

Waterways Association of Pittsburgh Newsletter

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March 2016

www.wapgh.org

March Highlights

A total of (28) twenty-eight members and guests were registered for the March 9, 2016 luncheon meeting at Chartiers Country Club. Dan Lacek welcomed first-time attendees: Thomas Kinnard of Ingram Barge Company; Jim Salyer of CEC, Inc.; John Regola, son of Robert Regola; Darcy Kucenic of the Three Rivers Regatta.

Coast Guard News

LT Devin Adams presented the **attached** report. Information regarding the AIS (Automatic Identification System) Regulation that took effect on March 1st was presented.

Army Corp of Engineers

John Dilla covered the **attached** lock closure report. The Waterways Association of Pittsburgh has named Richard Kreider to represent the Pittsburgh District at a Regional Level. Rich will be responsible for representing the interests of the Waterways Association of Pittsburgh at the GLORD meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio, as well as any future meetings that will be scheduled.

National Weather Service

Joe Palko covered the **attached** report.

Port of Pittsburgh Commission Report

Mary Ann Bucci reported on the following items:

- Representative Keith Rothfus visited the Port offices on Monday, March 7th. The discussion was centered on the Water Resource Development Act 2016 (WRDA). Representative Rothfus has taken a leadership role in addressing the long-delayed Upper Ohio Navigation Project. A letter directed to the Honorable Jo-Ellen Darcy and Lieutenant General Thomas Bostick was drafted by Representative Rothfus included several congressional member signatures. Unfortunately, Representative Shuster's was not one of those signatures. Members are encouraged to reach out to Representative Rothfus and thanked him for his support along with Representative Shuster's office soliciting his support.
- On May 20, 2016, MSU Pittsburgh will host an Industry Day at the Meadows Hotel & Banquet Center in Washington, PA. The Port and the Three Rivers Pollution Response Council are co-sponsoring this event.

At this time, Mary Ann introduced Darcy Kucenic of the Three Rivers Regatta to discuss the upcoming event. The official Regatta will be held the first weekend of August (August 5-7, 2016). A one-day event will be held July 4th still sponsored by the Regatta non-profit organization. An attempt to provide programs that educate the community in regards to the waterways industry are being sought.

Education Committee Report

Michael Graham reported the following:

- Who Works The Rivers - The next WWR is scheduled for April 21, 2016 with the "Future is Mine" Group.
- Dates have been identified for the Man Overboard Seminar (July 14, 2016) and the Barge Breakaway Seminar (October 13, 2016).
- The second Who Works the Rivers is scheduled for October 18, 2016.
- An updated letter is currently being reviewed to send to the membership seeking sponsorships and volunteers to participate in the Who Works the Rivers Program. It should be sent out shortly.

Navigation Committee Report

Ryan Newton covered the following items:

- A public notice has been distributed for a waterfront facility permit for Kelly Paving at Ohio River Mile 95.4 LDB. Comments are due by March 10. At this point we do not see any reason for objecting to this permit.
- The auxiliary chamber at Montgomery (Mile 31.7 Ohio River) is currently under repair. The repairs to the lower sill are expected to be complete by 4/1/16.
- The Marine Incident Summit has been scheduled for April 6, 2016 at the Ohio River Museum in Marietta, OH. More information will be distributed to the group.
- MSU Pittsburgh has partnered with the Three Rivers Pollution Response Council, Port Of Pittsburgh Commission and other government agencies (DHS, TSA, US EPA) to plan an industry day on May 20, 2016.
 - What: Pittsburgh's Maritime Industry Day
 - When: Friday, May 20, 2016 @ 0830-1500
 - Where: Meadows Banquet Center - 210 Racetrack Road, Washington PA 15301
 - RSVP: industrydayrsvp@gmail.com

Legislative Committee Report

David McQuiston provided the following report prepared by Richard Kreider:

- **The annual WCI Washington DC Trip** is scheduled for 3/14-16 with the following attendees: Richard Kreider, Patrick Kelly, Brian Loring, Mike Somales and Daria Schwartz. 3/14 late afternoon - WCI will hold a prep session for the 3/15 Hill visits following the scheduled WCI meeting. 3/15 - Hill visits followed by the Leadership Award Reception/Dinner that will be held at the Madison Hotel.

- **INLAND WATERWAYS USERS BOARD MEETING**

The 78th Inland Waterways Users Board (IWUB) meeting will be held in Pittsburgh on April 1st, with a site visit to Charleroi on March 31. To my knowledge the location has not been confirmed. The meeting is a public meeting and I encourage folks to take advantage of the opportunity by showing strong regional interest and attendance. The IWUB's 2015 Annual Report is now available at: http://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/Portals/70/docs/IWUB/annual/IWUB_Annual_Report_2015_25Jan16_Final.pdf

- **SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS AHEAD**

The President has requested Congress to provide supplemental appropriations of \$1.8 billion to help combat the Zika virus outbreak. Should Congress decide to move a supplemental appropriations bill, other items could be added, including funding for the water crisis in Flint, Michigan, or perhaps additional funding for the Corps of Engineers.

- **WCI TESTIFIES AT WRDA 2016 HEARINGS**

The House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee held a second WRDA 2016 roundtable listening session on February 2, with WCI Board Member Caryl Pfeiffer, Director of Corporate Fuels & By-Products, LG&E and KU Energy, participating. The Senate Environment & Public Works Committee held a similar hearing on February 10 at which WCI/American Petroleum Institute Member Marathon Petroleum Corporation's John Sovereign, Senior Vice President, Transportation and Logistics, testified. Kyle Makarios also testified on behalf of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and conveyed WCI's priorities for inclusion in the legislation.

- **SUPREME COURT RULING RE THE CLEAN POWER RULE**

On February 8th, in a 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court stayed the Obama Administration's controversial power plant regulations, known as the "Clean Power Rule." The rule attempts to reduce, by one-third, carbon dioxide emissions at existing power plants by 2030. Appellate arguments are scheduled for June 2 at DC Circuit Court.

Additional Comments

Dan Lacek stressed the importance of understanding the inner workings of the Corp along with the budget process. Michael Somales is the Waterways Association of Pittsburgh user-board representative.

Mary Ann Bucci announced that the Pittsburgh Maritime Club will be holding its kick-off event with a dinner at Rock Bottom and an evening at Sing Sing on Saturday, April 16, 2016.

April Membership Meeting

The **next** membership meeting is scheduled for April 13, 2016 at Chartiers Country Club (601 Baldwin Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15205).

PLEASE NOTE A CHANGE IN THE 2016 MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON FEE:

Cost of the luncheon will be **\$30**. 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 7, 2016 if you plan on attending the luncheon meeting.

**Waterways Association of Pittsburgh
Meeting Response Form**

Chartiers Country Club

April 13, 2016

Menu:

Fresh Fruit Cup w/Honey Cream
Chicken Crepes
Rice Pilaf
Coconut Cream Pie
Ice Tea, Hot Tea or Coffee

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 Thursday, April 7, 2016** to:

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