

Waterways Association of Pittsburgh Newsletter

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December 2015

www.wapgh.org

December Highlights

A total of (26) twenty-six members and guests were registered for the December 9, 2015 luncheon meeting at Chartiers Country Club. Michael Graham welcomed everyone to the meeting. First-time attendees introduced themselves: Mike Meehan and John Ross of Donora Dock & Terminal; Bob Rugola with Maccabee Industrial and Sue Majewski of the US Army Corp of Engineers.

Coast Guard News

LT Eddie Valdez presented the **attached** report. Discussion on the Port Perry Bridge height clearance was introduced by attendees. As the Lower Mon River project progresses, lock removal will yield higher water level which will reduce vertical clearance. Industry should be concerned with this situation and the precedent that it sets in regarding to infrastructure.

Army Corp of Engineers

John Dilla covered the **attached** lock closure report. The 2016/2017 repair schedule draft was made available to attendees and currently contains significant outages that will be addressed with industry members. Don Fogel will be attending the January membership luncheon and arrangements will be made to discuss the repair schedule draft following the luncheon. The \$14 million Greenup Miter Gate Replacement contract bid deadline is approaching. Depending on the bids, the project could be derailed which would make those monies available for other maintenance issues in our area.

National Weather Service

Joe Palko covered the **attached** report.

Port of Pittsburgh Commission Report

Mary Ann Bucci reported on the following items:

- The Port of Pittsburgh is holding the premiere screening of the documentary: Our Rivers: Yesterday and Today - The Allegheny River produced by the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area tonight.
- The Port has been contacted by the Regatta committee for event sponsorship. In order to consider a major sponsorship, the Port is looking for event ideas that would promote industry needs through public education.
- A discussion/listening session on WRDA 2016 was held at the Louisiana Supreme Court in New Orleans. WCI members and staff as well as Industry folks attended the session.

- At this time, the Inland Waterways Trust Fund has generated \$98 million with the implementation of the 9 cent diesel tax increase. This amount should be enough to support budgeted items such as the Lower Mon project.

Education Committee Report

Michael Graham reported the following:

- Tentative dates have been identified for the Man Overboard Seminar (July 14, 2016) and the Barge Breakaway Seminar (October 13, 2016). Plans are currently underway to confirm these dates.
- Who Works The Rivers - The next WWR is scheduled for April 21, 2016 with the "Future is Mine" Group. As always everyone is invited and encouraged to attend as a speaker and/or a presenter. If any company is interesting in sponsoring these programs, they should contact Michael Graham directly. The second date is tentatively set for October 18, 2016.

Status on the RiverQuest purchase by Rivers of Steel was discussed. Currently the boat is out of commission with negotiations underway for its purchase.

Navigation Committee Report

Eunice Ratcliff was unable to attend. Ryan Newton confirmed that all navigational concerns were addressed under above agenda items. There is nothing additional to report.

Legislative Committee Report

Richard Kreider was unable to attend the meeting. Items under this agenda item were covered under the Port of Pittsburgh Commission Report.

January Membership Meeting

The **next** membership meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2016 at Bella Sera (414 Morganza Road, Canonsburg, PA 15317. Cost of the luncheon will be \$25. Registration will begin at 11:45 a.m. with lunch served promptly at noon. Please call, email or fax the response form below by Thursday, January 7, 2016 if you plan on attending the luncheon meeting.

**Waterways Association of Pittsburgh
Meeting Response Form**

Bella Sera

January 13, 2016

Menu:

Romaine & Radicchio Salad w/Balsamic Vinaigrette & Ranch
Chicken Saltimbocca w/Prosciutto, Provolone & Fresh Sage
Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes/Chef's Choice of Vegetable
Brownies & Mini Cannolis
Lemonade, Ice Tea & Coffee Station

Cost: *\$30/per member*

_____ YES, I will be attending

_____ No, I will not be attending

****Special Dietary Requirements:** _____

NAME: _____
(Please print)

COMPANY: _____

Please respond **by Thursday, January 7, 2016** to:

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