

Unions, Chuck Raymond, MTMC



Maritime Administrator Capt. William Schubert (far left) and USTRANSCOM Commander Gen. John Handy (far right) with new AOTOS recipients Major General Ann Dunwoody (accepting on behalf of MTMC) and Horizon Lines President and CEO Chuck Raymond.

Chuck Raymond, the leader of MEBA-contracted company Horizon Lines, was honored with the nation's most prestigious maritime award in November, presented by the United Seamen's Service (USS). USS has been presenting the Admiral of the Ocean Sea (AOTOS) award to giants of the industry since 1970.

In addition, an AOTOS was presented to the U.S. Military Traffic Management Command for its role in the nation's ability to project and sustain combat power that played a crucial role in the regime change in Iraq. A special ceremony paid tribute to the seagoing and longshore unions that facilitated a fluid and potent sealift that enabled the success of



Longtime maritime figure Frank Tuohey is at left. Formerly a presence at the National Maritime Union, Frank helped organize the very first AOTOS dinner in 1970. Phil Clegg (center) and his wife Gloria took part in the 2003 AOTOS ceremony. Phil is the Secretary-Treasurer for the American Radio Association and was pleased to accept a special plaque on behalf of ARA honoring mariners for their roles in Operation Iraqi Freedom.



Honored at 2003 AOTOS Awards

Operation Iraqi Freedom. The presidents of the unions and the Commander of the Military Sealift Command accepted the awards on behalf of their organizations. MEBA President Ron Davis was honored to represent the MEBA membership.

Several awards were also doled out to seafarers for acts of heroism at sea. MEBA participated in the nomination process and was pleased to see that quite a few

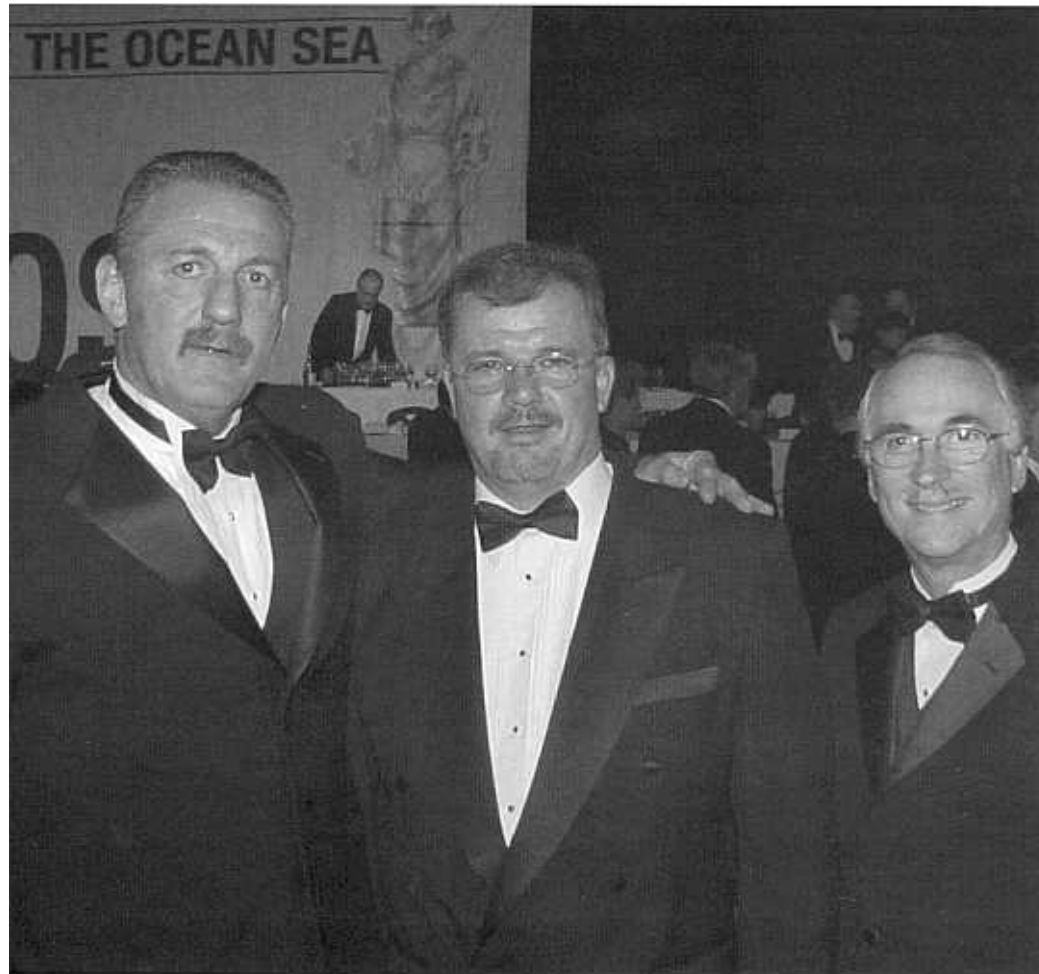
The Calhoon MEBA Engineering School AOTOS contingent included (among others) Evelyn Wilkinson, longtime Instructor Thurland Wilkinson, Mike Matthews and School Director Joyce Matthews. The ceremony brings major maritime players together and draws over 800 industry figures.

mariners aboard MEBA-contracted vessels received recognition. Among those receiving AOTOS plaques were the Officers and crew of the USTS TEXAS CLIPPER II, the Texas Maritime Academy training ship that includes MEBA officers. The vessel came to the aid of a distressed sailboat in 10-12 foot seas with 30-knot winds.

Officers and crew aboard the M/V MOKIHANA, a Matson Navigation vessel, were

also recognized for their part in rescuing the crew of a Japanese fishing vessel off Wake Island, in the Pacific Ocean.

The Officers and crew of the USNS CONCORD, a Military Sealift Command combat stores vessel crewed by MEBA civilian mariners were honored for the rescue of crewmembers on a sinking Egyptian-flagged cargo ship that suffered an engine fire off the coast of Oman. ✕



MEBA Atlantic Coast V.P. Don Keefe with the top two ILWU officers: Int'l V.P. Bob McElrath (l) and Int'l President James Spinosa. MEBA has enjoyed an excellent relationship with the longshoremen through the years. The ILWU officers reiterated their appreciation for MEBA's strong support for the longshoremen during their recent contract struggles.