



**CHAMBER OF SHIPPING OF AMERICA**  
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# PRESS RELEASE

**For Release**  
**June 7, 2018**

**NEW ORLEANS, LA...**The U.S. maritime industry publicly recognized the merchant mariners responsible for safe ship operations at the Annual Safety Awards Luncheon held at the Hilton Riverside Hotel on June 5, 2018. Well over 200 people, representing **74** companies and their subsidiaries attended the annual industry-sponsored event where **1,616** vessels with **10,501** cumulative years of accident free operation received awards.

Since 1958, the Chamber of Shipping of America (CSA) has also sponsored the Safety Achievement Award program which recognizes outstanding feats of safety that contribute to saving a life, a ship or other property. This was the Sixtieth Anniversary of the program.

In opening remarks, Kathy Metcalf, CSA President said: "CSA's members are committed to safe operations and CSA's involvement in safety is longstanding with our ongoing commitment to represent the industry, domestically and internationally, on safety issues encompassing every facet of ship operations. It is only fitting that an industry so focused on safety, publicly recognizes the skills and dedication of the women and men who have enabled these many years of safe operations and who are responsible for actions in keeping with the highest traditions of the sea – aid to those in peril."

The Top Honor was received by the AMVER vessel **M/V JOHANNA** of Eurobulk Ltd for their seamanship and lifesaving actions on February 18, 2017 when crew was notified then located a wooden boat taking on water with 105 migrants onboard including pregnant women and many children. Despite choppy seas and high winds, the crew rescued all 105 migrants then provided medical attention, food and shelter before safely transferring all migrants to Italian authorities the following day.

Eight ships received Citations of Merit. The **EAGLE BAY** of member company SeaRiver Maritime, Inc. won for their actions when the ship diverted to respond to a distress call where a disabled sailboat was adrift in high wind and seas. The crew provided a lee for the sailboat for three days as they slowly made their way toward the coast providing fuel and provisions as needed until a U.S. Coast Guard cutter was able to assume the escort. The **M/V GENESIS PATRIOT** of Genesis Marine LLC won for their attentiveness and quick actions on February 12, 2017, and their astute actions when the crew responded to an AMVER alert to assist a sailboat taking on water with 11 migrants onboard. As the risk of sinking increased, the **M/V GENESIS PATRIOT'S** crew astutely embarked the migrants then coordinated a rendezvous with a U.S. Coast Guard cutter to transfer the survivors. Citations of Merits were also awarded to the **M/V NORFOLK**, **STENA BLUE SKY**, **MOL EMPIRE**, **M/V HERCULES LEADER**, **M/V NORD NIGHTENGALE**, and **C/S EMPRESS OF THE SEAS**. Letters of Commendation were awarded to the **M/V AUSTIN GOLDING**, **M/V NONI**, **C/S ALBATROS**, **VEGA VOYAGER**, **PAMPERO** and **B. FRANKLIN REINAUER**.

The Chamber of Shipping of America represents U.S. based companies that own, operate or charter oceangoing tankers, container ships, and other merchant vessels engaged in both the domestic and

international trades and other entities that maintain a commercial interest in the operation of such oceangoing vessels. Membership inquiries may be directed to the President of CSA, Kathy Metcalf at [kmetcalf@knowships.org](mailto:kmetcalf@knowships.org)

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