

MARINE TRANSPORT WORKERS' TRADE UNION OF UKRAINE

October 2016

E-BULLETIN



Dear seafarers!

Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine takes care of you and your families not only when you are ashore, but when you are at the sea. In order to keep you informed about our activities, we designed this monthly E-BULLETIN which guides you through all our achievements and events provided by our Union. Any suggestions and proposal are welcome. Stay connected!

Yours sincerely, Oleg Grygoriuk
First Vice Chairman
MTWTU



MTWTU went on with Union Week Seminars

The second stage of the Union Week Seminars – professional workshops for seafarers – took place between September 27 and 29, 2016, in Odessa. Following the success of the summer series of Seminars, the Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine received a lot of requests to repeat the positive experience. Thus it has been decided to conduct the second stage of the Union Week, though in Russian this time.

This second stage of the Seminars was a perfect opportunity for seafarers to learn, who are involved in protection of their rights and interests, and how exactly the ITF and MTWTU defend the rights of Ukrainian seafarers. The participants as well managed to discuss the topical maritime industry issues.

The Union seminar for Kherson seafarers

On October 21 fifty seafarers participated in the information seminar, organized by the MTWTU in Kherson.

The seminar provided relevant updates on the MTWTU and ITF activities, on the MLC, 2006 ratification and taxation system in Ukraine. Seafarers as well communicated directly with the ITF Inspector in Ukraine and the MTWTU legal expert being able to raise all the issues of concern.

Also within the framework of the joint ILO/MTWTU project, aimed to reduce HIV stigma and discrimination, seafarers listened to the basic information on HIV preventive measures, and were



offered to pass an anonymous HIV testing .

Representatives of the Croatian and Norwegian trade unions visited Odessa



The representatives of the ITF brother trade unions from Norway and Croatia made a working visit to Odessa. On October 24 they visited the MTWTU office, where met with the MTWTU Chairman Michael Kirieiev, his First Vice Chairman Oleg Grygoriuk and the ITF Inspector in Ukraine Nataliya Yefrimenko to discuss the agenda of the next day negotiations with the Norwegian Shipowners' Association.

MTWTU successfully negotiated with the NSA

On October 25, there were held the negotiations between the joint trade union side (trade unions of Ukraine and Norway) and the Norwegian Shipowners' Association (NSA).

Traditionally, the Norwegian trade union side was represented by the Norwegian Maritime Officers

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Association (NMOA), Norwegian Seafarers' Union (NSU) and the Norwegian Union of Marine Engineers (NUME); and the Ukrainian – by the Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine.



The main topics of the talks were basic rate increase, technical adjustment of the officers' salary, additions and amendments to the wording of the existing collective agreement and a number of other issues.

Seafarers met their Norwegian employers

The MTWTU arranged a seminar for seafarers, working on board the vessels, owned or managed by the members of the Norwegian Shipowners' Association.



During the seminar seafarers were informed of the recent negotiations in Odessa, and of the newly made changes to the new two-year agreement. Seafarers took advantage of a unique opportunity to communicate directly with the Norwegian shipowners and the Norwegian trade unions' representatives.

Replenishment in the ranks of the future seafarer

On 10th of September 367 future seafarers have been officially initiated into cadets of the Odessa Maritime College of Technical Fleet of the National University "Odessa Maritime Academy".



And on September 30, there took place a solemn initiation into cadets of the Odessa Professional College of Maritime Transport, dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the educational institution, as well as to the professional holiday of all teachers.



The MTWTU congratulated the leadership of the college and its lecturers, as well as the cadets and their parents.

The Union holiday

Once again the MTWTU arranged a true holiday experience for the children of seafarers, registered with the Union, inviting their families to the children's entertainment complex Igraland.



The newly renovated Igraland offered seafarers' children a special entertainment program – funny performance, interesting contests, puzzles and games. In addition, children's favorite cartoon heroes Fixiki congratulated all the kids, who celebrated their Birthdays in October, and presented each Birthday boy and girl with wonderful gifts.

Best movie premieres with the Union

Pre-premiere closed screenings, arranged by the MTWTU, have already become a good tradition.

Thus, in early September the Union arranged the "Sully" showing – movie telling of the famous "Miracle on the Hudson", starring Tom Hanks. Seafarers, registered with the Union, together with their families were among the first to estimate the new movie of the legendary Hollywood director Clint Eastwood, which is a true and involving salute to professionalism and strength of mind. The second expected premiere of this fall the MTWTU seafarers had a chance to evaluate was the film based on real events – about the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig explosion in 2010 in the Gulf of Mexico. This movie is a chronicle of extraordinary bravery of seafarers, serving the oil platform, in the face of one of the worst technological disasters in world history.