

# The International Propeller Club of the United States Port of Tampa, Inc.

Proudly Hosts the 84<sup>th</sup> International Convention - October 6th-8th, 2010  
Marriott Tampa Waterside Hotel & Marina – Tampa, Florida

P.O. Box 76985 - Tampa, FL 33675-1985

Phone: (813) 225-7227 - Fax: 813-225-5667 - Email: [propellerclub@ij.net](mailto:propellerclub@ij.net)

June 2010

Port #5

Chartered May 25, 1929

## Salute to Congress – Washington DC Trip Report

By Janet L. Dougherty

The International Propeller Club of the United States' Salute to Congress award was established in 1985 to recognize the outstanding participation and advancement of maritime issues by a member of Congress. The first recipient of this award was Speaker of the House, Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, Jr. (D- MA). Now twenty-six years later, the International Club proudly bestowed the honor on Senator David Vitter, (R-LA) at its annual Salute to Congress dinner at the Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Maryland on April 27, 2010.

Senator Vitter joins an impressive list of Members of Congress who have received the award by having demonstrated consistent support for the United States-Flag Merchant Marine and the maritime industry in the United States. As a member of three Senate Committees having significant jurisdiction over the maritime industry in the United States and internationally, the Senator is well positioned to continue his recognition of the maritime industry's importance to our economy and its role as an important asset for our military.

*Photo right (l-r) Captain Allen L. Thompson, Jr., Janet Dougherty, Mark LaFon, Awardee Senator David Vittner and Wade Wetherington*



In attendance at this event, and for our annual congressional appointments, were four Propeller Club of Tampa representatives (Wade Wetherington , Executive Committee Member and International President-Elect for 2010; Captain Allen Thompson, VP of Programs; Mark LaFon; Immediate Past President; and Janet Dougherty, Outgoing Southeast Regional Secretary). A great deal of preparation went into our congressional packages, and a special debt of gratitude goes to John Thorington, Mark LaFon, Captain Thompson, and Nancy Simms for their hard work.

*Photo left (l-r) Wade Wetherington, Allen L. Thompson, III, Janet Dougherty, Mark LaFon and Captain Allen L. Thompson, Jr.*

At the appointments with our local congressional delegation, we discussed Tampa's maritime educational initiatives, harbor and infrastructure improvements (including Army Corps of Engineer issues), federal appropriations, and Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) requests. We met with eight congressional offices and personally met with Senator Bill Nelson, Congresswoman Cathy Castor, and Congressman Gus Bilirakis (Congressman Putnam was pulled away at the last minute for a committee meeting). This is our tenth year for these annual appointments, and our delegation is very engaged and interested in the continued growth and success of Tampa's Maritime Community. Congresswoman Castor's office put together a special document of congressional community support for Tampa's port and continues to push for a legislative remedy to the dual security credentialing.

*Photo right: Captain Thompson, Senator Bill Nelson, Janet Dougherty and Mark LaFon*



Congressman Bilirakis is also involved in this issue and may be able to assist in the effort as a sitting committee member for Homeland Security. We offered personal harbor tours and tours of the new KidsPort at the Glazer Children's Museum to all Congressional Representatives and staff, as well as, invitations to upcoming events in the Tampa area (the Sail Away 2010 Tall Ship Event in July and the International Convention in October).

We also thanked Congresswoman Castor for being our keynote speaker and host of the International Convention. We also took the opportunity to display a poster for the International Convention which garnered great interest at the cocktail reception prior to the Salute to Congress Dinner.

Our annual trip to Washington DC was extremely successful. We engaged in valuable networking opportunities and provided articulate feedback and input into the legislative process which we will continue to build on year after year.

---

## National Maritime Day Ceremony – May 18<sup>th</sup> – Yacht StarShip II

It was a spectacular evening aboard the Yacht Starship II as we celebrated National Maritime Day on Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. We gathered on the upper deck as the sun sank low in the sky and a gentle breeze from the east unfurled the colors of our flag. This year's ceremony included our friends from the Navy League Sea Cadets, under the direction of LCDR Gail Ryan, USNR. These cadets truly set the standard for Color Guard units. After the national anthem, Immediate Past President Mark LaFon provided some background on the significance of National Maritime Day, followed by the laying of a wreath into Tampa Bay. With the assistance of Captain Timothy M. Close, Captain of the Port, USCG - and with the ringing of eight bells - the wreath landed gently on the waters of Tampa Bay just off of the Davis Islands' peninsula and quickly headed out to sea on the falling tide as the sound of Taps echoed off of the water. After this solemn event we were treated to another fabulous meal by the Chefs of the StarShip II.



Photo right: Wreath Ceremony



Mark and Captain Allen Thompson, presented a "special recognition award" to LCDR Kevin Carroll who will be leaving his post at Sector St. Petersburg and heading to a new post in Virginia this coming July. As with most of our Coast Guardsman that serve in Tampa Bay, they come and they go. We are glad when they come and sad when they leave and LCDR is definitely one that we are very sad to see leave. His commitment to his post, community and friends is simply remarkable. LCDR Carroll, we wish you "fair winds and following seas".

Photo left: Mark LaFon, LCDR Carroll and Captain Thompson

After a short program, we were delighted to introduce our guest speaker Captain James Murphy, USNR (ret), MARAD Director, East Gulf Lower Mississippi Gateway from New Orleans, Louisiana. Captain Murphy shared with us some excerpts from some of his favorite literature on merchant mariners and spoke very fondly of his connection with maritime life in general. He spoke of his relationship with fellow ship mates, and related that the special bond between seamen is second to none. The night ended with the Captain of the Yacht Starship II nudging the vessel gently against the dock; the perfect ending to a picture perfect evening. Thank you to all that attended and made the night special.



Photo right: Mark LaFon, Captain Murphy and Captain Thompson



## ANNUAL DRAGON BOAT RACES HELD MAY 1 IN TAMPA

Recently seven companies from the Tampa port community banded together to form a new Dragon Boat team aptly named the **Port of Tampa Maritime Marauders**. The companies that provided sponsorships and people to make up the 21 person Dragon Boat team were United Ocean Services, Mosaic, Tampa Port Authority, Martinez and Company, and the Tampa Bay Pilots Association. CF Industries and Gulf Marine Repair supported the endeavor with their sponsorship. The **Maritime Marauders** raced three times and competed against 64 other teams in timed trials.

This bodacious first time crew bested 33 other boat times in the final race, and came in 4<sup>th</sup> in their division with a time of 2.11.21 minutes! The Tampa port community should be proud that it was so appropriately represented through this Dragon Boat crew's



exemplary comradery and the enduring spirit.

## 2010-2011 Membership Directory & Service Guide

The 2010-2011 Membership Directory & Service Guide membership and advertising campaign is now in progress. Each member will have an opportunity to advertise in this year's edition, and we hope you will take this chance to support the #1 chapter in the world. It is initiatives such as the directory that help fund our activities and projects throughout the year. This year we are featuring an option to update your current photo "in color". This is a great way to recognize your fellow Propeller Club members when you are out and about. Also, if you have anyone that you feel would benefit by becoming a member, please forward our website information to them and urge them to join. Our membership application is on-line "join now" and IF they join by July 23rd – they will be in the NEW directory. Keep your eye out for further details on our directory along with some timelines and instructions. Please feel free to contact Nancy Simms at [propellerclub@ij.net](mailto:propellerclub@ij.net) or call (813) 225-7227 to discuss.

## 84<sup>th</sup> Annual International Convention Sponsors

**\*\*\*\*\*Our Presenting Sponsors are Mosaic Fertilizer and Tampa Port Authority\*\*\*\*\***

*\*denotes special event sponsor*

### Admiral Sponsors

\*Gulf Marine Repair  
\*International Ship Repair  
Marine Towing of Tampa  
Martin Marine/Martin  
Terminals

### Commodore Sponsors

\*Diversified Business  
Communications  
OSG of America  
\*Seabulk Towing  
Tampa Bay Spill Committee

### Captain Sponsors

\*Advantec  
\*Brown & Brown  
CF Industries  
Clark Environmental  
Misener Marine  
\*Odyssey Manufacturing  
Power House Diesel Services  
United Ocean Services  
Wetherington Hamilton Harrison

### Commander Sponsors

CSX Railroad  
Kinder Morgan, Pipeline  
M.E. Wilson  
Mosely, Prichard, Parrish,  
Knight & Jones  
Port Consolidated  
Propeller Club, Savannah  
United Healthcare

### Lieutenant Sponsors

Captain Sandy Dunbar  
Florida Aquarium  
Fowler White Burnett  
Kinder Morgan, Bulk  
Moran Towing  
NETSCO

Propeller Club's  
Port of Baltimore  
Port of Canaveral  
Port of, Evansville  
Port of Manatee  
Port of Norfolk  
Port of Seattle

### Ensign Sponsors

Propeller Club's  
Port of Charleston  
Port of Gulfport  
Port of Paducah

### Special Donation

Tampa Bay Harbor Safety &  
Security Committee

If you are interested in becoming a convention sponsor, please contact Nancy Simms at (813) 225-7227 or [propellerclub@ij.net](mailto:propellerclub@ij.net) or Dennis Manelli at (813) 247-3153 or [dmanelli@gulfmarinerepair.com](mailto:dmanelli@gulfmarinerepair.com) or visit our website at [www.propellerclubtampa.com](http://www.propellerclubtampa.com) for further information!

# May 2010 NEW Members

Sean Glocker  
Ring Power Corporation  
Sponsor: Darryl Klotter

Sherry Powell  
Florida Marine Joiner Services  
Sponsor: Bob Doyle

Alan (Al) Kocot  
Tampa Port Ministries  
Sponsor: Rev Judy Dunn

Kaitlyn Roseman  
International Ship Repair  
Sponsor: Sherry Barrington

Scott Richards  
Fowler White Boggs PA  
Sponsor: Carl Nelson

Harry Webster  
United Ocean Services  
Sponsor: Neil McManus

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Installation of Officer's Dinner and Past President's Dinner



Columbia Restaurant

**Tuesday, June 15<sup>th</sup>**

See Enclosed Flyer

### July 2010

"Sail Tampa Bay 2010"  
Visit [www.sailtampabay2010.com](http://www.sailtampabay2010.com)  
July 10<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>

---

### August 17<sup>th</sup>

**Candidate Forum**

**Details to Follow!**

### Mark Your Calendar For These Events!

Remember, our flyers are available on our website along with the current monthly newsletter and our on-line membership application. *Note: to login with your username, simply enter your email address, however you do not need to login to purchase tickets to our events.*

You'll find all of the above publications at [www.propellerclubtampa.com](http://www.propellerclubtampa.com).