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OF THE UNITED STATES

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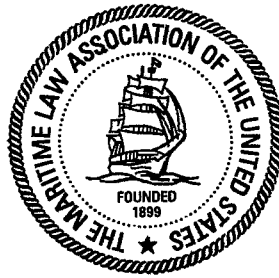
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SPRING MEETING, NEW YORK  
PRESIDENT'S WINTER/SPRING 2003 NEWSLETTER

Dear Member:

The Spring Meeting will take place in New York during the week of April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2003, culminating with the General Meeting of the Association on Friday morning, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2003. The General Meeting will take place at 9:30 A.M. in the Great Hall at the Association of the Bar at the City of New York, 42 West 44 Street.

There will be a black tie dinner at the Marriott Marquis on Friday evening, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, and we hope to see a large number of members and their guests at the dinner.

You should have received your announcement regarding the Spring MLA week prior to receiving this Newsletter. The announcement lists the time and place of all committee meetings and you are encouraged to attend the meetings in which you have an interest. Making early reservations for the dinner is of great help to the Dinner Chairman, David Loh.

The Young Lawyer's Committee and the Forum of Maritime Law Teachers will present a program on Friday afternoon, May 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Great Hall at the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, commencing at 2:30 P.M. The lecture is entitled: "Evolution and Current Status of the MLA/COGSA Amendments, As They Evolved Through The CMI and Uncitral."

The Presenters will be Past President Chester D. Hooper, Professor Joseph Sweeney of Fordham Law School and, Professor William Tetley of McGill University. Ed Catell of Philadelphia will be the moderator, and, CLE credits will be given to attendees of the Program.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE DEVELOPMENTS**

### **1. WEB SITE**

Our Web site contains matters of current and historic interest to Maritime Lawyers and you are invited to browse it at [www.MLAUS.org](http://www.MLAUS.org). Applications for new lawyer members and non-lawyers are available on the Web site.

#### **SENATE BILL 413**

Our Web Site contains a report by Past President Moseley concerning the American Bar Association's Resolution favoring immediate action by Congress on Asbestos Legislation Exposure. Whether you represent plaintiffs or defendants in the maritime industry, a study of the pending Senate Bill should be interest to you.

### **2. SUMMER BOARD MEETING**

The summer meeting of the Association's Board of Directors will take place in Seattle, Washington on August 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2003. Board member, Jim Whitehead and Seattle member, Bruce King are handling arrangements for the meeting. We invite all the members of the Association from the Seattle area to participate. A presentation on matters of local interest will be given by Seattle members and it is expected that CLE credit will be available for those in attendance.

### **3. FALL MEETING 2003**

The Fall 2003 meeting of the Association will be held at the Fairmont Southampton Princess Hotel in Bermuda from October 28<sup>th</sup> through November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003. The meeting format has been changed. Sports Day will be held on Wednesday. Seminars providing eight CLE credits will be held on Thursday and Friday mornings. Committee Meetings will be held on Thursday and Friday afternoons. The General Meeting and formal closing dinner will take place on Saturday.

The Planning Committee is arranging for an interesting selection of Speakers who, in their own rite, will be a draw for our members. Please be assured the selected speakers are experts in their area of the law and the presentations will reflect the current state of world affairs and how that affects the maritime community.

#### **4. INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

##### **A. IMO LEGAL COMMITTEE**

The IMO Legal Committee continues to be extremely active. At the Fall meeting held in London last October, the Committee finalized the amendments to the Athens Convention. The next meeting will be held in London April 28 through May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2003. The Legal Committee will address the following issues:

1. Places of Refuge.
2. Wreck Removal Convention.
3. The SUA (Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Marine Transportation to Combat Terrorism) Convention.
4. Provision of Financial Security – Seafarers Rights.

##### **B. COMITÉ MARITIME INTERNATIONALE**

The CMI will hold a colloquium in Bordeaux, France, June 10<sup>th</sup> through June 13<sup>th</sup>. The subject matter will be: (1) Electronic Trade; (2) General Average; (3) Transport Law – The Uncitral Initiative; and (4) Places of Refuge. Early indications point to a large attendance of our Association Members. If you have not received any details from the CMI and would like further information, please call me.

The second CMI function of interest is scheduled for Vancouver, British Columbia in May/June 2004. Our Association member, Dr. Frank Wiswall, the CMI's Vice President will report on the details of these meetings at our May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2003, General Meeting.

As reported earlier, the CMI draft instrument on the International Carriage of Goods By Sea has been forwarded to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (Uncitral). The Maritime Law Association's members, Past President, Chester Hooper, Michael Sturley, Vincent DeOrchis and George Chandler are members of the United States delegation. They are advising the head of the delegation, Mary Helen Carlson of the State Department's Office of the Assistant Legal Advisor for Private International Law. The delegation met for two weeks in March at the United Nations to continue the review, and they report that the matter is proceeding, albeit slowly. The next meeting will be in Vienna in October 2003 at which time it is hoped that a draft will be completed by Uncitral for consideration. The Association owes a great deal of thanks to the members of the Team who have been actually representing the MLA in this matter. It is the Association's hope that an acceptable new and improved set of rules will be forthcoming soon.

### **ACTIVITIES OF THE PRESIDENT ON BEHALF OF THE ASSOCIATION**

The Association's Officers held the January meeting in Washington on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003, and, in conjunction with the meeting, hosted a lunch for the heads of the legal departments of those branches of the government with whom members of the Association work throughout the year. In attendance were the Navy and Coast Guard Judge Advocate Generals, the senior Justice Department attorney in charge of environmental crimes and officials from NOAA.

In March I had the pleasure of representing the Association at Tulane, first, on Sunday evening, March 16<sup>th</sup>, as guest speaker at the Tulane Law Review Dinner honoring the Editors and Staff of the Law Review; and, secondly, I addressed the opening session of the Tulane Admiralty Law Institute, expressing our Association's support for the seminar, and Tulane's Maritime Law program.

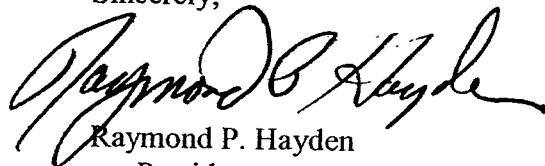
On April 12<sup>th</sup> I attended in Seattle, Washington The Tenth Annual Judge John R. Brown Admiralty Moot Court Competition finals, first, as a Judge of the Semi-Final Round Judges; and, secondly, to present the Maritime Law Association of the United States Award for Best Brief submitted in the competition.

On Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2003, I will be a guest speaker at the AIMU Seminar in New York covering matters of Marine Insurance.

## SCHEDULE OF FUTURE MLA RELATED EVENTS

1. The IMO Legal Committee will meet in London April 28<sup>th</sup> – May 2<sup>nd</sup> and October 28<sup>th</sup> to November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003.
2. The Association of Average Adjusters' annual meeting and dinner will be held on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003, in London.
3. The Comite Maritime International Colloquium will be held in Bordeaux, France June 10<sup>th</sup> through June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003.
4. SEALI will hold it annual meeting in Atlanta, Georgia on June 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2003.
5. The Summer Board Meeting of The Maritime Law Association of the United States will be held in Seattle, Washington, August 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2003.
6. The annual Fall General Meeting of The Maritime Law Association of the United States is to be held at the Fairmont Princess Hotel in Bermuda, October 28<sup>th</sup> through November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003
7. The Spring meeting of The Maritime Law Association of the United States will be held at the Association of the Bar of the City of New York at 42 West 44<sup>th</sup> Street, New York on Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

Sincerely,



Raymond P. Hayden  
President