

# MARINER

*The ALUMNI MAGAZINE of MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY*

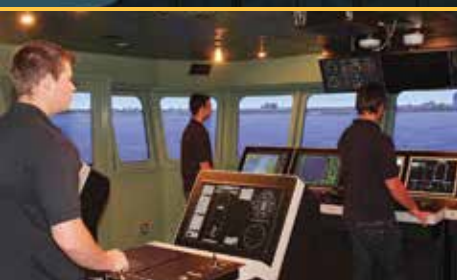
2015 - ISSUE 2





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Photo by T Stewart.

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On The Cover: Julianna Diehl, '17, Marine Science and Small Vessel Operations student, took this shot during the Auxiliary Sail Training Cruise (CR214) in the summer of 2014.

MARINER STAFF

Director of College Relations  
Jennifer DeJoy | jennifer.dejoy@mma.edu

Editor  
Laurie Stone | laurie.stone@mma.edu

Designer & Production Editor  
Deanna Yocom | deanna.yocom@mma.edu

Ad Representative  
Deanna Yocom | deanna.yocom@mma.edu

ADMINISTRATION

President  
Dr. William J. Brennan

Provost & V. P. for Academic Affairs  
Dr. David M. Gardner

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Dr. Elizabeth True

Chief Financial Officer  
James Soucie

Director of Alumni Affairs  
Paul Mercer '73

Associate of Alumni Affairs  
Alyssa Allen | alyssa.allen@mma.edu

Postmaster: Please send change of address notice to Alumni Office, Maine Maritime Academy, Castine, ME 04420.

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DR. WILLIAM J. BRENNAN

**A**ffordability is one of the pressing issues we face consistently at Maine Maritime Academy. The Board of Trustees confronts the need to balance the budget annually, while minimizing increases in tuition and fees. We operate in a very conservative fiscal fashion so that any qualified student who wants a Maine Maritime education can afford to attend.

We struggle to maintain affordability, due, in part, to the kind of education we provide. Our specialized curriculum, advanced labs and simulators, and highly trained and experienced faculty all contribute to a distinct and unique experience, but the cost is prohibitive for many families. A significant portion of our student families seek several types of financial assistance, including federal and private loans, to help defray expenses. In fact, 87 percent of students in the class of 2014 borrowed money in order to achieve their degree at MMA.

Scholarships are another way that families seek support, and they are more important than ever before to our students. In this and the next issue of the *Mariner*, we will focus on scholarships to highlight the impact our alumni are having on the Maine Maritime community. Alumni give back generously, and many are directly supporting students by establishing endowed scholar-

ships, making it possible for students to come to MMA and to graduate with less debt.

Student debt in America has skyrocketed in the past decade. According to Bloomberg News, "Student loans have eclipsed credit cards to become the second-largest source of outstanding debt in the U.S., after mortgages. Since 2007 the federal student loan balance has more than doubled, to almost \$1.2 trillion from \$516 billion." (Kitroeff, Natalie. "The Lawsuit Machine Going After Student Debtors." Bloomberg Businessweek, 3 June 2015.)

One bright spot in this news is that MMA grads, who have higher-than-average debt, can obtain jobs with an average starting annual compensation package of \$100,000-plus. This means that alumni can pay off their debt more quickly and default less frequently on their loans (see p. 32). The additional days of instruction—that are the hallmark of an MMA education—hands-on training aboard commercial vessels, accruing sea time, cooperative education experience, leadership training—increase costs, but they also provide advantages to our graduates. Over the past several years we have consistently placed in excess of 90% of our grads in their career fields within 90 days of graduation.

We must ensure that our graduates receive the

full value of their education and proceed into well-paying careers. We are committed to positive career outcomes for our students. According to the White House's online college scorecard of every college in the country, our graduation rate is very high, while our default rate on loans is very low and our costs are below the national average. When viewed in terms of our placement rate into jobs within our students' career fields, Maine Maritime Academy provides significant value for our students, and for their families.

We're striving for this balance of providing value while staying affordable. Alumni are at the center of our success. When I think of how we add value for our students and their families, our alumni always come to mind because you help students obtain cadet-shipping billets and co-op experiences. But, I don't know how many in our community realize that MMA alumni are also directly impacting the lives of our students by making it financially possible to obtain a degree here. Please take a look at the article on p. 32 about scholarships, and be sure to read the student profiles in the next issue of the *Mariner*. MMA alumni are enriching students' lives at the Academy, and that is success worth writing about.

"My father will turn 90 years old on March 30, 2015, and we, his children, have organized a 'Birthday Card Shower' where we have asked family, friends, classmates, and shipmates to send him a birthday card..."

[Request to the Alumni Office from Leslie Nelson Pereira, daughter of Cdr. Gerard L. Nelson '43-2].

Two classes of students from MMA sent cards to Cdr. Nelson, as did some faculty and alumni. Cdr. Nelson's response follows.

Hello there,  
My mailman said, "I quit! To hell with it! A twenty buck tip at Christmas is not enough to put up with all this %^&@!" In other words, thank you very much for all the cards and celebrating my 90th birthday with me in spirit. It was quite a party with my kids and grandkids and took over 3 ½ hours to open all the cards and tell all the stories.

**Jim Proulx '85**, Alyssa Allen, Amy Gutow and the Maine Maritime Alumni Association, thank you for the 'diploma.' At the age of 90, I feel as though I have accomplished one thing in my life – my class is now known officially as 1943-2, in my eyes one of my greatest accomplishments! (that and graduating!)

All you did is greatly appreciated from the bottom of my heart.

**Rod Nelson '43-2**

Yesterday afternoon (April 16, 2015), I had a lovely encounter at the Blue Hill Post Office with one of your students, a senior named **Michael Sargent '15**. I was attempting to mail an envelope, which turned out to require considerably more postage than I had anticipated. Having stuffed only a dollar in my pocket before leaving home, I was just going to leave it for another day when Michael, behind me in line, stepped up and said, "I'll pay the difference." This 'random act of kindness' stunned all of us within earshot. He was quite insistent so I gratefully accepted, though in the rather flustered way of the old lady I am fast becoming.

All of which is to say that you have one wonderful student about to graduate from MMA. It lifts my heart to know that such a fine, upstanding, genuinely courteous young man will soon be making his way in the world. I wish him profoundly well.

Jean-Alice U. Koch

Letter sent to Deidra Davis, Dean of Students



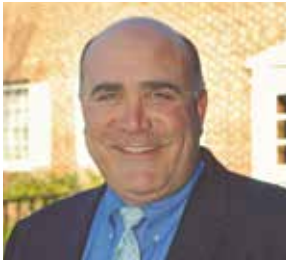
Rod Nelson holds his new MMA diploma while posing with his family. Photo courtesy of R Nelson '43-2.

I would like to thank MMA for the Host Family Program that is available to students and let you know that Forrest's (**Forrest Glasgow '15**) host family, **Christine and Jack (Stephen) Spratt '93** and Nora and Logan, have been the best! Forrest has been connected to this wonderful and giving family for four years. They have been there for him for multiple airport trips, loaned him their vehicle, helped him out when he was feeling a little lonely and homesick his freshman year and many other acts of kindness and friendship, including dinners, picnics, and bonfires. When we are in town, they welcome us in their home and always offer us a place to stay. They even hosted his post-graduation party which is just the most loving, generous, and kind gift to Forrest and us...I just wanted to let you know how valuable this program was to our family and how awesome the Spratts are for everything they do for students.

Flora J. Glasgow  
Salisbury, MD

Letter sent to Deidra Davis, Dean of Students

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Alumni President

JAMES PROULX '85

Dear Fellow MMA Alumni,

A Maine Maritime Academy education continues to attract increasing interest and is a highly competitive venture for today's high school seniors. Over the years, I have spoken with several prospective students who were trying to decide if MMA was the right fit for them. The investment is daunting for some. My advice to prospective students is that the risk/reward of investing in an education at MMA provides low risk and high reward for the money. Success at MMA leads to many options for great personal growth and success in diverse careers.

Our alumni have consistently reached out to prospective students. I have had the good fortune to spend time with many who continue to do great work encouraging young people to consider MMA. Many belong to regional MMA alumni chapters that welcome their participation. The Seacoast Chapter hosts a golf outing on the Thursday before Homecoming annually in the Southern Maine/NH area. The Casco Bay Chapter hosts a booth at the Maine Boat Builder's Show and resells donations of marine-related equipment. The Southern California Chapter hosts a yearly lobster fest and invites alumni from all of the maritime academies. These are just a few of several enjoyable events meant to raise funds for scholarships for MMA students. Other chapters, or simply alumni congregated in certain areas of the country, host a wide variety of MMA alumni events. This past winter we had our first- ever (and now annual) ski day at Black Mountain in

Rumford, Maine. The ski slope is a gem and partly owned by one of our own MMA alumni.

As part of the current work by the Alumni Board to develop a new strategic plan, we have identified the need for chapters to raise scholarship funds and establish endowments to support the students at MMA. Since establishing a definite goal in five short years, the Seacoast Chapter—through its annual golf "extravaganza"—has raised and established an endowment of over \$40,000. Efforts such as these will be critical to helping students experience some relief from the growing costs of attending MMA.

As we continue to increase the number of alumni opportunities to socialize and support the Academy, I hope you will find an event or two to attend, and mingle and reconnect with fellow MMA alumni. We are a relaxed group of people. We know how to have a good time and, as we mature, find that we have more in common with each other than just MMA. Get involved with your local chapter. Email me with ideas for events that you would like to see and would support. We will get them organized and advertised, and will look for you there!

Fair winds and following seas,

Jim Proulx '85

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS



President

**James Proulx '85**  
5 Coach Road  
Stratham, NH 03885  
B: 603-659-7011  
H: 603-772-6576  
jimproulx@proulxoilandpropane.com

Vice President

**Joseph Cote '82**  
32 Locksley Lane  
Brewer, ME 04412  
jcote@cianbro.com

Treasurer

**Charles (Cal) Lechman '65**  
6 Sweet Haven Lane  
Harpeswell, ME 04079  
H: 207-729-6644  
callechman@comcast.net

Clerk

**Michael X. Savasuk, Esq. '74**  
Troubh Heisler, PA  
26 Stony Ridge Rd  
Cumberland, ME 04110  
B: 207-780-6789  
msavasuk@troubhheisler.com

Past President

**Earle Cianchette '77**  
33 Scrimshaw Lane  
Saco, ME 04072  
ecianch@cianbro.com

**Capt. Michael Ball '65**  
23 Hunting Ridge Farms Rd  
Branford, CT 06405  
Seapilot4@comcast.net

**Capt. Donald R Fiske '62**  
33 Webber Rd  
Georgetown, ME 04548  
drufiske@gmail.com

**Capt. Leroy Fournier '72**  
280 Randall Rd  
Lewiston, ME 04240  
lfournier@alionscience.com

**Capt. William S Full '76**  
3 Balsam Dr  
Cumberland Center, ME 04021  
bill@ecys.com

**John Gillis '72**  
15813 NE 164th St  
Woodinville, WA 98072  
jdgglobalenergy@comcast.net

**Marc Gousse '82**  
PO Box 1037  
Westbrook, ME 04098  
goussesem@westbrookschoools.org

**M. Shaun Longfellow '86**  
1008 Rosea Court  
Leland, NC 28451  
shaun.longfellow@gmail.com

**Chet T. Manuel '67**  
51 Crescent St  
Skowhegan, ME 04976  
cxcmanuel@gmail.com

**Stephen E Spratt '93**  
577 Castine Rd  
Castine, ME 04421  
sespratt@aol.com

**Capt. Ralph Staples '71**  
7312 Arroyo Grande Rd  
San Diego, CA 92129  
rstaples@epsilonsystems.com

**Timothy C. Winters '86**  
29 Fieldstone Dr  
Dover, NH 03820  
tcwints@comcast.net



# BOWDOIN

centennial campaign

Exploring, sailing & training  
for the next **100** years.

**“Bowdoin is a very special ship. Being able to help keep her story alive is something I will never forget. It is so important that Maine Maritime Academy is successful with campaigns such as this to preserve our country’s rich maritime history for generations to come.”**

Alex Watson, Co-Chair  
Bowdoin Centennial Campaign





## **MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY IS A MARITIME INSTITUTION,**

and because of that fact, the vessels we own and maintain in our training fleet matter tremendously to the success and safety of our students. The matron of our distinguished fleet, Bowdoin, began making her mark on history almost 100 years ago when she was designed, built and launched for arctic and scientific exploration. Her rich history, including the years she spent in service to our country during WWII, led to her designation as the Official Vessel of the State of Maine in 1988 and to her recognition as a National Historic Landmark in 1989. MMA acquired Bowdoin in 1988 for the purpose of training future mariners.

Today, Bowdoin remains true to her deep maritime roots, acting as the key training ship for the men and women in MMA's Vessel Operations and Technology (VOT) undergraduate program and the Small Vessel Operations (SVO) undergraduate program. Bowdoin also serves as the training platform for MMA's Sail Training Minor. MMA is the only college in the United States with a dedicated sail training program that leads to a U.S. Coast Guard license as mate on an auxiliary sail vessel. As a traditional sailing vessel, Bowdoin provides every aspect of seamanship in its purest and most demanding form as well as the finest hands-on education there is for a career at sea.

Licensed by the U.S. Coast Guard as a fully certified sailing school vessel and passenger vessel, Bowdoin benefits both students and the public at large. When not in use for MMA's training purposes, Bowdoin's popularity and historical charm keep her calendar brimming with public and private tours, appearances, and excursions. As the Official Vessel of the State of Maine, MMA takes great pride and pleasure in sharing her with as many people as possible.

**CAMPAIGN GOAL: \$1.6 MILLION**

**\$600,000**

deck project and related  
maintenance/repairs

**\$1,000,000**

strengthen endowment

**DONATIONS TO DATE: \$650,000**

---

### **The Bowdoin Centennial Campaign Cabinet**

Co-Chair Capt. G. Andy Chase, Co-Chair Alexander Watson, Fred Atkins, Capt. Bill Cowan, Capt. Cate Cronin, Capt. Dave Fenderson, Lawrence Kaplan, Matthew P. Murphy, Capt. Alec Schoettle, Capt. John Worth, and Capt. Heather Stone.

### **Honorary Cabinet Members**

Former Maine Governor Kenneth Curtis, Dr. Pete Rand, Phineas Sprague Jr., Dr. Ed Morse, and G. Baer Conrad.

# 1921

Bowdoin, named after Donald B. MacMillan's alma mater Bowdoin College, was built and launched by Hodgdon Brothers of East Boothbay, Maine

## 1921-22

First Bowdoin expedition and wintering on Baffin Island

## 1923

First shortwave radio transmissions from the Arctic originated from Bowdoin

## 1925

First natural color photographs of the Arctic taken by National Geographic photographers on expedition with Bowdoin

Bowdoin, in joint operation with the U.S. Navy and Richard E. Byrd, marked the beginning of polar aviation

## 1927 & 1929

Bowdoin supplied materials to establish the first school at Nain in Northern Labrador

## 1941-45

Bowdoin purchased by U.S. Navy for WWII military assignments, including the Greenland Patrol

## 1945

Capt. MacMillan purchased the Bowdoin back from the U.S. Navy for \$4,000

## 1954

Capt. MacMillan made his final Arctic voyage aboard the Bowdoin

## 1959

Bowdoin is sold to Mystic Seaport Museum, Mystic, Connecticut

## 1968

Bowdoin is acquired by Schooner Bowdoin Association and restored by Jim Sharp in Camden, Maine

## 1980-1984

Bowdoin is 100% rebuilt in Bath, Maine by John Nugent

## 1986

Bowdoin participates in OpSail in honor of the Statue of Liberty Centennial

## 1987-1988

Bowdoin leased by Hurricane Island Outward Bound School for educational, team-building programs

## 1988-1989

Bowdoin is acquired by Maine Maritime Academy and is designated as the Official Vessel of the State of Maine

Bowdoin is designated a National Historic Landmark

## 1990

MMA trip to Nain, Labrador under the command of Capt. Andy Chase for the first journey north since 1954 MacMillan trip

**“When you are immersed in, and at the mercy of the forces of nature, you must learn to observe them and to predict them. You can’t afford to not pay attention. The Bowdoin teaches these basics, and teaches a rich lesson in maritime history and Arctic exploration at the same time. Our Centennial Campaign will ensure that she continues to be available for generations to come.”**

Capt. Andy Chase, Co-Chair  
Bowdoin Centennial Campaign

1991

MMA trip to Ilulissat, Greenland (first voyage to the Arctic since the 1950s)

2004

Schooner Crew, a student-driven club that encourages leadership and welcomes students to participate in sailing and vessel maintenance, is established at MMA

2005

First Auxiliary Sail Training Cruise (CR214) course trip to Newfoundland

2007

Bowdoin participates in Tall Ships Norfolk, Virginia

2009

Featured vessel in the Capt. Bob Bartlett Festival in Newfoundland & Labrador

# Present

Bowdoin continues to make her mark in history as she approaches her centennial in 2021

She serves as an ambassador of Maine's proud maritime heritage and is the primary vessel for the MMA sail training program, the only program of its kind

Bowdoin will be the lead vessel in the Parade of Sail on July 18 for Tall Ships Portland 2015

**BOWDOIN IS AS FINE A VESSEL TODAY** as she was when first launched in 1921. The fact remains, however, that she is approaching her 100th birthday and, as with all historic tall wooden ships, care and maintenance is always demanding, challenging, and expensive. To this point, Bowdoin is currently in need of a new deck replacement. This important capital project is expected to cost upward of \$600,000. In addition, \$1,000,000 is needed to increase her endowment in order to protect and preserve her in perpetuity. The Bowdoin Centennial Campaign addresses both of these important initiatives and is dedicated to:

**PROTECTING BOWDOIN'S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK STATUS AND PLACE IN MARITIME HISTORY**

**DELIVERING THE BEST HANDS-ON TRADITIONAL SAILING PROGRAM IN THE NATION**

**EXPANDING ACADEMIC, EXPLORATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL OPPORTUNITIES**

**BROADENING BOWDOIN'S PUBLIC-SERVICE PROFILE**

In 2021, Bowdoin will proudly celebrate her first 100 years of service. Our goal is to have her in prime condition for her centennial celebration and to ensure that she remains an active and historically preserved vessel. We invite you to help keep her story alive by supporting the Bowdoin Centennial Campaign.

**Donate Online:** [mainemaritime.edu/support-mma](http://mainemaritime.edu/support-mma)  
please designate Schooner Bowdoin

**Mail a Gift:** **Maine Maritime Academy**  
Development Office  
Pleasant Street  
Castine, ME 04420

**BOWDOIN**  
centennial campaign

**For more information about the Bowdoin Centennial Campaign:**  
Kay Hightower | 207-326-8932 | [kay.hightower@mma.edu](mailto:kay.hightower@mma.edu)

# LAST WISH BECOMES LASTING GIFT

Master's Program Student Initiates \$500,000 Lead Gift to Bowdoin Centennial Campaign



**“Giving doesn’t have to be a big thing,** it can be...the smallest thing...like taking ten seconds out of your day to help somebody, and possibly changing their life for the better,” said Jeffrey Pollock between classes on a cool March day at Maine Maritime Academy. He was talking with Kay Hightower, Campaign Director for the Bowdoin Centennial Campaign. In his characteristically understated way, Jeff Pollock deflected the far-reaching significance of a decision he had made a few weeks earlier.

In fact, ‘the smallest thing’ is far from what Jeffrey Pollock and his family decided to do to help the schooner Bowdoin last winter. They gave \$500,000 through the Herman D. Pollock Family Foundation to benefit the Bowdoin Centennial Campaign, and all because Jeff learned of the ship’s importance to MMA’s sail training program and its much-needed upcoming deck repair.

Jeff first learned of the Bowdoin Centennial Campaign (see p. 8) as it was getting organized last fall because, as a MMA graduate student in the Global Logistics and Maritime Management program, he was taking a course called Applied Research for Business Consulting. Through the course, taught by Library Director and Adjunct Professor Wendy Girven, he and two classmates chose to study two training vessels, the schooner Bowdoin and the tug Penta-goet and their impact on waterfront courses.

“In the course, students act as consultants to a department to understand its purpose and relationship to the mission of the college,” said Professor Girven. “They obtain student feedback and provide recommendations to the department based on that feedback. The project immerses graduate students in campus life and community, and it helps them to connect to MMA’s mission and curriculum.”

Course research included interviews with waterfront staff and students in the Small Vessel Operations and Vessel Operations and Technology programs, both of which use Bowdoin as a central training platform. During a tour at the start of the project, Waterfront Operations Manager Dana Willis described the work that was planned for the schooner, including the deck replacement, and that piqued Jeff’s curiosity. “It got me thinking...Bowdoin would be a great thing to donate to.”

The Herman D. Pollock Family Foundation, of which Jeffrey Pollock, his brother Russell Pollock, and their mother Lois Geyer are Trustees, was established to fulfill Herman’s wish to gift some of his wealth to a charity of the family’s choosing. Herman was Jeff and Russell’s great uncle, who died when the brothers were young, but they remember going with their father, Gary, as youngsters to bring a check from Herman’s estate to the Salvation Army around Christmastime.

“It was so fun to give money away,” remembered Jeff.

Far more fun than the paperwork required to establish and run a foundation. The brothers and their mother inherited the responsibility of gifting final assets from Herman’s estate when Gary died. The family set up the foundation to

fund maritime initiatives, and supported several organizations in the Houston area (their hometown) including Houston Safe Boating Council’s W.A.D.E. training program, where Jeff and Russell both volunteered as teens, and Special Olympics Sailing. The gift to MMA will be the final gift to be disbursed from the foundation, which will be closed later this year.

“I love sailing,” Jeff said, “and just knowing a little bit about the history of the Bowdoin I thought, ‘we could help keep this classic wooden boat sailing.’”

That, in a nutshell, is the whole purpose of the Bowdoin Centennial Campaign: to keep Bowdoin sailing and exploring for the next 100 years.

The campaign’s goal is to raise \$1.6 million in order to replace the ship’s 30-year-old deck and to strengthen an endowment to maintain the ship’s sound condition over its next 100 years. The Campaign Cabinet was just getting organized when Kay announced the lead gift at a preliminary meeting.

“I gathered the group and described my first meeting with Jeff. We talked for 45 minutes about his background and family, and his educational experience at MMA. Then, we discussed the campaign’s objectives and the foundation’s funding interests, and within a few minutes, we agreed that the two were strongly aligned. It never occurred to me that the campaign’s lead gift would come from a current student, but it did, and it was the first of its kind at MMA.”

The Herman D. Pollock Family Foundation gift was so unique that President William Brennan acknowledged it during his remarks at the 2015 Commencement. As he talked of Jeff having taken his place in the MMA community to heart, Jeff, in the front row with all of the Master’s degree candidates, smiled ear to ear. “The Academy has no precedent for accepting such a gift from a student,” said President Brennan. “Jeff, we are both proud and grateful, and I want to personally thank you and your family for your donation.”

Those who know Jeff describe him as unassuming, thoughtful, and approachable. “He also has an infectious smile,” said Donald Maier, Associate Dean of the Loeb-Sullivan School of International Business and Logistics describing his impressions of Jeff as a student. “His sincerity and leadership potential was quickly recognized by the recruiters at General Dynamics NASSCO, where he has earned a position in their Professional Development Program.”

In June, Jeff will leave Castine for a new life in San Diego, but his friendly, warm smile and generosity of spirit will be remembered here at MMA for a long, long time to come. Bowdoin’s new deck, which will be renovated this fall, will be a lasting reminder of the Pollock family’s gift that brought new life to the schooner, and kept her sailing for another 100 years.

“**We are both proud  
AND GRATEFUL**”

## CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2015!



President Brennan with Larry Wade '15. Photo by S Szwajkos.

Maine Maritime Academy's 72nd Commencement was held on Saturday, May 2. The Class of 2015 was the largest class on record, with 243 students graduating. The Alexander Field House was filled to overflowing with students, family members, and friends for the best gathering of the year, where we celebrate and honor our hard-working students and their academic and family mentors.

This year, we also celebrated two major firsts: the first online master's degree was awarded to Laurence Vincent Wade of Bradley, Maine; and the first joint degree of Bachelor of Science in Maritime Business Administration / International Business and Logistics was awarded to Metehan Barshan of Ankara, Turkey from Maine Maritime Academy and Dokuz Eylul University in Izmir, Turkey.



Christopher Wiernicki, Chairman, President and CEO of American Bureau of Shipping (ABS), addresses the class of 2015 at Commencement on May 2. Photo by S Szwajkos.

## "THROW AWAY THE STORE-BOUGHT MAP"

The largest class in MMA history was graduated on Saturday, May 2, when 243 students threw their hats into the air inside the field house. Christopher Wiernicki, Chairman, President and CEO of American Bureau of Shipping (ABS), was the graduation speaker and received an honorary Master of Science degree. He spoke

of the connections between MMA alumni and ABS, an international ship surveying company with a reputation for emphasizing safety continuously. At the end of his speech, Chris told the graduates to "Throw away the store-bought map and draw your own."

Sarah Szwajkos *photography*  
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Pleased to share MMA Commencement Photos at:

<http://tinyurl.com/MMAgraduation2015>

## LIBRARIANS HOST FACULTY RESEARCH RECEPTION

On April 9, 2015, Wendy Girven (Head Librarian), Lauren Blanchard (Reference Librarian), Caroline Hudson (Library Assistant), and Jim Picariello (Educational Web Designer) hosted Nutting Memorial Library's third annual Faculty Research Reception in the reading room of the library. Spread out on tables and hanging on walls were samples of faculty research and projects. Several projects involved team research conducted by faculty and students.



Photo by College Relations.

## APO VOLUNTEERS DISMANTLE DAM TO CLEAR STREAM



Maine Maritime Academy APO Service Fraternity members problem-solve on April 25, as they dismantle a beaver dam for a faculty member in Belfast, Maine. The students volunteered their community service skills to tease apart a complicated beaver dam built in a small stream. (A state-licensed, professional trapper had already removed the five beavers). Photo by L Stone.

## Line Handling 101: Hands On!

By CAPT. JOHN WORTH

1. The best deckhand on any tug should be the captain.
2. When a tug captain looks down from the toasty warm wheelhouse and watches the deckhand out in the icy sea spray throw a six-foot eye fifteen feet across the span, and successfully lasso the bitt on the other vessel, that captain knows immediately that the crew member is a boatman.
3. When a tug comes alongside a ship moving six knots over lumpy seas and the deckhand throws the heaving line with accuracy 38 feet up the side of the ship, the job of safely assisting the ship to its berth is halfway done.



Evan Gaskin '15 making a perfect toss in Line Handling 101. Photo by J Worth.

We've all known these truths for years. But it has been rewarding to read the notes many of my students from Tug and Barge Operations, NS 471, write back after graduation about their experiences as they manage line-handlers. I've heard many in the tug industry say that they wished they had more exposure to basic, but crucial, line-handling skills.

In 2004, Capt. Bill Serba from Bouchard Towing and Transportation asked me if he could come up to Maine Maritime Academy to show our students line-handling skills. Capt. Serba, now retired, impressed our students immensely. They watched his every move as he tossed an eye 20 feet, precisely, over and over again. He convinced my students that a mariner

needs these skills and only gains these skills through practice, technique, and focus.

At Maine Maritime in 2005, we added this training to several classes: Tug and Barge Operations, Work Boat Operations NS 342, and Seamanship NS 241. We started with voluntary competitions, and offered prizes to the best line-handlers.

Next we added "the playground." At the Academy waterfront, around the corner from Tug Pentagoet's berth, waterfront crew installed cleats and bitts. An outside stairway provided another dimension to the practices—a heaving-line throwing wall. Capt. Doug Fournier from Penobscot Bay Tractor Tug donated lines that we leave there for students to practice with year-round. We start with light lines and

progress to heavier ones.

Now faculty and lab leaders set aside time in each class so that we can teach the skills.

Over the years, Wayne Hamilton at Hamilton Marine, headquartered in Searsport, has generously helped with prizes. I've traded my services running Hamilton's pilot boat Ciloway III to generate cash to buy prizes—float coats, hand-held radios-- at a discount.

Most of our men and women graduates will find themselves in control in the pilothouse fairly quickly. Before that day, though, they will have time on deck. With sharp skills and mental focus, they will earn the respect of their captains as they put to use the hands-on skills for which Maine Maritime Academy is well known. Ultimately, they'll be better tug captains.

## STUDENTS SEND HUNDREDS OF THANK-YOU NOTES TO ALUMNI

By JORDAN DEHLINGER

On March 17th, 2015 the MMA Student Mariner Society held the second annual Thank You Day on campus. This year was very exciting because the day focused on the new ABS Center for Engineering, Science, and Research as well as other gifts from alumni.

The student group used this day to make visible the many generous gifts from alumni, industry, and friends of the Academy and to encourage

fellow students, faculty, and staff to handwrite notes of gratitude. Acknowledgements of gifts from alumni were placed in dedicated spaces in the ABS Center, and the event took place inside the new building.

Students came to fill out their postcards between classes, during lunch or at any free period. At times there were lines at the tables because students took the time to write personal messages



## WOMEN ON THE WATER CONFERENCE AT KINGS POINT

By JILL SCHOOF, PROFESSOR OF ENGINEERING



(L-R) Rachel Jondle, Kaylee Wacome, Gabrielle Wells, Alexandria Martin, Alice Stenquist, and Catherine Bailey with Paul Jaenichen of MARAD. Photo by J Schoof.

In March, the United States Merchant Marine Academy with the U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD) hosted the seventh Women on the Water (WOW) Conference. Over 125 maritime professionals and maritime academy cadets attended the three-day conference at Kings Point, including six Maine Maritime Academy students from the classes of 2015 and 2016 along with Engineering Professor Jill Schoof. The focus of the conference was the promotion of personal growth and career development of women cadets. Paul N. Jaenichen of MARAD opened the conference with the following message:

*Today, our nation relies on maritime transportation more than ever before - oceangoing vessels carry nearly 70 percent of U.S. foreign trade, barge tows provide crucial links in our domestic energy supply chain, and U.S.-Flag commercial vessels crews by American Merchant Mariners provide a logistic supply line for global protection*

*of our Armed Forces. Our industry is a robust national asset - and it is critical that we remain so in the future. That means attracting the very best people to pursue maritime careers. Yes, when you look around the industry men are clearly in the majority - but talent is talent regardless of gender. Our industry needs to fully leverage the diversity of thought, character, courage, and commitment that women have to offer.*

The WOW conference gave women cadets unique opportunities to learn about careers on the water and about current issues affecting the maritime industry. Panels of senior women captains and pilots and other experienced military and civilian maritime professionals taught them valuable job skills.

The keynote speaker was retired Rear Admiral Mary Landry, United States Coast Guard. Admiral Landry is the Director of Incident Management and Preparedness at Coast Guard Headquarters. She spoke about her experiences

on active duty with the USCG before joining the Coast Guard's Senior Executive Service. She discussed how her experience in the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, and during the response to the historic 2011 Mississippi River Valley floods led her to her current role, in which she is responsible for establishing, developing, and implementing hazard incident management strategies and policies for the Coast Guard. She encouraged the cadets to "respect your individuality and the choices you make." She went on to say, "I have the greatest respect for the career you have chosen. You have great role models." She reminded the cadets, "When you are 5 or 10 years out, don't forget to mentor others."

The students are now organizing to send as many MMA women to the next conference at the California Maritime Academy as possible, contingent upon funding. This conference is a unique opportunity for professional development of women cadets as they enter their maritime careers.

about themselves, about their course of study, and why they appreciate the continued support.

The Student Mariner Society is a service-oriented group of students educating the student body on philanthropic contributions of alumni and how they benefit the Academy. SMS students devote time and energy to strengthening relations between students and alumni. Student Mariner Society members volunteered their time to set up the event and run it. Many members said this year was a success and larger than last year, adding that next year will be even better!

Many students had not been inside the new building, so the event gave them a chance to look around, while discovering and thanking those who contributed.

This year, almost 1,000 thank-you notes were sent out to celebrate contributions to the Academy. In response to receiving a personal note, Marc Gousse, '82 said, "I am confident I speak for all alumni and Academy supporters in affirming the appreciation for this genuine and personalized effort by students. This gesture reflects how special the men and women of Maine Maritime Academy really are."



## RECOGNIZING THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW



Photo by College Relations.

**M**aine Maritime Academy recognizes and celebrates student achievements in leadership, scholarship, and community service annually.

At the Regimental Awards Ceremony held in March, Commandant Nate Gandy opened his remarks with the acknowledgment that a number of things set MMA apart from other 4-year institutions. “One of those things,” he said, “is the need to train students for emergencies at sea. Everyone gets foundational training but some students give up extra time to attend organizational and training meetings in preparation for the MMA summer training cruise. Often these students spend 8-10 hours a week in addition to their regular duties.”

Capt. Gandy announced a new award, the Regimental Challenge Coin, based on the historical Challenge Coin made famous during WWI. The WWI Challenge Coin’s story, in a nutshell, is that it became a critically important form of identification that saved a lieutenant from execution. All ended well and a new tradition was born: a service member may challenge another to see the coin. If the coin is produced, then the challenger must buy the other service member a drink. If the coin is not produced, the service member must buy the challenger a drink.

The Regimental Awards included the Rear Admiral Warren C. Hamm, Jr. Leadership Award given to Luke Olson '16; the Lestor R. Paton Navy Leadership Sword given by his son, **Richard R. Paton '56** to Joseph Torchia '17; the Al Brown Award; the MacArthur Cadet Award given to **Shawn Silva '15**; the **Eugene J. Silva '64** Regimental Award given to **Joshua Hall '15**;

and the Regimental Alumni Development Award, a new award provided by the Artec Machine Systems Corporation, and organized by **John Amendola '86** and **John Amendola '15**. This last award is given biannually to two midshipmen who would benefit from attending the Bi-Annual Reduction Gear Training Program.

In addition, the Casco Bay Alumni Chapter Award, the Ship Rate plaques, Master’s Commendation; Chief Engineer’s Citation; company plaques; and Wedge plaques were presented.

**Don McBride '05** was the keynote speaker at the 14th annual Student Life Awards Banquet held in April, which honors students whose service to others and involvement in collegiate activities is creating a stronger community at MMA and in Castine. Don’s main message to students was to “Listen carefully. Listening provides perspective no matter what your position. Your reputation is your brand, so to speak. Listening is the key to everything you will do.”

Forty-five students received awards for positive community contributions; 78 students were acknowledged for outstanding community impact; and one student received the coveted Phyllis Tenney Community Service and Leadership Award.

The Mariner Pride Award is a community-wide nomination that honors an organization, event, or activity that enhances Mariner pride by bringing people together and helping to strengthen the campus community. This year, the MMA Boxing Match won the award, which was accepted by **Kurt Borkman '15**.

The 2015 Sarah Hudson Unsung Hero Award went to Research Librarian, Lauren Blanchard, who has developed a reputation among students,

faculty, and staff alike for her politeness, cheerfulness, and strong work ethic.

The last award presented was the Phyllis Tenney Community Service and Leadership Award given in memory of “Mrs. T” for the endless service she provided MMA and Castine for over 40 years. Mrs. T personified the characteristics of leadership through her long association with the service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega, her creation of the “Dining-In” etiquette program, her participation as an essential member of the training cruise staff for a record 25 cruises, and her enthusiastic presence as the Academy’s social director. The 2015 awardee was **Jillian Perron '15**, who has been known to fill every free moment of her day volunteering her time to the community, excelling academically, competing on the hardwood, and working on campus. Jillian will enter St. George’s University in Grenada to pursue a doctorate in veterinary medicine.



(L-R) Gil Tenney, Elizabeth True, and Jillian Perron '15.  
Photo by College Relations.



## Subsea Engineering Project: The MMA ROV

By JILL SCHOOF, PROFESSOR OF ENGINEERING

A newly formed club has moved MMA engineering designs, project development, and scientific investigations underwater. **Nate Dublin '15** and **David Weeks '15**, both marine engineering majors, organized the Subsea Engineering Society with a mission to educate, conduct research into subsea opportunities, and to construct and test a remotely operated vehicle (ROV). Current students Kevin Pepin '16, Caleb Dublin '17, Jessica Menges '16, Alex Scott '16, and Jordan Peeples '17 will take the lead in the fall. Professor Jill Schoof, a specialist in instrumentation and controls, will be faculty advisor.

Nate Dublin and David Weeks were the 2014 NASA fellows representing Maine Maritime Academy and received grants from the Maine Space Grant Consortium to help them develop their subsea project. Kevin Pepin (project leader and president of the Subsea Engineering Society) and Jordan Peeples (programmer) have recently received 2015 NASA fellowships for their planned ROV project.

The 2015 student engineers will design a tethered robot for subsea engineering and science work in the Arctic. The team will prepare for the

MATE Competition held in May and June 2016 at Dartmouth, Massachusetts and at St. Johns, Newfoundland. The design requirements of this challenging competition support the goals of the offshore oil and gas industries, and the polar science community. Each team's ROV must function in three categories of tasks: Arctic science under ice, subsea pipeline inspection and repair, and offshore oilfield production and maintenance. Science tasks include collecting algae from the underside of an ice sheet, measuring the dimensions of an iceberg, mapping its location, and determining the iceberg's threat level to area oil platforms. Subsea pipeline inspection and repair tasks require inspecting an oil pipeline for corrosion, turning a valve to interrupt the flow of oil through the pipeline, examining an oil pressure gauge, and measuring and removing a section of corroded pipeline. Offshore oilfield production and maintenance tasks include testing the grounding of anodes, determining the angle at which a wellhead emerges from the seafloor, turning valves to determine flow paths through a pipeline system, and determining the average flow rate.



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MMA is an EOE; women and minorities are particularly encouraged to apply.

## JARED HALL '16 ORGANIZES "MOVEMBER" FOR KASEE WILSON '14

By JARED HALL '16, SUE HALL, LORI WILSON & LAURIE STONE

The month of November 2014 saw Maine Maritime Academy regimental men sprouting facial hair in various fashionable styles. Ordinarily, male cadets may not have beards, mustaches, or goatees but Jared Hall '16 heard that his and his older brother's (**Sam Hall '14**) friend, **Kasee Wilson '14** had been diagnosed with myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS), just after graduation, during his pre-employment physical. Jared, along with Alice Stenquist '16, and **Kurt Borkman '15** organized a fundraising initiative in conjunction with the international men's health event, called "Movember" (short for "Mustache November") to raise money to help Kasee and his family offset some of his medical expenses.

"Movember," approved and sponsored by the Regiment of Midshipmen at MMA, ran the entire month of November and gave men a chance to buy a ticket to grow a mustache, goatee, or beard for 10 dollars, 50 dollars, or 400 dollars, respectively. Over 3,500 dollars were raised from undergraduates, some alumni (who participated

by supporting individual cadets through the "Go Fund Me" crowd-sourcing web page), friends, and families. Approximately 150 men participated. Prizes were awarded for best beard, best goatee, or best mustache. Jared, Alice, and Kurt had notified Kasee Wilson ahead of time that they were undertaking this venture and all the money raised went directly to Kasee.

Kasee had his U.S. Coast Guard license in hand and had his first shipping assignment with Crowley Marine when he was diagnosed with MDS. It became clear that he would not be able to go to sea as planned immediately after graduation, and that he needed to undergo a bone marrow transplant in Boston, a three-month process not including recovery time, so he had to contact Crowley Marine. The company's response was sensitive and kind, offering to find Kasee a position when he was ready to work so he could concentrate on defeating MDS.

One of the side effects of chemotherapy is the almost complete eradication of the patient's immunity. Kasee has been taking an experimental

drug to help boost his production of blood cells and platelets but because his immune system is compromised, he must live in an almost germ-free environment. He must also visit the hospital in either Boston or Bangor once or twice a week. The good news is that he recently learned he could start his re-immunization process (a two-year commitment that will keep him away from his career at sea until all vaccinations have been administered).

Family and friends have established a Facebook page called the Kasee Wilson Benefit Page where friends, classmates, alumni, and others can track Kasee's progress and donate to help offset medical costs if they wish. Another site that has been established for fundraising is a Go Fund Me account at <http://www.gofundme.com/gk2mcg>

Jared Hall, Alice Stenquist, and Kurt Borkman have displayed their compassion and concern for a fellow MMA student and hope others will join them in their efforts.

# DOORS OPEN: ABS Center is Formally Dedicated on Commencement Weekend



(L-R) President Brennan hosted the dedication ceremony. Photo by K Woisard.



Robert D. Somerville '65 offered remarks and welcomed Christopher J. Wiernicki. Photo by K Woisard.



(L-R) Elizabeth Pingree '15, Keenan Eaton '14, and Edison Ma '18 present dedication plaque. Photo by College Relations.

On the first of May, 2015, the Maine Maritime Academy community celebrated the first academic building to be constructed on the campus in 30 years: the ABS Center for Engineering, Science, and Research. President William J. Brennan welcomed dignitaries and guests, faculty, staff, and students to the dedication ceremony to celebrate the completion of the facility and the crowd gathered to hear remarks from Governor Paul LePage; Christopher J. Wiernicki, Chairman, President and CEO of the American Bureau of Shipping (ABS); Robert J. Peacock II, Chair, Board of Trustees; Robert D. Somerville, Vice Chair, Board of Trustees; Representative Kenneth Fredette; Representative Karl Ward, President, Nickerson & O'Day, Inc. (ABS Center building contractor); and three student representatives: Keenan Eaton of Mapleton, Maine; Eliza Pingree of East Machias, Maine; and Edison Ma of West Hartford, Connecticut.

"The ABS Center for Engineering, Science, and Research is an essential facility for students and faculty who are increasingly engaged in cutting-edge research on energy technologies, on the

development of clean fuel alternatives, and other industry-relevant scientific study," said President Brennan. The new Center offers modern classrooms and research spaces that will enhance the applied science program and strengthen Maine Maritime Academy's worldwide reputation as a marine engineering center of excellence.

"This facility reflects our belief that the value of education cannot be understated. The future is never certain, but investments in education and people always pay off," said Christopher Wiernicki at the dedication ceremony. "...Dr. Brennan, MMA is now part of the ABS global technology family, and I look forward to working together with you to address the future technical needs of our industry. The plaque above the entrance may read 'ABS,'" Wiernicki said, "but this building belongs to you: the students, the staff, and faculty. The next generation of leaders will be at the forefront of efforts to solve our industry's most pressing challenges, and quite frankly, those of humanity at large."

Funded initially by a lead gift of \$2.5 million from the American Bureau of Shipping (ABS),

the largest corporate gift to have been received by the Academy, financial support also came from very generous gifts, pledges, and challenge grants from alumni, friends of the college, foundations, and businesses (please see the Honor Roll on page 19 for a complete list of donors to the project). Building costs were also paid for in part by Maine voters who approved state bond funding of \$4.5 million in November, 2013 toward the public-private partnership to construct the new facility. The project was nearly six years in the making, and is, according to President Brennan, "likely one of the most important initiatives MMA has accomplished in this decade."

**"Thanks to the people of Maine--the 4.5 million-dollar bond approved by the state--and the inspirational gift from the Harold Alford Foundation, we were able to finish funding this magnificent building that is in front of us today...And we can only revel in the great happiness for this extremely proud moment shared by each and every one of us."**

~Robert D. Somerville '65

## ABS CENTER FOR ENGINEERING, SCIENCE, AND RESEARCH HONOR ROLL

The **Maine Maritime Academy community** extends its deepest thanks to every individual, family, business, and foundation that has contributed to the ABS Center for Engineering, Science, and Research. This important building was made possible because of your generosity. A common vision of increasing our capacity for engineering, science, and research will have a great impact on the college, our students, the State of Maine, and the industries and organizations we serve.

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ABS CENTER FOR ENGINEERING, SCIENCE, AND RESEARCH HONOR ROLL

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- Maine voters pass \$4.5 million bond: November 5, 2013
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- Architect: Harriman Associates
- General Contractor: Nickerson & O'Day, Inc.
- Size: 3-story, 30,000-square-foot facility
- Constructed: January, 2014 – December, 2014
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## SPECIAL THANKS

The Maine Maritime Academy administration would like to acknowledge and give special thanks to former Trustee William Walsh for his dedication and insight in the planning and implementation of this special building. We would also like to thank the Cianbro Corporation for assistance over the duration of the project, and the townspeople of Castine for their patience during construction.

## Hall '13 & Lees '13 Donate Skills in Aremiet, Kenya

**M**ason Hall '13 was in the Belfast Coop in Belfast, Maine, when he noticed a booth for a nonprofit organization called Expanding Opportunities and quickly found himself volunteering to go to a tiny, out-of-the way area of Kenya to help at a rural school. He contacted his classmate, **Kevin Lees '13**, and the two agreed that the project was worthwhile and would expand not only the opportunities for Kenyan children but also their own horizons. The two men contacted their friends, Shelby Farrell and Marley Smith, to invite them to join the adventure.

In Aremiet, they each worked according to his or her strengths. Mason and Kevin were marine transportation majors at MMA so they used their construction and problem-solving skills to work on an irrigation project “to capture and reuse precious gray water to hydrate the life-sustaining school garden. Because of the incredibly severe desert climate of Aremiet, it is absolutely necessary that every drop of water be used in a productive manner,” according to Mason. Shelby, an MBA student and former teacher, taught classes on culture, math, and language at the Gordon Clem Academy. Mason said that Marley, a pre-med student, worked at the clinic in Aremiet “assisting a government nurse in her overwhelming task of caring for the local population, many of whom were suffering parasitic diseases from drinking the unclean river water because the only well was broken.”

After helping out at the high school, the four of them moved to a smaller area called Nakuru where they interacted with children whose circumstances prevented them from living at home. Many of the parents were nomadic camel, donkey, or goat herders. Mason stated, “They were some of the kindest and most interesting children we ever encountered.” Kevin and Mason worked with the groundskeeper to improve the garden and pump water while the women worked on math and personal hygiene skills with the children.



Mason Hall '13 (back row, left) next to Kevin Lees '13 (back row) with their Kenyan high school students & their friends, Marley Smith and Shelby Farrell (front row). Photo courtesy of M Hall.

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## TRIAGE AT SUGARLOAF



Ryan Collet '15 in orange jacket, and Sam Brown '15 in black jacket and red helmet assist in triage for ski lift accident victims at Sugarloaf Ski Resort on March 21, 2015. Photo by G Hoffmeister.

**R**yan Collet '15, a volunteer member of the Sugarloaf Ski Patrol, **Sam Brown '15**, **Evan Gaskin '15**, and **Hollister Poole '15** were spending Saturday, March 21, 2015 skiing and hanging out with the volunteer ski patrol on Ryan's day off. The young men got in the line for the King Pine Lift at Sugarloaf Mountain

Resort in Carrabassett Valley, Maine and waited for Hollister to join them when they suddenly heard screams and saw the ski lift gaining speed as it shot backwards toward the carousel at the bottom. People in line around them scattered, fearing the chairlift riders would fall on them when the first chair hit the carousel.

Ryan, who has his Outdoor Emergency Care certification at Sugarloaf, and Sam, who is an EMR registered to practice in Maine, dashed to the people on the ground. An emergency room physician had already reached the first victim and screamed out that he was an ER physician so Sam should go to the next victim. Evan Gaskin, a Castine Fire and Rescue Department driver, pitched in, as did Hollister Poole who had basic ship's medical training from MMA.

"Pretty much everyone who could, went into 'hyper-help mode," according to Ryan. He went on to say, "Patient care was not too difficult but getting people off the lift was a challenge." Some people were trapped 20 feet off the snow pack and some were trapped as high as 45 feet off the

ground. [ABC News, Mar 21, 2015] Approximately 200 people had to be evacuated via ropes, chair-by-chair.

One of the skiers trapped on the lift was MMA alumnus, **Skip Strong '84**, a Penobscot Bay and River Pilot. He waited patiently on the lift for the rescuers to reach his chair and lower him and the others down.

An investigation revealed that a mechanical failure in one of two gearboxes caused the lift to jerk to a stop and begin its slide backwards. Normally, a hydraulic brake should have kicked in to stop the lift but it also failed. Sugarloaf Mountain Resort management had just had the King Pine Lift inspected the day before the accident so they were as surprised by the incident as the lift passengers.

Once again, Maine Maritime Academy students jumped in to help without hesitation to lend their expertise. Ryan, Sam, Evan, and Hollister all proved that their training and compassion helped mitigate a scary and very dangerous situation.



Photo courtesy of Lance Meadows.

## LANCE MEADOWS '12 RETURNS TIMBERWIND TO SEA



Timberwind cutting the waters of Penobscot Bay. Photo by Rocky Coast Photography.

**T**he 96-foot schooner Timberwind has returned to work at sea thanks to the tenacity of alumnus **Lance Meadows '12** and his wife, Liz. For several years, the schooner has not been used to her full potential but Lance, after working for Dunlap Towing in Puget Sound, Washington captaining tandem 400-foot or 100-foot barges from Washington to Alaska, found her awaiting him and his maritime business acumen.

He spent the last year forming a company

called Maine DaySail, LLC in response to an offer from Captains Joe Finger and Annie Mahle who bought Timberwind in 2014. The three captains knew each other from the days when Lance was a crew member aboard the Schooner Riggien and Joe and Annie were her captains. He made a three-year charter agreement with the owners, spruced her up, developed a website ([mainedaysail.com](http://mainedaysail.com)), and commenced business on April 15, 2015. Timberwind can carry up to 44 passengers and four crew on her two daily sails of two hours each or on her sunset cruises. She sails from Thompson's Wharf in Belfast, Maine six days a week from June 21st to October 21st.

Timberwind was built in Portland, Maine and served as the Portland Pilot until 1969 when she was sold and retrofitted as a windjammer for the Midcoast Maine schooner fleet. Because of her service to Casco Bay, she is a registered National Historic Landmark.

With his degree from MMA in vessel operations and his USCG 1600-ton license, Lance is ideally positioned to captain this elegant schooner on the waters of Penobscot Bay.

## RADM THOMAS SHANNON '82 SHARES ADVICE WITH NROTC MIDSHIPMEN

By ELLIOT ROBERTS '18

On Monday, March 16, 2015, Rear Admiral **Thomas Shannon '82** sat with a group of NROTC Midshipmen at Maine Maritime Academy. During his visit with the cadets, the admiral spoke about his long career as a Surface Warfare officer in the U.S. Navy. Alumnus Shannon has had a diverse career as a leader in the Navy ranging from service on various surface ships to commanding Carrier Strike Group 1, and now Military Sealift Command.

While RADM Shannon spoke with the Midshipmen he touched on several points: his personal experience as an officer, advice he had for others, and most importantly, the lessons he

learned from his time in the Navy. One of the important lessons he wanted to teach Midshipmen was for them to “bloom where they were planted.” He highlighted the fact that the students would not always be put in a place they wished for, but regardless of the job, they should strive to be the best they could be in whatever they might do. Lastly, RADM Shannon left the students one final piece of advice: “Above all, [the Navy] is dying for initiative.”

The NROTC Midshipmen were extremely grateful to have had such a distinguished alumnus share his experiences with them.



NROTC students host RADM Tom Shannon '82 at the NROTC Center, Maine Maritime Academy. Photo Courtesy of NROTC.

## Maine Maritime Alumni Celebrate 35th Anniversary of Navy Port Engineers

By JOHN GOODE, OPERATIONS & SUSTAINMENT, CAMBER CORPORATION



**P**ride in ownership: this sentiment is shared by every Navy Port Engineer entrusted with maintaining the operational readiness of their assigned ship. From the first Port Engineer on the AFS-class in 1980 to the 175 men & women serving in the program today around the world, each one is united by the common goals of knowing more about the material condition of their ship than anyone else and ensuring each hull meets its expected service life.



Port Engineer Mark Pulkkinen '79. Photo by J Goode.

MMA Alumni have been involved

with the program throughout the 30 years that the Port Engineer concept has been in effect. It was first introduced to serve as the Navy's “owner's rep.” **Mark Pulkkinen '79** joined the program in 1984, assigned to the USS Mauna Kea (AE-22) and USS Flint (AE-32). Mark recalls,

“I spent 80% of my time on the ship back then. There were no computers or cell phones and a lot of work got done.”

Navy Port Engineers from MMA have proudly served the Fleet aboard DDG, CG, FFG, LCS, LHA, LHD, LPD, LSD, MCM, and PC ships in Everett, Wash.; Mayport, Fla.; Norfolk, Va.; Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; Rota, Spain; San Diego, Calif.; Sasebo, Japan, and Yokosuka, Japan. Current MMA Navy Port Engineers include **Troy Ammons '88, Tom Bourgelas '81, Norvin Castillo '07, Mike DeSanctis '78, Bill Doherty '83, Pat Gladu '04, Renee Justice '91, Jack Perkins '82, Dan Plourde '86, Mark Pulkkinen '79, and Mark Scime '03.**

MMA Alumni are a vital part of the program's success because they have the qualifications the Navy desires (Marine Engineering degree, USCG license, sailing experience, ability to obtain secret clearance) and possess

unparalleled training, communication, interpersonal, and organizational skills needed to thrive in a complex maintenance environment. “I was intrigued by the program and looked forward to the challenge of learning a new platform of vessels and a different style of life that comes with being a Navy Port Engineer,” says **Renee Justice '91** who joined the program in 2013.

“As the Navy's Port Engineer program reflects on the past 35 years, MMA graduates have been a recognized constant due to their sea experiences, engineering diligence, and fortitude they each bring in support of managing all maintenance requirements at the right levels, right times, and right costs whereby maximizing operational readiness to their assigned ships,” says **John “Chip” Callan '88**, former Navy Port Engineer & Program Manager.

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## MMA Cross Country FOREVER FUN

By RIANA SIDELINGER, ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

**I**n the spring of 2010 Ryan King took over as coach of the cross country teams, while maintaining a full-time job at Maine Maritime. In that time, King has turned the two-squad group into a family.

“We have a saying, ‘Once in, forever in.’ I wanted to do this for the right reasons. It should be about the team, and be a student-focused experience,” says King. “I want them to be able to have memories that will last a lifetime and I want the team to be able to have fun with running.”

When King started as the coach, the women’s and men’s teams each had 2 returning runners.

In 2015 King expects to have a women’s team of 20 runners and a men’s team of 40.

This growth in team numbers could be attributed to many things, but King says he believes listening, focusing on academics, and setting individual goals both on and off the trail has contributed to the growth over the years.

King will tell you he is not much of a recruiter, but looks for students with a strong background

“**I want the team to be able to have fun with running.**”



Photos courtesy of R King.

in math and science who want to come to Maine Maritime Academy and who also have an interest in running.

“I want to make it an enjoyable experience” King says, “I am here to help and build a connection with the students so that they know that there is someone on campus who believes in them and is their biggest advocate. My goal is that the student is able to get an education and walk out the door with a diploma.”

The team embraces certain traditions while they are competing in season. Every time they hit the road, King’s wife, Sarah, will visit Bagel Central in Bangor to get breakfast for the away trips and even when the team captains are not

competing they are always there to support their teammates.

“Back when I first started coaching we would run the “square” around Route 166 off neck. I would be running in the lead with the team behind me. When cars would approach us, I would cross my arms, indicating that the cross country team was behind me,” King said. “I’d often get a wave back in acknowledgment from the driver. It’s now become a sign that one member of the team can give to another acknowledging each other by sight when other forms of communication won’t work.”

Helping the team over the past three years are two Assistant Coaches. MMA staff member,

Juicebox Martel, and faculty member, Johanna Evans share King’s coaching philosophy and passion for running.

The coaches value giving the student-athletes the ability to compete at many levels of inter-collegiate racing. Every member of the team has the opportunity to race against regionally and nationally ranked teams on any given weekend.

“Cross country is about having fun. I’m trying to turn the screw to make things more challenging as the years goes by. Academics come first. It’s about balance. If a student-athlete has less time to spend I work with the student to lessen the commitment.”

The program continues to grow; last season was the first time that both teams competed as a split-squad, running at two different events on the same day. King is extremely proud of a consecutive team scoring streak, with the emphasis on finishing each race. “Not every runner is going to be the fastest or the slowest, but they can all work on hills and their own personal goals while having the opportunity to represent the Academy.”

For the third consecutive year, the cross country team was honored with the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association All-Academic Team Award and for the tenth consecutive year a member of the men’s team grabbed North Atlantic Conference All-Academic team honors. The team is creating a legacy of leadership, with a number of regimental ship rates and training staff, student-government officers, club and class office members, and residential assistants all following in each other’s footsteps.

This season the Mariners saw 28 runners compete in post-conference ECAC and NCAA regional cross country championship races.

King, staying true to the “Once in, forever in,” belief, keeps a folder in his office with all of the race results from Maine Maritime Cross Country since 1962. “Having these results helps me reach out to alumni, and gets them involved with our team. We are all part of the same team, whether its alumni, current athletes, or future Mariners.”

“The biggest success for me is if a student-athlete goes for a run the day after they graduate. You may not be able to play other sports forever, but you can run forever.”

**“You may not be able to play other sports forever, but you can run forever.”**





## Football Joins NEWMAC in 2017

By MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY ATHLETICS

**M**aine Maritime Academy is joining the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) as an associate member in the sport of football when the league begins sponsorship of the sport in the fall of 2017.

The Mariners, who currently compete in the New England Football Conference (NEFC), will transition to the NEWMAC along with fellow-current NEFC members, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and the United States Coast Guard Academy (USCGA), full members of the NEWMAC. Springfield and Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) are also full-members of the NEWMAC sponsoring football. The United States Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA) and Norwich University will compete as associate members alongside of Maine Maritime.

"We are excited join a new conference in 2017, with good academic schools and good football programs. We look forward to new challenges and creating new rivalries," said Head Football Coach Christopher McKenney.

"In joining the NEWMAC, Maine Maritime Academy is afforded the opportunity through athletics to associate with a group of institutions that share common values and similar academic missions," said Maine Maritime Academy President, Dr. William J. Brennan. "The NEWMAC's core values emphasizing excellence, integrity and respect fit hand-in-hand with Maine Maritime's values."

"The NEWMAC's national leadership at the Division III level, its commitment to the Division III philosophy, and its emphasis on academics, sportsmanship, honor, and integrity make it one of the nation's most prestigious leagues."

"I am incredibly excited about our association with the NEWMAC," said Director of Athletics, Steve Peed. "Being invited to associate with a prestigious conference validates the education and values that make up the Maine Maritime brand."

The new league format continues the expansion of the athletic relationship between the

Photo by Tony Llerena Photography.

# SPRING RECAP

## MEN'S LACROSSE

maritime academies that Peed has sought as the Director of Athletics. In 2014, Maine Maritime hosted the first Mariner Cup in men's lacrosse, while Maritime (N.Y.) hosted the men's and inaugural women's cup earlier this spring. Maine Maritime also competes in for the Mariner Cup in volleyball. Maritime (N.Y.), USMMA and Maine Maritime will compete in a men's basketball classic this winter.

"This move builds two maritime institutions into our football schedule along with Norwich. When you add in our new agreement with SUNY-Maritime and the continued rivalry with Massachusetts Maritime, we have a schedule full of rivalry games that will be exciting for the students and alumni involved."

Maine Maritime and USCGA have played 12 times since 1970 and every year since 2006. USCGA leads the series 7-5. The Mariners are 0-9 against Norwich, having met between 1950 and 1953, and again from 1964 through 1968. The Mariners defeated USMMA in the only meeting between the two teams back in 1964. MIT is 3-0 against Maine Maritime, while WPI is 2-0. The Mariners and Springfield have never met; however, all three full-time members of the Maine Maritime football staff hold degrees from the college.

The move will end Maine Maritime's half-century association with the NEFC. The Mariners are one of two founding members remaining in the NEFC, and the only institution that has competed in the league continuously since its inception. Maine Maritime's 10 other varsity sports will continue play in the North Atlantic Conference (NAC).



(L-R) Head Men's Lacrosse Coach Adam Sherman, Jack Tragert, and Assistant Coach Jeff Fell. Photo courtesy of A Sherman.

The Maine Maritime Academy men's lacrosse team shattered a number of records on their way to the North Atlantic Conference Semifinals. The Mariners were led by their three captains; Nicholas Betti, Bronson Guimond, and Jack Tragert. Betti was named to the NAC All-Tournament team, North Atlantic Conference First-Team All-Conference and received NEILA Academic All-New England and USILA Scholar All-American honors. Tragert joined Betti on the All-NAC First Team and NEILA Academic All-New England Team, while grabbing NAC All-Academic honors and representing Maine Maritime Academy in the NEILA Senior East All-Star Game on May 29. Tragert ranks first all-time in face-offs percentage (.644%) and ground balls (266). Guimond grabbed North Atlantic Conference Second-Team All-Conference accolades, while ranking second all-time in games started.

## WOMEN'S LACROSSE



Photo by by David Sinclair Photography.

Competing in the NCAA Division III

for the first season, Maine Maritime Academy Women's Lacrosse enjoyed a season full of first-time accomplishments. On March 27 the Mariners

picked up their first win in dramatic fashion

against Green Mountain College, 6-5. The Mariners grabbed their first-ever victory at Ritchie Field on April 12 against Johnson State, 11-9. Allyson Fuehrer notched two back-to-back five-goal performances to lead the Mariners offensively this season, earning NAC All-Academic honors for the third time in her career. Teammate Lillian Slazas joined Fuehrer on the All-Academic Team.

**NEWMAC**



# AWARDS and recognition



**NICHOLAS BETTI '15**

Photo by David Sinclair Photography.

**N**icholas Betti has been named a 2015 United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association (USILA) Scholar All-American.

This award marks the first USILA Scholar All-American selection in Maine Maritime Academy Men's Lacrosse history. Betti joined 126 players, representing Division I, II and III schools from all around the country.

Betti, a North Atlantic Conference First Team All-Conference selection and NAC All-Tournament honoree, was named to the NEILA Academic All-New England Team earlier this month.

This season, Betti broke the Maine Maritime Academy record for career goals, tallying an impressive 165 goals in four years. Betti also ranks first all-time in shots (556), shots on goal (305), man-up goals (25), games played (59) and games started (58), and is only the third player in program history to surpass 200 points in his career. Among Division III players, Betti ranked in the top 10 all season in goals per game. The Marine Engineering Technology major graduated from Maine Maritime on May 2nd.



**WYATT LAPAGE '15**

Photo by Tony Llerena Photography.

**W**yatt LaPage has been named to the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) / Capital One Academic All-America Division III Third Team. LaPage is the Mariners first Academic All-American since Benjamin Russell earned the distinction for men's soccer in 2011. He is the first-ever Maine Maritime Academy men's cross country runner to earn the honor.

The Marine Transportation Operations major and May 2nd graduate, maintained an impressive 3.97 GPA, while serving as the Cadet Chief Mate and men's cross country team captain in 2014.

LaPage led the team to a 6th place finish at the NAC Championships, finishing 32nd out of 104 runners, a 40th place finish at the ECAC Championships, and a 37th place finish at the NCAA Regionals.

This season, LaPage broke the school record for fastest 8k at Westfield State and was the only runner to participate in both post-conference championship races.

LaPage, a two-time North Atlantic Conference All-Academic Team selection, was named the Maine Maritime Academy October Athlete of the Month, and the 2014-2015 Senior Scholar Athlete of the Year.



**JACK TRAGERT '15**

Photo by David Sinclair Photography.

**J**ack Tragert represented Maine Maritime Academy men's lacrosse at the 2015 NEILA East-West Senior All-Star Game on May 29th at Springfield College. Tragert won the opening face-off for the East squad, helping the team to a 16-10 win over the West.

Tragert, a Marine Transportation Operations major, graduated from Maine Maritime on May 2nd. The face-off specialist grabbed NAC First Team All-Conference and 2015 NEILA Academic All-New England Team honors, following a record-breaking season. The senior captain scooped up a team-leading 116 ground balls, breaking the all-time school record with 269 ground balls in his career, and was the top face-off man in the North Atlantic Conference, ranking 7th in the Nation with an impressive .676 face-off percentage.

Tragert joined Castleton's Zach Davidson, New England College's Nick Herzog, and Husson's James Seager as North Atlantic Conference representatives, and is the first East-West Senior All-Star in Maine Maritime Academy men's lacrosse program history.

# Maine Maritime Academy Athletics Hosts 2015 Student-Athlete Banquet

By RIANA SIDELINGER, ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR



(L-R) Steve Peed, Nicholas Betti, Wyatt LaPage, Allyson Fueher, Mary Badeen and Tricia Carver-Watson. Photo by R Sidelinger.

Maine Maritime honored its student-athletes at the annual Student-Athlete Banquet in the Alford Student Center Thursday, April 23. Allyson Fuehrer and Wyatt LaPage

were honored as Senior Scholar Athletes and Mary Badeen and Nicholas Betti took home the Athlete of the Year awards for 2014-15, and 66 students were named Scholar Athletes (3.3 GPA and higher).

Fuehrer is a four-year member of the women's soccer team and two-year member of the women's lacrosse team. The Marine Transportation Operations major and Cadet Master carried a 3.72 grade point average and was a three-time NAC All-Academic honoree. She was a two-year captain of the soccer team and was a captain of the lacrosse team.

LaPage is a four-year member of the men's cross country team and a two-time NAC All-Conference selection. The Marine Transportation Operations major and Cadet Chief Mate boasts a 3.97 GPA, the highest of any male senior athlete at Maine Maritime.

Betti, a two-year captain for the men's lacrosse team, was named Male Athlete of the Year. Betti is a three-time NAC All-Conference selection and broke the Maine Maritime Academy Career Record for goals scored this season (165).

Badeen was the NAC leading scorer for women's basketball, leading the Mariners with NAC All-Conference First Team and Second Team All-State honors. This season, Badeen broke the Maine Maritime Academy Single-Season Record for most 3-pointers scored (65).

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## SUPPORT MMA'S FUTURE OFFICERS

Maine Maritime Academy is hiring Licensed Watch and Training Officers for the Winter Training Cruise on TS State of Maine. Deck and Engine Officers are needed between Dec 28, 2015 - Jan 20, 2016.

**FOR DETAILS, PLEASE CONTACT:**

Capt. Nathan Gandy | 207-326-2250 | nate.gandy@mma.edu

Capt. Les Eadie | 207-326-2381 | leslie.eadie@mma.edu





# Paying It FORWARD: Scholarships at MMA

By Laurie Stone, Editor;  
Kathy Heath, Director of Financial Aid;  
& Leah Bishop, Donor Services

**N**o one can deny that the cost of a college or university education in the United States is expensive. A complex set of factors drives the cost, including decreased state funding per pupil; new government regulations regarding gender equality, diversity, ADA compliance, and safety on campus; recessions and fluctuations in the economy; increased costs of operating and maintaining a campus with numerous facilities; growing administration bureaucracies; and greater student enrollment.

Fortunately, the Maine Maritime Academy Board of Trustees is cognizant of these circumstances and has worked steadily to mitigate them, but cost of attendance is consistently rising. Direct costs of attendance at MMA—including tuition, fees, room and board—runs between \$22,618 and \$45,694, depending on a student's major and in-state vs. out-of-state status. Families often must identify multiple sources of aid that are available and applicable to their financial situation in order to pay for college.

Financial aid, a great deal of which derives from scholarships established by alumni and friends of MMA, is one vital tool available to help students offset their costs. In this two-part feature, we first examine the scholarship aid that is available to MMA students; and in the next *Mariner* (2015-3), we will profile some of the students who have received these scholarships.

One of Maine Maritime Academy's highest priorities is to keep tuition at rates that are affordable while at the same time providing a life-changing education to students, regardless of wealth. One way the Academy helps to keep our cost of education affordable is by administering scholarships. There are two main types of scholarships that we maintain through generous donations: endowed scholarships and pass-through scholarships

An endowed scholarship can be created with an outright donation or established as: a pledge over a five-year period; a bequest; or, through a number of planned giving vehicles. Donors can specify criteria for the selection of student recipients (subject to certain policies), such as choosing potential recipients by region, amount of financial need, area of study, or student lifestyle (regimental or traditional). The minimum amount necessary to establish an endowed scholarship at MMA is \$15,000, however many endowed scholarship funds are larger. MMA has a total of 138 endowed scholarships for a student body of approximately 975. Sixty-six percent of MMA endowed scholarships have been funded by alumni, and 21 represent alumni class year scholarships. In fiscal year 2015, the Academy authorized \$625,000 in endowed scholarships for student aid. Merit-based Scholarships, such as the Presidential Achievements Scholar Award and the Dean's Scholar



## The First Endowed Scholarship

The Mary Louise Curtis Bok Scholarship Fund was established in 1970 with a gift from the Mary Louise Curtis Bok Foundation, and was acknowledged by Superintendent E. A. Rodgers, Rear Admiral, in his letter of thanks, which started with, "I am elated over the \$100,000 endowment which has been established, through your good influence, to provide financial aid to needy students attending our Academy..."

Award, are funded through the Academy's budget, and totaled \$466,467 in FY 2015. Approximately 35% of enrolled students are receiving MMA endowed or merit-based scholarships.

Pass-through scholarships are defined as gifts which pass from the donor (or their trust instrument) to MMA's development office, to the financial aid office where the selection process takes place on an annual basis. The donor names the scholarship and establishes selection criteria (again, subject to certain policies), just like an endowed scholarship, however, contributions to the fund are awarded in the same year in which they are received. MMA had a total of 23 pass-through scholarships in fiscal year 2015, which yielded \$230,150 that the Academy awarded to qualified students.

Other sources of financial aid include various types of loans and grants: federal, state, and private, and the national system of Pell Grants. Naturally, loans must be repaid after graduation. The Class of 2014 average indebtedness was \$40,909 for undergraduates who received their baccalaureate degrees. Despite that burden, Maine Maritime Academy students show that they are prepared to pay down their loans after graduation. MMA graduates default on their loans at a significantly lower percentage rate than the national average: 5.1 % compared to the national average default percentage rate of 13.7 (FY 2011, 3-year cohort). We attribute that good news to the fact that graduates are consistently placed into jobs within their career fields within about 90 days of graduation, and many of those jobs are well-paying positions from the start. So, while the outcome part of the equation is working well; it's affording the costs up front and during the following 4 years that is daunting for students just entering college.

The scholarship program at MMA is young: the first endowed scholarship was established in 1970 through a gift from the Mary Louise Curtis Bok Foundation to fund the Mary Louise Curtis Bok Scholarship Fund. In 45 years, the program has grown, and continues to expand, thanks to the largesse of MMA's graduates who want to make sure that others have the chance to obtain their higher education at the Academy. Their foresight and their belief in the value of a Maine Maritime education have sent the message to undergraduates that they are worth the investment.

*Editor's Note: we apologize if we have left your name out of any list, or if your name has been listed incorrectly. Please notify the development office if we need to update our records: 207-326-2223.*

### The total number of active pass-through scholarships varies from year to year. The following Maine Maritime Academy Pass-Through Scholarships were awarded in the 2014- 2015 academic year with gratitude:

ABS (American Bureau of Shipping) Scholarship Program  
Association of Ship Brokers & Agents (ASBA) Scholarship  
Bechtel Group Foundation PET Scholarship  
Boston Marine Society Scholarship  
Managers of the Boston Port & Seamen's Aid Society Scholarship  
Maine Maritime Academy Alumni Association Scholarship  
Maine Maritime Academy Casco Bay Chapter Scholarship  
Maine Maritime Academy Penobscot Bay Chapter Scholarship  
MMA Alumni Association Seacoast Chapter Scholarship  
Robert E. Cort '53 Regimental Scholarship  
Thomas B. Crowley, Sr. Memorial Scholarship (Crowley Maritime Corporation)  
CSL International Inc. Scholarship (Canada Steamship Lines)  
Ernold Goodwin Deering & Portland High School Scholarship  
Houston Pilots (Anchor Watch) Scholarship  
MEBA (Marine Engineers Beneficial Association) Scholarship  
Northeast Paper Industry Management Association (PIMA) Scholarship  
Portland Marine Society Scholarship  
Portsmouth Propeller Club Scholarship  
Salem Marine Society Scholarship  
Searsport/Bucksport Propeller Club  
SNAME Scholarship  
Tug Valour Memorial Scholarship  
Woman's Seamen's Friend Society of Connecticut, Inc. Scholarship

### The following Maine Maritime Academy Endowed Scholarships have been established with gratitude:

Scott Everett Adams Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Harold Alfond Engineering Scholarship Fund\*  
Maurice D. Alpert Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Margaret G. Ames Scholarship Fund  
Ned Andrews Chapter Scholarship Fund  
Bennett/Hodgkins Fund  
Bingham Endowed Scholarship Fund  
Mary Louise Curtis Bok Scholarship Fund  
Travis J. Bourgoin '02 Endowed Scholarship Fund  
Richard E. Brennan Scholarship Fund  
Leslie Brokaw Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Wilbur A. Brown Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Vice Admiral C. F. Bryant Scholarship Fund  
James Delaney Buffett, Jr. Regimental Scholarship Fund

Bulger Family Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Captain William L. Bullard Scholarship Fund  
Commander William C. Bullock, Sr. Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Edward E. Bulmer Scholarship Fund  
Gertrude E. & Frances P. Cameron Scholarship Fund  
Casco Bay Chapter Scholarship Fund  
Barbara A. Cassidy Scholarship Fund for Women  
Captain Christopher G. Christakos Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Carl E. Cianchette Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1944 Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1945 Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1946 Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1947 Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1949 Memorial Scholarship Fund

Class of 1950 Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1951 Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1952 Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1954 Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1956 Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1957 Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1961 Endowed Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1962 Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1964 Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1967 Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1971 Endowed Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1977 Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1980 Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1985 Regimental Scholarship Fund

## Maine Maritime Academy Endowed Scholarships (cont.)

Class of 1986 Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Class of 1993 Regimental Scholarship Fund  
David K. Coffin Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Captain Edward E. Conrad Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Captain Edward E. Conrad, Fleur de Lys Scholarship Fund  
Ellen Corning Long Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Mark Crowley Scholarship Fund  
Kenneth M. Curtis Scholarship Fund  
W. Keith Davis Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Dead River Company Scholarship Fund  
Jack Dempsey Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Development Fund  
Downeast Chapter Scholarship Fund  
Exceptional Work Ethic Scholarship Fund  
Exxon Employees Scholarship Fund  
E. J. Farr Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Fetteroll Scholarship Fund  
Financial Aid Fund  
Howard B. Finley Scholarship Fund  
May P. Fogg Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Walter & Josephine Ford Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Friends of Maine Maritime Academy Scholarship Fund  
Full Family Scholarship Fund  
J.C. Gaudet '61 Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Harry R. Geer - Ruth Sheridan Geer Tinges Scholarship Fund  
John & Debbie Gillis Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Arthur J. Gonya Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Frederick J. Grondin, Sr. Regimental Scholarship Fund\*  
Michael W.B. Hayward Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Captain Hance E. Heather Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Alvin H. Hurd and Alvin Hurd McNeilly Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Hutchins PET Scholarship Fund  
Irving Oil Corporation Scholarship Fund  
Irving Oil Corp./Curtis Scholarship

Drs. Joan & Arthur Kelly Scholarship Fund  
Kristopher D. Kirk Scholarship Fund  
Harry O. Kline III Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Knights of Pythias Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Todd L. Kratz Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Casey S. LaJeunesse Memorial Scholarship Fund  
William S. Lamond Endowed Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Adora M. Leach Scholarship Fund  
The Joseph L. l'Italien '52 Scholarship Fund  
Peter P. Lombard Scholarship Fund  
Maine Student Endowment Fund  
Perry and Pearl Mattson Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Brian Maxcy Memorial Scholarship Fund  
McCain Foods Corporation Scholarship Fund  
Kathleen M. McColgan Scholarship Fund  
Matthew M. McCormick Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Angus and Agnes McIntyre Scholarship Fund  
Captain Linwood F. McLain Scholarship Fund  
Alvin H. Miller Endowed Scholarship Fund  
Maine Maritime Academy Alumni Scholarship Fund  
Maine Maritime Academy Alumni Association Scholarship Fund  
MMA General Scholarship Fund  
Maine Maritime Academy Women's Club Scholarship Fund  
Aaron J. Moore Scholarship Fund  
Carl T. Newberg, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Eric B. Norton Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Amy Autumn O'Boyle Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Joseph H. O'Donnell Scholarship Fund  
Richard D. O'Leary Scholarship Fund  
Bernard Osher Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Gregory Payne Memorial Scholarship Fund  
John Platz, Esq. Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Tim & Faye Plummer Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Regimental Scholarship Fund

William C. Rocha Scholarship Fund  
Lawrence M. Roulstone Scholarship Fund  
Dr. Robert F. Russell Scholarship Fund  
Myron D. Rust Memorial Scholarship Fund  
John V. Sawyer II Scholarship Fund  
William A. & Nancy S. Sawyer Scholarship Fund  
William & Annette Schieffelin Fund  
Henry Scheel Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Sea Boats (Donald V. Church) Regimental Scholarship Fund  
J. Scott Searway Endowed Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Joseph Sewall Endowed Scholarship Fund  
E. Silva and E. Silva Endowed Scholarship Fund  
Captain Granville I. Smith Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Robert Somerville Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Capt. Robert M. Spear Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Nathan Stewart Memorial Scholarship Fund\*  
Student Aid Endowment Fund  
Phyllis Tenney/APO Scholarship Fund  
Francis J. Tepedino Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Trustee Scholarship for Diversity Fund\*  
Union Trust Company Scholarship Fund  
William H. Vance Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Captain Nicholas L. Viola Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Robert S. Walker Regimental Scholarship Fund  
Stephen Gordon Ward Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Terrence Michael Weiss Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Frank H. White, Jr. Endowed Scholarship Fund  
J. Hollis Wyman Scholarship Fund

\* new in 2015

### YOU'RE INVITED!

Anyone can join the growing family of donors to the educational future of Maine Maritime Academy students. It is actually quite simple to establish an endowed scholarship fund at MMA. The Development Office works with potential donors to draft a resolution stating the purpose and restrictions governing each fund. Once a scholarship is fully endowed, the Board of Trustees adopts the resolution and the financial aid office oversees the selection and award procedures. Although the Scholarship Fund Resolution form is standardized, the donor is welcome to apply restrictions such as a preference that scholarship aid be given to a student from a particular location, the Regiment, or a specific department.

A college education would not be possible for many of our students without the financial assistance of alumni and friends of the Academy. Our hope is always that those who receive scholarship aid will one day return the favor and help other Mariners graduate and establish their careers.

We encourage our alumni and friends to become a part of the dynamic group of MMA donors. Contact the Development Office at **207-326-2223** to discuss how you can help.



**Paying It  
FORWARD:**

**Scholarships at MMA**

Photos by K Weisard.



May, 2015

Spring was late in coming to Castine but the annual preparations for the training cruise did not miss a beat. In a unique fashion, we have prepared two sets of "Ship Rates" since the Second Class will be split between the two halves of cruise, now known as Cruise A and Cruise B. The training opportunities have multiplied and as we embarked on the first month of Cruise A, it appears that the Midshipmen have rallied to the challenge. It is always astounding to see the number of alumni who are a part of making this training evolution a success. This year we have 15 alumni counted in the crew and staff on the training ship. While that is impressive, we are always looking for more. In fact, we currently have three open positions for full-time crew.

The academic year wrapped up with the Regimental Awards Banquet taking time to recognize those Midshipmen who have gone above and beyond. This was our second consecutive year of unveiling a new award for Midshipmen that ties a financial award to professional excellence. The new award is sponsored by the Amendola Family (Class of 86 and 2015) and ARTEC Machine Systems. The Regimental Alumni Development Award is awarded to the Midshipman who exemplifies diligence in the Marine Engineering Program and provides for one student per year to attend annual reduction gear maintenance and repair conferences with all expenses paid. For its inaugural presentation, two students were selected to attend the conference in Montreal this past April.

As we look toward the coming academic year, I am looking for industry professionals who are interested in participating as members of a regimental advisory board or those who are interested in presenting an up-to-date view of the maritime industry and workforce. I started the series with **Eric Smith '88** from OSG and **Alex Mitchell '11** with Chervron. Please consider coming back to Castine and sharing your knowledge with tomorrow's Mariners.

Until next time Shipmates,

Capt. Nate Gandy '92

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**1955**

**Don Merchant '55** has photos he and a friend took of Rockland Harbor, Maine when they were 12 years old on display in an exhibit in the new gallery at the Rockland Library. The photos reside permanently in the Penobscot Marine Museum in Searsport, Maine but the exhibit entitled "Kids, Cameras, and Postwar Waterfronts" is sponsored by the Rockland Historical Society. Don was a marine engineer for Isthmian Lines and the Maine State Ferry system until he established Merchant's Landing on Spruce Head Island.

**1957**

**Wayne Wardwell '57** of Vero Beach, Florida, saw the article "MMA Burn Crew" on page 17 of the Mariner 2015-1 issue, which stimulated him to recall some of his childhood. He wrote, "The copy added a personal touch for me. The house the "fire bugs" [Castine Fire Department members] were practicing on was the ancestral home of my great grandfather Albert Hutchins who lived there with my great grandmother, Annie, in the 1800s. Their offspring lived there into the 1970s or so. Albert Hutchins owned and operated a general store across the road."

**1962, 1971, 1999, 2007, 2008**



Photo courtesy of A Peacock.

MMA represented at the Womble-Peacock wedding: (Top, L-R) Capt. **Murray Gray '62**, Capt. **Andrew Johnson '99**, Ansley's

father - Capt. **Robert Peacock '71**; (Bottom, L-R) Caroline Hudson, Nutting Memorial Library Assistant, **Robert Womble '08**, **Ansley Peacock Womble '07**, and Sarah Hudson, MMA professor emeritus.

**1962, 1982, 2001**



Rear Admiral Thomas K. Shannon '82 with Capt. Ronald Perry '01. Photo by R Pouch.

**Thomas K. Shannon '82** was the guest of honor at the Marine Society of the City of New York's 245th annual dinner on April 13, 2015. Tom, who is a rear admiral - upper level, is presently Commander of Military Sealift Command. In his career so far he has served afloat aboard 5 different naval vessels, has taught naval science at the university of Texas at Austin, been section head of two different naval branches, executive assistant to the director of Surface Warfare, Pacific Command division chief in the Joint Staff, and U.S. Pacific Fleet deputy chief of staff for operations, training, and readiness. Capt. **Ronald Perry '01** of the United New Jersey Sandy Hook Pilots Benevolent Association and Capt. **Robert H. Pouch '62**, a member of the Society's Standing Committee, also attended the dinner.

**1977, 1981, 1990, 2003**

Picture (to right) of MMA alumni aboard Maersk Iowa. (L-R) **Todd Watts '81** - Chief Engineer, **Stuart Hanna '03** - 3rd Engineer, **Kevin Clancy '90** - 1st Engineer, **Stephen Fuccillo '77** - 3rd Mate, and Capt. **Robert Bowden '77**.

**1984**

**David Gelinias '84**, Penobscot Bay and River Pilot, went to Washington, D.C. in February 2015, to testify before Congress in support of continued funding for the Integrated Ocean Observing System buoys, especially those buoys located in the Gulf of Maine. The Penobscot Bay and River pilots have been receiving real-time weather and environmental information from the buoys allowing them to make better-informed decisions about meeting incoming ships and getting them safely into port. Gelinias and another pilot were filmed piloting ships on the Bay in the summer of 2014 so that the film could be used for informational and educational purposes in the run-up to the hearings.

**1990**



Photo by R Wyman.

**Lance Burton '90**, engineering professor at MMA, and his wife, Lisa, strike a glamorous pose at a spring ball.

**1985**



Photo courtesy of J Proulx.

**Jim Proulx '85**, President of the MMA Alumni Association, and William J. Brennan, President of MMA, attended the Marine Society of Boston's 279th annual gala in the spring of 2015 wearing their finest.

**1997**

**Allen Mathieson '97** was recently going through his grandfather's (Capt. George H. Jennings) archive of journal entries. Among the many Allen discovered was a fascinating one about the "Unconventional Individuality of the Bay of Fundy." A few excerpts follow.

*The Bay of Fundy with Minus Basin at its eastern end, the tides rise and fall 54 feet...The emptying out of Minus Basin (53 miles long and 17 miles wide), puts a tremendous flush into the upper end of the Bay of Fundy. Also, the powerful bore tide of Chignecto Bay, which forms the northerly branch of the upper bay, empties itself on the same ebbing time. The remaining variable in the region of the Bay of Fundy is its magnetic disturbance. These [characteristics] are not uncommon throughout the world but it can be a frightening first experience for a young, new captain. The three closest calls that I experienced in my five years of towing on the Bay of Fundy all occurred on homeward bound voyages.*

*The first I had at 1:00 a.m., when we pulled the old Blanch Sheridan off her mattress at Walton, Nova Scotia and headed down Minus*



Photo courtesy of B Bowden.

Basin toward Cape Split. The *Blanche* had been a shapely, 6000-ton coast-wise freighter, but in her declining years had been converted to a very handy, if somewhat large, bulk barge for the gypsum trade.

By 0245 on this particular morning, I had put out 1000 feet of our eight-inch hawser. By 0300, we were in the influence of the fast-flowing ebb, and it was apparent our speed had picked up significantly. I estimated we were doing a good 10 knots and within a few minutes, when we reached the axis of the current, our speed over the bottom would be about 17 knots – 14 knots of current and three knots for the tug and tow. We would be in the full strength of Cape Split's current. Only my helmsman and I were in the wheelhouse, as I had sent my other AB aft to check on our hawser board, a heavy oak plank with longitudinal strips between in which our eight-inch diameter hawser was cradled. I had dropped the starboard window and was peering into the dark water below that was now reaching the height of its performance – twisting, boiling, and clutching our hull so that its strength could actually be felt in setting the tug sideways in one motion, only to shove it in the opposite direction moments later.

Willy, the young man at the helm, broke the silence. "Capt'n, this wheel is turning awful hard. I think something's wrong."

"Let me take the wheel, Willy." He was right- something was wrong. It took real strength to turn the wheel, just as though there was a brake on it. I cranked the wheel so that the rudder indicator showed the wheel amidships along with the rudder.

We were now faced with several possible serious dangers. I was mentally reviewing these ominous possibilities while pressing the general alarm red button. About the same time, I called the engine room to tell old Charlie Gray that our electric steering had frozen and

we were in the middle of the Split without steering!

I then called Captain Bradley on the *Blanche* who was probably the dean of Atlantic coast barge captains, and I knew he didn't need me to tell him not to hit us if he could help it...

## 1997, 2000, 2003, 2008

Jesse McIntire '03 reports that he ran into Ben Hart '08 on a flight from Narita Airport, Tokyo to Newark Airport, New Jersey. He also saw Zeke Davis '00 who works for ABS in Korea. Finally, his relief engineer is Jon Nichols '97 from Hancock, Maine.

## 2007, 2008



Ansley Peacock '07 and Robert Womble '08 on their wedding day in Lubec, Maine. Photo courtesy of A Peacock.

Robert Womble '08 and Ansley Jean Peacock '07 got married this past summer at her grandmother's home in Lubec, Maine. It was a beautiful day in every sense of the word. Robert sails as a 2nd Mate with MEBA. Ansley tends the home front as a full time step-mother to their 13-year-old daughter, Amanda.

## 2010

Andrew Blackman '10 entered Bath Iron Works' (BIW) newest Engineering Development Program in January 2015 and has completed his first rotation. He first worked at BIW as a 2009 summer intern and returned in 2010 with his MMA systems engineer degree in hand. He "plans to use his latest training

to expand his knowledge of the manufacturing side of the business." (D. Stedman, BIW News, Feb. 2015)



Photo by A Davis.

Cargo mate Bryan Stoots '10 and second mate Alex Farrell '10 look pretty happy (photo above) aboard USNS John Lenthall T-AO 189 in Souda Bay, off the coast of Greece in April 2015.

## 2014

Jennifer Dixon '14 spent a year teaching in an inner-city high school in Baltimore, Maryland and studying for her master's degree. She received her MS on Memorial Day weekend in 2015. Jenn will continue teaching and pick up JV volleyball coaching on the high school level.

## 2015

Andrew Pulk '15 is now a field engineer for Strategic Maintenance Solutions, a global leader in engineering, operations and maintenance in aerospace, facilities management, oil and gas operations, and other fields.

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## Casco Bay Chapter

Casco Bay Chapter sent a letter to President William Brennan thanking the Academy and Small Craft Master Derek Chase for the donation of a 14' sailing skiff. Here is the letter:

Dear President Brennan,

Each year for the past 28 years, our chapter has held a marine flea market at the Maine Boat Builders show in Portland. The purpose of the flea market is to sell items donated by boatyards and individuals throughout the region and raise money for our chapter's scholarship fund for students at Maine Maritime Academy.

On behalf of the Casco Bay Chapter of the Maine Maritime Alumni Association, I wanted to take a moment to thank the Academy for the very generous donation of a 14' sailing skiff built by MMA students. Furthermore, we would like to formally recognize Waterfront Manager Dana Willis for helping us make arrangements to acquire the vessel as well as to thank small craft master Derek Chase for making the delivery to us from Castine. It was a very generous commitment of their time, and their efforts were greatly appreciated.

Again, please accept our gratitude for your generosity and pass on our special thanks to Dana and Derek.

**Troy Malbon '89**  
Casco Bay Chapter

## Delaware Valley ("Philly") Chapter

Capt. **John Gazzola '82** has generously agreed to step up as President of the Delaware Valley MMA Chapter effective June 1. Capt. **Tim O'Connor '78** will step down from the president's role to assist John in the vice president's position.

Through John's steady enthusiasm and leadership, we are planning to get our local Philly area alums together and regenerate some good MMA spirit here in the Delaware Valley region.

Though we have a number of email addresses for our alumni in this region, you are encouraged to get that information to John and Tim to ensure that you obtain the most recent news and notices of planned events.

John can be reached at: 215-339-1028 x331 (Work) or [jgazzola@northeastship.com](mailto:jgazzola@northeastship.com).

Tim can be reached at: 610-617-6918 (Work) or [toconnor@keyship.com](mailto:toconnor@keyship.com).

Capt. John Gazzola, President  
Director of Marine Sales  
Northeast Ship Repair  
Office: 215-339-1026 Ext. 331

Capt. Tim O'Connor, Vice President  
Fleet Safety & Quality Assurance Officer  
Keystone Shipping Co.  
Office: 610-617-6918

## The Ned Andrews Chapter

The Ned Andrews Chapter held their second meeting of the 2014/2015-winter season.


Our guest speaker was Bud Warren, a veteran of BIW and a local historian who specializes in the study of the Kennebec River, its industries, and its people. His theme for the evening was a personal history of BIW, including information about his father and grandfather. We also invited Steve Karnacki, who is a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary of Boothbay Harbor. Steve was looking for volunteers for the Auxiliary. If interested, contact Steve at [sjk-99@comcast.net](mailto:sjk-99@comcast.net) or at (207) 232-2636. For future events, contact me:

**Al Leeman '92** – [al.leeman@biw.com](mailto:al.leeman@biw.com).

## Connecticut Rhode Island Chapter



(L-R) Shawn Coulter '07, Rich Slack '93, Chuck Jadamec '05, Griffin Day '15, Rodney Pinkham '88, Steve Gumpel '75, Jon Carr '87, Mark Sugar '80, and Kevin Green '84. Photo courtesy of R Slack.



Seacoast  
Chapter



Seacoast Chapter's May function. Photos by Mary Koenig Godfrey Photography.

save the date

M | M | A

**HOMECOMING**  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

'15

## MMA Alumni Association Chapters

### Bangor Sea Dogs

Joe Connors '86  
223 Essex Street  
Bangor, ME 04401  
207-990-8969  
jmconnorslaw@netzero.com

### Bay State

Samuel Rowe '65  
195 Glen Eagle Drive  
Mashpee, MA 02649  
508-539-2395  
skidrowe42@verizon.net

### Casco Bay

Troy Malbon '89  
69 Anthony Avenue  
Topsham, ME 04086  
207-522-9257  
troy.malbon@ubs.com

### Connecticut

Rich Slack '93  
32 Joy Lane  
Uncasville, CT 06382  
860-861-1762  
rslack@gdeb.com

### Delaware Valley

Capt. John Gazzola '82  
543 West Centre Street  
Woodbury, NJ 08096  
captaingazzola@gmail.com  
215-413-8631

### Florida

David Knapp, '86  
5008 Longfellow Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33629  
813-228-4554  
drknapp@tecoenergy.com

### Kennebec Valley

Jon Fortier '86  
5 West Baker Street  
Winslow, ME 04901  
207-649-2724  
jon.fortier@gmail.com

### Ned Andrews

Alton Leeman III '92  
12 Steamboat Road  
Bailey Island, ME 04003  
al.leeman@biw.com

### Northern California

Michael Chambers '80  
2233 21st Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94116-1704  
mcham31153@aol.com

### Penobscot Bay

John Metcalfe '64  
405 Town Hill Road  
Appleton, ME 04862  
207-785-4531  
metcalfe@tidewater.net

### Puget Sound

Peter Vander Hoek '04  
1503A Lake Washington Blvd  
Seattle, WA 98122  
pvhoek04@yahoo.com

### Seacoast

Mike Grigware '87  
30 Ridgeview Drive  
Biddeford, ME 04005  
207-284-8630  
mikegrigware@gmail.com

### Southeast

Norman Laskay '62  
402 Mariners Island  
Mandeville, LA 70448  
504-674-7530  
nlaskay@portlite.com

### Southern California

Capt. Ralph Staples '71  
7312 Arroyo Grande Road  
San Diego, CA 92129  
619-733-1942  
rstaples@epsilonsystems.com

### Texas

Capt. Scott Futcher '87  
22136 Westheimer Road, Box 407  
Katy, TX 77450-8296  
281-394-7080  
henlopen87@gmail.com

### Tidewater

John M. "Chip" Callan '88  
1600 River Rock Reach  
Chesapeake, VA 23321  
757-673-6157  
john.callan.ctr@navy.mil

### Washington, DC

Todd LaPointe '87  
2002 E Baltimore Street  
Baltimore, MD 21231  
tnlapointe@gmail.com

## Lawrence R. Beal '65

died in Florida on November 11, 2014. He shipped for several years before accepting engineering positions over the years at Stone & Webster in Boston, Hawaiian Electric in Honolulu, Steamco in Jacksonville, Florida, and Siemens Energy in Orlando, Florida. His hobbies included golf, tennis, and manicuring his property to the highest standard. Lawrence retired in 2014.

## David J. Billings '60

died February 21, 2014 in Maine. He spent 25 years in the U.S. Navy and rose to the rank of Lieutenant Commander. He returned to Kennebunkport where he was harbor master and pier manager for 16 years. David was also a commercial fisherman for 8 years and an active Mason.

## John A. Bouchard '44

passed away in Maine on April 19, 2015. He served in the Merchant Marine toward the end of WWII and spent an additional 20 years in the U.S. Navy Reserve. His career as an insurance adjuster spanned his adult life. He worked predominantly for Maine Bonding and Casualty Company. John served his community as member and one-term president of the Old Town, Maine, Town Council; the Old Town Housing Council; and other civic organizations. He is remembered as a kind, gentle, patient man who loved his Franco-American heritage.

## Robert E. Canavan '47

died in Maine on June 14, 2015. He worked for U.S. Shipping Lines until his children were born. He worked ashore as a technician for New England Telephone & Telegraph for 32 years. Well-known in his neighborhood for his gardens and lawn, he devoted his retirement years to perfecting them. Robert had been a star athlete in high school and college, and followed the Boston Red Sox and New England Patriots throughout his life.

## Benjamin W. Cashen '02

died April 26, 2015 in Maine. He was dock master at Wayfarer Marine. Flags in Camden Harbor flew at half-mast in his memory. His degree in marina management allowed Ben to begin his



career immediately after graduation with Wayfarer Marine. He was well known for welcoming boaters to Camden Harbor on VHF Channel 71 and for greeting sailors from around the world. When he wasn't at work, he was still on the water "helping customers refine their boat-driving skills, rowing with members of the Camden Harbor Rowing Club," or puttering around on his Grady-White (Camden Herald, May 5, 2015). In his memory, the Benjamin Ward Cashen Memorial Scholarship has been established at MMA. Donations in Ben's name may be sent to the Benjamin Ward Cashen Memorial Scholarship, Maine Maritime Academy, Development Office, Pleasant Street, Castine, ME 04420.

## Douglas W. Curtis '47

U.S. Navy Lt. Cmdr., Ret., died March 9, 2015 in Maine. After graduating from MMA, he completed his bachelor's degree at Husson Business College in 1950. He owned, with his wife, Pauline, Curtis Food Center in Rockland, Maine for 35 years. He also owned and managed commercial real estate in Rockland. After active duty in Korea, he remained a Reservist for 23 years. He served on active duty in the Merchant Marine during the First Persian Gulf War in 1991. Curtis devoted time and energy to the American Legion (50 years), the local school board (6 years), and the Rockland Port District (40 years) among other organizations and boards. He was a member of the Maine House of Representatives from 1974 to 1975.

## Brian S. Dearborn '66

who died May 22, 2015 in Maine, "could show a gruff, no nonsense exterior that was his false front for the incredibly kind, sweet, and generous man he was" according to his family and friends. He was well known for his big smile, bear hugs, and endlessly thoughtful gestures. After he graduated from MMA in engineering, he worked for Lykes Brothers before coming ashore to work in his mother's restaurant in South Portland. He bought the Spot Shop in 1972 and turned it into Bri's Variety and Restaurant. Simultaneously, he owned the Dairy Queen next door. After retiring from ownership of these businesses, Brian became an assistant manager of a Wal-Mart store for over 10 years. He led a distinguished civic service career serving on the South Portland School Board, becoming a city council member, and rising to the position of Mayor of South Portland.

## San Juan Dunbar '60

died April 24, 2015 in Maine. From 1968 to 2006, Capt. Dunbar was a Portland Harbor Pilot and "handled over 12,000 ships in his career." (Bangor Daily News, Apr 25, 2015) Throughout his career, he was active in the Portland Propeller Club and served as president. In fact, he joined the Student Port when he was still an undergraduate at MMA. He represented the Propeller Club internationally and was president of the International Propeller Club at the time of his death. San Juan was past president of the Portland Marine Society and a trustee of the American Pilots Association. From 1976 to 2001, he was also the owner/partner of Singapore Air Cargo. Along with others, he was instrumental in bringing more cruise ships to Portland.

## Alfred C. Frawley, Jr. '46

died April 30, 2015 in Maine. After his graduation from MMA, he served in the Merchant Marine and later was graduated from Fordham University College of Pharmacy. During his lifetime, he belonged to, or was an officer of, over 8 organizations including the Bangor Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Business Bureau. He owned and operated Frawley Pharmacy. He was such an avid golfer that he belonged to, or played at, over 4 local golf courses. Al played for 74 consecutive years at the Penobscot Valley Country Club – surely a record for the club.



### Bennett Norton Jr. '43-2

died April 7, 2015 in Maine. He sailed aboard the Liberty Ship, The Hannibal Hamlin, for the Mystic Steamship Company and was a WWII veteran. For 33 years, he worked for Portland Pipe Line. He volunteered for many years at the Sebago Center Community Church in Sebago, Maine.

### Joseph F. Petterson '44



also known to his students as “Tiki” for his record-setting, single-handed sail from Portugal to Maine, died April 28, 2015 in Oregon. Joe taught a range of engineering subjects to hundreds of students for four years at MMA. All those who studied with him respected his easy, yet firm, manner. Several Trick’s End yearbooks were dedicated to him by the midshipmen. Prior to teaching, he served in the Merchant Marine during WWII. After his service, he pursued his passion for boats by working in shipyards, aboard a “passenger freighter”, and in a chemical plant near MMA. Eventually, he bought and developed his own successful boatyard in Riverside, Rhode Island, where he specialized in restoring wooden cruising sailboats. He was a talented singer, storyteller, and painter. With his wife, Nancy, he ran a quarter horse breeding farm, a bed and breakfast, and beach rental properties along the Oregon coast. Most of all, he devoted his life to making friends wherever he went.

### Harry M. Reid, Jr. '62

died February 21, 2014 in Maine. He was Class Commander of the Grand Class of 1962. For nine years, he was an engineer in the Merchant Marine before going to work for Bath Iron Works and rising to the position of Chief Test Engineer. In 2006, he retired. Harry spent 70 summers in his summer home on Vinalhaven Island.

### Charles R. Stevens '47

died in Maine on March 30, 2015. He served as a Merchant Marine and as a lieutenant in the Naval Reserve for 16 years. Until 1988, he was maintenance supervisor at the Old Town Paper Mill. He was active in several community and civic organizations including the Old Town Rotary Club, the Boy Scouts, and the Old Town Museum. He is remembered as an avid conservationist, yard saler, and flea marketer.

### Richard L. Vaughan Sr. '45

died in Maine on April 2, 2015. He forged many friendships and logged time in wartime service. For 40 years, he worked at Palmer Spring Company, retiring in 1987 as vice president and general manager. Known as the “fish chowder man” at the Portland Marine Society, he developed many friendships. His close friends said he was “a moral and ethical compass, a model of ingenuity and hard work, a man of heart and humor.” (Portland Press Herald, 4/12/15).

### J. Edward Whelan '44

former mayor of Saco, Maine, died June 4, 2015 in Maine. He served in the Merchant Marine during WWII. In 1948, he received his doctorate in optometry from Massachusetts College of Optometry. His practice in Biddeford kept him active in his field for 47 years. In 1984, his daughter joined the practice and they had the joy of being together for 11 years before he retired. From 1963 through 1964, Ed was the mayor of Saco, Maine.

## Family & Friends

### Helen Goodwin

pianist for many years for the MMA chorus directed by Louise Biggie, died on April 2, 2015 in Maine. She traveled with the group wherever it went. Over the years, she made many friendships with MMA graduates and remained friends throughout her life. She and her husband, Frank, always called the MMA students “their children as they never had any of their own” (Patricia James, RN for MMA for many years and close friend of Helen).

### Sayre Archie Schwarztrauber

Rear Admiral, died in New Jersey in late April. He earned his BS from Maryville College, his MA and PhD from American University. He retired from the U.S. Navy as a rear admiral in 1983. During his naval career, he commanded a missile destroyer flotilla of 250 river patrol boats in Vietnam. He was aide to the chair of the Joint Chiefs Staff, and Deputy Chief of Staff. He also was Director of the Inter-American Defense College in Madrid, Spain. Following military service, he was commissioned rear admiral, U.S. Maritime Service, and made president of Maine Maritime Academy between 1984 and 1986. He later became the editor of the Massachusetts Maritime Academy alumni magazine and also wrote the book: Three-Mile Limit of Territorial Seas.

## TIME & TIDE: THOMAS E. SMITH '69

By RICK HARDEN '69

In May 1969, 118 of us graduated from Maine Maritime Academy. Most of us had jobs waiting and were anxious to begin our careers. We didn't think much about the dangers of the job.

My classmate Tom Smith and I went to work for States Marine-Isthmian Lines as the 8-12 third assistant engineer and 12-4 third mate, respectively. One of the reasons that we chose this company was that it reportedly paid more overtime than other companies. This was particularly true for the engineers because the ships were old and required lots of overtime to keep them running.

We started our adventure in mid-June 1969 by flying to Nagasaki, Japan to join the SS STEEL KING, a C3 built in 1944. The vessel, damaged by a fire in the No. 1 cargo hold, was undergoing extensive repairs. When we arrived, the ship was not habitable because, during the firefighting efforts, the fire mains had burst, putting stagnant water in the living quarters. The engine room was in disarray with many steam lines missing or lagging, and at least one ventilation fan inoperable.

We worked for about two weeks to get the vessel ready. The quarters were made habitable, and the engine room made somewhat seaworthy. However, the engineers complained that it was extremely hot in the engine room.

Except for the No.1 cargo hold, the ship still had a full cargo of military supplies. We departed Nagasaki for Yokohama on June 23 and then, Cam Ranh Bay, Viet Nam, and Sattahip, Thailand, discharging our cargo.

We started our voyage back to the U.S. in ballast. We departed Yokohama for Seattle on 24 July. Tom called home from Yokohama to order a Corvette. He was excited about this and the fact we had survived our first visit to Viet Nam.

So far, the voyage was not trouble-free. We had a number of steering failures and lost two of our three generators, among other failures. The ambient temperatures in the engine room were 120 – 130 degrees on the operating flat with somewhat lower temperatures in the fire room. We had no operable Loran. The radar, a WWII vintage Raytheon, could only be operated for a few minutes before it overheated. During the stay in Yokohama, the two disabled generators were repaired. Clearly, the ship was tired.

27 July was just another day. The weather was nice with calm seas and 87 degrees at noontime. Tom was standing the 8-12 watch in the engine room. At 11:30, he completed switching settlers,

routinely done at this time of day. Water was encountered in the fuel (probably from the fuel we had just taken on), and fires in the boilers were extinguished. Tom secured both boilers and notified the Chief Engineer.



Photo of Thomas Smith '69 from 1969 Trick's End Yearbook.

The Chief Engineer called all the engineering personnel in order to get the plant back on line. They worked in the heat of the engine room for about an hour. The two operating generators were taken off line to conserve steam, and the emergency generator was put on line. As a result, all ventilation in the engine room shut down while still maintaining emergency lighting. The crew was able to relight one boiler and raise enough steam to power one ship's service generator. However, that generator tripped offline for unknown reasons, shutting down what ventilation there was. Additionally, the emergency generator tripped offline, leaving the engine room in the dark. At 12:30, the Chief Engineer ordered all hands out of the engine room where the temperature had risen to 140 degrees.

When the order was given to evacuate the engine room, the Chief Engineer ordered Tom to secure the steam stop valve on top of the starboard boiler and then go topside. Tom had been in the hot engine room for over five hours. While

Tom went to do this, everyone else left him alone in the dark and very hot engine room.

After five to ten minutes on deck, it was noticed that Tom had not yet come above decks. A few engineers went into the engine room and at 1300 found Tom unconscious forward of the starboard boiler on the deck plates. He had abrasions and burns on his forehead, hands, and side.

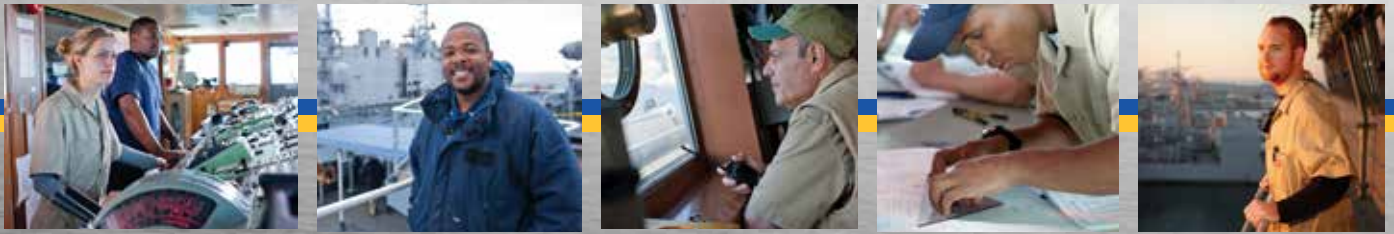
Additional crew was sent into the engine room with a litter to move Tom to the cooler shaft alley. The attending crew placed blankets over Tom initially thinking he had heat exhaustion. He was perspiring, his skin was cool to the touch, and he was having convulsions. It was not exactly clear to the crew what had happened until later when it was determined that he had fallen from the top of the boiler.

Tom was moved to the main deck where he remained unconscious, and his temperature rose to 106. Various efforts to cool Tom's temperature and control his convulsions were made throughout the afternoon without success. Radio communications were eventually made at 1520 with a doctor onboard a Coast Guard cutter. Treatments recommended by the doctor were unsuccessful. Tom passed away at 1745.

The death certificate stated that Tom died of "acute pulmonary edema due to massive sub-endocardial hemorrhage and thermal burns, all symptomatic of hyperthermia." There was no indication that injuries from the fall caused his death. His mother, Regina Smith, and his younger brother, Chester Douglas Smith, both of Bucksport, Maine, survive our classmate and friend.

Not a week has passed over the last 45 years when I have not thought of Tom and the incident that took his life too early. It is fitting that the Class of 1969 remember Tom through our new scholarship – the Tom Smith Scholarship Fund, Class of 1969, Development Office, Maine Maritime Academy, Castine, ME 04420.

*Editor's Note: Jerry Markley '69, engineering instructor at MMA, worked with Rick Harden '69 to bring this story to you. Rick left the sea but, because of the loss of his friend, was inspired to become a U.S. Coast Guard inspector. Retired now, Rick lives in Stratham, New Hampshire, where he is active with his local MMA Alumni Association. Both Jerry and Rick encourage you to support young mariners through the Class of 1969 Tom Smith Scholarship.*



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