

Waterways Association of Pittsburgh Newsletter

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April 2017

www.wapgh.org

April Highlights

A total of (25) twenty-five members and guests were registered for the April 12, 2017 luncheon meeting at Chartiers Country Club.

Coast Guard News

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

Army Corp of Engineers

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

NOTE: Correction to report under Charleroi timeline. Work will begin May 15th not May 1st.

National Weather Service

Joe Palko covered the **attached** report.

Port of Pittsburgh Commission Report

Mary Ann Bucci provided the following:

- A press conference held at the Emsworth Lock and Dam with Senator Bob Casey focused on the additional 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.
- The Corp is scheduled to file their recommendation on the decommissioning Locks 5,6,7,8,9 on the Allegheny. Mary Ann will be working to educate city officials on how this may impact future development within the region.
- A February 6, 2019 extension has been filed for the CMAQ program (retrofitting engines). This will allow additional funds to be distributed providing sufficient time to complete.

Mary Ann introduced Jim McCarville, Chair of the SMART Rivers Conference 2017, to highlight the upcoming program. The SMART Rivers Conference is a biennial international forum bringing together those involved in river transport to benchmark best practices for inland waterways around the world, and to better integrate inland waterborne transport into the global supply chain. Further information regarding this conference which is scheduled for September 18 - 21, 2017 at the Sheraton Pittsburgh Hotel at Station Square will be disseminated when available.

Education Committee Report

Michael Graham 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 65-80 attendees. Port of Pittsburgh Commission and Ingram Barge were recognized for providing sponsorship funds for this programming.
- 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. One school has already been confirmed.

Navigation Committee Report

David Podurciel provided the following information:

- 7th Street Bridge communication has been consistent with daily clearances coming from either Kevin Meade or Ernie Fischer (Brayman).
- Discussions regarding modifications of the upcoming Charleroi Outage/Full River Closure has occurred. Industry has proposed that the lock be open without restriction on May 20-21st. Full river closure, working overtime May 22 through June 2. 35'X300" restriction June 3-4 and then open without restriction June 10-11. These modifications are currently being reviewed by the Corp and a final decision should be available shortly.
- The Braddock outage has provided some challenges but nothing phone calls could not settle. There were a few boats floating around to "cash in" on being "pull boats" but by working with the lock this was stopped. A few boats were approaching with nine barges wanting to land on lower wall and wait on helper boats, but this is not proper procedure and boats designated to help or go to end of the line.

Legislative Committee Report

Richard Kreider was unable to attend the meeting and no report was provided.

May Membership Meeting

The *next* membership meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 10, 2017** at Chartiers Country Club. Cost of the luncheon will be **\$30**. Registration will begin at 11:45 a.m. and lunch served promptly at noon. Please call, email or fax the response form below by Wednesday, May 3rd if you plan on attending the luncheon meeting.

**Waterways Association of Pittsburgh
Meeting Response Form**

Chartiers Country Club

May 10, 2017 @ Noon

Menu:

Mixed Field Greens served with Balsamic Vinaigrette
Penne Pasta with Marinara served with garlic toast and grated parmesan cheese.
Green Beans Almandine
German Chocolate Cake

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, May 3, 2017** to:

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