

Celebrating the best in Asia

Mark the date in your diary – the Lloyd's List Asia Awards 2009 will be held in Singapore on October 29. This glittering annual celebration of all that is best in Asian shipping will be held at the acclaimed five-star luxury Marina Mandarin hotel.

Into its 11th year, the Lloyd's List Asia Awards have from day one been a must-attend for the who's who in the region's shipping and maritime industries.

In these tough times there will be all the more reason to celebrate both companies and individuals who prove what can be achieved through innovation and perseverance.

Nomination forms will be going out with the next issue of Maritime Asia, so put your thinking caps on as to who you think deserves to be honoured this year.

Nominees will be shortlisted

for final decision making by our judging panel drawn from senior industry professionals across the region, which will be announced shortly.

Full details of the judging panel, this year's categories and nomination criteria will be posted on www.lloydslist.com

For sponsorship enquiries please contact Helen Ong: tel +65 6514 8302 or email helen.ong@informa.com.

Cutting a passage through the ice?

Finding a northwest passage through Canada's Arctic region between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans has been a long-held dream for mariners for centuries. And while climate change has opened routes for a handful of small vessels, the reality of commercial operations between the two oceans is still elusive.

A Hong Kong and Canadian yachtsman, who has raced in vessels owned by members of Hong Kong's shipping community, is planning his own voyage of discovery through the north-west passage in his 13.3 m yacht, *Silent Sound*.

Cameron Dueck said the open passage expedition will set sail in June 2009 on a four-month, 7,000 nautical mile journey from Victoria, British Columbia, to Halifax, in Nova Scotia.

"Arctic sea ice is melting so rapidly that areas that once were hidden by ice are now open for summer sailing. Warmer temperatures are forcing Arctic communities and the wildlife around them to change their habits to survive," he said.

Mr Dueck said the expedition will allow the



VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY Cameron Dueck (inset) is planning to set sail in his yacht, *Silent Sound*, in June.

yacht and its four crew to explore these dramatic changes as they take place.

Several companies have either sponsored or expressed interest in backing the expedition, which can be reached through the website at www.openpassageexpedition.com.

Wei Jiafu, China Ocean Shipping (Group) president and chief executive, has been chosen as the Connecticut Maritime Association commodore for 2009 and will receive the award at the association's annual dinner on March 25.

Association president Beth Wilson-Jordan said Capt Wei was chosen for his "rich knowledge" of international shipping man-

Capt Wei finds new helm

agement and operations. "As the world deals with unprecedented economic and trade challenges, the CMA is delighted to have as our commodore someone actively involved in the growth and development



of world trade," she said. Other shipping luminaries who have been similarly honoured include Dr Helmut Sohmen, Frank Tsao, Mark Saverys, Stelios Haji-Ioannou, Peter Georgiopoulos and John Fredriksen.

DATES

TOC Asia

March 3-5, 2009
Shenzhen Convention and Exhibition Centre,
Shenzhen, China
Contact: TOC Events Worldwide
Website: www.tocevents-asia.com

Asia-Pacific Port Infrastructure Planning and Development

March 4-5, 2009
Hyatt Regency Perth
Contact: Informa Australia
Website: www.informa.com.au

BIMCO Masterclass Workshop

March 10-12, 2009
Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre,
Contact: BIMCO/Hong Kong Maritime Industry Council
Website: www.bimco.com

2nd Shipping Capital

March 24-27, 2009
Orchard Hotel, Singapore
Contact: IBC Asia
Website: www.ibc-asia.com

Hong Kong Ship Finance Forum

March 25, 2009
Grand Hyatt Hotel,
Wan Chai, Hong Kong
Contact: Marine Money
Website: www.marinemoney.com

Dry Cargo Asia 2009

April 7-8, 2009
Pan Pacific Hotel Singapore,
Contact: Trade Publishing International
Website: www.dci.events.com

OSV Asia-Pacific: Design, Construction and Operations

April 22-23, 2009
Raffles City Convention Centre, Singapore
Contact: IBC Asia
Website: www.ibc-asia.com

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