



Marine Chemist Association, Inc.

76 Farmholme Road ■ Stonington, CT. 06378

P (860) 599-3079 ■ F (860) 599-3079 ■ dvraff@comcast.net

March 2014

ANNUAL SEMINAR UPDATE



**Aria Hotel
Las Vegas
July 21-23, 2014**

The 56th Annual Marine Chemist Association Seminar will be held at the Aria Hotel and Spa in Las Vegas this summer. The theme of this year's seminar will be LNG as fuel. As many of you know the next fuel in the maritime industry will be LNG. Every periodical you read mentions LNG whether it is in ferries, tankers or bunker barges, it is coming. The speakers at this seminar will bring together various areas of expertise to provide you with the information needed to safely conduct inspections on LNG fueled vessels. While I do not have full biographies or detailed presentation summaries, we have some of the leading LNG experts in the US scheduled to attend. Speakers planning to attend:

Joe Mckechnie

Mr. Mckechnie has worked in all aspects of the LNG Industry, from Regulator (Retired USCG Officer), to Regulate' (Ex Senior Vice President of Shipping for GDF SUEZ), now on the Teekay LNG Board of Directors, and an independent Consultant working with various firms helping them gain access to the up and coming LNG Bunkering market.

John Hatley

Mr. Hatley PE, Americas Vice President Ship Power for Wartsila North America, has over 30 years of combined marine experience spanning business development, project management of domestic and overseas vessel construction, owner's representation, ship operations, and vessel design. Prior to joining Wartsila he held positions with GE Transportation, Marine Industries Northwest, First American Bulk Carriers, John J. McMullen Naval Architects, US Container Lines, and Trinidad Tankers. He is a licensed Chief Engineer with 8 years sea experience onboard commercial ships in

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global trades, the last 2 years serving as Chief Engineer. He has a BS degree from the US Merchant Marine Academy Kings Point Dual License Program, an MSE Naval Architecture Marine Engineering from the University of Michigan, and an MBA from the University of Washington. He holds positions of trust on various industry plus academic advisory boards and was the recipient of the 2008 Rear Admiral McCready Award for Outstanding Achievement in Marine Engineering.

Tony Teo

Technology and Business Director, Region Americas DNV GL – Maritime where he specializes in LNG as a fuel. He has written the following articles. LNG Carriers Containment Systems SNAME magazine, LNG Fuel Infrastructure in North America, Energy Efficiency for Ships

Greg Denton

Business Development Manager, GTT North America, Inc. Mr. Denton will discuss the various types of storage systems used for LNG fuel.

Rich Delpizzo

Mr. Delpizzo works out of the Washington, D.C office for ABS and will speak on ABS's role in LNG for fuel design.

Johan Sperling

Mr. Sperling works for Crowley Marine in Seattle where they are involved in several aspects of LNG for fuel.

USCG Seattle

The Seattle unit of the Coast Guard has promised to send a speaker who is working with LNG. Due to their schedules they were not able to confirm exactly who will attend.

Amy Wangdahl,

OSHA's Director of Maritime and Agricultural Standards will provide an update on maritime issues

Flights into Vegas are very reasonable and the room rates we obtained will make the stay at the Aria enjoyable, affordable and fun. To get a good rate for the rooms the MCA had to guarantee that a block of rooms would be sold. **So, for the first time if you are not booking with the hotel and mentioning the MCA room code you will be charged extra for the seminar. If you stay at the hotel and book through a service such as Orbitz, Travelocity or a similar site you will not be eligible for the discount.** You must be on the hotel's MCA master list to get the discount. The call in number for reservations is as follows.

1-866-359-7757

Reference the meeting name:

MCA 2014 - Marine Chemists 56th Conference

Or the Block Code: MCA14

The cut-off date for reservations is: June 26, 2014 (If you book after this date you will be charged the extra \$200.00 seminar fee and the room rate will no longer be guaranteed.)

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View from one of the Aria's rooms



ANNUAL SEMINAR SOCIAL EVENTS

Your wives and girlfriends have repeatedly asked what will the social events be so I can pack what I need. So, if they do not get this information, well you know who I will blame. The weather will be hot and the hotel has a large pool area with three pools and hot tubs, along with a spa, so pack your suits.

On Monday morning we will have our welcoming breakfast at the hotel with a local keynote speaker. This will be followed by a ladies tour to the Las Vegas Mob and Law Enforcement Museum. This is a very interesting museum suitable for all ages and will take about 1.5 hours. It will be followed by a luncheon at the Triple G's restaurant has a 30's style theme.

Monday evening the Pacific section will host a cocktail party and reception in our hospitality suite. The suite has a great view and I am sure the Pacific section will be great hosts.

On Tuesday the ladies will have a continental breakfast in the hospitality suite and are then free during the day to shop and explore. The Aria has a tram which goes to nearby shopping areas and its sister casino. There is plenty to do. On Tuesday night we will gather in the Julian Serrano tapas restaurant just outside the hotel lobby to enjoy a variety of small plates. This will be followed by the Cirque Du Soleil show Zarkana. A great show suitable for all ages.

On Wednesday the continental breakfast will be available in the hospitality suite. Our breakaway luncheon will be held in the hotel to end the seminar.



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The possibilities for fun in Vegas are endless, and remember, what happens in Vegas...



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
MARCH 9, 2014**

The MCA Executive Committee met in Houston on March 9, 2014. Some of the topics which were discussed are outlined in the sections below. If you wish more detail on these issues contact either your sectional representative or the MCA secretary.



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LNG ENDORSEMENT

About half of the certified chemists have the LNG endorsement. With the advent of LNG as fuel this becomes especially important as the endorsement starts to become confusing. For example if you did not have the endorsement you not would be able to conduct an inspection on an LNG bunker barge as shown below, but you would be able to do an inspection on the LNG powered tug pushing it.



In order to try and eliminate this confusion your executive board has made the following decision. They are asking any chemist who does not have the endorsement to read the module and then contact Larry's Secretary Jill and take an open book test. The hope is that we can go to MCQB and state that all chemists have taken and passed the LNG test and request that they modify the requirement to attend a class with a simulator or do an actual LNG inspection to become certified for LNG. If this happens the special LNG endorsement may be dropped and all new chemists will take the module and be certified. This will also require that 306 be amended. A copy of the LNG module will be attached to the email and also be available of the MCA website. Please if you do not have the endorsement consider reading the module and taking the test. As a consequence of this decision, the course at MITAGS will not be offered next year.

SECTIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Three new sectional representatives were elected to a two year term at the recent sectional meetings, they are;

Phil Giles 670 Atlantic
David Hughes 653 Gulf Inland
Michael Schmitt 711 Pacific

MCA DIRECTORY

A hardworking Tom Littlepage created a new version of the Marine Chemist Directory. This is the one which contains our history, by-laws and wives names. The initial copies were distributed at the seminars and will be handed out at the annual also. Many thanks to Tom for his work on this.

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WEBSITE

The updated version of our by-laws has been placed on our website. Please take a look at our website. I continue to update and change it and place more information on it. Any suggestions for improvement are always welcome. Be sure your contact information is up to date, I get many calls for chemists and I refer everyone to the site.

SCHOLARSHIP

Our scholarship has undergone some changes. The first change is that it will be called the Edward J. Willwerth Marine Chemist Memorial Scholarship.

The second change is that we have opened it up to high school freshman entering college, and to college freshman, sophomores and juniors. We have placed a maximum yearly limit of \$5000.00 per person and maximum of \$20,000 for an individual over their years of eligibility. The application criteria remain the same. Eligible applicants may apply each year they meet the criteria.

The scholarship form and criteria for eligibility criteria can be found on our website, so if you have a son or daughter or grandson or grand-daughter and they meet the criteria, I encourage you to have them apply. The application deadline is May 1, 2014.

ALL CMC EMAIL USE

Please be aware that when using the allcmc email option that the email recipient's include the MCQB and Gas Hazard Control Program members. Your executive board wanted ensure you are aware of this.

INSURANCE

During the sectional meetings our insurance representatives notified us that our new carrier Wells Fargo has made the option available to craft our own certificates of insurance. You must call Wells Fargo and set this up with them.

PERSONALLY DETERMINE

During the recent seminars NFPA gave a presentation on three incidents during the past year where chemists were suspended for their actions. In all cases we were told that they stemmed from a failure to personally determine conditions. The Navy and USCG were involved and testified in some of the cases. Your executive board is very concerned with the potential loss of trust by two of our important customers. The board is supporting both NFPA and the MCQB on this issue and will be attempting to raise awareness about the meaning of personally determine and doing a proper visual inspection. We are a small group and any loss of trust can potentially affect us all. These incidents went before the MCQB where the Navy, OSHA, USCG and industry members reviewed each incident. We all should be concerned with any loss of trust by these members.



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YOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
PHILIP DOVINH CHAIRMAN
ROBBIE WALKER CHAIRMAN ELECT
TOM LITTLEPAGE PAST CHAIR

ATLANTIC SECTION
GREG GRONDIN
PHIL GILES

GULF INLAND
GEOFF GENNY
DAVID HUGHES

PACIFIC
JOHN EDGAR
MIKE SCHMITT

DON RAFFO SECRETARY/TREASURER, LES BLAIZE ASST. SECRETARY TREASURER

Respectfully submitted
Don Raffo
Secretary/Treasurer MCA

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR ANNUAL SEMINAR REGISTRATION FORM



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The registration form will also be posted on the website. Hope to see everyone in Vegas. It promises to be a great seminar.

What happens in Vegas!!!



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2014 ANNUAL SEMINAR REGISTRATION FORM

56th ANNUAL SEMINAR

JULY 21-23

Aria Hotel

3730 S Las Vegas Blvd

Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

1-866-359-7757

Reference the meeting name:

MCA 2014 – Marine Chemists 56th Conference

Or the Block Code: MCA14

The cut-off date for reservations is: June 26, 2014 (If you book after this date you will be charged the extra \$200.00 seminar fee and the room rate will no longer be guaranteed.)

Category	Pre-Pay by June 26, 2014	After June 26, 2014
MCA Member or Industry Member *	\$575.00	\$700.00
MCA Member or Industry Member Registered in MCA Room Block**	\$375.00	\$500.00
Non-Member**	\$975.00	\$ 1075.00
Family/Guests***	\$150.00***	\$200.00***

*MCA Members, Navy GFE, USCG, Industrial Sector

** Non-Member CMC or Trainee, ***Social Activities Only, Children under 12 free

In order to get the discounted rate you **must** be staying at the Aria and registered with the block or seminar code. Booking through a travel site will not make you eligible for the \$200 discount.

Name/CMC#	
Address	
Town/State/Zip	
Family or Guest Name	
Family or Guest Name	
Family or Guest Name	
# of Children Under	

Please send check made out to the Marine Chemist Association along with this registration form to:

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Seminar attendants must make their own hotel reservations

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