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### **September Meeting Highlights**

Twenty-two members were registered to attend our September meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> at Chartiers Country Club. Additionally, Port of Pittsburgh Commission hosted an Osher class prior to the luncheon and those 13 students also attended the membership luncheon. Navigation Committee Chair, Shane Checkan welcomed recent new members, Matt and Josh Bryan of BMG Marine, McKees Rocks. Welcome was also extended to both MST1 Onnalee Blackledge of the USCG attending her first meeting and the Osher students.

Shane also presented the Navigation Committee Report. He noted that the continuing fair weather we have experienced over the past few months, leads mariners to become complacent. Advise; stay vigilant, poor weather conditions are only one source of navigational errors. Recommendation made regarding work on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> St. bridges – make a call in order to avoid impediments. Communication is key to keep things running smoothly.

Be aware of upcoming lengthy delays during the dewatering of Montgomery lock Oct 17 – Dec 16. Although this is an inconvenience, this on-going prep work will keep things running smoothly during the construction of the new lock system.

### **Click Here to Read Full Nav Report**

Mary Ann Bucci, Port of Pittsburgh Commission presented the Legislative Report. She made a special welcome to the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute students. She advised the importance of our collective voice to advocate for financing to complete future and on-going Locks and Dams projects.

### **Click Here to Read Full PPC Report**

MST1 Onnalee Blackledge presented the USCG Marine Safety Unit report. A theme emerged as she presented: Communication. Poor communication leads to complacency. She reminded membership USCG must be notified regarding any marine incident. This reporting has been quite lax over the past few months. The USCG will make the determination if an event is a reportable “marine casualty”. Remember to have a secondary form of communication as cell phones are not always reliable.

### **Click Here to Review Marine Casualties & Reporting Requirements**

MST1 Blackledge also noted that Fleets should be checking expiration dates on Alcohol test strips and replacing as needed.

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

US Army Corps of Engineers report was presented by Ian McKelvey. He reported the current schedule of lock closures and delays. Also included in his report are tentative schedules for 2022 and 2023

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

Alicia Miller presented the national weather prediction for fall noting continued fair weather and normal temperatures and precipitation.

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

Robert McCallister, of the networking and membership committee advised; 4 new members in 2022 - Two non-renewing members.

Robert also reminded membership of upcoming educational events:

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

October Thursday, October 6

Gateway Clipper Fleet (Currently over 130 registered)

#### **Breakaway Barge Seminar**

Thursday, October 20

Classroom training at The Fez, Aliquippa

Hands-on waterfront training at the Marion Hill Landing

Kristen Stojakovich reminded membership of upcoming networking events:

#### **Annual Holiday Gala**

Friday, December 9 at Hilton Garden Inn, Southpointe

**SAVE THE DATE!**

She also advised our Annual Golf Outing held at Seven Oaks Country Club on August 30 had been a great success with 96 registered golfers and good weather despite a gloomy forecast. For the first time, WAP had partnered with Traffic Club of Pittsburgh and all attendees agreed, it made for a great networking event!

#### **Other News:**

President David Podurciel and CDR Velez are attending a Crisis Management Course at USCG Training Center in Yorktown. Review of training to be presented at our October meeting.

Industry Reps and USCG met and discussed language for the proposed RNA which has now been formally submitted. WAP membership will be advised of comment period.



[Click here to Register for October Meeting](#)