

“Charting a Successful Maritime Career” Lecture Speakers

Houston Maritime Museum

Thursday, February 28, 2013 7:00 – 8:15 PM

Guest Speakers Kristofer and Karl Schröder both work for Schröder Marine Services, Inc., a stevedoring company that operates primarily in the Port of Houston, but took two very different paths to get there. Their chosen careers are different, challenging and rewarding—hear about them at the second lecture of this educational series!

Karl J. Schröder, Stevedore



A native Houstonian, Karl grew up in the Humble, Texas “hill country”. He graduated from Humble High in 2001 and continued his education at St. Thomas University in downtown Houston. He earned a degree in Mathematics with a minor in Philosophy, all the while working as a college fencing coach and part-time on the docks in the Houston Ship Channel Turning Basin with Schröder Marine Services. Having completed his degree, he focused on the family company and worked his way up from vessel operations on the docks to Vice President of Operations. He now supervises up to 50 union and non-union longshoremen and terminal workers moving as much as 30,000 revenue tons of “million-dollar” import and export cargo on every ship. As a project manager he works with planning details such as stowage and lashing aboard ship and coordinating trucks, cranes, and other equipment for simultaneous load and discharge operations to the docks, trailers, or railcars. He is responsible for keeping dynamic projects operating on-time, efficiently, and above all cost-effective.

Karl aspires to a career as a commissioned officer in the armed forces and is working on earning his master’s degree in Engineering.

Kristofer J. Schröder, Submariner, Stevedore

Kristofer was born and raised in Humble. After graduating from Humble High School at the top of his class in 2004. He began a six-year career patrolling the oceans as an enlisted submariner in the U.S. Nuclear Navy. Eighteen months of one of our country’s most rigorous training programs earned him a job maintaining and operating submarine reactors and engine rooms as a Chemist and Radiological Controls specialist. He was stationed aboard two Los Angeles 688 and 688-i class fast attack submarines, the USS Helena and the USS Jefferson City, based out of beautiful San Diego. After earning his dolphins on deployments to the Far East, the North Pole, and the Middle East, he packed his seabags and made the long drive back to Texas where he joined the family of maritime industries working in the great Houston Ship Channel. He is currently a part of Schröder Marine Services, a family stevedoring company operating in the Turning Basin (right across from the site for the new Houston Maritime Museum).

