

WINTER 2022 & SPRING 2023



# WIMOS QUARTERLY

EDUCATE. ENGAGE. ELEVATE.





Women in Maritime Operations is an organization that provides educational and professional development opportunities, which enables women to learn and practice skills in a non-judgmental, supportive, and empowering environment.



We are dedicated to retaining, advancing, and promoting women in maritime operations through sharing knowledge and continuing education.



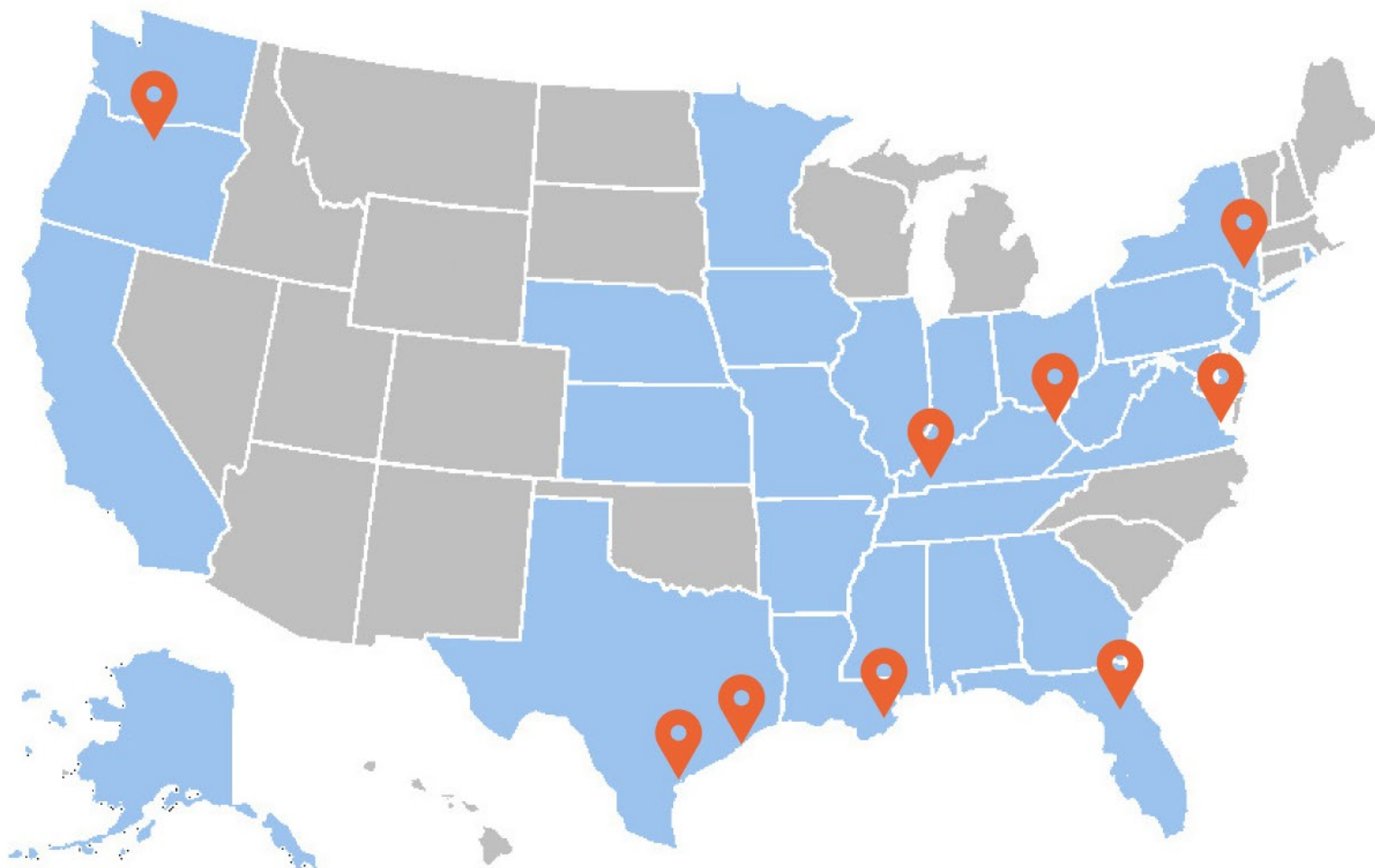
Our motto is: Educate.  
Engage. Elevate.



## WIMOS MEMBERSHIP UPDATE



**WIMOS CURRENTLY HAS 811 MEMBERS ACROSS  
200 COMPANIES. WE ARE LOCATED IN 26 U.S.  
STATES PLUS CANADA AND NIGERIA!**

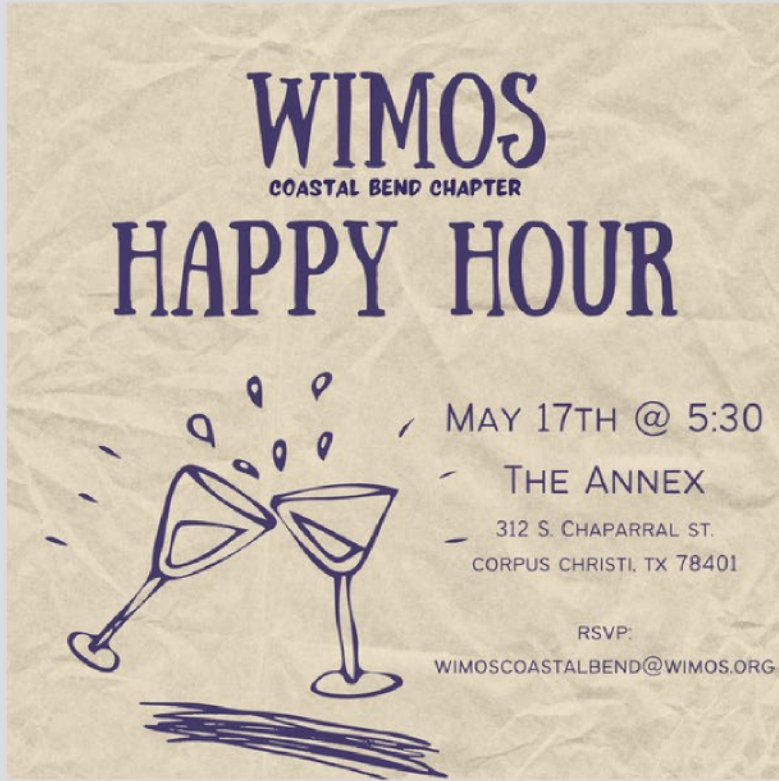


### **Our formal or seed chapters are located here:**

- Southern Louisiana
- West Kentucky
- Houston, TX
- Ohio Valley (Pittsburgh, PA to Louisville, KY)
- Pacific Northwest
- Coastal Bend (Port Lavaca to Port of Brownsville)
- Hampton Roads/Norfolk
- Jacksonville, FL
- Northeast (coming soon!)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Coastal Bend



**WIMOS**  
COASTAL BEND CHAPTER

# HAPPY HOUR

MAY 17TH @ 5:30

THE ANNEX  
312 S. CHAPARRAL ST.  
CORPUS CHRISTI, TX 78401

RSVP:  
WIMOSCOASTALBEND@WIMOS.ORG



**COASTAL BEND**

# HARBOR TUG VESSEL TOUR

PRESENTED BY

**SUDERMAN & YOUNG**  
TOWING COMPANY

MAY 17TH @ 3:00 PM

MEMBERS ONLY  
RSVP: WIMOSCOASTALBEND@WIMOS.ORG

## Houston



Making Waves, Making History

# Houston/Galveston Leadership & Inclusion Symposium

MAY 10-11TH

Inspire, Motivate, & Increase your leadership impact!

NASA GILRUTH CENTER  
2101 E NASA PKWY, HOUSTON, TX 77058

Featuring NASA Astronaut Megan McArthur

Dress Code: Military & Civilians Business Casual

\*NO HOST SOCIAL May 10th @ 5:30PM  
Las Haciendas  
2951 Marina Bay  
League City, TX

## Ohio Valley



WIMOs Ohio Valley

# FIREARM SAFETY & SELF DEFENSE CLASS

June 14 in Washington, PA

Space for only 10 members

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## West Kentucky

May 19: Propeller Club of Paducah Golf Tournament

June 27: Lunch N' Learn with Economy Boat Store



WEST KENTUCKY

# DECKHAND TRAINING

May 9 at 11am  
MEMBERS ONLY

## Webinars



WIMOs Webinar Series Presents:

# Investing for Women

Thursday, May 11  
12-1:30 PM CST



In this workshop, Bola will cover key action steps on how to leverage investing to build long-term financial security and wealth.




WIMOs Webinar

## PM 101 - INTRODUCTION TO PROJECT MANAGEMENT

JUNE 7  
12-1:30 CST

This WIMOs Webinar will be hosted by Taylor Dickerson, VP of Project Management for Kirby Corporation

LEARN MORE

LIVE WEBINAR

RSVP on our website by June 2 \*members only

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Pacific Northwest



## WIMOs National

May 31 - June 2: WIMOs Booth & Breakfast at IMX Conference



\* All updated event information can be found under the "[Events](#)" tab. Some events are members only, but others are open to men and women in the industry!

# WINTER 2022 & SPRING 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

## HAMPTON ROADS/NORFOLK

Networking event for new members



## COASTAL BEND

- USS Lexington Hard Hat Tour
- USCG Lunch N' Learn
- Christmas Social Luncheon



# HOUSTON

- Women's Self Defense Seminar
- WIMOs and WISTA Holiday Party
- USCG 80th Anniversary SPARS Celebration
- Texas A & M University at Galveston Spring Career Fair
- Sisterhood of University Leaders at Texas A&M University Galveston Campus Mentor Meeting





## PACIFIC NORTHWEST

### TEMCO Lunch N' Learn



## OHIO VALLEY

### Inaugural Member Event



## Southern LOUISIANA

- Crescent Towing Lunch N' Learn
- Mississippi Valley Trade & Transport Council Mardi Gras Parade
- Candle Making Event
- 2023 Cocktail Kickoff with WISTA



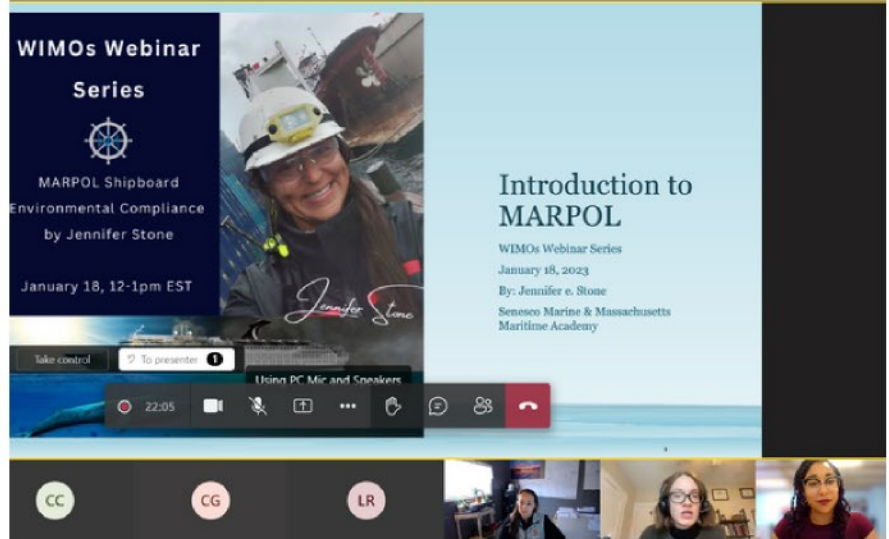
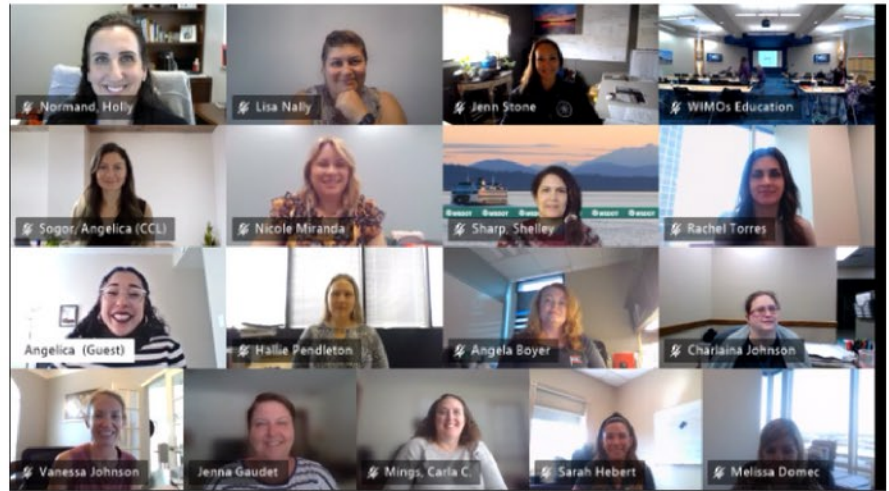
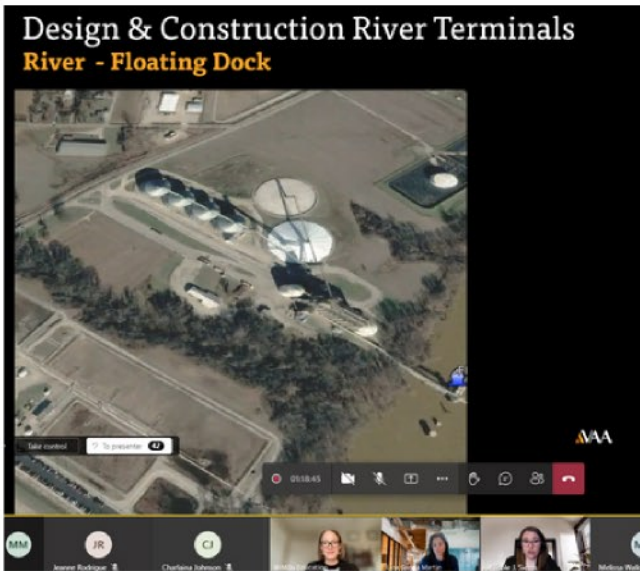
## WEST KENTUCKY

- Rigging Industry Knowledge Lunch N' Learn
- Marquette Transportation Lunch N' Learn
- Leadership Training Lunch N' Learn



# WEBINARS

- Design and Construction of Ports and Terminals
- Leadership Training
- Intro to MARPOL



# MOBILE, AL

## USCG Women's Leadership Initiative



# WIMOS NATIONAL

## 2nd Annual Clay Shoot & Welcome Reception



# INDUSTRY EVENTS

WorkBoat Show Walk Around and Wine Event  
*Between The Levees* Podcast Interview



NYC Economic Development Corporation's Offshore Wind and Maritime Career Awareness Fair

## Thank you Holly Normand for your 5 years of service as WIMOs' Executive President!



**Holly Normand**  
**Dry Cargo Sr. Sales Representative**  
**Ingram Barge Company**

We are immensely grateful for the service and leadership of Holly Normand. Under her leadership WIMOs grew from 30 members in the New Orleans area to 800+ members across 26 states, 3 countries, and 200+ companies.

“

I would like to give a special thank you to all of the members and companies that believed in us from the beginning! We couldn't have got here without you! This organization has only just begun! I am so proud to have been here for the early years and help WIMOs grow! The next 5 years and beyond will only bring more support for women in the maritime industry. Never forget why we are all here.....to positively lift up each other! Be a mentor, protégé, or just a fellow woman to lean on!

”

# Congratulations to our new WIMOs National President, Taylor Dickerson!



**Taylor Dickerson**  
**WIMOs Executive President**  
**Vice President of Project**  
**Management**  
**Kirby Corporation**

Taylor is responsible for managing the portfolio of executive level projects in environmental sustainability, technology advancement and innovation, mergers and acquisitions, corporate strategy, process improvement and efficiency, analytics, and more.

She holds a Masters of Business Administration in Finance and Energy from Tulane University, and a Bachelors of Business Administration in Management and Entrepreneurial Studies from Texas State University.

Her professional passions include adding value through innovation and efficiency, creating unique strategic solutions, and empowering and mentoring women. She currently is a Volunteer Mentor for the WIMOs Mentorship Program, as well as serves on the selection committee.



## **Congratulations to WIMOs SOLA Chapter Vice President, Mindy Melancon!**



**Mindy Melancon**  
**Southern Louisiana Chapter, Vice President**  
**Senior Invoicing Analyst at Associated Terminals**

Mindy Melancon is the Senior Invoicing Analyst for Associated Terminals and Turn Services. She started her career in the maritime industry 5 years ago working as the Billing Clerk for Turn Services. Mindy has since grown into her current role where she is responsible for revenue collection, contract management, and various process improvement efforts. While working as a customer liaison and departmental representative, her role allowed her to grow her professional network. Mindy has gained a multitude of knowledge while working for Associated Terminals and Turn Services and absolutely loves working in the maritime industry!

## Cherrie Felder Elected Chair of Waterways Council, Inc.

*By April-Hope Wareham*



We've all experienced the stress that aging marine infrastructure puts on our supply chain. With around 80-85% of all the locks on the inland waterway system past their 50-year life expectancy, The Waterways Council, Inc (WCI) exists to ensure funding that is set aside for repairing locks, dams, and other inland waterway infrastructure is utilized to its full capacity. This nonpartisan, nonprofit organization has helped move forward the repairs of millions of dollars of infrastructure on our inland waterways system, and we are proud to announce that Cherrie Felder, a WIMOs member out of our Southern Louisiana chapter, has recently been elected the first female chair of WCI.

Cherrie was raised on a ranch in Mississippi, and in a roundabout way, it's that part of her story that got her into the maritime industry in the first place. After graduating from Vanderbilt University with a degree in African Art, Cherrie found herself at the New Orleans Museum of Art cataloguing their African, Oceanic and Northwest Coast American Indian Art collections. While at the Museum she attended a reception to kick off a new rodeo in New Orleans. After volunteering at the first rodeo, she was chosen as the executive director of the New Orleans rodeo.

Unfortunately, “New Orleans is not a rodeo town,” and the rodeo was terminated after its third year. However, Cherrie had met Dennis Steger, Chairman of the Board of the New Orleans Rodeo – who at the time owned Lower Miss Marine Service, a maritime brokerage company – who was impressed with her work ethic and enthusiasm. He insisted that friends leaving Ingram Barge to start the Marine Division of Torco Oil Company hire her, and Cherrie was hired as their Office Manager.

It quickly became apparent that Cherrie could do much more than manage Torco’s New Orleans office. “I just fell in love immediately with the industry,” she says. Cherrie took advantage of every opportunity she could and moved from managing the office, crew changes, grocery orders and boat orders to managing operations and customers. She even took the opportunity to work in sales to further understand what customers needed and how the business worked.

By the time Torco sold off all its assets in 1982, Cherrie had made a name for herself in the industry. She worked for St. John Fleeting, then Marine Inland Transportation, and finally Blessey Marine. When her husband was diagnosed with cancer, Cherrie took some time away from work to care for him. Unfortunately, he passed away in 2000. By this time, Dennis Steger – the same man who had helped Cherrie find her way into maritime in the first place – had started Channel Shipyard and suggested she come to work with him. Cherrie took his offer and has worked for Channel ever since. She currently holds the role of Vice President of Channel Shipyard Companies. In 2017, Cherrie received the Seamen’s Church River Bell Distinguished Service Award and the National Rivers Hall of Fame National Achievement Award.



Cherrie now represents Channel Shipyard not only as Chair of WCI but also as the Treasurer of the Coast Guard Foundation, the Secretary of LAWS and on AWO. "As long as the Steger boys let me work, I'm going to work!" she laughs, and her passion for this industry and ensuring funding for inland waterways restoration and infrastructure projects is infectious.

As Chair of WCI, Cherrie helps to do just that. WCI includes carriers, shippers, agricultural groups, and more. "What makes us so effective is the diversity of our membership," she explains. With labor, environmental, and agricultural groups involved, this organization uniquely situated to work with lawmakers from all political parties and geographies in the US. "They all care about the waterways," Cherrie says, regarding the bipartisan nature of WCI. Ensuring funding set aside through the Inland Waterway Trust Fund and the general treasury (our taxes) is the next step. While the money is earmarked for these projects, prioritizing and ensuring spend can be difficult, and that is where WCI comes in. It can be said that Cherrie Felder, as Chair of this organization, is working to secure the future of the maritime industry in the United States and has probably helped each of us who works on the water in ways we do not even know.



# WIMOS PROMOTIONS AND RECOGNITION

<b>Angelica Brooks</b>	<i>WIMOs</i>	<b>Director of Communications</b>
<b>Brianna Gonzalez</b>	<i>Kirby Inland Marine</i>	<b>Account Manager</b>
<b>Cami Pyne</b>	<i>Kirby Corporation</i>	<b>Kirby Corporation</b>
<b>Kerra Kunz</b>	<i>Kirby Inland Marine</i>	<b>Sales Manager</b>
<b>Norabel Matamoros</b>	<i>Kirby Offshore Marine</i>	<b>Sales Manager</b>
<b>Tara Kilgore</b>	<i>Kirby Inland Marine</i>	<b>GM, Training &amp; Personnel</b>
<b>Taylor Dickerson</b>	<i>Kirby Corporation</i>	<b>VP of Project Management</b>
<b>Taylor Williams</b>	<i>Marquette Transportation River Division</i>	<b>Barge Coordinator</b>
<b>Valerie Coffelt</b>	<i>Marquette Transportation River Division</i>	<b>Director of Mariner Engagement</b>

## IMX 40 Under 40 Winners!

### **Bridget Pennington**

American Commercial Barge Line  
Director of Talent Development & Corporate Recruiting

### **Cara Carson**

AVP Human Resources  
Ingram Barge Company

### **Jenna Gaudet**

Eckstein Trade & Transport LLC  
Co-owner & Executive VP

### **Tabitha Brown**

Assistant Operations Manager/ HR Manager & Business Development  
Brown Marine Service Inc.

### **Taylor Dickerson**

Kirby Corporation  
VP of Project Management

# **WIMOs Store NOW OPEN!**

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**WIMOs Store — WIMOs Educate. Engage. Elevate**

 WIMOs Educate

Text or email us photos and videos from industry and WIMOs events

**Save us as a contact with the below QR code**



Photos@wimos.org



504-208-2098





# WOMEN IN MARITIME OPERATIONS MENTORING PROGRAM

Educate. Engage. Elevate.

## Program Goal

Help each woman interested in a maritime career achieve her desired level of leadership, responsibility, and achievement. We do this by connecting women who are contemplating or starting a maritime career with a WIMOs mentor who has a background in that career field.

## Contact Information

Email Us:  
[wimosmentoring@wimos.org](mailto:wimosmentoring@wimos.org)

Visit our Website:  
[www.wimos.org/mentoring](http://www.wimos.org/mentoring)

## Mentors

Any WIMOs member!

- Available to volunteer time
- Willing to share industry knowledge and experiences

## Protégés

Women who are contemplating or starting a maritime career

- WIMOs and non-WIMOs members
- Active duty military & veterans
- College students

We are accepting nominations for the WIMOs National Treasurer. If you or someone you know is interested then email [wimosusa@wimos.org](mailto:wimosusa@wimos.org).



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