



News Bulletin

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear IRPT Members and Friends

IRPT officers and staff have been working continuously to enhance membership benefits. Since our conference in Kansas City, some of the high points have been:

Setting up the 2004 conference has been a high priority. After much discussion, and with the support of John Bennett at JIT Terminals in Chattanooga, the conference has been moved from Tennessee to New Orleans. There were many reasons for this — perhaps most important was easy access for out-of-town travelers. We then started the process of finding a hotel that could accommodate us on chosen dates (which are not in conflict with the Ports Association of Louisiana). After much negotiation, we were finally able to sign a contract with the Royal Sonesta in the French Quarter. Of course, IRPT also promises an extraordinary educational offering that will again provide Professional Development Hours for our engineer members. The Port of New Orleans is offering a port tour, and our Thursday banquet will be at the Plimsoil Club on top of the World Trade Center of New Orleans.

Volunteers are needed in order to make the 2004 National Conference the very best that it can be! There are three major areas of involvement:

1. Education/Technical Program
2. Sponsorships/Exhibit
3. Social Events

Contact Rick Cunningham or Deirdre McGowan to get involved!

We are in the middle of an active membership drive and over 120 individual letters were mailed in July, as were our renewal invoices. IRPT is proud to welcome the eight new members, who are listed elsewhere in this newsletter. *Do you know someone who should be an IRPT member?* Please pass the contact information on to Deirdre McGowan - or better yet - contact them yourself and invite them to become a member! Contact Deirdre if you need some membership ammunition to use!

Incoming President George Andres and Executive Director Deirdre McGowan both attended the initial meeting of the Executive Committee of the Heartland Intermodal Project (HIP). Their report is also located elsewhere in this newsletter.

Jim McCarville, IRPT Chairman of the Board, who chairs the Inland Ports Committee of Maritime Transportation System (MTS), has been actively working on various aspects of SEA-21. Our next General Membership Meeting will be a breakfast held in conjunction with the National Waterways Conference in Houston, TX, on Thursday, September 25, at 7:00 AM. I hope to see as many of you there as possible.

As always, IRPT strives to deliver value to our membership through representation of your interests throughout the industry. I welcome any comments or suggestions for strengthening the services that we provide. You can reach me at rcunning@hdrinc.com.

So again, thanks to one and all.

Rick Cunningham
IRPT President

IMAGE CONSCIOUS

The following is excerpted from an article by Pamela Glass published in the June 2003 *WorkBoat Magazine*.

“It’s the invisible industry. For years, barge and towboat companies have quietly gone about their daily business, operating in relative obscurity. Tugs, towboats and barges seem to appear in the public spotlight only when one of them hits a bridge or spills oil.”

“Now, however, this relative anonymity has become a liability. Faced with increasing local, regional and national challenges on issues ranging

from lock renovations to the federal budget, the industry can no longer afford to stay out of the limelight.”

“Some call it image-building. Others describe it as image repairing. But just about everyone agrees that image enhancement is something the industry hasn’t done well in the past and must do better to ensure a healthier future.”

Is working on public relations for the industry part of the emerging and strengthening role of IRPT? Your comments on this issue (and even better, your willingness to serve on the IRPT Communications Committee) are requested.

IRPT SECURITY PROJECT UPDATE

The IRPT Threat Assessment and Employee Education Project, funded by TSA/USCG/MARAD Grant Round 1, will conclude on September 30. During this past year, IRPT has provided threat assessments to 57 ports and terminals. At the completion of each one, a comprehensive written report, with photographs, was submitted to the appropriate port/terminal director. In addition, compact disks with the reports and pictures were forwarded to the MARAD project office in Washington for subsequent distribution to TSA and USCG.

Blind evaluation forms of the project implementation at each port were forwarded by the port directors to the IRPT office, where they were

collated, summarized, and forwarded to MARAD. Evaluations by employees at the various ports and terminals who underwent the anti-terrorism training were also collated, summarized and sent to MARAD. Copies of all reports have been maintained in the safety deposit box in Jackson.

The two components of the project that are still to be completed include a comprehensive executive summary due by September 30 and financial statements from the IRPT accountants. Our project is ahead of schedule and under budget. Those ports that have been assessed are deemed to have met the requirements of USCG NAVIC 11-02. Those IRPT members who participated in the threat assessment process each received approximately \$10,000 worth of services.

ADDITIONAL SECURITY PROJECTS

Three proofs of concept were submitted for TSA Grants Round 2, one through the Port of Pittsburgh and two through the Port of Louisville. None of the three were funded.

TSA put out a special RFP which was received by IRPT July 7. By July 28, IRPT, in conjunction with the GeoResources Institute at MS State University, had submitted an extensive proposal

entitled “Regionally Based Security Incident and Economic Impact Analysis and Recovery System for the Ports within 125 miles of New Orleans, Utilizing GIS Technology.”

Concurrently, TSA put out a Request for Proposals which closed August 21 and emphasized security hardware with no proof of concept provisions. IRPT did not meet proposal requirements for Round 3.

CALENDAR

- September 24-26, 2003 National Waterways Conference, Doubletree Hotel Post Oak, Houston, TX.
For information, go to www.waterways.org.
- September 24, 2003 IRPT Board of Directors Meeting,
Doubletree Hotel Post Oak, Houston, TX, 2 PM.
- September 25, 2003 IRPT Membership Meeting, Doubletree Hotel Post Oak,
7 AM. (Reservations required.)
For more information, contact the IRPT office.
- December 3-5, 2003 International WorkBoat Show,
Ernest Morial Convention Center, New Orleans.
- December 5, 2003 Heartland Intermodal Partnership Principals Meeting, New Orleans.
For more information, contact the IRPT office.
- February 17-19, 2004 Port Symposium 2004, Grand Oasis Resort, MS Gulf Coast.
Contact Melody Bradley-Moeller, 228-867-8779 or
melody.moeller@usm.edu.
- March 17-19, 2004 Ports of Louisiana Conference, Holiday Inn, Houma, LA.
More information from www.portsoflouisiana.org or 225-334-9040.
- April 14-16, 2004 IRPT Annual Meeting, Royal Sonesta Hotel, New Orleans.
For information, contact the IRPT office.

IRPT WELCOMES RECENT NEW MEMBERS:

ARP River Transportation, Lakin, WV - Keith Darling

Bruce Oakley, Inc., North Little Rock, AR - Dennis Oakley

Helena Bridge Terminal, Helena, AR - Jerry Richardson

MARSEC Corp., Bolingbrook, IL - Bob J. Gobert, President

Northwest Tennessee Regional Port Authority, Dyersburg, TN
- Jimmy Williamson

Silver Ships, Inc., Theodore, AL

- William Brown, CDR, USN Ret.

The Haskell Co., Jacksonville, FL - Robert Randall

Three Rivers Marine & Rail Terminals, LP, Charleroi, PA
- J. D. Shearer

Do you recognize anyone on this list? If so, call them up and welcome them to our organization.

WORKBOAT SHOW

IRPT will be promoting membership in our organization at the **International WorkBoat Show** that will be held in **New Orleans December 3-5**. Normally, the exhibit spaces lease for \$2,500 for the duration of the show, and there have been as many as 800 exhibit spaces rented. If you've never been to this show, 2003 might be the year to go. IRPT paid no fee. However, one request was that we have an e-mail link to WorkBoat Show information in our newsletter. That link is www.workboatshow.com.

In addition, we were obligated to distribute invitations to attend, and those have been mailed

to you in conjunction with registration information for the National Waterways Conference meeting in Houston. IRPT has been listed as a supporting organization of the Show, and we have to provide exhibit space for WorkBoat Show promotion at our Annual Meeting. What a deal! While it is true we are sharing a large exhibit area with the International Import-Export Bank and Maritime Administration/DOT, we will still have a presence and will have the opportunity to promote the advantages of membership in our organization. We will need additional staffing for this booth. If you're planning to attend, please let us know if you can spare a couple of hours to help meet and greet.

HIP - AN IDEA WHOSE TIME HAS COME

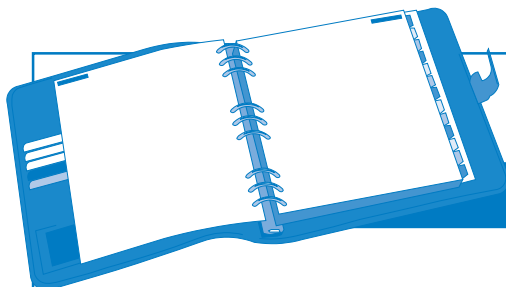
IRPT has been very active in the development of the Heartland Intermodal Project (HIP). During the first week of June, numerous transportation interests from the 24-state impacted area met in St. Louis to endorse and refine the HIP Mission Statement, to develop a Scope of Work, and to set priorities. In addition to maritime interests, which included the new Deputy Director of the Maritime Administration, John Jamian, Great Lakes Region Director Doris Bautch, and Central Region Director John Carnes, there were port interests, rail interests, and trucking interests. The facilitator for the meeting was M. J. Fiocco of the Office of Intermodalism, Office of the Secretary. All converged to discuss the best method for dealing with the growing traffic congestion from the nation's ever-increasing demand for freight and our transportation system's stress in handling those volumes. The objective was to better unite

public and private-sector interests to address issues affecting how freight moves to, from and through the 24 states in the heartland of this nation.

The Mission Statement arrived at by consensus is: "Support competitiveness of HIP-region business, industry and labor in world markets through improved intermodal transportation."

From an IRPT perspective, the underlying thesis is that when intermodal freight transportation becomes an emphasis, freight movement by water becomes maximized to cope with the volume.

IRPT has actively participated from the inception of HIP, and both incoming President George Andres and Executive Director Deirdre McGowan attended this organizational meeting. Don Waldon from the Tenn-Tom Waterway Development Authority is also part of the core planning committee for HIP.



PLEASE NOTE

IRPT's website is now
www.irpt.net

E-mail us at
admin@irpt.net

NEWS FROM MTSNAC

The MTSNAC (Maritime Transportation System National Advisory Council) has created an Inland Waterway Team, with IRPT delegate Jim McCarville as Chair. The team generally meets via conference call, and participation is open to interested IRPT members.

At its September 3-5, 2003 meeting, the MTSNAC is expected to begin deliberations on an SEA-21 proposal/concept. SEA-21, technically an

attempt to do for maritime what TEA-21 did for highways, is still to be defined as either a piece of legislation or policy or both. There is likely to be an agreement on new "Short Sea" initiatives, including innovations such as Container on Barge. More contentious will be whether to include intermodal connectors, research, congestion mitigation, etc. Some members are expected to contend that these initiatives require specific codification to apply to waterways. Others fear any large new initiative will lead to greater user fees.

MISSOURI RIVER PLAN

The Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced that they have come to an agreement on a water management plan for the Missouri River reservoirs.

The plan complies with the requirements of the Endangered Species Act while reinforcing the reliability of the system of reservoirs to meet the multiple Congressionally authorized project purposes.

The Service and the Corps agreed to a plan that, when compared with the 30,000 cubic feet per second "steady flow," meets downstream needs while minimizing loss of habitat and impacts to listed species and drawdown of the three biggest reservoirs. The agreement is a combination of steady-flow features and elements of a "flow-to-target" plan.

— *Senator Kit Bond Newsletter, July 2003*

WOODLEY APPOINTMENT EXPECTED

The National Waterways Conference has confirmed recent rumblings that President George W. Bush is expected to make a recess appointment on Friday, August 22, naming John Paul Woodley, Jr., as Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works. Clause 3 of Article II, section 2 of the Constitution states:

The President shall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the Recess of the Senate, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of their session. Therefore, Woodley's appointment will last until the end of the second session of the current Congress, which would be through the end of Bush's term in office.

Woodley was named as Assistant Deputy under Secretary, Environment, in the office of Deputy Under Secretary (Installations and Environment) within the office of the Under Secretary for Acquisitions, Technology and Logistic at the Department of Defense in October 2001. He was nominated by the President

to be Assistant Secretary (Civil Works) on January 22, 2003. Since his hearing before both the Senate Armed Services and the Environment and Public Works Committees, his nomination has been fraught with "holds," a device used by Senators which postpones or stops Presidential nominations from going to the Senate floor for consideration. It is believed that Woodley's nomination currently has up to three holds (Sens, Boxer, Baucus and Jeffords), and was targeted for a series of rolling holds should one be lifted.

Before going to the Department of Defense, Woodley served as Secretary of Natural Resources in the Commonwealth of Virginia. He is a native of Shreveport, Louisiana.

The office of ASA(CW) has been vacant since former Congr. Mike Parker was forced to resign in March 2002. Mr. R. L. (Les) Brownlee, currently the under Secretary of the Army, and Acting Secretary of the Army, has been fulfilling the functions of the office on a temporary basis.

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 this website.

Articles are accepted for publication in the NEWS BULLETIN. Forward all address changes, articles and comments to the IRPT office at

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