

### May Highlights

Michael Graham, President welcomed the members in attendance. Twenty members registered for our membership luncheon and an additional five members registered to attend virtually via Zoom. Michael made note that as Covid restrictions are easing, we will no longer offer the virtual option for attendance at the meetings. It is hoped that as full vaccinations have increased and with federal and state restrictions being lifted, many of the employer restrictions will also be lifted allowing for more in-person attendance at future meetings.

### Navigation Committee Report

Robert McCallister of ACNR, Inc., presented the Navigational Report.

- Area Rivers have been active all month and have been staying above ‘pool stage’. We had a few occurrences where we reached Watch Stage at multiple locks but nothing significant. Vessel and Fleet operators have continued with good communication.
- George Brkovich, Waterways Inspector from USACE has been out viewing fleets on Area Rivers, he recently had the Colonel with him. He has found multiple fleets either not mooring barges in a safe manner, fleets that exceeded their permit, and fleets that exceeded their permits and didn’t have a vessel on site. We as an Industry must do better, we do not need a barge breakaway in the Pittsburgh District. Please make a point to reach out to your facilities and express the importance of staying within the fleeting permit especially during High Water events.

Upcoming Lock outages and their impacts on Industry

### 2021

**Meldahl Lock OR Mile 436: 5/17-7/29** Primary Chamber, significant delays expected.

**Montgomery OR Mile 31: 7/26-8/24 and 10/18-12/17**, Primary Chamber, major delays expected.

**Braddock Lock 2 Mon Mile 11.2: 9/13-10/15**, Primary Chamber for 3 weeks, significant delays expected.

**Willow Island OR Mile 161: 10/1-31**, Primary Chamber, delays expected.

### 2022

**Dashields/Emsworth:** Concurrent from 2/22-3/22, then Emsworth stays down till 4/15. These will both be Primary Chamber, major delays expected.

**Greenup OR Mile 341: 4/27-6/29**, Primary Chamber, significant delays expected.

**Belleville OR Mile 204: 5/2-6/24**, Primary Chamber, significant delays expected.

### Coast Guard News

LTJG William Russell, USCG, provided the **attached** report.

### Legislative Report

Patrick Kelly, Chair for our Legislative Committee, advised opposition of the proposed Lockage Fees. Presently, funds are raised via the Fuel Tax, which are collected nationwide and distributed nationally for designated projects. An additional Lockage Fee would be especially burdensome for our area, given the

number of locks in the Three Rivers area when compared to the number of locks in other locations. This additional cost would drive up the cost to consumers who look toward transportation via the in-land waters.

Patrick also noted work is in progress to bring back the Inland Waterways User Board. In the past, this group has been successful in assisting determination of scheduled order for maintenance and repairs of locks.

Patrick also provided the following Legislative Report:

### **WATERWAYS COUNCIL INC.**

In late April, Shane Checkan and Patrick Kelly of WAP's Legislative Committee participated in a virtual barge-in on Washington DC. They held meetings with:

- Congressman Mike Doyle
- Senator Joe Manchin
- Congressman Conor Lamb
- Senator Bob Casey
- Congressman Mike Kelly
- Senator Shelley Moore Capito
- Congressman Guy Reschenthaler

The key points of the meetings were as follows:

1. Thank you for the \$22M construction start for Upper Ohio Project (EMD)
2. Opposition of lockage fees or any other new taxes
3. Reinstitute the Inland Waterways User Board (IWUB)
4. Inclusion inland waterways funding in any proposed infrastructure legislation
  - a. \$7B would cover the IWUB's top 15 priority projects, including EMD

Mary Ann Bucci and Scott Harshman of the Port of Pittsburgh also participated along with Peter Stephaich representing Campbell Transportation as well as the Port. The meetings were well received with each legislator hopeful that a bipartisan approach to infrastructure funding can be found. However, it is too early to understand what the outcome may look like.

### **PITTSBURGH POST GAZETTE**

On May 6<sup>th</sup>, U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg spent last Thursday morning on a two-hour boat ride on the Ohio River, getting an up-close look at the dilapidated bridges and aging lock-and-dam systems the region depends on. While traveling from Heinz Field to Neville Island, Buttigieg says he was alarmed to learn that the 70-year-old Emsworth Lock and Dam is in need of critical repairs.

### **Port of Pittsburgh**

Please go to the website for the latest news and events as provided by the Port of Pittsburgh:

[www.portpitt.com](http://www.portpitt.com)

### **Army Corp of Engineers**

John P. Dilla of the USACE stated that Kareem El-Naggar has been in place as the temporary Chief of Operations since January. His appointment ends the third week of May and it is hoped a new Chief will be named by month's end. John also provided the **attached** report.

### **NOAA**

Alicia Miller of NOAA advises the official summer report is not yet available. **Attached** is the interim report.

## **Education Committee Report**

Michael Graham, President and Education Committee Chair, provided the following report:

- **WAP will hold a second BAB Seminar** that is tentatively scheduled for October 21.
- **Man Overboard Seminar** is scheduled for July 22, details to follow.
- **Who Works the Rivers;** Michael is currently working on a tentative date for fall, inquiring if schools will be able to participate before next year .

## **Networking Committee**

Gretchen Chamberlain, Networking Committee Chair, reports the Sporting Clays Tournament held Friday, May 7 at Hunting Hills Shooting Preserve was a success with 29 shooters registered. Participants enjoyed the beautiful venue, despite chilly, wet conditions. \$140 was raised for the Pittsburgh Maritime Association Scholarship Fund.

Our next event will be our Golf outing on Friday September 17. Seven Oaks Country Club will be the venue for a second year, offering a challenging course. If weather permits, dinner will be served outdoors. Save the date!!

Our final event for 2021 will be the Holiday Party. It will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, Southpointe on Friday, December 10. Mark your calendar!

## **June Membership Meeting**

The **next** membership meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 9 at Chartiers Country Club.

Please email the attached response form, or you may call or text your response (724-991-0136) by Thursday, June 3, 2021 to reserve your space.

**Member Luncheon Meeting Response Form**

Chartiers Country Club

Wednesday, June 9, 2021

Check in 11:30 until Noon

***Lunch Begins Promptly at Noon!***

**Menu**

Breadbasket

Wedding Soup

Pittsburgh Style Grilled Chicken Breast Salad

Ice Cream with Chocolate

Please note any Special Dietary Requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost: \$30 per member

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I will attend

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company

***Please respond to Carole Ann Krelow, Executive Director - by Thursday, June 3***

***[ckrelow@wapgh.org](mailto:ckrelow@wapgh.org) OR Call, Leave Message or Text at 724-991-0136***

***Cash, Checks or Master Card or Visa Accepted***

***For Credit Card charges, please fill out attached form and return with response***

***A 10% convenience fee will be added to all credit card payments (\$3.00)***

**Credit Card Authorization  
Membership Luncheon June 9, 2021**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Credit Card Billing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Credit Card Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Cell Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Credit Card Type:**    VISA            Mastercard            Discover

**Credit Card Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Credit Card Expiration:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Credit Card Security Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount to be Charged:** \_\_\_\_\_

*10% Convenience Fee will be added, total \$33.00*

**Authorized Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_