

The International Propeller Club of the United States, Port of Tampa

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PROPELLER CLUB HOSTS ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCHEON BENEFITTING TAMPA PORT MINISTRIES & SEAFARERS CENTER

TAMPA, Fla., December 17, 2019 – The Propeller Club – Port of Tampa hosted its Annual Holiday Luncheon at the Columbia Restaurant in Ybor City on Tuesday, December 17, 2019. This is the Club's annual benefit for the Tampa Port Ministries and Seafarer's Center, with attendees bringing gifts for merchant marines visiting the Port of Tampa during the holidays.



Club President Shannon LeMoine welcomed everyone including Hillsborough County & Port Commissioner Sandra Murman, Port Commissioners Steve Swindal, Pat Allman and Hung Mai, Port President and CEO Paul Anderson along with Captain of the Port – Sector St. Pete – Captain Matt Thompson.

The Mayor of Tampa, The Honorable Jane Castor, delivered the keynote address. Mayor Castor emphasized the importance of our Port and the entire maritime community for the future of our region. The Mayor noted that the Port's transformation and diversification is a major element that is helping fuel the remarkable growth in our community. Mayor Castor says the Tampa Bay area will change more in the next ten years than it has in her entire lifetime.



Second Vice President, Membership Chris Chambers announced new members in attendance: Chris with Kelly Meyer, Lisa D'Addio, Eric Brown, David DeLac, Lynn Reece, Greg Boyle and Karen Somerder (Karen missing from photo)



Captain John Timmel; Captain Matt Thompson; SUNY Maritime Student Ashley Hallaian; Mayor Jane Castor; Paul Anderson, Shannon LeMoine, Chris Chambers and Chaplain Steve Finnesy.

Second Vice President Chris Chambers announced the Club's upcoming events in 2020: **Tuesday, January 28** - Salute to the Coast Guard; **Tuesday, February 18** - Maritime Industry Night Celebration and Awards Banquet; and **Thursday, March 19**: Shrimperoo; *more details on all those events will be out soon.*

Former Jefferson High School Maritime Student Ashley Hallaian, who is now a Junior at SUNY Maritime Academy spoke to us on her achievements at the academy and expressed how grateful she is for this wonderful opportunity thanks to the Propeller Club – Port of Tampa and the Port Tampa Maritime Scholarship Foundation.

Thank all who joined us for such a great event with a great purpose. A special thanks to Mayor Jane Castor for her time and remarks.

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