

# Waterways Association of Pittsburgh Newsletter

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March 2014

[www.wapgh.org](http://www.wapgh.org)

## March Highlights

A total of (forty-two) 42 members and guests gathered at Chartiers Country Club for the March 12, 2014 luncheon meeting. Dean Marlin and Dave Konesni from Nicholas Enterprises were welcomed to the meeting along with Jamie Smith of Guttman Energy.

## Coast Guard News

LT. Eric Jesionowski addressed the following items:

- The **attached** report was reviewed.
- MSU Pittsburgh is in the planning stages for an Industry Day which is scheduled for June 13, 2014 at the Pittsburgh Marriott City Center hotel. More detailed information will be made available shortly.
- Joe Palko of the National Weather Service was awarded a Certificate of Merit and Eunice Ratcliff of the Waterways Association of Pittsburgh Navigation Committee was awarded a Public Service Commendation from the US Coast Guard. These awards recognized the strong commitment to public service to preserve Maritime safety during this past winter period.

## Army Corp of Engineers

James Klanica, Allegheny River Lockmaster, covered the **attached** report.

## National Weather Service

Joe Palko provided the **attached** report. Richard Kane announced his retirement from the National Weather Service after 35 years of service. He was thanked for all his dedication to the Waterways Association.

## Port of Pittsburgh Commission Report

Mary Ann Bucci presented the following information:

- A Liquid National Gas (LNG) study will be conducted by the company Life Cycle. Industry members are encouraged to participate when contacted to complete this survey.
- On June 15<sup>th</sup>, the second test bed for the wireless waterways system will be launched. The Port will be looking for co-participants along with evaluators. Anyone interested should contact Rex Woodward or Jim McCarville directly.
- A proposal has been submitted to extend the no-wake zone on the Allegheny River from the point to Lock #1 for recreational boaters.

Anyone that wishes to voice an objection to this proposal should contact J.D or Mary Ann directly.

- The Port of Pittsburgh office will be relocating around July 1<sup>st</sup> to the Twin Towers on Stuebenville Pike. An open house will be planned a short while later.
- As Pittsburgh Maritime Club chair, an invitation was extended to membership to attend the March 28<sup>th</sup> Murder Mystery Dinner that will be held at the Red Lion Restaurant beginning at 6 p.m. for \$80 per person. Anyone interested in attending should contact Daria Schwartz or Mary Ann Bucci.

### **Education Committee Report**

Michael Graham reported the following:

- The date of October 16<sup>th</sup> has been confirmed for the Barge Breakaway Seminar at the Floreffe Fire Hall. The Barge Breakaway Seminar will no longer rotate between Deckhand and Managerial emphasis but will be combined into one each year while maintaining a hands-on portion.
- There will be one "Who Works the Rivers" Program on October 14, 2014. Anyone interested in participating should contact Michael Graham at email: [MGRAHAM@GATEWAYCLIPPER.COM](mailto:MGRAHAM@GATEWAYCLIPPER.COM). Industry members are strongly encouraged to meet these young students and promote river careers.
- An additional "Who Works the River" program has been scheduled for Thursday, April 24, 2014 for The Consortium for Public Education. The attendance estimate is between 60/90 participants. Michael is still looking for industry representatives to participate in this program. Companies are encouraged to set up booths to share details with attendees.

### **Navigation Committee Report**

Eunice Ratcliff reported on the following items:

- Bridge vertical clearance is currently being addressed in the Pittsburgh region. Anyone that wishes to have a specific bridge reviewed should contact Eunice immediately.
- The Corp is pulling cuts at Pike Island so a helper boat is not necessary. The industry self-help program is in progress.
- Ice on the Allegheny River continues to dissipate without any major issues.
- With the spring/summer season fast approaching, an effort to promote a heightened awareness with recreational boaters will be pursued. This may be a great subject for the Industry Days planned by the US Coast Guard.
- A local Marine Incident Summit meeting is tentatively set for May immediately before or after the monthly WAP membership luncheon. This summit provides a great opportunity to share information, challenges and issues between your industry partners.

### **Legislative Committee Report**

Richard Kreider was unable to attend the meeting. David McQuiston provided the following items:

- The WRDA bill is now in final negotiations with several issues causing concerns. The Olmsted funding is different in each bill (100% in Senate Bill and 75% in House Bill).
- Senator Casey was the recent recipient of the Leadership Service Award given by the Waterways Council. This award was to have been presented at the recent WCI Conference in Washington. Unfortunately, due to inclement weather, the Senator was unable to attend the award dinner. This award is tentatively scheduled to be presented to Senator Casey in Pittsburgh on March 21<sup>st</sup> (tentatively). Very limited lead time will be provided so members will be encouraged to try to participate when the notice is finally sent.
- A bi-partisan meeting will be planned when the WRDA bill is signed to thank Senator Casey & Congressman Shuster for all their efforts and support.

### **April Membership Meeting**

The **next** membership meeting is scheduled for April 9, 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, April 3, 2014 if you plan on attending the luncheon meeting.

**Waterways Association of Pittsburgh  
Meeting Response Form**

Chartiers Country Club

April 9, 2014

**Menu:**

Seasonal Fresh Fruit Cup  
Chicken Crepes  
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, April 3, 2014** to:

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Phone:        (724) 355-4101  
Fax:            (724) 285-4999  
Email:        [cheryll.cranmer@wapgh.org](mailto:cheryll.cranmer@wapgh.org)