

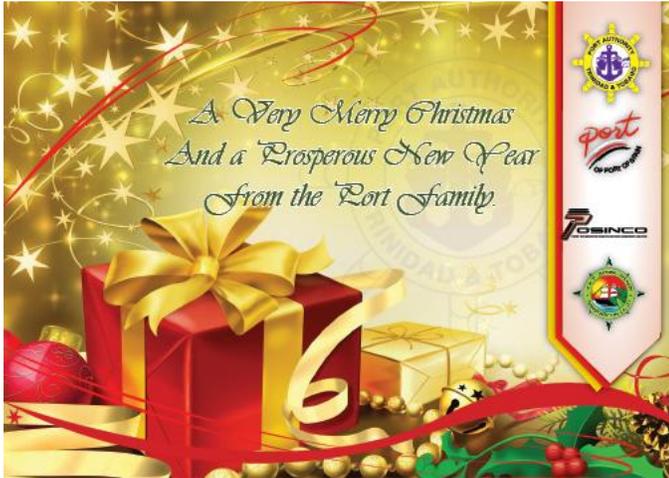


# Portside

Online

DECEMBER 2016

## MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



Greetings are extended to all employees on behalf of the Board and Management of the Port Authority Governing Unit, Port of Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago Inter-Island Transportation Ltd, and Port of Spain Infrastructure Company. May the New Year bring us all positive results and fulfillment, as we work together for the benefit of the organization.

## PATT/PPOS IS A GOLD SPONSOR FOR CSA CONFERENCE 2016

The Port of Port of Spain, being the major port in Trinidad and Tobago, welcomed the opportunity to be a Gold Sponsor at the prestigious Caribbean Shipping Association 46<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, Conference and Exhibition which was held in Trinidad at the Hyatt Regency from October 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>. Minister of Trade and Industry, Senator the Honourable Paula Gopee-Scoon was the feature speaker at the opening.

The Caribbean Shipping Association (CSA), of which PATT is a member, was established in 1971. Its primary focus is to support and facilitate the development of an efficient, viable Caribbean Shipping Industry. The

Association is also 'the voice of the region's shipping industry' and is the primary regional forum in which matters relevant to the growth and development of Caribbean shipping are discussed.



*Minister of Trade and Industry, Senator the Hon. Paula Gopee-Scoon, views the PPOS booth as she arrives at the conference*

The annual conference is hosted by a different member country each year. The event was held in Trinidad in 2016, under the auspices of the Shipping Association of Trinidad and Tobago (SATT), of which PATT is also a member. It has been the custom that host countries put in great effort to ensure that a top class event is held. The last year the conference was held locally was in 2008 and the event was a great success then according to feedback from attendees. The feedback for the 2016 event was overwhelmingly positive with delegates remarking that it was the best event for the past decade.

There were also other activities that were geared towards facilitating valuable network opportunities for members and regional stakeholders in attendance. The list of over 300 attendees included leaders, influencers and decision makers from the regional and international shipping industry - from the English, Spanish, French and Dutch Caribbean, North America and Europe.

## TOBAGO BRANCH OFFICERS ELECTED



The newly elected SWWTU Tobago Branch Officers

After an absence of 12 terms due to various challenges, elections were finally held on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2016 to install the new Officers of the Tobago Branch of the Seamen and Waterfront Workers' Trade Union.

The SWWTU Tobago Branch was started in 1946, and its anniversary is celebrated annually on Easter Saturday. Its first Chairman was Frederick Bruce who rose to the position of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, and acted as President from time to time. Successive Chairmen were; Charlie Bruce, Carlton Demas, Charles Donaldson, Rudolph Caesar, Winston John who also served as Secretary and National Officer, Carl Brown, Garth Stewart, Imbert Harrilal and Samuel Belfast. The longest serving Secretary was Lawrence Andrews. The term of office for all members is two years. **The Newly Elected Officers are:**

❖ Garth Stewart	Chairman
❖ Samuel Belfast	Vice Chairman
❖ Winston John	Secretary
❖ Caril-Ann Caesar	Assistant Secretary
❖ Neal Browne	Shop Steward – Staff
❖ Karen Quamina	Shop Steward – Staff
❖ Keron Patrick	Shop Steward – Labour
❖ Jeremiah Combie	Shop Steward – Labour
❖ Giselle Shipley	Treasurer
❖ Kurt Thomas	Committee Member
❖ Felton Cox	Committee Member
❖ Clauzel Baird	Committee Member
❖ Kerlon Thom	Committee Member
❖ Andy Hamilton	Committee Member

## EVENT HELD FOR RETIREES OF 2015

On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September, a function was held to recognize and appreciate 67 employees who retired in 2015. The years of service of all 67 retirees totalled an amazing **two thousand, three hundred and eighty-nine years.**



Members of the Head Table from left – MC Lorne Sandy, Ag GM/CEO Charmaine Lewis, Chairman Christine Sahadeo, and HR Specialist Jennifer Cudjoe-Brathwaite.

Chairman Christine Sahadeo delivered the feature remarks where she expressed thanks and appreciation to the former employees. Retirees and their guests were serenaded by Shallun Sammy of HR department, and treated to a delightful buffet dinner and wine bar. There was also a photo booth where they posed for photos which they received as mementos of the event.



Retirees and their guests enjoying the evening



Dr Sonia Roache (left) receives a plaque from the Ag GM/CEO

The Port's Doctor, Dr Sonia Roache (not a retiree), was a guest of honour and received a plaque in appreciation of her 35 years of service at the port's clinic.

## NEW PORT WORKERS' CANTEEN OPENED



Ag. GM/CEO Cuts the Ribbons to Officially Open the New Canteen, Second left is Commissioner Ferdinand Ferreira.

On Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2016, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held to officially open an updated and modern Port Workers' Canteen. In attendance was Commissioner Ferdinand Ferreira who gave the feature remarks. PATT's Ag. GM/CEO, Charmaine Lewis, welcomed the attendees and cut the ribbon.

Also in attendance were: Trudy Gill Conlon - CEO-PPOS, Marketing Manager- Vilma Lewis- Cockburn, Betty Ann Gibbons - Public Relations Manager,

Executive Manager Finance -Curtis James, Carl Vallie- Industrial Relations Manager, Kyle Reid- Manager Property Maintenance, Glen Henry -Insurance Manger, Maurissa Stewart -Accountant, Jackie Charles -HSE Manager (Ag.), Nekeisha Charles -Legal Officer, and Selwyn Wong -Junior Legal Officer. Two employees from each department were also invited to witness the official opening.

The event began with the Ag GM/CEO's welcome remarks, informing all of the humble beginnings of the Port Authority's canteen to the present modern facility. The Ag. GM/CEO acknowledged the five tenants, including Vasilla La Borde, also known as 'Tootsie', who has been providing meals for Port employees for over 30 years.

Vasilla La Borde (Tootsie) gave remarks as the tenants' representative, stating it was always a pleasure to serve Port employees. She said the tenants are overjoyed to have booths at the Authority and will do their part in maintaining the state-of-the-art facility. Commissioner Ferdinand Ferreira also spoke of the former canteen, expressing himself as a fellow 'dock man' who was very familiar with the canteen's food.

During the ribbon cutting ceremony, the tenants took part by holding the ribbon. Guests were then invited to enjoy light refreshments provided by the tenants.

## GOODS SHIPPED TO VENEZUELA FROM PPOS



The Venezuelan Naval Vessel, AS Essequibo (T62) arrived at PPOS on Saturday 9th July 2016 at 7am, for trade agreements by both governments to aid the

ongoing food crisis in Venezuela. Over 400 tonnes of food were successfully loaded at PPOS. This was not without a challenge as the vessel was not conducive to normal cargo operations as it is a military equipment vessel - and thus needed much logistical planning. The operation was led by Ag. Divisional Manager Operations, Ricardo Gonzales, along with PPOS members and was completed at 11am Sunday 10th July in a safe, efficient and timely manner. The creative and innovative minds at PPOS reveal that our employees can deliver beyond the regular operations when required.

## TROPICAL VISITS PPOS - CROWLEY TOO



**Tropical Unity arriving at PPOS Berth**

It was indeed “Welcome Back” - After an absence of more than 10 years, a Tropical vessel – Tropical Unity - called at the Port of Port of Spain on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October. The arrangement was made by Ag. CEO PPOS, Trudy Gill-Conlon, to assist Tropical as they were unable to secure berthing at another port.



**Operations proceeding efficiently on Tropical Unity**

The Tropical Unity operations were handled efficiently with excellent customer service provided. It is hoped that this could signal the rekindling of a business relationship that is beneficial to both parties.



**Crowley vessel at PPOS Berth – December 2016**

Just two months later, on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December, a Crowley vessel berthed at PPOS because they too were not able to be accommodated at another port.



**Operations proceeds apace on the Crowley Vessel**

The Crowley visit was also arranged through the successful efforts of the Ag. CEO PPOS, Trudy Gill-Conlon. Once again, operations proceeded efficiently and outstanding customer service was provided.

PPOS looks forward to continued positive relationships with Tropical and Crowley in the new year and beyond

## CRUISE SEASON 2016-2017



The World Odyssey approaching the POS Cruise Ship Complex

The season began with the arrival of the cruise ship “Sirena” at Port of Spain complex on 5<sup>th</sup> October. Next to arrive was the “World Odyssey”, which berthed at POS for a two-day visit November 12-13. Approximately 600 students were on board as part of their Students at Sea programme. Twenty-two cruise ships are scheduled to call at Port of Spain, with the last one, Seven Seas Navigator, arriving on the 29<sup>th</sup> May 2017.



The Saga Pearl II berthed at the Port of Scarborough

Over in the sister isle of Tobago, the Saga Pearl II was the first cruise ship to arrive for the season on 21st November 2016. Both ports in Port of Spain and Scarborough are playing an important role in the diversification thrust – in partnership with the Tourism Ministry and TDC in regard to the cruise industry.

## SECURITY HOLDS INTER-FAITH SERVICE



Chairman Christine Sahadeo (center in red dress) was the guest of honour and feature speaker

It was an appropriate way to celebrate the Christmas season and to end the year. Employees of the Port Security department held an inter-faith service on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November. It was an occasion to gather in the spirit of the season, to pray together, give thanks and offer up prayers for a hopeful future.



The family that prays together – the Port Family

The service was a reminder that the family that prays together stays together – as the Port Family enters the New Year together.

*\*Best wishes for a blessed, successful and healthy 2017\**