



## RINGING IN THE YEAR OF THE OX

By Alia Mansoori

Despite the early-February chill, leaders in the maritime industry came out to celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year.

Metro Group Maritime held their annual dinner to celebrate the Year of the Ox at mid-town Manhattan's famed Chinese restaurant, Philippe. Guests mingled and dined on the upscale eatery's signature Peking duck and "green" shrimp after a cocktail hour packed with satays, spring rolls and dumplings.

As guests caught-up with old friends and laughed with new ones, they all hoped that the Ox, who represents diligence and prosperity in the Chinese zodiac, would help them through this trying economic time.

"This was good way to relax with our friends, partners and allies before the start of battle against the economic crisis," said Marcus Arky, general counsel. "Together we will combine our resources and be strong like oxen and beat this downturn."