

Waterways Association of Pittsburgh Newsletter

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September 2016

www.wapgh.org

September Highlights

A total of (24) twenty-six members and guests were registered for the September 14, 2016 luncheon meeting at Chartiers Country Club. Bill Porter introduced his guest, Jean Mazeran, who was visiting from Paris; Michael Wastchak and Marc Massoglia of WATCO Terminal & Port Services were also introduced. Dan Lacek was unable to attend so Vice President Eunice Ratcliff presided over the meeting.

Coast Guard News

LT Eduardo Valdeza presented the **attached** report.

Army Corp of Engineers

Mark Ivanisin covered the **attached** lock closure report. It was noted that the dredging contract has been awarded and once work begins the contractor has 210 days to complete. Therefore, the start date of the operation has not yet been finalized. Richard Lockwood confirmed that a mussel habitat assessment for Dashields is planned between September 26-28 and will require a Navigational Notice that will be issued. Once this habitat studies are completed and report has been submitted, it is usually a week or two for approval and work to begin.

National Weather Service

Joe Palko covered the **attached** report.

Port of Pittsburgh Commission Report

Mary Ann Bucci reported on the following items:

- The Upper Ohio Navigation Study has been sent to the Chief of Engineers. The report confirms a OMB minimum Cost-to-Benefit ratio of 3.7 to 1. There is a lot of work to do after the project is authorized to obtain project appropriation. With release of this report, the study will be included in the new WRDA bill.
- There have been some rumblings that the Allegheny River will be decommissioned. This discussion is in the early stages but could affect level of service. It is important to maintain the river for all recreational and commercial usage.
- RADM Chris Sadler will be participating in a roundtable discussion on September 20th in conjunction with the Allegheny Conference (11 Stanwix Street, 17th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA) from 7:30 a.m. - 9 a.m. Additional support from industry was requested.
- A Cyber Security webinar presented by the Maritime and Port Security Information Sharing and Analysis Organization is scheduled

on September 21st. This interested can register at:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8189263036034484995>.

Education Committee Report

Michael Graham reported that planning for the October 13th Barge Breakaway Seminar is underway. The registration flyer will be released this week and the finalized agenda will follow. The "Who Works the Rivers" program date **has changed** and will now be held on **Thursday, October 20th**. Industry representatives are still being sought. If anyone has a school district they would like to recommend to be contacted, please let Mike know.

Navigation Committee Report

David Podurciel provided the following information:

- A conference call is current planned due to issues with Brayman Construction's work on the 7th Street Bridge.
*Mary Ann suggested that the Navigation Committee consider notifying County and City Officials when issues such as this arise. Many of these construction issues are decided without navigational representation.
- The prompt attention paid to the Liberty Bridge closure by the CDR and US Coast Guard were greatly appreciated. This provided a limited disruption of river services.
- There was a loss of pool at Lock 52 at 3:30 a.m. this morning. However, repairs have been completed and situation should be remedied shortly.
- There is a meeting Friday, September 16th at PEWARS (Neville Island) office beginning at noon to 2 p.m. to review lock usage on the Upper Allegheny and Monongahela. Anyone is invited to attend and participate in this gathering.

Legislative Committee Report

Richard Kreider was unable to attend. This agenda item was covered under the Port of Pittsburgh report.

October Membership Meeting

The **next** membership meeting is scheduled for **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2016** at the Lafayette Hotel in Marietta, OH. This is a joint meeting between the Pittsburgh and Huntington Districts. CDR Jackie Twomey of the Towing Center of Expertise will be presenting a review of Subchapter M. Cost of the luncheon will be **\$30**. **All monies will be collected at the door for this joint luncheon. NO checks should be sent to Cheryl directly.** Registration will begin at 10:30 a.m. Please call, email or fax the response form below by Wednesday, October 12th if you plan on attending the luncheon meeting.

NOTE: A Joint Marine Incident Summit is planned prior to this meeting. Notification for this meeting will be sent through the Navigational Committee distribution listing.

**Waterways Association of Pittsburgh
Meeting Response Form**

Lafayette Hotel, Marietta, OH

October 18, 2016 @ 11 a.m.

Menu:

Stuffed Chicken Breast
Honey Glazed Ham
Scalloped Potatoes
Vegetable Medley
Garden Salad and Fruit Salad
Assorted Desserts
Lemonade, Ice Tea & Coffee Station

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 Wednesday, October 12, 2016** to:

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