

# MARINER

*The* ALUMNI MAGAZINE *of* MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY

2015 - ISSUE 1





## LET'S MEET THE ALFOND CHALLENGE

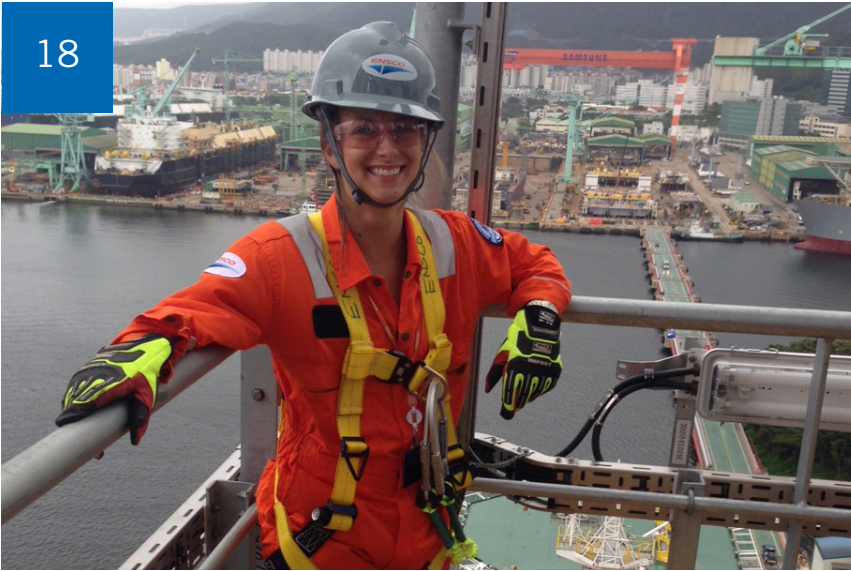
This spring you have a unique opportunity to assist MMA more than ever before. **See page 23** to learn further details about the extraordinary Alfond Challenge. **Join your classmates in supporting the Annual Fund today.**

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MAINE MARITIME  
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Carrie Plourde-Norton '06 in Korea. Photo by Jesse Mcintire '03.

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On The Cover: The view of Curtis Hall from inside the ABS Center for Engineering, Science, and Research on January 12, the first day the building was open for classes. Finishing touches continue to be done on laboratory and other building spaces. A formal dedication of the building will take place in May to thank all of the people, foundations, and corporations who have made the new ABS Center possible. (See page 21).

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For the first time in 16 years, Training Ship State of Maine (TSSOM) left Castine in January for a winter training cruise with one critical purpose: to meet the additional sea-time requirements for 2nd Class students in the unlimited license programs. The short training evolution, which included a re-fueling in New York Harbor but no port calls, was part of a larger plan to restructure the TSSOM training cruise in response to additional requirements by the U.S. Coast Guard and STCW for competencies and sea time.

The additional requirements, necessary for students to be license-eligible, meant adding a short cruise to the calendar when the academic year had already begun. A committee of staff and faculty from across divisions examined cost analyses, impacts to the academic schedule, and other potential conflicts, including athletic commitments and holidays. The outcome was a plan that had to be executed within a very short time frame.

One of the consequences of finalizing the cruise plan in early November with very little time to advertise for crew was that a number of openings became available that our alumni stepped up to fill, giving back and paying it forward. We have

a number of dedicated full-time crew and staff aboard the ship, many of whom are alumni, but the cruise would not have happened had it not been for **David Decrow '72**, who took on the Interim Chief Engineer's post, and **Nate Bears '08** who sailed as 2nd engineer, and other watch standers like **Mason Hall '13**, **Nate Powers '14**, **Olivia Osborne '14**, **Will Silver '14**, **Keenan Eaton '14**, **Ryan Armstrong '14**, and **James Publicover '13**. All of these alumni suspended scheduled plans to give back to a college that has given them everything they asked of it: a fine education and preparation to be successful in their careers.

The 2nd Class students did a fantastic job in undeniably harsh weather. They were dedicated, and they made the most of zero-degree temperatures, wind chills below -15°F, and several days of 25-knot winds. Watch teams, bunkering teams and maintenance crews alike looked after each other and took turns getting warm, completing their jobs with good humor and a can-do attitude. I had been at sea in the Northwest Atlantic in the wintertime often in my early career, but had forgotten what it's like to be that kind of cold. However, I found great warmth in the comradery of my shipmates aboard TSSOM during the 2015

Winter Cruise.

Major advantages that came from the January cruise included a very significant savings in fuel cost, and the benefit of our students sailing on TSSOM, which is the best sea-time experience we can give them. Looking ahead, the Summer 2015 Training Cruise will be lengthened to 90 days. Our 4th Class students will cruise for the entire 90 days. Our 2nd Class students will cruise for 45 days (they will cruise one out of the two 45-day periods, with a swap-out scheduled in Portland for mid-June).

We have a busy spring and summer to look forward to, and we are planning ahead now for one more winter cruise to get our students back on track. I am proud of all the many people who made this winter's training cruise possible, including alumni-employees, new hires, and returning employees. There is no way to express the enormity of the tasks the crew stepped in to do, and with very little notice. But they made everything go smoothly and I am deeply grateful for their generosity of time and commitment. If you can join the crew in January of 2016, you will be making an immeasurably positive impact on the students, and giving back to Maine Maritime Academy in a way that only *you* can.

To our industry partners:

# Thank you

The 14th Annual Career Fair was a great success because of you!



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.....  
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 .....

## Dear Fellow MMA Alumni,

I have often recalled my time at MMA as especially precious because of the kindness shown to me by the staff and Castine “townies.” Many others also impacted us during our sojourn at MMA and they were regular folks who commuted daily to the “island” of Castine from parts unknown to a kid from New Hampshire – places like Blue Hill, Ellsworth, Brooksville, Sedgwick, Stockton, and Penobscot. I still can’t tell you exactly where all those towns are but, rest assured, Academy employees inhabited towns like these and traversed the infamous Castine Road on a daily basis, through all kinds of weather, to serve the midshipmen of Maine Maritime Academy.

There were many who are nameless to me now, yet whose faces I would still recognize today, who worked at the Academy in order for all of us to persevere and go on to live fruitful lives.

A few that I remember fondly are: Tim and Barbara and Carlton who worked in the field house under Bill Mottola’s watchful eye; Jonesie and the “Dog” on the waterfront; and Joe “Ski” who worked in campus security and drove one of the prized “ug-a-lugs.” They took the time to learn my name; ask me how I was doing; kidded me and pushed me to complete my tasks; and made

me feel that, if nothing else was going quite right, I had friends who would greet me with a smile, a handshake, a hug, and occasionally, a kick in the backside! It is always a thrill to run into staff members who still work at MMA and to grab a hug or handshake again.

Hard as he tried, Jonesie never did get me to pick blueberries, which is something I regret now. Jonesie knew the value of hard work and wanted us middies to experience the labor that went into putting those blueberries into our pancakes. You never got me, Jonesie, but I never forgot you, either. Years later, I received an email from his daughter asking for a memory or two about her Dad that she could preserve for his grandchildren. I told her that I used the excuse that I had to go lift weights for football so I wouldn’t have to go pick tiny wild blueberries. Jonesie would say to me, “Football? Football? Come pick blueberries and I will make you an All-American in football!” He was right, and the term “farm strong” was what he tried to convey, and I avoided.

Joe “Ski” was a one-armed campus security guard who would come into the library when I was in work study and ask how I was doing. He often whacked me with his prosthetic arm while

he talked about his camping trips. He was always there to encourage me to stay the course and to move on to opportunities offered by my education. He was adamant that giving up was not an option and something I would regret if I did.

Our days at MMA are filled with memories of regular working people who helped us become extraordinary graduates. We all have our favorites who befriended us and encouraged us in loco parentis. Whether they are still on campus or not, their spirits live on through all of us. Trust me, the MMA employees are there for much more than a job. They are there to help today’s students become valued alumni of MMA. Remember them all, recall their dedication and support, and don’t forget where we have all come from.

Fair winds and following seas,

Jim Proulx '85

# NAVIGATING the future

## MMA INCORPORATES A NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

President William J. Brennan, in his first “State of the Academy” speech in 2011, set the stage for the new strategic plan for the institution when he said, “...an educational community needs leadership that is collaborative and decisive because, when all is said and done, leading is about people, not things – it’s about inspiration and that occurs at a very personal level. My approach to governance should be evident to all of you who have participated in the President’s Sustainability Project. It has been inclusive and it has attempted to provide meaningful opportunities for all to participate. That has been done through the web site, through the many formal meetings and numerous informal exchanges that have occurred over the past year.”

Now, President Brennan’s vision has come to fruition in the form of the Strategic Plan, which is complete and available for all to access at: [mainemarine.edu/about-mma/strategic-plan/](http://mainemarine.edu/about-mma/strategic-plan/)

Under the direction of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Brennan oversaw the development of the latest strategic plan “to capitalize upon current opportunities and to navigate through obstacles that [MMA] may encounter in the years ahead.” Working closely with the president was an ad hoc committee appointed by the Board of Trustees and spear-headed by trustee and alumnus **Earle Cianchette '77**.

Other trustees filled out the roster of the committee. They were: **Robert J Peacock II '71**, chair of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Jean Mattimore, and John “Dugan” Shipway. Jeff Wahlstrom of Starboard Leadership, provided “extremely effective” consultation according to **Paul Mercer '73**, Assistant to the President for Sustainability. Wahlstrom conducted and wrote detailed reports on the myriad interviews with students, staff, faculty, administrators, alumni, and trustees.

**Paul Mercer '73**, Director of Alumni Affairs, took on the added responsibility of coordinating all research and publication of the results

and targets generated by the research. He indicated that although MMA has had strategic plans before, the plan completed and released in 2014 is significantly different because, he said, “this strategic plan is incorporated into the governance of the institution and is an integral part of the yearly budget cycle.” He added, “The themes and goals that emerged from the research done by the committee and others is data driven.” Crucially, Mercer emphasized, “the plan is no longer a plan to be glanced at, but one that is intimately tied into guiding today’s actions and plans for the future.”

Throughout the implementation of the new Strategic Plan, the Academy will continuously evaluate its progress through an approach that includes “continuous review, as part of an ongoing cycle of planning, programming, budgeting, and execution, ...relative to our goals.” Every decision, modification, and change will be data-driven so that everything done in the future will be validated by quantifiable needs assessment and outcome evaluation.

Eleven guiding principles emerged from the planning process.

By adhering to these guiding principles while

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- 1 Offer our students a variety of learning experiences on our campus, our training vessels, in the maritime industry, and around the world.
- 2 Maximize our extraordinary waterfront, vessels, and training ship to provide the hands-on, experiential, ocean-oriented, and career-focused education that is so highly valued.
- 3 Retain and enhance the positive aspects of a small college environment, experience, and education.
- 4 Celebrate the completion of the ABS building and complete other physical plant and equipment upgrades that keep us current and enhance the learning experience.
- 5 Further our commitment to excellence in teaching by hiring, training, supporting, and retaining the very best faculty.
- 6 Demonstrate a commitment to enhancing student life through measurable increases in the satisfaction levels of our students.
- 7 Deepen our relationships with and continue to meet the needs of the industries that employ our students and graduates.
- 8 Strengthen our alumni network and provide training and educational offerings of value to them.
- 9 Generate new and expanded revenue opportunities, on and off campus, paired with strategic investments of resources and fundraising success, to allow us to keep tuition and fees affordable for Maine students.
- 10 Have a clear brand strategy that maximizes our profile with potential students and their parents, future employers, the general public, and our legislative representatives.
- 11 Experience increased applications for admission in all majors, including graduate, continuing education, and distance education.



*“This is our commitment to the future of Maine Maritime Academy, to put in place a process management system that is guided by a thoughtful strategic approach ensuring that the Academy moves from strength to strength. Our approach will be to continuously evaluate the progress we are achieving and goals we are reaching, much as a navigator assesses a vessel’s position. This is how we envision meeting the needs of the MMA students of tomorrow.”*

improving the educational experience at MMA and maintaining its commitment to its mission, the college will be able to evaluate itself relative to the principles.

The Strategic Planning Committee identified four strategic goals (shown below).

Each MMA vice president will, with the help of all people under his or her direction, develop action items to achieve the targeted objectives of each goal. The action items will be specific to the area managed by the individual vice presidents: the Vice President for Operations, the Vice President for Academics, the Vice President for Enrollment Management, and the Vice President for Institutional Advancement. The vice presidents will be responsible for not only instituting the targeted goals, but also for keeping track of and utilization of all data to drive institutional

improvements.

Dr. Brennan summarized the purpose of the Strategic Plan in his introduction to the document:

“This is our commitment to the future of Maine Maritime Academy, to put in place a process management system that is guided by a thoughtful strategic approach ensuring that the Academy moves from strength to strength. Our approach will be to continuously evaluate the progress we are achieving and goals we are reaching, much as a navigator assesses a vessel’s position. This is how we envision meeting the needs of the MMA students of tomorrow.”

As Paul Mercer said, “The Strategic Plan is no longer a shelf plan – it’s dynamic, resides on the MMA website, and continuously informs all that we do.”

## STRATEGIC GOALS

- 1** Assure that our curriculum, our faculty, our campus, and our infrastructure support our commitment to provide our students the best marine and related educational opportunities.
- 2** Assure that MMA is affordable for our students and that the college of tomorrow is economically sound and sustainable.
- 3** Continuously demonstrate that overall student satisfaction and success are central to our management philosophy.
- 4** Elevate MMA’s profile and stature through thoughtful and effective outreach, brand, and communication strategies.



## MMA RECOGNIZED BY ABET

**A**BET, the accreditation agency for several of MMA's Engineering programs, has notified the Academy that the self-study reports prepared in 2014 have been recognized as "well-prepared" reports and will be used for training purposes at the 2015 ABET Symposium. The reports, prepared by Professors David Skaves and **Mark Coté '83**, were selected as being "well written and well organized." The reports were designed to summarize the current state of the Marine Engineering Technology and Power Engineering Technology programs, and document their compliance with ABET requirements. MMA's reports will join approximately 50 other reports to allow Symposium attendees to "learn how to construct well-prepared self-study reports." This recognition was not associated with the current accreditation review for these programs, but was a separate review.

## ALUMNI HELP OUT

**A**lumni of MMA's Engineering Department returned to campus to participate in the ABET accreditation visit. According to engineering professor, **Mark Cote '83**, co-chair with David Skaves of the ABET Accreditation Committee, "These alumni played a key part in the success of our efforts to renew our ABET accreditation for which we are grateful."



(L-to-R) Front Row: Attapol Sookma '96, Alaina Hanlon Adams '03, Christopher Ferreira '93; Back Row: Michael Huffman '08, Tom Cummings '83, Joe Cote '82, and Luke Damon '07. Photo by Alumni Relations.

## ONLINE MASTER'S PROGRAM ACCREDITED

By DONALD MAIER, PH.D.

Associate Dean, Loeb-Sullivan School of Business



The IBL Department: (L-to-R) Front Row: Professor Alaina Scheuchzer '05, Dean & Professor Donald Maier, Professor Rosemary Thorne; Back Row: Patrick Haugen, Professor Navneet Jain '06, Professor George Schatz, Professor Mark Shaughnessy. Photo by C Spratt.

**M**aine Maritime Academy's online Master of Science in International Logistics Management has achieved full accreditation status through the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). It marks the first accreditation of an online degree program for the Academy and the Loeb-Sullivan School.

The history of the new program began when President William Brennan in his "State of the Academy Address" in 2011 announced his vision to expand college offerings into the online education realm. His vision became part of the newly developed MMA strategic plan. Faculty in the Loeb-Sullivan School picked up the challenge and "developed the first, fully asynchronous, graduate online program at Maine Maritime," according to Dr. Donald Maier, Associate Dean of the Loeb-Sullivan School of International Business and Logistics. The online master's degree program went through several stages including beta testing during the 2013-2014 academic year, culminating in the rollout in the Fall 2014 semester. Nearly 20 students enrolled in the fall online program.

As part of the development of the courses and materials, in 2012 the Loeb-Sullivan School began its preparations to submit a Substantive Change Request to NEASC. The request was submitted and MMA's online Master of Science in International Logistics Management was fully accredited in the fall of 2014.

The group who put the package together, conducted the testing, and wrote the NEASC documents included Patrick Haugen, Professor Navneet Jain, Jim Picariello (MMA's Instructional Designer), Professor George Schatz, Professor Alaina Scheuchzer, Professor Mark Shaughnessy, and Dean Donald Maier.

Dr. Maier summed up the implementation with, "this is a perfect program for working people, and the only program of its kind in the Northeast. We're currently serving students from Maine, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Texas, and we have a Turkish student enrolled who is working in Brazil. Since trade is global, delivering our curriculum to students wherever they're working is essential, and accreditation better positions our program among others worldwide."

## Harold Alfond Foundation Donates \$3.4 Million

The Harold Alfond Foundation, begun in 1950, furthers the philanthropic legacy of Harold Alfond, the founder of Dexter Shoe Company. In the fall of 2014, the Foundation announced that Maine Maritime Academy would receive \$3.4 million in gifts to support two major initiatives. The Foundation gave \$1 million

toward the construction of the ABS Center for Engineering, Science, and Research, and \$2.4 million for the establishment of the Harold Alfond Engineering Scholarship.

In honor of the extraordinary gift, MMA has named its engineering program the Harold Alfond School of Engineering.

“We want to support students pursuing an engineering degree who may not otherwise be able to afford an MMA education,” said Gregory Powell, chairman of the Harold Alfond Foundation. “We are also investing in the infrastructure that will support engineering instruction and research that will enrich the student experience.”

“Finances are one of the major obstacles to a college education,” said MMA President William J. Brennan. “With the support of the Harold Alfond Foundation, we can directly affect positive outcomes for students who want to pursue a Maine Maritime Academy engineering degree.”

The Foundation has issued an Annual Fund Challenge to the MMA community, which, if met, will increase their donation by as much as \$750,000 over the next three years. Please see page 23 for details on meeting the challenge.



The new ABS Center is partially supported by the Harold Alfond Foundation. Photo by L Stone.

## 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF YOBM By RICHARD BABCOCK



(L-to-R) Richard Babcock '93, Gene Spinazola '61, Linda Trumbull '90, Ed Sisk '90 (back), Graham Wright '90, Keith Knowlton '02 (back), Jason Heywood '01, Ben Cashen '02 (back), Storey King '89, Andy Chase '79 (back). Photo courtesy of G Spinazola '61.

The first graduates of the original Yacht Operations and Boatyard Management curriculum, affectionately known as YOBM (“Yo-bum”), celebrated their 25th anniversary since graduation in the summer of 2014. Begun in 1987, the YOBM program marked the first expansion beyond the traditional nautical science and marine engineering curricula established in 1941.

In the mid-1980s, MMA’s student enrollment had dropped to about 384 students. The campus, however, was designed to accommodate 600

students. The proverbial handwriting was on the wall: the smaller number of students could not support the expenses of running the Academy. **Professor Eugene “Gene” Spinazola '61**, with the support of Professor Verge Forbes and **President Kenneth Curtis '52**, suggested a new direction: an associate’s degree curriculum that addressed the needs of the recreational and small vessel marine sectors.

Spinazola developed the curriculum in 1986 and the first students arrived in the fall of 1987. That original program led to an associate’s degree as well as a USCG 200-ton license. The initial class consisted of about 23 students of varied backgrounds. Most were older, nontraditional students who gave up jobs to change professions. In 1989, they were graduated and on their ways.

Time and experience led to several changes in the original program. The curriculum was split into companion curricula renamed ‘Marina Management’ and ‘Small Vessel Operations’

(SVO). Within a short time, the program was extended to offer bachelor’s degrees. For the SVO four-year students, a 500-ton license could also be obtained.

Unfortunately, a critical mass of students could never quite be achieved for the Marina Management program so it was discontinued around 2000. However, the SVO program prospered and presently leads to a 500- or 1600-ton license. In 2011, the college, with input from the student body, changed the name of the SVO program to Vessel Operations and Technology (VOT). Enrollment is limited to 35 students per class year for a total of 140 on campus at any one time.

Clearly, the VOT program is an integral part of the 16 undergraduate and two graduate degree programs MMA offers. Because the MMA administration encouraged and supported the development of YOBM (later, SVO and now VOT), along with other innovative programs, Maine Maritime Academy revived, and is now recognized in college ranking surveys as a place to get the “most bang for your buck” and a superior public education. YOBM may have been the first major change, but it won’t be the last as MMA navigates the needs of the maritime world of the future.

*Editor’s Note: Richard Babcock '93 was an associate professor for Marine Transportation from 1988 to 2001.*

## Celebrating Achievements

November 6, 2014 was a night of celebration at Maine Maritime Academy. The college inducted a new member to the Wall of Honor, presented the Scheel Scholarships and the American Bureau of Shipping Scholarships, honored this year's recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award, and recognized the promotion of three distinguished professors.

Rear Admiral **Mark R. Whitney '84**, Deputy Commander, Logistics, Maintenance and Industrial Operations for Naval Sea Systems Command, was inducted into membership on the MMA Wall of Honor. A native of Portland, he entered the Navy through MMA's NROTC program. In addition to his bachelor's degree from Maine Maritime Academy, Admiral Whitney has earned his master's degree in mechanical engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School where he was awarded the "Superior Student Award." From 2008 to 2012, he was Commander of the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Facility in Bremerton, Wash. He is the recipient of numerous awards and medals.

Scheel Scholars are those students who best exemplify intellectual curiosity and achievement. Henry A. Scheel of Rockport, Maine, a widely respected naval architect and yacht designer, established endowed scholarships for students in the upper three classes as his way of expressing his regard for the Academy. The ten 2014 Scheel Scholars are:

- Sam Berner '15**  
(Marine Systems Engineering)
- Julianna Diehl '17**  
(Marine Science & Vessel Operations & Tech)
- Tyler Durant '15**  
(Marine Engineering Operations)
- Tyler Easler '15**  
(Power Engineering Technology)
- Joshua Hale '15**  
(Marine Transportation Operations)
- Kregg MacPherson '15**  
(Vessel Operations & Technology)
- D'Mitri Monroe '15**  
(Marine Engineering Technology)
- Juergen Pilot '15**  
(Marine Systems Engineering)
- Zachary Radcliffe '16**  
(International Business & Logistics)
- Elizabeth Trenckman '15**  
(Marine Biology)

American Bureau of Shipping (ABS) Scholars are those students who excel in the MMA marine systems engineering program. The ten 2014 ABS Scholars are:

- Douglas Blasius**
- Philep Levesque**
- Matthew Plocinski**
- William Silver**
- Ethan M. Stubbs**
- Thomas Whitney**
- Nicholas Chase**
- Christopher Gilman**
- Shawn Silva**
- Alexander Toth**

The 2014 Excellence in Teaching Award went to **Lance Burton '90**, Assistant Professor of Engineering. (See the article about Professor Burton in the Mariner 2014 - Issue 3 p. 17).

Three faculty members were promoted from associate professor to full professor: Dr. Richard Kimball, professor of engineering; Dr. Dana



Juergen Pilot (L) & Elizabeth Trenckman (R) accept a certificate of recognition from President Brennan at the Celebration of Achievement. Photos by College Relations.

Polojärvi, professor of humanities and communications; and Dr. Donald Maier, Associate Dean of the Loeb-Sullivan School of International Business & Logistics.

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## MMA Incorporates Arctic Training



Captain Ralph Pundt '77 (R) seated with members of his delegation to the IMO Subcommittee Conference in London. Photo courtesy of R Pundt.

ing opportunity in the summer of 2013 though an online search and recognized it as a good fit for MMA's experience. In August of 2014 the MEMACE proposal was selected as a partner project to the University of Alaska Anchorage's Arctic Center for Excellence (UAA ACE). After attending a Fall 2014 working session for UAA ACE at USCG headquarters in Washington, DC and upon confirmation of the Center's overall budget in early 2015, MMA's representatives, Director of Continuing Education and Principal Investigator Victoria Blackwood and Principal Author for Ice Navigation training **Capt. Ralph Pundt '77**, began the first phase of grant work.

The Ice Navigation course will be designed as a hybrid modular course. It will include online modules followed by on campus Arctic voyage planning and scenario response using grant-funded Ice Navigation software that will be added in late summer 2015 to the TRANSAS full mission bridge simulator currently in use at MMA. Complementary research by UAA ACE colleagues in Arctic Sea Ice and Storm Surge Prediction modeling will also be incorporated into the MMA course.

The First Responder course will direct its attention to the challenges presented to maritime emergency and rescue operations by the remotely settled, minimal infrastructure realities of Arctic waters in the Western and Far North regions of Alaska. Increased maritime traffic in the U.S. Arctic due to the opening of the NW Passage makes MMA's research contributions particularly valuable to the safety and security of local and international mariners, fisheries management, protection of indigenous Arctic peoples, and global environmental efforts to reduce carbon air emissions, and liquid and solid waste pollution. Specific USCG Arctic strategy goals include

improved performance of DHS/USCG mission areas in ports, waterways and coastal security, drug interdiction, search and rescue, migrant interdiction, defense readiness, and other domains. International cooperation will be stressed with the hope that maritime colleges in Canada and Russia, with whom MMA has established relationships, will join in collaborative tri-national maritime domain training and teacher/student exchanges.

A secondary opportunity arose from the grant award when MMA was invited to join the US delegation to the IMO to co-draft an international model ice navigation course once the Polar Code has been ratified. **Capt. Ralph Pundt '77** represented MMA and the US as an ice navigation training expert at the IMO Human Element in Training Subcommittee's US Polar Working Group's meeting in London in February of 2015. Capt. Pundt presented his ideas and experience along with those from other US and IMO member states to establish defined ice navigation training protocols for deck officers. He said, "For the international maritime community, transiting polar waters is a relatively new area of operation.... By networking with members of the international delegations as well as key stakeholders within the industry, I now have a clearer understanding of and appreciation for their concerns and opinions associated with polar transits."

Under a separate initiative not associated with the Arctic Grant, MMA engineering Professor **Mark Libby '77** also traveled to London as part of the US delegation to the IMO conference. He was assigned to three working groups: Polar Code, Maritime English, and validation of a model course on engine room simulation. All three were issues identified by the STCW Convention of 2010. Libby reported his experience was "a lesson in how multi-national diplomacy works" (150 of the 170 member countries sent representatives) and "was very productive."

In the Fall of 2014, Maine Maritime Academy's Continuing Education Department received a two-year grant of more than \$300,000 from the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of University Programs (OUP) to develop two hybrid courses specifically for the US Arctic region: an Ice Navigation course and a Maritime First Responder course. The title of the grant, "Arctic Education: Implementing the Arctic Strategy in Training," clearly reflects the principal goal of the award and reinforces the Academy's continued relationship with the United States Coast Guard (USCG). The USCG Arctic Strategy is of vital importance to U.S. security and the safety of maritime operations, indigenous peoples, and a fragile environment in the remote tri-national region.

The Ice Navigation course will meet International Maritime Organization (IMO) Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW), and USCG standards. The First Responder course will come from existing MMA sponsored DHS/FEMA courses and will be tailored to the Arctic maritime domain.

Victoria Blackwood, Director of Continuing Education, discovered the competitive fund-

## THE FRENCH ARE COMING!

The replica of the 1780 French frigate *Hermione* will cross the Atlantic in the spring and arrive at Castine, Maine on Bastille Day, July 14.

The original frigate sailed to Boston, bringing the Marquis de Lafayette, the great French supporter of the American colonists in their efforts

to expel the British. After leaving Lafayette, *Hermione* sailed to Penobscot Bay to conduct reconnaissance, especially of the British-occupied Castine.

MMA is assisting both the Castine Historical Society and the Castine Harbor Committee with the many arrangements for this special event. It is

likely that *Hermione* will be docked at MMA due to her size.

For more information on the 2015 voyage, see [www.hermione2015.com](http://www.hermione2015.com) or [www.castinehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.castinehistoricalsociety.org).

## CLIMATE, ADAPTATION, SUSTAINABILITY, AND CHANGE

By HALEY HUNT GRIFFIN '15

These four words were the topic of discussion at the Climate Adaptation and Sustainability conference held at the University of Maine at Orono this fall. I was invited to attend this conference by Professor Laurie Stone, with Power Engineering Technology student, Gregory Duff '17.

On October 23, 2014, in a packed conference room, we listened and discussed how to “[Build] a Framework and Platform for Climate Adaptation and Sustainability (CLAS) Planning for Maine Communities.” Presenters spoke on the measured evidence of climate change, impacts on our local communities, and ways to persuade others to make sustainable choices. As an International Business and Logistics major, I enjoyed

focusing on how to phrase or market sustainable choices to encourage people to alter their behavior. The key is to brand it with as little change to them as possible!

In one of my classes at MMA, the focus was on sustainability. Of the conversations of theories, facts, and studies, one that particularly stood out to me was a Ted Talk titled, “How behavioral science can lower your energy bill.” In a behavioral science experiment conducted by college graduate students in California, the students asked town members to turn off their air conditioners and turn on their fans. Fliers were left on all the doors in the neighborhood, one marketing the money that could be saved, one with an encouraging environmental message, and another

promoting being a good citizen. Among these three messages, the reduction in energy usage was zero percent. The fourth message, however, said, “When surveyed, 77% of your neighbors said that they turn off their air conditioning and turn on their fans. Please join them; turn off your air conditioning and turn on your fans.” The town members that received this flier had a noticeable reduction in their energy consumption.

With most of today’s world news chock-full of negative stories and crises, it was refreshing to be surrounded by people actively concentrated on making positive efforts to ameliorate a rising issue and to reflect on Maine Maritime Academy’s sustainable initiatives and opportunities.

## MMA Hosts STEM Workshop



Photo by L. Stone.

MMA, in collaboration with the Maine Mathematics and Science Alliance (MMSA), hosted and organized a three-day teacher-training STEM workshop from August 5-7, 2014 on the Castine campus. Entitled “Mathematics and Science through Engineering,” the workshop focused on the design of model boats and testing their performance in a tow tank. Fifteen elementary and middle school teachers attended this STEM event. MMA Engineering professor Paul Wlodkowski led workshop activities in the physics and engineering of boat design, while former MMA mathematics professor Yelena Meadows returned to campus as a STEM consultant, and she led work in the underlying mathematical modeling of the problem. By all accounts, the workshop was successful, and the teachers were excited about introducing these engineering concepts into their own lesson plans. Future STEM workshops are in progress for summer, 2015.

## DR. WLODKOWSKI RECEIVES FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP TO TEACH IN RUSSIA



Dr. Wlodkowski teaching at Admiral Makarov State University of Maritime and Inland Shipping. Photo courtesy of P Wlodkowski.

Maine Maritime Academy Professor of Engineering, Paul Wlodkowski, Ph.D., received a Fulbright Scholarship to conduct research and teach engineering courses at Admiral Makarov State University of Maritime and Inland Shipping in St. Petersburg, Russia. He, his wife Alexandra, and their three children left for the six-month commitment in late December.

Dr. Wlodkowski's project is designed to encourage future student and faculty exchanges

and stimulate engineering collaboration between the two maritime colleges. However, this is not Professor Wlodkowski's first time as an exchange professor to Admiral Makarov State University. He was a visiting professor from MMA to the Russian maritime college in 2008.

The fact that Professor Wlodkowski's grandparents came to America from Russia and that his mother, a language professor, taught him Russian encouraged Dr. Wlodkowski to become

an exchange student to Lomonosov Moscow State University in 1988. He pursued a double major in physics and economics at Dartmouth College where he graduated cum laude. His further degrees include an M.S. in engineering physics from the University of Virginia and a Ph.D. in reliability engineering from the University of Maryland. He began teaching at MMA in 2002 and was appointed to the Governor's STEM Council in 2011, serving as representative for President William J. Brennan, Ph.D.

Among his goals, one is to "strengthen the pipeline of understanding between [sic] maritime universities across the world" (C. Eichacker, MMA prof heading back to Russia. Ellsworth American, Nov. 6, 2014, p.10).

While in St. Petersburg, Dr. Wlodkowski is teaching two courses at Admiral Makarov State University: Introduction to Reliability Engineering and Technical Communications. In addition, he is working to develop a collaborative effort to reduce emissions from marine diesel engines.



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## JOHN BURPEE '86 TAKES ON NEW ROLE

On May 13, 2014, **John Burpee '86**, became the Chairman of the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors, an organization dedicated to “promoting greater safety by securing concerted action and maintaining uniformity in the construction, installation, inspection, and repair of boilers and other pressure vessels...” (Bulletin, Technical Journal of the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors, Fall 2014). He continues in his position as Maine’s chief boiler inspector while performing his new responsibilities on the National Board for the next three years.

Burpee participated in the NROTC program at MMA and received a commission in the US Navy as an ensign. His resume includes attendance at the Surface Warfare Officer School and service aboard the USS Coontz where he was in charge of

the steam plant propelling the engines. Once ashore, he returned to MMA in charge of the MMA and University of Maine NROTC units. Concurrently, he taught several courses at the Academy including naval operations, marine engineering, and navigation.

From MMA, Burpee shifted his career into boiler inspection and joined the Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company. Then he worked as an inspector in Vermont and central Maine before assuming the post of Maine State chief boiler inspector.

One of the greatest concerns facing the National Board, according to Burpee, is the loss through retirement of many experienced inspectors. When chiefs retire, “a gap in oversight” can occur, which, in turn, has the potential to compromise safety. Burpee dealt with this problem immedi-

ately and is confident that “board membership is stabilizing.” (Interview, Bulletin, Fall 2014). He is particularly motivated to deal with new regulations generated by the federal government. The regulations are complex but offer the National Board some advantageous occasions to explore innovative ideas and different solutions to old problems. He sees opportunities in the testing lab, expanding membership, training and training facilities, and preparing new inspectors for work with a wider array of technologies and energy generation.

Married to Patricia for 30 years, he and his wife have two grown children, and live in central Maine.



## ALUMNI: SUPPORT MMA'S FUTURE OFFICERS

**We are hiring** Licensed Watch and Training Officers for the Summer Training Cruise on TS State of Maine. Deck and Engine Officers are needed. Both 45- and 90-day options are available from April 30 - August 1.

[mainemaritime.edu/about-mma/employment-at-mma/](http://mainemaritime.edu/about-mma/employment-at-mma/)

**FOR DETAILS, PLEASE CONTACT:**

Capt. Nathan Gandy | 207-326-2250 | [nate.gandy@mma.edu](mailto:nate.gandy@mma.edu)

Capt. Les Eadie | 207-326-2381 | [leslie.eadie@mma.edu](mailto:leslie.eadie@mma.edu)

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## '93 Grad Helps Save 236

**N**ovember 17, 2014 found **Captain Michael Tolley '93** and his crew aboard MV Liberty Grace rescuing 236 Syrian refugees who had been stranded at sea for about a week. As part of the rescue operation, he and his crew provided food, water, and medical aid to the refugees before moving them ashore.

Tolley has been actively involved in delivering food aid to desperate areas of the world for several years and has seen his share of crises. In this case, MV Liberty Grace had just exited the Suez Canal when Tolley was notified by the Italian Coast Guard that a fishing trawler was in distress and adrift southeast of Sicily.

Tolley steered Liberty Grace to the distressed vessel and when he pulled aside the trawler, discovered 236 people of all ages suffering from dehydration, exhaustion, and the beginning stages of starvation. He and his crew organized and helped settle the refugees aboard Liberty Grace and, with the help of some of the refugees, attended to the food, water, and medical needs of

all aboard. In addition, he personally gave up his cabin to a family.

Once at a designated Sicilian port, the refugees were ferried from Liberty Grace to shore by the Italian Coast Guard where they were met by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees and Red Cross representatives.

The refugees “were, at one time, members of Syria’s middle class,” according to Abigail Adams in her Bangor Daily News story about Tolley (November 29-30, 2014, p.B1, B3). In conversations with the refugees, Tolley garnered that they were “well-educated and with professional backgrounds” (Adams, BDN).

“Our impression was that if we had met these people under any other circumstance, they could have been our neighbors,” Tolley told The Lincoln County News in an email.”

Back at home with their own families, Tolley and his crew feel a bond with the Syrians they rescued and plan to find a way to help them further.



Photo courtesy of M Tolley.



Photos by L Burton.

## MMA BURN CREW



**W**hile many Maine Maritime Academy students play sports, take sailing cruises, or enjoy the weekend catching up on sleep, a few dedicate themselves to making their communities safer.

On October 20, 2014, fire crews from Castine, Penobscot, Blue Hill, Orland, and Sedgwick, Maine along with Peninsula Ambulance of Blue Hill, met before dawn to set up and conduct a mutual aid training detail involving a “controlled burn down” of a vacant house in Penobscot.

MMA students in the training session were: James “Colin” Goodson, Evan Gaskin, Andrew Richardson, Samuel Brown, Joseph “Andrew” Tarte, Matthew Plocinski, Charles Salerno, Matthew Fendl, and Christopher Carter.



Carrie Plourde-Norton '06. Photo by J McIntire '03.

## MMA in Korea: Riding the Wave of Deep Water Construction

By JESSE MCINTIRE '03

I got a call in late 2013 asking if I would take a resident job in Korea to build, commission, and deliver the Cobalt Explorer, a deepwater drillship. I work for Vantage Drilling, one of the smaller deepwater drilling contractors in terms of 'rigs' and market capitalization.

After one more offshore trip on the Tungsten Explorer, I packed up and moved to Korea where it was like an MMA homecoming! I kept crossing paths with numerous MMA grads from a number of different companies. Most were working as rotating (28 days on/off) operations crew for the various drilling contractors, while some worked as surveyors for American Bureau of Shipping (ABS).

There has been a boom in deepwater construction in the past 5 years, and much of it has taken place in Korea. There are three major yards here: Hyundai Heavy Industries (HHI), in Ulsan; Daewoo Shipbuilding and Marine Engineering (DSME), Geoje Island; and Samsung Heavy Industries (SHI), also on Geoje. HHI has approximately 60,000 workers (including subcontractors) working inside the yard when they are at full tilt. DSME and SHI are "smaller," and similarly sized. Their headcount (employee and subcontractor combined) is approximately 40,000 each.

And that's where you'll find us. I'm based at DSME, and I've run into MMA people I may not have seen since Castine over 10 years ago, at the shipyard cafeteria or out on the town after work. There's a long list of MMA grads who have passed through these shipyards, though a few really stand out.

**Ben Hart '08**, MEO/SVO (3A/E and 200 ton captain's license) came to MMA from South Dakota via Montana, and currently lives in Newcastle, Maine with his wife **Carole Perry '07** (IBL). He worked for International Paper until 2011 when he joined Pride on the Deep Ocean Ascension. At one point, 13 MMA alumni were together on the Pride.

In 2013, he began working for Rowan Companies and was immediately sent to HHI Shipyard in Ulsan, South Korea to work on building the drillship Renaissance. Ben was aboard as third assistant engineer when the drillship was deployed to Namibia and Angola to drill two wells.

Rowan's asked Ben to return to the HHI Shipyard as a second assistant engineer to build the fourth new drillship, the Relentless. He reported that Rowan's provided apartments and other amenities for its engineers in South Korea. In exchange, he had to work a 9-hour day on Saturday and a 6-hour day on Sunday. He said, "The scenery in South Korea is awesome, with a surprising number of nature trails with spectacular vistas of the two shipyards (the main and offshore yards). The food is great and I have developed a huge respect for the South Korean culture, especially the work ethic."

While Ben got to work with a number of classmates, **Carrie Plourde Norton '06** (MTO) explained, "I'm working with Ensco as a Senior Dynamic Positioning Operator and second mate on the Ensco DS8. I started working on a new-build drillship for Ensco in South Korea in July 2014 but, unfortunately, have not been working with any other alumni." Carrie joined Ensco in 2011. While in South Korea, she has been able to connect with fellow alumni also working at the HHI Shipyard so has enjoyed the camaraderie associated with MMA.

**Jacob Barto '04**, 1st Engineer, aka "assistant technical section leader" with Seadrill, of Winter Harbor, Maine and **Frank Bowley '01**, chief engineer, aka, "technical superintendent" with Pacific Drilling Co., from Millinocket, Maine, and now of Salem, N.H. have been a welcome sight in Korea. We've caught up, had some laughs, talked about home, talked a little about work, and of course, a little about Castine. MMA grads are criss-crossing the globe every month to do what they were trained to do at Maine Maritime. Korea

is just a temporary assignment for most, but a highlight is seeing a familiar face and hearing a Maine accent when far from home.

The technology has changed tremendously in the past 20 years. There are PLCs with touchscreens on almost all equipment onboard. Ventilation fans, dampers, pumps and compressors can be monitored on mimic screens on the bridge, while controlled in the aft engine control room. There is no more "full ahead chief." GPS satellites and acoustic transponders monitor the vessel's position relative to the well head, calculate current and wind forces, and apply "thrust" via variable frequency drives. Mainly, our jobs onboard are to operate, monitor and maintain the equipment. Whether it's Carrie on the bridge or Jake in the engine room, we work together.

The building boom is tailing down. Some of the rigs coming out of the yard don't have contracts. "Day-rates" for rigs re-negotiating contracts are dropping. The future is uncertain and challenging. But it's been a good run, and with some luck and resourcefulness, MMA grads will continue to make the most out of opportunities in deepwater oil and gas. Thanks everyone who took some time to talk, and to those that I've worked with and met whose names didn't make it to print.

## FRED HARRIS '67 HONORED WITH ADMIRAL OF THE OCEAN SEAS AWARD

By DIXIE STEDMAN, BIW



Fred Harris '67 (L) received the AOTOS Award. Joseph Cox and Stephen Cotton also received the award. Photo courtesy of BIW.

In November 2014, NASSCO/BIW President **Fred Harris '67** was presented with the 2014 Admiral of the Ocean Seas (AOTOS) award by United Seamen's Service at its 45th AOTOS event in New York City. He was recognized for his leadership of two General Dynamics shipyards and for four decades of innovation to achieve excellence in shipbuilding.

Fred was praised for his breadth of knowledge and unique viewpoint on current initiatives facing the shipbuilding industry. In accepting the award, he used the opportunity to reinforce his position that both government and industry need to recognize the barriers in U.S. shipbuilding. He stated that it is essential that shipbuilders become more efficient and affordable, learning from shipbuilders worldwide the necessary processes to remain competitive and to continue building ships in the U.S.

In attendance were Fred's classmates – **Steve Barbara '67**, **David Schultze '67**, and **Frank Loiacono '67**.

Also honored were Steven Cotton, General Secretary of the International Transport Worker's Federation, and Joseph Cox, President/CEO of the Chamber of Shipping of America.

## MMA Goes Offshore

The new Strategic Plan asks Maine Maritime Academy to deepen its relationships with, and continue to meet the needs of, the industries that employ our students and graduates. Presently, one of the industries that employs a significantly large number of MMA students is the offshore technology field. Alumnus **F. Mike Young '77** has been hired straight from his position with Seadrill as Rig Leader/Manager to develop a new offshore technology program.

Young will conduct needs assessments and interviews with industry leaders, faculty members, and students to pinpoint exactly what MMA should be offering in the way of coursework to meet the needs of this highly technical industry. He is particularly interested in discovering precisely what MMA can be offering to enhance the hiring and mobility of our graduates.

One area that has been considered for a few years is the need for a course or courses and certification for students in Differential Global Positioning Systems (DGPS). Young knows first hand how crucial this skill is in the oil drilling industry where the DGPS person in charge must locate the place to drill on the seabed and then must hold the drilling platform precisely over the drill spot.

MMA already offers an offshore technology course and has for several years. Now, the college

wants to expand opportunities for its students by developing more courses or an entire program.

Young has been asked to determine how to go about this efficiently and effectively.

“Maine’s location puts it in an ideal position to add offshore technology to its repertoire of offerings. Nova Scotia will soon be drilling and Newfoundland is not far behind in its plans for offshore drilling,” stated Young. He plans to work closely with MMA’s Continuing Education Program director, Victoria Blackwood, to see how any new offshore technology courses can be best utilized by both undergraduates and alumni.

Young brings a wealth of information and skills with him from industry and the academic world.

He worked for Global Marine in oilfield drilling from 1978 to 1991 when he was tempted away from industry to teach at MMA for 14 years. Some of his teaching was done while he also worked for Seadrill. He spent three years as project manager in Korea building rigs for Transocean before he went to work for Seadrill in 2008. His years away from teaching saw him deployed by his companies to oil fields off Brazil, Nigeria, Newfoundland, and Texas.

After he performs the assessments, coordinates



Young assisting students during diesel lab. Photo by College Relations.

with Continuing Education and other departments, and confers with industry leaders, Young will develop a tentative proposal to be submitted to President Brennan this spring.

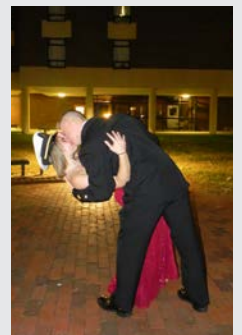
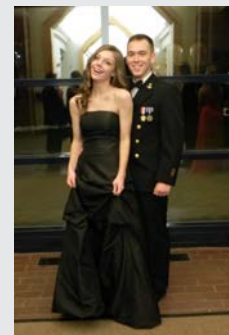
## ROBERT D. SOMERVILLE '65 NAMED HELLENIC-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PERSON OF THE YEAR 2014

The Hellenic-American Chamber of Commerce named Robert D. Somerville '65 their Person of the Year 2014 and honored him at the annual dinner dance at The Pierre on Friday, October 17 in New York City. The event highlighted Somerville’s 43-year career with ABS, where he held increasingly senior positions, beginning as a field surveyor and steadily rising through the ranks as a senior surveyor, principal surveyor, Regional Manager for Western Europe, and President and Chief Operating Officer of ABS Europe Ltd. In 1993, he was elected President and Chief Operating Officer of ABS. In 2002, he was elected President and Chief Executive Officer, and in 2004, he was elected Chairman and CEO.

Prior to joining ABS, Somerville served as a seagoing engineer and gained shipyard experience at Newport News, the largest shipbuilder in the world at that time. Somerville holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Engineering from Maine Maritime Academy. He also received an honorary Doctorate of Science from MMA, an honorary Doctorate of Commercial Science from the Webb Institute, and an honorary Doctorate of Science from City University, London – Cass Business School. He is a graduate of the Harvard Business School’s Advanced Management Program and is a Fellow of SNAME. Somerville currently serves as Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Maine Maritime Academy.

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## Navy Ball 2014



MMA Annual Navy Ball brings romance to campus. Photos by J Tersoni.

## Visiting Professor From Turkey

Maine Maritime Academy is enjoying hosting Capt. Dr. Ender Asyali, visiting professor from Dokul Eylul University in Izmir, Turkey. This is Dr. Asyali's second time at MMA. His first time was for the academic year of 2001-2002.

Dr. Asyali received his undergraduate degree from Istanbul Technical University. He received his doctorate from Dokul Eylul University. After graduation from Istanbul Technical University, he went to sea for 6 years and earned his captain's license.

Last semester, Dr. Asyali taught Introduction to Nautical Science Lab and lectured in "Maritime

Resources Management." This semester, he is teaching Electronic Navigation, Watchkeeping, and Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation. In addition, he is the liaison from Dokul Eylul University to Maine Maritime Academy as part of a cooperative educational venture initiated by the two colleges a few years ago.

When Dr. Asyali taught at MMA in 2001, his wife, Hale, accompanied him. She is a school counselor and deputy principle of an elementary school in Izmir. This trip, he is accompanied by Hale and his son, Ege, who is 11 years old and attends the Adams Elementary School in Castine.



Dr. Ender Asyali on MMA campus this winter. Photo by L Stone.

## TALL SHIPS AMERICA CONFERENCE BRINGS MMA FRIENDS TOGETHER



Tall Ships America Conference brings long-time MMA friends together. Photo courtesy of J Spring.

Present and former MMA faculty, staff, and graduates gathered at the annual Tall Ships America conference in Philadelphia in February. Pictured are, from left: David Banks, Marine Superintendent of Sea Education Association, former mate on the schooner Bowdoin; **Eric Romelczyk '08**, SVO, currently a Master's Degree candidate at the University of Rhode Island Marine Affairs program; **Aaron Paolino '07**, Master's of Maritime Management, currently captain of the schooner Roseway; **William Sabatini '05**, SVO, currently captain of US Brig

Niagara; David Goldman, past mate and steward on Bowdoin, currently chief mate on US Brig Niagara; Rick Miller, MMA Assistant Professor of Marine Transportation, currently on sabbatical as captain of RV Robert Seamans; **Andy Chase '79**, MTO, currently an MMA Professor of Marine Transportation; Peg Brandon, former Professor of Marine Transportation and currently President of Sea Education Association; and **William Leathers '11**, SVO, currently captain and Operations Manager for Ocean Classrooms, Inc.

## SAVE THE DATE

Dedication of the ABS Center for Engineering, Science, and Research



Join faculty, staff and students to celebrate the opening of the new building on Friday, May 1, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. on the Maine Maritime Academy campus.

**5.1.15 4:00 PM**

## Albert B Bennett, Jr. '54 Makes Surprise Gift

Durham, New Hampshire resident, **Albert "Al" B. Bennett, Jr. '54** made a surprise gift to Maine Maritime Academy. It all began when **Richard O'Leary '54** and his wife, Barbara, contacted Laurie Stone (Mariner editor) to say they had the sheet music and a CD of Al Bennett's "MMA March." Richard wanted to know if the Academy would be interested in having the materials. Naturally, the Academy wanted Bennett's "MMA March."

The O'Learys sent the sheet music and material immediately. After hearing the music, Stone contacted **Paul Mercer '73**, Director of Alumni Affairs, and it was enthusiastically agreed that the gift should be archived and used immediately.

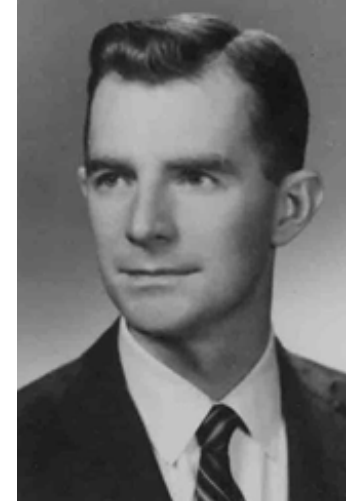
Bennett and Stone communicated back and forth, and Bennett sent more copies of the CD for the MMA Band. He also sent the full score arranged by his graduate student at the University of New Hampshire, Trevor Frost, and arrangements for 16 individual instruments so that band players could learn their parts.

Stone contacted Adam Kravetz '15, Band Leader, and shared the CDs and music with him. He was very excited to discover that thanks to Al Bennett, MMA had its own special march. Subsequently, Kravetz and Bennett connected

with each other and began a musical friendship. The MMA Band hopes to master the music and play the March at special events.

Al Bennett grew up in Camden, Maine where he played baseball and basketball and formed a 7-piece band for YMCA dances. He was graduated from MMA in 1954 and spent two years shipping out. While at sea, he got the idea to write a march for the Academy, which he did but not many knew about it except his best friends.

In 1959, he was graduated from the University of Maine where he met his wife, Jane Chapman. For two years, he was a writer for an experimental television program sponsored by the Maine State Department of Education. He also taught mathematics at Gorham State College and became active in the Summer Mathematics Institutes sponsored by the Association of Teachers of



Photos courtesy of A Bennett '54.

Mathematics in New England.

After attending a National Science Foundation Institute at the University of Michigan in 1963, he enrolled for Michigan's PhD program and received his doctorate in 1966.

From Michigan, he went to Durham to join the mathematics faculty at the University of New Hampshire (UNH) where he taught mathematics to prospective teachers. There he developed Fraction Bars and later, Decimal Squares – manipulative materials to help students learn about fractions and decimals. In 1969, he co-authored a companion volume of two math books for teachers that are currently being published in their 10th editions.

In addition to teaching at UNH, Bennett worked part time for the Math Learning Center in Oregon. He wrote a series of Math and the Mind's Eye books and Mathematics Alive text materials for math learners.

After 42 years of teaching future teachers at UNH, a span of time that included nine UNH presidents, he retired in 2009 as Professor Emeritus. He enjoys teaching and still visits classrooms as a member of UNH's Speaker's Bureau.

Al and Jane have three sons, Albert III, **Garrett '85**, and Gregory. Al's brother, **Roy Bennett '62** is also an alumnus. The gift of the "MMA March" to the Academy is an incomparable legacy. Listen for it at graduations, homecomings, and other special events at MMA.

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## Meeting the Challenge: Increasing Alumni Giving to the MMA Annual Fund

By MMA DEVELOPMENT STAFF

Last fall Maine Maritime Academy received a gift from the Harold Alfond Foundation that included \$1 million toward construction of the ABS Center for Engineering, Science, and Research and \$1.65 million to establish an endowed scholarship fund for engineering students.

In addition, the Foundation generously agreed to make further payments to the Scholarship Fund of \$250,000 annually for three years if the Academy reaches certain milestones in its Annual Fund – growing the Alumni participation rate to at least 16% in 2015, 19% in 2016 and 22% in 2017, and increasing the amount contributed by at least \$50,000 in each of those years.

Earlier this year, MMA modified our Annual Fund definition to align it with other institutions of higher education. Starting in FY 2015, the Annual Fund will consist of outright gifts of cash or securities made between July 1 and June 30 in any given year that are placed at the immediate use of the College to help fund current operations (budgeted expenses in the current year or the next). Contributors have the option of providing an unrestricted gift which enables the administration to determine where it is most needed, or to target their donation to benefit a specific field of study (e.g. engineering) or area of interest (e.g. athletics, regiment, or waterfront).

Based upon this new definition, the FY 2014 Annual Fund raised approximately \$502,000 from 970 donors, resulting in an alumni participation rate of 14.5%. In order to qualify for this year's Challenge gift from the Alfond Foundation, we need to attract 100+ new alumni givers prior to June 30, 2015 and raise more than \$50,000 in additional contributions from both current and new donors.

The dollars raised through the Annual Fund from supporters like you - alumni, parents, faculty, staff and other friends of MMA, are critical

to maintaining the Academy's infrastructure and delivering superior quality educational programs that are accessible to families of varying income levels. As families are challenged to afford the cost of post-secondary education, we appreciate the need to keep tuition costs reasonable. The MMA Board of Trustees recognizes our obligation to expand the Academy's scholarship endowment, which makes the achievement of the Alfond Challenge an absolute necessity.

Last summer, Money magazine ranked MMA as the number one public college in the United States, as well as number four on the list of colleges that add the most value. (A total of 665 four-year colleges were rated on 18 factors in three categories: educational quality, affordability, and alumni earnings.) Please do your part to sustain this level of excellence for our students by making your contribution to the 2015 Annual Fund before June 30th.

Let's make this year's Annual Fund the most successful ever and meet the Alfond Challenge to add \$250,000 to our permanent Scholarship Fund. You may choose from three different ways to contribute:

### 1) Mail your donation to:

Maine Maritime Academy  
Development Office  
Leavitt Hall  
Castine, ME 04420

### 2) Call us with your gift:

207-326-2470

### 3) Go online and participate:

mainemaritime.edu  
click "Support MMA"

### MMA vs. MMA Challenge

Last year, the rivalry between Maine and Mass Maritime Academies moved from the athletic field to a giving challenge and we won!

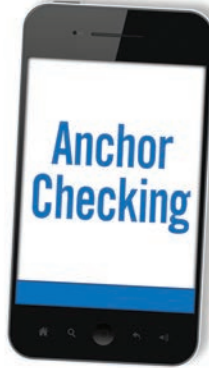
The Academies are competing once again to see who can capture the greatest number of alumni gifts during the month of April. It is not about which school raises the most money, it's who finishes with the most gifts.

The winner will hold the title of MMA Cup Champion for a year, while the loser has to fly the winner's flag on their campus for a day.

### The Harold Alfond Foundation

Harold Alfond and his wife, Bibby, established the first private foundation in Maine in 1950 and eight years later began the Dexter Shoe Company that, at its peak, employed 4,000 people, manufactured 36,000 pairs of shoes daily, and had annual sales of over \$250 million. While Alfond sold the company to Warren Buffet's Berkshire Hathaway in 1993, he continued to manage the company until 2001.

Over the years, the Harold Alfond Foundation has contributed millions of dollars to charitable causes throughout Maine, and MMA stands among the beneficiaries. Renovations of Smith Gymnasium and the Field House, as well as the construction of the Harold Alfond Student Center, all received Alfond support.



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RESPECT THE ANCHOR



## Women Making History

By RIANA SIDELINGER, Athletic Communications Coordinator

Spring of 2015 marks the inaugural season of women's lacrosse at Maine Maritime Academy. After competing as a club team last spring and playing in three exhibition games, the Mariners boast a roster of 18 as they embark on a historic season.

Under the direction of Head Coach Sarah Gombar, the Mariners will kick off their season on March 9. Gombar, a Saginaw, Mich. native, was the Women's Lacrosse Club team coach at the University of Mississippi prior to her arrival at Maine Maritime.

"This season is one that will always be special to me and one I will truly never forget. As a coach I couldn't ask for a better group of women to build the foundation for this program," said Gombar.

Gombar played collegiate lacrosse at Davenport University for three seasons. She made starts at goalie, defense, attack and midfield and was named to the National Women's Lacrosse League All-Conference team.

"I think I can speak for every member of this team when I say we are honored to be making history and are looking forward to the opportunity to create the team culture and traditions that will be in this program for years to come," Gombar added.

The Mariners will be led by four captains with ex-

tensive lacrosse backgrounds; Patricia Dunford, Ally Fuehrer, Taylor O'Malley, and Rachael Redles. Dunford, a defender and Marine Biology major, played lacrosse at Walkersville High School in Maryland.

Fuehrer, an attacker and Marine Transportation

major, played lacrosse at Freeport High School in Maine.

O'Malley, an attacker and Marine Engineering Operations major, played lacrosse at Middletown High School in Rhode Island.

Redles, an attacker and International Business and Logistics Major, played lacrosse at Moravian Academy in Pennsylvania.

"In the past, I had tried to start a lacrosse program in high school but was unsuccessful. However, the opportunity presented itself for a varsity lacrosse

program to be put into motion my sophomore year at MMA. I jumped at the opportunity because I wanted to share my skills and love for the sport with women who had never picked up a stick before. Many people do not attempt to learn a new sport at the collegiate level because most have been playing the sport since they were in middle school. Our women's lacrosse program is the exact opposite. We are taking that interest and slowly building it into a competitive team. I am honored and fortunate to be a part of building the foundation of this program," said Redles.

“It is an honor to be part of this program’s foundation. We are putting in the time and practices so that we and other teams in years to come will have success.”

Operations major, played lacrosse at Freeport High School in Maine.

"It is an honor to be part of this program's foundation. We are putting in the time and practices so that we and other teams in years to come will have success," said Fuehrer.

O'Malley, an attacker and Marine Engineering Operations major, played lacrosse at Middletown High School in Rhode Island.

"Making history with my team this year is an opportunity to show everyone that we can compete with the top teams in our conference. It's time to prove to all that we have the heart and determina-



## ADAM ST. JOHN'S #12 JERSEY HONORED

On January 24, **Adam St. John '85** was the first men's basketball player to have his jersey honored high above the hardwood of Smith Gymnasium.

St. John scored 1,405 points in only three seasons of play for the Mariners, ranking second all-time in Maine Maritime Academy men's basketball history. During the 1984-85 season, he averaged 28.9 points per game, leading the nation in NCAA Division III scoring.

His many accomplishments include Northeast College Conference All-Star in 1983, '84 and '85, NCC MVP in 1985; Maine College All-Star from 1983-85; 2nd team All-Maine in 1985; All-Maine Collegiate Basketball Team in 1983, '84 and '85, and MMA Basketball's only All-American in 1985, earning Honorable Mention status.

Head Men's Basketball Coach David Muchnick said, "It is tremendously befitting as the first All-American in program history, that his #12 be the first Men's Basketball jersey high above the court in Smith Gymnasium. Adam's many

accomplishments speak for themselves, and we couldn't be happier that we were able to honor him in this special way. Once a Mariner, always a Mariner."



Photo by R Sidelinger.

## Women's Basketball Travels to Nashville



During the Holiday Break, the women's basketball team traveled to Nashville, Tennessee to compete at the Music City Classic. The Mariners took on St. Vincent College on December 29, and Fontbonne University on December 30 before returning home to ring in the New Year.

"Nashville was a unique opportunity for us to grow and develop both as a team and a family. It was an incredible experience to play basketball in such a different and welcoming atmosphere," said senior captain and Marine Biology major Jillian Perron.

While in Nashville, the Mariners visited the Country Music Hall of Fame, attended the Battle of the Bands (where they saw country music star Trace Adkins perform as well as the marching bands from LSU and Notre Dame), and went line dancing.



Photo by M Maxwell.

## Men's Basketball Hits the Big Apple

During the holiday break the men's basketball team hit New York to compete at the Eighth Annual Coaches vs. Cancer Basketball Classic where they played Lehman College.



Photo by D Muchnick.

The Mariners enjoyed the Army vs. Coast Guard

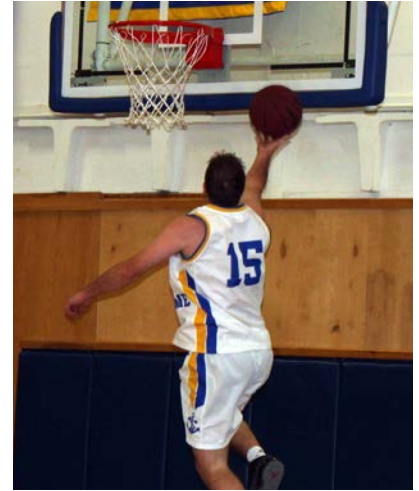
game, practiced at West Point, met with Army Men's Basketball Head Coach Zach Spiker, and visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art, St. Patrick's Cathedral, FAO Schwartz, Times Square, and Rockefeller Center.

Freshman Brendan Newcomb said, "I had been to New York before but never had the opportunity to walk around. Being able to do that with the team and bonding with the guys was huge."

"You could definitely feel a sense of toughness in New York City. The Lehman team and their fans showed a lot of toughness during the game," said Nick Holt.



## BASKETBALL ALUMNI WEEKEND JANUARY 23-24, 2015



**WE ARE MARINERS  
MARINERS FOREVER**

Photos by R Sidelinger.

**1943-2**

**Richard Spear '43-2**, captain and pilot, was re-elected to his 13th term on the Rockland Port District Commission of Rockland, Maine. In addition, he continues to serve on the Ferry Service Advisory Board and the Harbor Management Commission. He has served a total of 60 years on the Port District Commission.



September 20, 2014. Photo courtesy of R Kniehl '66.

**1949 & 1966**

**Russ Kniehl '66**, **RADM Warren Hamm '49**, and **Rick Judd '66** at the 150th anniversary commemoration of the St Albans Raid. RADM Hamm was co-chair of this 4-day event commemorating the October 19, 1864 raid on St Albans, Vt. by Confederate forces who entered Vt. from Canada, robbed three banks, and attempted to set fire to the town before fleeing back across the border.

**1960**

**Charlie Briggs '60** asks "who remembers 'Dime Night at the EM Club' in New Orleans?"

**1962**

**Capt. Norm Laskay '62** reported, "You don't have to go to sea, and you can even be semi-retired, to have someone pay your traveling expenses." Norm returned in early February 2015 from a week in Moscow, Russia where he taught a group from the international accounting firm of KPMG. His students were all Russians, almost all with engineering degrees, who worked for KPMG as in-house

appraisers of machinery and other equipment. Since Norm teaches, marine asset appraisal and its commercial side were a good fit, except as he said, "for trying to figure out the duties of numerous departments in the Russian Federation that do what MARAD and the USCG do in the U.S." He said his section on "yacht valuation methodology did not go over well as KPMG is more involved with corporate matters, and there is very little of a 'yachting scene' in Russia." He found the students very professional and the trip worth it though he didn't have time for sightseeing. Norm was centered in Moscow City away from the center of Moscow proper and a new site of some amazing high-rise office buildings for international corporations. In 2013, he was sent to St. Petersburg for a conference in downtown, which he found magnificent and with better weather. As he stated, "After northern Ohio, Castine, and too many winter trips on the North Atlantic, I was happy to settle in New Orleans. But I ended up in Moscow in January this year with temperatures running from 0-12 degrees Fahrenheit! However, things will get better. My next gig is speaking in Tokyo in October."

An article Norm wrote on a visit to SS Rotterdam, now a hotel and museum in Rotterdam, has been published in the current issue of PowerShips, Number 292, Winter 2015, a publication of the Steamship Historical Society of America.

**Robert Pouch '62**, Capt. NYNMI/USNR (Ret), found that his classmate, Peter Tassel was a Panama Canal pilot when Bob transited the Canal December 18, 2014. His ship transited the same locks on the western side that TS State of Maine passed through in the early 1960s. (Photo on right).



Photo courtesy of L Wade '64.

**1964**

Class of 1964 members **Fred Haley**, **Peter Lombard**, **Pete Johnson**, **Joe Moran**, **Chuck Sherman**, **Jack Harrigan**, **Nate Whittaker**, **Doug Smith**, **George Luddy**, **Perry Mattson**, **Tom Brown**, **Tom Rush**, **Larry Wade**, **John Metcalf**, **Sam Soule**, **Charlie Weeks**, and **Tom O'Donnell** topped off their 50th Reunion Year with an end-of-the-year mini-muster at DeMillo's in Portland, Maine. Seventeen Class of 1964 members attended, many with their wives or other special guests. **Scott Searway '66** and **Bill Jeffrey '65** paid the celebrants a visit.



Photo by R Pouch '62.

**1972**

**Ed Rosenberg '72** wrote a warm-hearted 8-Bells (page 38) for his close friend and classmate, **Larry Doyle '72**. He noted that they were in the same class sections for all four years at MMA and both entered the Coast Guard after graduation. They both attended the USCG Marine Safety School in Yorktown, Va., and then, 11 years later returned to Yorktown to become school chiefs. Ed said that Larry

brought him into his company, CBI, as a consultant to help create a vision and direction for the business. The two men vacationed together, went to their children's weddings, and were closer than brothers. Throughout their lives, they sought each other's counsel. Just two weeks before he died, Larry was still working, despite struggling against cancer. Ed wrote, "To me, it is the camaraderie that makes MMA such a special place where we all spent our 'wonder years' before dispersing all over the world. Now some of us 'get to' get together to share our common memories, catch up on each other's lives, and hear each other's sea stories, learn about the latest at the Academy, strengthen our bonds, and 'make a memory,' as Larry was fond of saying."



Larry Doyle '72 and his wife, Jane. Photo by E Rosenberg '72.

**Jim Lally '72** recently retired as a Senior Production Underwriter at Hartford Steam Boiler Insurance and Inspection Company in Boston, Mass.

## 1973



Carl Gushee '73, John Webster '73, Mike Patterson '73. Photo courtesy of J Webster '73.

## 1977



Jorelik Tibon '77 and David Jenkinson '77 having morning coffee at Majuro Lagoon, Majuro Atoll.

**David Jenkinson '77**, CEO and owner of Jenkinson Homes, Inc. in Concord, Mass., made a surprise visit to Majuro Atoll of the Marshall Islands to see his friend and MMA roommate, **Jorelik Tibon '77**. The friends had not communicated for 37 years yet were able to pick up right where they left off. They had a great week of fun and laughs. Jorelik is general manager at the Majuro Atoll Waste Company. You can see him performing at a “jepta” (teams participate in a traditional gathering and competition telling the history and values of the atoll through dance and song) on YouTube at “Jorelik Tibon’s Jepta.”

**Dan Murphy '77** is currently in the position of President of the Puerto Rico Pilotage Commission which regulates Pilots for the ports of Puerto Rico. He is still working as a San Juan Pilot and plans to retire soon to his home in Baltimore, Md.

## 1978

**Steven Garland '78** left Maersk Lines in August 2014 and joined BP Shipping as a marine superintendent. He is responsible for nautical support in the Americas.

## 1982

**Thomas K. Shannon '82**, RADM, was featured in the Summer 2014 issue of Navy, a publication of the Association of the United States Navy. After reviewing Shannon’s extensive military biography, the author asked several questions about Shannon’s work as the Commander of Military Sealift Command (MSC). Shannon noted that MSC is “the leading provider of ocean transportation for the Navy and the rest of DOD, operating approximately 110 ships worldwide everyday.” In addition, when queried about the Global Review of MSC, he responded, “This command is a phenomenally effective organization. So we’re not talking about an MSC reboot, but there are some areas we can tweak to deliver same quality service to our Navy and DOD, but more efficiently.”

## 1982 &amp; 1999

**Robert C. Glover III '82** and **Jennifer Brokaw '99**, both captains with unlimited licenses, co-taught a 10-day celestial navigation class at the Northeast Maritime Institute. Capt. Glover is currently a full-time instructor and director of continuing education and lead simulator instructor at Northeast Maritime Institute. Capt. Brokaw currently sails for Maersk Line, Ltd. and is a part-time instructor for Northeast Maritime Institute.

## 1984

**Thomas P. Daly '84**, Capt. (retired), a native of Milton, Mass., recently retired from the U. S. Navy. He received his commission through NROTC and his initial training as a surface warfare officer. After first serving aboard USS Oliver Hazard Perry, Daly completed several dive training courses from basic through mixed gas deep sea diving.

Daly’s active duty dive operational tours included various titles and responsibilities such as mine recovery and working for the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Marine Mammal Detachment. When he became a reserve officer, he worked on such assignments as mine counter measures and range safety. His final tour was as a senior liaison officer assigned to NAVSEA Naval Ordnance Safety Security Activity. He led explosive safety inspection teams.

Daly mobilized three times to Kuwait; Qatar and Afghanistan; and then Afghanistan and Pakistan. He was a force protection officer, a strategic planner, and a branch chief for long-range strategic planning, respectively.

During his career, Daly received over eight personal decorations and medals. Among them were the Defense Meritorious Service Medal with bronze oak leaf and the Navy Achievement Medal with gold star.



Capt. Jennifer Brokaw '99 and Capt. Robert Glover III '82 flanking 7 of their celestial navigation students. They were on a beach in Fairhaven, Massachusetts, shooting the “Sun’s Local Apparent Noon” and learning how to make sextant adjustments. Photo courtesy of R Glover '82.

## 1993

**Ben Cameron '93**, with his 14-month old son, Noah. The plate on the wall behind them shows a picture of the old TS State of Maine. It was purchased at an antique shop in North Adams, Mass. Both Ben and his brother, **Sandy Cameron '84**, sailed aboard her as midshipmen.



Photo by Cdr. Clifford Cameron '49, U.S. Navy Ret.

**Derik Stubinski '93** finished a re-flag of a vessel in Jacksonville, Florida for Crowley (as operators of the vessel for Intermarine of Houston, Texas). As part of the re-flag team, three MMA alumni came together: (L-to-R) **Lincoln “Skip” McRae '68**, **Derik Stubinski '93**, and **Patrick Galonka '12**.



Photo courtesy of D Stubinski '93.

## 2000

**Carrie Beatty Stewart '00** became the Master of USNS John Glenn, MLP-2, one of the newest vessels in the American fleet. It acts as a “dock over the horizon,” allowing strategic sea basing and cargo basing operations to safely occur outside the harbor of any war zone.

Capt. Stewart was honored to meet the ship’s namesake and his family during the commissioning ceremony at General Dynamics

NASSCO in San Diego, Calif.

Carrie lives with her husband, **Jay Stewart '00** who is a member of the Charleston Branch Pilots Association, in Charleston, S.C.



Carrie Beatty Stewart '00 in front of USNS John Glenn. Photo by J Stewart '00.

## 2004

**Brett Saltsman '04** began a new job with Excelerate Energy in Woodlands, Texas, as an LNG Technical Superintendent in January, 2015. Prior to moving to Texas, he was a ship superintendent for Maersk Line Ltd.

## 2005

**Erin Hallowell O'Connell '05** is the Regional Risk and Insurance Manager, Northeast Region, at Expeditors International where she began in 2011.

## 2008

**Noah Blanchard '08** is now a mate for Kirby Offshore Marine.

## 2010

**Gabriel LaRoche '10** was promoted to Master of the OSV Seabulk Carmen in August 2014 after receiving his 1600-ton masters license in February, 2014. After graduation from MMA with a 500-ton mates license from what was then called the Small Vessel Operations (now

called Vessel Operations Technology) major in 2010, Gabe sailed with two tugboat companies – one on the Mississippi and another in the Northwest – before deciding to switch to larger vessels. “I feel incredibly lucky. I’m from inland Maine, and I didn’t know anything about boats when I started at MMA. I just took my father’s advice. It turned out to be the best thing I’ve ever done. I also made the decision to get out of tugboats and into the offshore vessel (OSV) world, and am very lucky to have chosen SEACOR Marine. I started as an A/B in May of 2012, and was moved into positions just as fast as I could get the license required for the next position. I love what I do and cannot imagine my life any other way.” SEACOR Marine has a fleet of approximately 110 vessels working in the Gulf of Mexico and abroad. Seabulk Carmen is a 190-foot offshore supply vessel with seven crew. Gabe hopes to obtain dynamic positioning (DP) training within the year. He says, “My next goal is to receive DP training and get onto one of the large DP vessels owned by SEACOR. I’ve been on this boat for two years, and I’ve learned a lot, but it’s time for the next stage of my career.” Capt. LaRoche lives with his wife and daughter in Greene, Maine.



Photo courtesy of Capt. LaRoche

## 2011

**Sondra Skipper Kilian '11**, chief mate at Marine Spill Response Cor-

poration, recently became a part-time course developer at Resolve Maritime Academy in the Miami/Ft Lauderdale area.

**Wakine Lucas '11** became a project manager at Pan American Railways in the Portland, Maine area after three years at Strategic Maintenance Solutions, also in the Portland area.

## 2012

**Lucas “Luke” Miller '12**, a marine systems engineer, is currently a full-time graduate student in Dartmouth College’s Master of Engineering Management program at the Thayer School of Engineering. He hopes to apply his marine engineering and business skills to work in the energy sector. After graduation, he became a 3rd assistant engineer for Transocean aboard a 6th generation Ultra-Deepwater Drillship.

## 2013

**Jennifer Dixon '13**, marine sciences major, entered graduate school in Baltimore at the same time she began teaching in an inner-city school where she is learning how to cope with wonderful, but often underprepared students, who sometimes have unstable home lives. She plans to finish her master’s degree in 2015.

**Ashley Dunton '13** is a logistics coordinator for Choptank Transport, Inc. in Maryland. She sent Dr. Donald Maier, Associate Dean and Director of Graduate Studies, Loeb-Sullivan School of International Business and Logistics at MMA an email, in which she expresses gratitude for the value and utility of the interdisciplinary education offered at MMA.

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## UPCOMING COURSES

Basic Training (STCW) | **April 11 - April 15**

Basic & Advanced Marine Fire Fighting (STCW) | **April 14 - April 18**

Fast Rescue Boat | **April 14 - April 17**

Company & Vessel Security Officer | **April 13 - April 15**

Electronic Chart Display Information Systems (ECDIS) | **May 4 - May 8**

ISO/ISM Maritime & Quality Management System Auditor & Lead Auditor & Designated Person Ashore | **July 27 - July 31**

**MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY**

# upcoming events

## SUMMER & FALL 2015

### Alumni Association Winter Meeting

The Senator Inn and Spa | March 31 | 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

### Alumni Association Legislative Reception

The Senator Inn and Spa | March 31 | 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

### Casino Night

The Hobby Center for Performing Arts | April 4 | 7:00 p.m.

### Mariner Classic Golf Tournament Texas

The Woodlands Golf Club | April 6 | 12:00 p.m.

### A Night on the Bay

Ocean Gateway Terminal | May 31 | 6:00 p.m.

### Mariner Classic Golf Tournament Maine

The Dunegrass Country Club | June 1 | 12:00 p.m.

### Class of 1980 30th Reunion

Maine Maritime Academy Campus | July 10 - July 12

### Class of 1965 50th Reunion

Maine Maritime Academy Campus | July 13 - July 15

### Class of 1985 35th Reunion

Maine Maritime Academy Campus | July 17 - July 19

### Wilbur Brown Golf Tournament

Belgrades Lakes Golf Club | August 5 | 11:00 a.m.

### Homecoming

Maine Maritime Academy Campus | September 18 – September 20

**QUESTIONS:** [allyssa.allen@mma.edu](mailto:allyssa.allen@mma.edu) | 207-326-2337

## REMEMBER WHEN?



Reading The Maine Brace makes it look like I need glasses!

## #MaineMaritime

Do you use social media? Your posts could be featured on MMA's website! Our new social media page can now be found at [mainemaritime.edu/hashtag](http://mainemaritime.edu/hashtag). This page showcases what's happening on campus, in our community, and with members of the MMA family around the world. Sharing social media posts helps tell our story and share news with Mariners worldwide.

### Want to add to the story?

- Snap a photo of you and fellow alumni at a gathering, at work, and around the globe.
- Share to Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc. and tag with #MaineMaritime.
- We'll repost your photo and caption and link back to your original post.

### Increase your chances of getting featured:

- Post topics relevant to the MMA community.
- Avoid commercial content.
- Most important: Be kind and have respect for fellow Mariners!

### The Ned Andrews Chapter

The Ned Andrews Chapter enjoys a tradition of hosting monthly events where guest speakers are invited to share their knowledge on a variety of interesting topics. Past speakers have included Capt. Larry Wade, TSSOM, former governor Angus King, MMA Systems Engineering students and alumni, Capt. Rick Miller of Schooner Bowdoin, to name a few. On Thursday, January 22, the chapter was honored to have Donald D. Maier, PhD, Director of Graduate Studies, & Professor at Maine Maritime Academy Loeb-Sullivan School of International Business & Logistics speak. Dr. Maier provided an impressive overview of this vital and growing component of the college. In attendance with Dr. Maier were three of his current graduate students, and Professor **Alaina Scheuchzer '05**, all providing insightful and personal perspectives into the two Master of Science degrees offered; the On Campus MS in Global Logistics & Maritime Management; and the Online MS in International Logistics Management.

Ned Andrews Alumni Chapter meetings are held at the China Rose Restaurant in Brunswick, Maine. Meetings are open to all and follow a casual format where open dialogue is welcome. Come join us anytime. For information, contact **Al Leeman '92**, al.leeman@biw.com.

### The Southern California Chapter

The Maine Maritime Academy Southern California Chapter hosted their 17th annual Christmas banquet on December 6, 2014 at the Gallery 17 Event Center in the heart of San Diego's Naval Training Center Arts & Culture District in Liberty Station. The Gallery 17 Event Center is a historic site that occupies the ground floor of an area that was once the quarters to many Navy recruits starting as early as 1923.

Alumni and guests attending the banquet were honored to have Dr. William Brennan, MMA President, as our special guest to discuss exciting accomplishments and activities at MMA while also thanking alumni and encouraging them to continue their support. Alumni attending represented four state Maritime Academies - California, Maine, Massachusetts and New York - and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.

Our guest speaker for the event was **Capt. Greg P. Williams '79**, USMM, Executive Director and President of the Board of Directors of the United States Merchant Marine Veterans of WWII and the SS Lane Victory in San Pedro, Calif. Capt. Williams delivered a passionate presentation focused on how the United States overcame tremendous losses in our merchant fleets' quest to deliver hundreds of millions of tons of supplies essential to the nation's victory during World War II. His presentation was highly

informative, inspiring, and well received.

Earlier in the day, a golf tournament was held with King's Point squaring off against MMA for the coveted "Eagle" trophy, representative of academy supremacy on the golf course. The two lowest net scores from each academy were combined to determine the winner. Overall, it was a team effort but in the end **Peter Betti '10** and **Ryan Hyson '14** brought the Eagle Trophy home for MMA!



Photo by R Staples '71.

### The Seacoast Chapter



Bob Gaffney '66 renews his friendship with Jim Proulx '85. Photo courtesy of J Proulx '85.

The December 2014 Seacoast Chapter annual Christmas party was a great success and a fun time to be with fellow alums and their significant others. The chapter collected 35 stuffed animals to donate to the Child Advocacy Center in Portsmouth, N.H. The collection of stuffed animals has been an ongoing and major project of the Seacoast Chapter. Every year, the chapter chooses a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of children to receive the stuffed animals.

**Jim Proulx '85**, president of the MMA Alumni Association, reported that he spent a lot of time catching up with **Bob Gaffney '66** and consequently "learned a lot of new and interesting words."



## The Texas Chapter



(L-to-R) Lori Stephens '09, Jack Caravello '71, Karen Caravello, Stephen Clements '93, Jack Berglund '84, Lester Catharine, Park Tupper '07, Matt Stephens '08. Photo courtesy of L. Stephens.

**G**reeting from Houston! In 2014, the MMA Texas Chapter held a few 'Happy Hours' and a 'Top Golf' evening which were well attended. We are looking forward to becoming a more active chapter in 2015. We are planning an 'Astros vs. Red Sox' game in July, a family BBQ event, and a Christmas party. If any alumnus would like to receive the updates on our events, please email [lorimstephens@gmail.com](mailto:lorimstephens@gmail.com). In addition to our chapter events, we hope you can join us in supporting MMA at our Annual Casino Night and Golf Tournament in Woodlands, Texas. Contact Lori Stephens for details at the email above.

## MMA Alumni Association Chapters

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## Thomas T. Bennett, Jr. '45

died in Maine on December 20, 2014. He entered the Merchant Marine after graduation and served on liberty ships, victory ships, and tankers. In 1950, he entered active duty as a LTJG. in the Korean War until 1954. His career saw him first as a salesman for Prudential Insurance Co. for 6 years before becoming vice president of H.A. Stiles Co. until 1988. He was a passionate downhill and cross-country skier and was a member of the National Ski Patrol. Additionally, he was a founder of the Down East Ski Club begun in 1948. In 2009, Tom was inducted into the Maine Ski Hall of Fame.

## Laurence E. Capen '54

died January 5, 2015 in Maine. He was a licensed marine engineer in the Merchant Marine and joined the U.S. Navy in 1956. In the Navy, he was an engineer officer, an operations officer, and a security officer. After 6 years in the Navy, he continued to serve his nation in the Naval Reserve with the Military Sea Transport Service in South Portland and Richmond, Va. before retiring after 20 years. He worked for Virginia Commonwealth University from which he retired in 1995. Donations in his memory may be made to the Annual Fund, Development Office, One Pleasant St., Maine Maritime Academy, Castine, ME 04420

## Alan D. Cederstrom '49

died January 10, 2015 in New York State. He was an engineer in the U.S. Navy aboard an aircraft carrier and a destroyer. As a LTJG, he was chief engineer aboard the destroyer ("although in later life he questioned the Navy's wisdom in making such a young kid a chief engineer...") The Post Star, January 12, 2015). After completing his Navy days, he earned a degree in education at the University of Maine and taught first in Maine and then in Glens Falls, N.Y. from 1957 to 1983. He became a noted photographer. Also, Al served as manager of Skye Farm Methodist Children's Camp for 10 years. Donations may be made to the Class of 1949 Scholarship Fund at Maine Maritime Academy, P.O. Box 219, Castine, ME 04421.

## Francis "Fran" Wayne Chase '62

died in Maine on January 22, 2015. He spent his early days after graduation as a Merchant Marine criss-crossing the oceans and gathering stories from every port. After leaving the sea, he owned and operated Lake Parlin Lodges in the Jackman, Maine area. He also was a hunting and fishing guide. He returned to Waterville to raise his family and worked for several companies, finishing his career as terminal manager for Yellow Freight. No matter the task or project, he put his heart into everything he did, including raising his family. Many hobbies filled his days but being a HAM radio operator under the call letters K1BBJ particularly entranced him and he developed friendships with operators in many other countries.



## Kent C. Chase '84

died in Maine on December 11, 2014. During his freshman year at MMA, he received an award for "Regimental Excellence." After graduation, he pursued a career in shipping as a Merchant Marine. After 15 years at sea, he came ashore to work for Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Resort. For the past ten years, he worked for the Maine State Ferry Service on the Rockland to Vinalhaven Ferry. Throughout his life, Kent was known as a "gentle soul with a huge heart." (www.legacy.net).

## Lewis A. Crowell '46

died in Maine on March 9, 2015. After completing his studies at MMA, Lewis went to the University of Maine for his BS. He was an officer in the Merchant Marine. For many years, he ran Dunham Hanson Company (real estate management) in Bangor, Maine. Lewis was known for his love of golf and his two long-haired dachshunds. His neighbors affectionately called him the "dog whisperer."

## Larry A. Doyle '72

died November 1, 2014 in Florida. As a commissioned officer in the USCG, his first duty station was the Marine Inspection Office in New York. While there, he earned his MBA from New York University. Later, he received his PhD in business administration and became a Certified Environmental Trainer and Certified Hazardous Materials Manager.

He finished his Coast Guard career as Captain of the Port of Miami where he led the effort to designate Miami as the Center for Excellence for Passenger Ship Safety. In 1995, he retired from the Coast Guard and became executive vice president of Cliff Berry, Inc (CBI) where he was instrumental in the growth and expansion of the company. Recently, CBI dedicated a new training center in Larry's name to honor him for his service to the company and its people. Throughout his adult life, he was a strong supporter of the Seafarer's House.

## Ernest G. Eaton '54

died in New Hampshire on February 28, 2015. After graduation from MMA, he served in the Merchant Marine and the U.S. Navy, achieving the rank of Lt. Commander. In 1952, as a Naval Reservist during the Korean Conflict, he was present for the first nuclear test of the hydrogen bomb in the Marshall Islands. He began his career in finance at General Electric and later worked as controller for Split Ball Bearing Co. and Dartmouth Printing for almost 20 years. Ernie was civic-minded and served as an officer in many organizations. As an outdoor enthusiast, he loved to hike and in the 1990s spent an entire year climbing Mt. Cardigan in New Hampshire every month in order to experience the seasonal changes.

### Reginald A. Ferran '74

died February 3, 2015 in Maine. He spent his career as a licensed marine engineer and achieved the rank of chief. When the US made it mandatory for American ships to be double-hulled, he was one of the crew assigned to dismantling the single-hulled vessels. He was known for his story-telling skills, his knowledge, woodworking, and downhill skiing.

### Jack Alwin Howalt '49

died January 19, 2015 in Florida where he grew up. After graduation, he sailed on Texaco oil tankers for two years. He came ashore to work for the Army Corps of Engineers in Jacksonville for 33 years. His family and friends spoke of his amazing memory for details, his love of a glass of Jack Daniels before dinner, and his love for his family. His ashes will be spread at sea this spring.

### Robert "Bruce" Jones '66

died in Maine on December 18, 2014. After shipping aboard tankers as an engineer, he came ashore to found and operate a successful oil brokerage business in Houston, Texas. Later, he began and operated a successful construction company in Mt. Olive, N.C. He was one of the chief contractors for Habitat for Humanity of Mt. Olive and oversaw the planning and completion of several houses for the charity.

### William H. Kelley '59

died October 27, 2014 in Massachusetts. Before transferring to MMA, he attended Middlebury College where he earned an associate's degree. After graduating from MMA, he went to sea for Isbrandtsen Lines. Later he sailed on tramp steamers and passenger vessels as well as NS (nuclear ship) Savannah. He commanded six warships as Trials Master for the U.S. Navy, testing the ships' systems and weaponry before training prospective commanding officers for those ships. One of his happiest moments was when he was chosen to pilot USS Constitution on her first sail in 137 years. He piloted Old Ironsides from Boston to Marblehead, Mass. under her own sail power.

### Dean R. Mayhew

professor of history at MMA for 37 years died January 15, 2015 in Maine. He had an MA in history from the University of Maine and a doctorate in history from LSU. Because of his special interest in the history of the sea, Mayhew "coordinated an effort between MMA and MIT to locate and investigate the remains of the shipwreck, the privateer Defense, leading to the recovery of several historical artifacts." (Bangor Daily News, January 19, 2015). Alumni who had the privilege of studying with Mayhew have many fond memories of him and assert that he was a masterful storyteller, who brought history alive for them. Some mentioned that he had an encyclopedic memory. After retirement, he received the designation of MMA Professor Emeritus, maintaining contact with many of his colleagues and students. Even in retirement, he tried to attend the graduation ceremony yearly.

### Phillip Oren Riley '49

died January 9, 2015 in Delaware. He was commissioned an ensign in the U.S. Merchant Marine and Navy, and served 10 years in the Naval Reserves. He worked for Mobil Oil for 39 years, beginning as part of the crew that built and operated the New England pipeline. At Mobil, he, along with others, worked on complex designs for several generations of computer automation systems and implemented those designs. His hobbies and interests were many and varied, including environmental engineering, model railroads, history, writing a weekly column about history for the local paper, and tutoring children in reading at the local elementary school. His fascination with history may have stemmed from the fact that he was descended from three signers of the Magna Carta, three signers of the Mayflower Compact, and six veterans of the American Revolution.

### John M. Ross '54

died December 8, 2014 in Massachusetts. He served in the U.S. Navy for two years as a LTJG on tank landing ships and dock landing ships. He had various careers over his lifetime: owner of Ross Motors, the Wharf Restaurant of Rockland, Maine, water treatment engineer for Honeywell Corp., and owner of other restaurants. His last venture was in commercial-industrial real estate. He adored boating and lived aboard his 65-foot converted research vessel on Commercial Wharf in Boston.

### Loring "Bud" Small '44

died in Maine on December 9, 2014. He was born Dec. 23, 1924, in Milbridge and was a graduate of Ellsworth High School and MMA. At his request, there were no services. Condolences may be expressed at [www.jordanfernald.com](http://www.jordanfernald.com).

### Thomas H. Smith '67

died January 18, 2015 in Maine. He spent 30 years at sea in the Merchant Marine with the Lykes Line Steamship Company based in New Orleans. At age 50, he came ashore to be with his family and try new adventures. Tom was a longtime member of the Seacoast Chapter and served as its treasurer. He loved to travel, be on the water, ski, and snowboard. Donations in his memory may be made to the MMA Seacoast Chapter Fund, Development Office, Maine Maritime Academy, One Pleasant St., Castine, ME 04420.

### Arnold Svelling '56

died September 7, 2013, in Florida. During his lifetime, he served both as a captain and an engineer in the maritime industry. He and his wife of 55 years lived in Sebastian, Fla. for 40 years and raised their four children there. For more details, please contact Kris Svelling, 13350 Old Drive Highway, Sebastian, FL 32958: [kriscustompools@msn.com](mailto:kriscustompools@msn.com).

### Lawrence M. Therialut '53

died in Florida on April 6, 2014. After graduation from Maine Maritime Academy, he entered the U.S. Navy for a two-year stint. He received his bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering from Boston University. After 31 years in the civil service, Lawrence retired. In 1990, he received the Civilian Service Award from the U.S. Navy.

### Philip E. Thibodeau Jr. '65

died in Maine on May 23, 2014. He received his BS in engineering from MMA and went straight to sea as a Merchant Marine for 5 years. Part of his time was spent in marine support during the Vietnam Conflict. After leaving the sea, Philip owned and operated Star Taxi in Rumford, Maine. He then became a mechanical project engineer at the Rumford Mill where he worked until his retirement in 2002 after 21 years. Phil adored the outdoors and was an accomplished deer hunter. His family and friends remember him as a great helpmate who cared deeply about them.

## 53 YEARS OF REMEMBRANCES - CLASS OF 1962

By CAPTAIN ROBERT H. POUCH '62



Members of the USCG NY Area Maritime Security Committee at their 2014 security meeting. Photo courtesy of R Pouch '62.

In the seventy-four years since Maine Maritime Academy was founded at the outbreak of WW II in 1941, thousands of MMA regimental students have come to Castine to learn, to mature, graduate, and then move forward with their lives and careers, in similar fashion to students at thousands of other colleges in the U.S.A. We like to think that Maine Maritime Academy offered us a different kind of experience and opportunity, something other than the stereotypical college experience. In the first place, we elected to join a regimental lifestyle in a military system during the Vietnam War era. It was not for everybody and some members of our class did not even make it to the evening meal on our first day.

One of the special impacts on us was the MMA faculty and its iconic leadership. They impressed us with their unified demeanor, professionalism, and career/life experiences. They were larger than life figures, while we were 18-year-old apprentice USMS cadets and USNR midshipmen. We found out very quickly that they were deeply committed to their work and to our success. Ten or more

years after graduation, they became respected friends and role models.

There are many stories to tell about our faculty. Their names (and some nicknames) were mostly signs of affection and respect from the Class of 1962, and many other classes as well. Some of the special faculty and staff (apologies for any omissions) who helped us along the way:

**The Galley Team:** "Jute" Mixer, Andy, Slim, and Dave; **Captain, USN Jack "The Lizard" Kennaday;** **Captain, USMS Russell "The Baron" Terry;** **LT Richard "Rat" Renner;** **LT Ed "You're Going Down" Brown;** **CDR Alfred "The Fid" Philbrick;** **LCDR "Buzzy" Burrowes;** **Boatswain Vernon "Boats" Haskell;** **CDR Rodney "Buffy" Gray;** **CWO "Bud" Mayo;** **Ship's Supply Officer Stan Trott;** **CDR Ed "Seats" Kesey;** **LT Fred Snow;** **LT Lynwood Farr;** **Chef/Baker/Butcher Clayton "The Corsican" Hodgdon;** **LT Richard Morse;** **LT "Bugs" Buchanan;** **Captain USMS Albion F. Coffin,** **TS State of Maine and Commandant of Midshipmen;** **Captain USN Al Nutting;** **LT John "Hose" McCann;** **Ship's Carpenter**

**"Chips" Combs;** **CDR USN William Erb;** **Capt./Chief Engineer, USMS, Parker Worrey;** **Col. USAF Claire Herbert;** **LT Ed Hanson;** **CWO Munger, Medical Officer;** **LT George "Hoss" Jacobs;** **Theodore "Teddy" Scammons.**

Based on the high national college rankings recently achieved by MMA and published in Money magazine, it appears that the tradition of excellence in faculty and administration at MMA is in safe hands, today and for the future.

Our challenging academic courses and hands-on technical and practical training yielded good results. Nearly all of us had confirmed employment offers the moment we received our

Coast Guard Licenses, US Navy Commissions, and graduation diplomas. In the years following, the paths of our classmates and other MMA graduates crossed frequently on board ships and ashore. For example, **Bob Pouch '62,** **Doug Scott '62,** and **Bob Chiarello '62** all worked closely together at Barber Steamship Lines and Pittston Stevedoring Colo. in New York City. Many other classmates worked at American Export-Isbrandtsen Lines, Moore-McCormack Lines, Matson Navigation, MSTs/Military Sealift Command and at many other liner, tanker and bulk carrier corporations. Others followed distinguished careers in commercial fishing, the U.S. Navy, admiralty law, marine engineering, naval architecture, shipbuilding, ship piloting, oil field exploration and services, marine surveying, and marine insurance. Some are still working actively in these industries and professions.

One classmate, **Capt. David Wood '62,** left for U.S. Navy Flight School in Pensacola on graduation day. He served as a naval aviator, and subsequently as a ship pilot in the Caribbean, a

ship's master, safety-training officer, corporate fleet safety officer at Carnival Cruise Lines, and as a senior officer on board the MSC ship USNS Mount Whitney (LCC-20) until his retirement last year. He is just one example of the diverse maritime industry and military careers experienced by many of us.

The Class of 1962 experienced mostly good times in the maritime industry for the decade after graduation. The changes began in the 1970's, with war in the Middle East, the Vietnam War, the introduction of container ships, and the economics of scale. Ships just keep getting larger and more computerized, thus requiring fewer crewmembers! First generation container ships could carry 500 to 1,000 TEU (twenty-foot equivalent container units) units. Modern ships are at 18,000 TEU capacity.

Maine Maritime Academy teaches responsibility and its graduates know how to accept it. Many people in the industry recognize this as a paramount quality of the institution.

One example of this culture was evident on September 11th 2001, immediately following the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. Maritime industry volunteer employees and companies safely evacuated more than 550,000 traumatized victims from lower Manhattan in only nine hours. In contrast, the evacuation of the 300,000 trapped British and French soldiers from the beaches at Dunkirk, France in WW II took nine days! The documentary book, *All Available Boats: The Evacuation of Manhattan Island on 9/11* compiled by Mike Magee, M.D., with introduction by Marine Historian **Norman Brouwer '62**, and the film *Boatlift, An Untold Tale of 9/11 Resilience* narrated by Tom Hanks, tell the full story of this remarkable rescue and evacuation. The film is available on YouTube.

This heroic 9/11 evacuation illuminates the skill and professionalism demonstrated by mariners on some of our industry's most challenging days. Their safety culture, training, competence, leadership, and meritorious conduct reflect great credit on the maritime service and their commitment

to the concept of being mutual aid providers on the waterways.

Today, the United States Coast Guard sponsors nationwide public partnerships via the USCG Harbor Operations and Safety Committees and the USCG Area Maritime Security Committees. These groups meet regularly to discuss port and waterway safety and security issues through cooperative working relationships among port stakeholders. The committees are used as a forum for the development of best practices in the area of maritime operations and safety. Many maritime academy graduates chair or serve on these important committees, which are an essential source of local knowledge and the development of cooperative working relationships for port maritime interests.

The members of the Class of 1962 extend their respects and compliments to the trustees, faculty and administration of the Maine Maritime Academy for their commitment to the academy, its traditions, and its mission.

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## January, 2015

Sometimes, in the effort to get information out to the public, we end up with a change in the plan that requires explanation. In my last article I explained the adoption of a 90-day training cruise model that we, at that time, had decided to implement this May. Since the writing of that article, we have had multiple conversations with the other State Maritime Academies and did some of our own analysis and we determined that we need to adjust a little more. Rather than have the 4/C do the 45-day portion and the 2/C the full 90-day, we determined that by reducing the number of 2/C on a given segment, they will be given more opportunity to lead and truly

participate in this “hands-on” training opportunity. Therefore, the 4/C will complete a 90-day training cruise this summer.

There is an added benefit to the 4/C going to sea for 90 days. Historically, 4/C would cross train, regardless of major, for the entire training cruise. With this new model, the 4/C will still have time to cross train, but the added time at sea will give us the chance to set up major specific training that the 4/C did not get in the past. Imagine getting a T-Nav primer for the Deck students and a Diesel primer for the Engine students prior to the 3/C curriculum. While change can be difficult, the potential opportunities continue to appear, and when opportunity knocks, Mariners answer the door.

All of these changes drove a need to ensure that the 2/C will meet the sea service requirements come 2016 while only sailing for 45 days this Summer. As a result, we conducted the first Winter Cruise in 16 years, taking only 2/C on a fuel run to New York and capitalizing on discounted fuel prices. The 2/C did a fantastic job of preparing to sail on short notice and completed the bunkering overnight in sub-zero temperatures with the wind blowing 25 knots. Teamwork and professionalism were at an all-time high. President Brennan has acknowledged the HUGE support from our alumni who pitched in to assist us in January and I can't echo his sentiments loudly enough. I would also like to add my thanks to the fantastic work by our regular crew who put in many long hours getting us ready to sail.

On a different note, I have added a new physical fitness program that requires the Midshipmen to complete a fitness test each semester. Companies compete for highest total score and highest average. In addition, the six highest individual scores were selected to a team that was entered in the Fenway Spartan Race in late November. I am proud to say that the Maine Maritime Academy Regiment of Midshipmen won the team competition against a field of 572 teams. Building on this success, we are in discussions with Massachusetts and SUNY Maritime to develop a regimental competition (Mariner Cup) that will include knowledge tests, physical/athletic competitions, and drill. Please watch our social media postings for the location and dates of this inaugural event.

Take care and thank you for the support, Shipmates,

Capt. Nate Gandy '92



Midshipmen who represented MMA in the Spartan Race: (L-to-R) 1/C Jack Bushey, 3/C Eliot Grindle, 2/C Timothy Grant, 3/C Ryan Hanley, 4/C Jessica Faltings, 3/C Nicholas Darling. Photo courtesy of N Gandy '92.



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