

THE INLAND MARINER



2018 - 2nd Quarter Newsletter

A Message from the President

I want to start by thanking each of you for your employment with D&S Marine Service. We are approaching our 13th anniversary and I am in awe of the improvements we've made together. We are only as good as our people and today we are operating at an exceptional level. So again, I thank you.

We are still recovering from the downturn, but we made it through without cutting crew member day rates or workdays. I made a commitment early in the downturn to try our hardest to manage costs and to not affect your scheduled time on or level of pay. As most of you know we were successful. I've always tried to operate this company in a conservative way and this is what carried us through the recent downturn without taking days or reducing employee day rates. I try to provide a solid balance of pay and benefits here while also preparing for slow times that appear to be happening more frequently.

The economy seems to be strengthening as all of our vessels are working now. Early in the downturn we took a rate cut on the entire fleet. Our vessels that went off charter then went back on charter did so at further reduced rates. I am hoping to see rate increases or a commitment for an increase in the near future. In the past I have always been fair with wages when we received increases from our customers. I have always passed it along and I will continue this process.

I realize some companies have been giving increases and I am working toward obtaining increases on our vessels that I can pass on to all of you. I appreciate all of your patience. One benefit we removed during the downturn was double day pay on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. We will restart that benefit this year on those same days. I realize at the end of the day it's about the quality of life for you and your family. One of my priorities is to see each of you succeed on and off the boat.

Subchapter M has also arrived. We are beginning the process of obtaining Certificates of Inspection (COI) on 6 vessels this year. The 3rd party audit required for the COI will be very in depth. Please ensure all crew members follow procedures and your vessel's documentation and training is in order. I know there has been some grumbling over Subchapter M, but in the end Subchapter M will make us better and safer. Please embrace the changes and work with us toward the end result of obtaining COI's for the vessels in our fleet.

Stay Safe, Dean Cheramie

"Pleasure in the job puts perfection in the work." - Aristotle

Looking for Trouble

When making your inspection of the engine room each watch, what do you normally see? If you are like most of us, the obvious is staring you in the face:

- The electrical board voltage and amps are at the right levels
- The bilge is dry
- There are no drips or strange noises coming for the main engines
- The sewerage treatment system is purring away

You get the picture; the routine everyday engine room check easily becomes exactly that, routine. But what about small issues that are not so obvious?

Small problems can easily lead to big problems and it takes a creative mind to seek out these areas of concern. Making a thorough check of the engine room involves looking beyond the obvious. A good crew member should challenge himself each go-round to seek at least one root problem that can be fixed so it never gets a chance to grow.

For example, vibration is king! On a towboat, vibration is a face of life. Generating energy can loosen, chafe and break almost anything aboard. Vibration always works against anyone trying to keep a functioning engine room. Look for loose wires and hose chafing. It is amazing what can be done with a bag of wire ties and a piece of rubber.



2nd Quarter New Hires

• Wheelmen

- Billy Yates
- Lucan Chenette
- Devin O'Quin
- Roy Scott
- Christopher Rodrigue
- Kenneth Fortenberry
- Joey Richard

• Tankermen

- Reginald Webb
- Daniel Porter

• Deckhands

- Eric Warrington
- Thomas Linton
- Justin Killian
- Deray Darensburg
- Taylor Hoots
- James Sweat
- Sean Plaisance
- David Touns
- Ethan Cook
- Christopher Newson
- Austin Reeves
- Dominic Heath
- Tyler Dardar

• Shoreside

- James Ballard

From the Galley

Cowboy Caviar

A fresh, simple dip that can be thrown together in under 15 minutes!



Ingredients

- 3 - roma tomatoes diced
- 2 - avocados diced
- 1 - jalapeño pepper diced
- 1 - bell pepper diced
- 1 - 15oz can black beans
- 1 - 15oz can black eye peas
- 1.5 cups frozen sweet corn
- 1/3 cup red onion diced
- 1/3 cup cilantro diced

Dressing

- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 2 tablespoons lime juice
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder

Instructions

- Combine and toss all ingredients in large bowl
- In a separate bowl, whisk together dressing ingredients
- Pour dressing over other ingredients and toss well
- Keep refrigerated till ready to serve with tortilla chips

Getting Out Of Debt

Trying to shovel your way out of a mountain of debt? Popular financial expert Dave Ramsey, suggests that you follow these seven "baby steps" as you pay off debt and build wealth.

1. Save \$1,000 to start an emergency fund
2. Pay off all debt using the debt snowball (smallest to largest amount)
3. Save 3 to 6 months of expenses for emergencies
4. Invest 15% of income in pre-tax retirement and Roth IRAs
5. Save for your children's college fund
6. Pay off your home early
7. Build wealth and give



Dave's 7 Baby Steps are different from other money-management plans. They go beyond simply treating the symptoms of money problems like debt and lack of savings, and focuses on changing your behavior - the real cause of those issues - through a proven, step by step plan.

Safety Issue

During your rounds, if you look hard enough, there is always something you can improve to keep the crew safe.

Slipping Hazards - Look hard and a potential slipping hazard can be found on even the most safety conscious boat. Find a spot, mark it, and fix it.

Tripping Hazard - One can always be found. Eliminate if possible; make it stand out if not.

In the dynamic environment of a towboat, every part is in a process of wear and tear. Your job is to respond as needed to slow the process. Looking for trouble before it grows helps keep big problems away!



D&S Family News

Jason McCraine - Grandson



Christopher Blaze Garland

Thomas Linton - Son



Kole Parker Linton

John Verrett - Daughter



Londyn Ann Verrett

Certified Under Subchapter M

On April 10th, our Towing Safety Management System (TSMS) was audited, approved and certified by a Third Party Organization (TPO) as prescribed under Subchapter M. All vessels should have a copy of the TSMS certificate posted in the galley.

For those new to the industry, Subchapter M is a towing inspection ruling that came in effect June 2016. It mandates compliance with a federal set of rules for the organization and implementation of a towing company's Safety Management System (SMS) and includes periodic inspection of their operated towing vessels.

The Long Days Are Here

Extreme temperatures, high levels of humidity, and working outside...this is the perfect mix for trouble. We want you to be one step ahead and breeze through the heat with ease with these quick tips.

BYOW - It is crucial for you to drink water before, during, and after long hours of outside work. So practice keeping a bottle of water on you when working outside when possible.

Snack Smart - Certain fruits and veggies contain high water content and are a great way to help you stay hydrated. For example, watermelon, strawberries and cucumbers contain up to 96% water per volume.

Skip the Soda - Soda and processed snacks may feel satisfying in the moment, but it will make you feel dehydrated in the long run. The sugars in these goods require a lot of water for the breakdown and metabolism in your body.

Fleet Update

Please welcome to the fleet the M/V Danielle Christina under the watch of Captain Butch Doucet and his crew. The boat is named after Mr. Dean's wife, Mrs. Danielle Christina Cheramie.



Vessel Spotlight

On April 20th, the M/V RJ Cheramie was able to help and assist another vessel get to safety after it had lost both engines and started taking on water. It was later found that rope was caught in their wheels which had rendered them dead in the water. A big thanks to the crew of the RJ Cheramie for taking quick action and getting everyone to a safe place.



Matthew

I just wanted to take a second to thank y'all company and the R.J. Cheramie in particular for all the help and assistance they gave us today. I had lost both engines and was dead in the water all while taking on water from the port shaft. I really appreciate everything y'all did for our crew today. We will never forget it.



Upcoming Birthdays

July

- Michael Naquin - 1st
- Jason Bourg - 6th
- Sean Plaisance - 9th
- John Verrett - 9th
- Brandon Hayes - 13th
- John King - 13th
- Devin Jupiter - 14th
- Patrick Nash - 15th
- Charles Husley - 17th
- Donzell Turner - 21st
- Xavier Singleton - 22nd
- Taylor Hoots - 22nd
- James Ferguson - 25th
- Reginald Webb - 27th

August

- Richard Portier - 1st
- Rhonda Rebaradi - 3rd
- Leonard Dupre - 6th
- Rickie Daigle - 8th
- Ronald Waggoner - 9th
- Michael Minter - 11th
- Mitzi Naquin - 13th
- Christopher Newson - 15th
- Lindsey Getzinger - 15th
- Matthew Hurd - 17th
- Donald Cheramie - 19th
- Glenn Mills - 23rd
- Jason Cloud - 26th
- Bart Authement - 26th
- Aurthur Bartholomew - 27th
- Jason Adams - 30th

September

- Christopher LeBoeuf - 1st
- Louis Lapeyrouse - 4th
- Lucan Chenette - 5th
- David Henderson - 5th
- Shea Jordan - 6th
- David Kirksey - 6th
- Stanley Sevin - 9th
- Philip Smith - 10th
- Kyle McClendon - 10th
- Dustin Courville - 11th
- Joey Davaine - 12th
- Chance Shirley - 12th
- Devon Johnson - 15th
- Garrett Kelley - 17th
- Daniel Porter - 17th
- Dylan Nelton - 18th
- Vaughn Henry - 20th
- Larry Fields - 21st
- Raymond Daniel - 23rd
- Eric Warrington - 25th
- Jeremy Chabert - 27th



Company Anniversaries

April

- Gary McLain - 9 years
- Olympius Johnson - 8 years
- Klancy Ward - 7 years
- Larry Fields - 5 years
- Patrick Nash - 4 years
- Michael Prosperie - 4 years
- Albert Trosclair - 3 years
- Christopher Fuller - 1 year
- Kyle McClendon - 1 year

May

- Edward Westmoreland - 11 years
- Percy Byrnes - 11 years
- Edward Guidroz - 9 years
- Carlton Walimaki - 8 years
- Leonard Dupre - 7 years
- Matthew Hurd - 7 years
- Chance Shirley - 7 years
- Irvin Naquin - 6 years
- Dusty Hale - 2 years
- Robert Cervantes - 2 years
- Jean Taylor - 2 years

June

- Cyd Hebert - 5 years
- Gregory McLendon - 5 years
- Bobby Cooper - 5 years
- Anthony White - 5 years
- Xavier Singleton - 3 years
- Randy Gaudet - 3 years
- Dylan Nelton - 2 years
- Arthur Bartholomew - 2 years

