

PRIDE OF AMERICA, PRIDE IN MEBA



MEBA has 31 members aboard the PRIDE OF AMERICA which is the first newly constructed large cruise ship to join the U.S. registry in nearly 50 years.



The christening of the PRIDE OF AMERICA in New York Harbor proved to be a massive media event. TV's Regis & Kelly later taped a week's worth of their daytime show onboard the ship. Left to right are MEBA members Capt. Kjell Nesheim, MEBA Pres. Ron Davis, C/E Paul Musotto and Staff Captain Jojo Zglav.



June 17th turned out to be a beautiful day for a ship christening in New York Harbor. The 920-foot PRIDE OF AMERICA begins its regular itinerary of Hawaiian island cruises in late July.



NCL President and CEO Colin Veitch was delighted to show off his new ship to a few friends. Left to right are MEBA Pres. Ron Davis, Labor Secretary Elaine Chao, Ron's wife Lois Davis and Colin Veitch.



AMC President Gloria Tosi with former Maritime Administrator and current MEBA/AMC consultant Capt. William Schubert aboard the PRIDE OF AMERICA.



Hawaiian dancers helped complete a festive christening for the vessel.



The MEBA-crewed JOHN D. McKEAN of FDNY Marine Company 1 spouts off in celebration of the christening of the PRIDE OF AMERICA in New York Harbor.



Red, white & blue confetti welcomed the ship into the U.S.-flag fleet. This scene will be repeated next year when the PRIDE OF HAWAII joins her sister ships in the Hawaii trade.



After initial growing pains, the PRIDE OF ALOHA has upgraded its level of services and is able to provide an incredible cruising experience.

PRIDE OF AMERICA CHRISTENING, CONTINUED



First Officer/Navigation Mingta Yuen at his post aboard the PRIDE OF AMERICA. MEBA Brother Yuen, a SUNY graduate who lives in Kona, Hawaii, was the first American officer hired onboard the ship. He is responsible for putting the voyage plans together and he guides the ship at sea. Mingta has substantial cruise ship experience including service in the American Classic Voyages (AMCV) fleet. After AMCV's bankruptcy, NCL purchased the partially completed, U.S. built PRIDE OF AMERICA and finished her construction at the Bremerhaven shipyard. (Photo courtesy of SIU's Mike Hickey/Jordan Biscardo).



A third U.S.-flagged NCL cruise ship, the PRIDE OF HAWAII, will come into service upon its completion next year. This is an artist's conception. MEBA officers will also serve aboard that vessel.



The patriotic reception area continues the theme aboard the PRIDE OF AMERICA.



MEBA's Legal Rep. William Doyle (r) poses with PRIDE OF AMERICA Chief Engineer Paul Musotto aboard the ship.



The ship's Second Engineer Joe Clark (left) working together with Oiler Curtis Tobey to collect samples for oil analysis in the engine room of the PRIDE OF AMERICA. (Photo courtesy of SIU's Mike Hickey/Jordan Biscardo).



Labor Secretary Elaine Chao visiting with MEBA officers aboard the ship. Secretary Chao served as the Godmother of the PRIDE OF AMERICA and performed the christening duties. Left to right are Third Officer Alison Martins, First Officer/Navigation Mingta Yuen, Secretary Chao, Second Officer Ryan Hopkins and Captain Kjell Nesheim.



Union labor aboard the NCL America ships includes members from MEBA, Seafarers International Union (SIU) and Seafarers Entertainment & Allied Trades Union (SEATU). The leaders of 2 of the 3 unions are seen here aboard the ship with a handful of SIU Unlicensed Apprentices (UAs). Left to right are Patrick Devlin, Matt Green, SIU Pres. Mike Sacco, Natalie Tremblay, Bob Light, MEBA Pres. Ron Davis and Isaac Garrido. (Photo courtesy of SIU's Mike Hickey/Jordan Biscardo).



MEMBERS CAN GET NCL CRUISE DISCOUNTS!

On July 1, Union Plus launched a new program featuring discounts on cruises through MEBA-contracted company Norwegian Cruise Lines (NCL) - America. NCL America is offering free airfare from Los Angeles and San Francisco for members booking Hawaiian cruises through the program. There will also be discounted airfare available from 100 major cities. This offer will be good for travel booked by Sept. 30, using the promo code AIRUP1.

Travel may be booked by calling 1-866-867-8593 or visiting www.unionplus.org/cruises. After Sept. 30, the program will offer a minimum 5% discount in addition to any other discount offers on any cruise package offered by NCL. Special cruise offers with even more additional savings may also be available.

