

CALENDAR

- April 14-16 **IRPT Annual Conference**, Royal Sonesta Hotel, New Orleans. For information, contact the IRPT office.
- August 4-6 **MWRA Annual Meeting**. Grand Casino Gulfport. Contact Deirdre McGowan, 601-353-8538.
- August 23-26 **Tenn-Tom Waterway Development Opportunities Conference**, Marriott's Grand Hotel, Point Clear, AL. Contact 662-328-3286 or tenntom@ebicom.net.
- September 22-24 **National Waterways Conference**. St. Louis, MO. Contact Worth Hager, 202-296-4415.

The NEWS BULLETIN is a bi-monthly publication of Inland Rivers, Ports and Terminals, Inc. IRPT, as the intermodal professional association for the nation's inland waterway transportation system, provides inland river, port and terminal professionals and those concerned about the vitality of our industry with the opportunity to improve their professionalism, develop business connections, and educate the general public and policy decision-makers on the needs and importance of our industry.

For an IRPT membership application, go to that page of the IRPT website, www.irpt.net.

Articles are accepted for publication in the NEWS BULLETIN. Forward all address changes, articles and comments to the IRPT office at P. O. Box 4363, Jackson, MS 39296-4363. Telephone 601-352-4778. Fax 601-355-1506.
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**2004 Conference Registration
Enclosed with Survey**



INLAND RIVERS, PORTS & TERMINALS, INC.

News Bulletin

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear IRPT Members and Friends

It's hard to believe that this is the last newsletter for me to write a President's message. It has been two years, but time flies when you're having fun!

I want to thank all of the members of IRPT for their belief in me and in the support they have provided during my tenure. Now I rotate to being Chairman of the Board, so I will still be around. Special thanks to the Executive Committee - Jim McCarville, George Andres, and Randy Richardson - for all they have done to make my time in office productive.

Now to the fun stuff. Our April 14, 15, 16 conference in New Orleans has really shaped up to be a one-of-a-kind memorable event. Special thanks to Gary LaGrange for agreeing to chair this conference and to the other members of the conference planning committee - Jim McCarville, Ron Coles, and John Marzullo. Inside this newsletter you will find a revised conference schedule. We are especially pleased to have John Jamian, Deputy Administrator of the USDOT/ Maritime Administration, as our keynote luncheon speaker. A registration form is also enclosed, and it's time to get it in. I'm curious as to just what is involved in this Haunted History Tour after dark. Guess I'll find out. I look forward to seeing each of you in New Orleans.

Please make special note of our new members since the last newsletter in December. Welcome them into our organization at your first opportunity. Also note the response to IRPT's Port Security Workshops. We must continue to identify, develop and deliver value to you, our members.

Enclosed is an important additional insert - a letter from IRPT and a critical survey which port directors and terminal operators are asked to complete and forward both to TTI and IRPT. Gathering the information is essential if we are going to move ahead with our container-on-barge initiatives. **Your participation and support are requested.** I thank you in advance.

I welcome any comments or suggestions for strengthening the services that we provide at IRPT. I can be reached at r.e.cunningham@hdrinc.com.

Rick Cunningham
IRPT President

SPRING
2004

IRPT WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS SINCE THE WINTER NEWSLETTER

Agriliance, LLC, Memphis, TN - Charles Henderson
 Alabama Farmers Cooperative, Inc., Decatur, AL - Marie Cook
 Edward Kraemer & Sons, Inc., St. Charles, MO - Bob Shufflebotham, David L. Duke
 First Missouri Terminals Corp, Cape Girardeau, MO - Glenn Nix
 Frontier, LLC, Muskogee, OK - David Massey
 Consolidated Grain & Barge Co., Webbers Falls, OK - Jim Titley
 Consolidated Grain & Barge Co./CTLC, Van Buren, AR - Warren Skaggs
 Girardeau Stevedores & Contractors, Inc., Scott City, MO - Lanny Koch
 Greater Lafourche Port Commission, Galliano, LA - Jon Callais
 Memphis Marine Service, Memphis, TN - Eddie Adams
 Peavey Company, East St. Louis, IL - Ray Keating

IRPT TAKES THE LEAD ON PORT SECURITY

IRPT initiated workshops to assist port and terminal operators/security to meet the requirements of the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002 and its deadline of December 31. We had 51 people attend the seminars in Memphis and New Orleans, which were presented with the assistance of speakers from the Maritime Administration, the Coast Guard, and the contractor who worked on the IRPT TSA grant. By January 8,

about 50% of facilities had submitted their security plans, leaving 2,500 port facilities in violation of MTSA.

The Coast Guard has said that failure to submit a security plan could result in a civil penalty as high as \$25,000 per violation. After July 1, the Coast Guard has the authority to shut down non-compliant marine operations until a suitable security plan is in place.

— *The Waterways Journal*, January 12, 2004

BARGE SERVICE LAUNCHED

The first weekly container-on-barge service between the Port of New Orleans and the Port of Greater Baton Rouge was launched this month. Container-on-barge, a short-sea shipping service for containers, began January 9. The service provides a transportation option for Louisiana shippers who would normally ship their goods by truck. The service will be operated by

Osprey Line. "With this container-on-barge shipping schedule, local companies who import and export products to and from the Port of New Orleans can take advantage of lower transportation costs," said Osprey Line President Rick Couch. Osprey Line will call on the port's new Napoleon Avenue Container Terminal.

— *Times Picayune/Money News Briefs*, January 28, 2004

MARAD GREAT LAKES OFFICE NOW IN ILLINOIS

Doris J. Bautch, Director of the Great Lakes Region, USDOT/Maritime Administration, is now at the new regional office at Suite 203, 1701 East Woodfield Road, Schaumburg, IL 60173. Phone is (847) 995-0122 and fax is (847) 995-0133. Her email address is still doris.bautch@marad.dot.gov.

CHANNEL WIDENING AT TULSA

The Tulsa Port of Catoosa will be widening a 1,900-foot section of the channel by 135 feet. Fifteen mooring dolphins will be constructed for fleeting barges and accommodating future docks. Water depth in the project area will be 15 feet.

DYERSBURG HARBOR GETS GRANT

The Northwest Tennessee Regional Port Authority has received a \$325,000 grant for the planning and engineering phases of a proposed port. The money is coming from the Delta Regional Commission to bring relief and improve economic

development in 95 counties along the Mississippi River. The harbor is seen as necessary to improve transportation and bring industrial clients to the area.

— *Memphis Business Journal*, December 5, 2003

THE SMART RIVERS COALITION

On Tuesday, January 13, in Washington, DC at the offices of the Appalachian Regional Commission on DuPont Circle, a Cooperation Agreement between the European Federation of Inland Ports ("EFIP") and the Ohio River Basin International Trade & Transportation System ("ORBITS") was signed. Two other signatories to the Agreement were TINA Vienna (Danube River Management) and the Port of Pittsburgh Commission. Executing the Agreement on behalf of ORBITS was Tracy V. Drake, Co-Chairman of ORBITS and CEO of the Port Authority for Columbiana County, Ohio.

The purpose of the Agreement is to establish a

framework for mutual cooperation toward inland waterway-intermodal transportation development, to advance inland navigation, and to promote sustainable economic and employment strategies integrating inland river usage into the global supply chain. These actions will collectively be referred to as the SMART RIVERS Coalition. ORBITS is a nonprofit organization representing the Ohio River maritime interests of the States of Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois. EFIP is an agency of the European Commission representing 200 inland ports in 21 countries of Europe.

PORT AUTHORITY PROPOSES NEW FACILITY ON LOWER MISSISSIPPI

The Helena-West Helena-Phillips County (Ark.) Port Authority has filed an application proposing the construction of a barge loading and unloading facility at Lower Mississippi River Mile 650.

The port authority plans to construct an elevated

steel bridge crane structure with steel pipe pile barge berths for a slackwater harbor/public terminal. Plans call for the structure to measure approximately 398 feet by 120 feet.

— *The Waterways Journal*, December 15, 2003

GARICK RESPONDS TO CONTINUED GROWTH

Garick Corporation announced the opening of a new full-service terminal in Parsons, TN, created to meet the increased demand for wood fiber and mulch products. The terminal is designed for barge

loading and also for out-bound truck shipments. Garick is a leading distributor of natural resource products, products servicing the landscape, recreation, lawn, garden, turf and construction industries.

MTS NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL AND INLAND NAVIGATION NEEDS

The Marine Transportation System National Advisory Council is made up of various industry stakeholders who serve for a specified period of time and are then rotated off to be replaced by another industry representative.

Jim McCarville has represented Inland Rivers, Ports and Terminals, Inc., on this Council for five years and has certainly performed great service for IRPT. IRPT is no longer a participating member of the Advisory Council.

IRPT needs to continue to identify navigation

issues. It would appear from reviewing the FY 2005 Corps of Engineers budget that the intention is to cut out funds for the inland waterway system at precisely the time that both container-on-barge and other intermodal initiatives are working in concert to help relieve congestion on the interstate highway system.

In fact, this lack of attention to inland waterway navigation needs precipitated notification to IRPT that MEMCO Barge Lines will cease barge service on the Missouri River based on the economic impact of recently released biological findings.

IWICP MEETING

The next Inland Waterways Intermodal Cooperative Program meeting will be held in conjunction with the IRPT Annual Meeting in New Orleans on Wednesday, April 14, immediately following the 6:45-8:45 PM reception at the Royal Sonesta Hotel. All interested parties are encouraged to attend.

