

CLOSE WINDOW



**April 2004**

**AROUND THE PORT . . .**

**In celebration of World Trade Week, the Port of Long Beach is hosting free harbor cruises on Saturday, May 8, offering a close-up waterside look at one of the world's leading ports.**

The 90-minute narrated tours will depart every half hour beginning at 9 a. m. and continuing throughout the day, with the last departure at 2:30 p. m. The boats will depart from the Pine Avenue Pier located between the Aquarium of the Pacific and Shoreline Village in downtown Long Beach. Come early! More than 1,500 visitors are expected. There are no advance reservations. Free time-specific tickets for each of the cruises are available on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 8:30 a.m. May 8 at the Port's information booth next to the Pine Avenue Pier. In the past, all tickets were handed out by mid-day.

Visitors may park at the Aquarium of the Pacific parking garage at Shoreline Drive and Chestnut Avenue. Parking validation will be at the Port's information booth.

**After five-straight strong months, trade volumes dipped in February, with the total number of cargo containers shipped through the Port of Long Beach slipping to the equivalent of 314,749 twenty-foot-long container units, down 2.4 percent from February 2003.**

Having raced in recent months to catch up with surprisingly strong economic growth in the second half of 2003, importers cut back on orders in February. Imports at the Port, largely consumer goods, fell 3.1 percent to 153,995 twenty-foot-equivalent units (TEUs).

Exports, mostly raw materials for Asia, remained strong, climbing 13.8 percent to 76,963 TEUs.

Empties, nearly all headed overseas to be re-filled with products,

dropped 12.8 percent to 83,791 TEUs.

**The Port has launched a web site, [www.aapa2004.com](http://www.aapa2004.com), with information on the 93rd Annual Convention of the American Association of Port Authorities, which will be held Sept. 26-30 in Long Beach.**

Hosted by the Port of Long Beach, the weeklong convention will attract more than 1,000 delegates and others from seaports throughout the United States, Canada, the Caribbean and Latin America.

The convention includes technical and policy meetings, business sessions and social events. Registration information also is available at (818) 712-0545.

**On March 9, Mediterranean Shipping's 5,000-TEU container ship, the *MSC Eleni*, made its maiden voyage to the SSA Terminal's facility at Pier A.**

The *Eleni* is a narrow-beam vessel, 13 containers wide, and 964 feet long — among the world's largest container ships able to transit through the Panama Canal.

The *Eleni* is deployed in MSC's Golden Gate Service, calling in the Far East in South Korea, southern China, Hong Kong, Ningbo and Tokyo before crossing the Pacific to Long Beach. From Long Beach it sails to Mexico, through the Panama Canal to the Bahamas, Miami, New York, Savannah, back to the Bahamas, the Panama Canal, Mexico and Long Beach before returning to the Far East.

**Two of U.S. Lines' 1,700-TEU container ships, the *Troyburg* on March 9 and the *Terra Lumina* on March 22, made their first calls at the Total Terminals International facility at Pier T.**

The vessels are part of a fixed-day weekly service with calls in southern China, Hong Kong and Long Beach.

Taking on the name of one of the older ocean carriers, U.S. Lines is among the newest entrants to the transpacific trade.

**Mitsui O.S.K. Line's *Queen Ace* made its first voyage to SSA Marine's Crescent Terminals facility at Pier F, carrying the first shipment of more than 2,400 Mercedes Benz automobiles.**

Under a new two-year agreement with the Port, Mercedes is planning to ship more than 60,000 German-made vehicles a year through Long Beach. The automobiles are being trucked from the Crescent facility to a temporary storage yard on Pier B Street, and then taken to Mercedes' processing facility in Carson.

**Orient Overseas Container Line's newest 8,000-TEU container ship, the *OOCL Hamburg*, arrived on March 26 during its maiden voyage**

## to Long Beach Container Terminal on Pier F.

Built by Samsung Heavy Industries in South Korea, the *OOCL Hamburg* is the second 8,000-TEU vessel to call in Long Beach and the United States. The first was the *OOCL Long Beach*, which called at LBCT last summer. The Hamburg is part of a Grand Alliance service calling in Long Beach, Taiwan, Hong Kong, southern China, Singapore and Malaysia.

The 8,000-TEU *OOCL Ningbo* is set to call in Long Beach beginning this summer.

## China Ocean Shipping Co. has launched a new Shanghai to Long Beach weekly direct service, its China Long Beach Express (CLX) service.

Four 1,700-TEU vessels, the *Ling Yun He*, *Teng Yun He*, *Fei Yun He* and *Qing Yun*

He, have been deployed on the service, which is the only shuttle on the transpacific trade solely serving Shanghai and Long Beach and no other ports.

Offering a transpacific transit time of 12 days, the vessels are calling at the Pacific Container Terminal at Pier J.

## Clarifying a statement in which the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission asserted “exclusive jurisdiction” over a proposed liquefied natural gas (LNG) import terminal in Long Beach, Long Beach officials reaffirmed their key role in making the final decision on the project.

In a dispute with the California Public Utilities Commission over jurisdiction, FERC claimed “exclusive jurisdiction” over an application by a Mitsubishi Corp. subsidiary to build an LNG terminal on Terminal Island.

But in addition to approval from FERC, the LNG terminal project also will need a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, an amendment to the Port’s land-use master plan from the California Coastal Commission, and approval from the Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners to lease the site on Terminal Island.

“There is no such thing as “exclusive jurisdiction” for this project,” said Harbor Commission President **John Hancock**.

“FERC approval is meaningless without a lease from Long Beach. And the only way we can approve a lease is if our board has certified an EIR (environmental impact report), addressed impacts and adopted an amendment to our Master Plan (which also needs Coastal Commission approval).

“FERC’s role is very important, but clearly, the primary determination of whether this project goes forward will be made locally.”

**In a letter dated May 8, 2003, the Port agreed to give Mitsubishi subsidiary Sound Energy Solutions up to 37 months to seek permits and approvals for its LNG project.**

**During this period, the Port agreed to not consider other uses for the property. However, the letter states that there will be no local commitment or decision regarding the project until environmental reviews are completed.**

Drafts of the federal environmental impact statement and state environmental impact report are scheduled for release this May or June. Public hearings will follow. Final environmental reports are expected in the fall when FERC, the Army Corps of Engineers, Coastal Commission and Harbor Commission would decide whether to approve the project.

**Jeff Brashares, president of Pacer Global Logistics' Transportation Services Division, will be the speaker at an April 6 luncheon hosted by the Los Angeles Transportation Club at the Marriott Norwalk Hotel. For more information, call (562) 856-9197.**

**Assemblymember Alan Lowenthal will be the speaker at the Harbor Association of Industry and Commerce luncheon April 8 at the Coast Long Beach Hotel. For more information, call (818) 951-6088.**

**Mike Dempsey of RedPrairie Corp. will discuss Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) and Container Management at an April 8 dinner hosted by the Harbor Transportation Club. For more information call (562) 434-7393.**

**The Propeller Club is hosting its annual Secretaries Day harbor cruise at 11:15 a.m. April 21, departing from Berth 77 at Ports O' Call Village in San Pedro. For information, call (818) 951-2842.**

**Coast Guard Capt. Peter Neffenger and Customs Seaport Director Vera Adams will be the speakers at a Harbor Association of Industry and Commerce breakfast discussion on port security on April 29.**

The 8 a.m. event will be held at the Sheraton Los Angeles Harbor Hotel in San Pedro. For more information, call (818) 951-6088.

## **PORT PEOPLE . . .**

**The Port of Long Beach has presented its Honorary Port Pilot Award to China Ocean Shipping Co. Group President Capt. Wei Jiafu for his "significant accomplishments in international trade."**

The award was given to Wei, who has headed COSCO since 1998, at a special dinner in his honor. Wei is the 72nd person to receive the Port's

highest award. Others include President **Ronald Reagan**.

**The Pacific Maritime Association has named its Chief Operating Officer Jim McKenna to succeed President and CEO Joe Miniace.**

Miniace, who resigned after seven years with the organization of ocean carriers and terminal operators, led the group during the 2002 negotiations and lockout that resulted in a landmark accord with the International Longshore and Warehouse Union.

McKenna, a 30-year industry veteran and former executive with Sea-Land and its successor shipping lines, joined the PMA last year.

**With the International Transportation Service facilities at Piers G and J as his stage, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger on March 10 introduced a newly formed private-sector group to help improve the business climate in California.**

The new nonprofit California Commission for Jobs and Economic Growth will help recruit new businesses to California, and help the state to retain current businesses.

**The Pacific Merchant Shipping Association has named Michelle Sorensen Grubbs as a vice president. She will work with Vice President Tom Teofilo in the PMSA's Southern California office.**

Grubbs was previously with Prenova, a company that sold energy contracts to businesses, and aerospace giant McDonnell Douglas Corp.

**In his new book, UC San Diego urban studies professor Steven Erie argues that public infrastructure, particularly the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, have been vital to Southern California's growth and transformation into a global economy.**

Erie will be signing copies of his history of the ports and Los Angeles International Airport, "Global L.A. – Trade, Infrastructure and Regional Development," at 7 p.m. May 6 at the Croatian Cultural Center, 510 W. 7th St., San Pedro.

**Two new wharfingers have joined the Port's Trade and Maritime Services Division: Michael Murphy and Gene Kusaka.**

Murphy is a retired U.S. Army first sergeant with more than 26 years in the military and significant logistics and property management experience. Kusaka has eight years of experience in tug and barge operations, and container terminal cost analysis.

**The Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners has honored Port civil engineering associate Jeremy Groves for a year of exemplary service to his country in Iraq and Kuwait.**

Groves, a lieutenant in the Navy Reserve Sea Bees at Port Hueneme

who returned recently to his job at the Port, served in the Middle East as a projects officer helping with reconstruction in south central Iraq.

**Rudy Pugh, a custodial supervisor in the Maintenance Division, has been named the Port's 2004 Employee of the Year.**

The other nominees were **Dona Blazis** of the Administration Division; **Donna Shipman** of Communications; **Ernie Flores** and **Dennis Neilan** of Engineering; **Tam Tran** of Finance; **Margaret Yao-Hander** of Information Management; **Henry Mills, Dirk Moyer, Kenneth Reynolds** and **Donald Stocker** of Maintenance; and **Matthew Goldman** of Planning.

### **E-MAIL NEWS BULLETINS!**

The port issues a free Internet version of Tie Lines and e-mail "news flashes" on breaking news.

To sign up, send a blank e-mail to [\*\*polb-subscribe@yahoogroups.com\*\*](mailto:polb-subscribe@yahoogroups.com),

or go to [\*\*http://groups.yahoo.com/group/polb/\*\*](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/polb/)

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