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USCG – US vessels operating in high risk waters;  
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IMO – Athens Convention re Carriage of Passengers;  
Canada – icebreaker refit work;  
Ideal X voyage – 26 April 1956; and  
SS Sultana explosion and fire – 27 April 1865.

April 25, 2014



# Bryant's Maritime News

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*Note: This newsletter is one section of the [Bryant's Maritime Consulting](http://brymar-consulting.com) website. Visit the site for more extensive maritime regulatory information. Individual concerns may be addressed by retaining [Dennis Bryant](mailto:dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com) directly. Much of the highlighted text in this newsletter constitutes links to Internet sites providing more detailed information. Links on this page may be in PDF format, requiring use of Adobe Acrobat Reader. Comments on these postings are encouraged and may be made by email to the editor or by going to the blog page on the website and clicking the envelope that appears at the end of each posting. Be aware that the daily newsletter is a single posting, even though it contains a number of individual items. Life is short. Don't make the same mistake twice – be original.*

## SHC – meeting re IMO Technical Cooperation & Council



The Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC), sponsored by the Department of State (DOS), will meet on 28 May in Washington, DC to prepare for upcoming sessions of the IMO Technical Cooperation Committee (TCC 64) and Council (C112). Topics on the agenda include protection of vital shipping lanes and the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme. [79 Fed. Reg. 23041](#) (April 25, 2014).

## NOAA – Southern Resident killer whale



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a notice announcing a 90-day finding on a petition to revise the critical habitat designation for the Southern Resident killer whale to include inhabited Pacific Ocean marine waters along the West Coast of the United States that constitute essential foraging and wintering areas and to adopt protective in-water sound levels as a primary constituent element for the critical habitats. Comments on the petition should be submitted by 24 June. [79 Fed. Reg. 22933](#) (April 25, 2014).

## FWS – Boating Infrastructure Grant Program



The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) proposes to amend its regulations relating to the Boating Infrastructure Grant Program. Comments on the proposal should be submitted by 24 July. [79 Fed. Reg. 23209](#) (April 25, 2014).

## USCG – CTAC membership



The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a notice stating that the US Coast Guard seeks applications for membership on the Chemical Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC). Applications must be received by 9 June. [79 Fed. Reg. 23003](#) (April 25, 2014).

## USCG – US vessels operating in high risk waters



The US Coast Guard issued a notice announcing the availability of Revision 7 to Maritime Security (MARSEC) Directive 104-6, which provides guidelines for US vessels operating in high risk waters (HRW) where acts of terrorism, piracy, and armed robbery against ships are prevalent, as well as specific guidance for offshore supply vessels and liftboats operating in the Gulf of Guinea. [79 Fed. Reg. 23004](#) (April 25, 2014).

## USCG – fuel shut-off valve remote operators



The USCG Towing Vessel National Center of Expertise (TVNCOE) has updated its [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (FAQ) to include a new FAQ regarding fuel shut-off valve remote operators has been posted on the TVNCOE website.

The FAQ can be found under FAQs in the "Fire Fighting, Protection & Suppression Equipment" section. (4/24/14).

### Arctic – responding to marine oil spills



The National Academies Press (NAP) posted a pre-publication edition of its new book “**Responding to Oil Spills in the U.S. Arctic Marine Environment**”. The book examines how we can best prepare to respond to oil spills in the challenging Arctic environment. (4/23/14).

### DOJ – former marine hose executive sentenced



The Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a **news release** stating that the former executive of a marine hose manufacturer who was recently extradited from Germany pleaded guilty in federal court to participating in a conspiracy to rig bids, fix prices, and allocate market shares of marine hoses sold in the United States and elsewhere. He was sentenced to two years imprisonment. (4/24/14).

### USAF – NANU re CNAV messages



The US Air Force issued a Notice Advisory to NAVSTAR Users (**NANU**) regarding implementation of CNAV messages on the GPS L2C and L5 signals beginning J118/1430Z. (4/24/14). *Note: CNAV messages will allow civilian GPS users with dual frequency receivers to obtain higher accuracy than has been available in the past.*

### House – hearing on USACE Chief’s Reports



The Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will conduct a **hearing** on 29 April regarding a review of recent US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Chief’s Reports and Post-Authorization Change Reports. (4/24/14).

### IMO – Athens Convention re Carriage of Passengers



The IMO issued a **news release** stating that the Athens Convention relating to the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage by Sea, 2002, entered into force on 23 April 2014. The Convention substantially raises the limits of

liability for the death of, or personal injury to, a passenger on a covered ship. (4/23/14).

### Canada – icebreaker refit work



The Government of Canada issued a **news release** stating that a \$6.5 million contract has been awarded to Babcock Canada, Inc. for critical refit work for the Canadian Coast Guard ship CCGS Louis S. St-Laurent. The refit work includes regulatory maintenance to the propulsion systems, hull, auxiliary/domestic systems, and the navigation and communications systems. (4/17/14).

### Ideal X voyage – 26 April 1956



On 26 April 1956, the ship **Ideal X** departed Port Newark, New Jersey on a voyage to Houston, Texas. The ship had been launched in 1945 as the T-2 tanker SS Potrero Hills. The ship had made many voyages in the intervening eleven years, but this was different. The ship had only recently been acquired by the Pan-Atlantic Steamship Corporation, which shortly before had been acquired by the trucking magnate Malcolm McLean. McLean had become frustrated by the inefficiencies of unloading trucks by hand so as to reload the cargo onto ships. He thought he had a better way. He modified some of his trucks so that the cargo-containing trailer was physically detachable from the chassis. After acquiring the tanker Potrero Hills, he installed a metal platform above the tank tops and piping so that the trailers (soon to be known as shipping containers) could be loaded onto the deck. A total of 58 loaded trailers were secured to the deck in Port Newark. The Ideal X transited to Houston, arriving at City Dock 10 on 2 May, where the trailers were promptly transferred to waiting trucks. By the use of shipping containers, Malcolm McLean had increased the speed and efficiency of multi-modal shipping and reduced losses due to breakage and theft. Pan-Atlantic modified other ships to carry containers on deck and then modified other ships so that standardized containers could be loaded into cells in the cargo holds. Other shipping companies observed these developments and quickly followed suit. The container revolution was born. The Ideal X was sold by Pan-Atlantic in 1959 and renamed the SS Elemir, resuming service as a tanker. It was damaged in a Pacific storm and broken up in Japan in 1965.

### SS Sultana explosion and fire – 27 April 1865



149 years ago, the United States experienced its most significant marine casualty in terms of lives lost. On that day the steamship **Sultana** exploded and caught fire. An estimated 1,800 of the approximately 2,400

passengers and crew died after one of the ship's boilers exploded. The ship had just left Vicksburg en route St. Louis. It was carrying numerous Union Army veterans home, many recently released from Confederate prisons. As a result of this tragedy, inspection standards for steamships were strengthened.

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If you have questions regarding the above items, please contact the editor:

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