

MARINE TRANSPORT WORKERS' TRADE UNION OF UKRAINE

August-September 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



Five Ukrainian seafarers returned home

Five Ukrainian seafarers of mv Grotnesarmen (the flag of Sao Tome and Principe) have returned to Ukraine. Their vessel had been detained in the port of Poti, Georgia, for the reasons of “counterfeiting vessel registration records” and “detections of illegal border crossing”.

The proceedings on this case have lasted for more than six months, and during this time the wage arrears of the crew has been growing, the problems with food and accommodation of seafarers arose. Fortunately, the Georgian Seafarers' Union did provided assistance and constantly supported the Ukrainian seafarers throughout the entire period of their stay in Georgia. Learning about this situation, the Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine decided to provide assistance to our citizens, despite the fact that they haven't been registered with the Union. The MTWTU sent an appeal to the Welfare Fund of Maritime Transport MORTTRANS with a request to assist in the repatriation of seafarers, and in the shortest possible time the seafarers of mv Grotnesarmen arrived home.

The crew of the mv New Imperial Star is finally home

The crew of the mv New Imperial Star was unable to return home for a long time. Through the efforts of the ITF and with the MTWTU support, 12 Ukrainian seafarers arrived to Odessa airport, where they were met by the MTWTU First Vice Chairman Oleg Grygoriuk, who assured that with the ITF support, all the seafarers will soon receive their owed wages in

full. The seafarers appreciated assistance rendered by the MTWTU and expressed their willingness to become a part of our large Trade Union family.



The MTWTU stood for the rights of the arrested Ukrainian seafarer

Gennady Gavrilov, the Captain of the tug AHTS Avant Garde (the flag of Sri Lanka, IMO 8107036) has been arrested on October 15, 2015, due to “unregistered weapon on board”. According to the information provided, on June 23, 2016 the Captain Gavrilov was acquitted by a court in Galle town, but on the same day the Officers of Forensic Department arrested the Captain again. At the moment the Captain is at the Prison Hospital of Galle town.

According to the lawyer, the problem arose on political grounds and the political mechanisms and international instruments should be used in order to release the seafarer. The MTWTU as the only maritime ITF affiliate in Ukraine and the organization recognized by the international maritime community, has appealed to the Embassy of Ukraine in the Republic of India with a request to support the Capt. Gavrilov case.

MTWTU continues cooperation with the Kherson State Maritime Academy



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Oleg Grygoriuk, MTWTU First Vice Chairman, together with the representatives of CMA Ships Ukraine visited the Kherson State Maritime Academy (KSMA). The delegation has familiarized itself with the educational and training facilities of the Kherson Maritime Specialized Training Centre (KMSTC) under the KSMA, that allows cadets to practice the acquired skills.

Of particular interest was a complex of unique training equipment, installed in the Academy through the Grand Joint Investment Project of the International Maritime Employers' Council (IMEC) and the Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine.

During the visit, the MTWTU First Vice Chairman Oleg Grygoriuk raised some technical issues related to the preferential treatment for the MTWTU members, passing the said training courses. As noted by Oleg Grygoriuk, there is an agreement between the MTWTU and the KSMA, that all the seafarers, members of the MTWTU, may enjoy a 30 % discount for any of the courses offered by the KMSTC.

Working with the young generation of seafarers



Every year, the MTWTU representatives are among the guests of honor of the Odessa maritime educational institutions. Thus, the MTWTU representatives took part in the Solemn Ceremonies of Admission of New Students of the Odessa National Maritime University and of the Odessa Maritime College of Technical Fleet of the National University "Odessa Maritime Academy". The MTWTU has also been invited to a meeting with the first-year students of the National University "Odessa Maritime Academy".

The premiere screening for the MTWTU members



The screening of the American biographical drama Sully has just started, and seafarers, registered with the MTWTU, together with their families were among the first to evaluate the new Clint Eastwood movie. The story told by the legendary Hollywood director is a true and involving salute to professionalism and strength of mind.

Summer holidays as a gift from the MTWTU



During this summer seafarers together with their families had the opportunity to spend one of the hot summer days at the Hawaii Waterpark. The Union distributed over 500 tickets to the Waterpark among the MTWTU members, and the Ukrainian seafarers were able to enjoy a fun and active day with their beloved ones.

An unforgettable circus show for the MTWTU members

The Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine invited the seafarers, registered with the Union, and their families to the amazing performance of the largest circus in Ukraine – Kobzov. Thanks to the Union more than 300 people were there to watch the stunning performance which left no one indifferent.

