for 30 days of employment. Next port: Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

GARDEN STATE (Intrepid Personnel and Provisioning), August 21 – Chairman **Carlos Arauz**, Secretary **Pedro Castillo**, Educational Director **Alexander Capellan**, Deck Delegate **Clinton Crowden**, Steward Delegate **Medardo Thomas**. Chairman reiterated the importance of practicing good hygiene and keeping quarters clean. Educational director urged crew to check documents and upgrade at the Paul Hall Center. No beefs or disputed OT reported. Steward department was thanked for a job well done.

AMERICAN PHOENIX (Phoenix Crew Management), August 29 – Chairman **Charles Hill**, Educational

Director **Robert Noble**, Deck Delegate **Edward Gavagan**, Engine Delegate **Tresten Porter**, Steward Delegate **Shari Hardman**. Ship restriction back in effect, per company orders. No beefs or disputed OT reported. Members reported they are not getting eight hours in lieu of days off.

MAERSK SELETAR (Maersk Line, Limited), September 3 – Chairman **Roy Madrio**, Secretary **Marcelo Alicea**, Educational Director **Jerome Culbreth**, Deck Delegate **Jon Mark Newman**, Engine Delegate **Matthew Yowell**, Steward Delegate **Sherre Wilson**. Chairman reiterated the importance of getting the COVID-19 vaccine. He encouraged all departments to work safely and use proper PPE. Chairman advised members to take care of medical certificates as soon as possible to avoid processing delays. Secretary reminded crew to stay on top of documents. Educational director urged members to take advantage of the upgrading opportunities at the Paul Hall Center. No beefs or disputed OT reported. Better Wi-Fi needed aboard ship as well as new converters/transformers in each room. Crew requested media entertainment options aboard ship and raises in vacation benefits. Members reviewed medical coverage and provided suggestions to improve relief practices. Next port: Newark, New Jersey.

EMPIRE STATE (Intrepid Personnel and Provisioning), September 14 – Chairman **Abdulkarim Mohamed**, Secretary **Troy Smith**, Educational Director **Dhahabi Quraish**, Engine Delegate **Mark Canada**, Steward Delegate **Mohamed Noman**. Crew requested Wi-Fi availability and computer access aboard ship. No complaints from crew, everything going great overall as reported by secretary. Educational director reminded members to upgrade at the Piney Point

school. No beefs or disputed OT reported. Members were encouraged to contribute to the union's voluntary political action fund (SPAD). Ninety percent of ship crew has received the COVID-19 vaccination.

MAERSK KENSINGTON (Maersk Line, Limited), September 19 – Chairman **Hussein Mohamed**, Secretary **Randall Campbell**, Educational Director **George Bieselin**, Deck Delegate **Milton Estrada**, Engine Delegate **Juan Rochez**. Effective October 1, proof of COVID-19 vaccine (or an exemption and/or a recent negative test result) will be required to enter all hiring halls. Secretary encouraged crew to continue following safety protocols for COVID-19. Educational director urged members to upgrade at the Paul Hall Center. Crew requested better Wi-Fi and for vacation accrual to increase to day-per-day rate.

HORIZON KODIAK (Horizon Lines), September 26 – Chairman **Darryl Smith**, Secretary **Antoinette Amato**, Educational Director **Mbarek Nouhairi**, Engine Delegate **Jeffrey Murray**. Chairman encouraged members to contribute to SPAD and to renew documents as early as possible. Educational director reminded crew to advance their skills by upgrading at the Piney Point school. Members discussed disputed OT for ship restrictions. Incorrect mattresses received. Crew discussed plans for revisiting topic of ship restriction in contractual negotiations. Members offered suggestions concerning ServSafe courses. Crew asked for the minimum of relief positions be changed to 60 days or for sea time requirement for collecting vacation checks be lowered to 45 days. Members requested 20 vacation days for 30 working days and indicated operators are not transferring sea-time documentation to headquarters in a timely manner. Members were

instructed to turn off devices when not in use to avoid compromising accessibility for shipmates. Matson reportedly continues to deny reimbursement for work boots. Crew members would prefer to buy work boots of their choice rather than being restricted to Matson's voucher program for Red Wing shoes. Steward department was thanked for good food and clean house. Deck department was thanked for a job well done. Next port: Tacoma, Washington.

DECISIVE (SubCom), October 11 – Chairman **Victor Nunez**, Secretary **Gregory Johnson**, Educational Director **Casey Frederick**. Members discussed recent progress with CHS medical exams and also talked about COVID-19 vaccinations. The *Decisive* and *Dependable* are enrolling in the new U.S. Cable Security Fleet. Next project to start October 30 in Gulf of Mexico; will mobilize in next port of call. Congratulations given to UA **Joseph Bates** and UA **Alex Boothby** for a job well done during their second phase. Crew discussed several suggestions for next contract negotiation, including changing "Earned Day" to "Day off" with language that also reads "and in Port." Members would like company-provided Wi-Fi, and a reinstatement of "Penalty Meal Hour" in the CBA. Crew suggested additional manning for OMU/Welder position with a higher pay rate. Contract should include specific, cable-related work for deck department during cable operations. Crew mentioned contractual wage increases for personnel assigned to the *Global Sentinel*, due to federal clearance requirements and lack of communication during cable operations. No beefs or disputed OT reported. Next port: Mobile, Alabama.

INDEPENDENCE (Eco-Tankers Crew Management), October 24 –

The Winner



USNS Fisher vessel master (and SIU hawsepiper) Capt. Jennifer Senner submitted this photo of Chief Cook Stevon Taylor, who won the "fried-chicken faceoff" aboard the U.S. Marine Management vessel.

Chairman **Dave Coleman**, Secretary **Charles Roldan**, Educational Director **Kelly Mayo**, Deck Delegate **Emil Norales**, Engine Delegate **Mario Moralita**, Steward Delegate **Jermin Matthews**. Chairman announced payoff at sea and instructed members to give paperwork to captain when signing on. *Seafarers LOGs* can be seen in member portal. Educational Director reminded members to take advantage of the upgrading opportunities at the Paul Hall Center. No beefs or disputed OT reported. Steward department trash cans to be replaced and secured for bad weather. Vote of thanks given to steward department for great work.

Know Your Rights

FINANCIAL REPORTS. The Constitution of the SIU Atlantic, Gulf, Lakes and Inland Waters 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 District 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 Capital Gateway Drive
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.

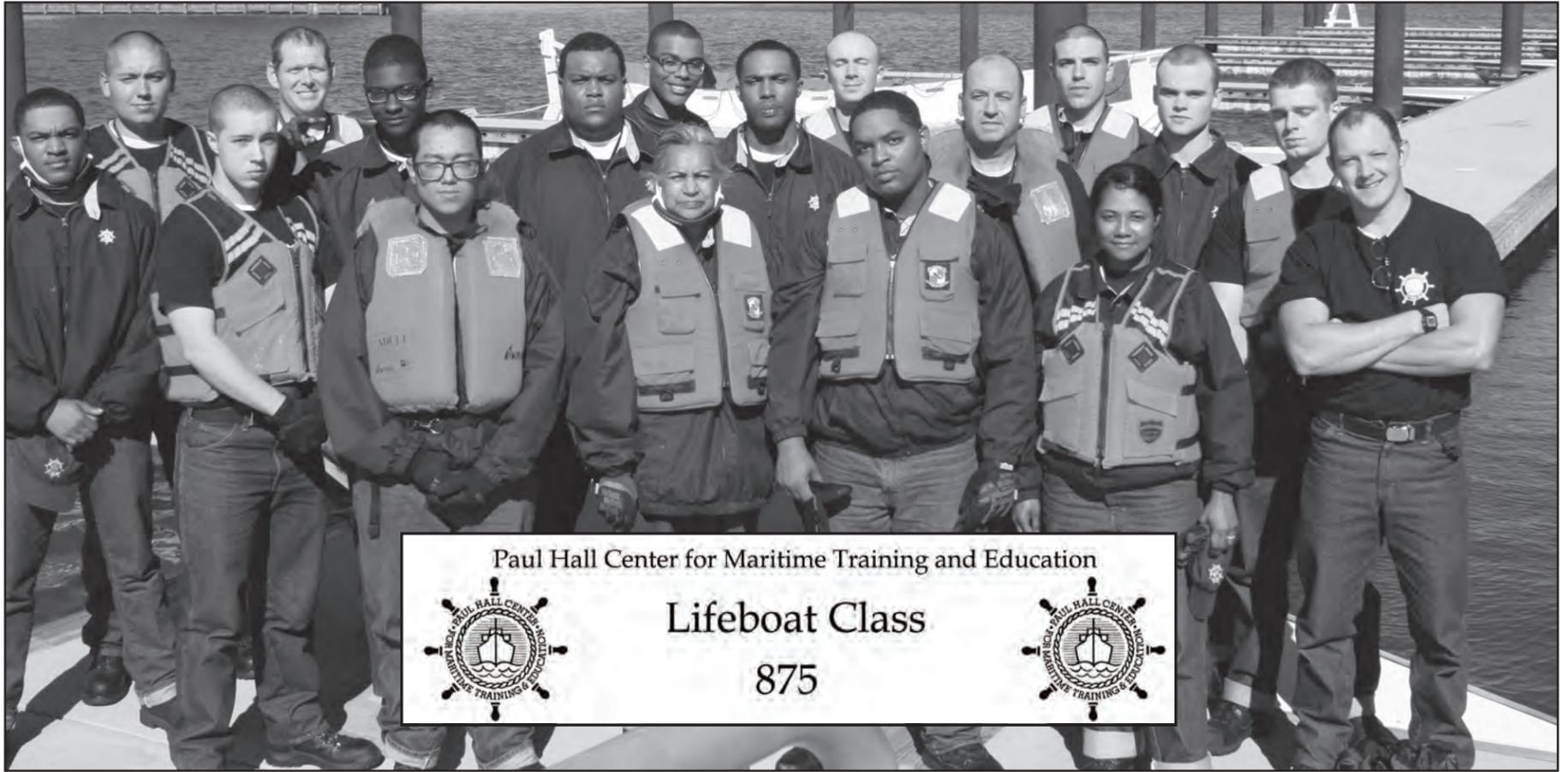
SEAFARERS POLITICAL ACTIVITY

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 Capital Gateway Drive
Camp Springs, MD 20746

Paul Hall Center Classes



Apprentice Water Survival Class #875 – Graduated Nov. 5 (above, in alphabetical order): Jordan Banks, Omar Caldwell, Elijah Dejean Diallo, Mark Dixon, Ervin Flynn, Levi Gorokhovskiy, Jeffery Griffin, Eachen Hoffrichter, Naila Kling, Caleb Miller, Dane Paulson, Jack Pier, Cody Quinn, Julian Ramirez, Domingo Sadia, Brett Sardinas, Errol Wade-Cephas and Rose Wilson.



Welding – Graduated Nov. 12 (above, in alphabetical order): Rahsaan Kwasi Alexander, David Argo Jr., Merville Lariosa Gallema, Seth Schrader and Anthony Solovyov. Class instructor Chris Raley is at the far right.



UA to Able Seafarer (Deck) – Graduated Dec. 3 (above, in alphabetical order): Diquan Adamson, Bryan Aleman Medina, Lamar Doctor, Jeffery Griffin, Roger Mathews, David May, Tanner Page, Kelvin Ivan Soto-Melendez and Johnny Young. Their instructor, Peter Luhn, is at the far right. (Note: Not all are pictured.)

RFPNW (Phase III) – Graduated Dec. 3 (photo at right, in alphabetical order): Georgia Bussink, Matthew De Maria, John Farash, Alexander Jackson, Jaquaz Jenkins, Kumasi Johnson, John Paul Mauras Garcia, Jessie Yusalina Merced Jr., Michael Reardon, Orlando Rosa Aguirre, Luis Francisco Soto Collazo, Bradley Tucker and Garrett Williams. Upon the completion of their training, each plans to work in the deck departments of union-contracted vessels.



Paul Hall Center Classes



RFPEW – Graduated Dec. 10 (above, in alphabetical order): Jorge Garcia, Ryan Sotomayor and Darrell Whitaker. Instructor Christopher Morgan is third from left.



Watchkeeping – Graduated Nov. 12 (above, in alphabetical order): Yahya Abdulaziz Ahmed, Husein Mohsin Alrayyashi, Travis Golightly, Byron Graham, Michael Hodges, Matthew Jenness, Glen McCullough and Joseph Nathanael Nicodemus.



Government Vessels – Graduated Nov. 5 (above, in alphabetical order): Darwin Brown, Kevin Brown, Sheree Brown, Nicholas Ehret, Jacarta Gibson, Lisa Hamilton, Jon Harvey, Joshua Heath, Gregory LaSeer, Sean Outlaw, Fahmi Saeed, Jessica Valentin and Angel Williams. (Note: Not all are pictured.)



Government Vessels – Graduated Dec. 3 (above, in alphabetical order): Qaid Mohammed Alnaawi, Joseph Altamura, Jonathan Augusto Bernardez, Maurice Antonio Brodie, Luis Oscar Cordero-Fuentes, Adolf Lopez Floresca, Jeremy Harris, Michael Ingram, Sterling Kirk, Terrance Paige, Amy Torres and Frederick Wilson.



Government Vessels – Graduated Nov. 19 (photo at left, in alphabetical order): Miguel Angel Abad, Leonard Anicola, Mark Brownell, Michael Clark, Torrika Devine, Jamal Field, Kenneth Greenidge, Anna-Maria Halstead, Supattara Inthapanti, Enchantress Johnson, Joshua Lux, James Rockett, Eileen Singer, Keith Williams, Jeffrey Woods and Abdulrazak Obadi Yahia.



Certified Chief Cook (Module 4) – Graduated Nov. 26 (photo at right, in alphabetical order): Leonardo Dumanagan Bagnol, Brandy Griffin, Sophia Lewis, La'sonia Littles, Pedro Sadrac Maysonet Gonzalez, Mary Moelk, Bernard Martinez Nieves II, Eric Amauris Rivas-Martinez and Chadon Tshaye Williams.



Importance Notice To All Students

Students who have registered for classes at the Paul Hall Center for Maritime Training and Education, but later discover - for whatever reason - that they can't attend, should inform the admissions department immediately so arrangements can be made to have other students take their places.

SEAFARERS LOG

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

**Text "Join" to 97779
To Sign Up for
SIU Text Alerts**



Hoisting the U.S. Flag aboard the *Pohang Pioneer* (from center of flag, clockwise) are: Third Assistant Engineer Emily Blake, First Assistant Engineer Hunter Smith, Chief Cook Steven Johnson, Chief Engineer James Cook, Captain Chris Fox, Chief Mate Bill Harris, Third Mate Callum Foley, Bosun Ahmed Ghalib, Steward Rudy Lopez and AB Larry Rawlins.

The SIU pushed for governments to prioritize mariners for COVID-19 vaccines. The work particularly paid off in Puerto Rico, where numerous Seafarers completed their respective vaccinations in April. That group included SIU Asst. VP Amancio Crespo, AB Edwin Pagan, ABM Raul Colon, ABM Jose Nunez, Bosun Jorge Soler, Jr. Engineer Richard Vega, Bosun Adrian Surrillo Diaz, Recertified Bosun Isaac Vega, Recertified Bosun Rafael Franco, QMED Jep Sumpter, ABM Luis Ramos Rosa and others.

SIU's Year in Review: 2021

Seafarers Persevere as Pandemic Continues

Outside of the SIU, the year 2021 could easily be confused for 2020. The world was still dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, including a number of variants which evolved and threatened even the vaccinated population.

By December 2021, more than 48 million cases of COVID-19 were reported in the United States alone. At the same time, 196 million people in the U.S. have been fully vaccinated, and an estimated 231 million people have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. The vaccination numbers are always climbing, and seemingly signify a real chance at putting the pandemic in the rear-view mirror.

Within the SIU, 2021 arguably should be known as the year of the contract. As of early December, at least 15 different contracts had been ratified during the year, and those agreements dominated the *Seafarers LOG* headlines. The pandemic certainly had an effect on how those negotiations took place, with countless video conference calls replacing or supplementing in-person meetings. But the work still got done, and each contract included major wins for Seafarers.

The following is an overview of some of the year's top stories for the union, the maritime industry as a whole and the labor movement.

Contracts

The year 2021 saw contract after contract successfully negotiated and ratified, and across the board each agreement included gains for the covered members. Without exception, each contract boosted wages while maintaining or improving benefits.

Newly ratified pacts included: three-year contracts with Crescent Towing, Seabulk, OSG Inland, Penn Terminal, Intrepid Personnel and Provisioning/Crowley ATB, Argent Marine, Crowley Towing and Transportation, and G&H Towing; four-year agreements with Inland Lakes Management, American Steamship Company and Virginia Pilots (which has been ratified as of press time); five-year contracts with Matson and Watco Transloading, LLC; a six-year contract with Luedtke Engineering Company; and a groundbreaking nine-year agreement with Norwegian Cruise Line that significantly improved on the old contract.

Legislative News

The Biden Administration has proven to be a consistent ally to Seafarers, as well as

the labor movement as a whole. In January, President Biden issued a "Buy American" executive order, which specifically mentioned the administration's support of the Jones Act. The executive order also calls for federal dollars to be spent on goods made by American workers using domestic content, and attempts to close loopholes that have allowed jobs and production to be shipped out of the country. In June, the White House issued guidance to provide transparency around the process of waivers from the established Made in America Laws, which includes any potential Jones Act waivers.

As part of his Labor Day proclamation, Biden doubled down, saying, "In my White House, labor will always be welcome. I intend to be the most pro-union president leading the most pro-union administration in American history."

The House passed the "Protecting the Right to Organize Act of 2019" in March, which has been identified as a critically important piece

of legislation for the labor movement. Despite this, no further actions have been taken regarding the PRO Act.

Arbitration Decision

In August, the union lost its arbitration against the American Maritime Association (AMA), which had required all mariners sailing aboard any of their affiliated companies' vessels be vaccinated against COVID-19. The union's argument was that the AMA should have first negotiated with the SIU, rather than impose the mandate unilaterally.

In the months that followed, vaccine mandates became the norm across many industries, and federally required for all government employees. As of December, the union's vaccination rates are very high, with union employees and officials having reached a 98 percent vaccination rate. Those who remain unvaccinated have received medical exemptions.

Crossing the Bar

The labor community lost AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka on August 5. A true giant in the movement and a longtime friend of the SIU, Trumka helped fight for the union way of life right up until his death, making an impassioned speech in support of the Mine Workers just days before he passed. His legacy will continue to have a lasting impact on workers' rights. In the wake of Trumka's passing, Liz Schuler was elected the next president of the AFL-CIO. She's the first woman to fill that position.

Additionally, AFL-CIO President Emeritus John Sweeney passed away February 1; American Maritime Officers (AMO) Executive Vice President Mike Finnigan died on March 19; longtime Paul Hall Center Instructor and Director of Training J.C. Wiegman passed away on May 5; maritime industry pioneer David Tolan passed away on July 6; and retired SIU

Continued on Page 19



The Paul Hall Center for Maritime Training and Education continued providing courses for upgraders and apprentices, and also opened a cutting-edge media center that's being utilized for various classes. Students are pictured in the state-of-the-art facility.