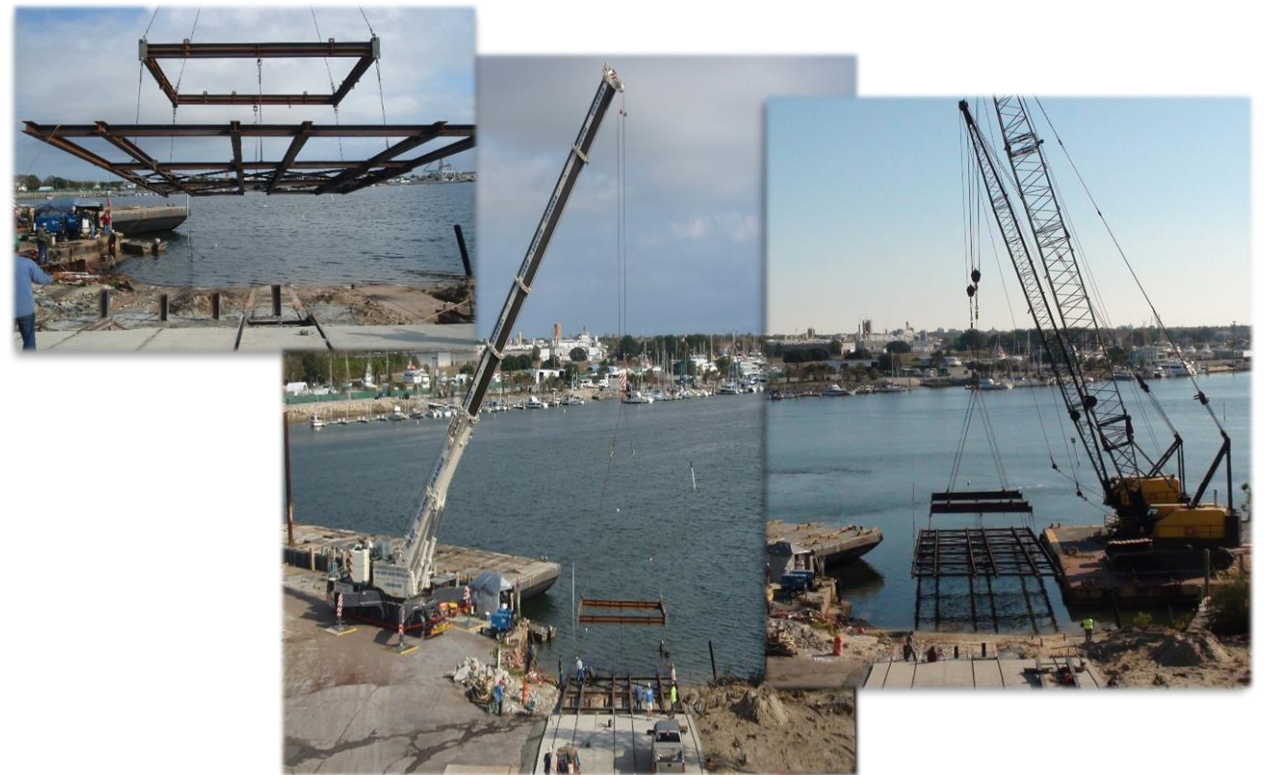


Patti Shipyard moved to Bayou Chico in 1985. Frank Sr. set up the yard to build larger vessels. He purchased the steel girders for the launch ways from the old Pensacola NAS Bridge. The additional third pair of rail was added later to build the largest gambling vessels. After many years of service and the need to build an even larger, deeper, and heavier vessels, our new rail and launch wheel program began. From the new, extra heavy modified rail car trucks (6 each), to the new extra heavy rail installation upland and in the water. We have increased our capacity to exceed 1,200 tons in and out. In addition, due to deeper draft vessels, our launch depths increased from 16' (from the rail) to 26' (overall depth). Matt Lemon (Frank Jr's son-in-law) came on board with his company, Allsouth Construction, to assist in all aspects of this unique project. From the months of dredging, hard hat diving, rail fabrication (260' in the water), and hundreds of yards of concrete, we anticipate many more years of "PATTI BUILT" vessel launchings.

In all our endeavors, we thank God for all our accomplishments. It is our faith in him that guides us and protects us. May we continue to praise him until we attain our ultimate goal.

*Frank Patti Jr.*



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**2014 YEAR IN REVIEW**  
**PATTI PRESS**

Patti Marine has experienced another busy year for the 2014 work schedule. The first delivery of the year came in early April, with the **Signet Arcturus**. This was the first of two "Z"-Drive Tugs under construction for **Signet Maritime**. The second delivery came the same month with the **Floating Crane Barge 1301** for the **US Army Corps of Engineers**. The 120' customized crane barge was built to maintain the navigation



buoys on the Mississippi River and connecting waterway systems. The third delivery was the **Signet Polaris**. This 105', 6,800 horsepower "Z"-Drive Tug was the second (sister) tug for Signet Maritime. Both tugs were designed by the renowned Canadian firm of

**Robert Allan LTD**. Each of these companies are leaders in their field and require the highest level of attention to detail. In addition to the labor intensive construction, both tugs were the first of this size to be designated with **both** ABS classification and US Coast Guard Subchapter "I" Certification. This dual class notation raises the level of inspection, safety, and technology far above the status quo. As a result, both vessels received the prestigious honor of "**Workboat's 2014 Significant Vessel of the Year Award**". Even more, both vessels shared the 'overall' ranking of being in the **Top 3 of the best vessels built in the United States of America!!!**



Our current vessel under construction is the 6,000 horsepower ATB tug for the **Moran Towing Co.** This 121' tug is designed for handling large ocean-going barges in full service, both pushing (pinned) mode and towing astern. It is primarily built to be interconnected to a 521' barge already under construction at another facility.

Steel work is nearly complete with only the exhaust stacks and pilot house to be erected. The (tower) pilot house is ready to be set by the year's end. The superstructure height will then exceed all our vessels built to date on our rail at 90' tall (excluding the mast).

Pre-launch items are nearing completion also, with all hull tanks inspected and tested, engine pre-alignment complete, and all sandblasting and priming to be accomplished by year's end. As the hull and remaining tanks receive their final paint coatings, launch wheels and rigging will be in place for an anticipated launch next month.



### **Mr. Joseph Toche 2<sup>nd</sup> Retirement**

Patti shipbuilding history began in 1977 by Frank Patti Sr. From the first yard behind Joe Patti's Seafood to the current yard on Bayou Chico, the trademark "PATTI BUILT" represents the highest standard in ship construction and yard cleanliness. The key to our success is the "PATTI BUILT" team. Men who genuinely care about their workplace, and the products they produce. Frank Patti Sr. began that "PATTI BUILT" trademark, and the man that helped start that history from the very first day was Mr. Toche. Joseph Toche came from a family of boat builders in Mississippi. The "old school" boat builder became Frank Sr.'s right hand man. He first retired from Patti's in 1994. He returned in 2011 to help again after the passing of James Parker (his son-in-law). Mr. Toche took James' position in the downstairs office to maintain employee's time. Suddenly his position expanded to tracking all man hours, with breakdown codes for each and every task. From early in the morning and all day, five days a week, he drives in from Mississippi to maintain our time sheets. No easy task for anyone, especially an 'old school' boatbuilder of 89 years old! Mr. Toche is ready to retire again! What yard has been so fortunate to have "The Employee" all these years. Even though his son (Sid) and grandson (JJ) are longtime employees, there is no real replacement for a man that epitomizes the term "PATTI BUILT". He will be truly, truly missed. Congratulations to Mr. Toche for a well deserved 2<sup>nd</sup> retirement!!!

***Anchors Away Mr. Toche!***