

THIRD QUARTER 2020

# WIMOS QUARTERLY

EDUCATE. ENGAGE. ELEVATE.



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# COVID-19 UPDATE

As reported last month, we will continue to host virtual-only events until further notice. WIMOWeen and our annual river cleanup have been cancelled for 2020.

We will continue to monitor the situation and hope that we may be able to host certain socially distanced events near the end of the year, but as of now we are not planning anything. Please stay safe and healthy as we all work to keep our waterways workers safe from COVID-19!

[Please take a moment to view this COVID-19 safety video from AWO and TTB.](#)

WIMOs has also decided to waive member dues for 2020.

Now is a great time for women who are interested in joining but not sure about paying dues to join. Spread the news!

Have interested potential members email us at [wimosusa@wimos.org](mailto:wimosusa@wimos.org).

Stay safe at home.  
Stay safe at work.

**PLEASE  
CONTINUE TO DO  
EVERYTHING YOU  
CAN TO KEEP  
YOURSELF, YOUR  
WORKPLACE,  
AND YOUR  
FAMILIES SAFE.**



PRESENTING:

# WIMOS IGNITE

*WITH VICKI CLARK*



SESSION 3:  
SERVANT LEADERSHIP

ANY WIMOS MEMBER CAN  
ATTEND

THE FINAL VIRTUAL  
EVENT:  
9AM CST OCTOBER 14

SIGN UP USING THE  
LINK IN YOUR EMAIL

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# WIMOS MEMBERS OF THE QUARTER

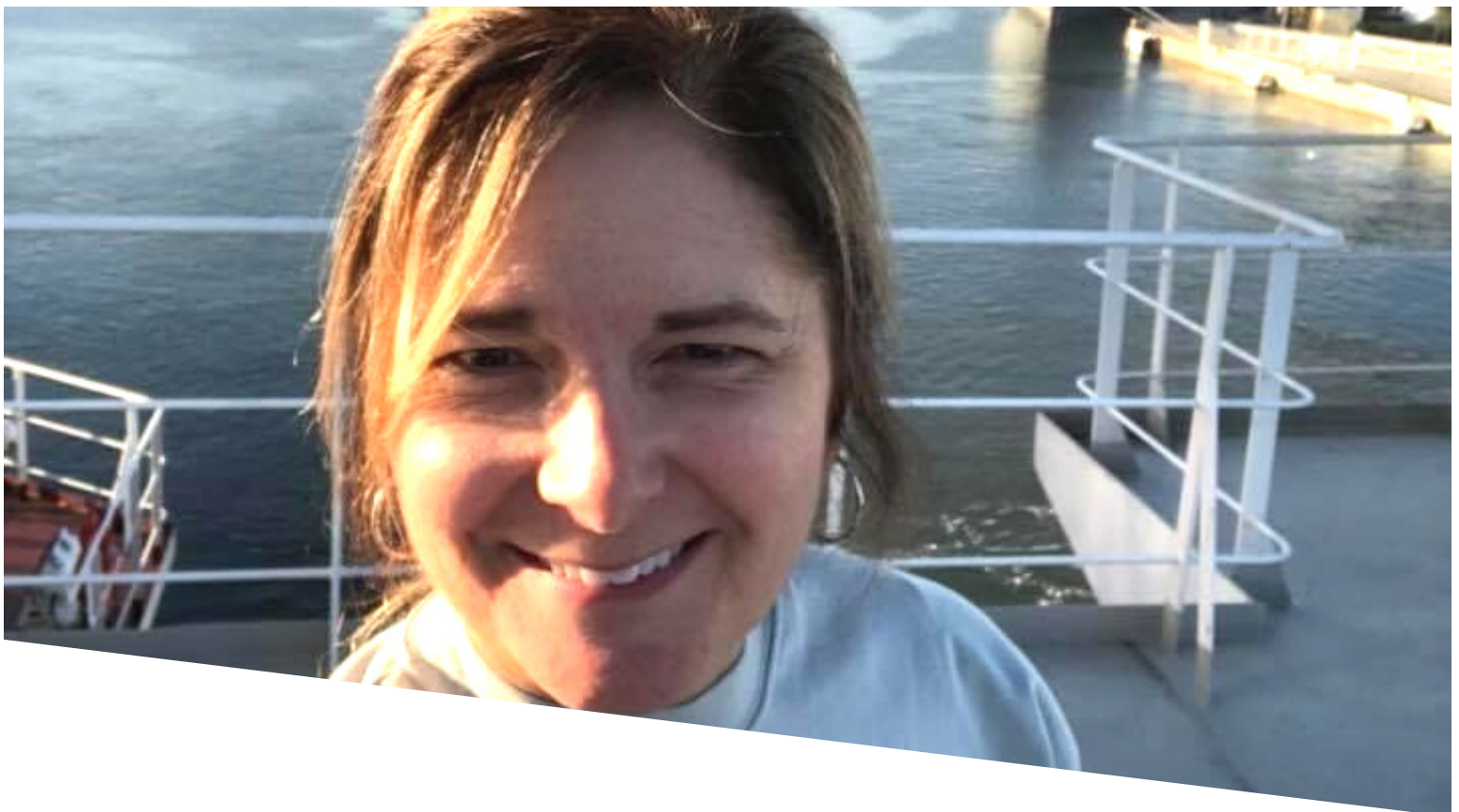
## OUR VICE PRESIDENTS

**Alice Momenee**  
**Marine Supply Chain & Logistics at Marathon Petroleum Corporation**  
**WIMOs National Vice President**

I have worked at Marathon Petroleum in marine operations since 2016, but I have been at MPC for the majority of my career. Prior to transferring to our marine division, I was involved in mostly corporate supporting roles in IT, Finance/Treasury and Payroll/Property Tax (my college degrees are in IT and Finance).

I actually decided to apply for a job in Marine on a fluke because I wanted a total change, and to be involved in an operational aspect of the business...I didn't even know what a tug or barge was! Taking this risk and trying something new was one of the best career decisions of my life.

My career in Marine started with all things related to fuel purchasing for our owned and chartered vessels in both the brown and blue water markets. I love the interaction with fuel suppliers throughout the river system; visiting facilities and getting to know the small (and large) operations that make up that market.



With that responsibility has also come a great emphasis on fuel cost savings, key metrics and fuel usage reductions, by monitoring and recommending decreases in speed to lessen gallon/mile fuel burn. The effect of this drop in vessel speed, when able, has led to significant reductions in MPC's greenhouse gas emissions and other positive environmental impacts. About a year and a half ago, I also became responsible for all of MPC's contract renewals related to Transportation Service Agreements, Reciprocal Towing Agreements and Fleeting & Shifting agreements. I enjoy this work, and while it is tedious and detailed, it has enabled me to further get to know a different set of individuals in the brown water segment. To me, it's all about building relationships!

(Alice continued)

I tell people I have the greatest job at MPC - meeting individuals from all over the inland river system, not just in my roles with negotiating contracts and fuel purchasing, but also in how this job has enabled me to get to know so many people across all functions of the marine business. I also really love small town America, which is such a big part of our industry. Maritime is one of the core industries that make America great and there is never a dull moment (or individual)! I love the stories, the people, and how this industry is crucial to the fabric of our country.

In general, I would say to not be afraid to take risks and ask questions in your career. I am still learning myself and I want to keep pushing the envelope and explore my options. As hard as it is to be rejected for a new opportunity, I have learned that when that happens, to just keep pushing forward and try again later, or to try something else. As far as our industry, my #1 suggestion would be to meet the people that make marine awesome! Get out (after COVID) and attend events, take someone to lunch, spend time face to face. That is one of the primary goals of WIMOs! From the beginning, our organization was formed to give women the ability to meet each other in person, instead of just being at a desk all day and never having that quality in-person interaction. Take advantage of the opportunity! You won't regret it and I guarantee that it will change the way you look at your individual job and your perspective about working in marine.

2020 has been challenging! (I'm not telling you anything you don't know, right?) With the COVID craziness, I have a daughter that is getting married in October and so I'm very excited for her and looking forward to that wonderful event. I also have a son that just graduated from college with a degree in Energy Engineering (sustainability focus)...anyone have any job leads? COVID has made this difficult but he is actively looking. Also, my baby girl is a sophomore in Public Policy at Ohio State - GO BUCKS!

**Gena Wilson**  
**Logistics Coordinator at Turn Services**  
**Southern Louisiana Chapter Vice President**

I've been working in the Inland River Industry since 1982. My very first job was as a Grain Inspector and Barge Unloading Clerk for Continental Grain Company in Reserve, Louisiana. I was twenty years old when I began. Continental was operating an elevator in Reserve on a short time basis while they were rebuilding their large elevator in Westwego that had blown up from a major dust explosion. I worked there for approximately 2.5 years until my elevator was mothballed and the older employees with tenure went back to work in Westwego.

During my work at Continental, my job responsibilities included ordering barges from the various fleets in the area. This exposed me to many of the people in the industry. When my job ended at Continental, I went to work for a barge fleet operation in Convent, Louisiana named Convent Marine Companies. I started at Convent Marine in 1985 as a dispatcher. By 1989, I was the Chief Dispatcher and Fleet Operations Manager. I became the Facility Security Officer after 9/11. My day to day duties included approving invoices, managing the number of boats we needed to profitably operate our fleet, and walking the fleet to check barge ties. It was a challenging but rewarding job.



(Gena continued)

In the early 1990's, Convent Marine was sold to MEMCO Barge/Elmwood Marine Services. I was retained by MEMCO Barge/Elmwood Marine Services in to work in the same position that I occupied at Convent Marine. In March 2005, I left MEMCO Barge/Elmwood Marine Services and took a position with Combined Transport in Metairie, Louisiana which is a third party logistics company. I felt that I had learned all that I could learn about the barge fleet side of the industry. By going to work for Combined Transport, I thought I could learn how my customers, the barge lines, profited. This turned out to be a great move and I learned a wealth of knowledge from that job.

Hurricane Katrina hit in August 2005 and I moved to Houston with Combined Transport. It was a difficult time for the industry. In 2006, I decided to go back to work in the barge fleet business and joined Zito Companies in Metairie, Louisiana. My time at Zito was very informative as I had never worked that particular section of the river which I called the Middle, basically from mile markers 91-137.

In 2007, there was an open position at Turn Services and I took that opportunity which is where I am today. In the past 13 years, I have had several roles at Turn Services including Chief Dispatcher/Logistics Manager. My role today is Senior Dispatcher and I am responsible for developing our younger dispatchers into seasoned dispatchers. I also help with our Barge Ops Fleet Management System which is the system we utilize to manage and track the barges in the five fleets and thirty-five boats that we operate.

I love this industry. It is an old cliché's but it gets in your blood. Once you are bitten and become exposed to the people and the excitement of it all and realize that you are part of "feeding and supply the world", you're hooked.



**Katie Cronin**

**Human Resources Business Partner at Ingram Barge Company**

**Western Kentucky Chapter Vice President**

I've been working in the maritime industry in Paducah, KY for a little over seven years. Prior to, I worked in sales and logistics for a car rental and commercial fleet management company located in Memphis, TN.

The majority of my time within the maritime industry has been spent working in human resources, with the exception of around 6 months in sales and logistics. I've worn many different hats in human resources including benefits, talent acquisition/recruiting, compliance, employee and labor relations, training and development and organizational structure. Since January 2019, I have held the position of Human Resources Business Partner with Ingram Barge. As a HRBP, I am responsible for aligning business objectives with employees and management in the areas I support (shore-side and fleet vessel associates). I work closely with associate relations, policies/procedures, new initiatives, compensation, talent acquisition, onboarding and training programs. My days are never boring!

My favorite part of working in the maritime industry is that it feels like one big family to me. I've made life-long friendships and developed close working relationships with others I view as mentors and leaders. There are so many people who have been in the industry for the majority of their life and they are always willing to share their knowledge with others. [My advice for others is] network! This one reason why I love WIMOs. You can always find someone to reach out to if you are looking for an answer or a helping hand.

I love to cook, garden and spend time outdoors. Most recently, I've taken up kayaking- it's such a good stress relief!

**Kelly Barwick**  
**International Voyage Coordinator at Phillips 66**  
**Houston Chapter Vice President**

I have been in the maritime industry for over 23 years. I earned a Bachelor's degree in Marine Transportation in 1996 from Texas A & M University Galveston. I spent the rest of that year working at the Galveston Country Club- waiting tables, driving the beverage golf cart and working at the pool.

My first job in the Maritime Industry was with Hollywood Marine in spring of 1997 inputting tug/barge traffic into the system in order to generate the morning reports for external customers. Kirby Inland Marine bought Hollywood in 1999 and I continued to work there until 2007 as a towboat/barge scheduler along the Mississippi River and from Corpus to Pascagoula. I then spent the next 9 years working for Odfjell Chemical tankers as the transshipment/port operations for the Gulf of Mexico. I came to Phillips 66 in Spring of 2015 and began working as an International voyage coordinator for all lightering operations in the Gulf of Mexico and all crude vessels that called on the west coast of the United States for loading and discharging operations. I have since worked all the crude vessels on the gulf/east coast of the United States as well as logistics for all the clean product vessel all around the world. This includes working with both internal and external customers, terminals, agents, brokers, masters, and ship owners to ensure the vessels voyage is completed in the most efficient and safest manner. This summer I took on a new role at Phillips 66 as a Marine Assurance Coordinator working in the vetting, inspection, audits and commercial health, safety and environmental department.

I have to say my favorite part of the maritime industry is getting to work in an ever changing environment. Each day is different- the people you talk to, the people you meet, the challenges you face- you never know what the day has in store for you when you get to the office.

My advice is to make sure you have a voice. Your voice is unique and it is your ability to change the circumstances and can make a difference in your work place, your life and others around you for the greater good.

I have one daughter who started high school this year and she plays travel softball - a year round sport so most of my free time is spent cheering her on at tournaments. We are also members of the National Charity League- Texas Diamonds Chapter and when we do not have tournaments we like to volunteer at local food banks, local charities, and after school programs within our community.



# UPCOMING INDUSTRY EVENTS

## Inland Marine Expo **POSTPONED** to September 29-October 1, 2020

Kasey Eckstein, WIMOs's Executive Director, spoke about on WIMOs. The topic was called "Women and Millennials in Maritime". All recordings from the event should be posted by the end of next week. [See the recordings here!](#)

### Recent Podcasts about WIMOs:

Kasey did a podcast with Classic KYMO Radio on WIMOs and the inland towboat industry: [check it out here](#). Our Paducah chapter is mentioned on this podcast as well.

Another podcast with Marine Log Magazine will be released this week and our member in which WIMOs members Heather Ervin and Kasey Eckstein discuss women in maritime operations. [Check out the recent MarineLog Podcasts here.](#)

## INTERCEM Americas Online Webinar Series October 26-2, 2020

Our own Holly Normand with Ingram Barge will be speaking on October 27. [Please sign up here.](#)








# WIMOS BOOK CLUB

Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead  
by Sheryl Sandberg



**OUR BOOK CLUB WILL BE  
HELD IN EARLY NOVEMBER**

Date and Time TBD

## WIMOS IGNITE:

### Women's Empowerment Series

Anyone who's watched Sheryl Sandberg's popular TED Talk, "Why We Have Too Few Women Leaders," is familiar with--and possibly haunted by--the idea of "having it all."

"Perhaps the greatest trap ever set for women was the coining of this phrase," writes Sandberg in *Lean In*, which expands on her talk's big idea: that increasing the number of women at the top of their fields will benefit everyone. Sandberg, the COO of Facebook, encourages women to challenge the common workplace assumption that "men still run the world."

She asks men to be real partners, sharing in the family work that typically leads to a woman's decision to stay home; she asks women who expect to start a family soon not to check out of work mentally. Sandberg's critics note that her advice may not resonate with the masses: The Harvard-educated exec can afford a veritable army to help raise her children.

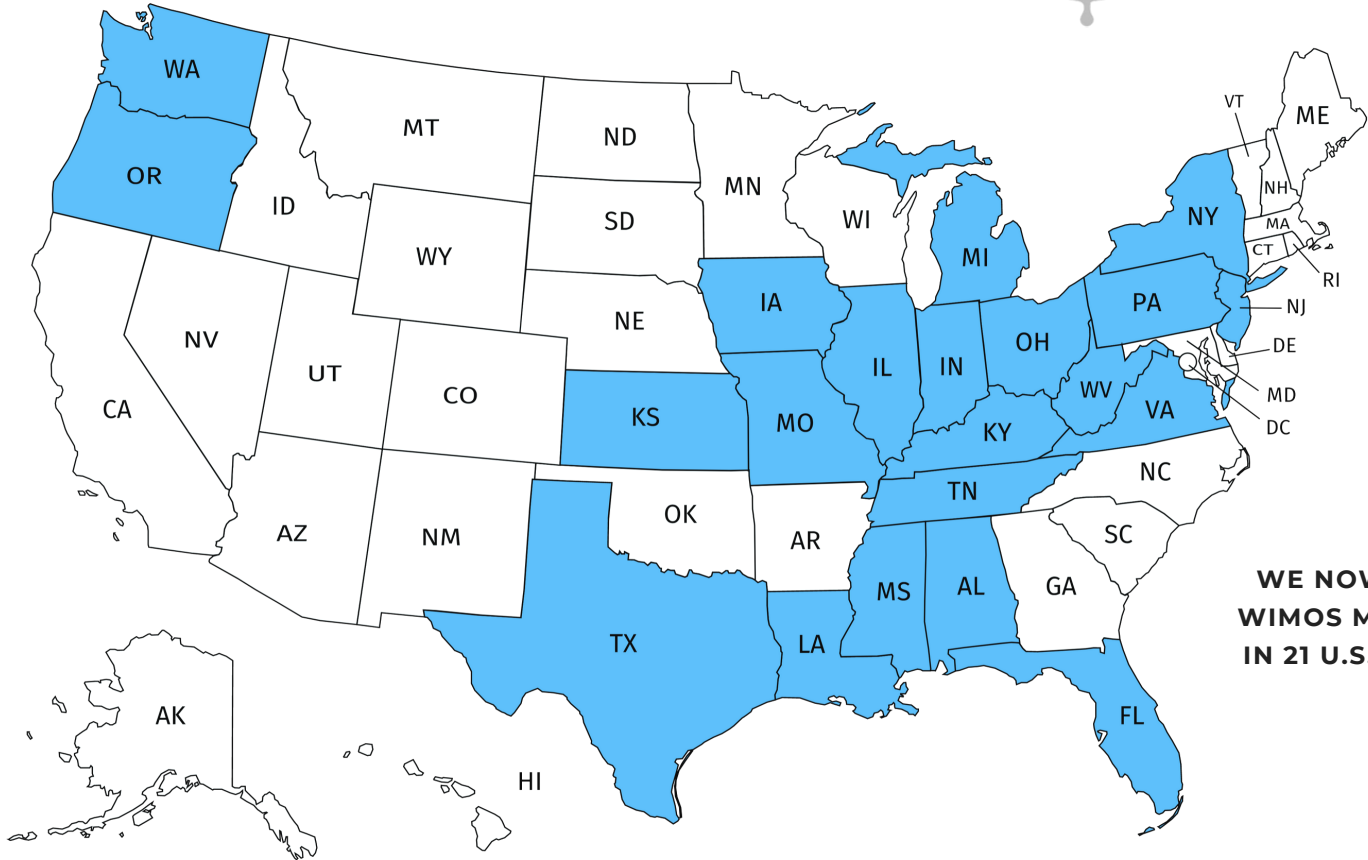
But Sandberg's point--which affects all of us--is that women who have what it takes to succeed at the highest professional level face many obstacles, both internal and external. *Lean In* is likely to spur the conversations that must happen for institutional changes to take place at work.

---Alexandra Foster

# WIMOS MEMBERSHIP UPDATE



**WIMOS CURRENTLY HAS 425 ACTIVE MEMBERS.**



**WE NOW HAVE  
WIMOS MEMBERS  
IN 21 U.S. STATES**

**THIS INCLUDES MEMBERS FROM 110 DIFFERENT MARITIME COMPANIES**

WIMOs is excited to welcome many new members and the following new companies during our third quarter:

Chevron - Crowley Maritime - LaFargeHolcim - TowWorks

We are thrilled to announce that Crowley Maritime has joined as a corporate member. Crowley Maritime is headquartered in Jacksonville, FL, which is a whole new region for WIMOs. If you know of any women in the Jacksonville area who are interested in becoming WIMOs members, please have them reach out to Kasey Eckstein at Atlas Oil or send their information to [wimosusa@wimos.org](mailto:wimosusa@wimos.org).

Crowley is a company with more than \$2 billion in annual revenues and approximately 5,300 employees. The maritime giant maintains a fleet of 200 vessels, consisting of RO/RO (roll-on-roll-off) vessels, LO/LO (lift-on-lift-off) vessels, articulated tug-barges (ATBs), tugs and barges. The company's land-based facilities and equipment include terminals, warehouses, tank farms, office buildings, trucks, trailers, containers, chassis, cranes and other specialized vehicles.

**As a reminder, a WIMOs corporate membership means that your company has, or plans to have, more than 8 female employees involved with WIMOs.**

# WIMOS REBRANDING EFFORT

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With our tremendous growth over the past year and with the changes to the way we do business during COVID-19, WIMOs is currently undergoing a rebranding effort. Our goal is to empower women working operations roles in our industry through education and networking.

We are excited to share what we are doing with as many people as possible. While our events will continue to remain members-only, we plan to start sending out our quarterly newsletter to anyone in the industry who is interested in learning about the powerful women of WIMOs.

People interested in receiving up for the newsletter can sign up [here](#).

Part of our rebranding effort will involve using social media more. If you have a cool photo or idea for our social media pages, you can reach out to Kasey and Kristin with our new social media krewe:

keckstein@atlasoil.com - KStojakovich@barges.us

We are also in the process of updating our website. Please pardon our dust as we continue to transfer everything from the old site to the new one. In the meantime, check out the new and improved website:

<https://www.wimos.org/>



## FOLLOW WIMOS ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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@wimos\_association



WIMOs Association



WIMOs Association (Public)