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Maritime Commerce Club Winter Event

A casual interview between Michael Moreno of the Merchants Exchange and Peggy Long, Association Administrator for the Maritime Commerce Club.

From decade to decade the Maritime Commerce Club's (MCC) Winter Event continues to evolve. When the Propeller Club hosted the event it was a formal dinner and dance. When both the Propeller Club and the Portland Shipping Club co-hosted the event, it was everything from a Casino Night, to a Murder Mystery dinner, to a bowling night. This year, the event has taken on yet another incarnation and I sat down with the MCC Association Administrator, Peggy Long, to discuss what we can expect.

MM: There seems to be a lot going on with the MCC Winter Event this year. Can you tell me where the inspiration for this event came from and why it will be a draw for the attendees?

PL: The idea for the auction actually came to me when I was doing research for the "Old Salt" award last year. I discovered some of the beautiful photos that former "Old Salt" Hugh Ackroyd had in his collection and they impressed upon me the history and ever-changing face of our industry. I also saw these great photos that some of the Merchants Exchange (MEX) members allowed us to use for our annual report and it occurred to me that there is a lot of artistic talent to be found in our local maritime community. I'm not just talking about generic pictures of tug boats pushing barges or container ships loaded down with cargo – these pieces capture the drama, and beauty, and logistics of

2012 "Old Salt"
Ken O'Hollaren



**"Old Salt" Award & Silent Art Auction
The Chart House Restaurant
Tuesday, February 21, 2012**

how we do commerce on our rivers every day. It was impressive. So when the MCC Board of Directors suggested going a different route for the Winter Event this year, the idea just sort of grew wings.

Originally, the plan was to feature an amateur art show along with a Silent Auction, but we've had such a great response for the Silent Auction, the focus of the event will be trained on raising funds for the Fort Vancouver Seafarers and the recognition of the 2012 Old Salt.

MM: Tell me about the Silent Auction. How did the decision to donate to the Fort Vancouver Seafarers come about?

PL: The MCC Winter Event Committee really liked the idea of historical photos
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and soon the conversation turned to putting these photos and other artifacts up for auction - some even suggested that a few of the Ports could donate a few items from their archives. We are starting to get some really good pieces to bid on and it's getting exciting. As to who the auction would benefit, we suggested a few charities but the committee decided that if we were going to make this event about the maritime industry, than we should donate to one who looks out for the well being of mariners.

MM: How do the Fort Vancouver Seafarers help mariners?

PL: The Seafarers provide foreign mariners a way to get off their ship and gives them a location to relax and unwind. Post 9/11, Homeland Security has placed security restrictions at the port and Mariners cannot leave their ships without port certified escorts holding both port and federal identity cards. Aside from being documented escorts to these mariners, the Seafarers also provide transportation to and from the center. Once they arrive the mariners are free to relax, play games, and find warm clothing to wear while the kitchen facility provides them meals. The Fort Vancouver Seafarers center is a non-profit run entirely upon donations. Hopefully, the silent auction will help raise some money for them so they can continue to provide this service to our community.

MM: Can you tell me who the "Old Salt" will be this year?

PL: The 2012 "Old Salt" is Ken O'Hollaren from the Port of Longview. Ken has been an integral part of the maritime community. He was promoted to Port Director in 1988 and has the distinction of being the longest serving Port Director in Washington State. The last time we had someone from the Port of Longview was in 1985. We think Ken is a great choice.

MM: Is there anything else you can tell me about the 2012 MCC Winter Event?

PL: We are still taking submissions for the Silent Auction – the deadline for those is February 10th. We are also taking Dinner Reservations. The event will be held at the Chart House Restaurant on February 21, 2012. Tickets are \$65 each or you can buy a table of 8 for \$475. For more information about the event I can be reached at 503-220-2092 or long@pdxmex.com. People can also visit our website at www.pdxmex.com/mcc and look for Winter Event information in the "Current Events" section.

SAVE THE DATE!

MERCHANTS EXCHANGE OF PORTLAND, OREGON

88TH ANNUAL SHAREHOLDERS' MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 29, 2012

200 Market Building Conference Room

Lunch will be served

Parking validated



Industry Stakeholders Welcome!

Date: 02.29.12

Time: 12:00 pm

200 SW Market Street
Portland, OR 97201

RSVP: sedam@pdxmex.com

Margerie 503.220.2093

UPCOMING MCC EVENTS . . .

SAVE THE DATE!

Maritime Commerce Club

March Luncheon - State of the Ports

Please join us for the next installment for our speaker series. This presentation will cover issues concerning the State of the Ports on the Columbia River.

Date and Speaker information to follow
Doubletree Lloyd Center



MCC "Old Timers" Dinner

Thursday, April 12, 2012
The Governor Hotel - Jake's Grill

Mark your calendars for this much anticipated event. Look for details on the dinner in the coming weeks!

Please look for email flyers for these events in the coming weeks. If you are not on our email list, please contact Peggy Long at (503) 220-2092 or long@pdxmex.com.



MARITIME COMMERCE CLUB
Columbia River

www.pdxmex.com/mcc

CLEAN RIVERS COOPERATIVE, INC.

HAZWOPER

Mark your calendars! March 6 & 8, 2012, CRC will be hosting its annual First Quarter Member Training: 8-Hour HAZWOPER Refresher at the Red Lion Inn at the Quay in Vancouver, Washington. Please contact Marisa Chilafoe at (503) 220-2099 or chilafoe@pdxmex.com for more details.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Please join us for our next Board of Directors and Membership Meetings on March 13, 2012, at the Hilton Hotel & Convention Center in Vancouver, WA. The Board of Directors Meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. while the Membership Meeting begins at 12:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided and will feature a special presentation by Liz Wainwright, the Executive Director for the Merchants Exchange. Liz will be discussing all that the Merchants Exchange does in the maritime industry on the Columbia and Willamette Rivers. Please contact Elaine Truitt at (503) 220-2084 or truitt@pdxmex.com for more details.

WA HOUSE BILL 1186

MFSA, along with partner Clean Rivers, has been participating in the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) Rule Advisory Committee to review and provide comment for new Washington regulations pertaining to oil spill response and contingency planning. The rule update is the result of Washington House Bill 1186 which was signed by Governor Gregoire in April 2011.

MFSA INDUSTRY OUTREACH WORKSHOP

The MFSA Annual Meeting was a huge success, as MFSA hosted an industry Outreach Workshop on January 31, 2012, prior to the start of the meeting. The event was held at the Hilton Hotel & Convention Center in Vancouver, Washington, and featured multiple learning stations, displays or discussion groups. Stations featured: Response Decontamination, Absorbent Materials and Containment Boom, MFSA Vessel Response Plan Required Notifications and Plan Implementation, NRC Environmental Services, Salvage & Marine Firefighting, and the MFSA Communications System.



ANNUAL MEETING

Maritime Fire & Safety Association (MFSA) held their 29th Annual Meeting on Tuesday, January 31, 2012. In attendance were representatives from the entire maritime industry, including public ports, private terminals, local steamship agencies, public fire agencies from Astoria to Portland/Vancouver, congressional aides, state and federal regulators and oil spill response contractors.

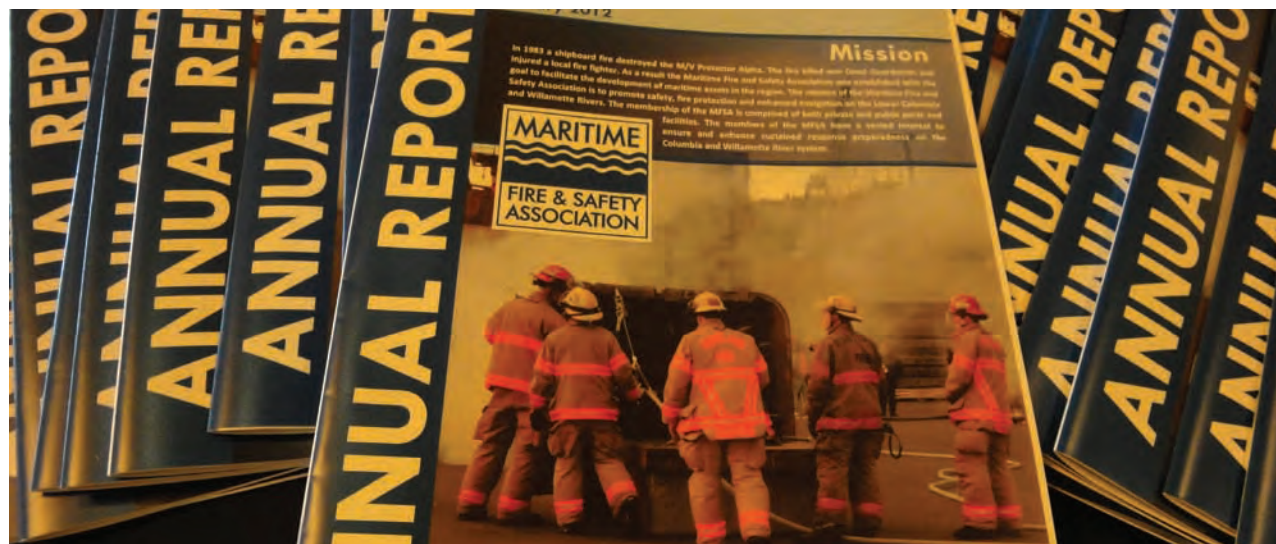
President Jim Jakubiak report was delivered by Executive Director Liz Wainwright. Following were State and Federal Legislative updates and Committee Reports.

Featured speaker was Captain Bruce C. Jones, United States Coast Guard Sector Commander/Captain of the Port, Sector Columbia River, who spoke on the mission of the Coast Guard and what that means to Columbia River stakeholders.

Following Captain Jones' presentation, a brief business meeting was conducted, during which the following individuals were elected to serve on the MFSA Board of Directors for a three year term:

Jim Jakubiak, Schnitzer Steel/International Terminals
Gene Loffler, LD Commodities
Bryon Fletcher, Olympic Tug & Barge

The MFSA Annual Report may be found on our website— www.mfsa.com.
Please contact Elaine Truitt at (503) 220-2084 or truitt@pdxmex.com for more information.





2012 Update

BOARD MEMBER/ OFFICER ELECTIONS:

The Columbia River Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association (CRCB&FA) are pleased to announce their newly elected Board Members. John Marshall, Becky Watkins, and Nancy Zimmerman were elected at the Member Meeting on Wednesday, February 1, 2011. New officers will be elected at the February 7, 2012 Board of Directors meeting and the announcement will be made shortly after.

WEBSITE:

Please visit the Columbia River Brokers and Freight Forwarders Association's webpage at www.crcbfa.org where you will find out more about seminars, lunches, Mission to D.C. etc.

UPCOMING SEMINAR:

The CRCBFA is pleased to welcome Matt Nakachi and Alan Cohen for this importer-focused seminar, the content of which will be to discuss "iceberg" issues. The event will take place on Friday, February 24, 2012 at the Airport Sheraton Hotel.

**Please note that a third speaker has been added to this upcoming seminar. Robert Olson, Senior Manager of Customs & Global Trade of Deloitte & Touche, will be joining Matt Nakachi and Alan Cohen on February 24th to discuss a host of compliance issues.

For more information on this seminar, please contact Becky Watkins at becky@ibius.com or go to our website, <http://crcbfa.org>, and download the event flyer.

MISSION TO WASHINGTON DC:

Our annual mission to Washington DC will take place February 27 – 29. Please visit the CRCB&FA website for more details.

Check out our new website!

The Merchants Exchange website has been recently redesigned and updated. Come check out our new look!



www.pdxmex.com



Interstate 5 Columbia River Crossing Project: Data sought on navigation clearance needs under Interstate 5 bridges of Columbia River and Oregon Slough of the Columbia River (North Portland Harbor)

The Interstate 5 Columbia River Crossing Project is collecting marine navigation user data for the Columbia River and Oregon Slough (or North Portland Harbor). This information will be provided to the U.S. Coast Guard as part of an application to receive a bridge permit. Individuals interested in answering questions related to needed clearances and frequencies of trips should email feedback@columbiarivercrossing.org or telephone 866-396-2726. Reference "navigation user data collection" when you email or telephone.

Reply by Feb. 21, 2012

Washington TTY
1-800-833-6384

Oregon TTY
1-800-735-2900

For more information about the Columbia River Crossing Project: www.columbiarivercrossing.org



Title VI Statement to Public

WSDOT and ODOT ensure full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin or sex in the provision of benefits and services resulting from its federally assisted programs and activities. For questions regarding WSDOT's Title VI Program, you may contact the Department's Title VI Coordinator at (360) 705-7098. For questions regarding ODOT's Title VI Program, you may contact the Department's Civil Rights Office at (503) 986-4350.



Merchants Exchange Employee Spotlight



Elaine Truitt

In January, the Merchants Exchange welcomed Elaine Truitt to its Association Administrative Team. Elaine brings 15 years of experience and administrative skill to the Maritime Fire & Safety Association and the Clean Rivers Cooperative as the new Senior Association Administrator. Elaine will be responsible for meeting functions for both associations, as well as the MFSA F-PAAC advisory council, communications system, and federal funding program.

Elaine grew up in sunny Bakersfield, California in a family of 6 children. She moved to the LA area to attend college where she met and married her husband, Eric. Elaine moved to Oregon in 2003 after accepting a job transfer and now all her siblings live in the Portland/Seattle area. Elaine is a proud aunt to 14 nieces and nephews. Most recently, Elaine completed her degree in business administration and has a desire to continue her education with a Master's degree in Public/Non-Profit Administration.



Outside of work, Elaine has an active hobby of checking off her bucket list. One of the recent items she checked off was completing the 2011 Portland Marathon. Elaine and her husband live in Milwaukie with their two wonderful daughters and two cocker spaniels. Last year Elaine and her daughters shared a memorable experience by learning to snowboard together.

When Elaine isn't busy attending MFSA events or following up on meeting notes, she loves to visit the Northwest wineries with friends and take annual trips to the California wine country. Elaine is an avid volunteer and committee member for the North Clackamas School District.

You can reach Elaine at truitt@pdxmex.com.

Merchants Exchange Retirement Announcement

After 31 plus years of dedicated work at the Merchants Exchange, Doris Allen has announced her retirement from Senior Association Administrator for the Maritime Fire & Safety Association. During her tenure Doris has played a vital role in the inception and success of the MFSA program. Her time with the Merchants Exchange is highlighted with valuable industry knowledge that she is currently sharing with her successor, Elaine Truitt. Doris' plans for retirement include volunteer work, time with family and friends, and days at the beach. Additional news about Doris' retirement announcement will be shared in the spring newsletter.

The Merchants Exchange wishes Doris the best in her future retirement endeavors.

