



# THE BRIDGE

Propeller Club of the United States  
Port of Norfolk – Spring 2004

## FROM THE QUARTERDECK – a message from the President

**Dear Members;**

It is an honor to continuing serving as your president. We have had a busy year. More activities and events have been planned for the next several months my year in office closes out in May. I hope that you will continue to support our activities as Don Norman takes over as president in May.

We had a great turnout at our Fall Oyster Roast and Golf Outing in October thanks to your support and the good weather. In November, Delegate Leo Wardrup gave us the latest update on transportation related issues being worked on in Richmond. Captain Bob Glover of the Schooner Virginia Project spoke to us in January. We also had Matt Gehman of Transystems in February. We had great support from our members for these events and look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events. Please mark your calendars with the upcoming events that we have planned for the next several months.

Pat McFadden

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**18 March** – VADM Brewer

**21 May** – National Maritime Day

**4 May** – Salute to Congress

**15 April** – Oyster Roast

**25 May** – Induction of new officers at Rockefellers

**10 June** – Golf Outing

### MARCH LUNCHEON – Thursday 18 March

This month we will be holding a joint luncheon with the Norfolk Propeller Club at the Radisson Hotel at 1130 on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 2004. We are honored to have Vice Admiral David L. Brewer III, Commander, Military Sealift Command, as our guest speaker at this joint luncheon. Admiral Brewer is a most dynamic and interesting speaker. We hope to see you at the luncheon on the 18<sup>th</sup>! This will be a super luncheon to bring a business associate or colleague. Please contact Connie Bruss at 628-2669 for reservations at 628-2669.

### ESSAY SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST – Deadline 26 March

The Propeller Club of Norfolk is again sponsoring its annual Maritime Essay Contest for the Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Portsmouth and Chesapeake public and private high schools. The essay contest is designed to help students in developing research and writing skills while learning about the topic. This year's theme is "Explain the Terrorist threat To Our Nation's Ports". Student awards are first place - \$1000, second place - \$500 and third place - \$300. Teachers sponsoring student winners will also be given awards of \$250. This year's deadline is 26 March 2004. Contact Bob Motley for more details at [rmotley@vit.org](mailto:rmotley@vit.org).

Bob Motley

## **SPRING OYSTER ROAST– 15 April**

The Club's next Oyster Roast will be on Thursday, 15 April 2004, at the Seaman's Recreation Area of NIT, 4:30-7:30PM. This outdoor function attracts 1200-1500 industry professionals from around Hampton Roads and is one of the premier events of the year. The cost remains only \$20 for members (and your guests), in advance, with a great menu of all-you-can-eat Oysters, Fried, Raw & Roasted, Clam Chowder, BBQ, Chicken, French Fries and plenty of refreshments. There's also a great incentive for non-members to join our Club because it entitles them to the \$20 member ticket price, otherwise it's \$30 for this same event!

Please be sure to car pool and use the Ruthven Street entrance to our off-site parking along Terminal Boulevard as we have plenty of shuttle buses to take you straight to the Seaman's area entrance at NIT. There is limited parking available for handicapped persons just outside the entrance if needed. And PLEASE, help us respect the neighborhood nearby; make use of the off-site parking as towing will be enforced in the private neighborhood next to NIT.

For tickets or to display your company banner, please contact Connie Bruss at 628-2669.

Bob Armbruster @ 457-9108

## **SALUTE TO CONGRESS – 4 May**

The 20<sup>th</sup> annual Salute to Congress dinner will be held Tuesday, 4 May at the Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Maryland. Over 350 people will be in attendance including other Members of Congress, Executive Branch officials, leaders of the Maritime Industry and Club members from throughout the United States. This year, Congressman Jim McCrery has been selected as the Salute to Congress Award recipient for 2004. Congressman McCrery is being honored for his strong support of the U.S. maritime industry. He has represented the 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District in Louisiana since 1988 and currently serves as the Chairman of Select Revenue Measures Subcommittee on the House Ways and Means Committee. He has been an advocate of changes to the US tax code to help improve the competitiveness of the US-Flag merchant marine and has supported projects to revitalize our inland waterway system. For tickets, please contact the Propeller Club national headquarters at (703) 691-2777.

## **NATIONAL MARITIME DAY – 21 May**

In an effort to recognize the American Merchant Mariners in the local Hampton Roads area, the Propeller Club will again hold its annual National Maritime Day observance at Nauticus: The National Maritime Center in Norfolk. Due to scheduling arrangements, the event will take place on Friday, 21 May 2004, instead of its annual recognized date of 22 May. A free hot dog lunch will be served for Propeller Club members and guests. The Atlantic Fleet Band will provide music for the event. National Maritime Day is an annual celebration to show our appreciation and to recognize the courage and sacrifice of the U.S. Merchant Marine and other maritime services that have given, and continue to give, their utmost to ensure the movement of goods that enhance the lives of United States citizens. Please make plans to help the Propeller Club recognize our Merchant Mariners by attending this event.

Ray Wittersheim

## NOMINATIONS FOR 2004-2005 OFFICERS AND GOVERNORS

The Officers and Governors noted below have been nominated for the year 2004-2005. Announcement flyers have been distributed to all members as well as announcements made at our luncheons. Installation will take place on 25 May at Rockefellers in Virginia Beach. Additional details will be announced by separate flyer.

**President** Don Norman  
**First Vice President** Rolf Williams  
**Second Vice President** Bill Daniels  
**Secretary** Daniel R. Harrison  
**Treasurer** Robert Armbruster

**Board of Governors** – Ray Wittersheim, Robert A. Gustafson, Russell Held, Vincent Di Costanzo, Ronald Reiter (Asst. Treas), George Fischer, Katharina Brekke, Susan R. Melow, Jordan A. Watkins\*, Tom Ackiss\*, Mark Wilder\*, and Pat McFadden (Past President). (\* Note: New Board Members).

## SUMMER GOLF OUTING –10 June

The summer golf outing will also be held on the 10<sup>th</sup> of June at the Riverfront Golf Club. Shotgun start at 1330. Tariff will be \$95 per person or \$380 per foursome. Thank you very much for your continuing support to make our golf outing a great event enjoyed by our members and the maritime community. We hope to see you and your business associates at there! For reservations, please contact Lisa Nelson at 440-7208 or Connie Bruss at 628-2669. Corporate hole sponsorship is also welcomed at the golf outing.

George Fischer

## NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our new members: Drew Frisbie, David Drenon, Kevin Tunney, Mike Rodgers, Lieutenant Commander Keri Ann Grohs, Jordan A. Watkins and Mark Wilder. We look forward to having you attend our functions in support of the local maritime community.

Katharina Brekke

## OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS 2003-2004

<b>President</b>	Pat McFadden	(757) 619-8910	senchova@aol.com
<b>First Vice President</b>	Don Norman	(757) 398-5433	d.norman@ponl.com
<b>Second Vice President</b>	Rolf Williams	(757) 446-7300	rolf.williams@anderswilliams.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Robert Armbruster	(757) 457-9108	rambruster@hrsa-ila.com
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	Ronald Reiter	(757) 627-7672	rrrjh@infi.net
<b>Secretary</b>	Daniel R. Harrison	(757) 628-2665	dan@portofhamptonroads.com
<b>Tireless Assistant</b>	Connie Bruss	(757) 628-2669	PropClub@portofhamptonroads.com

**Board of Governors** – Raymond G. Wittersheim, Vicent DiCostanzo, CAPT John G. Phillips, Robert S. Motley, CAPT William R. Daniels, George Fischer, Ron Reiter, Robert Armbruster, Russell Held, Robert A. Gustafson, Susan R. Melow, Katharina Brekke, and Buzz Sawyer (Past President).

## From the Editor

Should you have any recommendations or inputs for our next newsletter, please contact Pat McFadden at (757) 619-8910, fax (757) 481-2331 or email at senchova@aol.com.