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Newsletter  
2022 Issue No. 8  
August 2022  
[www.wapgh.org](http://www.wapgh.org)

### **August Meeting Highlights**

Thirty members were registered to attend our August meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> at Chartiers Country club. President David Podurgiel welcomed new member, Luke Borowy of Venture Outdoor, Pittsburgh. David also extended welcome to Capt. Benjamin Waring Dept. Cdr, Pittsburgh District, USACE, Nate Turer, Cyber Security Logistics, POPC and Lt Sean Dolan, Prevention Officer, USCG.

David also presented the Navigation Committee Report. Along with the Nav Report as provided by Committee Chair Shan Checkan, David advised the closure at Point Marion has been revised from 10 full days of river closure to 3 full days with additional intermittent closures. This change is a direct result of WAP working with USACE to find a solution that works both for mariners and USACE; reducing full closures that impact river commerce.

***[Click Here to Read Full Report](#)***

Scott Harshman of Port of Pittsburgh Commission presented the Legislative Report. He advised membership that Richard Lockwood, a member, and strong proponent for the WAP will be attending his 50<sup>th</sup> Merchant Marine Reunion, and he will be noticed for his Outstanding Professional Career. Congratulations, Mr. Lockwood! Scott also expressed thanks to the Gateway Clipper for hosting the Legislative Cruise on July 27. A very well attended event.

Also of note, Mary Ann Bucci reports Hannibal Lock is not included in our district when it comes to freight calculations and divvying up federal funds for maintenance and repair. However Pittsburgh USACE is responsible for this lock and POPC feels it's industry load credit should be reported as Pittsburgh, not Huntington. Suggested Navigational Center should change listing using District Command area instead of by state. John Dilla, USACE advised he could be of help to POPC in this matter.

***[Click Here to Read Full Report](#)***

MSTC Kevin Schneider presented the USCG Marine Safety Unit report. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the potential of a new RNA (Regulated Navigational Area) which the USCG feels would be in their best interest; having an enforceable rule to help avoid situations such as the two incidents in 2018; one event during heavy weather and another non-weather-related event which together resulted in 27 barges breaking loose and a total of 7 sunken barges and 2 damaged UACE vessels.

This contemplated RNA is not yet into the Rule Making Process and USCG wants to be open and engaging now before it moves up into that stage. Industry feels an RNA

will not improve best practices, USCG wants something they can enforce. A round table discussion between industry and USCG will be planned for the near future.

***[Click Here to Read Full Report](#)***

US Army Corps of Engineers report was presented by John Dilla. He reported ongoing and upcoming lock closures and delays. Also included in his report are tentative schedules for 2022 and 2023

***[Click Here to Read Full Report](#)***

David Podurgiel presented the national weather forecast for summer into fall, noting continued warm and dry conditions. Also included is the updated 2022 Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook

***[Click Here to Read Full Weather Report](#)***

Robert McCallister, of the networking and membership committee, advised that although our membership roster is up by 4 new members (exceeding our goal of 3), we have 2 non-renewing members in 2022. He also reminded membership of upcoming networking events:

#### **Annual Golf Outing**

(partnered with Traffic Club of Pittsburgh)  
Tuesday, August 30 at Seven Oaks Country Club

#### **Annual Holiday Gala**

Friday, December 9 at Hilton Garden Inn, Southpointe

Michael Graham presented the Education Committee report:

#### **Who Works the Rivers**

October Thursday, October 6  
Gateway Clipper Fleet

#### **Barge Breakaway Seminar**

Thursday, October 20  
Classroom training at The Fez

*Hands-on waterfront training at the Marion Hill Landing*

Waterways held our annual "Minutes to Live Seminar" on Wednesday, August 3 with 84 registered attendees. Over 60 of those attended the second half of the day; in-water training. Seminar educator, Keith Alexander of The River School, Olive Branch, MS, led the classroom and in-water training with the assistance of many of our members including CDR Justin Jolley of the USCG. Thanks to all who participated and assisted!

***[Click Here to see Photos](#)***

***[Click here to Register for September Meeting](#)***