

**DEADLINE EXTENDED!**  
**Accepting Applications for 2023**  
**Pittsburgh Maritime Association Scholarships**  
**Must be postmarked by April 30, 2022**  
[Click Here for Application and Details!](#)

### **March Meeting Highlights**

Thirty-one members registered to attend the March meeting held at Chartiers Country Club on Wednesday, March 8. President David Podurgiel welcomed the attending members as well as MAJ Daniel Tabacchi of USACE and Angela Hastings of Iron Senergy.

Shane Checkan, Navigation Committee Chair presented the Navigation Report. He began his report by speaking about the USACE 2023 – 2026 planning meeting held in Cincinnati and attended by him and David Podurgiel. He advised the goal is working with USACE making suggestions for consideration in order to combine or modify construction schedules on the waterways with the goal of creating the least amount of impact to traffic schedules. Fifty-one percent of our working days in 2023 are scheduled closures so adjusting schedules saves millions of dollars in transportation costs.

Shane also noted the Inland Waterway Trust fund “holds” funds instead of spending to our advantage. Industry puts in 35% with a return of only 10% being spent for us. It would be advantageous to begin a letter writing campaign to bring this practice to light. Preferred would be Editorials or published Letters to the Editor.

***Click Here to Read Full Navigation Report***

Scott Harshman provided the Legislative Report. He advised that our representation at the DC Fly-In was time well spent. Our WAP representatives had opportunity to speak directly to legislators. He also advised an upcoming OSHER class is being planned with a class tentatively attending our May meeting.

Matt Pavlosky of PPC discussed the “Open Tug” software now hosted on the PPC website. Users can find a list of capabilities and service providers so that those in need of these services can make a connection. Cost is \$200 per month and the software can handle scheduling for up to 20 businesses.

***Click Here to Read Full Legislation Report***

LTJG Eyobe Mills provided the USCG report. He thanked those who took the time to attend Industry Day on March 1. He also thanked PPC and Council for funding the lunch. This year’s event was held at the Emergency Center at the Pittsburgh International Airport.

His report included new requirements for Sexual Misconduct Reporting and Investigation – see written report for details.

He also noted it is important to push marine event applications to the MSU for proper authorization. Having all events scheduled allows for better planning. LTJG Mills can be reached at: [Eyobe.D.Mills@uscg.mil](mailto:Eyobe.D.Mills@uscg.mil).

***Click Here to Read Full USCG Report***

Ian McKelvey of USAE reported on current Lock Closures and Delays as well as future scheduled work. His full report is attached.

***Click Here to Read Full USACE Report***

Alicia Miller of the National Weather Service was in attendance and presented a report to membership. She advised due to low precipitation river levels are expected to fall. The balance of March should see lower temperatures with April and May having normal temperatures and precipitation.

***Click Here to Read Full National Weather Report***

Robert McCallister presented brief updates on membership and networking events.

Our next Networking Event will be our Annual Sporting Clays Tournament held on Thursday, May 4 at the Hunting Hills Shooting Preserve in Dilliner, PA. Also, we are ramping up planning for our upcoming Who Works the Rivers on April 20 held on the Gateway Clipper Fleet. Watch your e-mail for details.

David Podurgiel reported under “New Business” he had sent letters to legislators; Fetterman, Deluzio, Rathenschaler and Lee requesting \$41MIL in funding for the Lower Mon project.

Our next meeting will be held Wednesday, April 12 at Chartiers Country Club – Registration 11am 11:30, special presentation preceding lunch, meeting to immediately follow lunch

***Click here to Register for April Meeting***