



Chairman's Message



This year has been extraordinary and we have seen many changes within the dynamic of the Association, and we have seen some very tangible and positive outcomes. The appointment of a Manager now places us in a position to concentrate on how we can better service our members and how we can further develop our strategy which is now taking form.

Our relationship with Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA) cannot be overstated. The cooperation between the BSA and the Flag state is instrumental in the growth of the Bahamas Flag and I am grateful for the BMA's continued cooperation and support. We look forward to continuing our work with the BMA in the coming year.

I would like to take this time to thank Greg MacGarva and Robert Jan van Acker for their years of contribution to the BSA Board and I wish to welcome Christian Sauleau and Thijs van der Jagt as their replacements at the Board. We look forward to having you on board.

I would also like to thank the Board for the hours dedicated to the BSA, and to the Secretariat for being the glue that keeps it all together.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank you, our members, for your support and wish you a Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year!

BSA Vision

Proactively pursuing the interests of our Members closely collaborating with Flag State and influencing industry.

BSA Values



2016 at a Glance

2016 has been a momentous year for the BSA. Not only has it been the 20th year of operation, we have also seen some very positive developments:

- **New Manager** – In August the BSA appointed Anders Brodje as Manager of the BSA.
- **EC Meeting** – In April the BSA/BMA met with Christine Berg, Head of Maritime Safety and her team at DG Move in Brussels.
- **USCG & EPA Meetings** – In August the BSA/BMA were met by Jeff Lantz and key USCG officials, where we were updated and Coast Guard initiatives including BWMS, an later met with top officials at the US Environmental Protection Agency, led by Brian Muehling, Office of Global Affairs, Policy and International and Tribal Trade, for discussions.
- **ICS** – Strengthened relationship with the ICS as part of the ICS Board, committee meetings, support with strategy development and the ICS Conference, and roles such as Chair for the MBM Working Group.
- **IMO** – Capt. Patrick Cornelius participation as part of the Bahamas delegation to the IMO have rendered numerous important insights to members through Patrick's highly sought after IMO reports.
- **20th AGM** – The successful AGM was held in Athens. Keynote speaker was Mr Peter Hinchliffe, Secretary General of the ICS, who has since been awarded the "Lloyd's List International Shipping Personality of the Year". Guests speakers included Nikos Tsakos- CEO of TEN and Chairman of the INTERTANKO, Henry Curra, Head of Research, Braemar ACM Shipbroking, and distinguished colleagues from the BMA.



Looking Ahead to 2017

It was only recently that we learned about the USCG decision for type approval of the first BW treatment system. 2017 will see a lot of attention being directed towards *Ballast Water* and especially treatment systems and their installation. Equally we can expect to see strong focus on the implementation of the BWMC, as well as discussions at the IMO on changes to the BWMC.

Likewise, discussions on *data collection* will continue at the IMO, with the EU clearly following its own agenda on the future implementation of a regional *MRV* system. These developments cause great concern among shipowners associations around the world, the BSA included, since serve as an indication as to how future regulation may be implemented – where regional interests take precedence over international.

2017 will also see some developments related to digitisation of shipping, where global tests will be initiated to investigate the effects of *Sea Traffic Management*. Also, we can expect to see developments in the field of *autonomous ships*. Although clearly further away, the introduction of autonomous ships is likely a game changer.

2017 will also see the implementation of the *BSA Strategy*. The most visible effects will be increased communication with members. Through an active dialogue, we will be able to promote the interests of members. Today's reports from the IMO will also be complimented by reports and analyses from the ICS.

During 2017, we can also expect to see our relationship with the ICS develop even further through increased cooperation. We also expect to develop our relationship with the BMA, forming an integral part of the delegation to the IMO as we together continue developing a strategy for a stronger Flag.

The Bahamas to stand for re-election to IMO Council

On 7 December, the Bahamas High Commission hosted a well visited reception at the IMO, during this year's last meeting of the IMO Council, where the Bahamas Maritime Liaison Officer to the IMO, Mr Bernis Pinder, and the Bahamas High Commissioner and Permanent Representative to the IMO, His Excellency Eldred E. Bethel, announced the Bahamian Candidacy to the IMO Council, Category C, for the period 2018-2019.



The BSA is of course very supportive of this effort and will naturally try to find ways in which we can actively promote the BHC's effort.

Mr Bernis Pinder, introducing the Bahamian re-election campaign

Calendar 2017

As a means to keep costs down, the BSA BoD strives to hold its meetings in conjunction with events where several of the BoD members gather as part of their business. The intention is that these meetings rotate between geographical regions.

The major events where the BSA BoD and / or the Secretariat will be represented during 2017 are the following.

- eNAV Under Way, Copenhagen, Denmark (31 Jan)
 - Presentation at conference and meetings with members
- SeaTrade, FL, USA with the BMA (13-14 March)
 - BoD meeting and meetings with members
- NorShipping, Oslo, Norway with the BMA (31 May)
 - BoD meeting and meetings with members
- Washington DC, USA (late August)
 - Meetings with the USCG and EPA
- LISW, London, UK together with the BMA
 - BoD meeting (14 Sept) and AGM (15 Sept)