

# Salvage Update

Promoting professionalism and improving marine casualty response in American coastal and inland waters.



February 24, 2010 ♦ Issue 1, Volume 2

## **ASA MEMBERSHIP MEETING, CMA SHIPPING 2010 NEXT MONTH!**

The American Salvage Association's (ASA) Membership Meeting will be held on Monday, March 22, at 9 a.m. in the Aspen Room of the Hilton in Stamford, Connecticut.

The meeting is being held in conjunction with the Connecticut Maritime Association's (CMA) **SHIPPING 2010** conference in Stamford.

ASA's meeting will give the ASA leadership an opportunity to report to its members on the latest developments with respect to the Coast Guard Salvage and Marine Firefighting regulations, Wreck Oil Removal Program (WORP) and other Association activities, along with the status of relationship with U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Navy and with NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration.

Reserve your hotel room at the Hilton before the discounted block fills up. Visit [www.shipping2010.com](http://www.shipping2010.com) for the special CMA rate of \$185/night.

## **NOAA RECEIVES WORP FUNDING**

In the last issue of *Salvage Update*, ASA advised that the \$1 million WORP request for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R) remained in the consolidated appropriations bill that was approved by the House and Senate, and signed by the President. NOAA OR&R has

received the funding, and is in the early stages of planning its study of the ship wreck problem and reporting to the Coast Guard. NOAA will continue to work with ASA and the North American Marine Environmental Protection Association (NAMEPA) as the WORP project moves forward.

## **ASA ASSOCIATES HARD AT WORK**

ASA's Associate Members, under the leadership of Jack Ringelberg and Paul Smith, along with active involvement from other members, is forming an ASA Technical Committee.

ASA's Associate Membership Committee is assisting ASA's leadership by drafting a 'Salvage' chapter to be presented to the Coast Guard together with appropriate 'change pages' for inclusion in the USCG Incident Management Handbook (IMH). See:

<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/nswfweb/docs/FinalIMH18AUG2006.pdf>

## **ASA TO SUBMIT ARTICLES TO INDUSTRIAL PREVENTION & RESPONSE**

*Industrial Prevention and Response*, a newsletter offering information for fire, safety, and security personnel and the oil spill response community, has provided ASA with an opportunity to submit technical articles each month. The first article for the newsletter's March issue is by ASA

Associate Member Dagmar Schmidt Etkin, PhD, of Environmental Research Consulting, and focuses on “Scientifically-based Environmental Salvage.”

The process to secure and submit articles will initially be managed by ASA Executive Director Dick Fredricks and Debra Colbert, but in the future ASA’s Associate Member Technical Committee will assist in managing the program.

If you are interested in submitting a future article, please advise Dick or Debra, [rfredricks@vesselalliance.com](mailto:rfredricks@vesselalliance.com) or [dcolbert@vesselalliance.com](mailto:dcolbert@vesselalliance.com).

## SPONSOR SOUGHT FOR SPRING SOUNDINGS

The Spring issue of ASA’s newsletter *Soundings* will be published in mid-May, and a sponsor for this issue is sought. If you can help, please contact Editor Debra Colbert, [dcolbert@vesselalliance.com](mailto:dcolbert@vesselalliance.com). Responses will be handled as first-come, first-served. Thank you!

## ASA MEMBERS RESPOND

ASA members responded to a number of incidents domestically and internationally recently, including:

--completing work in mid-December 2009 for the wreck removal and disposal of the remnants of the *M/V Fedra* which, in October 2008, grounded and sank during a severe storm off the coast of Gibraltar.

--completing the removal of the *New Flame*, also in Gibraltar, and delivering more than 50,000 tons of scrap cargo and wreckage for recycling at the end of December 2009.

--successfully refloating a bulk carrier carrying 50,000 metric tons of urea fertilizer that ran aground near Gwadar Port in Pakistan on January 20, 2010.

--averting the risk of a toxic material release from the 443-foot chemical carrier *Sichem Defiance*, laden with benzene LAB and ethanol, after it sustained an implosion on board while anchored in Gravesend Bay near Brooklyn, New York in mid-February.

Details can be found on ASA’s web site ([www.americansalvage.org](http://www.americansalvage.org)) under “press releases.”

ASA members should continue to send their draft press releases in the approved ASA format as provided in the Press Release Guidelines to Debra Colbert, [dcolbert@vesselalliance.com](mailto:dcolbert@vesselalliance.com) for review.

## CLEAN ATLANTIC & OCEANTECH EXPO CONFERENCES APPROACHING – ASA PARTICIPATING

ASA will support two important conferences in May, **Clean Atlantic** (May 17-19 in Baltimore, Maryland) and **OceanTech Expo** (May 25-27 in Newport, Rhode Island). Details on the conferences and registration information can be found on ASA’s website, which provides links to the sponsoring organizations’ websites.

At Clean Atlantic, ASA will provide a Salvage and Marine Firefighting Workshop on Monday, May 17 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The first session will focus on the “Wreck Oil Removal Program,” which will be presented by a panel of experts from NOAA, Coast Guard, industry, and environmental groups. This panel will focus on the environmental threat by coastal shipwrecks, with an emphasis on the Atlantic Coast, and the benefits of a systematic and proactive approach.

The second session will address the Coast Guard’s final regulations requiring that commercial vessel operators meet prescribed standards for response times,

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contracting, and responder qualifications. The latest policy interpreting the new salvage regulations and their implementation will be discussed by Coast Guard officials, with comment by industry representatives.

The third session will discuss the challenges of marine firefighting, including the important role of the public fire service.

At OceanTech Expo ASA will present an "Industry Outlook Panel" on the technical aspects of WORP on Wednesday, May 26. Other Expo panels --"meant to address what the end-user community wants to accomplish with ocean technology products and systems that they are not able to do today" -- are: Oceanography and Hydrography, Underwater Vehicles and Robotics, Offshore Renewable Energy, Systems and Instrumentation for Arctic Operation, Port & Harbors Security, Deep Water Oil & Gas Exploration and Production, and Marine Environmental Monitoring & Assessment.

## INDUSTRY CALENDAR

Upcoming Events:

- March 2-3: Offshore Alternatives conference, Washington, DC ([www.marinelog.com](http://www.marinelog.com))
- March 22: ASA Spring Membership Meeting, Stamford, CT ([www.americansalvage.org](http://www.americansalvage.org))
- March 22-24: SHIPPING 2010, Stamford, CT ([www.shipping2010.com](http://www.shipping2010.com))

- April 21-22: Tugs & Barges conference, Stamford, CT ([www.marinelog.com](http://www.marinelog.com))
- May 17-19: Clean Atlantic, Baltimore, MD ([www.cleanatlantic.org](http://www.cleanatlantic.org))
- May 25-27: 2010 Ocean Tech Expo, Newport, RI ([www.oceantechexpo.com](http://www.oceantechexpo.com))

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For more details on the American Salvage Association (ASA), please contact Patricia Welch, ASA Assistant to the Director, at (703) 373-2293 or via email at [pwelch@vesselalliance.com](mailto:pwelch@vesselalliance.com).