Update from Industry Advisory Committee (IAC) Steering Committee

- Greg Pavellas, Director of Operations for Crowley, has recently accepted the Co-Chair position for the IAC, replacing Kris Norosz. Thank you, Kris, for your service in this capacity and willingness to continue contributing as a member of the IAC. Greg’s enthusiasm to build Alaska’s maritime workforce will serve him and the IAC well in this role.

- Former IAC member, Aggie Fouts, has recently been hired to serve as the new coordinator for the IAC.

General Updates

- Gabe Dunham, Bristol Bay Marine Advisory Agent, taught a 2.5 day, 1-credit Outboard Repair and Maintenance class at the UAF Bristol Bay Campus in Dillingham earlier in March. The class was full with 10 participants.

- On March 14th Doug Ward, Director of Shipyard Development for Vigor Alaska and member of the IAC, was the guest speaker at the Petersburg Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet with a presentation on the Alaska Marine Industrial Economy.

- During the week of March 16th Doug Ward and Vince O’Shea, V.P. for Pacific Seafood Processors Association and member of the IAC, presented at the Mid-session Summit of the Southeast Conference and the Alaska Business Roundtable of the Juneau and Alaska Chambers of Commerce. Doug spoke about “Alaska Marine Industrial Support” and Vince discussed the Plan.

- As a result of Doug’s efforts, some significant funds were raised during the SE Conference Summit. THANK YOU to Doug and all the presenters, and please let us know if you have anything scheduled in your area.

- Governor’s Safety and Health Conference recognized Trident Seafoods in late March with three awards for their operations in Akutan, Ketchikan and Petersburg. The company implements a comprehensive health and safety program that assigns responsibility to all levels of leadership and employees. In the past three years, these plants have logged more than 11 million work hours, while maintaining an average total recordable injuries and illness rating of 42% better than the industry standard.

General Updates (cont.)

- Doug Ward attended the National Association of Workforce Boards in Washington D.C. as a member of the IAC and Chair of the Alaska Workforce Investment Board (AWIB). Vigor paid his way to attend, at the end of March, making an additional contribution to the IAC of over $3,000. The purpose of the visit was to understand the new Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and how to establish an enduring and resilient Maritime Workforce Investment Fund to support the Plan.

- In Kodiak on April 3rd at ComFish, Julie Matweyou with Alaska Sea Grant moderated a panel discussion about “Supporting Kodiak through Workforce Development”. The panelists included: Oliver Holm with Commercial Fisherman; LA Holmes with Kodiak College Vessel Repair & Maintenance Program; Chris Sannito with Alaska Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program; and Rob Plentikoff with Amak Towing Company, Inc. Kodiak’s KMXT covered the discussion: Members of the Fishing Industry Discuss How to Find and Educate Workers.

- HCR10 was introduced by Rep. Stutes (Kodiak) to the Alaska Legislature on March 18th, supporting the Alaska Maritime Workforce Development Industry Advisory Committee and further efforts to carry out the workforce plan. The House Special Committee considered and passed HCR10 on Tuesday, April 7th to the next committee. Thank you to those who sent letters of support and testified during public testimony. The committee’s discussion can be found at: http://www.akleg.gov/basis/Meeting/Detail/?Meeting=HFS-H%202015-04-07%202017-00:00.

Working Groups

Four working groups have formed and are active in implementing the Maritime Plan. If you would like to participate in a working group, please contact the chairs. Their information along with updates, as they become available, can be found at:

- Vessel Repair and Maintenance
- Refrigeration
- Vessel Engineering and Licensing
- Career Awareness

Recent Articles & Information

- Fishermen’s News: Marine Refrigeration Training
- ADN: Study Exams Decline in Young Rural Alaska Fishermen
- Professional Mariner: Alaska Vo-Tech Center First with Ice Navigation Course
- Fisheries Technology: UAS Fish Delegation at Federal Subsistence Board Meeting in Anchorage

For more information, visit: www.akmaritimejobs.com or www.alaska.edu/fsmi.