

Letter from the President
July 2007 Marine Technology

Our Society was founded in 1893 with its primary objective to “advance the art, science, and practice of naval architecture and marine engineering in all their applied forms including the construction and operation of ships, marine vehicles, and structure of all kinds and the arts and sciences allied thereto...

We do this by:

Affording the “exchange of information”

Promoting the “professional integrity”

Furthering the “education in naval architecture and marine engineering” and

Encouraging the “research” related to our profession.

I am pleased to report that our objectives are well supported by the actions of our Members, Council and Executive Committee, especially, as reflected in the proceedings of our Student/Section Chair-Elect Seminar held at Saddlebrook Resort in May. Initiatives in “knowledge management,” “meetings and symposia”, “new scholarship plans” and “reorganizing and focusing our T & R efforts” are all progressing. The strategic plan has been updated to support our objectives. Especially encouraging is the participation and contribution of our growing “Student” and “Young Professional” membership. We are working to provide for their needs and development as they join our ranks. Their enthusiasm and spirit is contagious!

We have two major additions to our November Maritime Technology Conference and Exposition and Ship Productions Symposium agenda. They are a panel on cruise ships and a panel on shipbuilding. These panels will be held in plenary session with all members available to attend. Each will consist of five expert panelists moderated by Vice Admiral James Card for cruise ships, and past President Bruce Rosenblatt for shipbuilding. The following topics will be discussed:

Cruise ships

- Size matters; what are the limits?
- Cutting edge designs
- Innovative propulsion systems
- Passenger and crew safety and health
- Serviceability/and survivability
- Environmental protection

Shipbuilding

- State of the industry -- international and national
- Can the U. S. design and build affordable commercial and naval vessels?
- Innovative designs and the production challenge to shipbuilders
- Quality assurance in design and construction; who is responsible?
- Shipyard/shipbuilding Naval Architects and Marine Engineers in the US...is there a future?

We are looking forward to these events and the information and networking activity associated with them.

From all of the officers and staff of your Society, we wish you a great summer.

Admiral Bob Kramek