



ARIES MARINE CORPORATION—
ESTABLISHED IN 1981

THE GOAT

THE GOAT—
VOLUME 5.1

SUMMER 2013

ARIES IS BUILDING TWO NEW SUPPLY BOATS!

Aries Marine is pleased to announce the addition of two new 270 DE PSV. Construction has begun at the LEEVAC Shipyard in Jennings, LA and completion is expected around October 2014 and February 2015.

“In less than 24 months, we will bring to the offshore market two extremely fuel-efficient, versatile, modern workboats. They will fit perfectly within our existing fleet and bring our total vessel count to 24”, said Court Ramsay.

The vessels, which are LDS 270 DE PSV, will have a deadweight capacity of 4,000 LTs and will carry more than 13,000 barrels of liquid mud. Each will be powered by four 3516C Caterpillar generators rated at 1825 kw each and will also be DP-2 system equipped.



Court Ramsay (L) and Chris Vaccari, owner of Leevac Shipyard

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- Highlight Supply Boat Employee
- Highlight in-house Employee
- View from the Bilge
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- New arrivals
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THE FIRST ARC ON THE NEW SUPPLY BOAT MOTOR VESSEL

Recently Richard Johnson, Peter Romero and Tommy Brown visited LEEVAC Shipyard in Jennings. While the three were there, they were able to witness the first arc, which is the first weld, on the new Supply Boat vessel. Completion is expected in 2014.



Peter Romero, Richard Johnson and Tommy Brown with Leevac employee Devin.



Leevac Shipyard employee Devin welds the first arc.

PLAN DOCUMENTS FOR MEDICAL AND DENTAL ON WEBSITE

During the spring safety meetings, Lynn Guidry spoke to you about the “Plan Documents” for the Medical and Dental benefits which are located on our website.

After logging on to our home page: ariesmarine.com, go to the “Employee” tab and on the left hand you will find “Group Health Benefits”

Many of your dental and health questions can be answered by logging on to our website!

as well as “Dental Benefits.” There are prescription updates, claims information, doctors who are participating providers, vision updates, information regarding life insurance, health links

as well as dental information with a website link.



401(k) FINANCIAL ADVISOR : Todd Lambert

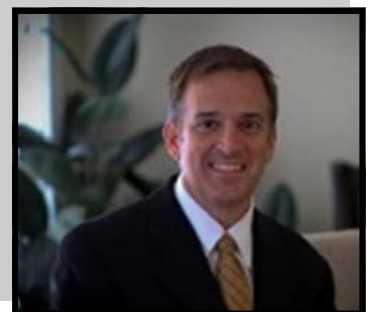
Everyone has financial goals. Sometimes the task of determining what they are and how does one get there, can be a little overwhelming. As financial advisor for the Aries Marine’s 401(k), it is my sincerest pleasure to lend a helping hand on at least one important goal for most: retirement.

Whether you are a longtime employee with only a short period left until assets are needed for retirement or just beginning your participation in the plan, I am available to help you with contribution and allocation strategies that you can use to meet your specific needs. The Aries Marine 401(k), through Great-West Retirement Services, offers a wide variety of

mutual fund investments. Each investment option varies in degree of potential risk and return. It is very important to review the current mix of mutual funds you are using to determine if they still meet your stated objectives.

Whether you are looking for long-term growth of capital or conservative income generation, there are choices available to you. Many of you have heard me speak on the 401(k) plan during a scheduled safety meeting. I hope to introduce myself to more of you through the Aries newsletter. In future newsletters, I will highlight individual funds and provide education on how they can be used in a participant’s retirement portfolio. Of course, if any indi-

vidual would like an analysis of his or her holdings, I can be reached at 337-232-1141 or by email at todd@summit-financial.com. I look forward to helping all of you build greater security toward retirement.



CONGRATULATIONS ON THE NEW ARRIVALS!

- Terry Simpson, Jr. had a daughter, Bailey Lorraine on June 8, 2012
- Devin Cole had a daughter, Isabella Danielle on February 16, 2013
- Josh Long had a daughter, Emma Kate on March 14, 2013
- Alex Bourgeois had a son, Eli Anthony on April 23, 2013



PAYROLL INFORMATION

Payroll period ends every other Wednesday. Your pay is for the prior two weeks worked. DO NOT EXPECT YOUR CHECK OR DIRECT DEPOSIT TO BE THERE UNTIL THE FOLLOWING MONDAY, AFTER PAYROLL ENDS. Please note Aries Marine CANNOT stop payments and reissue payroll checks until seven days after issued. Also, paystubs are online.

In addition, deductions on your pay stub, including group health, dental and 401-K are from the prior two week period of actual work. Aries does not deduct in advance for premiums for group health, dental, nor 401-K. If you have any questions, contact your supervisor: Lift 337-232-0335 or Supply 337-856-9015. A

				1	2	3
				Payroll Period Begins		
	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
			Payroll Period Ends	Payroll Is Processed	Payroll Checks/Direct Deposits are released	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	You Receive Your Pay					
25	26	27	28	29	30	



COMPRESSED GAS SAFETY

- Know the hazards of the gas
- Never move a bottle by hand
- Keep cap on bottle when not using
- Separate hazardous gas bottles
- Use the right regulator
- Wear safety glasses
- Open regulators slowly
- Prevent tipping, rolling, falling
- For more info, ask your supervisor

SUPPLY BOAT EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHTED: *Bill Darnell*

Bill Darnell is currently a Captain aboard the *M/V Dwight Ramsay*. He has been employed with Aries Marine for over 15 years. He was hired by Pete in 1997 as an OS/Oiler. Bill stated “I worked hard learning and performing my job. I had some good teachers and good support. My career at AMC has been challenging and rewarding.”

He is married to Shauna and has three children; Brandon, Jenny and Maxx. He also has one grandson, Mason.

Bill was born and grew up between Houston and Galveston,

Texas and still lives in that area today. His hobbies include fishing and being outdoors.

Bill was asked the following questions:

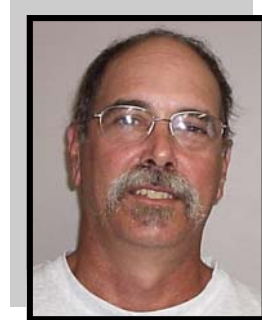
If you could have dinner with anyone in the world, who would it be? Being old school and a history buff, Admiral Nimitz or Halsey or General Patton.

If you were stranded on a desert island, what two things would you have to have (other than food and water)? Knife and shelter.

What person has had the most influence on your life?
That little person in my head telling me to go.

If you were not in this industry, what job would you like to have?

Own and run my own business.



LIFTBOAT EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHTED: *Ernest Melder*

Ernie is employed as a Captain aboard the *M/V Ram XII*. He has been working for Aries Marine for over the past 18 1/2 years.

When Ernie started out on jackups, people didn't have to have a license. He only had three months to learn how to operate the boat, maintain it and keep it looking good. Eventually the Coast Guard got around to requiring Captains possess a license and started inspecting the vessels. Ernie added, “I some times find myself wondering if they've gone too far with some of it but all in all, it's for the safety of the vessel and crew. So just keep in mind newbies, it could be a lot harder.”

Ernie was born in New Orleans, raised in Melder, LA until the 4th grade and then his father retired and bought a

store in Rosepine, LA which is where the family moved. After high school, Ernie met the love of his life, his wife Sheila, and they have been married for 26 years. They have two sons, Sheldon and the late Joshua.

Ernie enjoys bass fishing and wood working during his time off.

Ernie was asked the following questions:

If you could have dinner with anyone in the world, who would it be? My oldest son Joshua Dale Melder, just one more time. That would be awesome.

If you were stranded on a desert island, what two things would you have to have (other than food and water)? GPS and a satellite phone.

What person has had the most influence on your life? My dad, Jefferson Thomas

Melder. He taught me the value of being honest and working hard.

If you were not in this industry, what job would you like to have? I would like to have gone into construction, like my dad and brothers.



SPOTLIGHT ON IN HOUSE EMPLOYEE: *Matt Piper*

Matt was born in Johnstown, PA, and currently lives in Abbeville. He has been married for 7 years to Melanie and has two children, Dylan(10) and Hailee(5). He has been employed with Aries Marine for 18 years.

Matt's hobbies include work, spending time with his wife, his children and helping others.

Prior to his employment with Aries, Matt was a volunteer fireman and a reserve police officer in Delcambre.

Matt was asked the following

questions:

If you could have dinner with anyone in the world, who would it be? My Mom, Ruth Ulrich, who passed away when I was five years old.

If you were stranded on a desert island, what two things would you have to have (other than food and water)? A lighter for fire and fishing string to catch fish.

What person has had the most influence on your life? My brother, Keith Piper, Sr. He is very intelligent and is a hard worker. He is also a good father and grandfa-

ther.

If you were not in this industry, what job would you like to have? My own handyman business.



A VIEW FROM THE BILGE: *by Mike Parker*

A Bright Spot in the Night

There are a lot of questions you don't want to hear during the course of a workday, whether it be at sea or land. During a recent hitch, Mother Nature decided to make a visit in the form of a direct lightning strike to the boat. I think anyone who has been at sea for any length of time has enjoyed the same experience. This was only my third experience of a direct strike and there were definite similarities. The first is that they always seemed to happen in the middle of the night and of course on a weekend. Next is the brilliance of the light is something you'll never forget. I didn't get to see the light this time but was assured it was something spectacular. The third is that it seems to produce an impact that everyone on the boat seems to notice. Finally, it brings for the questions you never really want to find yourself asking:

Anyone who has been at sea for any length of time has enjoyed the same experience.

Question 1. What the _____?

Yes, this is the one always asked from the initial occurrence of anything unexpected.

Question 2. Did anything break? Even though the answer will always be yes, we by nature will ask it anyway.

Question 3. What's that smell? This is always a biggie and something that you never really want to ask while in an environment with high dollar electronics. We found a lot of blown fuses and after changing them, found out from the smell what caused them to blow in the first place.

Question 4. What did we lose? Because I hate long answers, I wish they would just ask what we didn't lose.

Question 5. What do we do now? Actually that is a question that has an answer. However, 2 a.m. on a Sunday morning is not the time you really like to ask it. The people you woke up to get the answer usually didn't want it

asked either.

In the end, everything will have an answer and we will all have an experience to share with others. There will have been a price tag involved and as long as the price doesn't included a life, we will overcome it. Mother Nature can be a feisty old gal and as with our recent experience with her, she doesn't seem to play well with others. Stay safe out there. You are the most valuable thing on the boat.

Good Sailing to All,

Mike Parker



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT: *Court Ramsay*

Dear Aries Personnel,

The year of the JSA is what I proclaimed during this spring's safety meetings. I want all vessel crews to pay special attention to doing detailed Job Safety Analyses for their daily activities. By taking the time to discuss the hazardous elements of our duties onboard and by ensuring that those duties are carried out in accordance with our pre-planning, I feel we will achieve IFO.

I continue to review our internal vessel audits to gain some insight on just how diligent our crews are but I'm also visiting vessels personally. In these visits, I'm asking to see JSA records. I want to see well organized, current and detailed records of JSA activity onboard. Recently, I visited the *M/V BETTY PFANKUCH* and reviewed their records. I found a master binder that contained JSAs for every

particular job that might be performed on that workboat. The JSAs were organized by hazardous activity, electrical, gravity, mechanical, etc. and were numerous! It was an expansive collection kept in that master binder, and appeared to me to be organized well. In addition to that binder, I was directed to another file that held every confirmation of a JSA held which included job particulars, names of participants and dates. Other vessels that I have visited this year have also made improvements and increased their JSA activity. The Safety Department confirms that these activities are taking place across the fleet.

These crews are taking the JSA very seriously and it shows in their documentation and in their safety performance. I applaud



those crews! Good job! Now, let's all do our part in improving our JSA process. The process is an invaluable tool that educates, illuminates, communicates and engages us in a safe culture which will help us all get home safely, hitch after hitch.

Safe sailing,



Compressed Gas

1. Compressed gas hazards include:
 - A. Fire
 - B. Poison
 - C. Asphyxiation
 - D. All of the above
2. If a compressed gas cylinder is damaged it must be:
 - A. Repaired by a certified welder
 - B. Returned to the manufacturer
 - C. Placed back in storage
 - D. Placed upside down
3. Storage of Compressed gas cylinders must be:
 - A. In upright positions
 - B. In a dry area
 - C. In a well ventilated area
 - D. All of the above
4. When not in use, gas cylinders must be
 - A. Painted
 - B. Kept outside
 - C. Capped
 - D. All of the above
5. The maximum air temperature in which gas cylinders can be use or stored is:
 - A. 70 degrees F
 - B. 100 degrees F
 - C. 125 degrees F
 - D. 150 degrees F
6. Cylinders that are dropped must be:
 - A. Returned to the supplier
 - B. Repainted
 - C. Weighed
 - D. Both A and C
7. Empty and full gas cylinders can not be stored together unless:
 - A. They are the same gas
 - B. They are the same size
 - C. They are stored on their side
 - D. None of the above

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ANSWERS: 1-D; 2-B; 3-D; 4-C; 5-C; 6-A; 7-D

EMPLOYEES WHO UPGRADED THEIR LICENSES:

- **Sheldon Melder** went from an OS to an AB.
- **Richard Long** went from an AB to a Mate.
- **Kelly Menard** went from an OS to an AB-special.
- **John Foreman** went from an OS to an AB-special.
- **Andre' Viator** went from an OS to an AB.
- **Douglas Scot Baldwin** achieved DPO.
- **Bernard Dore III** went from a 200 ton Mate to a 200 ton Master.
- **Richard Prater** achieved DPO.
- **Marcus Walker** went from an AB-special to a 200 ton Mate.
- **Miguel Lopez-Oliva** went from an OS to an AB-Special.

Employee who upgraded their licenses (continued):

- **Alex Bourgeois** went from a 3000 horsepower to a 5000 horsepower.
- **Thomas Clements** went from an AB to an AB-unlimited.
- **Michael Holt** went from an OS to an AB.
- **Charles Placide** obtained his OS rating.
- **Mark Rojas** went from a 200 ton Master to a 500 ton Master.
- **James Bernard** went from an AB to a Mate.
- **Justin Myers** went from an AB to an AB-unlimited.
- **Jeffery Willis, Jr.** went from an OS to an AB-special.
- **William Hull** went from an AB to a 200 Mate.

Is your name missing from this recognition? call Claire and let her know!



ANNIVERSARIES: 30 Years



Jude Bodin -30 years

ANNIVERSARIES: 25 years



Phil Ransonet -25 years

ANNIVERSARIES: 20 Years



John Gary -20 years

ANNIVERSARIES: 15 Years



Larry Hebert -15 years



Chad Malveaux -15 years



ANNIVERSARIES: 15 years



Thurmon Charles -15 years



Kerry Pelous- 15 years



Larry Grucza-15 years

ANNIVERSARIES: 10 Years



Austin Rutledge-10 years



Christopher "Chase" Neal-10 years



Steven North-10 years

ANNIVERSARIES: 5 Years



Tommy Brown -5 years



Steven Percevich -5 years



Charles Hudson -5 years



John Williams -5 years

Pictures



A cake to celebrate the new vessels was brought to the vendor kick-off meeting.



Working over the side of the *M/V Dwight S. Ramsay*.



The *M/V Abigail Claire* (L) and the *M/V Elsa Leigh* (R) and the setting sun. (Courtesy of Dennis Gray)

Pictures



The M/V Betty Pfankuch's crew working hard.



Engineers "Timber" and John in the Z-drive space on the M/V Betty Pfankuch at Conrad Shipyards for USCG topside inspections.



Austin Rutledge chipping on the stern leg tip on the M/V RAM XII.



On April 6, in Jasper, Texas, John Lemaire and Phil Ransonet took second-place in the fourth Sam Rayburn Spring Series event.

Phil and John won \$4,000 and Phil also took home \$500 as the highest-finishing participant with a 5-pound bass. (L—John Lemaire,; R—Phil Ransonet)

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**ESTABLISHED
IN 1981!**

ariesmarine.com

**Aries Marine Corporation ~ Lafayette, Louisiana**

Aries Marine Corporation, a privately held Louisiana Corporation, was formed in early 1981 by Dwight S. Ramsay and Betty Pfankuch to own and operate in the Gulf of Mexico self-elevating workboats and supply vessels.

The self-elevating work boats, also called Liftboats or jack-ups, provide mobile yet stable work platforms, crane capabilities and living accommodations for work crews performing services to offshore oil and gas production platforms. The Liftboats range in leg length from 130' to 200', and are capable of operating in maximum water depths of 160'.

Primarily associated with drilling operations, the supply boats provide Aries with a diverse business mix within the marine industry. Our OSV's, as they are commonly called, are the delivery trucks of the offshore sector. Our OSV vessels range in length from 220' to 292', all of which are dynamic positioning.

Currently, there are 24 vessels in the fleet.

Because of our diverse fleet, Aries has worked for all of the major producers as well as most of the independents. We have established a top reputation due to all Aries operations being conducted by experienced, safety minded personnel. Aries Marine takes pride in the cleanliness of its vessels, the efficiency of its operations and our excellent safety record.

Aries Marine is headquartered in Lafayette, Louisiana and maintains a sales and warehouse facility in nearby Youngsville, Louisiana. Aries Marine employs over 300 people.

REMINDERS!

- Do you have any information, a photo or an upgrade to share? Call Claire @337-232-0335 or 337-856-9015 or you can email Claire-claire@ariesmarine.com
- When you renew your MMC/License, please send a copy to the Operations office or stop by and we will gladly make a copy for you!



This issue is dedicated to the loving memory of:

- *Sylvia, wife of Rickey Carroll.*

Editor: Claire Littlefield Bingham

Photography Design: Lynn Guidry