

Waterways Association of Pittsburgh Newsletter

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July 2014

www.wapgh.org

July Highlights

A total of (twenty-nine) 39 members and guests gathered aboard the Gateway Clipper Fleet's Princess for the July 9, 2014 luncheon meeting. Guest Elizabeth Regan, Summer Intern for Axiall Corporation, was introduced by colleague Scott Thumma.

Prior to the meeting, the 2014 Scholarship Recipients Christina DiCola and Sarah Roebuck were recognized and presented their scholarship certificates.

Coast Guard News

CDR Lindsay Weaver presented the **attached** report. Several other comments were made:

- The 15th Biennial Harbor Safety Committee and Area Maritime Security Committee Conference on August 25-27, 2014, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The conference will explore best practices, innovations, and technology that address critical harbor and maritime safety and security issues. Please use below link for more information and registration. <http://www.cvent.com/events/15th-biennial-harbor-safety-committee-and-area-maritime-security-committee-conference-partnering-for/event-summary-551957cf52364b6da5184aa5498d6fe3.aspx>
- The Pittsburgh Area Maritime Security Committee will meet Tuesday, 15 July at 1000 at Norfolk Southern, 425 Holiday Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15220. We encourage all Facility and Vessel Security Officers to attend the meeting and meet the intent of the security regulations.
- RADM Cook's visit is expected for 2nd week in August. His bio: <http://www.uscg.mil/flag/biography/KevinCook.pdf>

LT Ariana Mohnke reported on the listing of river closures.

Army Corp of Engineers

Richard Lockwood covered the **attached** report.

Lock #5 on Allegheny River has reduced service Tuesday and Wednesday of each week. Lockage on these days will be by appointment only. Hour restrictions will last approximately 5 weeks.

National Weather Service

Joe Palko provided the **attached** report.

Port of Pittsburgh Commission Report

Mary Ann Bucci presented the following information:

- Additional CMAQ funds of \$1.2 million are now available. Companies that had submitted applications are being asked to review their budgets to determine if additional funds are necessary to complete conversions. Funding for additional vessels will be reviewed.
- The Port's headquarter offices will be relocated July 31st. During the last week of July, staffing will have limited access to telephones or emails. Your patience during this moving process would be greatly appreciated. A fall Open House is currently being planned.
- At this time, a replacement for retired Jim McCarville has not been finalized. Mary Ann will serve as Acting Director during this time.

Education Committee Report

Michael Graham reported the following:

- The Man Overboard Seminar will be held on July 17th at the Healthplex. The facility and catering have been confirmed. Attendance currently stands around 64 and the participant listing was reviewed.
- The Barge Breakaway Seminar will be held October 16th at the Floreffo Fire Hall. Searchlight Safety's Deane Orr will be organizing the seminar content.
- The next "Who Works the River" program has been scheduled for October 21, 2014.

Navigation Committee Report

David Podurgiel has been serving as Acting Navigation Committee Chair during Eunice Ratcliff's absence. He thanked everyone for their support during this time and had no additional information to add that has not be presented under the US Army Corp of Engineers report.

Legislative Committee Report

Richard Kreider informed members that WRRDA bill funding (fuel tax) remains an issue. The Highway Transportation Bill appears to be the appropriate vehicle to include the fuel tax. Once the fuel tax has been approved, the Appropriations Committee will work on project funding. It is vital that Mike Somales, our region's User Board representative, be in attendance at future meetings to aid in maintaining current project priorities established by the US Army Corp of Engineers.

Several other items were discussed:

- The Energy Water Development bill was approved and contained increased funding due to the WRDA bill passage.
- Chemical Transportation Committee will be meeting soon and reviewing Frac water and LNG transit. However, no movement on these items is expected at this time.
- The validity of the Jones Act is back on the radar as a debate rages over whether the United States should lift its decades-old ban on the export of most crude oil - an issue that has generated heated debate in Washington this year.

August Membership Meeting

The *next* membership meeting is scheduled for August 13, 2014 at Chartiers Country Club. 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, August 7, 2014 if you plan on attending the luncheon meeting.

**Waterways Association of Pittsburgh
Meeting Response Form**

Chartiers Country Club

August 13, 2014

Menu:

Fresh Fruit Salad w/Honey Cream
Fillet of Salmon/broiled w/ white wine & served w/cucumber dill sauce
Rice Pilaf
Strawberry Parfait
Iced Tea and Coffee Service

Cost: *\$25/per member*

_____ YES, I will be attending

_____ No, I will not be attending

****Special Dietary Requirements:** _____

NAME: _____
(Please print)

COMPANY: _____

Please respond **by Thursday, August 7, 2014** to:

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