

CALENDAR

2005

August 10 - 12 **Mississippi Water Resources Association Annual Meeting**, Gold Strike, Tunica Resorts, MS. Contact: Deirdre McGowan, insightltd@msn.com

September 14 **IRPT Board of Directors' Meeting**, 2:30 - 5:00.

September 15 **IRPT General Membership Breakfast**, 7:00 - 8:45.

(Both held in conjunction with the National Waterways Conference Annual Meeting, Hilton Riverside, New Orleans, LA. Information: www.waterways.org.)

October 2 - 7 **Smart Rivers Conference**, Pittsburgh. Contact Jim McCarville,

jim@port.pittsburgh.pa.us (see article elsewhere this issue).

October 19 - 20 **Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Development Opportunities Conference**,

Beau Rivage, Biloxi, MS. Contact: Agnes Zaiontz, tenntom@ebicom.net

2006

April 19 - 21 **IRPT Annual Meeting**, Board of Trade, New Orleans. Contact Deirdre McGowan, admin@irpt.net.

September 10-15 **AAPA Annual Conference**, New Orleans. More information to follow.

The NEWS BULLETIN is a quarterly 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, print, complete, and fax to 504-525-8197.

Articles are accepted for publication in the NEWS BULLETIN. Forward all address changes, articles and comments to the IRPT office at 316 Board of Trade Place, New Orleans, LA 70130. Telephone 504-585-0715. Fax 504-525-8197. E-mail: admin@irpt.net.



INLAND RIVERS, PORTS & TERMINALS, INC.

316 Board of Trade Place • New Orleans, LA 70130



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IRPT

News Bulletin

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear IRPT Members and Friends



I think we all learned a lot and enjoyed our meeting in New Orleans - and are looking forward to 2006 in the Crescent City.

Two important pieces of business passed at the General Membership Meeting included approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with the National Waterways Conference and passing the revised IRPT Mission Statement and Strategic Plan.

Our Mission:

To provide opportunity and a platform for inland river port and terminal professionals to improve their businesses through networking and developing key strategic alliances and

To inform policy makers on the needs and economic impacts of our industry. Both documents will be posted on our website, and the Mission Statement and Strategic Plan will be in the new Directory. Special thanks are due to Strategic Plan Committee Chair Ron Coles for his hard work - and thanks also to all of the members of his committee.

In addition, we are still working on port performance issues. Until we are better able to document our total benefits, we will not really be able to rank our projects, increase share of the USACE budget or increase the total allocation by showing that we return more to the economy than we take out. There has been no enthusiasm for the types of measures proposed in lieu of ton-miles. The ton-mile criteria previously used by the Corps were overly simplistic and discriminated against shorter river segments. The concern now, however, is that the FY07 criteria the Corps is using are possibly overly complicating the evaluation process. We will continue to work with the Corps to try to refine the evaluation process. If you have any comments on this or any other IRPT topic, feel free to forward an email to me at krpdport@htc.net.

Sincerely,

George Andres, IRPT President
Kaskaskia Regional Port District, IL

Summer
2005

UPDATE ON HIP

The Heartland Intermodal Partnership meeting hosted in May by IRPT and held in conjunction with the Standing Committee on Water Transportation of the American Association of Highway and Transportation Officials and the Maritime Administration was deemed a resounding success. There were seventeen state DOTs represented among the fifty-three people attending, some of whom were already active on the HIP Executive Committee. John Horsley, Director of AASHTO, and Butch Brown, Executive Director of Mississippi DOT and Chairman of SCOWT, were both featured speakers.

HIP is a coalition of senior public and private sector professionals from across the twenty-four states of the Nation's heartland. The coalition is focused on expediting safe and

secure freight movement and reducing congestion through improved mobility. HIP advocates increased use of the Heartland's intermodal transportation, including waterways - which at this point still have excess capacity. The HIP Strategic Plan, which included a review of completed action items, was distributed for comment and commitment.

IRPT was awarded a contract by the Maritime Administration to facilitate interaction between HIP and the state DOTs. The final report is due to the Maritime Administration at the end of July to complete the contractual obligation. Additional information can be found in *Waterways Journal*, June 6, 2005 issue and at www.marad.dot.gov/programs/hip.html.

UPDATE ON INLAND WATERWAY MARKETING PLAN

IRPT members organized and hosted six focus group meetings in February and March. There were almost 70 participants in the city combination of Pittsburgh, Clarksville, IN, Granite City, IL, Memphis, Houston and New Orleans. At each gathering, a brain-storming session was directed at answering four major questions: What are the impediments to increased market share for the inland system, what are the most appropriate market niches, what media tools should be utilized to promote the inland system, and what are some of the implications for container-on-barge. There was an average of 22 responses at

each location with very few duplications. The recommendations from the groups were then categorized and presented to the IRPT Annual Meeting registrants for their input. There were an additional 61 completed responses and those have, in turn, been integrated into the results of the six focus groups.

There are recommended action items for IRPT, MARAD, other Federal agencies and individual ports. The final report to the Maritime Administration is due at the end of June to complete the requirements of the MARAD/IRPT contract and will be posted on the IRPT web site at www.irpt.net.

SECURITY NOTES

Port Security Grants **Round 5** were announced with a 44-page description of application procedures. The application window was brief and closed June 10. Yes, IRPT did apply for a Round 5 Grant based on a regional approach to determining highest risk and maximizing assets and resources. We will keep you posted.

The **TT Club** is an active member of IRPT and members even come from England to our Annual Conference (members **Daniel Negron** and **Ian Lush**), and according to their latest

newsletter, secure transport is not quite the same as safe transport. Safe transport is concerned with ensuring that the hazards stay within the packaging and do not endanger the lives of transport workers or the general public. Secure transport is about looking after the consignment in transit and making sure it does not fall into the hands of terrorists or other criminals. Governments are becoming increasingly concerned at the prospect of hazardous materials getting into the wrong hands. (TT Club is an insurance broker and has sent speakers to our annual meeting.)

TRANSPORTATION CHIEF EXAMINES PORT INFRASTRUCTURE

Thanks to **Jerry Sailors** of the Coalition of Alabama Waterway Associations, Inc., for sharing some points made recently by **Secretary Norman Mineta** in the *National Journal*. Sailors writes, "The Alabama Freight Mobility Study is designed to determine how best to reduce highway congestion and move cargoes onto the waterways of Alabama. The Secretary's remarks reinforced that concept."

"... The question is, given that there's going to be a 50

percent increase in freight traffic, those highways are not going to be able to sustain that kind of traffic, so to give additional capacity to the whole traffic system, we want to be able to use the waterways as highways. . . . In any event, we have developed a policy statement and legislative framework for something called SEA-21. It involves the building and the expanding of the locks and dams along the Mississippi. It means dredging in terms of ports, and utilizing the capacity of the ports on the East Coast and the West Coast. . . ."

SMART RIVERS CONFERENCE

What a schedule has been laid out for participants at the Smart Rivers Conference scheduled for October 2 - 7 in Pittsburgh! This is a joint meeting for both Europeans and Americans, and everyone has pitched in to make it an international success. It all starts with an early-bird welcome reception Sunday evening the 2nd. On the third, there is a tour of three port areas and dinner at the Mountaineer Resort. The 4th includes a working session to benchmark best practices and strategies to bring the

inland river systems into the 21st Century. The 5th and 6th feature an AAPA conference on shallow-draft interests and deep water ports, ending at noon Thursday, and discounted registrations will be provided for IRPT members. More details on that to come. On the 7th, the Europeans (and others) will tour the Port of New York with special emphasis on Short Sea Shipping. For more information, contact Jim McCarville at jim@port.pittsburgh.pa.us.



ELECTION RESULTS

We welcome some new members to the IRPT Board of Directors and welcome back some old hands. **Alonzo Jackson** (Shreveport-Bossier Port District, LA) is Chair of the Arkansas-White-Red-Ouachita Rivers Basin; **Mike McQuillan** (Osprey Line) is the new Chair for the Gulf and Gulf Intracoastal Waterways, and **Edward (Ned) Peak** has been added as a board member; **David Madison** (Pemiscot County Port Authority, MO) is the new Chair for the Lower Mississippi River Basin and **Timmie Lynn Hunter** (New Madrid Port, MO) and **Kenny Gober** (Chicot-Desha Metro

Port Authority, AR) were added as board members; **Robert Wilmott** (North Fraser Port, British Columbia) now chairs the Pacific Rivers Basin.

Three directors have been added in the Upper Mississippi River Basin - **Tom Determann** (Determann Industries, IA), **Roger Lindner** (Burlington River Terminal, IA) and **Tom Butts** (Lewis and Clark Marine, IL) - and **Daniel Overbey** (Southeast MO Regional Port Authority) remains as Chair. There were no changes to the Southeast Rivers Basin, Illinois River Basin, Missouri River Basin, or Ohio River Basin.

MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations **Lew Meibergen** of Johnston's Port 33 (Catoosa and Muskogee, OK) for being named to the Arkansas River Historical Society Hall of Fame - a tribute to all who have contributed outstanding service to the development of the Arkansas River, its basin, and the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas Navigation System.

Congratulations also to **David Work**, Director at Rose-dale-Bolivar County Port, MS, on his election as Mayor of the City of Cleveland, MS. David has long been an active member of IRPT, is President of the Mississippi Intermodal Council, runs a short-line railroad and is on the Board of Commissioners for his airport. He doesn't just talk the intermodal talk, he walks the walk!

Kinder Morgan (members **Anita Clary**, **Troy Clen-**

denin, and **Bill Kinzler III**, who hosted the Houston IRPT Focus Group) is active in IRPT - and congratulations are in order. They recently purchased **Global Materials Services** (members **Tom Murphree** and **Paul Woods**) for \$33.5 million in cash plus \$37.4 million of debt and assumed liabilities. GMS operated a network of 21 river terminals and two rail trans-loading facilities, primarily along the Mississippi River system. Kinder Morgan plans to invest another \$9.4 million over the next two years.

Ron Coles of W.R. Coles and Associates, Nashville, has been retained to manage a study analyzing freight movements in the region served by the Port of Mobile and the Tenn-Tom Waterway. This \$750,000 study was funded through an earmark in the USDOT appropriations bill and will take approximately five years to complete.

DON'S RETIREMENT

We said good-bye to a dear friend at **Don Waldon's** retirement party June 1. He has been a giant in our industry and a good friend to most of us - and he's really too young to retire! The party was held in conjunction with the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway. There were at least three hundred well-wishers huddled under a tent in a dreadful rainstorm - which didn't adversely impact catfish and hushpuppy consumption. There were gifts and speeches and even a few tears.

The waterway itself is 234 miles long and many IRPT ports are clustered along the waterway. In addition to expanding the corridor for commerce, the Tenn-Tom's \$50 million in modern recreational facilities has attracted as many as three million visitors annually. All of this has evolved under the able stewardship of Don Waldon. Selected as the new administrator for the Tenn-Tom is **Bobby Robertson**, PhD. Don has promised to provide some guidance during the transition. Fortunately for all, **Agnes Zaiontz** will stay on for another year.

DIRECTORY IN PROGRESS

The 2005-2006 IRPT Membership Handbook is in progress - and the first step is to verify all of the contact information for every member. You should have received your update request by now or will soon. Please FAX these back as soon

as you can - we really want to get the directory printed and into your hands soon. Many members have told us the directory is one of the real advantages of IRPT membership, but it won't do anyone any good if the information in it is inaccurate.

IRPT WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS SINCE FEBRUARY

Delta Logic, LA - Alisa Verlander
Five Rivers Distribution LLC, AR - N. M. "Marty" Shell III
Louisiana Dept. of Transportation and Development, Intermodal Transportation, LA - Colonel Thomas F. Atkinson, Jr.
Maritime Compliance International, LLC, LA - Kevin P. Gilheany

Midwest Paint Service Inc., SD - Craig Bower
North Fraser Port Authority, BC, Canada - Valerie Jones
The California Maritime Academy, CA - Captain Shirley Kohlwes
Water Quality Insurance Syndicate, LA - Ronald Borison
Wayne B. Smith, Inc., MO - Mark Smith