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# AMERICAN MARITIME OFFICER

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## *Empire State* Conducts Underway Replenishment with MSC Fleet Oiler *USNS Pecos*

The Jones Act tanker *Empire State* performed underway replenishment/consolidated operations at sea with Military Sealift Command's *USNS Pecos* in May. American Maritime Officers represents all licensed officers onboard the *Empire State*. Additional photos from the operation are featured on page 3.

## Monument to U.S. Merchant Marine Unveiled at Utah Beach

On June 5, the American Merchant Marine Veterans unveiled a monument to the U.S. Merchant Marine on Utah Beach. The new monument, near the Lone Sailor Monument and the Higgins Boat Monument, honors the valor and sacrifice of U.S. merchant mariners, whose actions supported military operations on D-Day that took place 80 years ago on June 6, 1944. American Maritime Officers and other U.S. maritime unions contributed financially to the creation of the new monument.

On D-Day, the Allies' armada and invasion forces landing in Normandy created the largest amphibious assault operation in the history of the world.

The Allies' D-Day armada numbered about 7,000 ships, including 200 U.S. merchant ships that were operated by U.S. merchant mariners and U.S. Naval Armed Guard crews. The monument, enshrined on Utah Beach where U.S. troops landed, displays a quote from General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

At Right: U.S. Merchant Marine Veterans of World War II participating in the unveiling of the monument in this image included Bill Balabanow, Dave Yoho and Michael Robbins. With them are Captain Scott Nowak, Rita Cosby, Charles de Vallavieille and Captain Dru DiMattia. Additional photos from the event are featured on page 4.

On May 8, 1945, the Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in the European Theater, General Eisenhower, said:

"Every man in this Allied command is quick to express his admiration for the loyalty, courage, and fortitude of the officers and men of the merchant marine. We count upon their efficiency and their utter devotion to duty as we do our own; they have never failed us yet and in all the struggles yet to come we know that they will never be deterred by any danger, hardship, or priva-

tion. When final victory is ours there is no organization that will share its credit more deservedly than the merchant marine."

Participants at the unveiling ceremony included U.S. Merchant Marine World War II Veteran Dave Yoho; Mayor Charles de Vallavieille of Sainte-Marie-du-Mont, Normandy, France; President of American Merchant Marine Veterans Capt. Dru DiMattia; and Rita Cosby, award-winning journalist, news anchor, and author. The small town of Sainte-Marie-du-Mont and

the French people in Normandy extended wonderful hospitality for the event.

"It was something I never ever expected to get in on, but I'm so thankful I was here. It is the highlight in my life and it's something I can't explain to anyone," said World War II U.S. Merchant Marine Veteran Reynolds Tomter, age 107.

"It's important because we were almost forgotten about, and now we're remembered," said World War II U.S. Merchant Marine Veteran Joachim Kallist.



Page 2: Maritime Delivery of Humanitarian Aid to Gaza Continues

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# Delivery of Humanitarian Assistance to Gaza Continues as Floating Pier Is Toggled to Account for High Seas

On June 19, U.S. Central Command personnel supporting the mission to deliver much-needed humanitarian aid to Palestinian civilians, re-anchored the temporary pier to the beach in Gaza.

U.S. Central Command (U.S. CENTCOM) had announced June 14 the Joint Logistics Over the Shore (JLOTS) pier was being disconnected and towed to the Port of Ashod, Israel. The temporary pier was relocated to avoid expected high seas and to ensure the structural integrity of the pier and safety of U.S. service members. At no time did U.S. troops enter Gaza.

Trucks carrying humanitarian assistance across the temporary pier resumed delivery again on June 20, and approximately 656 metric tons (1.4 million pounds) of aid were delivered to the beach in Gaza. This was so far the largest single-day delivery of aid to date.

As of June 20, more than 4,160 metric tons (9.1 million pounds) of humanitarian aid in total had been delivered from the pier to the marshaling area, where the cargo can be collected by humanitarian organizations for onward delivery into Gaza.

As noted, due to expected high seas, U.S. CENTCOM reported June 14 the



Photos Courtesy of Captain Paul Ginnane

Humanitarian aid cargo aboard the *USNS Stockham* is moved to the ship's stern ramp to be transferred to a floating platform transported and deployed by the *USNS Stockham* to be embarked aboard logistics support vessels and carried to the JLOTS pier connected in Gaza. More than 1,000 pallets of humanitarian cargo were delivered by the *USNS Stockham* via the JLOTS pier for distribution to the people of Gaza in June.



temporary pier was to be removed from its anchored position in Gaza and towed back to Ashod. The safety of U.S. service members is a top priority and relocating the pier prevented structural damage that could have been caused by the heightened sea state.

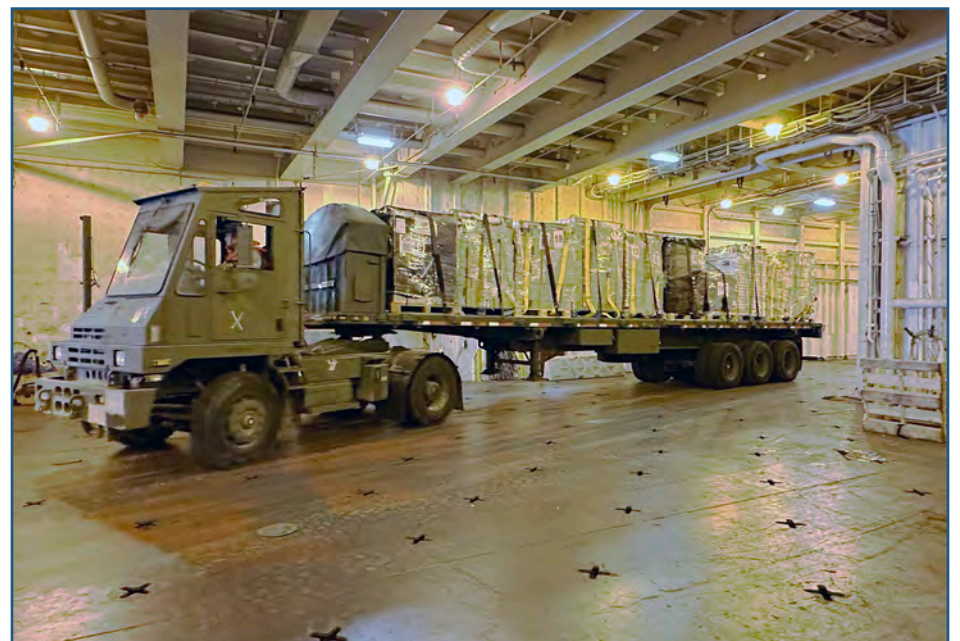
The decision to temporarily relocate the pier is not made lightly but is necessary to ensure the temporary pier can continue to deliver aid in the future.

After the period of expected high seas, the pier was rapidly re-anchored to the coast of Gaza.

The capability of disconnecting and temporarily relocating the JLOTS pier was exercised in the wake of events in late May, in which heavy sea states damaged the pier, and prior also impacted four U.S. Army vessels supporting the maritime humanitarian aid mission in Gaza.

The vessels broke free from their moorings and two were beached on the coast of Israel near Ashkelon. They were recovered with assistance from the Israeli Navy and without U.S. personnel entering Gaza. The pier was moved to Ashod and re-

**JLOTS – Continued on Page 4**



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# ARC Adds Starlink Satellite Internet for Entire U.S.-Flag Fleet

The following is excerpted from an article released June 11 by American Roll-On Roll-Off Carrier Group. American Maritime Officers represents all licensed officers onboard nine of the company's vessels.

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FL — American Roll-On Roll-Off Carrier Group Inc. (ARC), the leading provider of U.S.-flag roll-on roll-off shipping, has added Starlink satellite Internet technology to its entire American-flagged fleet to help mariners stay connected with loved ones while at sea.

"Our mariners are the most important asset we have," said Eric Ebeling, ARC President and CEO. "They put in long weeks at sea and make tremendous personal sacrifices in order to help our military partners move critical vehicles and materials to

strategically important regions of the world. This new technology allows ARC's crews to maintain contact with family and friends ashore while delivering for the American government."

The welcome news comes at a time when reliable connectivity is at the forefront of the minds of potential mariners thinking about a life at sea, said American Maritime Officers National Vice President, Deep Sea, Jeff Richards.

"I talk to a lot of junior members who do most if not all of their banking online. This connectivity allows our mariners the opportunity to stay current with financial matters while at sea," he said. "Equally, or some would say more importantly, mariners are able to stay in touch with family and

friends from anywhere around the globe."

"Wi-Fi has become a necessity for many mariners, rather than a luxury," said Seafarers International Union (SIU) Communications Director Jordan Biscardo. "Improving seafarer quality of life is a priority and we are glad to see that ARC is making improvements like adding Starlink to the ships they are working on."

Starlink, operated by SpaceX, leverages low-Earth orbit satellites to enable access to high-speed Internet connections in remote areas, including for mariners at sea. Adding this new ability removes one of the main barriers to life at sea. It improves the quality of life for ARC's mariners by enabling communication with loved ones, access to streamed movies, shows, and

music, or downloadable e-books.

Starting in early 2023, ARC has been adding Starlink to its vessels one by one, finishing installation on its newest vessel, *M/V ARC Honor*, in February of this year. In addition to supporting the wellness of seafarers, the move to add Starlink across the entire ARC fleet will also improve security and communications onboard the vessels.

## About ARC

ARC provides government services including global logistics and shipping services. ARC and its U.S. affiliates own and manage the largest U.S.-flag RO/RO fleet. This includes providing American-owned, managed, and crewed RO/RO shipping and intermodal services.

## Empire State Conducts Underway Replenishment with USNS Pecos



Members of American Maritime Officers working aboard the *Empire State* in May, here celebrating National Maritime Day, included Master Kevin Griffith, Chief Mate John Giuffre, Second Mate Meredith Willard, Third Mate Stetson Lail, Third Mate Andrew Sendlewski, Chief Engineer Jeremiah Skiles, First Assistant Engineer Anthony Larrabee Jr., Second A.E. Kyu Oh and Third A.E. Michael Jarvi. The tanker is operated by Intrepid Personnel and Provisioning.

## JLOTS

Continued from Page 2

paired in port. Once repairs were completed, the pier was re-anchored and delivery of humanitarian aid cargo to Gaza via the JLOTS pier resumed on June 8.

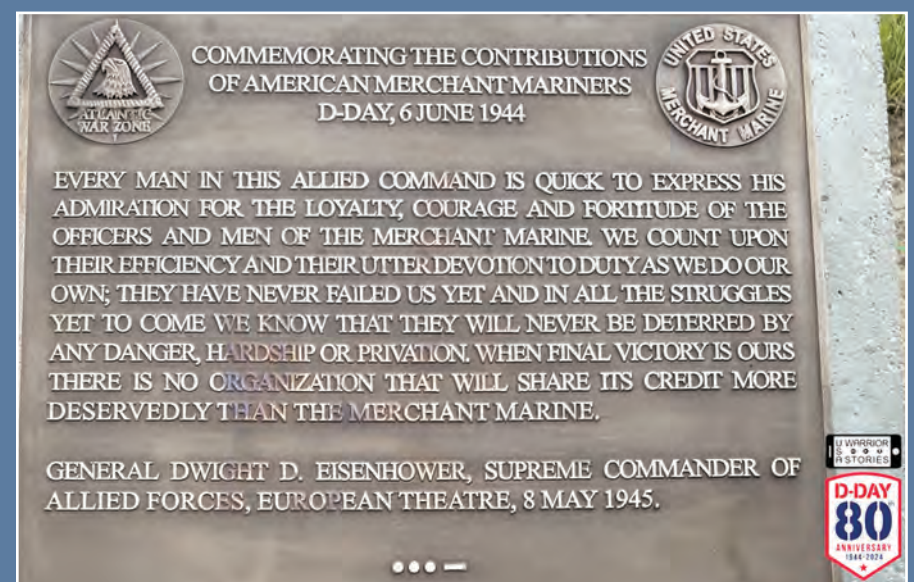
At Right: A logistics support vessel loads humanitarian cargo transferred from the USNS *Stockham* in June for transport to the JLOTS pier connected in Gaza.



Photo: Chief Mate Jake George, USNS 1st Lt. Baldomero Lopez



## Monument to U.S. Merchant Marine Unveiled at Utah Beach



Below: U.S. Merchant Marine World War II Veteran Dave Yoho greets U.S. Merchant Marine Academy Midshipmen at the ceremony on June 5 at Utah Beach.



## U.S. Coast Guard: Extension of Grace Period for Renewal of Expired Merchant Mariner Credentials Without Complete Original Exam

The following bulletin dated April 26 was released by the U.S. Coast Guard.

The Office of Merchant Mariner Credentialing (CG-MMC) Assistant Commandant for Prevention Policy (CG-5P) has published CG-MMC Policy Letter 01-24, Temporary Extension of Administrative Grace Period for Credentialing Transactions.

This policy letter will allow mariners to renew a merchant mariner credential (MMC) up to six years after its expiration without taking the complete original examination. All other credentialing requirements for renewal after expiration remain unchanged, and so in some circumstances an open book examination may be required in accordance with 46 CFR 10.227(e)(1).

Mariners who previously applied for renewal of their MMC after the one-year grace period had expired may re-apply for renewal if they are within the new, extended grace period.

A new application will be necessary, including payment of required fees, per 46 CFR 10.219.

If you have a current approval to test letter issued by the National Maritime Center (NMC) to re-instate an MMC expired beyond the one-year administrative grace period but within six years, please contact the NMC at [IASKNMC@uscg.mil](mailto:IASKNMC@uscg.mil) or (888) 427-5662.

This policy letter is effective immediately and will remain in effect indefinitely. The Coast Guard will provide additional guidance concerning expiration of this policy as necessary. The policy letter is available on the Merchant Mariner Credentialing Policy Letter webpage: <https://tinyurl.com/k4z64kfs>.

Mariners and other interested parties should contact the Mariner Credentialing Program Policy Division at [MMCPolicy@uscg.mil](mailto:MMCPolicy@uscg.mil) or by phone at (202) 372-2357 with any questions or feedback.

# AMO Joins Seagoing Labor Community in Mourning the Loss of Nicholas Celona

Seafarers International Union Vice President of Government Services Nicholas Celona died at his home in New Orleans, La. on June 8, apparently from natural causes. He was 65.

"Back in the early 1980s, Nick and I had the privilege of working together in the port of New Orleans, a time during which we forged a lifelong friendship," said SIU President David Heindel. "Nick was a rare individual, brimming with a huge heart and an unwavering love for life. His infectious enthusiasm and unadulterated bravado left an indelible mark on everyone he met. As we remember Nick, we celebrate not only a dedicated seafarer but also a beloved father and friend who enriched our lives in countless ways. My deepest sympathies to his wife, Denise, and daughters Jennifer and Danielle."

"Many AMO hawsepipers got to

know Nick during their years sailing with the SIU, some from the very beginning of their careers. For all of us who have worked shoreside, Nick was a driving force and steadfast presence at many of the events and meetings that brought the U.S. seagoing labor community together to advance the cause of American mariners professionally and politically," said American Maritime Officers National President Willie Barrere. "He was a leader we had the pleasure of knowing and a man we mourn in his passing."

Celona had served as a vice president with the SIU since 2021. He worked as a patrolman in New Orleans from 1983 to 1988. He spent 1989 serving as the port agent in Piney Point before what turned out to be a long-term move to the West Coast. Celona was the union's San Francisco port agent from 1990 to 1994, the year he became an SIU

assistant vice president.

Among other activities, he served as a delegate on the San Francisco-Alameda Labor Council, secretary-treasurer of the local port council, and a governor-appointed member of the board of directors of the Cow Palace (a popular arena in Daly City, California).

Always politically active, Celona organized the union's annual Thanksgiving gatherings in San Francisco and Oakland. Those feasts evolved into a Who's Who of politics, with regular appearances from Kamala Harris, Nancy Pelosi, John Garamendi, Eric Swalwell, Jackie Spier and many others. Based on his extensive work with the military, Celona in 2002 was sworn in as an honorary U.S. Marine, a rarity.

A 1977 graduate of Paul Hall Center Trainee Class 229, Celona was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. He gradu-



ated from Lafayette High School in 1976 and soon thereafter found a home with the SIU. After completing the trainee program, he sailed in the engine department until 1982, upgrading several times along the way (most recently to chief electrician). He sailed on vessels operated by Sea-Land, Maritime Overseas, Delta Line, American Hawaii Cruises, Bay Tankers and others.

## Captain Patrick J. Nelson: 1952-2024

Patrick James Nelson, known affectionately to friends and family as Captain Pat, embarked on his final voyage on May 29, 2024, at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. Born on October 10, 1952, in Port Huron, Michigan, he was the cherished son of the late Gordon and Elizabeth Ann (Cantrell) Nelson. Captain Pat's life was a testament to his loving, creative, and courageous spirit, and his legacy will be felt across the waves of the Great Lakes and in the hearts of those he touched.

Captain Pat's journey began as a deckhand at the age of 18, and his passion for the maritime life led him to a distinguished career as a captain of freighters on the Great Lakes. He retired in 2018 after nearly 50 years of service, with his final years spent with the American Steamship Company. Some of his favorite ships to command were the *Wolverine*, *Sparrows Point*, *Indiana Harbor*, and *Burns Harbor*, each vessel holding a special place in his heart and a story in

his captain's log.

Beyond his professional achievements, Captain Pat was a family man through and through. He leaves behind his loving wife, Kaylene Ellen, and their children, Christopher (Heather) Nelson of Port Huron, Kenneth (Amy) Nelson of Burtchville, and James (Keisha) Nelson of Columbus Township. His legacy continues with his grandchildren, Ethan, Keegan, Eliza, Martin, Caleb, Kenna, Mason, Gordon, and Griffin, who will carry forward his adventurous spirit and love for the Lakes.

Captain Pat was the beloved brother of James (Debbie) Nelson of Oxford and Anthony (Becky) Nelson of Kimball Township. He also leaves behind his sisters and brother-in-law, Ed (Jan) Keener of Livonia, Melvina "Sis" Johnson of St. Clair, Sharon Keener of Port Huron, and Yvonne Nelson of Tennessee, as well as many adoring nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, Gordon Nelson; his mother, Elizabeth

"Betty" Nelson; his brother David Nelson, and his sister Mary Green.

When he wasn't at the helm or charting courses, Captain Pat could be found using his drone to film the freighters on the Great Lakes, a hobby that combined his love for technology and his lifelong maritime passion. He was also a dedicated supporter of his grandchildren's sporting events, always present in the stands, cheering them on with pride and enthusiasm. His time at the pool house was cherished by family and friends, where many unforgettable memories were made. His love of gathering with others combined with his great generosity made his hospitality legendary.

Captain Pat's life was a voyage of love, creativity, and courage. He navigated the waters of life with the same skill and dedication that he brought to his career on the Great Lakes. He prioritized relationships, valuing time with friends and family, loving to joke and laugh together.



His presence was a beacon of strength and warmth, guiding those around him through calm and stormy seas alike.

As we bid farewell to Captain Pat, we reflect on a life well-lived and a journey well traveled. His stories will be told, his laughter will echo, and his legacy will sail on in the lives of those he loved. Captain Pat's final sunset may have come, but the wake of his life's voyage will continue to inspire all who had the privilege of knowing him.

## Captain Robert J. Gallagher: 1952-2024

Captain Robert Joseph Gallagher, 72, of Alpena passed away Saturday, May 18, 2024, at Besser Senior Living Community surrounded by his family.

Robert was born in St. Ignace on January 19, 1952, to the late Daniel and Scharline (Sutton) Gallagher. Robert graduated from Alpena Catholic Central in 1970 and began his career with American Steamship Company aboard the *M/V Nicolet* as a watchman. He was promoted to 3rd mate while onboard the *Str. McKee Sons* in 1974. On January 27, 1979, he married Judith Charles. Bob obtained

his Captain license in 1981, achieving Outstanding Mariner in 1998. He was a well-respected Captain of the Great Lakes, oftentimes leaned on by other captains for advice or to come on board for difficult maneuvers. Bob served as the chairman of the board for the Safety and Navigation Board for the Great Lakes. He retired after a 44-year career.

He was also a member of the Dusk til Dawn Hunt Preserve hunting camp.

Surviving are his wife, Judy; four children, Scott (Kristie) Gallagher, Michelle (John) Mainville, Kathleen (Tim) Davis, Jes-

sica (Jim) McEwen; Grandchildren Robert (Kendra), Tyler, Alex (Jess), Brooke (Tyler), Megan, Jennifer, Nick, Jacob, Kyle, Caleb, Camden; Great Grandchildren Jordan, Aiden, Aili, Lilianna, Addy, Isabel, Emma. Siblings Mike (Adele) Gallagher, Danny (Dona) Gallagher, MaryAnn (Robert) Wcisel, David (Ronda) Gallagher; Sister-in-law Cindy Gallagher; several nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Captain Gallagher was preceded in death by his siblings, Charles Gallagher, Patrick Gallagher, Ronald Gallagher, and Diane Kruse.



# Dedication and Service of U.S. Merchant Mariners Lauded During Observances of National Maritime Day

Sailing members, officials and representatives of American Maritime Officers participated in observances of National Maritime Day across the nation on May 22, including ceremonies in Washington, D.C.; Norfolk, Va.; Galveston, Texas; San Pedro, Calif.; and Dania Beach, Fla.

Speakers at the National Maritime Day ceremony hosted by the Department of Transportation in Washington, D.C. included U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg, who made a presentation by video, Maritime Administrator Ann Phillips, Commander of U.S. Transportation Command Gen. Jacqueline Van Ovost, Seafarers International Union President David Heindel, Senator Mark Kelly (D-AZ), and Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro.

"Over the years, I've met a lot of World War II veteran mariners and truly they are the greatest generation. I've sat with the men themselves and they kept going back to sea because they loved their country and they wanted to contribute to victory. In many cases, they ended up in the merchant marine because they had health issues that may have precluded them from joining military service," SIU President Heindel said.

"The U.S. Merchant Marine has been a key part of this nation since America's

earliest days. And in all the years since then, one thing hasn't changed and never will: Give us the ships, give us the cargo, and we'll deliver," he said.

"The success of our military is dependent on these future credentialed mariners ... It is the dedication and expertise of our merchant mariners that create the backbone of our marine transportation system," Gen. Van Ovost said.

"We are a maritime nation and a

global sea power, not only because of the waters America has been blessed with and not only because of the technological prowess of our seafaring vessels in a tradition that goes back to the *S/S Savannah*. But above all, because of the people who have shaped the maritime sector, the people who sail those waters and crew and guide those vessels," Secretary of Transportation Buttigieg said.

"Maritime Day is our annual oppor-

tunity to celebrate and to commemorate — to honor our maritime history and ensure our fellow Americans understand how critical the maritime industry has been and continues to be to our nation's success," Maritime Administrator Phillips said. "Most importantly, we are thankful for the women and men of the U.S. Merchant Marine and we celebrate their essential role in safeguarding and strengthening our Nation. Those who sailed in the past, who are sailing today, and who will answer the call in the future."

"Securing America's maritime prosperity and the mariners who make it possible is not a new mission — it is our founding mission. History reveals that no nation has endured as a great naval power without also being a commercial maritime power, both in shipbuilding and shipping," Secretary of the Navy Del Toro said. "And for the first time in 125 years, we have a full-spectrum, global maritime competitor."

"This National Maritime Day, we remember that America has always been a seafaring nation, a fact that has underpinned our economic prosperity and national security for centuries," Senator Kelly said. "I'm committed to revitalizing our shipbuilding industry and reclaiming our maritime leadership."



AMO National President Willie Barrere greets U.S. Maritime Administrator Ann Phillips and Captain Peter Kahl of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at the National Maritime Day event held by the U.S. Department of Transportation on May 22.



American Maritime Officers National President Willie Barrere and AMO National Secretary-Treasurer Bob Rice greet Commander of U.S. Transportation Command Gen. Jacqueline Van Ovost and Commander of Military Sealift Command Rear Adm. Philip Sobeck at the Norfolk Propeller Club's National Maritime Day celebration onboard the *USS Wisconsin*. With them is AMO East Coast Representative Todd Christensen.



AMO member Emily Gramer attended the Norfolk Propeller Club's National Maritime Day celebration onboard the *USS Wisconsin*. With her here are AMO National Secretary-Treasurer Rice, National President Barrere and Representative Christensen.



Gen. Van Ovost and Rear Adm. Sobeck participated in a wreath laying ceremony during the Norfolk Propeller Club's National Maritime Day observance in Virginia.



AMO Career Advancement Liaison Kathleen Friel participated in a National Maritime Day ceremony in Galveston, Texas honoring mariners past and present.

# A Proclamation on National Maritime Day, 2024

Our Nation's merchant mariners embody the highest aspirations of our democracy, always answering our country's call with commitment and courage. Today, we honor their service and sacrifice. Together, we recommit to meeting our sacred obligation to care for them and their families.

Unbreaking and unbending in their devotion to duty, our merchant mariners have stood for our Nation's freedom and liberty throughout history – from delivering critical goods and troops to the battlefields of World War II to responding to devastating natural disasters around the world and shipping the goods and military cargo that keep our Nation safe and prosperous. Today, our merchant mariners are continuing this legacy of service, delivering humanitarian aid to people in need and transporting military equipment around the world. At the same time, merchant mariners are engines of our economy. They facilitate international trade and strengthen our supply chains by transporting billions of dollars of goods across oceans, seas, and waterways to the hands of American businesses and consumers.

Our merchant mariners have always met the moment – and my Administration will always have their backs. That is why we are ensuring that ships traveling between United States ports are American-built, American-owned, and American-crewed by enforcing the Jones Act. This will not only support American shipbuilding but will also support good union jobs. Meanwhile, we have made historic investments in our Nation's infrastructure, including rebuilding our ports so that they are safer, cleaner, and easier and more affordable to move through.

We also recognize that our merchant mariners are strongest when they reflect the full diversity of our Nation. My Budget proposes \$191 million for the United States

Merchant Marine Academy to educate and train the next generation of seagoing officers and maritime leaders. Additionally, my Administration established Every Mariner Builds A Respectful Culture Standards to prevent sexual assault and harassment and to support survivors.

Today, as we honor all that merchant mariners have done for our Nation, we also recognize the mariners who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our Nation. We owe these fallen heroes a debt of gratitude we can never fully repay. But our Nation will never forget their legacy and that of every mariner who has dared all, risked all, and given all for our Nation.

The Congress, by a joint resolution approved May 20, 1933, has designated May 22 of each year as "National Maritime Day" to commemorate the first transoceanic voyage by a steamship in 1819 by the *S.S. Savannah*. By this resolution, the Congress has authorized and requested the President to issue annually a proclamation calling for its appropriate observance. I also request that all ships sailing under the American flag dress ship on that day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim May 22, 2024, as National Maritime Day. I call upon all Americans to observe this day and to celebrate the United States Merchant Marine and maritime industry with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-first day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-eighth.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR.



Members of American Maritime Officers, AMO officials and staff, and AMO Plans directors and staff gather with City of Dania Beach Mayor A.J. Ryan IV, Broward County Commissioner Tim Ryan, and Port Chaplain Father Sanford Sears, Seafarers' House, Port Everglades, at a ceremony observing National Maritime Day at the memorial for the crew of *El Faro* on the STAR Center campus in Dania Beach, Fla.



At Right: U.S. Navy veteran and AMO member Ross Shimel celebrated National Maritime Day by volunteering onboard the *S/S Jeremiah O'Brien*, one of the last remaining unaltered Liberty Ships from World War II. The *Jeremiah O'Brien* is based in San Francisco and sailed in honor of both National Maritime Day and Memorial Day. The ship made seven World War II voyages and also made eleven crossings of the English Channel carrying personnel and supplies to the Normandy beaches in support of the D-Day landing.



## AMO Safety and Education Plan – Simulation, Training, Assessment & Research (STAR) Center

(954) 920-3222 / (800) 942-3220 – 2 West Dixie Highway, Dania Beach, FL 33004

### General Courses

Advanced Fire Fighting	5 Days	12 August	28 October						
Advanced Fire Fighting Refresher	2 Days	7 October	9 December						
Basic Safety Training – All 4 modules must be completed within 12 months: Personal Safety Techniques (Monday/Tuesday – 1.5 days), Personal Safety & Social Responsibility (Tuesday PM – half-day), Elementary First Aid (Wednesday – 1 day), Fire Fighting & Fire Prevention (Thursday/Friday – 2 days) – not required if Combined Basic and Advanced Fire Fighting completed within 12 months.	5 Days	7 October	9 December						
Basic Safety Training – Refresher – required for STCW renewal for those without 360 days of sea service in 5 years	3 Days	9 October	11 December						
Basic Training and Advanced Fire Fighting Revalidation (Required for STCW renewal) – required for those with 360 days sea service in five years	2 Days	8, 29 July	5, 26 August	12, 23, 30 Sept.	17 October	4, 18 Nov.	2, 16 Dec.	6, 27 January	
Chemical Safety – Advanced	5 Days	30 Sept.							
Combined Basic & Advanced Low Flash Point Fuel Operations (IGF Code/LNG Fuel) Course	5 Days	19 August	28 October	2 December					
Confined Space Entry	3 Days	1 July	6 November						
Environmental Awareness (includes Oily Water Separator)	3 Days	11 November							
Fast Rescue Boat	4 Days	27 August	17 September	15 October	21 January				
GMDSS – Requires after-hour homework	10 Days	15 July	7 October						
Leadership & Management (required by ALL management level Deck and Engine officers by 1 January 2017)	5 Days	8 July	16 September	21 October	20 January				
LNG Tankerman PIC – available online	8 Days	Please Call							
LNG Simulator Training – Enrollment priority in the LNG simulator course is given to qualified member candidates for employment and/or observation opportunities with AMO contracted LNG companies. In all cases successful completion of the LNG PNC classroom course is prerequisite.	5 Days	Please Call							
Proficiency in Survival Craft (Lifeboat)	4 Days	30 July	30 September	16 December					
Proficiency in Survival Craft (Lifeboat) REFRESHER	1 Day	12 October	14 December						
Safety Officer Course (also see online schedule)	2 Days	4 July	15 October	4 November					
Tankerman PIC DL – Classroom (also see online schedule)	5 Days	7 October	16 December						
Tankerman PIC DL – Simulator	10 Days	8 July	12 August	16 Sept.	21 October	11 November	20 January		
Train the Trainer – requires after hours homework	5 Days	12 August	21 October	2 December	13 January				
Vessel/Company Security Officer – Includes Anti-Piracy (also see online schedule)	3 Days	9 September	29 January						
Vessel Personnel with Designated Security Duties (VPDSD)	2 Days	12 September	5 December						
<b>Deck Courses</b>									
Advanced Bridge Resource Management	5 Days	28 October							
Advanced Shiphandling for Masters/Senior Deck Officers – (no equivalency) must have sailed as Chief Mate Unlimited	5 Days	26 August	14 October	2 December					
Advanced Shiphandling for 3rd Mates – 60 days seetime equivalency for 3rd Mates	10 Days	15 July	9 September	7 October	4 November	20 January			
Basic Meteorology	5 Days	28 October							
Dynamic Positioning – Induction (Basic)	5 Days	8 July	16 September	11 November	6 January				
Dynamic Positioning – Simulator (Advanced)	5 Days	19 August	2 December	27 January					
Dynamic Positioning - REVALIDATION / REFRESHER and Competency Assessment (Please specify Revalidation or Refresher on course application)	5 Days	12 August	14 October	9 December					
ECDIS	5 Days	19 August	9 December						
Electronic Navigation and Watchkeeping (ECDIS) Refresher	3 Days	20 Nov.	8 January						
High Risk and Emergency Shiphandling for Masters (Must have completed Advanced Shiphandling for Masters and sailed as Master)	5 Days	29 July	23 September	18 November	16 December	20 January			
Navigational Watchkeeping Standardization & Assessment Program	5 Days	29 July	16 Sept.	4 November	20 January				
TOAR (Towing Officer Assessment Record) – Third Mate (Unlimited or Great Lakes) or 1600T Master License required AND OICNW required	5 Days	26 August							
Tug Training – ASD Assist	5 Days	16 Dec.							



## AMO Members and Applicants Are Asked to Register for Courses As Far in Advance As Possible, and To Submit a Course Application Even if the Preferred Course/Start Date Has a Wait List

AMO members and applicants are asked to submit an application for course registration as far in advance of the course's start date as possible for all courses. Applications received less than 60 days in advance of a course's start date are more difficult to accommodate. AMO members and applicants are also asked to submit an application for their preferred course and start date even if there is a wait list. STAR Center is sometimes able to accommodate those who are on a course wait list.



**Deck Upgrade – STCW 2010 – Management Level (NVIC 10-14)** – Completion of both required and optional courses listed below will include all Task Assessments required by NVIC 10-14, providing ECDIS, GMDSS and ARPA have been previously completed. See STAR Center's website for full details: <http://www.STAR-Center.com/STCW2010-deck.upgrade.html>.

Upgrade: Shiphandling at the Management Level (includes SAR)	10 Days	15 July	12 August	30 Sept.	21 October	4 Nov.	2 Dec.	6 January	
Upgrade: Advanced Meteorology – Requires after-hours homework	5 Days	15 July	30 Sept.	4 Nov.	2 December	6 January			
Advanced Stability (also see online schedule on page 10)	5 Days	29 July	26 August	16 Sept.	28 October	9 December	13 January		
Management of Medical Care (also see online schedule on page 10)	Half-Day	31 July	13 Sept.	20 Nov.					
Leadership & Management (also see online schedule on page 10)	5 Days	8 July	16 Sept.	21 October	16 Dec.	20 January			
Advanced Cargo – Optional for task sign-off (also see online schedule on page 10)	5 Days	22 July	19 August	23 Sept.	21 October	6 January			
Marine Propulsion Plants – Optional for task sign-off	5 Days	8 July	23 Sept.	28 October	2 December	27 January			
Advanced Celestial – Optional for task sign-off	5 Days	22 July	9 Sept.	2 December					
Advanced Navigation – Optional for task sign-off	5 Days	8 July	26 August	14 October	9 December				

### Engineering Courses

Electrical and Instrumentation Troubleshooting (Professional Development)	5 Days	22 July	2 December	13 January					
Control Systems Troubleshooting (Professional Development)	5 Days	29 July	9 December	20 January					
Diesel Endorsement (Crossover)	4 Weeks	7 October							
Engine Room Resource Management (Simulator)	5 Days	4 November	6 January						
Engine Operations Training and Assessment Program	5 Days	26 August	2 December	20 January					
Gas Turbine Endorsement	2 Weeks	11 November							
Marine High Voltage Safety Course (Simulator)	5 Days	29 July	4 November						
Hydraulics / Pneumatics (Professional Development)	5 Days	9 Sept.	16 December						
Machine Shop 1 (Professional Development)	5 Days	23 Sept.	2 December						
Machine Shop 2 (must complete Machine Shop 1)	5 Days	30 Sept.	9 December						
Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs) (Does not include EPA Universal)	5 Days	5 August	7 October	11 November	27 January				
Refrigeration & Air Conditioning	5 Days	16 Sept.	9 December	6 January					
Steam Endorsement	4 Weeks	27 January							
Welding 1 – Professional Development	5 Days	8 July	9 September	11 November	20 January				
Welding 2 (must complete Welding 1 prior to enrolling)	5 Days	15 July	16 Sept.	18 November	27 January				

**Engine Upgrade – STCW 2010 – Management Level (NVIC 15-14)** – Completion of both required and optional courses listed below will include all Task Assessments required by NVIC 15-14. See STAR Center's website for full details: <https://www.star-center.com/stcw2010-engine.upgrade.html>

Leadership & Managerial Skills (G500 as amended) – REQUIRED	5 Days	8 July	16 Sept.	21 October	16 Dec.	20 January			
ERM (E050 as amended) – REQUIRED (unless previously taken for gap closing or original license) Note: if your current OICEW endorsement does not have a limitation, you should not require this for upgrade.	5 Days	29 July	4 November	6 January					
Upgrade: Electrical, Electronics & Control Engineering (Management Level) (E133 as amended) (UPGRADE with tasks) Required unless previously taken for gap closing or original license	5 Days	15 July	14 October	2 December	13 January				
STCW Upgrade Task Assessment – General: This class is required by all propulsion types (Motor, Gas and Steam) Licensed engineers – OPTIONAL: Tasks can be signed off onboard	5 Days	22 July	28 October	9 December	27 January				

### Medical Courses

Elementary First Aid – Prerequisite for MCP within preceding 6 months	1 Day	23 July	17 Sept.	29 October	3 December	7 January			
Medical Care Provider – Prerequisite for MPIC within preceding 6 months. Please fax EFA certificate when registering	3 Days	24 July	18 Sept.	30 October	4 December	8 January			
Medical PIC – Please FAX MCP certificate when registering	5 Days	29 July	23 Sept.	4 November	9 December	13 January			
Urinalysis Collector Training	1 Day	5 August	30 Sept.	16 Dec.	14 January				
Screening Test Technician – QEDs a.m./Alco Mate 7000 p.m.	Half-Day	6 August	1 October	17 Dec.	15 January				

### Self-Study, CDs and Online Courses

Anti-Terrorism Level 1 – Online	Qualified Assessor – Online
DOT Hazardous Materials Transportation Training – Online	Vessel General Permit EPA – On campus in conjunction with other classes

## AMO Members and Applicants Can Register Online for STAR Center Courses

STAR Center is no longer accepting paper course registration applications by FAX, nor scanned paper applications by email. AMO members and applicants will need to register for courses on the STAR Center website. With a phone, scan the QR code to open a link to the online course registration form, or in the address bar of a Web browser, enter the following URL: [www.star-center.com/forms/reg.mbr.live.html](http://www.star-center.com/forms/reg.mbr.live.html)



**Military Sealift Command Training Program** – The core MSC courses noted below are required for initial MSC employment. Other MSC courses listed are only required as assigned duties require.

CORE Basic CBR Defense – Refresher required every 5 years	1 Day	18 July	22 August	27 Sept.	24 October	15 Nov.	6 Dec.	16 January
CORE Damage Control – Refresher required every 5 years	1 Day	17 July	21 August	25 Sept.	23 Oct.	14 Nov.	5 Dec.	15 January
CORE Helicopter Fire Fighting – Refresher required every 5 years	1 Day	16 July	20 August	26 Sept.	22 Oct.	13 Nov.	4, 16 Dec.	14 January
CORE Marine Environmental Program (with CBRD) – Refresher required every 5 years	Half-Day	18 July	22 August	27 Sept.	24 October	15 Nov.	6 Dec.	16 January
MSC Readiness Refresher – Must have completed full CBRD & DC once in career	2 Days	15 July	19 August	3, 21 Oct.	12 Nov.	15 Dec.	13 January	
MSC ATO Level II – Required every 3 years by Master once during career (unless designated ATO)	5 Days	8 July	16 December	20 January				
MSC CBRD Officer – Required every five years and successful completion of the annual refresher/indoctrination training is a prerequisite	5 Days	5 August	18 November					
MSC Watchstander – BASIC – once in career, SST graduates are grandfathered	1 Day	15 July	16 Sept.	21 October	9 Dec.	27 January		
MSC Watchstander – ADVANCED – annual requirement for all SRF members	1 Day	12, 16 July	2, 9, 23, 30 August	13, 17, 27 Sept.	11, 18, 22 October	8, 22 November	6, 10 December	10, 24, 28 January
MSC Ship Reaction Force – Required every three years for SRF members and must have Basic and a valid Advanced Watchkeeping and a valid Small Arms	3 Days	17 July	18 Sept.	23 October	11 Dec.	29 January		
Small Arms – Initial & Sustainment (Refresher) Training – Open to members & applicants eligible for employment through AMO (w/in 1 year) or MSC on MARAD contracted vessels.	4 Days	8, 29 July	5, 19, 26 August	9, 23, 30 September	7, 14, 28 October	4, 18 November	2 December	6, 20 January

### Radar Courses

Radar Recertification	1 Day	7 October	9 December					
Electronic Navigation and Watchkeeping (ECDIS) Refresher	3 Days	20 November	8 January					
ARPA	4 Days	Please Call						
Radar Recertification & ARPA	5 Days	Please Call						
Original Radar Observer Unlimited	5 Days	Please Call						

**ONLINE Blended Management Level Upgrade Classes (Deck and Engine)** – STAR Center is offering the following courses ONLINE. WHERE SHOWN, FULLY ONLINE CLASSES INCLUDE ALL ASSESSMENTS AND TRAVEL TO STAR CENTER IS NOT REQUIRED. By USCG approval requirements, Practical Exercises and Competency Assessments for blended courses will have to be taken at STAR Center. This will be scheduled in a comprehensive 5-day session.

Leadership and Management (Deck and Engine) – FULLY ONLINE	5 Days	8 July						
Advanced Navigation (Deck) – FULLY ONLINE	3 Days	14 October						
Marine Propulsion Plant (Deck) – FULLY ONLINE	3 Days	28 October						
Advanced Stability (Deck) FULLY ONLINE	5 Days	26 August						
Advanced Cargo (Deck) FULLY ONLINE	5 Days	19 August						
Advanced Celestial (Deck) Blended Assessment at STAR Center	4 Days	5 August						
Upgrade: Electrical, Electronics, & Control Engineering (Engine) – FULLY ONLINE	5 Days	15 July						
Combined Basic and Advanced Low Flash Point Fuel Operations – FULLY ONLINE	5 Days	28 October						
Vessel Security Officer – FULLY ONLINE	3 Days	9 September						
Tankerman PIC DL – Classroom – FULLY ONLINE	5 Days	Please Call						
Safety Officer Seminar – FULLY ONLINE	2 Days	15 October						
Management of Medical Care – FULLY ONLINE	Half-Day	20 November						

### Assessments (at STAR Center) DECK and ENGINE

Advanced Celestial (Deck)	2 Days	4 November	16 January					
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NOTICE: AMO members planning to attend STAR Center in Dania Beach, Florida – either to prepare for license upgrading or to undergo specialty training—are asked to call the school to confirm course schedule and space availability in advance.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY AS TO STUDENTS: The Simulation, Training, Assessment and Research Center (STAR), established under the auspices of the American Maritime Officers Safety and Education Plan, admit students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin or sex to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the Center. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin or sex in administration of its educational policies, admission policies and other programs administered by the Center.



# DIRECTORY

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Mobile: (419) 481-3470

## STAR CENTER

STUDENT SERVICES/LODGING AND COURSE INFORMATION  
2 West Dixie Highway  
Dania Beach, FL 33004-4312  
(954) 920-3222 Extension 201  
(800) 942-3220 Extension 201  
register@star-center.com  
Course Attendance Confirmation: (800) 942-3220 Extension 200  
24 Hours: (954) 920-3222 Extension 7999

## SERVICES

AMO MEMBERS & APPLICANTS: UPDATE CREDENTIALS, DOCUMENTS, TRAINING RECORDS  
Secure File Upload:  
**<https://www.amo-union.org>**  
**Select LOGIN/MEMBER LOGIN to access Member Portal**  
Questions: (800) 362-0513 Extension 1050  
E-mail: memberservices@amo-union.org

**AMO Coast Guard Legal Aid Program**  
Michael Reny  
**Mobile: (419) 346-1485**  
(419) 243-1105  
(888) 853-4662  
MikeReny@BEX.NET  
FAX: (419) 243-8953

AMO PLANS  
2 West Dixie Highway  
Dania Beach, FL 33004  
(800) 348-6515  
FAX: (954) 922-7539

MEDICAL CLINIC  
2 West Dixie Highway  
Dania Beach, FL 33004  
(954) 927-5213

## AMO PLANS CONTACT INFORMATION

AMO Plans normal business hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Eastern.

**Phone: (800) 348-6515**

To request a connection with a specific person, dial "0" for the operator.

Medical Customer Service: extension 12

Retirement Services – Pension, 401(k), MPB, and Defined Contribution: extension 14

Vacation: extension 15

E-mail – Medical Plan: amomedical@amoplans.com

E-mail – Vacation Plan: amovacation@amoplans.com

E-mail – 401(k) Plan: amo401k@amoplans.com

E-mail – Retirement Services: amopension@amoplans.com

FAX – Retirement Services: (954) 922-7539

FAX – Medical Plan: (954) 920-9482

FAX – Vacation Plan: (954) 926-7274

# Congressman Garamendi Calls on California Regulators to Require Offshore Wind Developers to Utilize Local Labor, Domestic Vessels, American-Made Components

The following is excerpted from an article released June 12 by the office of Congressman John Garamendi (D-CA).

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Representative John Garamendi (D-CA-08) sent a letter calling for the California State Lands Commission only to permit offshore wind projects that use local workers, American-built vessels, and domestically manufactured wind turbines. As the Lieutenant Governor of California, Garamendi served as an ex officio State Lands Commissioner from 2007 until 2009 before being elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

"I strongly support the responsible development of California's burgeoning offshore wind industry to meet our state's electricity needs and tackle the climate crisis by reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Like President Biden, I also believe that building the clean energy economy of tomorrow presents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to revitalize domestic manufacturing and create middle-class, union jobs that can never be outsourced. Skilled American workers are ready, willing, and able to do the job if given the chance," said Garamendi.

"As a former State Lands Commissioner, I call on you to maximize job opportunities for Californians and American workers when permitting offshore wind projects. Being the lead state agency for CEQA is a monumental task, and I am pleased that responsibility has been placed in the State Lands Commission's capable hands. Again, I urge you to apply all three of these criteria when determining whether an offshore wind project is in the best interest of Californians," said Garamendi.

In Congress, Garamendi has championed a "Make it in America" agenda to revitalize domestic manufacturing, create new middle-class jobs, and tackle the climate crisis by

building the clean energy economy of tomorrow with American workers, materials, and know-how. From 2013 to 2018, Garamendi served as the top Democrat on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, which has jurisdiction over federal maritime laws like the Jones Act, which require that all transportation in U.S. waters be on vessels built and operated by Americans.

In January 2021, Congress enacted the landmark "Garamendi amendment," closing a loophole in the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act of 1953 by applying all federal labor, environmental, immigration and customs, and antitrust regulations, including the Jones Act, to the offshore renewable energy industry. These same federal requirements have always applied to the offshore oil and gas industries.

## MONTHLY AMO MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Regular monthly membership meetings for American Maritime Officers will be held on the first Wednesday of every month except in the months of January, June, July and September, when the membership meeting will be held on the second Wednesday. Meetings will be held at AMO National Headquarters and will begin at 1 p.m. local time. The next meetings are scheduled to take place on the following dates:

**July 10, August 7, September 11**

## New Captain on *Stena Immaculate*



American Maritime Officers member Captain Lane Frisbie turned over the tanker *Stena Immaculate* and the ship's ice cream to Captain Patrick DeFoor in June, here in Virginia.

# AMO Secures New Three-Year Agreement with Crescent

Serving on the negotiating committee in New Orleans for the new three-year agreement with Crescent Towing were AMO National Vice President, Inland Waters, Joe Brown, Captain Patrick Cazaubon, Chief Engineer James Price, Captain Roy Helmsstetter, Chief Engineer Barry Quirk, Captain Steve Fazekas and AMO National Executive Vice President Danny Robichaux. The new agreement with Crescent provides approximately 20 percent in wage increases over the life of the agreement, as well as increases in vacation and travel time, in addition to other gains for AMO members sailing in the Crescent Towing fleet.



## AMO Aboard the *Prentiss Brown*

Members of American Maritime Officers working aboard the *Prentiss Brown* in April, here on the Cuyahoga River near Cleveland, included Chief Engineer James Whitlock, Captain Steve Mertz, Senior Mate Don Welz, Junior Mate Adrien Hall and Assistant Engineer James Ham.