

WINTER 2021

# WIMOS QUARTERLY

EDUCATE. ENGAGE. ELEVATE.

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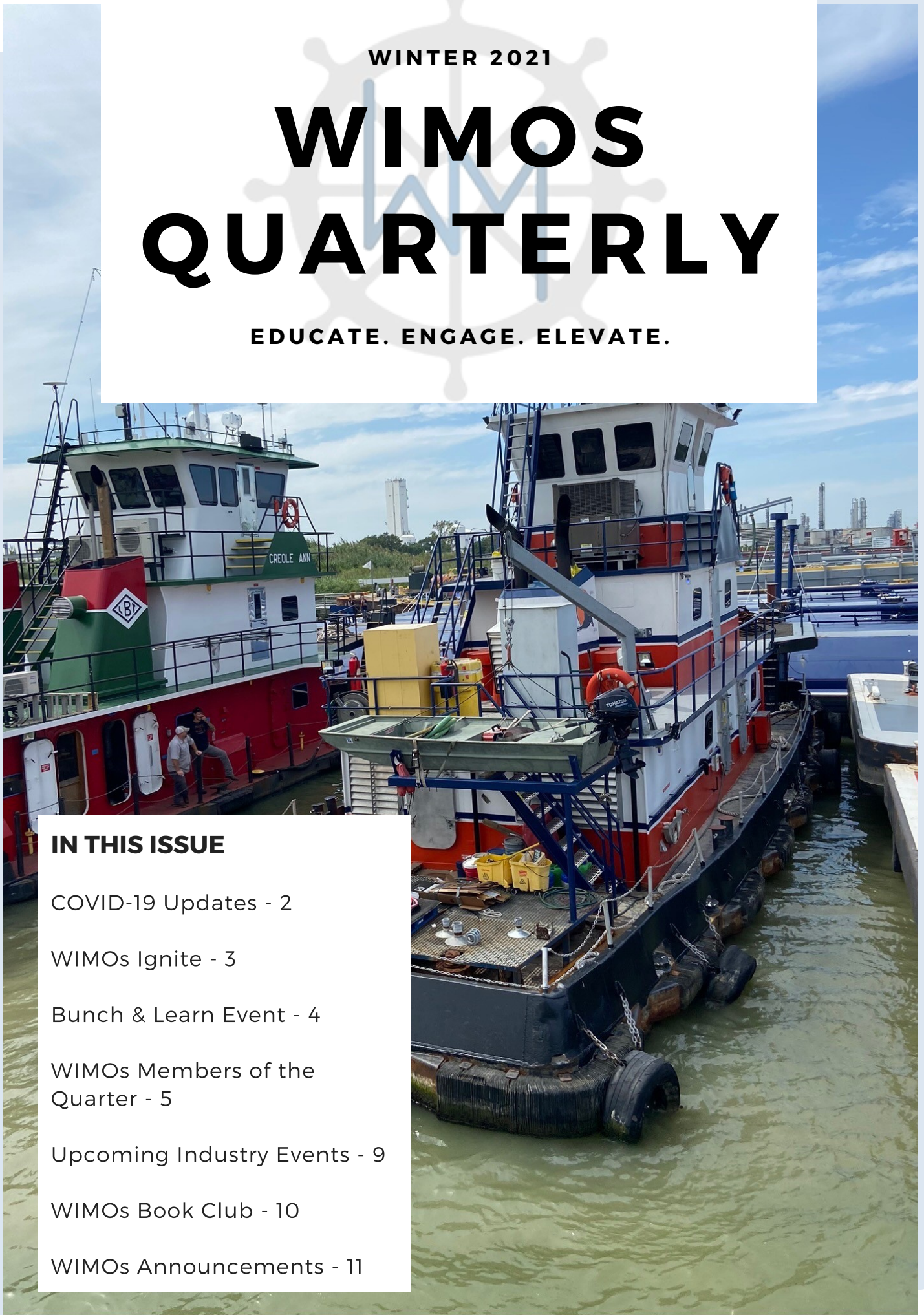
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# COVID-19 UPDATE

Going into the spring, we will continue to host virtual-only events until further notice.

We will continue to monitor the situation and hope that we may be able to host certain socially distanced events this spring in line with local and national regulations.

[Please take a moment to view this COVID-19 essential worker video from AWO and TTB. To all our essential maritime workers out there: thank you!](#)

In the meantime, be on the lookout for virtual WIMOs events! The WIMOs Houston chapter is planning a virtual scavenger hunt for February 24 at 7pm CST. If you are Houston chapter member, check your email for information on joining the event.

WIMOs will be charging our regular dues for 2021. Invoices are expected to go out in the spring.

Stay safe at home.  
Stay safe at work.  
Stay well, WIMOs!

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



PRESENTING:

# WIMOS IGNITE

WITH SHANDEE BOWMAN  
DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCE AND CULTURE AT CROWLEY  
MARITIME CORPORATION



SESSION 3:  
A CROSS-CULTURAL  
INTELLIGENCE MINDSET

ANY WIMOS MEMBER CAN  
ATTEND

THE FINAL VIRTUAL  
EVENT:  
12PM CST MARCH 24  
(NOTE: DATE CHANGED FROM THE 17TH)

SIGN UP USING THE  
LINK IN YOUR EMAIL

THANKS TO **CROWLEY**<sup>®</sup>

# STEVEDORING BRUNCH & LEARN

WITH AMANDA ENGLAND  
DIRECTOR OF LOGISTICS AT T. PARKER HOST



FEBRUARY 25  
9AM CST

ANY WIMOS MEMBER CAN  
ATTEND

SIGN UP USING THE  
LINK IN YOUR EMAIL

THANKS TO **HOST**

# WIMOS MEMBERS OF THE QUARTER

## OUR PRESIDENTS

**Holly Normand**  
**Dry Cargo Sales Representative at Ingram Barge Company**  
**WIMOs National President**

About a year after college I was looking for a job of any kind and had no real idea what I wanted to do. I applied at this barge company (I didn't even know what an actual barge was) and got the job! That was 15 years ago this month that I have been with Ingram Barge Company!

I started at Ingram in Customer Service/Logistics. I handled barge logistics in the gulf region for 8 years. Then I had the opportunity to move to Vessel Operations and managed Capital Fleet in Port Allen, LA for almost 3 years. There I handled 4 fleet boats and crews, worked with them on audits and Coast Guard inspections safety and training. Also, I managed the facility and the dock barges. Then in 2017 I moved to the Dry Cargo sales team at Ingram handling the Gulf Regional sales and have been there ever since.

[There are] so many things I love about this industry. One is you will never have the same day twice. Always learning! Another is the great people in our industry. It's a small family that stretches up and down every river.

Advice for others in the industry: Keep asking questions and never think you have all the answers. Always use the people around you for wisdom and advice.

I am proud to be called a River Rat!

I AM PROUD TO BE  
CALLED A RIVER RAT!



**Anna Whittemore**  
**Vice President Sales & Logistics Gulf-Inland at**  
**Marquette Transportation Company**  
**Southern Louisiana Chapter President**

Since I graduated high school in 2009, I have been immersed in the maritime industry. I graduated from Massachusetts Maritime Academy in 2013, and then went straight to work in the field. My 4 years at the academy were a very non-traditional, hands on and interactive learning environment. This is the only industry I see myself in.

I sailed as a Marine Engineer on Deepwater Drill ships [initially]. When I shifted to a shore based career, I have taken on Sales Engineering and Project Management for marine propulsion systems, and then switched to Operations as a Logistics Manager. Today, I am the VP of Sales & Logistics over a fleet of 65 inland towboats and interact with customers and operations on a daily basis to ensure work for each and every vessel and that the vessels are safely operating to generate revenue for the company. I am continually creating and building strong relationships with customers in the industry to support their needs as well.



Always follow your heart when it comes to your career. If you don't truly love the industry, maybe your passion is in a different field. This industry has something to offer for everyone from hands on, to clerical work, to administrative staff, to management and leadership type roles.

I did not grow up around the industry. I fell in love with it on my own, and my family is learning a whole new world through my eyes and my career path. It is something we all enjoy talking about together.



**Whitney Cruse****Vice President of Barge Logistics at Marquette Transportation Company  
Western Kentucky Chapter President**

I graduated from Murray State University with a Business Degree in May of 2008. I knew absolutely nothing about towboats or barges when I was hired as a Boat Logistics Coordinator at Maquette that September. That role was mostly administrative and data entry focused, but I took every opportunity to learn more. In the fall of 2009, I was promoted to Boat Logistics Manager. My first river segment to dispatch was the Lower Mississippi River. During those harvest months, the environment was fast pace and the work was like trying to put together different puzzles with the same pieces...every day. It was fun, frustrating, and oddly, furthered my passion for the industry.

Over the next eight years, I had my turn at dispatching each river segment. Customers communicated to me their towing needs. I, then, implemented tow plans for our boats by coordinating barge pick-ups and drops. In February of 2017, excited for a new challenge, I had the opportunity to lead our Barge Logistics Team. As Vice President of Barge Logistics, it has been my privilege to lead a team of 6 dispatchers that have the same pride as I do. Our main goal is to ensure our barges are moving as efficiently and cost effectively as possible. So we spend our days in constant communication with our sales team, freight owners, fleet dispatchers and towers. We do a lot of problem solving and negotiating too. Occasionally, we have slower paced days, but rarely are any days dull. I learn something new from either someone in the industry or from a new situation to work through.



[My favorite part of the maritime industry is] the people in it! I'm so thankful for the relationships built over the last 12 plus years. Especially, thankful for those that took time to teach me when I didn't even know the difference between a boat and a barge. God bless them! Their pride and passion was then passed along to me. Additionally, I get so excited when finally meeting someone for the first time after talking by phone and emails for years.

What advice do you have for others in the industry?

Never stop learning. If you are interested in something whether in your department or not, ask questions. I believe the more you know the better understanding of the big picture you will have which is very valuable for personal and professional growth.

A fun fact:

My in-laws bought me a table saw for Christmas because I was often borrowing theirs. I have several projects on my wish list to build when weather warms up.

**Caroline Abbott**  
**IMarine Engineer at Marine Spill Response Corporation**  
**Houston Chapter President**

I have been in the Maritime industry for 6.5 years. Prior to joining the industry, I graduated from Texas A&M University at Galveston (TAMUG) where I studied Marine Engineering Technology.

For the first 6 years on my career, I worked as a Staff Surveyor where I had two (2) different types styles of work. The first half of my job involved working as a third-party project manager/port engineer for hire. My job was to oversee the day-to-day repairs and inspections when the vessels were on dry dock. I was the customers' representation in the shipyard, responsible for everything from engine overhauls, to steel repairs and various safety inspections. I was also responsible for ensuring all Regulatory (USCG) and Classifications Society requirements were met during the survey period. When I wasn't working on a docking, I conducted a wide range of surveys including P&I, vessel damage, condition and valuation, on/off hire condition, pre-purchase, draft surveys, cargo condition and damage, and marine structure damage surveys.

Building upon my surveying foundation, I moved into oil spill recovery at Marine Spill Response Corporation (MSRC) where I work as a Marine Engineer focusing on the Gulf Region. My responsibilities are similar to my previous port engineer experience except now I supervise the docking and repairs of MSRC equipment instead of third-party equipment. At MSRC my responsibilities also include drafting shipyard specifications and evaluating bids and proposals. Additionally, I supply technical engineering direction for vessel modifications, equipment upgrades and repairs for our Gulf Region response sites.

My favorite part of the industry is that each day presents new challenges. I find new and exciting opportunities around every corner.

While there is no doubt this industry can be hard, especially on woman, it can also be very rewarding. My advice is, show up, put in the work, and stand up for yourself because no one else will. Engaging with the woman in the maritime community is critical because not only can they provide technical support, but they can relate to your experiences.

An interesting fact:  
While attending TAMUG I worked as a student technician where I taught fabrication and welding. I also love crafting and DIY which has resulted in my collection of 14 wreaths.





# UPCOMING INDUSTRY EVENTS

## ARTCO Blood Drive

On March 2nd from 0800-1200, ARTCo will team up with The Blood Center to host a blood drive at the ARTCo Waggaman/Westwego office. 8400 River Road, Westwego, LA 70094. The drive is not only open to ARTCo/ADM employees, but friends and family as well. In order to accommodate everyone as well as honor social distancing, everyone is asked to schedule an appointment via the scan link below. This blood drive is open to people of any blood type, but is in honor of Jake Meerman, Joey Meerman's (ARTCO Dispatcher) two-year-old son who was recently diagnosed with leukemia.

## Women Offshore's Cal Maritime Virtual Women in Leadership Conference

March 4-5, focus on building resiliency with this free virtual conference. Sign up [here](#).

## MarineLog Tugs Towboat & Barge Virtual Conference

March 23-24, experience the free TTB virtual conference. Sign up [here](#).

## Seamen's Church Institute Opportunity:

Zoom event: making prayer beads for mariners on March 4. Sign up by emailing [wellness@seamenschurch.org](mailto:wellness@seamenschurch.org) by February 24.



Company Blood Drive & Replacement Blood Drive for Jake Meerman

ARTCO

Tues., March 2nd

8:00am - 12noon

Location - Breakroom

In honor of social distancing, **everyone** is asked to schedule an appointment. Simply scan the QR code below with your smartphone and select a time that works best for you.



*Remember, donations for Jake Meerman will be accepted this day, but donors will not receive any promotional incentives.*



## BUILDING RESILIENCY

2021 WOMEN IN MARITIME LEADERSHIP VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

**MARCH 4 & 5 2021 9:30am – 3pm**

**CAPTAIN KATE MCCUE**

Keynote Speaker March 4th

**GLADYS DIVA BROWN**

Closing Speaker

**CRISTINA ZENATO**

Keynote Speaker March 5th

**ELIZABETH SIMENSTAD**

Closing Speaker

**REGISTRATION BEGINS IN JANUARY!**

FOR UPDATES AND INFORMATION VISIT

**WWW.CSUM.EDU/WML**

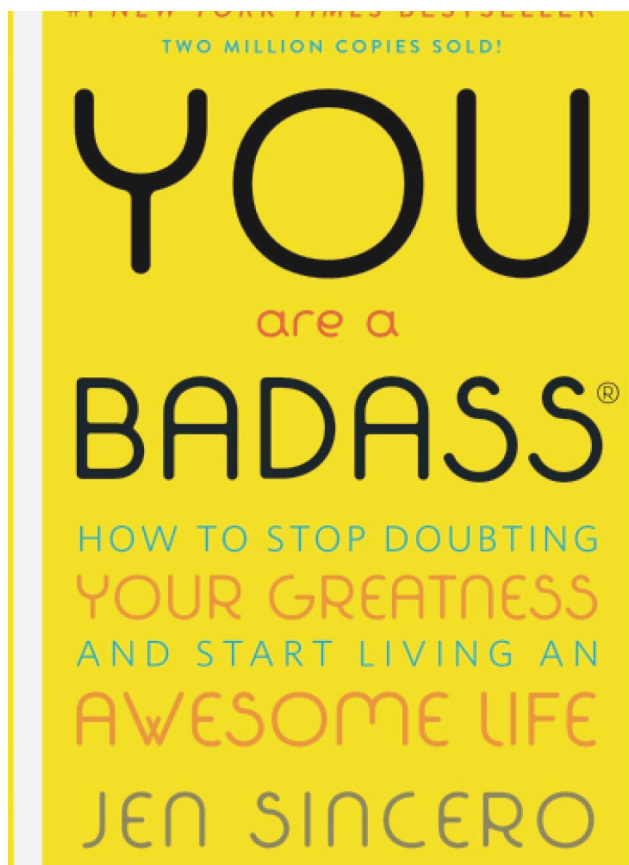
OR CONTACT [VDHILLON@CSUM.EDU](mailto:VDHILLON@CSUM.EDU) / 707.718.0707





# WIMOS BOOK CLUB

"You are a Badass: How to Stop Doubting your Greatness and Start Living an Awesome Life" by Jen Sincero



## WIMOS IGNITE:

Women's Empowerment Series

YOU ARE A BADASS IS THE SELF-HELP BOOK FOR PEOPLE WHO DESPERATELY WANT TO IMPROVE THEIR LIVES BUT DON'T WANT TO GET BUSTED DOING IT.

In this refreshingly entertaining how-to guide, bestselling author and world-traveling success coach, Jen Sincero, serves up 27 bite-sized chapters full of hilariously inspiring stories, sage advice, easy exercises, and the occasional swear word, helping you to:

Identify and change the self-sabotaging beliefs and behaviors that stop you from getting what you want.

Create a life you totally love and create it NOW.

make some damn money already. The kind you've never made before.

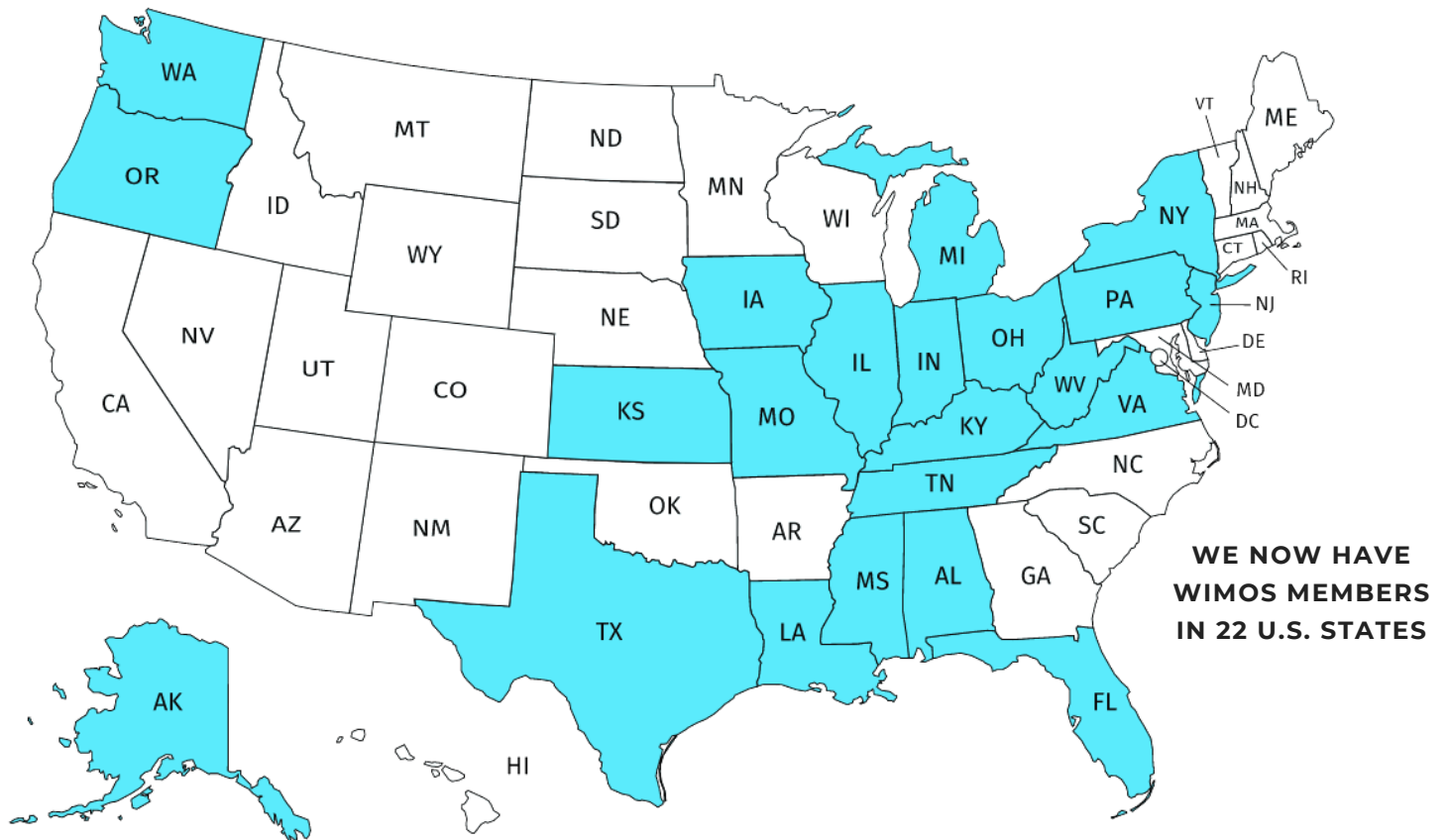
By the end of You Are a Badass, you'll understand why you are how you are, how to love what you can't change, how to change what you don't love, and how to use The Force to kick some serious ass.

**FEBRUARY 24, 2021**  
**2PM CST**

Sign up using the link in your email

# WIMOS MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

WIMOS CURRENTLY HAS 440 ACTIVE MEMBERS.



**THIS INCLUDES MEMBERS FROM 111 DIFFERENT MARITIME COMPANIES**

WIMOs is excited to welcome many new members and the following new company during our fourth quarter:

Towing Vessel Inspection Bureau (TVIB)

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

**If your company now has more than 8 women involved and would like to switch from an individual to a corporate dues structure, please email [wimosusa@wimos.org](mailto:wimosusa@wimos.org).**

# WIMOS REBRANDING EFFORT

EDUCATE. ENGAGE. ELEVATE.

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. Starting with this issue, we are sending this 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:

Kasey.Eckstein@ingrambarge.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. It is nearly complete!

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



## FOLLOW WIMOS ON SOCIAL MEDIA



@wimosusa



@wimos\_association



WIMOs Association



WIMOs Association (Public)