

THE BRIDGE

Propeller Club of the United States
Port of Norfolk – Spring 2005

FROM THE QUARTERDECK – a message from the President

Dear Members;

WOW! How time flies when you are having fun. We have turned the page on another year. As we look back on the past year, I hope this message finds our members healthy and safe.

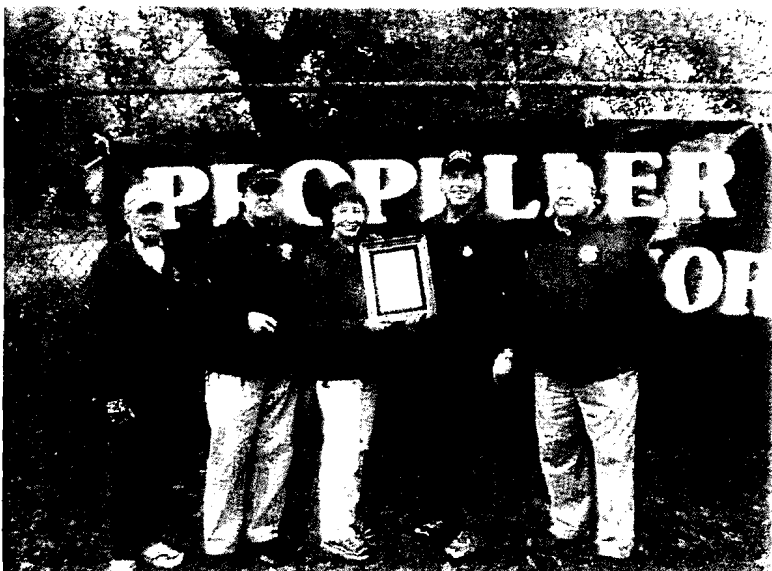
As we all can see from each addition of our newsletter, your Propeller Club, Port of Norfolk puts on some fun and informative events each year. We appreciate your support and attendance at our oyster roasts, golf outings, National Maritime Day, and membership meetings.

As we enjoy these traditional events in 2005, I am asking our membership to look even further into the future to 2006. The Propeller Club of the United States has accepted the Port of Norfolk application to host the 2006 Annual Convention in Norfolk. I believe this will be a very successful and prosperous event for our club and community, but we need to start now. As you support our yearly traditional events, I am asking that if you haven't already renewed your membership, please do so today. For those who have renewed their membership, thanks. I am also appealing to our members to be on the lookout for new members. Membership is my goal this year and will lead us into a successful year in 2005 and great convention in 2006.

Again, many thanks to our membership for your dedication and support of The Propeller Club of the United States, Port of Norfolk, and I hope to see each and every one of you at our various activities.

Don Norman

PORT OF THE YEAR WINNER - PORT OF NORFOLK



At the 2004 international Propeller Club Meeting/Convention, the Port of Norfolk club was the winner of the 2004 Port of the Year award. This award was given to our club due to the hard work and support of all of our members. The Norfolk club was presented the award at the October Oyster Roast by the International Vice President, Bart Goedhard. We would like to thank all members for your continuing support and for a job well done.

Don Norman (President) and Pat
McFadden (Past President)

SPRING OYSTER ROAST– 21 April 2005

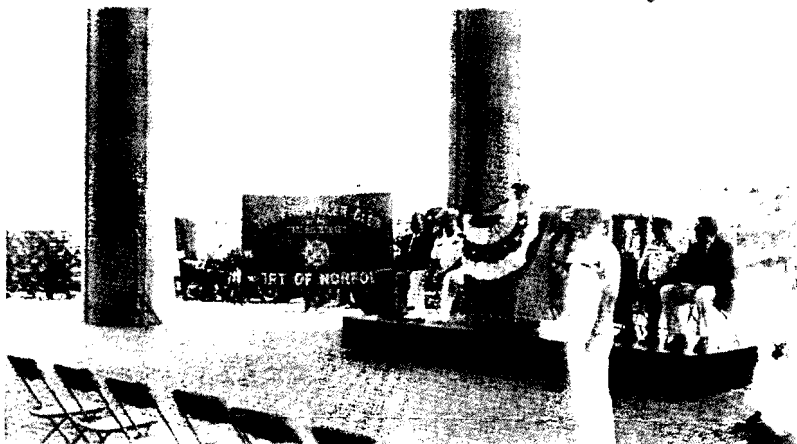
The Club's next Oyster Roast will be on Thursday, 21 April 2005, at the Seaman's Recreation Area of NIT, 4:30-7:30PM. This outdoor function attracts 1200-1500 industry professionals from around Hampton Roads and is one of the premier events of the year. The cost will be \$25 for members (and your guests), 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 \$25 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 call Shelley Gordon at 628-2669.

Bob Armbruster @ 457-9108

NATIONAL MARITIME DAY – 20 May 2005



In an effort to recognize the American Merchant Mariners in the local Hampton Roads area, the Propeller Club will hold its annual National Maritime Day observance at Nauticus on Friday, 20 May 2005. Due to the hard efforts of many, our 2004 event was an outstanding success. Tecnico, Norshipco and MHI hosted a great picnic hotdog lunch. Additionally, the following organizations supported the event: Atlantic Fleet Band – music, United States Marine Corps – Color Guard, United States Coast Guard – Honor Guard, guest speaker and flyover, Virginia Pilot Association – boat for wreath laying, McAllister Towing – tug, Marine Response Team – pumps for water spraying, Military Sealift Command – set up and presentations, Maritime Administration - presentations. Special thanks go to Ray Wittersheim of Tecnico and Susan Melow of Military Sealift Command for the time and hard work they put into coordinating this event.



Please mark your calendar for the 20th of May. We hope to see you there!

2004 ESSAY SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST

Last year's Port of Norfolk Propeller Club's Essay Contest produced submissions from 39 students from 13 local high schools. The first place winner was Dylan Rogers, from Maury High School. Dylan received \$1000 towards his education. The second place \$500 scholarship was presented to Clay Griffin, also from Maury High School. Third Place Essay winner was Daniel Sump, from Great Bridge High School, who will receive \$300 towards his education. In addition to the scholarship awards, the Propeller Club presented a \$250 check to essay winners' sponsor teachers. Many thanks to the board members who served on the panel to review essays to select the winners! Also a very special thanks goes to Bob Motley who chaired the scholarship contest for the past four years! Congratulations Bob for your hard work and dedication.

In lieu of an essay contest this year, the club will be using the money budgeted for the contest to pay Old Dominion University's Student Port members to assist us with preparations required for the 2006 Propeller Club Convention. These student port members will be helping with marketing and website design and administration.

SPRING GOLF OUTING – 7 June

The spring golf outing will also be held on the 7th of June at Elizabeth Manor. Shotgun start at 1300. Tariff will be \$95 per person or \$380 per foursome. Thank you very much for your continuing support to make our golf outings a continuing success and a great event enjoyed by our members and the maritime community. We hope to see you and your business associates out there!



2004 ANNUAL MEETING & MAN OF THE YEAR

Don Norman was sworn in as the President of our club at our annual meeting held at Rockefeller's in Virginia Beach on 25 May 2004. He has done a fantastic job this past year. Congratulations Don!

Buzz Sawyer was recognized by the Club for his years of dedication and hard work in support of the Port of Norfolk Propeller Club by awarding him with the "Man of the Year" award. Congratulations Buzz!

SUMMER OUTING – 16 August 2005

Your Club hosted its 4th annual bus trip to the Maryland Crab Feast & Bull Roast in August 2004. Our sister Club in Baltimore runs this very successful event and we joined over 4,000 industry professionals from the Northeast and Midwest for a great afternoon of pickin' crabs on the waterfront of the upper Chesapeake Bay! This day trip is an excellent opportunity to network up the coast and your Club provides a full service bus with plenty of refreshments that makes for a great summer outing. Put the 2nd Tuesday (16th) of August 2005, on your calendar and join us for our 5th annual summer outing trip.

Bob Armbruster

STUDENT PORT

The Student Port was involved in lots of activities this year. On 7 October they took a field trip to Dollar Tree (corporate headquarters), hosted by John Lewis, Director of Imports. On 14 October, Jack Devnew, GM of Flagship Group, Inc. spoke to the Student Port about the Marine Insurance industry at an informal luncheon. At the fall Oyster Roast the students sold mugs, sweatshirts and ball caps. In November the Student Port had a formal breakfast-speaker series at Nauticus with the speaker being the head of the National Weather Service from Washington, D.C. Members of the Port of Norfolk are welcome to attend any of the student port luncheons. Please contact Jeremy Sykes for more information at jsykes@odu.edu or 683-3964.

Bill Daniels

2006 NATIONAL CONVENTION

Norfolk has been selected as the site for the 2006 Propeller Club Annual Convention. This will require a great deal of planning and coordination both locally and nationally to make this a memorable convention. We have a planning committee that began meeting this summer to begin the initial preparations. As time gets closer, we are going to need help from the rest of the membership. We are open to any thoughts or ideas that you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact any of the planning committee members or board members:

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OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS 2004-2005

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Board of Governors – Raymond G. Wittersheim, Vincent DiCostanzo, George Fischer, Russell Held, Robert A. Gustafson, Susan R. Melow, Katharina Brekke, Jordan Watkins, Mark Wilder, Tom Ackiss, Buzz Sawyer, and CAPT Pat McFadden (Past President).

From the Editor

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