



MARAD Update



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Newport News RRF Ship and Crew Honored for Role in Haiti

SS Flickertail State Receives Professional Ship Award

On July 15, in a sunlit waterside ceremony in Newport News, Virginia, Maritime Administrator Captain William G. Schubert presented the Professional Ship Award to the officers and crew of the *SS Flickertail State*. The crew was honored for its part in Operation Haiti, working under fire delivering supplies and equipment to the U.S. Marine Corps.

The Professional Ship Award is given to non-military ships that achieve the highest degree of readiness, performance, efficiency, reliability, productivity, and safety. The *SS Flickertail State* is part of the Ready Reserve Force, a fleet of ships owned by the Maritime Administration and crewed by civilian merchant mariners. Ships of the Ready Reserve Force are supporting the U.S. Armed Forces in the Middle East, as well as serving in humanitarian missions and in other military-support roles throughout the world.

Captain Schubert praised the officers and crew, saying, "The crew of the *Flickertail State* is an outstanding example of the integral role the Ready Reserve Force plays in our national defense operations. Our nation's Ready Reserve Force helps ensure our security by supporting the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces."

The ceremony was attended by representatives from the U.S. Transportation Command and the Military Sealift Command, which have operational control of Ready Reserve Force ships when they support the military, and by representatives from two seafaring unions, the American Maritime Officers and the Seafarers International Union.



SS Flickertail State at sunrise.
Photo by Susan Clark



Left to Right: Joe Regan, Captain; Scott Stilianos, Chief Engineer; Captain Schubert; and Jorge Aguirre, President and CEO, Interocean Ugland Management Corporation

Photo by Elvira May

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Maritime Administration Announces Disposal Contracts For Three More High-Priority Ships

Summer Progress Now Totals Six Obsolete Ships On Track for Removal From James River Reserve Fleet

On August 9, at a press conference at the James River Reserve Fleet in Fort Eustis, Virginia, Maritime Administrator Captain William G. Schubert announced disposal contracts for three more ships in the James River Reserve Fleet. With the announcement, 37 ship disposal contracts have been awarded since the beginning of 2001, and 24 ships have left the James River Reserve Fleet.

"Today marks another day of real progress as we work to address the inherited challenges of the James River Reserve Fleet," said Captain Schubert. "Let me be very clear that we will continue to make progress on this issue and work to get this job done."

The three ships, the *Santa Isabel*, the *Mormacwave*, and the *American Ranger*, are all designated "high priority" for disposal by the Maritime Administration. Esco Marine, of Brownsville, Texas, was awarded the contracts to dismantle all three ships. Joining Captain Schubert for the announcement were U.S. Senator John W. Warner and U.S. Representative Jo Ann S. Davis, both of Virginia.

"Following today's announcement we will only have two ships left in the fleet with hulls in 'extremely poor' condition," said Captain Schubert. "I am very optimistic that those ships will be departing in the near future and we will be another step closer to removing these high-priority ships from the James River."

So far this year, contracts have been awarded to Marine Metals for three ships at \$3.1 million, and ESCO Marine for three ships at \$3.2 million.

The contract award leaves approximately 60 ships in the James River Reserve Fleet available for disposal.



Maritime Administrator William G. Schubert, making the contracts announcement, flanked by U.S. Senator John Warner (R-Va.) and U.S. Representative Jo Ann Davis (R-1-Va.)

Photo by Michael F. Bagley, Fleet Superintendent, James River Reserve Fleet

Upcoming Events

National Propeller Club Conference and Convention

Biloxi, Miss.
October 5-8, 2004
www.propellerclubhq.com

SOCP Meeting

Toledo, Ohio
October 13-14, 2004
www.socp.org

MARAD-Sponsored Third Annual Short Sea Shipping Conference—2004

October 13-15, 2004
New York City
www.shortseashippingconference2004.com

If you know of an upcoming event you would like published in the *MARAD Update*, please submit it to Ella Thomas at ella.thomas@marad.dot.gov.

Candidates Selected for MARAD'S Transportation Leadership Program

By Mary Nash, Transportation Leadership Program Coordinator

MARAD's Transportation Leadership Program (TLP) is a fulltime, two-year program involving a series of high-level rotational assignments, executive workshops, formal career development opportunities (during and after work hours), and special tasks designed to expand the participants' managerial and leadership abilities. TLP affords an opportunity to accelerate the participants' careers and significantly increase their ability to contribute to the Agency. The program is dedicated to training and equipping current employees for leadership and managerial positions at MARAD.

On July 14, Maritime Administrator Captain William G. Schubert congratulated the candidates of the first class of TLP saying, "The standards for this program are high, and we expect the best from these participants. We appreciate the support the Office of the Secretary has shown for this program, and especially appreciate that MARAD has been chosen for the pilot program."

The TLP selection panel was faced with a great challenge in making final selections from such talented candidates. Due to the fact that the Agency will continue to have a need for highly skilled and trained leaders, all eligible employees should consider applying in the future.



Brian Blower is a Marine Surveyor with the South Atlantic Region in Norfolk, Virginia, and has been with MARAD for six years.



Left to Right: Patrick Carlton is a Logistics Management Specialist at Headquarters, and has been with MARAD for 15 years; Tracey Ford is a Senior Contract Specialist at Headquarters, and has been with MARAD for 12 years; Lennis Fludd is a Supervisory Transportation Industry Analyst at Headquarters, and has been with MARAD for 27 years.



Joseph Duvall is a Logistics Management Officer with the Central Region in New Orleans, Louisiana, and has been with MARAD for four years.



As an agency of the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Maritime Administration's (MARAD) mission is to strengthen the U.S. maritime transportation system--including infrastructure, industry, and labor--to meet the economic and security needs of the nation. MARAD programs promote the development and maintenance of an adequate, well-balanced United States merchant marine, sufficient to carry the Nation's domestic waterborne commerce and a substantial portion of its waterborne foreign commerce, and capable of service as a naval and military auxiliary in time of war or national emergency. MARAD also seeks to ensure that the United States maintains adequate shipbuilding and repair services, efficient ports, effective intermodal water- and land-transportation systems, and reserve shipping capacity for use in time of national emergency.

Six days shalt thou labor and do all thou are able,

And on the seventh—
holystone the decks and scrape the cable.

Seamen's Traditional "Philadelphia Catechism," c. 1830

DOT Announces New Initiative for Loan and Credit Programs

The U.S. Department of Transportation announced the establishment of a Department-wide Credit Council to enhance oversight and management of the Department's direct loan and loan guarantee programs that are administered by the Maritime Administration, the Federal Railroad Administration, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization. Currently, the Department's four credit programs are responsible for \$7.5 billion in outstanding loans and guarantees (including pending commitments). MARAD's Title XI Loan Guarantee Program will be subject to the Credit Council's review.

"As we continue to build a transportation infrastructure and transportation assets that keep our economy moving, it is critical that we act on proven principles of financial management to assure both taxpayers and users of the Department's direct loan and loan guarantee programs that we are protecting the integrity and management of these programs," said U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Y. Mineta. "The DOT Credit Council achieves this important need."

The DOT Credit Council is scheduled to meet quarterly and is modeled after the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) Credit Council that will now be combined into the Department-wide Council.

The establishment of the DOT Credit Council will lead to a more expedient and streamlined application review process while preserving autonomy within each operating administration. For example, applications for the Title XI Loan Guarantee Program will continue to be submitted to the Maritime Administration, and decisions to approve or disapprove an application will continue to reside with the Administrator.

"Shipbuilders and ship owners should be pleased to note that the Department has developed a process that encourages and enhances efficiency, transparency, and reliability from the time an application arrives to the point when a decision is made," said Maritime Administrator Captain William G. Schubert.

MARAD Update

The *MARAD Update* is published by the Maritime Administration's Office of Congressional and Public Affairs. This publication is available to all individuals regardless of age, race, religion, color, sex, national origin, disability, or sexual orientation. For more information or to submit questions or concerns, telephone (202) 366-5807, visit the MARAD website at www.marad.dot.gov, or e-mail pao.marad@marad.dot.gov.

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