# SAFETY LINE





# Keystone Shipping Co. Welcomes New Jones-Act Vessels to the Fleet

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In December 2022, Keystone Shipping Co. welcomed three Jones-Act tankers to the fleet under three-year bareboat charter agreements. The charters are secured by back-to-back time charters of the same duration between Keystone and major U.S. based oil and refinery groups Motiva Enterprises and Sun Oil Company.

In a June 12, 2022 publishing by MarineLog Magazine, AMSC (Formerly American Shipping Company) CEO Pål Lothe Magnussen, representing the vessel owners, commented, "...Chartering our vessels to a premium U.S. tanker operator like Keystone gives us a great deal of confidence that our vessels will be operated and maintained to the highest standards in order to serve U.S. oil companies' transportation needs going forward."

At the same time, Keystone officially welcomed the Bob Hope into the fleet under a General Agency Agreement from the Maritime Administration. This transition was particularly challenging due to the fact that not only was this a turnover of vessel operators, it was also a change of ownership from the Military Sealift Command to the Maritime Administration. The Bob Hope is a Bob Hope class Large, Medium Speed Roll-On/Roll-Off vessel (LMSR) and measures approximately 950ft in length.

The tankers, named Seakay Star, Seakay Sky, and Seakay Valor are engaged in the trade of refined petroleum products between US Gulf Coast and US East Coast Ports. The Bob Hope is berthed in Reduced Operating Status in Portland, Oregon, awaiting activation orders.

The entire Keystone team has worked tirelessly and diligently over the last year to successfully integrate these vessels and crews into the fleet. We are proud of this new opportunity to return to the tanker business and we look forward to working with the new crews of these vessels on projects moving forward.

# Keystone & Key Lakes Officer's Seminar February 6th-10th, 2023



We are excited to announce the return of our annual Keystone and Key Lakes Officer's Seminar which took place at Lido Beach Resort in Sarasota, FL from February 6th–10th, 2023. This followed a two-year hiatus of the seminar while the Coronavirus pandemic created general uncertainty worldwide.

The Seminar kicked off Monday, Feb 6th with a cocktail reception outside in the newly added Sunset Sand Garden followed by a Kick-Off Dinner in the Royal Palm Ballroom where guest speaker Dr. Salvatore Mercogliano gave a very entertaining presentation and discussion on the history of the Jones Act. Both functions were a great success as sailors from all fleets were gathered together getting a chance to know each other better.

The following day kicked off just as it does every year with our Safety State of the Union presentation followed by the official kick-off of our training and breakout discussion sessions. Throughout the course of the week there were some very important topics discussed such as a Trauma-Informed Key Responder Training Session facilitated by RAINN — the operator of the National Sexual Assault Hotline; a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion training session; an informative training session on Confined Space Entry from Larry Russell of the NFPA, Onboard Investigations, Communication, I.T Workstation Security, among many others as well as roundtable discussions for each of the fleets with Office Senior Management.

On Wednesday afternoon it was time for some fun! A beach party was arranged for all with live music by D.J. Al Garcia, food, games, and adult beverages. It was great to see all involved come together to let loose and interact for a number of hours. The competition was lively as four sets of cornhole were the main attraction in use for the entire four hours with some intense battles! Some opted for some relaxation on the beach chairs scattered throughout, while a couple even braved the waters.

We hope that everyone enjoyed themselves and found the lessons valuable. A big thanks to all presenters who came from all over to help us give our sailors the best information possible. We would also like to thank all those that made this event possible with months of planning.

Most importantly, we would like to thank our attendees. Keystone would not be what it is without its mariners as well as their significant others providing them with the support they need. We thank you for everything you do and are looking forward to a successful year!

# Captain Lewis Ludington Award Winner

Key Lake's General Manager, Ken Gerasimos (pictured far right) was one of two Great Lakes mariners who received the prestigious Captain Lewis Ludington Award recently during the annual Blessing of the Fleet at Mariners Church in Detroit, MI. The other award recipient was Mark Mather, captain of VanEnkevort Tug & Barge's Clyde S. VanEnkevort/Erie Trader.

Following in the footsteps of his father, Ken Gerasimos worked his way up the hawsepipe and sailed as third mate on all five of the Ford Motor Co. freighters. He was the last third mate on the original Benson Ford prior to its decommissioning.

The Lewis Ludington Award was established by the Ludington Family and Mariners' Church in 1994. Over the years, over 90 shipmasters have been recognized for their contributions to the maritime industry on the Great Lakes. The program is under the auspices of the rector and board of trustees of Mariners' Church and the Ludington Family, with the nominations and election of the honorees by Detroit Lodge No. 7 of the International Ship Masters' Association.



# **Cape Ray Activation**

(Article by Chris Myers, Cape Race Ch. Eng.) On August 12, 2022, only 15 days after successfully completing turbo activation TA 22-2, the Cape Ray received activation orders. The mission, titled 11 ECAB, was to carry equipment and supplies for the 11th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade which is part of the United States Army Reserve.

The vessel's crewing began on August 12 with food stores, fuel, lube oil, and additional supplies being delivered over the next week. The vessel sailed under the command of Captain Robert Sundius III from its home port of Portsmouth, Virginia on August 19. The Cape Ray got underway for Souda Bay, Greece to pick up the twelve member Embarked Security Intelligence Team 12 (ESIT 12) as well as two tactical advisors (TACAD's) that are part of the U.S. Navy Reserve Strategic Sealift Officers (SSO) program.

The vessel transited the Suez Canal on September 8 and arrived in the load port of Shuaiba, Kuwait on September 19. The deck crew, under the guidance of Chief Mate Bart Rylek and Bosun Johnny Dozier working in very hot and sandy conditions, assisted the long shoreman in loading 819 pieces of cargo, including 45 helicopters. The Cape Ray departed from Kuwait on September 24.

After a northbound transit of the Suez Canal on October 4, the Cape Ray anchored in Souda Bay on October 6 to disembark the ESIT 12 team members and their gear as well to pick up a new set of TACADs. The vessel then sailed for Rota, Spain where they spent two days receiving additional fuel and supplies. The Cape Ray got underway for the discharge port on October 13.

The navigation team, led by 2/M Kenneth Pettine, charted the course back across the Atlantic, through the Hole-in-the-Wall, and then onto Corpus Christi, Texas with an early arrival on October 27. The cargo arrived safely and was offloaded with all helicopters flown directly from the discharge port. The new permanent 1st A/E Bryan Higgins joined the vessel in Corpus Christi and the vessel departed again on October 31, for its homeport of Portsmouth, VA.

The Cape Ray arrived back to Portsmouth on November 5 and successfully completed the vessel's 88-day mission on November 7. During this trip, the steward's department was challenged to keep the food hot and plentiful. With, at times, 47 persons to feed and no additional staff, the four-person department led by Chief Steward Adele George and Chief Cook Esper Jordan did an amazing job.

The engine department, led by Chief Engineer Christopher Myers, 1st A/E Samuel Orengo (permanent C/E of Cape Rise), 2nd A/E Chase Reidelbach, along with Oiler Korrey Green and GUDE Terrance Copeland worked professionally and diligently to keep the main propulsion and auxiliary machinery operating smoothly throughout the duration of the voyage and in port kept the cargo gear moving during the almost round the clock operations. The department had two recent graduates of Massachusetts Maritime Academy sailing on their first ship as well as two Kings Points cadets.

Throughout the mission, there were zero marine casualties, CASREP's, or injuries. Other than fuel oil, there were no requests for additional lube oil or potable water nor slop removal. This success is in part due to the hard work and due diligence of all departments on the Cape Ray, as well as port engineer Tim Scott, and the efforts of the vessel's owner MARAD to invest in machinery and equipment upgrades.

Many thanks to Keystone's shore-based staff, port engineer Tim Scott, Captain Sundius, Chief Engineer Myers, and the officers and crew of the Cape Ray for working together to successfully complete another mission sailing under the Keystone flag.





**Top Left:** Cape Ray crew enjoy a steel beach picnic while underway

Bottom Left: Helicopters secure in cargo hold for transit

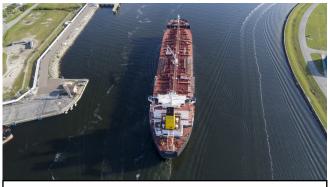
**Right:** Rolling stock and containers on UTD while underway



# Keystone Shipping Co. Welcomes New Jones-Act Vessels to the Fleet (Continued from Cover Page)



Seakay Star sitting pierside in Tampa, after KSC takeover



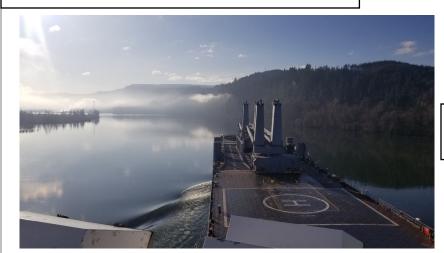
Seakay Valor outbound Tampa



Bob Hope docked in Portland, OR on a snowy winter day



Seakay Sky sitting pierside in Tampa, after KSC takeover



Bob Hope transiting the Columbia River on its way to Portland, OR

Bob Hope sitting at Berth in

Portland, OR

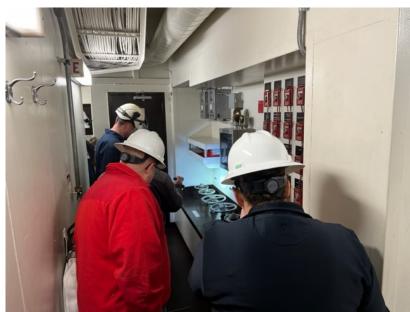


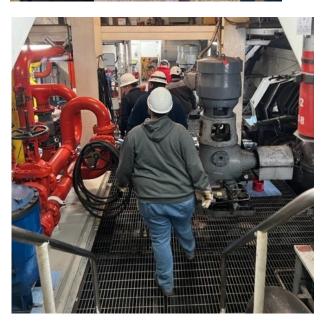
# Fire Department Walk-Throughs

On January 10, 2023, representatives of the USCG and Sturgeon Bay Fire Department did a walk through on the Edwin H. Gott at Fincantieri Shipyard in Sturgeon Bay, WI. The purpose of the visit was to educate first responders on the Gott's lay-up procedures and get an overview of winter work being completed should an emergency response be needed.



Photos provided by Rich Laskey, Port Captain









### Cape Diamond Hosts USCG Memorial Service



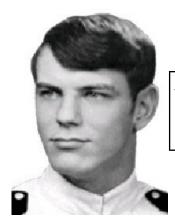


MARAD Administrator addresses guests inside the cargo holds of the Cape Diamond.

On O3 March 2023, the Cape Diamond hosted a memorial service for Lieutenant Commander Turek, who was a Coast Guard Marine Inspector, killed while performing activation inspections on the Cape Diamond in 1993 when the carbon dioxide fixed fire suppression system discharged a higher concentration of the gas than originally anticipated. LCDR Turek was awarded the Coast Guard Medal (posthumously) for his heroic actions to save those working in the engine room at the time. In attendance at the memorial service were MARAD Administrator Rear Admiral Ann C. Philips, South Carolina Senator Tim Scott, South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster, and a host of other distinguished guests, family members, and Keystone Shipping Co. employees.

At the time of his death, LCDR Turek was completing a week-long reactivation of the Cape Diamond and was intimately familiar with the vessel, especially the engineering spaces. One of the last tests prior to departure of the vessel was a test of the carbon dioxide fire extinguishing system which protected the engine room and other spaces aboard the vessel. This test was designed to release a small amount of carbon dioxide into the engine room to show proper functioning of the alarms. Once he realized that more than the anticipated release of carbon dioxide was being discharged into the Engine Room space, potentially creating a lethal atmosphere to those working there, Lieutenant Commander Turek disregarded his own safety and entered the engine room to warn other workers of the hazard, immediately ordering them to evacuate. In his attempt to save the others, Lieutenant Commander Turek himself became a victim of carbon dioxide asphyxiation, sacrificing his own life.

Cape Diamond crew members, with minimal contractor and USCG support, accomplished an outstanding job - often working overtime to ensure the Memorial Service was well received and the ship was at its best for the arrival of all guests attending the service.



William Turek graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, Connecticut, Class of 1972. He died in 1993 in the action that earned him the Coast Guard Medal.

### Pictures From Around the Fleet



Left and Bottom Left: ATB Millville/1964 looking fresh after a new coat of paint, top to bottom

Bottom Right: Arthur Anderson in Winter Lay-Up





Key Lakes Senior Stewards Peder Oase (left) and Carrie Lewton (right), proudly display their deliciouslooking creations at the AMO Star Training Center





Key Lakes Officers James Engebretson, John Lanz, Kyle Seegers, and Ken Senff attend Bridge Resource Management training at AMO Star Center



# Strong Opening to the Great Lakes 2023 Sailing Season

The Captain and the crew of the Edwin H. Gott were recently celebrated for being the "First Ship of the 2023 Sailing Season" to pass through the Soo Locks connecting Lake Superior and Lake Huron. Onboard, they welcomed various local dignitaries including the Mayor, Chief of Police, State Representatives, a host of US Army Corps of Engineer workers and project managers, Board Members, and local news and radio crews to accept various awards and congratulatory messages.

We are starting the season off strong by being number one at the locks, thanks to hard work from the vessel crews, shoreside office staff and management, and winter workers in the engineering departments, all working together to make this possible.











# DESIGNATED PERSON ASHORE: Who, What, Where, When & Why?



The Designated Person Ashore, also known as the DPA, is the person ashore appointed by the Company under its Safety Management System, having direct access to the highest level of management at any time. This link between the Company and vessel personnel provides safety concerns to be addressed by upper management in a timely manner.

The responsibility and authority of the DPA includes, but is not limited to, monitoring the safety, security, and pollution prevention aspects of each vessel's operation and ensuring that Company crews operate in the best interest of safety and efficiency, including compliance with the Company's Safety Management System.

The DPA is available for contact all hours of the day. Details on how to reach the DPA and examples of when to contact this person are located below, as well as posted onboard each ship.

#### Examples of when to contact the Designated Person:

- Safety concerns or environmental issues are brought to the attention of your supervisor but are ignored or do not appear in the minutes of the regular Safety Committee minutes
- Falsification of log books and/or records
- Unreported pollution incidents or risk of pollution
- Improper dumping or disposal of vessel's waste
- Familiarization training not conducted
- STCW violations



#### Designated Person Ashore (DPA) Contact Info:

E-mail: dcarroll@keyship.com

Phone: 1-610-617-6874 (office) or 484-343-4209 (cell)

E-mail: rquigley@keyship.com (Keystone Risk Manager) Phone: 1-973-939-3673 (office) or 201-988-9396 (cell)



# Industry Appreciation for Keystone Employees

After receiving the Seakay Star for the first time here at Tampa, we were highly impressed by not only the professionalism of the crew, time efficiency, and overall safety of the discharge. All radio communications were always performed in a prompt and professional manner. From mooring time to release; safety and communication were observe at all times. Tampa welcomes them to the team—**MOTIVA Aramco Terminal, Tampa** 

Keystone's elevated posture in EMBARC displays the devotion Keystone has towards the respect, care, guidance and the superb leadership provided to our midshipman during their tours in our ships. Keystone's professionalism and leadership in implementing and adhering to EMBRAC is to be commended.—Jerry Bradley, MARAD

BZ for your guidance and efforts in making the LCDR Turek Memorial Service on 3MAR23 a great success. DIA with minimal contractor and USCG support accomplished an outstanding job, often working overtime, to ensure the Memorial Service was well received and the Ship was at its best for the arrival of the MA, CUSCG and other USCG Flag Officers that boarded DIA to attend the service. I would like to commend DIA 1AE, 2AE Pryor, BOSUN, GVA and GUDE for the fine work each accomplished in preparing DIA for the Memorial Service. Also, DIA Electrician who scrambled after hours, on his on time, the day before the service to obtain the commodities and substances required by the DIA Steward, who with less than 24 hours' notice, was directed to prepare noon meal for the MA and her party. DIA Steward prepared a most delicious noon meal for the MA who will long remember and relate same to CAPE DIAMOND. BZ! - Jerry Bradley, MARAD

# Happy Retirement William Hornung!

On January 9, 2023, we bid farewell to Bill Hornung, as he turned over Management position to Michael Scatina and began what we hope will be a happy and healthy retirement.

Bill Horning joined the Kurz Organization in April, 1985 with the Chas. Kurz & Co., Inc. agency and then transferred over to Keystone Shipping Co. July 1986 as a Shipping and Receiving Clerk at 313 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia until August 1988, he was promoted to Assistant Expediter in the Purchasing Department: then moved to the Chartering Department as a Traffic Coordinator in August 1995. In October 1998, Bill returned to the Purchasing Department as a Purchasing Agent, before being promoted to Purchasing Manager in January 2005. Bill was responsible for the day to day management of the Purchasing Department and procurement of goods and services for all vessels in the Keystone fleet – a very important but at times thankless job.

After 38 years in the business, we all wish Bill and his wife, Betsy, enjoy the endless freedom. Happy Retirement!



# Final Departures from Keystone

It is with profound sadness and heavy hearts that we mourn the passing of Lorraine Strawder-Spain who passed away on

January 7th, 2023.

Lorraine joined Keystone Shipping in February 1999 and was a valuable member of the Accounting Department. She will be greatly missed by all her coworkers. Please keep Lorraine's family in your thoughts and prayers as

they go through this difficult time.