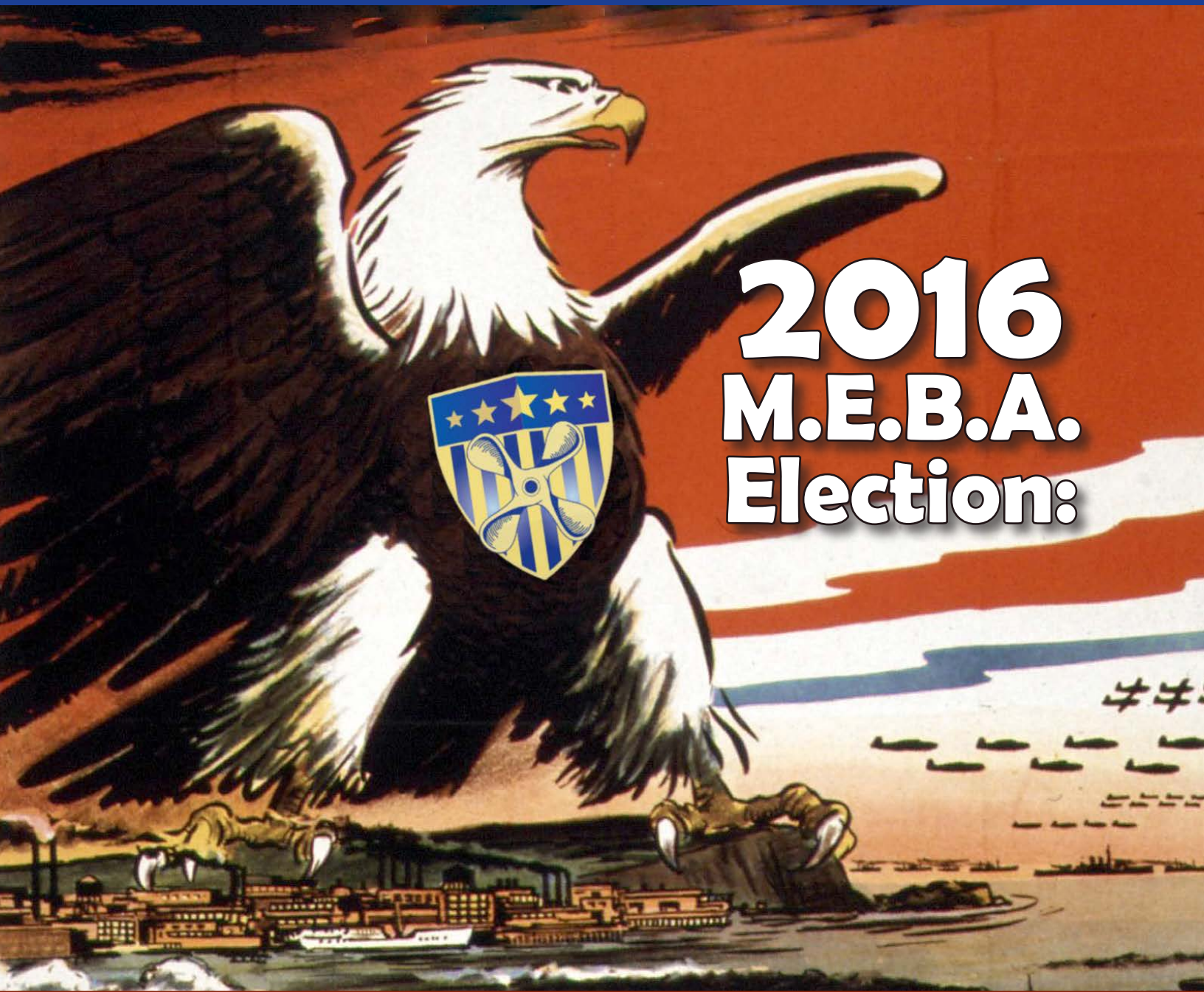


M.E.B.A.

MARINE OFFICER

Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association (AFL-CIO)

Special Election Issue 2016



**2016
M.E.B.A.
Election:**

The Candidates Speak



M.E.B.A. Decision 2016 – Union Begins 4-Year Election Cycles

In a nod to continuity and strengthening the hand of the Union, members recently approved a referendum that increases M.E.B.A. terms of elected office. For the first time since the advent of the District system over 50 years ago, beginning in this election cycle, elected M.E.B.A. officials will serve the membership in increments of four years. In addition, the recent referendum realigned M.E.B.A.'s Gulf Coast structure anchoring the Gulf Coast Vice President position to the Port of Houston and creating a Branch office in Tampa.

This Special Election edition of the *Marine Officer* continues to be offered every M.E.B.A. election year to better inform members about the qualifications of candidates vying for office.

Candidates were invited to submit their photo and a message limited to 400 words for publication to assist members in making a more informed decision. Candidate statements presented in this issue appear unedited and reflect the candidate's original wording, grammar – and sometimes even spelling mistakes – intact.

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In addition, this issue presents important information related to the M.E.B.A. election that will supply all members in good standing the lowdown on how to fully participate in this important democratic process.

Because of the distinctive nature of our industry, M.E.B.A. voters will have three months to cast their votes following the mailing of ballots on September 1st. The election process will culminate on December 5, 2016 when an Impartial Administrator, assisted by an elected rank and file tallying committee, collects and counts the ballots then issues an official report.

This past July, an M.E.B.A. Credentials Committee confirmed the qualifications of nominees for M.E.B.A. office. Their report appears in this issue followed by candidate statements arranged alphabetically by office in the order they will appear on the ballot.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ON ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE

M.E.B.A. governing documents specify that no member's ballot shall be counted unless he or she is a member in good standing as of 15 days immediately preceding the closing of the balloting period. Article Ten, Section 3(d) of the District No. 1 M.E.B.A. By-Laws stipulates that *in order for a member's ballot to count, their dues must be paid through December 31, 2016 by November 15, 2016.*

2016 M.E.B.A. ELECTION – SIGNIFICANT DATES

- September 1, 2016Ballots mailed to the membership.
- November 15, 2016Members' dues must be paid to the end of the 4th Quarter by this date for their vote to count.
- November 28, 2016Tallying Committee elected at special Union hall meetings (in Houston, L.A., New Orleans, NY, Norfolk, Oakland & Seattle).
- November 30, 2016Closing date for ballots to be returned to the depository.
- December 5, 2016Tallying Committee and Impartial Administrator collect ballots and count votes.
- December 6, 2016Tallying Committee and Impartial Administrator file their report within 24 hours after completion of the ballot count.
- December 31, 2016Elected officials assume (at midnight) offices and jobs.

Marine Officer

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Tel: (202) 638-5355
Fax: (202) 638-5369

Marco Cannistraro
Special Projects & Communications
(202) 257-2825
marco@mebaunion.org

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The M.E.B.A. is the nation's oldest and finest maritime labor union, established in 1875. We represent a large and diverse mix of engineers and deck officers, experienced and skilled in all aspects of the maritime workforce. Our marine officers crew the most technologically advanced ships in the U.S.-flag fleet, including tankers, Great Lakes vessels, cruise and container ships. We sail aboard Government-contracted ships of the U.S. Navy's Military Sealift Command and the Maritime Administration's Ready Reserve Force, on tugs and ferry fleets around the country, LNG vessels and in various capacities in the shoreside industries. In times of military contingency, our members sail into war zones to deliver critical defense cargo to our fighting forces. M.E.B.A.'s expertise and proven track record of readiness, safety, and loyalty in answering America's call to action in times of both peace and war is unrivaled in the world.





2016 M.E.B.A., District No. 1-PCD Report of Credentials Committee



July 12, 2016

1. We the Credentials Committee, elected by the membership pursuant to Article 10, Section 2(a) of the District No.1-PCD M.E.B.A. (AFL-CIO) By-Laws, have examined the nominations for all District No. 1 officers and jobs which were received at District No. 1 Headquarters, 444 North Capitol Street, N.W., Suite 800, Washington D.C. 20001 during the nomination period.
2. All nominations, with the exception of those not addressed to the Credentials Committee, were received sealed and unopened by the Credentials Committee.
3. All nominations were submitted to the Credentials Committee in accordance with Article 10, Section 1(b) of the District No.1-PCD M.E.B.A. (AFL-CIO) By-Laws.
4. The Credentials Committee accepted all timely nominations regardless of the method of delivery.
5. All nomination letters listed were received in a timely manner at Headquarters as required by Article 10, Section 1(e) of the District No.1-PCD M.E.B.A. (AFL-CIO) By-Laws.
6. The dues of all nominees were found to be current through the time of nomination (September 30, 2016), in accordance with Article 9, Section 3 and Article 20, Section 8 of the District No.1-PCD M.E.B.A. (AFL-CIO) By-Laws.
7. The membership status of all nominees was checked and all were determined to have been a "member of the District for one (1) year immediately preceding the date of the closing of the nominations" as required by Article 10, Section 8(a) of the National M.E.B.A. Constitution.
8. All disqualified nominees were notified of the reasons for their disqualification, and their right, if any, to appear before the Committee to appeal the decision or appeal to the membership, as required by Article 10, Section 2(c) of the District No.1-PCD M.E.B.A.(AFL-CIO) By-Laws.
9. Letters were sent to all nominees found to be disqualified, to inform them of their disqualification.
10. The Committee makes the following findings concerning all nominations received:

Nominations for the Office of the President of District No. 1: (Ex-Officio National Convention Delegate)

1. H. Marshall Ainley Qualified
2. Peter Leahy Qualified
3. Phillip Sistrunk Qualified

Nominations for the Office of Secretary-Treasurer of District No. 1: (Ex-Officio National Convention Delegate)

4. Kenneth Barnett Qualified
5. Rick Jordan Qualified
6. Bill Van Loo Qualified

Nominations for the Position of Branch Agent of New York (Atlantic Coast V.P.): (Ex-Officio National Convention Delegate)

7. Jason Callahan Qualified
8. Michael B. Kovach Qualified

Nominations for the Position of Branch Agent of Houston (Gulf Coast V.P.): (Ex-Officio National Convention Delegate)

9. Erin Bertram Qualified
10. Lawrence Holbert Qualified

Nominations for the Position of Branch Agent of San Francisco (Executive V.P.): (Ex-Officio National Convention Delegate)

11. Ted Marvin Qualified
12. Adam Vokac Qualified

Nominations for the Position of Branch Agent of Los Angeles: (Ex-Officio National Convention Delegate)

13. James R Dodson Qualified
14. Rich Doherty Qualified

Nominations for the Position of Branch Agent of Norfolk: (Ex-Officio National Convention Delegate)

15. Eddie Allen Qualified
16. Tracy Burke Qualified

Nominations for the Position of Branch Agent of Seattle: (Ex-Officio National Convention Delegate)

17. Jeff Duncan Qualified

Nominations for the Position of Branch Agent of Tampa: (Ex-Officio National Convention Delegate)

18. Robert E. Mecker Qualified

19. Adam Smith Qualified

Nominations for the Position of Patrolman in the Port of New York:

20. Nico Sermoneta Qualified

Nominations for the Position of Patrolman in the Port of San Francisco:

21. No submission

Nominations for the Position of Patrolman in the Port of Los Angeles:

22. John McElhone Qualified

Nominations for the Position of Patrolman in the Port of Seattle:

23. Kevin M. Cross Qualified

Nominations for Representatives to the National M.E.B.A. Convention:

24. Mark Collins Qualified

25. Nils Djusberg Qualified

26. Mark S. Gallagher Qualified

27. Craig LaChance Qualified

28. John McElhone Qualified

29. George M. Poor Qualified

30. Isaac Seidman Disqualified

- 11. The campaign statements submitted by the nominees were reviewed and will be limited to 400 words according to the Election Notices on Pages 8-9 of the Marine Officer, 2nd Quarter 2016 & All Ports Bulletins issued on May 11, 2016.
- 12. All disqualified members failed to meet Article Ten Section 1(c) 5 or Article Ten Section 1(e) of the M.E.B.A. District By-Laws or Article Ten Section 8 of the M.E.B.A. Constitution.

- 13. The Committee wishes to thank the staff and officials at Headquarters for outstanding support and cooperation.

Recommendations from the Committee:

- 1. That candidates be required to include a copy of their latest dues receipts to be included in their election packet.
- 2. That candidates include a Plans-generated statement of days of covered employment in addition to discharges, pay stubs and/or vacation stubs. Interpretation of hours worked or other accounting procedures from specific companies makes it difficult to ensure that days of covered employment requirements are met.
- 3. Election material should emphasize that employment in the election year does not count towards required employment.
- 4. If required information is not included/complete, the committee is not required to validate.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman/ Vincent Quinones New York



Secretary/ Paula Tuziak Oakland



Member/ Joseph G. George New Orleans



Alternate/ Brian Evjen Houston



Alternate/ Raymond Rokicki Norfolk



Candidates for President of District No. 1-PCD, M.E.B.A



H. Marshall Ainley

MEBA Members;

I'm announcing my candidacy for President of the MEBA once again. After serious consideration I am ready to make a personal commitment to work for another term if elected to do so. I feel the

work we have accomplished and the direction we are heading needs to be continued.

At the risk of repeating my employment history I would ask anyone who is interested in reviewing it to read the last Marine Officer Special Election Edition for 2013. In that issue I outlined my work experience and why I chose to run for President in 2013.

At the time I was concerned because I believed the integrity of the MEBA was in danger of being degraded and needed to be restored. I also made the following statement which is worth repeating, "Simply put the MEBA Membership, Constitution, By-Laws, Collective Bargaining Agreements and Plans form the foundation of our union. Integrity of this foundation is critical for the MEBA to sustain itself. Regard for and adherence to the MEBA Constitution, By-Laws and Collective Bargaining Agreements should be of concern to all."

I continued on to state that I thought "the representation the MEBA membership has received has been inadequate". With regard to those statements I believe we've made headway in both respects over the last 2-1/2 years, although that is equally a subjective as it is an objective point of view. I also believe as an administration we have operated with "Democracy" and "Transparency" within the constraints and the framework of our Constitution and By-Laws, but again there is always room for improvement.

The last 2-1/2 years have not been easy as there has been a need to address significant issues with our Plans as well as numerous contract negotiations. The Union Officials, representatives and employees around the country, as well as the Union employees at Headquarters and M.E.B.A. Plan's personnel, deserve much credit for the work they accomplished during this period. I would hope our membership would acknowledge that.

As I stated in 2013 I will work with all in a new administration, along with the membership, to continue to focus on the most important issues which will benefit and sustain our Union and M.E.B.A. Plans into the future.

I encourage all members first to become involved and second to vote for the strongest candidates who will best represent the MEBA moving forward.



Peter Leahy

My name is Peter Leahy. I kindly request your vote and support as candidate for MEBA President. I had the privilege of graduating from the CMES in 1986. In 2015 I received a degree in mathematics from Southern New Hampshire

University, and will complete a Masters Degree in Data Analytics at SNHU this December.

During my career I have worked on thirty-four different ships, for eighteen different MEBA employers. For the last ten years I have worked for APL aboard C11's. Currently I am chief engineer aboard the APL China.

During MEBA elections scant attention is given to the fact that the MEBA President, Secretary-Treasurer, VP(s), and BA(s) become trustees of the MEBA Plans when elected. I believe the best interest of the membership is only served if officials whom are trustees, remember they have an ethical and moral responsibility to the membership, to often it is not the case.

I believe that MEBA union officials and shipping company representatives that are trustees of the MEBA Plans, have not acted in the best interest of the MEBA membership, but instead have acted in the best interest of the shipping companies. In

2001 the MEBA Training Plan reported \$84,424,328.00 in year end net assets. In 2014 the MEBA Training Plan reported \$19,316,875 in net assets, a difference of \$65,107,453.00. In 2004 the MEBA Vacation Plan reported \$50,643,136.00 in year end net assets. In 2014 the MEBA Vacation Plan reported \$28,941,330.00 in year end net assets, a difference of \$21,701,800.00.

The trustees spent a total surplus of over \$86,809,333. I believe it was irresponsible to burn through this surplus. It was not in the best interest of the MEBA membership, but it was in the best interest of the shipping companies. The plans trustees, plans attorneys, and plans administrator together are 100% responsible for disregard of the MEBA Membership.

Spending down the surplus amounts to a subsidy provided to the shipping companies by the MEBA Members. MEBA Plans exist for the benefit of the membership not for the benefit of the shipping companies.

I believe loss of surplus in the funds is indicative of union administration(s) with no long range plans, except to be reelected. What rational group of individuals would squander self-sustaining surpluses? We can and will do better with a change in leadership.

continued on next page





Phillip Sistrunk

Dear fraternal brothers and sisters;

It has been a privilege to serve as your elected Gulf Coast Vice President. Now, I ask for your vote and support as I seek the office of President of MEBA District No. 1.

To date, I have handled over 40 personal grievances with over \$50,000.00 in restitution paid to our members. I have negotiated four contracts. Three of which were wage and benefit negotiations and all of which resulted in both wage and benefits increases. The fourth was a one year collective bargaining agreement that resulted with a six year agreement that also achieved our wage and benefit increase objectives.

The above being said, I have numerous rank and file to thank for our contract successes and as I promised three years ago, I have involved our members in every step in the negotiating process. In my opinion, a union official is only effective when the membership is given the opportunity to become involved in all union activities.

As a member of the MEBA District Executive Committee (DEC), I have opposed all plans to reduce any membership service and continue to do so. I insist upon financial accountability and vow to keep you informed how the recent dues increase is being utilized.

As a trustee of the MEBA Plans, I continue to look for ways in which the recent pension plan changes can be reversed. When elected and as chairman of the MEBA Board of Trustees, I guarantee that no “Monday morning” surprises to the membership will ever occur on my watch.

You’ve all heard the past promises of democracy, transparency, and only making decisions that are best for MEBA and have seen these same promises cast aside when it comes down to egos and self-interest. I have no ego to satisfy and my only self-interest is the members and families of our union.

To me, serving as a union official is not about being financially rewarded for my service but rather about me paying back and paying forward to a fraternal union that I am privileged to be a member of.

Thank you to all our members both ashore and afloat and the very best to your families. Please support the MEBA 1st team, visit www.mebafirst.com, contact me at: contact@mebafirst.com and make sure your dues are current (*including the recent increase*).

“No more excuses” – it’s MEBA FIRST!

In union fraternity,

Phillip

Meeting Schedule

Port	October	November	December
Boston	Mon. 3	Mon. 7	Mon. 5
Calhoon School	Tues. 4	Tues. 8	Tues. 6
Charleston	Tues. 4	Tues. 8	Tues. 6
Honolulu	Fri. 7	Mon. 14	Fri. 9
Houston	Tues. 4	Tues. 8	Tues. 6
Jacksonville	Wed. 5	Wed. 9	Wed. 7
Los Angeles (Wilmington)	Thurs. 6	Thurs. 10	Thurs. 8
New Orleans	Wed. 5	Wed. 9	Wed. 7
New York (New Jersey)	Thurs. 6	Thurs. 10	Thurs. 8
Norfolk	Thurs. 6	Thurs. 10	Thurs. 8
San Francisco (Oakland)	Tues. 4	Tues. 8	Tues. 6
Seattle (Fife)	Mon. 3	Mon. 7	Mon. 5
Tampa	Thurs. 6	Thurs. 10	Thurs. 8

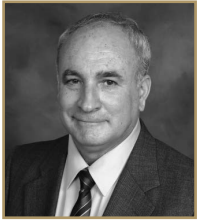
Special Meetings, November 28, 2016

In accordance with the M.E.B.A. By-Laws, Special Meetings will be held on November 28, 2016 to elect a seven person rank and file committee which will oversee the tabulation of election ballots.

Members of this Tallying Committee will be elected at the meetings in New York (New Jersey), Norfolk, Seattle (Fife), Los Angeles (Wilmington) and Houston. Alternate members will be elected at the meetings in New Orleans and San Francisco (Oakland).

According to the M.E.B.A. By-Laws, no M.E.B.A. official or candidate for office is eligible for election to this Tallying Committee.

Candidates for Secretary-Treasurer of District No. 1-PCD, M.E.B.A



Kenneth Barnett

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

My name is Kenneth Barnett and I ask for your vote and support for the office of Secretary/Treasurer.

I bring 30 years of combined experience in government, maritime, military, management and leadership positions. I am a retired full U.S. Army Colonel who honorably served 30 years (21 years of active service) in the U.S. Army and Army Reserves. I have been a MEBA member since 1998 when I began working in the MEBA government fleet as a civilian mariner and for the past two years I have sailed deep sea.

While in service to our nation, I was highly decorated for tours in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Uzbekistan. In these overseas duty assignments, I was able to experience first-hand the operation and effectiveness of both the afloat portion of the Maritime Security Program (MSP) fleet and the shore-side component of the intermodal transportation network of the MSP carriers.

My last military assignment was serving with the U.S. Army Review Boards Agency in the Military District of Washington, DC. In this capacity, I was responsible for adjudicating cases concerning institutional ethics, accountability, and policy oversight of the U.S. Army law enforcement system.

As our deep sea, POID, and government members are fully aware, today our industry is very much influenced and sustained

by policies and decisions coming out of DOD. **I bring this DOD knowledge, experience, and contacts with me for the job as MEBA Secretary/Treasurer.** For our shoreside and inland mariner (ferries and Interlake) members, I bring a committed leadership style with strong ethical and accountable management and administrative skills.

I bring the same sense of duty and honor that I had in service to our nation to upholding the heritage, growth, and well-being of our union brotherhood and sisterhood. I think that most recognize the downward trend in our industry as well as the overall decline of our union's strength and influence. **Now more than ever is not the time to remain with the status quo but the time for professional, disciplined, and well-respected leadership.**

I understand the U.S. maritime industry, I have experience working with DOD and other government agencies, I know my way around the halls of Congress, and I am committed to our members, their families, our retirees, and MEBA.

Please support the MEBA 1st team, visit www.mebafirst.com, contact me at: contact@mebafirst.com

“No more excuses” – it’s MEBA FIRST!

Fraternally,

Ken



Rick Jordan

I am honored to announce my candidacy for Secretary-Treasurer and humbly ask for your vote. We are privileged to belong to an organization as democratic as MEBA. But democracy comes with a duty to participate. Please vote.

My educational background includes a Marine Science degree from Texas A&M with emphasis in Physical Oceanography. Upon graduation and while shipping off the board, I attended Business School at University of Southern Mississippi including post graduate studies.

I began sailing at eighteen in the offshore oil industry to put myself through A&M. Once graduated, I sailed for various companies before accepting a permanent job with Keystone Shipping Company. I remain with Keystone today. I worked over 13 years in the tanker fleet followed by 20 years of government vessel operations. My understanding of these two industries is very strong.

Outside of shipping, I have started and sold several businesses including real estate and long-haul trucking. Currently, I am

part-owner of a New Orleans based commercial insurance company and South Mississippi's largest independent automobile retailer. My business acumen is equally strong.

Shipping industry projects I have had the honor of serving include:

1995-1996: On-site Contracting Officer for CAPE K re-flag project, a rare conversion completed on time and under budget. Our success set the stage for Keystone to become MarAd's largest operator today, ultimately resulting in the creation of hundreds of jobs for MEBA.

2001-2003: Senior member of USNS WHEAT re-flag team. We were tasked with resurrecting a failed AMO project years overdue and millions over budget. This success led to additional MSC contracts and scores of jobs for MEBA.

2013-2014: Senior member of CAPE RAY team charged with the destruction of Syrian Chemical Weapons. We made the world safer and saved the taxpayer an estimated 200 million dollars by proving destruction could be safely accomplished at sea. We were proud to be part of MEBA's proud tradition of answering America's call.

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Candidates for Secretary-Treasurer of District No. 1-PCD, M.E.B.A (continued)

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2015: Senior member of USNS KOCAK salvage team which prevented international and environmental catastrophes. The benefit came with saving a MEBA crewed vessel.

I do not take credit for these achievements. My contributions included principled decision-making, solid organizational

construction, and sound team-building skills brought to each project—the same skill-sets I will bring to MEBA Headquarters.

My goal is your vote. Our goal should be total participation in this democracy by exercising our hard earned right to VOTE!



Bill Van Loo

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As a proud third generation M.E.B.A. member I respectfully ask for your vote for re-election as your Secretary-Treasurer.

I take great pride in my service to the M.E.B.A. membership for the last twenty-one years. It has truly been an honor. Starting as an elected rank and file representative to the National M.E.B.A. Conventions in 1996 and 1999, I gained valuable experience as I worked my way up to Baltimore Branch Agent in 2002 and then Secretary-Treasurer in 2006. This process has provided me with the tools necessary to continue to serve the M.E.B.A.

Successfully managing the Union's finances, as audited by the rank and file Financial Review Committee, has been both challenging and rewarding. Reports over the last several years show that our initiatives have maximized the M.E.B.A.'s effectiveness while minimizing expenditures in these tough financial times.

Fighting for the Union, the viability of the maritime industry, and our retirees is my life's calling.

Our Union and the maritime industry are under attack on a daily basis and it will take experience, knowledge, and

established professional relationships to lead the M.E.B.A. into the future. While fighting in Washington D.C. I have used my 17 years of sailing experience to give a "real life" perspective to the Union's advocacy efforts on Capitol Hill, the Department of Defense, the Maritime Administration, and other associated agencies. I am proud to have testified before the Congressional Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation as to the importance of a strong U.S. Merchant Marine.

I am determined to continue putting in the long hours needed to stay current and engaged on the issues affecting every facet of the Union's business. From membership issues and contract negotiations to shipping rules and political activities, every issue warrants attention. Further, I recognize the importance of every membership group within the M.E.B.A. Whether sailing deep sea or employed through POID, NOAA, Ferry systems, Army Corps, MSC, or MARAD, every Union member deserves the leadership's attention and support.

Every decision I make is based on the same premise: What is best for the M.E.B.A.? I will continue to be fully accessible to the membership by attending Union meetings and providing my cell phone number so that I am available at all times. Fighting for the M.E.B.A. is my passion and I would be honored to be given the opportunity to continue to serve you.

Candidates for Atlantic Coast Vice President - Branch Agent of New York



Jason Callahan

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am Jason Callahan and am respectfully asking for your support in my candidacy for Atlantic Coast Vice President.

Upon graduation from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point NY in 1999, I sailed MSC and joined MEBA. Since 2000, I have been faithfully sailing out of the hall or permanent for MEBA.

I hold an unlimited Chief Engineer's license and currently sail as Permanent First Engineer with Matson Navigation aboard

the M/V Maunawili – a position I have held for the past 4 years.

Our brothers and sisters who have held office have worked hard to further Union interests, one contract at a time. This approach may have worked in the past, but in today's environment it is more than the contract. It's about reversing the precipitous decline of the U.S. Merchant Marine that has progressively dragged our Union down. As the Jones Act and other cargo preference laws are constantly being attacked, scapegoated or chipped away at by opponents of the maritime industry, our Union and livelihood will suffer. Congress needs to pass Union friendly and domestic industry stimulating laws. Although contracts will always be a priority and

Candidates For Atlantic Coast Vice-President – Branch Agent Of New York (continued)

the Union will always come first, as the top Union we also need to work with industry leaders and the U.S. Congress to reinvigorate the industry.

These next years will be crucial for our Union; it will take hard work and energetic people of integrity to place the union on higher ground. As your Atlantic Coast Vice President I will always place the Union first. I will promote innovation, accountability, transparency and solidarity for our Union. I will

bring my energy, straightforward manner, and fresh approach to serve the needs of my Union brothers and sisters.

There is strength in our numbers and we can pull together to make MEBA a better place for all of us. Thank you for your consideration!

Fraternally Yours,

Jason Callahan



Michael B. Kovach

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I wish all the best to you and your families and hope all is well. My name is Michael B. Kovach and I'm running for Atlantic Coast Vice President. I have been an active member sailing exclusively out of the port of New York / New Jersey for 17 years. I have also worked as a crane engineer, and served on committees. I live locally in New Jersey with my wife and son.

Everything evolves over time and so has MEBA since its inception in 1875. With all those changes over the years, I have come to a full understanding of the responsibilities of a trustee. We need leadership that understands this and will continue to advance MEBA forward. Leadership that will fight aggressively to support MSP and all the programs

which determine our future. Leadership that will continue to uphold our contracts and defend our members on and off the vessels. Leadership that is transparent on all issues both large and small. As Atlantic Coast Vice President I pledge to keep our union strong and moving forward.

To all of my Brothers and Sisters whom I have had the pleasure of working with, and to all those members I have never met. I ask for your support. I have much to be thankful for as a result of my membership in MEBA. Through strong leadership in the previous administration, I believe the the union is rebounding from hard times. Together with your help I am confident we will keep moving forward. Together we will create a better future for MEBA, you and your families.

Humbly Yours,

Michael B. Kovach

Candidates for Gulf Coast Vice President, Branch Agent of Houston



Erin Bertram

M.E.B.A. Brothers and Sisters,

My name is **Erin Bertram** and I ask for your vote for **Houston Branch Agent, Gulf Coast Vice-President**.

First, thank you for voting for me in the last election. The past couple of years and months have been busy: repairs to and daily operations of the hall; providing union information to the members at the hall and on the vessels through ship visits; providing answers to member's questions or referring them to the correct department; providing USCG regulation changes and deadlines to members; handling grievances; answering contract questions; assisting the GCVP, as requested, for contract information and negotiations.

Secondly, most importantly, the members voice is essential and critical. Union meetings, ship visits, phone calls, letters

and emails, resolutions and referendums are all tools for the members to express themselves and get ideas to the leadership. This membership has used them all. And they have been heard. Changes have come to our Union. Dues increase, 4-year term, changes in representation in the Gulf. Last election, the Gulf lost its Patrolmen. This election where the VP and Branch Agent are located changes. The Houston Hall continues to be a busy port. We continue the tradition of getting information to members in the hall and on the vessels, of getting information from the members to the DEC, Plans or the CMES. The office is there to help the members and we will continue to do that through these changes.

The Gulf Coast Vice-President is one of the 5 members of the District Executive Committee. This committee develops policies, strategies and rules to advance and protect the interests and welfare of the District and the members; is responsible for all contract negotiations; directs the administration of all District affairs, properties, policies and personnel in any and

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Candidates for Gulf Coast Vice President, Branch Agent of Houston (continued)

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all areas including those not otherwise specifically provided for in the By-Laws. Decisions are rarely unanimous.

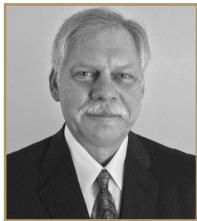
The Vice-President is also a member of the Plans Board of Trustees, where I have been an Alternate Trustee as Branch Agent learning the issues, hearing the discussions and reviewing the options.

If elected, I pledge to listen and consider all issues brought to my office, brought to the DEC, brought to the Trustees and I

pledge to continue to Represent the Membership and Support the Administration. Houston will continue to be a source of information.

Be heard, **vote**.

Erin Bertram, Houston Branch Agent, Gulf Coast Vice-President.



Lawrence Holbert

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

My name is *Lawrence Holbert*. I will run once again for the position of *Gulf Coast Vice President of the M.E.B.A.* It appears to me that very little has changed since the previous election, which should concern each member of our union.

I am running because I feel that I can be **effective as Gulf Coast V. P.** by ensuring that:

1. *The M.E.B.A. remains an Officers Union unto itself without being merged, unified, or lost* within some other entity for the benefit of a very few at the expense of the Membership, the Pension, & the Union.
2. All Plans, Pension, & School Trustees (i.e. the Trustees) are accountable for their actions, expenses, and, *the Trustees are subject to the same reductions in associated benefits & expenses as the M.E.B.A. membership is expected to accept and live with*, {the Trustees are not above the Union Membership they are supposed to serve}.
3. Contracting companies are made aware that *adhering to contract language* is in their own self-interest and will create more harmony aboard vessels between the M.E.B.A. officers

doing the work & company management directing the vessel operations.

4. By making every effort to *return the 11.7% across the board wage reallocations*, removed from the pockets of the Deep Sea Membership, to the Deep Sea Membership.

5. And lastly, certainly the most important for us as a Union & the main reason I have again taken up this challenge, I will *promote respect for the M.E.B.A. Membership* which seems so sadly lacking by certain members of the present D.E.C. and through certain members the present D.E.C. a lack of respect by the contracting companies & other entities that have business with this Union's Membership.

Let your voice be heard and be current with your dues, (including the 3rd & 4th quarter increase that took effect July 1st)!!! Please vote this election!!!

Thank you to all our members both ashore & at sea, and the very best to your families. **Please support the MEBA 1st team**, visit www.mebafirst.com, contact me at: contact@mebafirst.com

"No more excuses" – it's MEBA FIRST!

With U & F

Lawrence Holbert

Candidates for Executive Vice President, Branch Agent of San Francisco



Ted Marvin

Dear MEBA Brothers and Sisters,

My name is Ted Marvin and I am seeking to represent YOU as Executive Vice President of the MEBA. I stress the YOU in that opening statement as I have seen far too many instances over the past 22 years of the members' interests not being served by our elected officials. As your EVP,

I will put your interests at the forefront of all discussions and actions.

I come from a long line of New England ship owners and operators, somehow ventured south, earned a BS in Marine Engineering from Texas A&M University - Galveston in 1994 and immediately began shipping out with MEBA. My first ship out of school dropped me in Tacoma, WA. I subsequently settled in the Pacific Northwest, but not before exploring the world on my vacations between ships.

continued

Despite shipping being very 'tight' back then, I was able to upgrade my license quickly by taking any job I could. ROS, tankers, bulkers, freighters and even an ITB. I began sailing Chief Engineer in 2003 on the M/V SeaLand Explorer. I sailed CE on several D9's before the vessels were flagged out and I then went over to Matson. I finished my seagoing career as CE of the M/V Mokihana. I would still be doing that job today if not for some unfortunate circumstances that ended with me having fulltime custody of my 11 year old son.

Not to brag, but I have a full, 415b-capped pension owed me. Many of you will not have the same opportunity that I had to earn such a pension because of poor decisions made by current and previous union administrations and plan trustees. This is shameful and needs to be corrected. The same is true of

the myriad givebacks and setbacks suffered by the members over the last 15 years. Too often we have shared the burden of the downturns but not been restored during the upturns. Don't forget that a 25% cut requires a 33% increase to be made whole. I will work hard to make right these wrongs.

Please vote. I'd like it if you vote for me, but it's more important that you just vote. Complacency of the membership is just as destructive to the union as is corruption and self-servitude of officials.

Think MEBA 1st. Contact me at contact@mebafirst.com. Learn more at www.mebafirst.com

Unity & Fraternity,
Ted Marvin



Adam Vokac

I respectfully ask for your vote for re-election as Executive Vice President – West Coast.

For the last three years, the West Coast has delivered firm representation for our members, and delivered solid contracts.

From Honolulu to our POID unit in Nashville, and from Juneau down to LA, our dedicated West Coast officials and dispatchers have led the way in supporting our membership and advancing the MEBA.

This term I led several successful contract negotiations, including Chevron, ATC, POID, Golden Gate Ferries, SF Bar Pilot PE; and NCL should conclude in the latter half of this year. We have had many instrumental arbitration wins against APL, who have been unwilling to always negotiate in good faith, including a critical victory defending our MSP jurisdiction. I also assisted West Coast officials in their bargaining of contracts, including AMHS, Connolly-Pacific, Samson, CBJ, WSF, Foss, Black Ball Transport, and King County Ferry.

The West Coast has done more than just representation and bargaining. We have made a continual effort to advance the

union, to innovate and stay current while maintaining Union foundations and fraternal principles. The real time open board monitors are a perfect example of a West Coast initiative such as this; it was a low cost solution that greatly increased transparency, while standardizing nationwide hall operations. We have also aggressively sought new work opportunities for our members, with several of these efforts likely to pay off soon.

I believe I am well qualified for the position of Executive Vice President, having served three years as the Honolulu Representative and now three years as EVP. I graduated Kings Point valedictorian, sailed for a year, then earned two masters degrees from MIT, one in Mechanical Engineering and the other in Ocean Systems Management. I have used my 8 years sailing with the MEBA, with which I obtained my unlimited CE license, and additional 6 years representing the MEBA in the Halls, to build company relations, negotiating skills, and my own contract knowledge base, to effectively represent our membership and demand the respect the MEBA deserves.

I congratulate the union administration, as a whole, for moving the MEBA and our Plans in the right direction over the past three years. I would be honored to continue to deliver for the West Coast and the entire MEBA for another four years, therefore, I respectfully ask for your vote, **Adam Vokac for Executive Vice President – West Coast.**

Candidates for Branch Agent of Los Angeles



James R Dodson

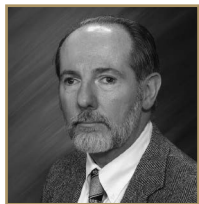
Hello Union brothers and sisters my name is James R Dodson. And I would like your vote for Los Angeles Branch Agent. I have been a member for 30 years, I have sailed both west and east coast on many vessels. I sailed out of the

hall for 18 years mostly from Los Angeles working my way up through engineering ranks on both steam and motor plants. I have sailed relief 1st many times from the union hall before I got a permanent job in 2004 with Maersk, the last 5 years I have been sailing as Chief.

Over the past 30 years I have seen our contracts decline in wages, benefits, and work rules. I believe it is time to change

that. We need to stand together and vote down contracts that have diminished our wages and work rules. The union needs to fight harder to get back the losses, night engineers, barrel watch, non-watch. Vessels now have less and less port time, which gives the crew less and less time off after a voyage. With the STCW rest hours that now complicate our work place I don't think it would be that difficult to get back night engineers. Has any union official ever asked you for your STCW rest hour report or log?

I ask you for your vote to represent the membership of MEBA in the port of Los Angeles as Branch Agent. Let's get back some of the losses that we have given up.



Richard Doherty

My name is Richard Doherty but most people just call me Rich. I am running for re-election to the position of Branch Agent in the Port of Wilmington, CA. I graduated from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy in 1976 and have

been a member in good standing in the D1-MEBA since 1985. I've shipped off the board on both coasts. My wife of 31 years and I relocated from Connecticut to California in 2001.

I have been serving as the Wilmington, CA. hall Branch Agent since January 1, 2013 and have been a Union Official since February of 2010. My time as Wilmington's Branch Agent has afforded me the opportunity to meet and assist many members, participate in multiple contract negotiations, resolve member grievances, visit ships, run job calls and manage the office staff as well as the day to day demands of a very busy union hall. I have made a point, in the course of doing the Branch Agent's job, to take the time to maintain the relationships we have with our Affiliates and the other Unions that we work alongside of.

I've worked on various steam and diesel ships including but not limited to Victory ships, tankers, NOAA research ships, Alaska State Ferries, Washington State Ferries, C-8, C-9, C-10 and C-11 class ships. I'm also a plank owner on the New York City Department of Transportation/Corrections Prison Ferry Boats. While employed with the New York DOT/DOC, I completed a degree in Business Management.

I've walked picket lines in support of local job actions and have participated in and contributed to the successful completion of Connolly-Pacific, FOSS, MATSON and APL POID contract negotiations.

I've always considered knowledge to be a gift which I have given back and shared freely with those I have worked with. My overall career experience has served me well when assisting members who have come to me for help.

I will make sure that the service members have come to expect from the Wilmington hall continues under my stewardship. I ask for your support. Thank you!

Candidates for Branch Agent of Norfolk



Edward B. Allen, Jr.

My name is Edward B. Allen Jr; I like to be called Eddie and I am running for Norfolk Branch Agent. I have been sailing for 27 years, the first 10 years as a NMU Electrician aboard the M/V Cape Diamond, were I worked

alongside MEBA Engineers. In 2000 after many years of being encouraged my MEBA friends I became a Third Engineer and signed up with the MEBA as a 299 applicant, taking a shipping job out of the hiring halls. With a desire to advance and encouragement from my wife Sonya, I took any and all jobs that I could, moving up quickly through the MEBA group status to become a Group 1 member, also during this time I

continued

Candidates for Branch Agent of Norfolk (continued)

continued to advance my license and finally becoming a Chief Engineer. For the last 17 years while working with the MEBA I have worked for various contact companies including MTL, OSG, Patriot Contract Services, and Liberty Maritime where I have been Chief Engineer aboard the Liberty Promise for the last 6 years. I have always been a very active member of the MEBA attending monthly meetings as time allowed, I have also been lucky enough to be elected to serve on the FRC twice.

Now as to why I am running for the Norfolk Branch Agent, I will keep this simple and short, over the years of shipping and working aboard the various ships, I have had a lot of assistance and communication from various members of the MEBA halls and for their help I am grateful. As my career is coming to an end I feel that it is my obligation to give back to the members of the MEBA and the Union that has helped me throughout the years. So in closing I am asking for your support and your vote for Eddie Allen, Norfolk Branch Agent.



Tracy Burke

I graduated from Maine Maritime Academy in 1988 and began a 20-year career with Interlake Steamship Company before working through the Jersey City hall for APL, Maersk and Keystone.

Having worked 26 years in the U.S. Merchant Marine sailing as Chief Engineer on both Steam and Motor vessels, I know the challenges we as Merchant Mariners face on a daily basis. I have been able to apply that knowledge to my role as Norfolk Branch Agent and MEBA's Government Fleet Representative.

I am proud of the significant improvements I have made with representation and membership recruiting in our Government Fleets. During my first term, the dues paying members and applicants have significantly increased from the Government Fleet bargaining units. The number of individuals paying dues from MSC has doubled since my term began in 2014. After we successfully renegotiated the 25-year-old MEBA/NOAA CBA, the number of engineers paying dues in NOAA quadrupled. This has contributed significant gains to our union's treasury.

In addition to renegotiating the NOAA CBA, we also negotiated a new A-B-C rotational staffing agreement allowing NOAA engineers to receive desperately needed extra vacation

time on NOAA vessels that have staffing challenges. I also assisted the MEBA with the Government RFP process for the recent \$12 million contract awarded to Keystone which provides MEBA engineers to the NOAA fleet for vacation reliefs.

When an issue is brought to my attention, I see it through. I am a natural problem solver and strive to find fair solutions.

In the Norfolk hall, I have helped many applicants and members with their membership related issues. I take the time to explain the many rules that govern shipping and membership so applicants understand how to receive their membership book and work toward Group 1 shipping card status. I also make sure to describe the various covered employment thresholds for PLANS eligibility so new members understand how to maximize their benefits.

I urge you to **vote for Tracy Burke** to continue as **Norfolk Branch Agent** to progress the good work I laid the foundation for in my first term. I pledge to promote efficient operations in the Norfolk hall and to the monthly union meetings I chair in Norfolk, Jacksonville, Charleston and Easton; increase the percentage of bargaining unit members in the Government Fleets who pay dues to the MEBA, and strive to improve union representation.

Candidates for Branch Agent of Seattle



Jeff Duncan

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

My name is Jeff Duncan, and I am proud to announce my reelection candidacy for Branch Agent in the Port of Seattle. It has been an honor to serve the M.E.B.A.

membership as Branch Agent these past three years, and as Patrolman and Washington State Ferries (WSF) Representative for the eight and a half years prior.

We have faced challenges with our contracts and plans these past three years. I believe the current group of elected officials have taken these challenges head on. As your Branch Agent I have always known who I work for; you the membership. That is why I have decided to run for reelection.

I have continually advocated bringing youth into the elected ranks of M.E.B.A. It is my belief that we need to invest in the youth of our Union.

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Candidates for Branch Agent of Seattle (continued)

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As many of you know, we relocated the Seattle Hall to Fife last year. The purchase of the new building will benefit the M.E.B.A. membership far into the future. I would like to thank the hard work of the staff and rank and file that made the move possible.

After serving four years in the United States Marine Corps, I began my sailing career in 1988 on factory trawlers in Alaska. I have been a proud M.E.B.A. member for 16 years.

My labor education at the University of Oregon and the National Labor College includes: Grievance Handling, Arbitration, Preparation and Presentation, Collective Bargaining, Communication Skills for Union Activists and many more to name a few. I believe all Union Officials need to continually improve their skills, as I have done, through ongoing labor education.

My negotiating history as lead negotiator includes: ten Washington State Ferries contracts, two King County passenger

only contracts, the Alaska Marine Highway System contract, and the Black Ball contract. Throughout my career I have also settled approximately 70 grievances, and testified in dozens of Arbitrations.

If reelected Seattle Branch Agent I will continue my proven track record of working hard to improve the lives of the membership and their families every day. I will do my best, with the ongoing help of Patrolman Kevin Cross, to continue running the Seattle Hall as effectively and efficiently as possible, and will always remember whom we were elected to serve; you the member!

I would like to thank you for your support. PLEASE VOTE!!!

Jeff Duncan

Seattle Branch Agent

Candidates for Branch Agent of Tampa



Robert Mecker

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As a proud M.E.B.A. member I respectfully request your vote in order to serve as your Tampa Branch Agent and Delegate to the National Convention. A lifetime resident of the Tampa area, a 1979 graduate of Calhoun M.E.B.A. Engineering School, with 37 years of sailing experience aboard M.E.B.A. contracted ships, I am aware of many concerns and observations of both active members and pensioners.

I am a "local" having graduated from Boca Ciega High School and St. Petersburg Jr. College. I had the good fortune to do all of my sailing from the Tampa Hall. My permanent positions held were with Sea Land, Central Gulf, Keystone, and OSG.

Married to Sally Hill and residing in Pinellas Park, FL, I continue to enroll in coursework to improve my knowledge of nautical information and to build essential interpersonal skills: MEECE, Engine Resource Management, and Leadership and Management in 2015. A strong interest in technology, health care, and the financial market assist me in keeping abreast of current policies and practices.

Being a Group I member who has sailed on various types of vessels for almost 4 decades, I hope to utilize this life experience to handle issues and concerns that confront the membership, and to advocate for the brotherhood and sisterhood of M.E.B.A. I believe that it is vital to inform the public, the members, and all future members of the many opportunities of membership, and to further stress the necessity of qualified mariners necessary to man our ships. My desire is to inspire and promote M.E.B.A. goals, practices, safe working conditions, equality, and unity. With a consideration for both new members and those who seek to become pensioners, my desire is that we strive to work together on all fronts.

I am humbly seeking your vote because I feel that I can readily listen to the members and then work to handle contractual issues. My election would maintain continuity and stability in the Tampa Hall, bringing to it knowledge of maritime concerns.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Mecker

rmecker@msn.com

727-647-5597

Candidates for Branch Agent of Tampa (continued)



Adam Smith

My name is Adam Smith and I am seeking the position of branch agent in Tampa. I graduated from the United States Merchant Marine Academy in 2009 and six years after graduation I earned my Chief Engineer license.

I joined MEBA in 2010 and was honored to represent the membership as a delegate to the MEBA national convention in the last election cycle.

Why am I seeking your support? There are essentially two concerns I believe must be addressed. First, since joining the union I have noticed a growing tension between rank and file members and the officials elected to represent them. This must end. Our members must believe and see evidence that

union officials are respectful of the trust we place in them to do what's best for the membership. Secondly, our union must unite across the country. We do not need fiefdoms of influence organized against one another. We have enemies outside our union; we certainly don't need strife within it.

What would I do if elected Branch Agent in Tampa? I would represent members in a fair, honest, and timely manner. I would aggressively defend our contracts with all shipping companies, promptly investigate grievances, and solicit your ideas for future job contracts. Any member who brings concerns to my attention can be assured your concerns will be acted on immediately.

In short, we need fighters. I ask for your vote and promise to fight for you. In the words of Ben Franklin: "If we don't hang together, we will assuredly hang separately".

Candidates for Patrolman in the Port of New York



Nico Sermoneta

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen of the MEBA,

As you can see, I'm asking to be elected to the position of Patrolman for the Port of New York for a second term. I have learned so much about the inner workings

of the MEBA, the interrelations within the AFL-CIO, and the network of shipping companies to whom we provide service, and I recognize that I have so much more to learn on each of these topics.

I like to remind people, that the MEBA is a business. We, like any labor union in the USA are incorporated as a 501(c)5, and as much as any other business, we have to think about our customers. We have 3 sets of customers. The members -- The MEBA's primary purpose is to serve the interests of the membership, if we don't we'll disappear. The employers -- If

we intend to remain in business, we must meet, and exceed the needs of our employers. The government -- Because of the nature of our industry, we rely on the federal government to keep us afloat, and if we can't meet their needs in terms of National Security, Regulatory Compliance, and Political Leverage, we will wither.

As I see it, the role of a Patrolman, or any other non-DEC position in the MEBA is to carry out the policies set forward by the DEC and to keep the gears of this great organization turning from day-to-day. That means this job could be very different from term to term. None-the-less, I think it is important, that we as an organization foster a team of people with long term institutional knowledge. I'd like to continue to serve you for another term, if you'll have me.

U&F,

Nico Sermoneta

Candidates for Patrolman in the Port of San Francisco

(No Candidate Running)



Candidates for Patrolman in the Port of Los Angeles



John McElhone

Dear M.E.B.A. Brothers and Sisters,

My name is **John McElhone** and I ask for your vote and support for **Los Angeles Patrolman and Delegate to the M.E.B.A. National Convention.**

My passion and commitment to M.E.B.A. has driven me to serve this fine Union. I have always been a member ready to stand up and be counted on. Since being appointed L.A. Rep. in December 2012 and then being elected to Patrolman a year later, the L.A. Hall has come back to life. I have grown the L.A. Patrolman job into areas no other L.A. Patrolman ever has such as visiting, advocating for, and providing services to MSC members in San Diego. I am running to advocate for ALL members! A **vote for John McElhone** is a vote to be heard.

I am deeply proud to be an M.E.B.A member. I have already put my money where my mouth is by giving up a Permanent First Engineer job with Matson and walking away from a very comfortable lifestyle to be your L.A. Patrolman. I am the only current Union official who took a pay cut to be your official (over \$80K)! I am committed to patrolling the Southern California waterfront. I go up every gangway informing,

educating, advocating and most importantly LISTENING! With your support my advocating will continue to strengthen the M.E.B.A. membership. I am a firm believer in enforcing and strengthening all contracts. Again, a **vote for John McElhone** is a vote to be heard.

As your L.A. Patrolman I will continue my proven track record of working hard, advocating fully, and improving the professional environment of all members. I am working hard to improve political and labor connections, and promote M.E.B.A. causes such as: the Jones Act, MSP, cargo preference laws, inland waterway needs, Government contract needs, short sea shipping and ship visits. I will continue visiting all ships that dock at southern California from Port Hueneme to San Diego. Last year I went back to college to pursue a Labor Studies Degree. I go on nights and weekends with my own money and my own time! My grassroots approach to advocating has improved work environments, has consistently gotten members contracted moneys they were not previously getting, and has led to contracted pay and benefit increases. It's your Union. Rise up and **vote for JohnMcElhoneMEBA@gmail.com**

Advocating for M.E.B.A. and Getting it Done in L.A.

Candidates for Patrolman in the Port of Seattle



Kevin M. Cross

Brothers and Sisters

My name is Kevin M. Cross, and I would appreciate your consideration, and vote, for the honorable position of Patrolman in Seattle. It has been a privilege to represent you as a National Delegate

(2014-16) and Seattle Patrolman (2014-16).

My sailing career began with the MEBA in 2001, when I submitted my application in Boston, after graduating from Maine Maritime. Since then I have shipped out of Los Angeles and Seattle. Working off the board for APL, Horizon, NOAA, ATC, Keystone, as well as a permanent position with Central Gulf Lines.

The last 2+ years have been a challenging and learning experience. I have been working to sharpen and focus the skills required to better serve the membership: Attending AFL-CIO Summer School, and Path2Power workshops, as well as University of Oregon Bargaining Institute.

In 2015 the Seattle Union Hall was relocated 25 miles south to Fife, WA. Although there was concern about leaving our Georgetown location, I believe the newly purchased hall will be an asset for the MEBA.

My wife Mary and I wed in 2014, and our first child, Dovie Elizabeth arrived earlier this year. We make our home in Tacoma. I have been active in the local Labor Council, as well as the Labor for Bernie movement.

The Seattle Hall continues to be one of the busiest in the country. A dedicated and caring team at the ready. I urge you to vote for Branch Agent Jeff Duncan. We have a good working relationship, and together can continue to move the MEBA forward.

Finally, I implore you to consider upping your contribution (or starting to contribute?) to the Political Action Fund. The Merchant Marine and Jones Act is under constant attack by selfish special interests. Your contributions protect the very way of life we hold dear.

In Unity and Friendship,

Think BIG. Vote CROSS.

Candidates for Representative (Delegate) to the National M.E.B.A. Convention



Mark Collins

Hello M.E.B.A. Brothers and Sisters, my name is **Mark Collins** and I am running for the position of Delegate to the National M.E.B.A. Convention. I joined the M.E.B.A. in 1999 and it is the only place that I have worked and called home for the last seventeen years. I have sailed for a number of companies in that time and am currently the Chief Engineer on the APL Singapore. I have seen a lot

of things change since I joined the Union at the Jersey City Union Hall on Montgomery Street. While there have been a lot of positive events over this time they are often overshadowed by the negative events that have complicated our unity and resolve. I believe that the M.E.B.A. still has a long future and want to contribute to its continued existence. I am running for this position to the National M.E.B.A. Convention as an independent. I am asking for your votes so that I can use all that M.E.B.A. has given me to represent the membership at the convention in 2017.



Nils Djusberg

My name is Nils Djusberg and I am running for Delegate for the National Convention. I have been a member of the MEBA for 27 years. In those 27 years I have sailed in every capacity up to Chief Engineer and got my Juris Doctorate while sailing. I am licensed in Massachusetts and Washington DC and am currently the Legal Counsel for MEBA. Since joining I have always been involved whether helping with negotiations, walking a picket line or just attending meetings whenever I was home. I plan on

continuing to be involved in any aspect of the MEBA necessary as it has provided me with a great means to support my family. I have been proud to sail for MEBA and to have helped with the administration of MEBA.

The National MEBA is unique as it is our umbrella organization and I have had the good fortune to be parliamentarian and Legal Counsel for the NMEBA in the past and now wish to have a voice and vote in the next convention. I believe we can make some productive changes to create a more efficient and effective organization. I bring a lot of knowledge and experience to the National MEBA convention and can be a great asset to the NMEBA. Thank you.



Mark S. Gallagher

My name is Mark S. Gallagher and I respectfully request your support to serve as your representative to the National MEBA Convention. I graduated from Maine Maritime Academy in 1988 and immediately entered active duty military service as an officer in the U.S. Navy. During my tour of duty with the Navy, I completed a nine month deployment to the Persian Gulf in support of operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm. This experience, more than any other in my life up to that point, hit home the importance of working together as a team for a common goal.

I left military service in 1992 and sailed as a relief engineer out of the Baltimore

Union hall on various MEBA dry cargo and tanker vessels. In 1996, I was asked to serve as a full time representative at MEBA headquarters in Washington, DC. In this capacity, I work as the Contracts Representative, tracking and adjusting wages and benefits as required under the various MEBA collective bargaining agreements and perform the function of union liaison between the contracted operators and the MEBA Benefit Plans providing a seamless implementation of those contractual adjustments. Additionally, I perform research

and cost analysis during contract negotiations and reopeners; draft contract language, review and formulate government bid proposals for approval and support the out ports by providing assistance with contract interpretation, research and enforcement.

In spite of the difficult economic times we have seen the last three (3) years, MEBA president Marshall Ainley and his administration have done a remarkable job putting MEBA on sound financial footing and operating in the black by reducing costs and cutting expenses in a fiscally prudent manner while continuing to provide the highest level of service to the membership. Additionally, president Ainley went to great lengths to restore health and vitality to the MEBA Benefit Plans, specifically, the Medical Plan, the Training Plan, and the JEC ensuring these funds remain available for their stated purposes in the future and for the benefit of the membership and their families.

As your representative to the National Convention, I will put forth my best effort to preserve and strengthen MEBA's democratic policies. I ask for your continued confidence in myself and President Ainley's administration to keep MEBA on our tried and true course of delivering job security and benefit plan protection for all members, their families, our retirees and the next generation of marine officers.

continued on next page





Craig LaChance

Dear Union Brothers and Sisters:

My name is Craig LaChance and I am seeking your vote for Delegate to the National Convention. I joined MEBA following graduation from Kings Point in 2009, believing that it was the best maritime union in the nation. Seven years later in the maritime industry, I believe that is still the case. With that being said, we cannot rest on our laurels of the past, but continue to strive for a better future. We must continue meeting our membership's needs. It is important to have proper funding for all halls and having elected officials at proper ports to ensure maximum representation. Providing explanations and monetary numbers backing up all decisions will allow for a greater transparency that our members desire. Most importantly, we must allow membership to be involved

with more decision making whenever the MEBA constitution allows it.

As a member with MEBA, I have worked under numerous contracts for several companies.

I have held permanent positions, spent time in the RRF fleet, worked under MSC contracts, taken relief jobs that required foreign flyouts, and even worked on MEBA contracted LNG tankers. These varied experiences have given me a better understanding of the different issues that each MOU can present.

If elected as a delegate, I will work with the forthcoming administration on making decisions that is best for MEBA as a whole and not just for a select few. I would be honored to receive your vote this coming election cycle.

Fraternally,

Craig LaChance

John McElhone (See statement on page 14)



George M. Poor

Dear MEBA Brothers and Sisters,

I request your vote for representative to the National MEBA Convention.

I have been part of the MEBA family since entering the Calhoun MEBA Engineering School in 1981. I have sailed on container ships, reserve fleet ships, tankers, and WA State Ferry vessels out of the Seattle Hall. I have worked for the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) for the past 15 years, currently as Chief Engineer aboard MV Fairweather, Juneau, AK.

I have worked on the AMHS Negotiating Committee for the past 7 years, the Inland Transportation Coalition for 2012 and 2013, and the 2013 MEBA Financial Review Committee. I am a graduate of the Calhoun MEBA Engineering School, and I have a Mechanical Engineering degree from the University of Washington.

One-third of the MEBA membership works on ferries and inland vessels and I want to ensure that this group has a voice at the NMEBA convention. I believe in prudent financial management and sound democratic policy. I will bring my experience and knowledge to work for all MEBA members, addressing the issues that impact our financial security and our work as professional Mariners.

I have worked with our current elected officials the past three years on preserving the defined benefit plan and protecting our jobs, and I will continue to battle the challenges facing the MEBA.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the men and women of the MEBA.

Fraternally,

George Poor

Election Campaign Mailing Service Instructions

Any request for a list(s) of District No. 1-PCD, M.E.B.A. membership mailing addresses from Headquarters for the purpose of M.E.B.A. election campaign related mailings, *must be made in writing*.

The request should specify whether a list of the entire M.E.B.A. membership or one or more subset(s) of the membership (i.e., by bargaining unit or geographical location), is needed. Please mail your request to the following address:

District No. 1-PCD, M.E.B.A.
Attention: Campaign Mailing List
444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20001-1570

Each request for a campaign mailing list **MUST BE ACCOMPANIED** by a check in the amount of \$100.00 per list per mailing. The check should be made payable to District No. 1-PCD, M.E.B.A. to cover the cost of producing the mailing list and sending the list via courier to the campaign mailing service.

The campaign mailing service will be provided by Accumail, Inc., the same company used in every M.E.B.A. election since 1995. The membership list will be sent from M.E.B.A. Headquarters directly to the campaign mailing service location and the candidate will at no time have direct access to the list. Any candidate requesting a mailing list is responsible for contacting Accumail to arrange payment for the direct mail services, including postage.

The mailing location is as follows:

Ms. Peg Dishong,
President
Accumail, Inc.
3381 "H" 75th Avenue
Landover, MD 20785
Phone No. (301) 322-4900/Fax No. (301) 322-4904

M.E.B.A. Headquarters will produce the mailing list(s) in a timely manner upon receiving the written request and accompanying check. Once the list has been produced, the address count will be made available in order for a candidate to know how many campaign pieces to produce and mail. The list(s) will be forwarded to Accumail immediately when the candidate's campaign materials arrive at Accumail and Accumail requests the list from M.E.B.A. Headquarters.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Eric Pittman at M.E.B.A. Headquarters. He can be reached at (202) 638-5355.

Ballot Mailing, Votes Counted Only for Members in Good Standing

Ballots will be mailed out on September 1, 2016. The Union urges all members to make sure Headquarters, not just Plans, has your correct address so that you receive your ballot. Address corrections should be in writing and can be sent to Headquarters by mail or faxed to (202) 638-5369. If you prefer to send them electronically, please

address your information to membership@mebaunion.org or fill out the Change of Address form on the M.E.B.A. website. Members should know that the M.E.B.A. Plans office in Baltimore and the Headquarters databases are NOT linked and information updated with Plans will not be represented on the Headquarters mailing list if HQ hasn't been informed of the address change.

The balloting period closes on November 30, 2016 – and ballots must be returned to the designated depository by that day. The ballot tabulation will take place on December 5, 2016. In order for your ballot to count, you must be in good standing (dues paid to December 31, 2016) on November 15, 2016. All members are urged to pay their dues to the end of 2016 (or beyond) as soon as possible.

Impartial Administrator & Duplicate Ballot Information

TrueBallot, Inc. is serving as the Impartial Administrator for the 2016 M.E.B.A. Election. If you are an M.E.B.A. member and do not receive a ballot – or yours has been lost or destroyed – you can request a duplicate ballot in writing. Contact the Impartial Administrator at:

TrueBallot, Inc.
3 Bethesda Metro Center
Suite 750
Bethesda, MD 20814
Office: (301) 656-9500
Fax: (301) 657-9776
Email: 0221301@trueballot.com

Please make sure you include your address to send the duplicate ballot. As stated in the M.E.B.A. By-Laws, if the original ballot and duplicate ballot are both cast, neither ballot shall count.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact M.E.B.A. Headquarters.

Ballot Counting – M.E.B.A. By-Laws – Article Ten, Section 4(a)

A Tallying Committee of five members and two alternates who are in attendance shall be elected at a special meeting held in the Ports of New York, New Orleans, Houston, Baltimore, Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles one week prior to the December meeting of the election year [*on November 28, 2016*]. One member shall be elected at each of the meetings at the New York Branch, Baltimore Branch, Seattle Branch, Los Angeles Branch and Houston Branch and one alternate shall be elected at each of the meetings at the New Orleans Branch and San Francisco Branch. No officer or candidate for office or job shall be eligible for election to this Committee.

The elected Tallying Committee of and the Impartial Administrator shall, on the morning of the regular December meeting [*December 5, 2016*], proceed to the depository and obtain all the ballots which shall be retained in the custody of the Tallying Committee and the Impartial Administrator until such time as the ballots are checked and counted.



M.E.B.A. DIRECTORY

Headquarters

444 North Capitol Street, N.W.,
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20001-1570
Office No. (202) 638-5355
Fax No. (202) 638-5369
mebahq@mebaunion.org
www.mebaunion.org

Government Fleet

Cell: (804) 614-8717
Office: (757) 440-1820
norfolk@mebaunion.org

PORTS

Baltimore

1003 Eastern Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21202
Office No. (410) 685-5353
Fax No. (410) 685-5355
baltimore@mebaunion.org

Boston

Marine Industrial Park
12 Channel Street, Ste. 606
Boston, MA 02210
Office No. (617) 261-2338
Fax No. (617) 261-2340
boston@mebaunion.org

Charleston

4706-A Spruill Avenue
North Charleston, SC 29405
Office No. (843) 744-5088
Fax No. (843) 744-4979
charleston@mebaunion.org

Cleveland

1250 Old River Rd.
3rd Floor
Cleveland, OH 44113
Office No. (216) 579-6322
Fax No. (216) 862-9669
cleveland@mebaunion.org

Honolulu

521 Ala Moana Blvd., Ste. 254
Honolulu, HI 96813
Office No. (808) 533-1910
Fax No. (808) 533-1911
honolulu@mebaunion.org

Houston

316 Broadway
Houston, TX 77012
Office No. (713) 923-9424
Fax No. (713) 923-2749
Houston@mebaunion.org

Jacksonville

349 E. 20th Street
Jacksonville, FL 32206
Office No. (904) 765-6100
Fax No. (904) 765-4050
Jacksonville@mebaunion.org

Los Angeles/Wilmington

533 N. Marine Avenue
Wilmington, CA 90744-5527
Office No. (310) 548-7358
Fax No. (310) 984-1409
Plans No. (310) 547-1264
losangeles@mebaunion.org

New Orleans

811 Carondelet Street
New Orleans, LA 70130-3707
Office No. (504) 523-1884
Fax No. (504) 523-6911
Plans No. (504) 523-5542
neworleans@mebaunion.org

New York/New Jersey

37 Edward Hart Drive
Jersey City, NJ 07305
Office No. (201) 433-7700
Fax No. (201) 433-7959
Plans No. (201) 433-8286
newyork@mebaunion.org
Ferry Rep.: belowdecks1@
hotmail.com
nydispatch@mebaunion.org

Norfolk

6325 North Center Drive
Suite 100
Norfolk, VA 23502
Office No. (757) 440-1820
Fax No. (757) 489-4126
Plans No. (757) 440-2427
norfolk@mebaunion.org

Oakland (San Francisco)

548 Thomas L. Berkley Way
Oakland, CA 94612
Office No. (510) 291-4912
Dispatcher No. (510) 291-4917
Fax No. (510) 835-0384
sanfrancisco@mebaunion.org

Seattle

5210 12th Street E.
Fife, Washington 98424
Office No. (206) 762-0803
Fax No. (206) 762-6163
Plans No. (206) 767-1955
Plans Fax No. (206) 767-1973
seattle@mebaunion.org
WSF - iseidman@mebaunion.org

Tampa

4333 South 50th Street
Tampa, FL 33619
Office No. (813) 247-7223
Fax No. (813) 247-6297
tampa@mebaunion.org

M.E.B.A. Divisions

City & Borough of Juneau (CBJ)

229 Fourth Street
Juneau, AK 99801
Office No. (907) 586-6040
Fax No. (907) 586-8216
alaska@mebaunion.org

Professional, Office & Industrial Division (POID)

21809 Longs Peak Ln.
Parker, CO 80138
(720) 283-1568
Fax: (720) 283-1569
poid@mebaunion.org

24 M.E.B.A. HOTLINE

1-888-519-0018

M.E.B.A. Plans

M.E.B.A. Benefit Plans

Ann Gilchrist, Acting
Administrator/Controller
1007 Eastern Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21202
Office No. (410) 547-9111
Fax No. (410) 385-1813
Toll Free No. (800) 811-6322
benefits@mebaplans.org
www.mebaplans.org

Training

Calhoon M.E.B.A.

Engineering School
Chuck Eser, Director
27050 St. Michaels Road
Easton, MD 21601
Office No. (410) 822-9600
Fax No. (410) 822-7220
info@mebaschool.org

Diagnostic Centers

Baltimore

1005 Eastern Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21202
Office No. (410) 547-9111 (x1278)
BaltimoreClinic@mebaplans.org

San Francisco/Oakland

548 Thomas L. Berkley Way,
1st Floor
Oakland, CA 94611
Office No. (510) 663-6810
Fax No. (510) 663-6818
OaklandClinic@mebaplans.org

M.E.B.A. Affiliates

Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs (ALADS)

George Hofstetter, President
Sean Van Leeuwen, Vice President
2 Cupania Circle
Monterey Park, CA 91755
Phone: (800) 452-5237
www.alads.org

California Association of Professional Employees (CAPE)

Carlos Clayton, President
Lisa Andres, Vice President
3018 E. Colorado Blvd.
Suite #200
Pasadena, CA 91107
Phone: (626) 243-0340
Fax: (626) 243-0368
www.capeunion.org

Ferry Agents, Supervisors and Project Administrators Association (FASPAA)

Dennis Duff, President
Michael Bunich, Treasurer
P.O. Box 16361
Seattle, WA 98116-0361
(206) 799-1874

Los Angeles County Lifeguard Association (LACoLA)

Ken Haskett, President
1140 Highland Ave., Suite 180
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
(310) 802-3565
www.lacola.org

Municipal Construction Inspectors Association (MCIA)

Johnny Yutronich, President
205 S. Broadway, Suite #508
Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 620-1402
www.mymcia.org

National Federation of Public and Private Employees

Daniel Reynolds, President
1700 N.W. 66th Ave., Suite 100
Plantation, FL 33313
(954) 797-7575
www.federationmembers.org

Professional Aviation Safety Specialists (PASS)

Michael Perrone, President
Richard Casey, National V.P.
1200 G Street N.W., Suite 750
Washington D.C. 20005
(202) 293-7277
www.passnational.org

Unión de Ingenieros Marinos (UIM) - Panama

Luis Yao Chaw,
Secretario General
Rolando Arrue, Press Secretary
P.O. Box 0843-00122
Panama,
Republic de Panama
Phone: 011-507-314-0302
abim_meba@cwpanama.net

American Maritime Congress (AMC)

James Caponiti, President
Diane Luensmann,
Maritime Policy Director
444 North Capitol Street, N.W.
Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20001
Office No: (202) 347-8020
Fax: (202) 347-1550
www.americanmaritime.org

International Transport Workers Federation (ITF)

Anthony P. Sasso, ITF Inspector
P.O. Box 321021
Cocoa Beach, FL 32932
Office No. (321) 784-0686
Cell No. (321) 258-8217
Fax No. (321) 784-0522
sasso_tony@itf.org.uk