DIANA SHIPPING INC. Form 6-K November 23, 2011

FORM 6-K

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER PURSUANT TO RULE 13A-16 OR 15D-16 OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the month of November 2011 Commission File Number: 001-32458

DIANA SHIPPING INC.

(Translation of registrant's name into English)
Pendelis 16, 175 64 Palaio Faliro, Athens, Greece
(Address of principal executive office)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F [X] Form 40-F []

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1): [].

Note: Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1) only permits the submission in paper of a Form 6-K if submitted solely to provide an attached annual report to security holders.

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7): [].

Note: Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7) only permits the submission in paper of a Form 6-K if submitted to furnish a report or other document that the registrant foreign private issuer must furnish and make public under the laws of the jurisdiction in which the registrant is incorporated, domiciled or legally organized (the registrant's "home country"), or under the rules of the home country exchange on which the registrant's securities are traded, as long as the report or other document is not a press release, is not required to be and has not been distributed to the registrant's security holders, and, if discussing a material event, has already been the subject of a Form 6-K submission or other Commission filing on EDGAR.

INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FORM 6-K REPORT

Attached to this Report on Form 6-K as Exhibit 99.1 is a press release dated November 23, 2011 of Diana Shipping Inc. (the "Company") announcing the Company's financial results for the third quarter and nine months ended September 30, 2011 and new share repurchase program.

The information contained in this Report on Form 6-K is hereby incorporated by reference into the Company's registration statement on Form F-3 ASR (File no. 333-159016) filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission with an effective date of May 6, 2009.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

DIANA SHIPPING INC. (registrant)

Dated: November 23, 2011 By: /s/ Andreas Michalopoulos

Andreas Michalopoulos Chief Financial Officer and

Treasurer

Exhibit 99.1

Corporate Contact: Ioannis Zafirakis

Director, Executive Vice-President and Secretary

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For Immediate Release

Investor and Media Relations:

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DIANA SHIPPING INC. REPORTS FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE THIRD QUARTER AND NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2011

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORIZES A NEW SHARE REPURCHASE PROGRAM

ATHENS, GREECE, November 23, 2011 – Diana Shipping Inc. (NYSE: DSX), a global shipping company specializing in the transportation of dry bulk cargoes, today reported net income of \$26.4 million for the third quarter of 2011, compared to net income of \$33.8 million reported in the third quarter of 2010.

Time charter revenues were \$64.2 million for the third quarter of 2011, compared to \$71.6 million for the same period of 2010, mainly due to reduced average time charter rates and the deconsolidation of Diana Containerships Inc. The decrease in time charter revenues was partly offset by revenues derived from the increase in ownership days resulting from the addition to the Company's fleet of the vessels Alcmene and Arethusa in November 2010 and July 2011, respectively.

Net income to Diana Shipping Inc. for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 amounted to \$87.3 million, compared to net income of \$96.5 million for the same period of 2010. Time charter revenues were \$198.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011, compared to \$202.5 million for the same period of 2010.

Authorization of Share Repurchase Program

The Company has further announced that the Board of Directors has authorized a new share repurchase program for up to U.S. \$100 million of the Company's common shares, which may be repurchased from time to time until December 31, 2012. The new authorization replaces the Company's previous share repurchase program, which was scheduled to expire on December 31, 2011. The Company noted that it did not repurchase any shares under the prior buyback authorization.

Fleet Employment Profile (As of November 18, 2011) Currently Diana's fleet is employed as follows:

	Vessel		Sister	Gross Rate (USD Per			Delivery Date to	Redelivery Date to		
	BUILT	DWT	Ships*	Day)	Com**	Charterer Panamax Vesse	Charterer	Owners***	Notes	
1	CORONI	IS	C	\$24,000	5.00%	Siba Ships Asia Pte. Ltd.	6-Apr-10	6-Mar-12 - 21-Jun-12		
	2006 74	4,381				Asia I tc. Ltd.		21-Jun-12		
2	ERATO		C	\$20,500		C Transport Panamax Ltd., Isle of Man	4-Mar-10	24-Nov-11	1,2	
				\$12,200	5.00%	Hyundai Merchant Marine Co. Ltd., Seoul, South Korea	24-Nov-11	24-Dec-12 - 8-Apr-13	3	
	2004 74	4,444								
3	2007 7	JSA 73,593	В	\$13,250	5.00%	Cargill International S.A., Geneva	8-Jul-11	24-May-12 - 23-Aug-12		
4	NAIAS	3,373	В	\$19,750	5.00%	J. Aron &	24-Sep-10	24-Aug-12 -		
	2006 73	3,546				Company, New York		24-Oct-12		
5	CLIO		В	\$25,000	5.00%	Daelim Corporation, Seoul	8-May-10	8-Apr-12 - 8-Jun-12		
		3,691	ъ.	422 000		G '''	4.0	20 1 1 1		
6	CALIPSO)	В	\$23,000 \$13,750		Cargill International	4-Sep-10 20-Jul-11	20-Jul-11 11-Oct-11	4	
	2005 73	3,691		\$12,250	5.00%	S.A., Geneva Louis Dreyfus Commodities S.A., Geneva	11-Oct-11	11-Aug-13 - 11-Dec-13	5	
7	PROTEF	S	В	\$59,000	5.00%	Hanjin Shipping Co. Ltd., Seoul	18-Sep-08	6-Aug-11	6,7	

				•	J				
	2004	73,630		\$11,750	4,75%	Cargill International S.A., Geneva	6-Aug-11	6-Jul-12 - 6-Oct-12	
8	THETI 2004	73,583	В	\$13,750	5.00%	Cargill International S.A., Geneva	23-Feb-11	23-Jan-12 - 23-Apr-12	
9	DIONE	75,172	A	\$20,500	5.00%	Louis Dreyfus Commodities S.A., Geneva	26-Sep-10	26-Jul-12 - 26-Nov-12	
10	DANA 2001	75,106	A	\$15,600	5.00%	Hyundai Merchant Marine Co., Ltd., Seoul, South Korea	18-Apr-11	18-Mar-13 - 18-May-13	
11	OCEA		A	\$19,750	5.00%	China National Chartering Co. Ltd. (Sinochart), Beijing	17-Sep-10	17-Aug-12 - 1-Nov-12	
12	TRITC	75,336	A	\$19,500	4.75%	Resource Marine Pte., Ltd, Singapore	11-Dec-10	11-Nov-13 - 11-Feb-14	8
13	ALCY 2001	ON 75,247	A	\$34,500	4.75%	Cargill International S.A., Geneva	21-Feb-08	21-Nov-12 - 21-Feb-13	

14	NIREFS	A	\$21,000 5.00%	Commo		-10	12-Dec-11	9
			\$12,250	S.A., G Morgan Capital	Stanley 12-Dec- Group	-11 12-Jan	-13 - 12-Apr-13	10
	2001 75,311				•			
15	MELITE		\$16,500 5.00%	Carg Interna S.A., G	tional	11 1-Jan	-13 - 1-Mar-13	
	2004 76,436			2.1.1., 2				
16	VATHY (tbr LETO) 2010 81,297			-	-			11
				Post-	Panamax Vesse	els		
17	ALCMENE		\$20,250	5.00%	Cargill International S.A., Geneva	20-Nov-10	5-Oct-12 - 4-Jan-	13
	2010 93,193				5.71., Geneva			
				Ca	pesize Vessels			
18	NORFOLK		\$74,750	3.75%	Corus UK Limited	12-Feb-08	12-Jan-13 - 12-Mar	:-13
	2002 164,218				Ziiiited			
19	ALIKI		\$26,500	5.00%	Minmetals Logistics Group Co. Ltd., Beijing	1-Mar-11	1-Feb-16 - 1-Apr-	16
	2005 180,235							
20	SALT LAKE CITY		\$55,800	5.00%	Refined Success Limited	28-Sep-07	28-Aug-12 - 28-Oct-12	
	2005 171,810							
21	SIDERIS GS	D	\$30,500	5.00%	BHP Billiton Marketing AG	16-Oct-10	16-Feb-13 - 16-Jun	-13 12
	2006 174,186				<i>5</i>			
22	SEMIRIO	D	\$17,350	5.00%	Cargill International	30-May-11	15-Mar-13 - 14-Aug-13	

S.A., Geneva

	2007 174,261				S.A., Gelieva			
23	BOSTON	D	\$52,000	5.00%	BHP Billiton Marketing AG	13-Nov-07	29-Sep-11	
			4TC AVG	5.00%	BHP Billiton Marketing AG	29-Sep-11	17-Oct-11	13
	2007 177,828		\$14,000	5.00%	Morgan Stanley Capital Group Inc.	29-Oct-11	29-Aug-13 - 29-Dec-13	14,15
24	HOUSTON	D	\$55,000	4.75%	Shagang Shipping Co.	3-Nov-09	3-Oct-14 - 3-Jan-15	16
	2009 177,729				11 8			
25	NEW YORK	D	\$48,000	3.75%	Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Tokyo (NYK)	3-Mar-10	3-Jan-15 - 3-May-15	
	2010 177,773				(11111)			
				Vessel	s Under Construc	etion		
26	LOS ANGELES	Е	\$18,000	5.00%	EDF Trading Limited, London	29-Feb-12	29-Dec-15 - 29-Apr-16	17,18,20
	2012 206,000				London			
27	PHILADELPHIA	E	\$18,000	5.00%	EDF Trading Limited, London	30-Apr-12	30-Dec-15 - 30-Jun-16	17,19,20
	2012 206,000				London			

- * Each dry bulk carrier is a "sister ship", or closely similar, to other dry bulk carriers that have the same letter.
- ** Total commission percentage paid to third parties.
- *** Charterers' optional period to redeliver the vessel to owners. Charterers have the right to add the off hire days, if any, and therefore the optional period may be extended.
- 1 Vessel off-hire for drydocking from July 30, 2011 to August 15, 2011.
- 2 Estimated date.
- 3 C Transport Panamax Ltd. has agreed to compensate the Owners for the difference between the new rate and the previous rate from November 24, 2011 to December 4, 2011.
- 4 Period extended for one (1) or two (2) laden legs in charterers' option at US\$ 13,750 per day.
- 5 Vessel off-hire for unscheduled maintenance from October 29, 2011 to November 4, 2011.
- Hanjin Shipping Co. Ltd., has agreed to compensate the Owners for the difference between the new rate and the previous rate for the period from August 6, 2011 to August 18, 2011.
- 7 Vessel off-hire for unscheduled maintenance from November 13, 2011 to November 17, 2011.
- 8 Resource Marine Pte., Ltd, Singapore is a guaranteed nominee of Macquarie Bank Limited
- 9 Estimated redelivery date.
- 10 Louis Dreyfus Commodities S.A. has agreed to compensate the Owners for the difference between the new rate and the previous rate from the estimated redelivery date to December 28, 2011.
- 11 Expected date of delivery during the first quarter of 2012 (based on latest information received by the Sellers).
- 12 Vessel off-hire for drydocking from October 11, 2011 to October 26, 2011.
- Daily rate based on the average rate of four pre-determined Capesize time charter routes as published by the Baltic Exchange.
- 14 Vessel off-hire for drydocking from October 17, 2011 to October 29, 2011.
- Morgan Stanley Capital Group Inc. has the option to employ the vessel for a further minimum eleven (11) to a maximum thirteen (13) month period at a gross rate of US\$15,000 per day starting twenty-four (24) months after delivery of the vessel to the charterer.
- 16 Shagang Shipping Co. is a guaranteed nominee of the Jiangsu Shagang Shipping Group Co.
- 17 Year of delivery and dwt are based on shipbuilding contracts.
- 18 This newbuilding is also referred to as Hull H1234.
- 19 This newbuilding is also referred to as Hull H1235.
- 20 Based on expected date of delivery to owners.

Summary of Selected Financial & Other Data

Sammary of Science 1 maneral & Schol B		For the three months ended September 30,				For the nine months ended September 30,							
	,	2011	•		2010		,	2011			2010		
INCOME STATEMENT DATA (in thousa		(naudited) of US Do		,	inaudited))	(τ	inaudited))	(ι	unaudited])	
Time charter revenues	\$	64,248	ilais).	\$	71,607		\$	198,299		\$	202,472	,	
Voyage expenses		3,105			3,335			8,666			8,878		
Vessel operating expenses		14,065			13,117			40,507			37,658		
Net income attributed to Diana													
Shipping Inc.		26,443			33,801			87,256			96,458		
FLEET DATA													
Average number of vessels		23.9			23.9			23.4			22.3		
Number of vessels		24.0			24.0			24.0			24.0		
Weighted average age of vessels (in													
years)*		6.1			5.3			6.1			5.3		
Ownership days		2,202			2,200			6,401			6,097		
Available days		2,187			2,161			6,318			6,010		
Operating days		2,181			2,154			6,279			5,992		
Fleet utilization		99.7	%		99.7	%		99.4	%		99.7	%	
AVERAGE DAILY RESULTS													
Time charter equivalent (TCE) rate (1)	\$	27,957		\$	31,593		\$	30,015		\$	32,212		
Daily vessel operating expenses (2)	\$	6,387		\$	5,962		\$	6,328		\$	6,176		

^{*} Excluding the container vessels Sagitta and Centaurus for 2010

Conference Call and Webcast Information

Diana Shipping Inc. will conduct a conference call and simultaneous Internet webcast to review these results at 9:00 A.M. (Eastern Time) on Wednesday, November 23, 2011.

Investors may access the webcast by visiting the Company's website at www.dianashippinginc.com, and clicking on

⁽¹⁾ Time charter equivalent rates, or TCE rates, are defined as our time charter revenues less voyage expenses during a period divided by the number of our available days during the period, which is consistent with industry standards. Voyage expenses include port charges, bunker (fuel) expenses, canal charges and commissions. TCE is a non-GAAP measure. TCE rate is a standard shipping industry performance measure used primarily to compare daily earnings generated by vessels on time charters with daily earnings generated by vessels on voyage charters, because charter hire rates for vessels on voyage charters are generally not expressed in per day amounts while charter hire rates for vessels on time charters are generally expressed in such amounts.

⁽²⁾ Daily vessel operating expenses, which include crew wages and related costs, the cost of insurance, expenses relating to repairs and maintenance, the costs of spares and consumable stores, tonnage taxes and other miscellaneous expenses, are calculated by dividing vessel operating expenses by ownership days for the relevant period.

the webcast link. The conference call also may be accessed by telephone by dialing 1-877-407-8291 (for U.S.-based callers) or 1-201-689-8345 (for international callers), and asking the operator for the Diana Shipping Inc. conference call.

A replay of the webcast will be available soon after the completion of the call and will be accessible for 30 days on www.dianashippinginc.com. A telephone replay also will be available for 30 days by dialing 1-877-660-6853 (for U.S.-based callers) or 1-201-612-7415 (for international callers), and providing the Account number 362 and Replay ID number 381975.

About the Company

Diana Shipping Inc. is a leading global provider of shipping transportation services through the ownership and operation of dry bulk vessels. The Company's vessels are employed primarily on medium to long-term time charters and transport a range of dry bulk cargoes, including such commodities as iron ore, coal, grain and other materials along worldwide shipping routes.

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

Matters discussed in this press release may constitute forward-looking statements. The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides safe harbor protections for forward-looking statements in order to encourage companies to provide prospective information about their business. Forward-looking statements include statements concerning plans, objectives, goals, strategies, future events or performance, and underlying assumptions and other statements, which are other than statements of historical facts.

The Company desires to take advantage of the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and is including this cautionary statement in connection with this safe harbor legislation. The words "believe," "anticipate," "intends," "estimate," "forecast," "project," "plan," "potential," "may," "should," "expect," "pending" and similarity forward-looking statements.

The forward-looking statements in this press release are based upon various assumptions, many of which are based, in turn, upon further assumptions, including without limitation, our management's examination of historical operating trends, data contained in our records and other data available from third parties. Although we believe that these assumptions were reasonable when made, because these assumptions are inherently subject to significant uncertainties and contingencies which are difficult or impossible to predict and are beyond our control, we cannot assure you that we will achieve or accomplish these expectations, beliefs or projections.

In addition to these important factors, other important factors that, in our view, could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements include the strength of world economies and currencies, general market conditions, including fluctuations in charter rates and vessel values, changes in demand for dry bulk shipping capacity, changes in our operating expenses, including bunker prices, drydocking and insurance costs, the market for our vessels, availability of financing and refinancing, changes in governmental rules and regulations or actions taken by regulatory authorities, potential liability from pending or future litigation, general domestic and international political conditions, potential disruption of shipping routes due to accidents or political events, vessels breakdowns and instances of off-hires and other factors. Please see our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission for a more complete discussion of these and other risks and uncertainties.

(See financial tables attached)

DIANA SHIPPING INC. FINANCIAL TABLES

Expressed in thousands of U.S. Dollars, except share and per share data

UNAUDITED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

			For the three months ended September 30,				For the nine months ended September 30,		
				2011		2010	2011		2010
REVE	ENUES:								
		rter revenues	\$	64,248	\$	71,607 \$	198,299	\$	202,472
	Other rev	enues		352		-	753		-
FYPE	ENSES:								
	Voyage e	xnenses		3,105		3,335	8,666		8,878
	v oyuge e.	Vessel operating expenses		14,065		13,117	40,507		37,658
		Depreciation and amortization		11,005		13,117	10,507		37,030
		of deferred charges		14,105		13,818	41,169		38,829
		General and administrative		14,103		13,010	41,107		30,027
		expenses		6,099		6,346	18,849		18,210
		Foreign currency gains		(145)		(867)	(343)		(1,504)
		Operating income		27,371		35,858	90,204		100,401
		operating income		27,371		33,030	70,204		100,101
	OTHER INCOM	IE / (EXPENSES):							
		Interest and finance costs		(1,212)		(1,499)	(3,670)		(3,762)
		Interest income		258		221	697		702
		Loss from derivative							
		instruments		(381)		(802)	(955)		(1,785)
		Income from investment in		()		(==,	(=)		())
		Diana Containerships Inc.		407		_	978		_
		Total other expenses, net		(928)		(2,080)	(2,950)		(4,845)
		1 /		,			())		(, , ,
	Net Income		\$	26,443	\$	33,778 \$	87,254	\$	95,556
		Loss assumed by							
		non-controlling interests		-		23	2		902
		•							
	Net income attrib	outed to Diana Shipping Inc.		26,443		33,801	87,256		96,458
	Earnings per con	nmon share, basic	\$	0.33	\$	0.42 \$	1.08	\$	1.20
	Earnings non com	nmon share, diluted	Φ	0.33	\$	0.42 \$	1.08	\$	1 10
	Earnings per con	illion share, dhuted	\$	0.33	Ф	U.42 \$	1.06	Ф	1.19
	Weighted averag	e number of common shares,							
	basic	o number of common mates,	8	1,089,446	9	80,666,390	81,048,635	5	30,654,304
	Casic		0.	1,007,770		00,000,370	01,010,033		,0,00 r,50 r
			8	1,143,058	Ş	80,768,569	81,079,457	5	30,748,633
			0.	-,1 .0,000	,	, ·, ·	21,077,107		,,

Weighted average number of common shares, diluted

CONDENSED UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DATA (in thousands of US Dollars)

ASSETS			September 30, 2011	December 31, 2010		
Cash and cash equivalents			\$395,267	\$345,414		
Other current assets			12,639	9,235		
Advances for vessels under construction and acquisitions	and other vessel	costs	53,897	35,280		
Vessels' net book value			1,060,047	1,160,850		
Other fixed assets, net			21,700	21,842		
Investments			30,113	-		
Other non-current assets			10,188	12,768		
Total assets			\$1,583,851	\$1,585,389		
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY						
Current liabilities, including current portion of long-term	debt		\$30,877	\$32,510		
Long-term debt, net of current portion			362,075	376,303		
Other non-current liabilities			3,066	6,646		
Total stockholders' equity			1,187,833	1,169,930		
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity			\$1,583,851	\$1,585,389		
OTHER FINANCIAL DATA						
	For the thr	ree months	For the ni	ine months		
	ended Sep	tember 30,	ended Sep	otember 30,		
	2011	2010	2011	2010		
	(unaudited)	(unaudited)	(unaudited)	(unaudited)		
Net Cash provided by Operating Activities	\$39,458	\$44,329	\$120,523	\$127,941		
Net Cash used in Investing Activities	(33,259)	(49,439)	(80,815	(197,718)		
Net Cash provided by Financing Activities	13,455	18,115	10,145	98,534		