

Waterways Association of Pittsburgh Newsletter

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March 2017

www.wapgh.org

March Highlights

A total of (23) twenty-three members and guests were registered for the March 8, 2017 luncheon meeting at Chartiers Country Club. First-time attendee from US Steel Corporation, Frank Kozleuchar was introduced by Ed Bengier.

Coast Guard News

LT Shawn Simeral presented the **attached** report.

Army Corp of Engineers

Ian McKelvey covered the **attached** lock closure report.

*May 13th is the tentative date for a safe boating event scheduled for Lock 4 on the Allegheny. John Dilla is beginning to plan for this event and will be reaching out to industry for support and input on this important educational opportunity.

National Weather Service

Joe Palko covered the **attached** report.

Port of Pittsburgh Commission Report

Mary Ann Bucci provided the following:

- A meeting was held with the Corp in regards to the Upper Ohio Navigational Study. OMB has now requested another full economic study costing another \$2 million and an additional delay of 18 months for the project. The district needs to continue to push for moving forward on this project with no further delays. This may be possible with the new Director for the Office of Management & Budget, Mick Mulvaney. However, the President's budget has not yet been released.
- No update has been received on the discouraging news that Locks 5,6,7,8,9 on the Allegheny may be decommissioned and no longer supported by the Army Corp of Engineers. The USACE is studying the possibilities of keeping locks open for recreation boaters, if they arrive at a solution then the locks easily reopened if commerce necessitates. Municipalities, rec boaters and the city need to enter into the discussion as removals of these locks will affect river flows and conditions. This overall affect has been overlooked to this point in the discussions. Mary Ann will continue to monitor this issue and keep members informed.
- An Inland Maritime Port Executive Program will be offered in Pittsburgh on April 3-7, 2017 at HDR (11 Stanwix Street, Suite 800). This week-long program provided professional certification

programs in Inland Marine Port Manger (IPM) and Inland Marine Port Executive (IMPE).

- The Inland Rivers, Ports & Terminals (IRPT) has opened registration for the 12017 Annual Conference being held April 25-27 in Kansas City.

On behalf of the Pittsburgh Maritime Club, their first social event of the year is scheduled for April 1st at the Paint Monkey (located at the Waterfront). An evening of painting and spirits are in store for registrants. Further details available through Cheryl.

Education Committee Report

Michael Graham was unable to attend. Ryan Newton presented the following:

- The first "Who Works the Rivers" program has been set for April 20th with the "Future is Mine" group which should provide 50 to 70 attendees.
- Man Overboard Seminar tentative date is July 13, 2017. The association is currently seeking a new location for this seminar due to a venue closure that has eliminated the classroom facility at the Mon Vale Health Plex.
- Barge Breakaway Seminar date has been confirmed for October 12, 2017.
- The second "Who Works the Rivers" program has been set for October 19, 2017.

Navigation Committee Report

Ryan Newton provided the following information:

- During the recent month of high water, no incidents were reported.
- A meeting was held between the Corp, Lockmasters and the Navigation Committee to maintain procedure conformity during lock closures. This will be in effort to minimize different procedures being implemented that adds to confusion during these service interruptions.

Legislative Committee Report

Richard Kreider provided the following information:

- Details for the 2017 DC Trip are currently being finalized. An email will be sent to all participants once this information is available.
- The AWO Barge-In on Wednesday, April 26, is another premiere opportunity to demonstrate to Congress the importance of the tugboat, towboat and barge industry to the United States. It is essential that our voice be heard. The Barge-In is our opportunity to remind lawmakers about the national economic and security benefits the maritime industry provides to the United States. These meetings will occur following the release of the President's Budget.
- Tim Parker, Parker Towing, is on the shortlist for the Assistant Secretary of the Army.
- The River Industry Executive Task Force (RIETF) has elected David O'Loughlin of Ingram Barge as its new chair. David M. O'Loughlin serves as Senior Vice President of Vessel Operations and Strategic

Sourcing of Ingram Barge Company and served as its Vice President of Dry Cargo Customer Service

- Rear Admiral Callahan commented on the improvement of safety issues for the inland waterways.
- Mike Monahan of Campbell Transportation Company is our new representative on the Inland Waterways User Board with Mike Somales rotating off.
- David Podurgiel attended the LRD Stakeholder Meeting held in Cincinnati. Information from this meeting which would include the 3-year lock repair schedule will be released to the membership shortly.

April Membership Meeting

The *next* membership meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 12, 2017** at Chartiers Country Club. Cost of the luncheon will be **\$30**. Registration will begin at 11:45 a.m. Please call, email or fax the response form below by Wednesday, April 5th if you plan on attending the luncheon meeting.

**Waterways Association of Pittsburgh
Meeting Response Form**

Chartiers Country Club

April 12, 2017 @ Noon

Menu:

Fresh Fruit Cup w/Honey Cream
Chartiers Chicken - lightly breaded and stuffed w/Herbed Boursin-Style Cheese
Broccoli w/Lemon Butter
Strawberry Parfait

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 Wednesday, April 5, 2017** to:

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