

# MARINER

The ALUMNI MAGAZINE of MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY

— ISSUE 2 · 2024 —



## Continuing an Arctic Legacy

Schooner *Bowdoin*  
returns to the Arctic

## Training Maine's Workforce

Naval Shipyard Institute  
a resounding success

## Forever Chemicals in Phytoplankton

Ocean Studies professors  
research PFAS in the  
Penobscot Bay Region

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## Return to the Gridiron

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# Steady Sailing in a Time of Transition

MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY has a history of weathering storms and change with ease. As an institution built out of necessity during World War II, we are no stranger to leadership in times of change. Today is no different as we remain steadfastly committed to achieving the Academy's strategic goals in a year marked with opportunity and transformation. Our leadership team has set out to ensure that progress toward accomplishing our objectives is prioritized, while the quality of our students' education is not compromised.

The Academy is currently engaged in the construction of the largest infrastructure project in the institution's history: the new pier that will berth the NSMV III, T/S *State of Maine V*. Although MARAD has provided 90% of the financing for the \$90m project, the Academy has overseen the planning, permitting (local, state, and federal), design, construction, and building processes, which began in July.

I am pleased with the progress of the waterfront renovation and the team we have assembled including the engineering firm GZA, our contractors Reed & Reed, and Colliers as owners' representatives. The process of driving and rock socketing the 354 piles into the bedrock for the new pier, mooring dolphins, new east and west dock systems, and floating breakwater began in November and continues through Q3 of 2026. We recently had a successful visit by MARAD representatives who observed first-hand the extraordinary progress we have made in an astonishingly short period of time.

The new pier will drastically improve the waterfront campus infrastructure, which is among the Academy's greatest strengths, as demand for mariners continues to increase globally. It is also necessary to accommodate the \$320m NSMV III, financed by the federal government, which is expected to be finished in the summer of 2025.

The NSMV III will revolutionize the Academy's at-sea curricula, bringing the training for our mariners into the digital age to match the changes in our industry. With dedicated training spaces, a second bridge, two engine rooms, modern systems/equipment, and the capacity to accommodate more students, we are able to completely re-think our at-sea training programs. We thank Captain MacArthur, Chief Engineer Aaron Coy, and our faculty for their work preparing for the new vessel.

With an eye always toward growing our reach and evolving our business model, the Academy hosted

a successful intensive training over the summer in collaboration with Orbis, Inc. and the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard called the Naval Shipyard Institute, a program funded by the US Navy to build the capacity of their Submarine Industrial Base. Students learned welding, machining, and marine electrical from curricula developed by MMA instructors in collaboration with the Navy according to their workforce priorities. To learn more about the Naval Shipyard Institute, please see the article on page 26. Maine Maritime Academy looks forward to building on its relationships with the Navy, the Maine Defense Industry Alliance, Orbis Inc., Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Bath Iron Works, and others to address the shortage in skilled

industrial labor associated with the maritime sector.

Together with Bath Iron Works, we recently opened a 50,000 square foot building in Brunswick, Maine to support our Workforce Development Program. We currently offer associate degree programs and will add a bachelor's option by the fall of 2025. MMA is now more than ever, a state and national strategic asset in the Maritime and Department of Defense communities. As such, I remain committed to continuing

to make the case to the state that investing in the education of students at Maine Maritime Academy is in all our best interests.

This past October, I was asked to serve on the Board of the International Association of Maritime Universities (IAMU). This body is critical to the presence of the Academy on the world stage, and to advocating for the industry's strength and continued growth. Our involvement with the international community is critical to making sure that Maine Maritime Academy is delivering a curriculum that is driven by continual collaboration with the global maritime industry.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the crew of the *Bowdoin*, led by Captain Alex Peacock, on a historic return to the Arctic for the first time in 16 years. The *Bowdoin* is the flagship of the Academy's sailing fleet, and we are proud to continue her legacy of Arctic exploration.

Sincerely,

*Craig Johnson*

Craig Johnson '91

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We remain steadfastly committed to achieving the Academy's strategic goals in a year marked with opportunity and transformation.

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ALUMNI PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Vision for the Maine Maritime Academy Alumni Association: Engagement of All Alumni



THE MAINE MARITIME Academy Alumni Association (MMAAA) is steeped in tradition, and full of energy and passion with a spirit of innovation. We all matriculated through an academy that has a rich history of producing leaders, innovators, and change-makers in a wide range of fields and industries. Our true strength lies in the vibrant network of alumni who have sailed forth into diverse professions and communities. My vision for the MMAAA focuses on engagement and collaboration, ensuring that every graduate feels connected, valued, and

empowered to contribute to our collective legacy. We are Mariners! Mariners is the mascot of Maine Maritime Academy (MMA) and a job title for many of us, but here “Mariners” are the alumni of MMA. We did not have to go to sea or obtain a license through the Coast Guard to be a Mariner, although many of us did. The only requirement to be a member of the Maine Maritime Academy Alumni Association is to graduate from Maine Maritime Academy, so we are all Mariners!

At its core, our alumni association is more than just an organization; it is a unique network. We are bound by shared experiences, values, and a commitment to excellence. The MMAAA is committed to connecting with students on campus before they join as alumni. We look forward to building relationships, listening, and better engaging with all groups of alumni, including the most recent to leave Castine. To this end, we were thrilled to have over 100 MMA seniors, the largest turnout ever, join us Thursday before Homecoming at a BBQ hosted by the Advancement Office. The journey doesn’t end at graduation; it’s just the beginning!

Engaging all alumni is crucial, as each member brings unique perspectives and skills that can enrich our association and the academy that connects us. Engagement may take many forms. The MMAAA looks forward to building upon our engagement events like Homecoming, Chapter meetings, golf tournaments, ship visits, and the Senior Banquet with new events that may appeal to a wider group of Mariners and Mariners who have not felt as connected to the MMAAA as others.

We have a strong history of connection, comradery, and support for all alumni. By embracing the diversity of our Mariners, boosting engagement, and encouraging collaboration, we can strengthen our thriving network and empower every member to contribute to the ongoing legacy of our academy. Let’s embark on this exciting journey together, ensuring that every Mariner feels valued and connected!

I would also like to personally thank my predecessor, Bill Full, for his dedication, tireless energy, and passion for our cause.

Sincerely yours,  
*Andrew Strosahl*  
Andrew Strosahl

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# Campus Currents

## CONSTRUCTION

### NSMV and Pier Construction Update



IN LATE SEPTEMBER, Massachusetts Maritime Academy took possession of NSMV II *Patriot State* meaning NSMV III, The State of Maine V will be the next delivered from Philly Shipyard. The Academy expects her the summer of 2025. The State of Maine V will be owned by MARAD and operated by Maine Maritime Academy. Berthing the new ship will require upgrading and renovating the waterfront and pier, the construction of which is underway and progressing well. 90% of the over \$90 million pier upgrade project is being funded by the Federal Government via MARAD.

Describing the NSMV 3, STATE OF MAINE Captain Gordon MacArthur '00 indicated that the new vessel “will be the first ever purpose-built training ship in our storied history. With thoughtfully laid out lab and classroom spaces, a completely operational second ‘training’ bridge, multiple engine rooms and auxiliary machine rooms, and space for up to 600 cadets, this modern ship should revolutionize how we conduct our at-sea training. Many of the things we currently do in the classroom could be done aboard instead. We are moving to change our at-sea curricula to take advantage of these new opportunities. I am looking forward to our 2026 sea-term when the first group of MMA midshipmen will board *State of Maine V* for their experience aboard. Stay tuned!”

The waterfront renovation is being executed by Maine-based firm Reed & Reed and renovations are expected to be completed February 2026.

## LEADERSHIP

### Presidential Search Update

THE SEARCH FOR Maine Maritime Academy’s 16th President formally commenced on October 2, 2024. In a message to the community and on the Academy’s website, S. Catherine Longley, Trustee and Chair of the Presidential Search Committee said, “The Maine Maritime Academy Board of Trustees has appointed a wonderful search committee composed of alumni, student, faculty and staff representatives and a diverse group of trustees, including the board chair, Wayne Norton. We take our role very seriously and will work diligently to recommend the best candidate for the presidential role at Maine Maritime Academy. Our deliberations are confidential; however, we welcome any comments or insights you may have during this important search.”

In late 2024 and early 2025 we will begin interviews following months of recruitment and look forward to making an announcement to the community in the spring of 2025. More information regarding the process can be found on the MMA website.



### TRAINING

# New MMA Fire Training Facility

THE ACADEMY'S state-of-the-art fire training building is now in use as a key element of the Academy's fire training program. Located on the Bucksport campus, the building has been used for live fire training for undergraduate students, professional firefighters, and as a part of the Center for Professional Mariner Development (CPMD) USCG Recertification and USCG Revalidation. These courses will be offered regularly, and we invite industry professionals to train with us to meet their licensing requirements to maintain their credentials.

The fire training program is being run by Lisa Burton, who joined the Academy in 2010, and oversees training for both MMA undergraduates as well as industry professionals through the Center for Professional Mariner Development. With 14 years of experience in fire service safety, training and public speaking, Burton is a longtime advocate for firefighter safety.

Burton serves as a Captain with Castine Fire Rescue Department in Castine, Maine, and currently volunteers as the Everyone Goes Home Advocate Region 1 Advocate Manager for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. In that role, Burton oversees the New England Region volunteer trainers who

deliver programs to develop instructors to support NFFF's Everyone Goes Home programs.

In addition to USCG fire training, MMA intends to expand fire training options to address the needs of land-based firefighters. While there are many training options available, the initial focus will be training land-based firefighters who respond to vessel fires, a natural extension of the training currently offered.

The fire training facility designed by Fire Facilities provides fire training in a cutting-edge, multi-story building designed by Fire Facilities, and offers propane and class A fire training options. Gas fire props, created by Symtec, offer simulators for galley, stateroom, engine, and flange fires. A full building smoke distribution system enhances fire training. Designed with the idea of incorporating training for land-based firefighters, additional training options for the new building include ladder/roof/aerial training, search and rescue, rappelling, forceable entry, confined space, hydrant/pump operations, as well as law enforcement training exercises.

After three MMA deck officers completed their firefighting revalidation course at Maine Maritime Academy's



CPMD, TS STATE OF MAINE Captain Gordon MacArthur '00 said that the "new fire training facility at CPMD is excellent and the staff was knowledgeable and professional; the facility is going to be a huge asset to MMA going forward and will put us on the map as a state-of-the-art training facility."

To learn more about MMA Fire Training please contact Lisa Burton, Manager of Fire Training ([lisa.burton@mma.edu](mailto:lisa.burton@mma.edu)).

## AWARDS & RECOGNITION

# Kingsbury Receives Second Fulbright Award

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR of Arts and Sciences Dr. Aaron Kingsbury recently completed the prestigious Fulbright Specialist fellowship at the University of Atma Jaya Yogyakarta in Indonesia. The collaboration extended a rapidly developing personal and professional relationship between Dr. Kingsbury and his Indonesian hosts.

Dr. Kingsbury's fellowship sought to develop the interdisciplinary teaching and research skills of scholars at his host university. While in Indonesia, he conducted a series of workshops including Drones and Open-Source Photogrammetry for Engineering, Designing an Experiential Educational-Based Curriculum, Drones in the Social Sciences (Theory and Practice for Research), and Innovative and Ecological Approaches to Social Change in Japanese Farming (with Implications for Indonesia). One highlight was a multiple-day series of practical exercises in drone mapping on an active construction site.

Dr. Kingsbury also joined with host Indonesian faculty for regular trips to the surrounding countryside to visit female farming cooperatives. Future research collaborations are planned.

Dr. Kingsbury has been teaching at MMA since 2018. His research interests include cultural and environmental geographies; sustainability in agriculture; geospatial technologies; and low-altitude remote sensing using drones and kites. He serves as a research advisor for the Agriculture and Forestry Research & Development Center for Mountainous Regions in Vietnam and has been involved in agricultural and development research across Asia-Pacific for over twenty years. Dr. Kingsbury was also a US Fulbright Scholar in Vietnam in 2021-2022. He is a student in the Small Vessel Operations program at MMA.



## CALL TO SERVICE

# NROTC Executive Officer's Corner

BY CDR MICHAEL SHORT, USN

IT HAS BEEN an honor and labor of love to develop, foster, and train tomorrow's future. Not just Maine Maritime Academy's, but the United States Navy's. President John F. Kennedy, on Jan. 20, 1961, during his inaugural address to the nation uttered these historic words: "Ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country." Mariners have been answering the call to serve our great nation since the first graduating class in 1943 when 300 officers answered the call to serve at sea during World War II. Three gave their lives in service to the nation, and many others were wounded in action.

The NROTC unit at Maine Maritime Academy was established in 1972 and has been commissioning some of the finest active and reservist officers since. Today, the MMA NROTC Company is 71 Midshipmen strong.

Strategic Sealift Midshipmen cover the bulk of the Unit with 40. Student Incentive Pay (SIP) has recently increased and that has piqued interest in the program. Most may remember this being the Merchant Marine Reserve Program. The Strategic Sealift Officer Program supports national defense sealift requirements and capabilities, which are executed by Military Sealift Command (MSC). The program provides the Navy with officers that possess sealift, maritime operations, and logistics subject matter expertise, and further hold U.S. Coast Guard credentials as merchant marine officers. The Unit is tasked with administrative support and providing the mentorship and coursework needed to commission these Officers in the Naval Reserve. We have been lucky to have a Strategic Sealift Officer (SSO) on staff as a Liaison between the Navy and MMA. Our SSO supports TSSOM during the training cruises and is our only staff officer, on shore duty, that sets sail.

MMA has 19 NROTC scholarship students: 4-year national Navy scholarships, 4-year



Continued on page 11

### LEADERSHIP

## Seth Brown '98 Named Director of Advancement & Alumni Relations

THE ADVANCEMENT OFFICE is pleased to announce Seth Brown '98 was named the Director of Advancement & Alumni Relations at Maine Maritime Academy. Brown, who received his BS in Marina/Boatyard Management, is well-known and respected throughout the MMA community. He is an alum, passionate MMA volunteer, former women's soccer coach and most recently Advancement Office and Major Gifts Officer. In this newly created position, he will be responsible for the planning and execution of Alumni Relations, coordination with the Alumni Association, and helping create a greater link in stewardship and strategy between the Advancement and Alumni functions.

Together with Interim President Johnson '91, Brown has had many discussions on generating a greater link between our current students and their future relationship with the Alumni Association and the Academy. Brown's optimism, outlook at aptitude on engagement, and creating synergies within a given community will serve MMA and our alumni.

Brown has spent his professional career developing people with a demonstrated history of impacting organizational growth. Most recently, in his capacity as Major Gifts Officer he has supported the stewardship and development of gifts from individuals and corporations to the Academy. Brown has been instrumental in rethinking how our office engages with alumni and students alike. He served as an Annual Fund Ambassador, Adjunct Faculty in the IBL program, the women's soccer coach for seven seasons, and a member of the men's soccer team. Additionally, Brown is the parent of a 3rd year MMA student studying IBL and member of the women's soccer team.

Tim Leach, who graciously stepped in as acting Director of Alumni Relations at our request, will transition to an advisory role within the Advancement Office where we will continue to look to him for his vast and decades long industry relationships. We thank him for his support and leadership during this time of transition.

We are delighted to welcome Brown to this new role.



### AWARDS & RECOGNITION

## Tarrant Receives USCG Recognition

ON JULY 8, 2024, Captain Stephen Tarrant, Associate Professor of Marine Transportation, was recognized for his "invaluable and well-received" contribution to the meeting of the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training, and Watchkeeping (HTW), by Cathleen Mauro, Chief of the Maritime Personnel Qualifications Division for the U.S. Coast Guard's Office of Merchant Mariner Credentialing.

As a delegate for the U.S. Coast Guard representing the United States at the IMO, Tarrant "proved to be a capable subject matter expert and superb member of the team," according to Mauro. Tarrant provided expertise in the revision of IMO model course curricula as well as the review of the IMO Seafarers Training, Certification, & Watchkeeping (STCW) Convention and Code. The STCW Convention and Code are intended to "establish basic requirements on training, certification, and watchkeeping for seafarers on an international level."

Tarrant indicated that "participating in the IMO HTW and being involved in the international effort to write and improve the STCW Code was a fascinating and eye-opening experience. It was an honor to be part of the US Delegation led by an impressive team from the Merchant Mariner Credentialing branch of the USCG. I look forward to continuing to be part of the US Delegation as the HTW sub-committee conducts a comprehensive review of the STCW code, which will improve mariner training and safety around the world."

Mauro emphasized the importance of the U.S. Coast Guard's "well informed input and continued leadership at the IMO," and "genuinely hope[s] that we may welcome [Tarrant's] participation in future delegations."



## SPORTS

# Sailing Team Continues Rise to National Prominence

BY PATRICK STEWART, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF  
ATHLETICS FOR COMMUNICATIONS

THE MAINE MARITIME Academy sailing team began its 2024-25 campaign by hosting the Penobscot Bay Open and Harman Cup on September 7, producing the Mariners' best result to date. In the Pen Bay Open, Maine Maritime finished in third place out of nine teams with 126 points, led by seniors Ella Beauregard and Amelia Griffith. Another boat was ninth in the Open and MMA was seventh in the Cup race.

The following week, the Mariners tied their best showing with an identical third-place finish in the Shields Trophy hosted by Navy. Seniors Kyle Carse, Finn Weeden, Henri Richardson, and Beauregard led the eight-person boat.

Maine Maritime made history at the Mrs. Hurst Bowl, a womens-only event, hosted by Dartmouth College on September 21-22. The team qualified for the first round of the Atlantic Coast Championships for the first time in school history. Freshmen Jane Marvin and Simone Ford participated for MMA in Division A, while freshman Julianna DeMarco and Beauregard handled Division B duties.

"Our sailors rose to the occasion and turned in personal-best performances at the team's first national event," stated MMA sailing coach Patrick DiLalla. "The company they are keeping on the scoresheet is elite. It seemed unimaginable to be battling in the middle of this fleet, even one year ago. Intensity at practice and relentless attention to details has put us in this position."



NROTC, continued from page 9

national Marine Corps Scholarships, and a handful of Sideload Navy and Marine scholarships. All NROTC scholarship students that reside on campus receive a room and board waiver applied after all of scholarships and financial aid is allocated.

Six Midshipmen are College Programmers, hoping to compete for a Sideload scholarship and one Advanced Standing Midshipman. Depending on manpower management we have been able to award Sideloads on 3.5, 3.0, 2.5, and 2-year increments. On the Spot Scholarship Nominations (OTSSN) allows the Professor of Naval Science (PNS) the ability to award a controlled number of scholarships to College Program Midshipmen that have excelled in the Unit.

Five Midshipmen round out the rest of our MMA Unit. These five are part of a new program at MMA. They are the first cohort of the NROTC Preparatory Program (NPP). NPP Midshipmen apply to the program through the MMA website and are vetted and chosen by MMA to receive a preparatory year at MMA. This year is funded by MMA and in turn the Navy reserves a 4-year national NROTC scholarship for them at MMA.

During their prep year they take part in all the unit events and take a class load that builds the foundation for future success in calculus and calculus-based physics. NPP students need to maintain a 2.8 GPA, pass a Navy Physical Readiness Test with Good Low in all categories, pass a Department of Defense Medical evaluation (DoDMERB) and receive the recommendation of the PNS, CAPT Gary Chase. If an NPP student fails to meet the above they will not be awarded the 4-year national Navy scholarship and MMA may bill them for the prep year.

"The strength of the Pack is the Wolf, and the strength of the Wolf is the Pack." As our Unit grows we are amazed at the grit and resiliency our Midshipmen bring to the fight.

We are training the future of tomorrow's Navy and Strategic Sealift Officer Force. Please visit our page ([mainemaritime.edu/nrote](http://mainemaritime.edu/nrote)) on the Maine Maritime Academy's website if you want more information.

# FOREVER CHEMICALS IN Phytoplankton

Ocean Studies Professors  
Study PFAS in the Penobscot Bay Region

By Michael Dickerson, Ph.D.



(Background) View of Penobscot Bay from the Penobscot Narrows Bridge Observatory.

(Right) Dr. Carey Friedman and Dr. LeAnn Whitney tour the Atlantic Coastal Environmental Sciences Division of the Environmental Protection Agency.



**D**r. Carey Friedman, Associate Professor of Marine Science and Dr. LeAnn Whitney, Associate Professor of Oceanography, were recently awarded a \$77,000 grant from the Maine Community Foundation in support of their research examining the relationship between PFAS in the marine environment and its presence in phytoplankton. Dr. Friedman and Dr. Whitney are conducting the research in collaboration with Dr. Jitka Becanova, Assistant Research Professor of Oceanography at the University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Oceanography.

#### RESEARCH CONTEXT

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of thousands of synthetic chemicals used in a wide range of consumer products including water and stain resistant fabrics, personal care and cleaning products, non-stick surfaces, and paint products. Exposure to PFAS over time is associated with multiple adverse health outcomes including certain types of cancer, reproductive and developmental issues, and reduced immune and vaccination response in children.

PFAS are known as “forever chemicals” because the strength of their carbon-fluorine molecular bonds inhibits their natural degradation in the environment. Moreover, PFAS can bioaccumulate within aquatic organisms resulting in concentrations increasing up the food chain. Ultimately, Friedman and Whitney’s research will contribute to our understanding of the concentration of PFAS in local marine waters and how much transfers into phytoplankton, microscopic and photosynthetic organisms that form the base of the marine food chain.

Dr. Carey Friedman and Dr. LeAnn Whitney spent the summer collecting water samples from the Penobscot Bay region.





There is a growing literature investigating the existence of PFAS in the environment, particularly freshwater, but PFAS contamination within the marine environment and its implications are not adequately understood, according to Friedman and Whitney. Friedman and Whitney are examining the relationship between concentrations of PFAS in coastal waters in relation to phytoplankton with implications for how the chemicals are able to move throughout the food chain and potentially accumulate in other organisms, some of which may be economically important for the state of Maine.

#### RESEARCH METHODS

Using the waterfront resources at the Academy, Friedman and Whitney have

sampled water and phytoplankton three times from each of nine test sites in Penobscot Bay and the Penobscot River this summer. The sites were chosen based on

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**Friedman and Whitney are examining the relationship between concentrations of PFAS in coastal waters in relation to phytoplankton with implications for how the chemicals are able to move throughout the food chain.**

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their proximity to effluent from wastewater treatment facilities and former mill sites that are currently used to release untreated landfill leachate directly into the water.

Samples used to measure PFAS concentrations in the water were collected using two methods: direct sampling, which measures PFAS concentrations at the specific time of collection, and passive sampling, which measures average concentrations over time. The phytoplankton sample is collected by towing a net that concentrates particles suspended in the water column.

Once samples from Penobscot Bay and Penobscot River were collected in late June, they brought them to URI-GSO's STEEP Center (funded by the Superfund Research Program, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences), in early August. Their collaborator, Dr. Jitka Becanova of STEEP and GSO, has been analyzing the samples for the

Taking samples from the Penobscot River with the Old Town mill in the background.



concentrations of 33 individual PFAS chemicals using a liquid chromatograph tandem mass spectrometer (LC-MS/MS). The forthcoming results will be shared with the community in a series of presentations shortly thereafter.

While at the GSO campus, Whitney and Friedman were able to participate in the first stages of the sample analysis process, give a talk focused on career choices to graduate students, and get a tour of the nearby Atlantic Coastal Environmental Sciences Division of the Environmental Protection Agency.

### PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS

Dr. Carey Friedman teaches courses related to chemistry, pollution, and

sustainability in the Ocean Studies Department. Friedman's research focuses on how toxic chemicals are introduced and travel through the environment. She holds a B.S. in Chemistry from Trinity College, an M.S. in Environmental Toxicology from Cornell University, and a Ph.D. in Oceanography from the University of Rhode Island. Additionally, Friedman was a Postdoctoral Fellow at MIT.

Dr. LeAnn Whitney teaches courses in ocean studies, biology, and marine science. Whitney is a marine phytoplankton ecologist whose research focuses on identifying the cellular mechanisms employed by phytoplankton to persist in nutrient-poor environments. Whitney

holds a B.S. in Marine Science from the University of Maine (Orono) and a Ph.D. in Cell and Molecular Biology from the University of Rhode Island and was a National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow and Research Scientist at Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences.

Friedman and Whitney's collaborator, Dr. Jitka Becanova, Assistant Research Professor of Oceanography at the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Oceanography, is an analytical chemist. Becanova's research examines environmental contaminants, including PFAS, with the goal of reducing human exposure. She holds a Ph.D. in environmental chemistry from Masaryk University (Czech Republic). ■





# CONTINUING AN ARCTIC Legacy

## Schooner *Bowdoin* Returns to the Arctic

By Michael Dickerson, Ph.D.

**O**n a crisp May morning, the schooner *Bowdoin* began her return voyage to the Arctic, the region she was specifically built to explore 103 years ago. The *Bowdoin* is an American treasure, recognized as a National Historic Landmark, the official vessel of the State of Maine, and the flagship of Maine Maritime Academy. While *Bowdoin* is more than a century old, she is certainly not obsolete and remains a vital teaching tool, well-suited for exploration in the extreme maritime conditions of the Arctic, and timeless marvel of naval architecture.

### THE SCHOONER *BOWDOIN*'S BACKGROUND

The *Bowdoin* was built by Donald MacMillan, the son of a schooner captain lost at sea off the coast of Newfoundland when Donald was nine. MacMillan was captivated by ships, the ocean, and the Arctic from the time he was a young boy. He made his first trip to the Arctic in 1908, at the age of 33, on an expedition to the North Pole led by Arctic explorer Robert Peary.

In 1913, MacMillan led his own voyage to the Arctic in search of what Peary believed to be a landmass he called Crocker Land. Sponsored by the American Museum of Natural History, the American Geographical Society, and the University of Illinois, the journey was expected to last two years, but lasted four after their ship, the steamer *Diana*, struck ground attempting to avoid an iceberg. Successive vessels sent to aid MacMillan and his crew were unable to reach the party due to the extreme conditions.

In the summer of 1917, a ship finally reached them. While MacMillan was pleased to be able to return home, he wrote that the “Great Northland [had] a relentless grip” on him and that he intended to return on his own, purpose-built vessel. MacMillan began thinking about the vessel’s design.

MacMillan insisted that the *Bowdoin* “should be... not one whit larger than is necessary the equipment and provisions of the personnel” to be able to “worm herself though narrow leads [and] take sharper corners.” Her 88-foot curved hull would be built of the “very best” white oak, a deck of white pine, and masts of Douglas fir. *Bowdoin* was designed with two sealed bulwarks in case she of catastrophic damage, she could still float.

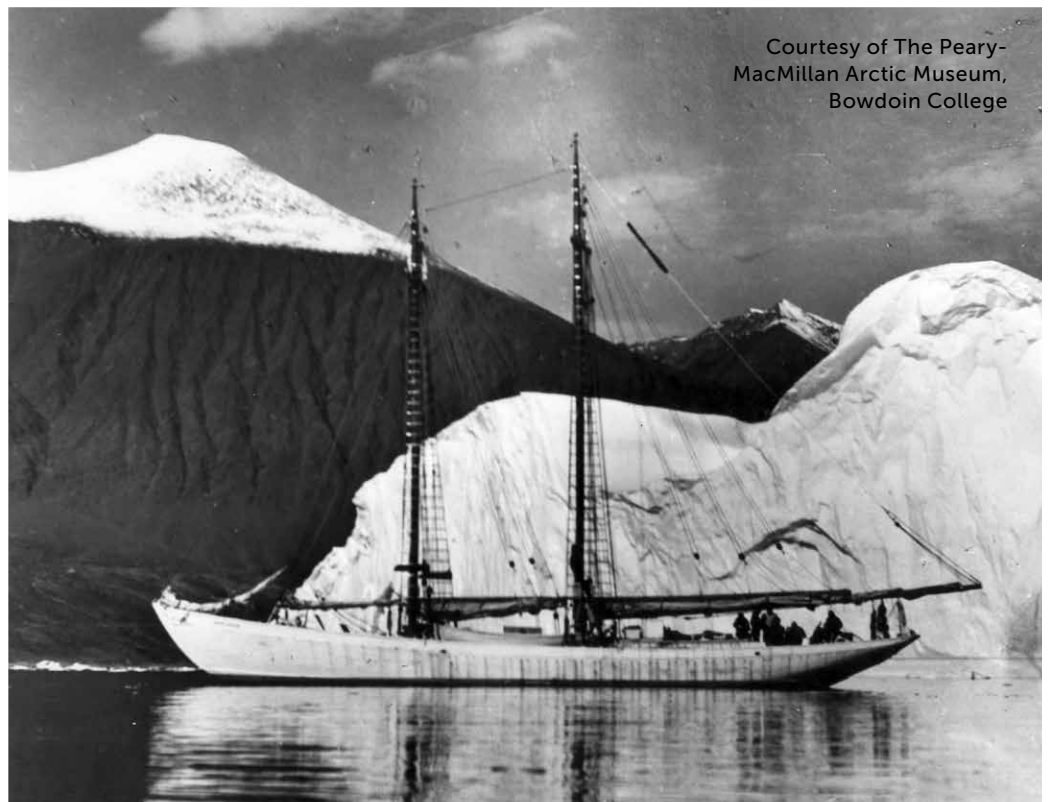




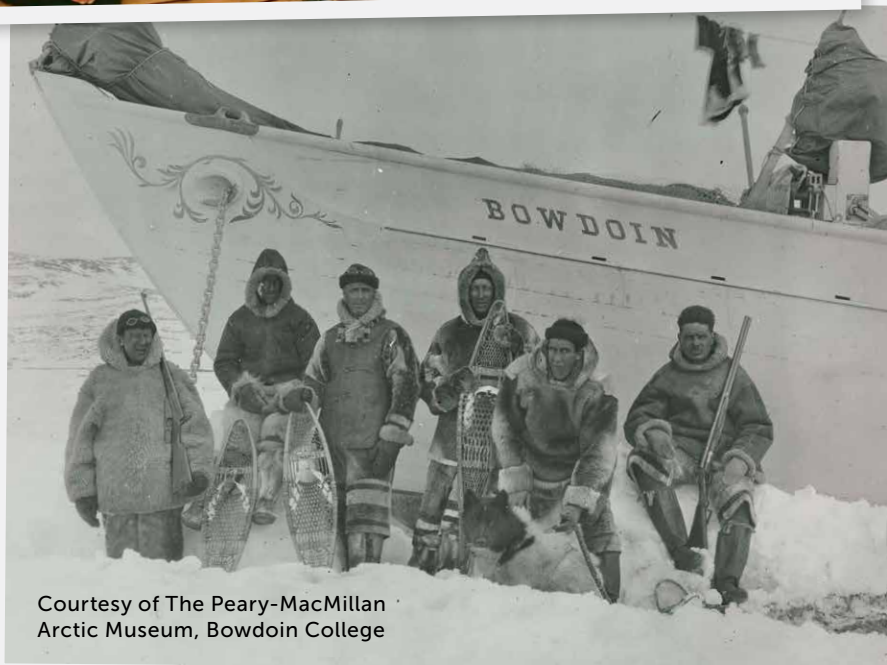
MacMillan commissioned noted naval architect William Hand to design the schooner according to his specifications. The *Bowdoin* was built at Hodgdon Brothers Shipyard in East Boothbay, Maine, and launched on April 9, 1921; she crossed into the Arctic for the first time on August 23 of that year. She represents a timeless achievement of excellence in naval architecture with a specific purpose: the navigation of Arctic waters. MacMillan would sail *Bowdoin* to the Arctic 18 times from 1921 to 1954, when he was 80 years old.

*Bowdoin* was commissioned by the U.S. Navy for use during World War II, initially under the command of MacMillan, and later under Lt. Stuart Hotchkiss, to survey sites for airfields in Greenland used to refuel during transatlantic flights. To fool German submarines, MacMillan would shine a light into the mainsail to look like a fishing boat and sink floating mines with his shotgun.

After the War, the *Bowdoin* was sold back to MacMillan, until he sold the vessel to the Mystic Seaport Museum in 1959. She was left in a state of neglect and disrepair until the Schooner Bowdoin Association was formed to purchase and



Courtesy of The Peary-  
MacMillan Arctic Museum,  
Bowdoin College



Courtesy of The Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum, Bowdoin College

restore the vessel in 1968. Between 1979 and 1984, *Bowdoin* underwent a complete rebuild at Percy and Small Shipyard at Maine Maritime Museum.

Maine Maritime Academy took possession of the *Bowdoin* in 1988 and sailed her back to the Arctic in 1991 for the first time in 37 years with Andy Chase '79 as Captain. She returned to the Arctic in 1994, skippered by Captain Elliot Rappaport and 2008, skippered by Captain Rick Miller. This year, the *Bowdoin* returned to the Arctic for the first time in 16 years under the leadership of Captain Alex Peacock.

Captain Peacock joined the Academy in December 2022 after four years in command of *Spirit of Bermuda* for the Bermuda Sloop Foundation, sailing the Caribbean, the Mid-Atlantic, and Canada with students. Spending time on vessels such as *Lynx*, *Pride of Baltimore II*, *Charles W. Morgan*, and *Spirit of Bermuda*, Peacock has been involved with projects including engine repowers, hull and rig restorations, USCG ABS inspections, ocean race preparation, and other aspects of commanding sailing vessels.

### THE 2024 ARCTIC VOYAGE

The *Bowdoin* set out from Boothbay Harbor, Maine, in honor of her 1921 launch, on May 29, 2024, crossing the Arctic Circle at 66°33'33" on June 19 and the 70th Parallel on June 29. The voyage of more than 4,500 miles lasted eight weeks and included a crew of six professional mariners and nine Maine Maritime Academy students.

Before departing Boothbay Harbor, 350 elementary students from the region came to visit *Bowdoin* and learn about the vessel, maritime skills and techniques, astronomy, and the geography of the North Atlantic, Labrador Sea, and Davis Strait from the crew. Among them were the great grandchildren of those who built the vessel at Hodgdon Brothers Shipyard.

Shortly after setting out, the "reality of the North Atlantic started to set in," according to Captain Peacock, "after consistent four-foot swells." Peacock described a "fairly weak low that stalled ahead of us for a few days pumping east-erlies our way, making *Bowdoin* work for Newfoundland." For most of the way to Newfoundland, "we experienced heavy fog... a washing machine sea state of five

to six feet and occasionally up to 9 feet with winds out of the east at 15-20kts," Peacock indicated.

Captain Peacock set a course across a 1,000+ mile stretch of the Labrador Sea from abeam the old whaling outpost Hawke Harbour and neighboring Stony Island, Labrador, where Chase and crew erected a cairn in 1990. A "combination of navigating forecasted and observed areas of ice and wind angle" went into the decision of when and where to cross, according to Peacock. A route from "St. John's to Nuuk would have taken us through a thicker area of icebergs due to an accumulation from the current moving them south."

The *Bowdoin* arrived in Nuuk Port and Harbour at N64° 10', W51° 44' on June 15 and crossed into Arctic waters on June 19. The crew "participated in an 'Order of the Blue Nose' ceremony, a maritime tradition in which sailors who cross the Arctic Circle enter the realm of Boreas Rex, the King of the North, and must complete a series of challenges for induction," according to graduate student crew member, Jorge Morales-Lopez. Continuing north, the *Bowdoin* arrived in Ilulissat, the Kalaallisut word for "icebergs," on June 19.

The Arctic is a "landscape too surreal to comprehend," according to Peacock, which he described as a deeply emotional experience for the entire crew. She rendezvoused with the cutter rigged *Arctic Earth* and her team, owner David Conover, Captain Magnus, Mate Julia, and Chase for nine days to explore "new fjords, calving glaciers, and abandoned settlements, even naming a couple of bays along the way," Peacock indicated. The crew also weathered katabatic winds, capable of completely clearing a field of ice within a fjord, which he described as "astounding."

The *Bowdoin* is equipped with a "crow's nest" or "ice box," which plays a critical role in the ability to navigate waters dangerously packed with icebergs. The crew communicates precise descriptions and instructions between the crow's nest, crew on deck, and the crew member at the wheel. "Maneuvering in the ice, which looks like a wall from deck-level, she seems to know the way,"

Captain Peacock described navigating the "berg" waters, adding that it is as if "she has a soul."

In describing the landscape, Morales-Lopez claimed that "even the most stunning photos cannot fully capture the sheer beauty, remoteness, and rawness of these places." *Bowdoin's* last port stop in Greenland was Sisimiut, arriving on July 6, before setting course back toward Labrador. After brief stops in Battle Harbour and Mary's Harbour, the crew set course for Castine, where they arrived to an enthusiastic crowd and media coverage.

### A UNIQUE EDUCATION

Arctic voyages on the *Bowdoin* are educational opportunities unique to Maine Maritime Academy. Students learn not only maritime skills, but teamwork, confidence, and leadership in an environment few vessels are able to navigate.

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**"Maneuvering in the ice, which looks like a wall from deck-level, she seems to know the way," Captain Peacock described navigating the "berg" waters, adding that it is as if "she has a soul."**

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The student crew, under the supervision of Professor Kerry Whittaker, collected water samples throughout the voyage to conduct environmental research. According to Dr. Whittaker, the student crew "successfully conducted physical oceanographic surveys in Greenland waters using an instrument that records salinity, temperature, and depth data, and took seawater samples for future environmental DNA studies." The student crew is also collaborating with the Ocean Genome Atlas Project by collecting water samples for ocean genomic research, which will complement their environmental DNA metabarcoding work.

"Recognition of [the Arctic's] global environmental, economic, and political importance grows every year," according to Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum Director Susan Kaplan, and "due to the dynamic nature of developments in the

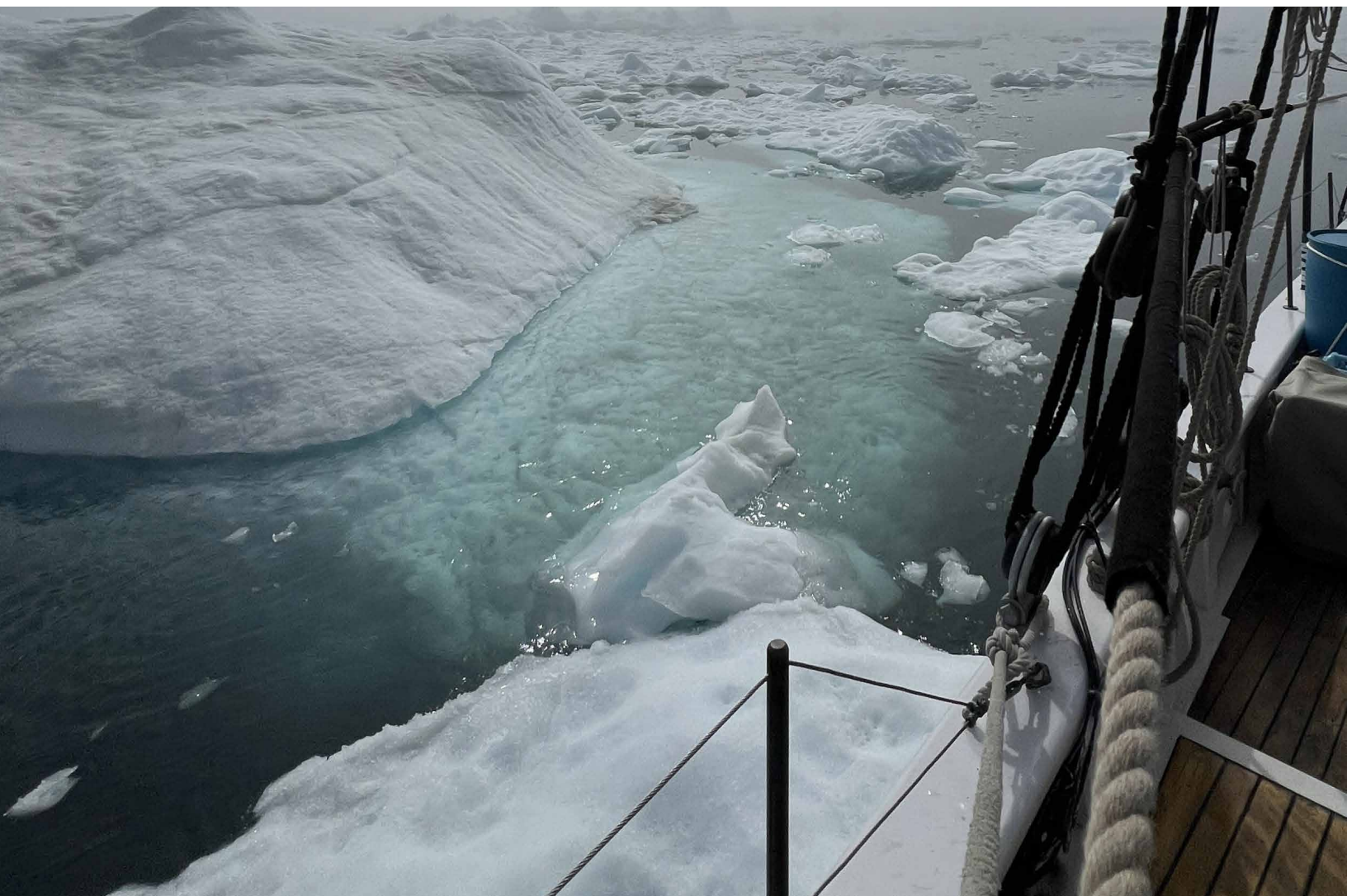
region, we must recruit a new generation of people with diverse arrays of skills to pursue northern-focused careers." Kaplan added that the "opportunity to sail the *Bowdoin* through Arctic waters is a wonderful example of what experiential learning is all about."

*Bowdoin* engineer, Tom Klodenski, who has a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maine, noted that "as a training vessel with a small ratio of students to professional crew, motivated trainees get a chance to be matched to projects that align with their interests, perhaps in ways not possible in other programs." Aboard the *Bowdoin*, he continued, the "unusual environment of a century old schooner working in remote areas combined with the inability to access the internet provides a space for students to learn new things about themselves, including self-reliance and confidence."

Klodenski explained that "international interest in the Arctic is growing and the rate of environmental change there is increasing [and that] *Bowdoin* is the only US-flagged training vessel with programs dedicated to this part of the globe." *Bowdoin* is capable, according to Klodenski, of "contributing to today's relevant research, being the stage for important cross-cultural conversations, and represents the tip of the iceberg for students interested in a rewarding career in the Arctic maritime space."

Rappaport said that "voyages to the Arctic permit students to be participants in an historic continuum while experiencing the very real educational challenges of high latitude navigation—now an expanding frontier of the modern industry as changes in climate open new routes and spur changes in resource development. These voyages provide a tremendous value added well above simply operating in nearby waters."

Mackenzie Morin, a Coastal Marine & Environmental Science and Small Vessel Operations student at the Academy, said that "the skills we learned on this voyage are diverse and invaluable. We developed our seamanship under challenging conditions, posed scientific questions in remote environments, honed engineering competency while maintaining the



vessel's integrity, and gained business insight in coordinating logistics. These experiences have not only equipped us with the ability to navigate the Arctic seas, but also to overcome the demands of our respective careers in the future."

Describing the voyage, Captain Peacock stated that "navigating the Arctic waters packed with icebergs and sea ice requires active observation, close communication among the crew, and precise maneuvering. I'm filled with pride at the impressive growth of the student crew over the eight weeks aboard the *Bowdoin*. They matured as individuals, came together as a group, and rose to the countless challenges with confidence."

### THE BOWDOIN'S LEGACY

Continuing the *Bowdoin's* legacy of Arctic exploration is a top institutional priority for the Academy. Returning to the Arctic for the first time in 16 years is an achievement that required years

of preparation, dedication, and support from throughout the Maine Maritime community. The Academy intends to return to the Arctic on three-year cycles with the next voyage planned for 2027.

Kaplan suggests that sailing to the Arctic on a "historic, ice-adapted vessel that embodies MacMillan's legacy of supported pioneering scientific, military, and humanitarian work in the North, reminds those onboard that one person's innovations and vision can have far reaching impact, and that the study and stewardship of the region is an ongoing challenge."

*Bowdoin* is an important asset to Maine Maritime Academy, its students, alumni, and friends. She is important to the Castine community, the State of Maine, and the country. She is also a vehicle for cultural exchange between Americans and the Inuit, a civilization that has lived on the fringes of the habitable environment using the same techniques of survival for centuries.

The *Bowdoin* attracts a wide range of individuals to campus, well beyond the immediate MMA community, often on deck, and on the water, one of Castine's and the campus of Maine Maritime Academy's greatest assets. She inspires students to attend the Academy as well as those who only learn about her once they matriculate. *Bowdoin* is a vessel that captures many hearts and is a well-deserved source of pride for those throughout the Maine Maritime Academy community.

It is not uncommon for those who sail *Bowdoin* extensively to believe she has a soul. Whether literally true or not, people have and will continue to dedicate their lives to the *Bowdoin* and, in so doing, become part of the vessel and her story. The Academy is the institutional steward of the *Bowdoin*, an important responsibility and great honor. It is our duty as members of the Maine Maritime community to safeguard the vessel and ensure its continued operation, particularly to the Arctic. ■





PHOTO BY  
LYNDSEY  
LEVASSEUR



# TRAINING MAINE'S Workforce

## Naval Shipyard Institute a Resounding Success

By Michael Dickerson, Ph.D.

Over the summer, Maine Maritime Academy hosted the inaugural Naval Shipyard Institute workforce development training program. The Naval Shipyard Institute, funded by the Navy, is an intensive skills training program taking place on the campuses of Maine Maritime Academy and Portsmouth Naval Shipyard over the course of 14 weeks. During the immersive program, students learn trade skills including structural welding, machining, and marine electrical. Following the successful completion of the program, students are eligible for employment at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard repairing, maintaining, and overhauling nuclear submarines.

The U.S. Navy's Submarine Industrial Base Directorate expressed the intent to hire approximately 140,000 new employees in the skilled trades over the next 10 years to bolster its workforce to build and sustain the fleet. In an effort to build the capacity of the Submarine Industrial Base, the Navy requested \$3.9 bil-

lion in federal funding for FY25. Admiral Lisa Franchetti, Chief of Naval Operations and member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, also identified additional funding for the Submarine Industrial Base as the top unfunded priority for FY25.

ORBIS, Inc., a veteran-owned engineering solutions company that provides services for the U.S. Navy and the Department of Defense, managed the Naval Shipyard Institute program in collaboration with the Academy. MMA faculty customized their courses to align with the Navy's workforce needs. ORBIS's Naval Shipyard Institute Director Chris Oelschlegel '05 indicated that "Maine Maritime Academy has the ideal combination of high-quality training facilities and first-rate instructors for the Naval Shipyard Institute program to be successful."

Maine Maritime Academy Interim President Craig Johnson said, "The Academy's expertise in providing training in the skilled trades in addition to world-class lab facilities makes the collaboration with ORBIS a natural fit. We hope this is just the beginning of the Academy helping to contribute to the Navy's mission of bolstering qualified, skilled labor for the Sub-



marine and Maritime Industrial Base. Submarines play a crucial role in our nation's defense and helping to train skilled workers for their maintenance is an important objective."

Trainees, ranging in age from 18 to 60, were provided room and board while participating in the Naval Shipyard Institute program. After successfully completing six weeks of training on the Maine Maritime Academy campus, students receive six hours of academic credit. According to welding student Lindsey Levasseur, "This program is a fantastic opportunity to pursue a career

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According to  
welding student  
Lindsey Levasseur,  
"This program is a  
fantastic opportunity  
to pursue a career  
doing something  
I enjoy while also  
contributing to my  
country."

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doing something I enjoy while also contributing to my country."

On August 7, 2024, Maine Maritime Academy and ORBIS, Inc. hosted a showcase event on campus highlighting the progress of the Naval Shipyard Institute training program, offering a tour of the training cohorts, and allowing interaction with MMA Leadership and faculty. Representatives from the offices of Governor Mills, Senator Collins, Senator King, as well as officials from the U.S. Navy, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, MMA's Board of Trustees, and the Commissioner of the Maine Department of Labor were in attendance.

The Academy hopes to continue the partnership with the Navy to continue to develop the Submarine Industrial Base workforce in 2025 and beyond. ■



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# Donor Honor Roll

## IMPACT

# IMPACT: MMA Giving Report 2024

DEAR MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

We are proud to present to you the latest version of IMPACT, our giving report.

At Maine Maritime Academy, your generosity impacts our students on campus and around the world. Your support enriches and improves our diverse learning environments. Our expanding undergraduate, graduate, and professional academic programs and certifications, competitive sports teams, and exceptional waterfront benefit from your thoughtfulness.

Our alumni, parents, and friends are indispensable partners and ensure Maine Maritime Academy's successes. This publication honors and thanks you, and the many ways you lift us up to new and exciting heights. In a recent address, Interim President Craig Johnson stated that MMA is a "school guided by

maritime interests and poised to educate and prepare our students for the industry and international world of innovation, transportation, exploration, and science that awaits them." Rest assured, the Academy is working hard to capitalize on our competitive advantage in the maritime and higher education landscape.

Within these pages, you will find a collection of giving clubs that clearly illustrate the many ways you and others have made lasting differences in the lives of our students, faculty, staff, and the community at large. **Access to Alumni Class Giving and related lists can be found using the QR code below.**

As you review the printed names and the philanthropic gifts, I hope you will fully appreciate how your support helps us advance our important priorities every day. We absolutely appreciate you and your unwavering support.

Although not highlighted in these lists, I would be remiss not to honor Maine Maritime Academy's dedicated and tireless volunteers. In Castine and beyond, your efforts move us forward. You help make the Academy a better place. This demonstration of community engagement is invaluable. Thank you.

We look forward to our collective futures. Together we will create bright, promising, and compelling futures for our capable and deserving students. Again, thank you for all you have done and continue to do for Maine Maritime Academy.

Warm regards,

*Kate Noel*

KATE NOEL

*Vice President of Advancement and College Relations*

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## IMPACT 2024: DONOR HONOR ROLL

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# Alumni News

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## SPOTLIGHT

### A Foundation for the Future: The Maine Maritime Academy Foundation

BY LARRY BURRILL '77E, CHAIRMAN OF THE MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY FOUNDATION

HOMECOMING 2024 SERVED as the official announcement and debut of the newly established Maine Maritime Academy Foundation. The Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Maine Secretary of State on January 11, 2024. The celebratory weekend with alumni of all ages was the perfect backdrop to introduce our mission, “to advance Maine Maritime Academy by raising and managing funds to provide the margin of excellence necessary for MMA to remain the World’s leading maritime college.”

The Foundation’s purpose is to leverage its passionate board who are strategically focused on maximizing philanthropic donations to extend the reach of the Academy’s Advancement Department and to provide sustainable financial support to Maine Maritime Academy. To do this, we will work closely with Academy leadership and Board of Trustees on financial needs across the school’s departments and specialized programs.

Together, we look to pursue new standards in maritime education and empower the next generation of leaders through strategic partnerships and sustainable financial growth. The Foundation is an Independent Related Foundation (IRF) providing direct financial support to the Academy to help that institution grow and strengthen to meet its identified goals.

Foundations, found at nearly every public institution of higher learning, exist much like endowments do, but they have very specific individual missions, and the benefits of a Foundation are in their reach and their flexibility. As a state school, Maine Maritime Academy (which was until now the only state maritime academy without a foundation) has limits on how its endowment funds can be utilized. This is not unique to MMA, and is very common in public institutions. Gifts of real estate, art and other non-monetary items that still possess value are complex for institutions to accept. The Foundation has a different level of flexibility to accept gifts of this nature and utilize them or convert them into a monetary value.

In addition to the intake of gifts, partnerships and deployment of capital can also be complex for public institutions. An example of this may be a public-private partnership for employee housing. The Academy would not want to enter into an agreement for a PPP with a financial stake, but the Foundation could.

Foundations can fund and support numerous initiatives across a campus, from the endowment of a specific department chair to the annual funding of a portion of the operations at the

waterfront or on the athletic fields – the possibilities are endless. Those funding decisions are made in conjunction with the Board of Trustees and school leadership. Our mission is truly to fund that extra area or item that truly represents MMA’s margin of excellence – and will continue to differentiate and keep MMA in its competitive rankings.

As founding Chairman, I am humbled and proud to be working alongside a robust group of individuals in this endeavor: Vice-Chair; Leah Harris and her husband Jay Harris, class of 1973; Tom Lord, Secretary and class of 1987, former MMA President Len Tyler, and Dale Thomas PhD. class of 2013. Additionally, as ex-officio members are Board of Trustees Chair Wayne Norton, class of 1986, Interim President Craig Johnson, class of 1991, Jeff Riedel class of 1986.

This collection of passionate alumni and supporters of MMA have dedicated decades of energy to engaging the broader MMA community and developing strategies to help propel the Academy. The Alford Challenge of 2017 was a perfect example of the good work and strong progress that can be made by energized volunteers. Our hope is that the MMA Foundation will create a platform that will help propel and support the Academy for generations to come.



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## ALUMNI NEWS

### MARK WINTER '88 JOINS MAINE DEFENSE INDUSTRY ALLIANCE

In late September, Captain Mark Winter '88, Commandant of Midshipman and Vice President of Student Affairs, announced that he would leave MMA. In a statement to the community, Interim President Johnson '91 said, "It is bittersweet for me to announce [Captain Winter] has been offered, and has accepted, a position as Program Director for the Maine Defense Industry Alliance (MDIA). MMA, with our current and future programs, both in Castine and in Brunswick, will play a significant role in MDIA's success. We couldn't be more excited about having Mark help lead this organization."

During Winter's MMA tenure, he made significant contributions to the Academy across public and private initiatives, honing and growing the Academy's governmental affairs outreach program, helping to meet the Board of Trustees' request to increasing regimental student enrollment, and starting the conversation on ways to enhance the student experience across our entire student body.

MDIA is a collaborative effort between government agencies, educational institutions, and industry partners to address the workforce needs of Maine's defense industry. The alliance aims to build a comprehensive, coordinated, and sustainable development system that will solve the Maine defense industry's two immediate needs: acquiring skilled workers and upgrading its existing workforce. Winter's background working in Augusta for Senator Susan Collins, as well as his extensive work with Maine defense industry leaders such as Bath Iron Works, Pratt & Whitney (N. Berwick, ME), Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, and General Dynamics Ordnance and Tactical Weapons Group (Saco, ME), makes him the ideal candidate for this position with MDIA.



## ALUMNI NEWS

Members of the class of 1970 met at their annual June Muster at the Shuck Shack in Newcastle. From left to right Bob Martel, Jay McGowen, Jim Dunbar, Lee Parsons, Mike Muccino, Lyndy Barron, & Peach Frederick. The sea stories and oysters were terrific. Missing was organizer Bob Grant in sick bay.

## ALUMNI NEWS

### 10 YEAR REUNION OF MMA CORE VALUE AWARD

On Friday afternoon, September 27, the Loeb-Sullivan School of International Business and Logistics hosted a reunion reception in honor of Academy graduates who were recipients of the MMA Core Value Award over the last decade. The award was established in 2014 by Professor Emerita Elaine Potoker, Ph.D. in memory of Capt. Dr. Wallace Reed.

Speaking about the event, Dr. Potoker said, "The stories told by the alumni awardees who were at the event in person, online, or through a video recording, showed the many career paths a degree from MMA can take, along with the importance of an interdisciplinary background. Dr. Reed's career also followed different paths and was interdisciplinary in nature, which influenced the criteria set for the award."

Dr. Reed taught at MMA from 1977 to 1997. He began by teaching economics and ended his tenure as (the first) Director of Graduate Studies at MMA. He was a mentor to faculty and students, such as Seth Brown '98, current Director of Advancement and Alumni Relations, and Jeff Simpson '94 MET & '00 Logistics Management, Assistant Professor in the IBL Program, both of whom attended the reception. "Wally," as he was known to many, was instrumental in the planning and development of the graduate program at the Academy, now within the Loeb-Sullivan School of International Business and Logistics. He was an avid proponent of logistics education before it was popularly understood.

The past recipients of the MMA Core Value Award are Melissa Lail '15, Lindsey (Fassler) Maffeo '16, Andrew McGonagle '17, David Livingstone '18, Sam Reed '19, Autumn Acord '20, Mackenzie Philbrick '21, Avery Nelson '22, John Teuton '23, and Brandon Gagne '24.

## SPOTLIGHT

# 2024 Homecoming a Great Success!

BY SETH BROWN, DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT  
AND ALUMNI RELATIONS

Homecoming weekend began with the senior class and various alumni attending the annual Senior BBQ at Wyman House. Over 100 seniors and 20 alumni shared food, stories, and laughs. Friday kicked off with the annual Alumni Golf Scramble at the Castine Golf Club Friday afternoon. The winning team was Randal Colbath '79, Richard Economy '79, John Webb '83, and Larry Whittaker '78. Later in the afternoon, students and alumni were invited to the dedication of the new memorial for those who lost their lives while they were Maine Maritime Academy students. Following that, Interim President Johnson gave a "State of the Academy" address and introduced the MMA Foundation with Larry Burrill '77.

In the evening, the MMA fieldhouse was transformed into a beer garden with an '80s twist. Homecoming revelers delighted in dining on specialty tacos, gourmet mac and cheese with mix-ins, and sausage and peppers grinders from Even Keel while Fast Times rocked out to the best '80s tunes. Over 400 alumni, students, and friends were in attendance. The classes of '74 and '79 were centerstage celebrating their 50th and 45th class reunions.

Saturday consisted of the Annual Meeting of the MMA Alumni Association and the announcement of the election results. There were boat rides, the Athletics Hall of Fame ceremony, and the Class of '74 Eight Bells ceremony; March-On was a great success, as was tailgating and Honor Alley. We had two soccer games vs. Lesley University, a mechanical shark, a live band, a dunk tank featuring some of the students' "favorite" professors and administrators, and a beer garden. Saturday evening wrapped up with a reception hosted by Interim President Craig Johnson at the Wyman House.







## ALUMNI NEWS

### 1993 CHAMPIONSHIP FOOTBALL TEAM RETURNS TO CAMPUS

On September 7, the 1993 Championship Football Team returned to campus to see the 2024 MMA Football Team play Hartwick College. In 1993, the Mariners football team went 7-1 in conference play, won all six of their home contests and two championships, the New England Football Conference and Eastern College Athletic Conference.

The Mariners ended that season on a seven-game winning streak in which they outscored their opponents 193 to 88. The only loss in 1993 was by three points to Mass. Maritime.

The team was comprised of two All-Americans in Rob Marchitello '96 and Kirk Matthieu '95 as well as other former standouts now enshrined in the MMA William J. Mottola Athletics Hall of Fame. The 1993 team was led by an outstanding coach in John Huard, who is a member of the College Football, National Football Foundation, and Maine Black Bears halls of fame.



## ALUMNI NEWS

### 2024 HALL OF FAME

The 2024 William J. Mottola Athletics Hall of Fame Class was inducted in a ceremony held at Smith Gymnasium during Homecoming Weekend on Sept. 27-29. The Mariner inductees include Andrew DiSalvo '12 (men's lacrosse), Sean Gallivan '98 (men's lacrosse), John Guss '92 (football), Jessica Taylor '08 (women's soccer and softball), Ryan King (posthumously; cross country coach, 2011-20), and the 2011 Sailing National Championship Team.

## MMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CHAPTERS

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John Burns III '85  
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**BAY STATE**  
Samuel Rowe '65  
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**CASCO BAY**  
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**CONNECTICUT**  
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**DELAWARE VALLEY**  
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**FLORIDA (TAMPA)**  
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**FLORIDA (JACKSONVILLE)**  
TBD

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**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**  
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**TEXAS**  
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**TIDEWATER**  
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**WASHINGTON, DC**  
Eric Dankewicz '05  
edankewicz@mdpilots.com

**INTERNATIONAL**  
Mason Hall '13  
masonhall33@gmail.com

## 2024 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ELECTION RESULTS

Following a great response to the 2024 Alumni Association Board elections, here are the results.

OFFICERS	BOARD MEMBERS
Andrew Strosahl '05, President	Calvin A. Bancroft '73
James Proulx '85, Vice President	Capt. Erie J. (EJ) Hendrickson '88
Charles (Cal) Lechman '65, Treasurer	Capt. Carrie Plourde Norton '06 & '07
Myles Block '06, Agent	James S. (Sam) Teel '77
	Capt. Ronald A. Ward '80

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**info@bostonmarinesociety.org**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**FEBRUARY 1, 2025**  
MMAAA PICKLEBALL  
TOURNAMENT • THE  
WOODLANDS, FALMOUTH, ME

**MARCH 12, 2025**  
SENIOR BANQUET - REVAMPED  
EDITION • MMA

**APRIL 7, 2025**  
TEXAS MARINER CLASSIC  
GOLF TOURNAMENT  
THE WOODLANDS CC  
TOURNAMENT COURSE

**MAY 8-16, 2025**  
MMAAA ITALY TRIP

**JUNE 2, 2025**  
NEW! FLORIDA MARINER  
CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT  
FORT LAUDERDALE CC

**JUNE 23, 2025**  
MAINE MARINER CLASSIC  
GOLF TOURNAMENT  
BRUNSWICK GOLF CLUB

**JULY 7-9, 2025**  
CLASS OF 1970 REUNION  
MMA

**JULY 14-16, 2025**  
CLASS OF 1965 REUNION  
MMA

**AUGUST 15, 2025**  
MMA @ SEA DOGS BASEBALL  
PORTLAND, ME

**OCTOBER 3-5, 2025**  
HOMECOMING WEEKEND  
MMA

# Class Notes

## 1951

David Holmes wonders "how many of us are left?"

## 1956

Charles Harriman states, "I am still cookin'! Come on by Naples or Falmouth, ME 305-664-0483"

## 1961

Bruce Doughty says, "From the founding of Washburn & Doughty Shipyard in 1977 until retiring in 2021 served as President. Now daughters run the company with Katie as President."

## 1962

Robert Bartek retired at the end of last year, 10 years at sea, 47 year marine surveyor. F.W.E.

## 1962

Garnet Colpitts is 86 and still working in his business.

## 1965

Charles Lechman wants the Class of 1965 to know that "we've missed you at the Monthly Zooms which are the First day of each month (Bill Fenton, Class Agent, sends out an invite in advance of the Zoom). Also don't forget our 60th Summer Reunion in Castine on July 14-16, 2025. Good time is had by all! Looking forward to seeing you all there!"

## 1968



The State of Maine has a tradition of naming its state ferry boats after former captains who have distinguished themselves with exceptional service and professionalism. The Dinsmore family is incredibly honored that the newest Maine Department of Transportation State Ferry boat will be named after Capt. Almer Dinsmore '68. Dinsmore sailed 26 years as captain at the Maine State Ferry Service, including a stint as manager. At 154' long, the boat will be one of the first commercial vessels in the country to feature a new hybrid diesel-electric propulsion system. The boat is currently scheduled to launch later this summer at Senesco Marine LLC.

## 1973



John Webster shared that this spring, 28 members of the Class of 1973 gathered for a mini muster at Marty Marcisso's house in Scarborough, Maine.

## 1975



Mark J. Hellen's family, led by his oldest son Nathan (class of 2005) traveled to Castine to view the completed paver project and to pay tribute to a great husband, an awesome dad and a heavenly grandfather. He would have certainly appreciated the placement of the paver!

## 1978

Glenn K. Brewer is enjoying retirement! He's fishing in Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, and tuna fishing off the Coast of New Hampshire.

## 1980

Richard Thornton retired as Chief Engineer from Transocean in April 2021 after 30 years offshore and is currently a part-time instructor @ MMA's CPMD in Bucksport.

## 1980

Stephen G. Krawczyk writes, "I am now spending winters in the Clearwater area of FL. This allows me to volunteer on the museum ship *SS American Victory* in Tampa. I was a bit surprised to find that the Engine Room on the *American Victory* is very similar to the Engine Room of the TVSOM from 1973 to 1995, the ex USNS Upshur.

Working in the Engine Room has been a step back in time. If you stop by and tour the ship, the Engine Room is not on the tour, but you can walk through the upper-level catwalk and look down at the turbines and reduction gear."

## 1984



Michael Brown recently retired from the Maritime Administration (MARAD) in Washington DC. His 40-year career included working at Newport News Shipbuilding in VA, Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton WA, NAVSEA in WA DC, Military Sealift Command in WA DC and MARAD in WA DC. This photograph was taken with MMA Grad co-workers at MARAD Headquarters in DC: left Doug Harrington 87D, center Michael Brown 84E and right Matthew Stein 2009E.

## 1989



Mario G. Pantoja proudly reports that his son, Luka, will be headed to Castine in the fall to be part of the International Business and Logistics Class of 2028!

## 1991

Samuel B. Pearson, an assistant professor at Cal Maritime, provided graphics for the New Edition of "American Practical Navigator: An Epitome of Navigation", a comprehensive reference for marine navigation published by U.S. National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA). This publication continues to evolve with updates to reflect advances in navigational technology and techniques. Pearson revealed, "Bowditch has always been an invaluable navigational reference throughout my maritime career as an educator, content creator, and ship officer. As such, I have always wanted to give back. In 1994, when I started teaching celestial navigation (arguably the most challenging of all the courses required for deck officers), I quickly realized that some of my students were struggling to understand complex abstract concepts that form the foundation of the course. Available references at the time, while informative, were confusing for some students. I decided to teach myself computer graphics, animation, and video creation, in order to expand on available navigational references to increase understanding. My digital content proved productive as the overall pass rate for my celestial navigation classes jumped from about 75% to over 98%."

## 1992

Antonio C. Salguero was featured in a story called "Repairing Alabama Masts Is Journey of a Lifetime." His recent project has been the schooner *Alabama*, repairing the masts of the tall ship that remains in the care of the Douglas family. At 68 feet long and over 16 inches in diameter, each of Alabama's masts are much larger than telephone poles. This summer Salguero replaced over half the length of both the fore and the main. "I've built a lot of masts, but never any so big," Salguero said.

## 1992

"From Vernon, CT Police Department facebook page: After over 22 years of service, Sergeant Todd Thiel has officially signed off from the Vernon Police Department. Thiel's presence will have a lasting impact, and he will be irreplaceable. Thiel began his career on February 25th, 2002, and has served the town of Vernon since then. In 2007 Thiel was the department's Officer of the Year. In 2008 he was named the Tolland County

State's Attorney Officer of the Year. Thiel was also a Field Training Officer before he was promoted to Sergeant in 2008. He has served as the Detective Division Sergeant and in his most recent role, the Training and Planning Sergeant. Thiel was also one of the founding members of our department's drone program. It is safe to say that he will be greatly missed by all of us here at the VPD. Please join us in wishing Thiel a long and healthy retirement!"

## 1993

Daryl B. Boyington was featured in a recent article in Maine Biz about work he's doing for SomicAmerica (Brewer, ME) with new automated equipment for the machining and assembly of automotive suspension components. Boyington is an Equipment Procurement Engineer/Designer."

## 1994

Thomas J. Harvey and his wife celebrate our 25th wedding anniversary this year. They currently live in Arcade, NY. Harvey is in his 20th year sailing as Chief Engineer Unlimited HP motor with most of his time spent in the oil & gas industry. Harvey has had the pleasure of working with at least 100 MMA alumni in the past 30 years and still chooses MMA engineers when given the opportunity. Maine engineers handle business ...but he might be slightly biased!

## 1997



Benjiman L. Ward shared, "Alumni gathered for a photo during Sappi's Global Safety Awareness month celebrations at the Somerset facility located in Skowhegan Maine. Sappi employs 35+ MMA Alumni across our four North American manufacturing sites and serving in key roles within our North American Logistics team. From Left to Right: Wayne Doughty '95, Chris Henderson '93, Nick Buck '01, Tracy Tuttle '02, Lucas Kord '17, Ryan Bolduc '00, Misha Curtis '25, Ben Ward '97, Isiah McGann '25, Josh Fogg '07

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## CLASS NOTES

### 1998

Jason Alley reports that he is "still catching Lobsters out of Jonesport U.S.A.!"

### 2000



Captain Mike Dolbec took command of Unmanned Undersea Vehicle Group (UUVGRU) 1 at Naval Base Kitsap-Keyport, Wash., June 14, 2024. The ceremony also marked the official name change for the command, which had been previously named UUV Squadron (UUVRON) 1. The command's new name does not just mean a new logo for the command, but its elevation from a squadron to a group indicates the increased importance associated with the integration of UUVs as a subset of undersea warfare. Unmanned platforms provide increased combat capability, and the increased responsibility and complexity of this mission set is why UUVGRU 1 has been elevated. The former UUV flotillas have also been elevated from flotillas to squadrons: UUVRON 1 in Keyport, Wash., and UUVRON 3 in Ventura County, Calif"

### 2001

Harts Plumbers, Electricians and HVAC Technicians has named experienced industry executive Jason Fournier the company's new president. Fournier has more than 20 years of experience in engineering, construction, energy and home services operations and leadership. He is a graduate of Maine Maritime Academy, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and George Mason University. In 2023, Fournier retired as a commander from the U.S. Navy Reserve.

### 2008



Luke P. Velho "Maine Engineers onboard the MT Polar Resolution (Left to Right): Chief Engineer Velho '08, Second Engineer Kevin Pettengill '14, Third Engineer Jay Trentham '14, First Engineer Jim Russell '14."

### 2009

In the past year and a half Molly Eddy has stepped into the role of Harbormaster for the City of Rockland Maine. She has a ten-year-old son and is living happily with Nathan Pablo in Lincolnville, ME.

### 2011

Shawn Atkinson works as a Chief Engineer for Hornbeck Shipping out of New Orleans, LA. This shipping company provides the slurry to fill oil wells drilled by Shell, but at this time the vessel Atkinson works is a floating hotel for platform laborers providing sufficient desalinated water for consumption and bathing. Atkinson lives in Houston, TX with his wife Logan and daughter Marren (whose name means Star of the Sea in Gaelic).

### 2013

Oscar Adams IV and Kaitlyn Badlato got engaged on March 16, 2024, at Dyce's Head Lighthouse in Castine, ME. The couple met in 2022 and currently reside in Arlington, VA. Badlato works as a medical planner and architect at HKS Architects and Adams works as a management consultant in Deloitte's Government and Public Sector practice.

### 2016

Benjamin J. Powers is living in Maine and working off US West Coast / Bering Sea 7+ months a year, operating a 341' factory trawler in the Pollack and Whiting fisheries since 2015 with American Seafoods Company."

### 2020

Cameron J. Bourque upgraded his license to Chief Mate Unlimited during the spring of 2024. He is currently sailing as a Deck Officer with the Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association (M.E.B.A.).

### 2023

Andrew Topham is working as the Assistant Race Secretary and charter with First Tracks Cumberland.

### 2023

Lynch Logistics, a division of The Lynch Group, is pleased to welcome Joe Marriner to its team as their new Business Development Executive. With drive and initiative and a strong background in business and logistics, Marriner's addition promises to bring a fresh perspective and valuable expertise to the company. Marriner was excited to see MaineBiz posted an article about my new role, and included MMA in the title. "I owe a lot to the education I got from MMA and wanted to pass it along with pride."



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# Eight Bells

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*The tradition of Eight Bells pays respect to deceased mariners and signifies that a sailor's "watch" is over.*

## **JOHN B. ALDEN '43-2**

passed away on June 13, 2024, in Gorham, Maine, at the age of 101, a great loss for everyone who knew him. Alden graduated from Gorham High School, Gorham State Teachers College (USM), and MMA. He joined the Navy in 1942, as a Navy ensign; and served in WW II on the USS *Sapelo* AO-11, a fleet replenishment ship, refueling Navy destroyers at sea. Following WW II, he served 23 years in the Naval Reserve and retired as a Commander. Alden worked at several teaching and engineering jobs, before retiring and joining his father as a cabinetmaker. The beautiful, authentic period pieces built by Alden were collected throughout New England. Alden built their beautiful house with wood from the family woodlot, and he crafted nearly all the furniture inside. The house and woodlot sit on land that has been in the Alden family since 1755, and he had a deep connection with the property, regularly walking in the woods to Alden's Pond and up onto the crest of Alden's Hill. Alden loved being out on the ocean. He built or restored several wooden boats and enjoyed taking the family out for a sail around Casco Bay. A devoted member of First Parish Church of Gorham, Alden was a member of the First Parish Church choir from the time he was in junior high school until he was in his nineties. He sang many beautiful solos with the choir.

## **DALE W. LINDSEY '47**

died on June 27, 2024. Lindsey was born and grew up in Rockland, Maine. Summer work at Snow's Shipyard, an interest in boat building, and World War II led him to MMA. Following graduation, he received a 3rd Assistant Engineers license for steam and motor vessels of unlimited horsepower. He sailed on the S.S. *America* and three other ships of U.S. Lines as Jr. 3rd engineer. He wrote that after that "...one thing led to another." He made his home in Rockland where he first worked as an engineer on fishing boats. Upon attaining his pilot's

license, he was appointed Captain of Mobil Oil Company's *Cape Ann Socony*, a tanker serving islands of mid-coastal Maine and down east. He was elected to the Rockland City Council and served as chairman. Lindsey held several other positions with Mobil and finished his 33-year career as Senior Marine Representative in the U.S. Marine Division, retiring in 1985. Lindsey remained busy in his well-equipped basement workshop. He and his wife continued to live independently in their house and enjoy visits with many friends and neighbors.

## **CAPT. PAUL A. GREGWARE, JR. '49**

passed away August 11, 2024. Born with a spirit that embraced adventure, Gregware was one of only two remaining graduates from the MMA's class of 1949, a proud member of a cohort of 48 who persevered from an initial 200 classmates. His maritime education set the course for a rewarding career spanning more than three decades as a merchant marine, a vocation that took him across the globe, where he encountered diverse cultures and embarked on epic adventures. A man of unwavering honesty and warm hospitality, Gregware was a true gentleman in every sense. He had a remarkable ability to connect with others, never meeting a stranger and always leaving a lasting impression of kindness and respect. His love for the sea was paralleled only by his deep affection for his family. Gregware's ability to listen and make others feel like the only person in the room was one of his most endearing qualities. A tradition dear to Gregware's heart was their annual pilgrimage to Fenway Park, where father and son reveled in the thrill of watching their cherished Red Sox play. Gregware leaves behind a legacy of love, adventure, and integrity. His life was a testament to the virtues of hard work, respect for others, and a boundless curiosity for the world around him. Though he has set sail on his

final journey, the memories he created with family and friends will remain as enduring as the waves he once sailed.

## **HAROLD C. MORSE '50**

passed away April 8, 2024, at Waldo County General Hospital in Belfast. Morse attended Greer Corner School in Belmont for grades K-8, then Crosby High School for grades 9-12, graduating in the Class of 1947. He was a member of the Class of 1950 at MMA. Morse worked for the next five years for Texas Oil Company, working as a merchant marine engineer on the U.S. Wisconsin and the U.S. California. In 1955, Morse joined the U.S. Navy and was stationed in California, New Jersey, Virginia, Massachusetts, and Illinois. He retired as a Lieutenant Commander after 22 years, serving as an officer on the US Lenawee/APA 195, the US Pawcatuck/AO 108, and the US Galveston/CLG3. Shore stations included teaching at Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Military Training Officer at Great Lakes Naval Training Center in Great Lakes, Illinois, teaching firefighting and damage control courses, and at Naval and Marine Reserve Training Center in Springfield, Massachusetts. After retirement, the family returned to Belfast where Morse worked in refrigeration and maintenance for Penobscot Frozen Foods from 1972-2005. He also maintained and managed a blueberry farm in Belmont for 40+ years. In addition, during the 1970's, he owned and operated the local Montgomery Ward franchise store for many years. Hal has resided at Tall Pines Assisted Living for the last few years where he enjoyed playing cards and companionship with the other residents.

## **HERBERT E. MOLKE, JR. '53**

passed away peacefully on June 20, 2024, at his High Crest Lake home. Born and raised in New Milford, New Jersey, he graduated from Hackensack High School in 1948 and MMA in 1953. Molke enlisted in the military, proudly serving his country as an officer

in the Navy. He worked and retired as a teacher from Bergen Tech Vocational High School. Molke played basketball, soccer and baseball in high school, basketball in college, and loved playing softball and golf. He enjoyed gardening, walking, travel and his beloved New York Yankees, but mostly Molke enjoyed spending time with his family at High Crest Lake and Myrtle Beach, SC.

### **JOHN W. ADAM III '54**

passed away peacefully at Ellis Hospital after a short illness surrounded by the love of his family on April 24, 2024. Adam was born in Tuxedo, N.Y. As a young boy, Adam and his family moved to Natick, Massachusetts, where he graduated from Natick High School. After high school, he graduated from MMA with a degree in Marine Engineering. He served as a lieutenant (LT, O3) in the US Navy. His naval service laid the groundwork for a successful career at General Electric in Schenectady, N.Y., with the Gas Turbine Sales Division. In retirement, Adam discovered a second calling as a general carpenter, using his skills in a more hands-on manner. Adam was there whenever you needed him. Beyond his professional life, Adam's love for his family, the Yankees Baseball team, and his enjoyment of square dancing highlighted his passions in life.

### **CAPT. ROLAND O. MELCHER '56**

passed April 24, 2024. Melcher served in the United States Navy for 33 years, attaining the rank of captain. He proudly served his country in multiple commands and facets, including as the commanding officer of AUTECH (Andros Undersea Test and Evaluation Center), on Andros Island in the Bahamas. After retiring from the Navy, Melcher continued to serve his country while working in shipbuilding for Bath Iron Works in Bath. Melcher was a Freemason. He served as the MMA Alumni Association's President from 1986 to 1988. He earned a Post Graduate degree from the Calhoun Institute in 1966 while serving aboard the USS *Nereus*.

### **KENNETH P. OLDHAM '56**

passed away August 16, 2024. Oldham was born in Lewiston, Maine, on January 3, 1935. He graduated from Edward Little High School in Auburn, ME and attended MMA. Oldham served his country honorably in the United States Navy and was discharged as a commissioned officer. He was employed for many years at Travelers Insurance Company. Oldham was very active in Boy

Scouts of America during his youth and earned the rank of Eagle Scout. He was a long-time member of Normandale Hylands United Methodist Church in Bloomington, Minnesota and most recently a member of Texas Corners Bible Church.

### **HERBERT C. PHELPS '57**

of South Portland, Maine, passed away on March 24, 2024. Phelps worked in the Merchant Marine as an engineer for many years, with his most cherished accomplishment being his involvement in the first nuclear commercial ship, the N.S. *Savannah*. Phelps loved to be around his family and the outdoors. He could often be found in his front yard, pipe in hand, watching passersby and engaging in friendly chatter with neighbors. His hobbies include woodworking, hunting and being outdoors. His legacy of hard work, love for his family, and dedication to his passions will forever be remembered by those who knew and loved him.

### **JOHN K. HARRIGAN '64**

passed away peacefully on July 3, 2024. He attended Salem High School, graduated from MMA with a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Engineering and later went on to earn a Master of Public Administration degree from Northeastern University. Harrigan proudly served in the Merchant Marines as a Third Assistant Engineer and was a U.S. Navy commissioned officer where he earned the rank of Lieutenant.

After his service, he held positions as an Engineer with Stone and Webster Corporation and Air Control Equipment. Harrigan was also an entrepreneur and owned several successful businesses. Later in life, he took a position with the State of Massachusetts as a Project Manager with the Department of Corrections. Harrigan served on the Lynnfield Housing Authority and Lynnfield Water District serving as a Commissioner and Treasurer for many years until his death. Harrigan was an avid coin collector, member of the American Legion (Post 131) and a member of the Lynnfield Veterans War Memorial Committee.

### **MICHAEL F. SCALA, JR. '64**

passed away May 29, 2024, at Wentworth-Douglass Hospital after a brief illness. Scala graduated from Spaulding High School in 1959 and MMA in 1964 with a degree in marine engineering. Scala sailed for American Export and worked in the car business, where he was awarded Salesman of the Month three years in a row. Scala also opened and ran several restaurants in Maine and New Hampshire, including Scala's Sub, Inn Town Restaurant, Marie's Restaurant, Fisherman's Net, and the Close to Home Restaurant. He ran the Kingswood Country Club Restaurant in Wolfeboro and Province Lake Country Club each for two summers. Scala loved the Patriots (especially Tom Brady), coast of Maine, cooking, reading books about the sea, horror movies, and time with his family.

**NOLAN K. IRISH** passed away unexpectedly on April 30, 2024, as the result of a motorcycle accident. He was born in Portland, Maine, the son of Lester Irish and Lisa Taylor. Irish grew up in Gorham, graduating with honors from Gorham High School in 2020. He continued his education at MMA with a dream of traveling the world as Captain of his ship, with his own stateroom. He was very proud to be a part of the MMA family. He had just returned from a 12-week internship on a tugboat in the Gulf of Mexico, where he bunked with 3 others and left the ship only for groceries when in port. He handled the experience with his usual grace, style, and persistence — with only a little cabin fever near the end. President Jerry Paul shared that Irish was exactly the type of student they wanted: dedicated and hard working. When he put his mind to something, there was no stopping him. Irish brought a smile, conversation, and laughter to any situation. He was known for his respect for others, can-do attitude, tenacity, and the bright smile on his face. During a summer of door-to-door sales, strangers welcomed him into their homes and invited him to visit, play games, and meet their pets. He loved being on the water, downhill skiing, target shooting, motorcycles, and exotic cars. Irish made life better and brighter.

## FRANK W. RICHARDSON III '65

passed away April 20, 2024. Richardson was born in South Portland, Maine. He graduated from South Portland High School in 1961 where he was a star football player, editor, and played trombone in the marching band. He received his Marine Engineering degree from MMA, "the finest engineering school in America." Richardson moved to Beaumont in 1967 where he worked for Texaco. After many years of sailing, he started at Bethlehem Steel as the night superintendent and worked his way up to the plant manager, where he was responsible for thousands of employees. His greatest accomplishment was bringing the only dry dock in the world from Hawaii to Port Arthur, Texas. The project took over a year. After 22 years at Bethlehem, he opened his own marine consulting firm until he retired. Richardson was a commander in the United States Navy and a Merchant Marine for 22 years. He was a member of the Hiram Masonic Lodge in South Portland, Maine, the Pontiac Club, and Texas Lonestar Buick Club. Richardson was a remarkable person with a dynamic and commanding spirit. He was classy and had a hilarious sense of humor, but still was mentally sharp as a whip until the end. His stories were captivating, and he could talk to you for hours. Richardson was better than any marketing or social media company, telling everyone they must go to Portland to experience "the greatest place on earth." He was a self-taught drummer who played in the band, "Peter and the Jaguars."

## ALBERT E. ANABLE, III '66

died on May 3, 2024, at home in Holderness, New Hampshire. Born in Plymouth, Mass., Anable grew up in Boothbay, Maine, where he lobstered with his father on the Damariscotta River and enjoyed the festive yearly family clambakes. A life on the ocean was his calling: he graduated from MMA in 1966, which led to a successful 38-year career in the Merchant Marines, where he achieved the rank of chief engineer. Anable loved living in Holderness where he could hike and bike in the scenic White Mountains, play tennis with friends, and sail on Newfound Lake in the summer. He was happiest cruising around in his bass boat on Squam Lake, always on the lookout for "The Big One." Everyone who knew Anable enjoyed his

sense of humor, his willingness to help with home projects and car maintenance, and his love for Italian food. Anable took pride in being the family chef, always ready to dish up a simmering pot of his homemade marinara sauce, a bowl of fish chowder, or a big basket of fried shrimp. Along with his passion for food, Anable loved to bond with his son-in-law over the Bruins, Red Sox, and all things chainsaw related.

## STEPHEN R. BARBARA '67

died on April 6, 2024.

## BRUCE A. JORDAN '68

passed away on August 1, 2024. Jordan graduated from MMA as a marine engineer. He began his career shipping out as a third and second engineer with Gulf Oil. Later, he worked as a loss control representative for several insurance companies. Jordan enjoyed hunting and fishing with the guys, gardening and BBQing in the backyard, and, above all, spending time with friends and family. Jordan also enjoyed countless nights in Starks, Maine, where he built his camp by hand and could always be found on a 4-wheeler or tree stand. His love for the outdoors and dedication to his family were evident to all who knew him.

## RODNEY J. LUCAS '69

passed away peacefully at his home in The Villages, Florida, on April 5, 2024. Lucas grew up in Lisbon Falls and York Harbor, Maine. He was a graduate of York High School in 1965 where he lettered in football, basketball and baseball. He attended MMA and graduated with the class of 1969. He attained his Chief Engineers license while employed by Gulf Oil before he decided to find a job onshore to raise his family. He was a member of the Lions Club, Trustee of York Sewer District, and a member of Cape Neddick Country Club. Lucas was Distribution Manager at Nike and the Director of Distribution for Cole Haan before his retirement where he enjoyed many rounds of golf and bocce with family and friends.

## WILLIAM T. ORR '74

passed away peacefully on April 5, 2024. Orr was a long-time resident of Lake Hopatcong, New Jersey. He was a retired Merchant Marine and a retired tugboat Captain with Amboy Aggregates. Most

recently, Orr was a Captain on the *Miss Lotta* on Lake Hopatcong. He was a parishioner of St. Jude RC Church in Hopatcong, a member of the Lake Hopatcong Elks Lodge, the Lake Hopatcong Yacht Club, Rory O'More Pipes & Drums, and the American Legion. Orr enjoyed golfing, model building and playing the bagpipes but most importantly, he loved spending quality time with his loving family.

## JEFFREY R. BARTLETT '78

passed away at his home on July 20, 2024. Bartlett graduated from Calais High School in 1974. He continued his education at MMA, where he served as Regimental Commander and graduated in 1978 with a B.S. in Marine Engineering. Bartlett had a full career as a Merchant Marine, rising quickly to serve as Chief Engineer in the U.S. Navy's Military Sealift Command. He served over 20 years, earning many accolades along the way. After retirement from MSC, Bartlett continued to sail as a Chief Engineer with the Maine State Ferry Service. He loved his camp in the mountains, the company of his dogs, and his time spent on motorcycles. Bartlett enjoyed his motorcycle so much that he had it shipped to London while earning his master's degree there. He took his motorcycle on many long trips, including across the US and most recently to Newfoundland.

## PHILIP J. PELLETIER '83

passed away unexpectedly June 14, 2024, due to complications related to Parkinson's Disease. Pelletier was raised in Topsham, Maine, and attended St. John's School and Mt. Ararat High School. Pelletier received his Marine Engineering degree in 1983 from MMA in Castine, Maine. Upon graduation, he shipped out for two years. After experiencing an engine room fire where he saved two people's lives, he decided to retire from shipping and went to work at Seabrook Station Nuclear Power Plant, Bath Iron Works, and General Electric. He worked in various roles at GE's Medford service center, retiring in April 2021. Pelletier was brilliant and served in various roles/capacities for GE. He made and maintained lifelong friendships throughout his career and was diligent in his professional life which extended to his personal relationships. Pelletier was a master builder and personally transformed his house in

Hampton. He was a lover of golf, all things New England sports, and above all else put his family first. He was active in his kids' sports activities and never missed the opportunity to teach them a life lesson. He led by example – whether on the field or court, physical activity, or being the first to open a good bottle of red wine. Pelletier had an unmatched sense of humor. He was quick-witted and always the last one to give a one-liner.

### **WILLIAM A. CLARK '87**

passed away on April 24, 2024, in Ossipee, New Hampshire. He attended Portsmouth High School and MMA. Clark worked for Merchant Marine's, BOC Gas, and Starboard Trade (his own business).

### **S. ROBERT SILVERTON '89**

passed away July 8, 2024. Born in New York City, he was raised in Springfield, Massachusetts. Silverton received a B.A. from Lehigh University, an MBA from WNEU, and

an M.S. from MMA. He served in the Army in the 1960s, and again in 1993, earning the Meritorious Service Medal for his dedicated longtime service. Silverton was a pilot for Allegheny Airlines, which became part of US Airways, and retired in 1990. He was an army pilot, a deck officer on army vessels, and sailed with the Merchant Marines as a 2nd Mate after his retirement from the military. Silverton was a former member of the Samuel D. Sherwood Lodge of Masons and a member of Sinai Temple.

### **MICHAEL M. CARON '91**

passed away July 3, 2024, at his home. Caron graduated from Lewiston High School in 1987 and MMA in 1991. He served as a Chief Engineer for 20 years with American Maritime Officers. After retiring, he continued working as a Regional Project Manager for Covanta Energy Corporation. He was a die-hard fan of the New England Patriots and New Jersey Devils. He enjoyed watching horse racing, walking his dog

Zoey, and competing against his family in Jeopardy. His favorite place to visit was his home state, Maine, where he enjoyed eating his lobster rolls, UFOs, Fergy's, Super Burritos, frozen custard, and Red Snappers. Caron lit up every room he walked into and spent most of his time joking around. He always made everyone around him laugh. He was loved by all who knew him.

### **EDMUND N. WATSON '95**

passed away on May 1, 2024. He attended Ellsworth High School, UConn (where he studied mechanical engineering), and MMA (where he earned an associate degree with high honors). Watson worked for HE Sargent Construction, Crooker Construction, and Bath Iron Works (in the electrical department).

*Most Eight Bells entries are obtained from online news sources and edited for length. To access the Eight Bells archive visit [mainemaritime.edu/alumni](https://mainemaritime.edu/alumni).*



## **Join the Blue and Gold Ambassador Program**

MMA's Blue and Gold Ambassador Program continues the effort to engage alumni and other volunteers to promote the mission of MMA and help recruit the next generation of Mariners. Who better to speak to the near-limitless opportunities that lie ahead than our community of supporters? The registration form lists several ways a volunteer can help. We are especially eager to recruit recently graduated alumni and build our roster of graduates in non-regimental majors (45% of our student body is non-regimental). Contact Jeff Cockburn ('84) in the Admissions Office with any questions - [jeffrey.cockburn@mma.edu](mailto:jeffrey.cockburn@mma.edu) or 207-326-2348.

Expand the brand!

To register: <https://bit.ly/4cybm7l>



## Sailing Practice

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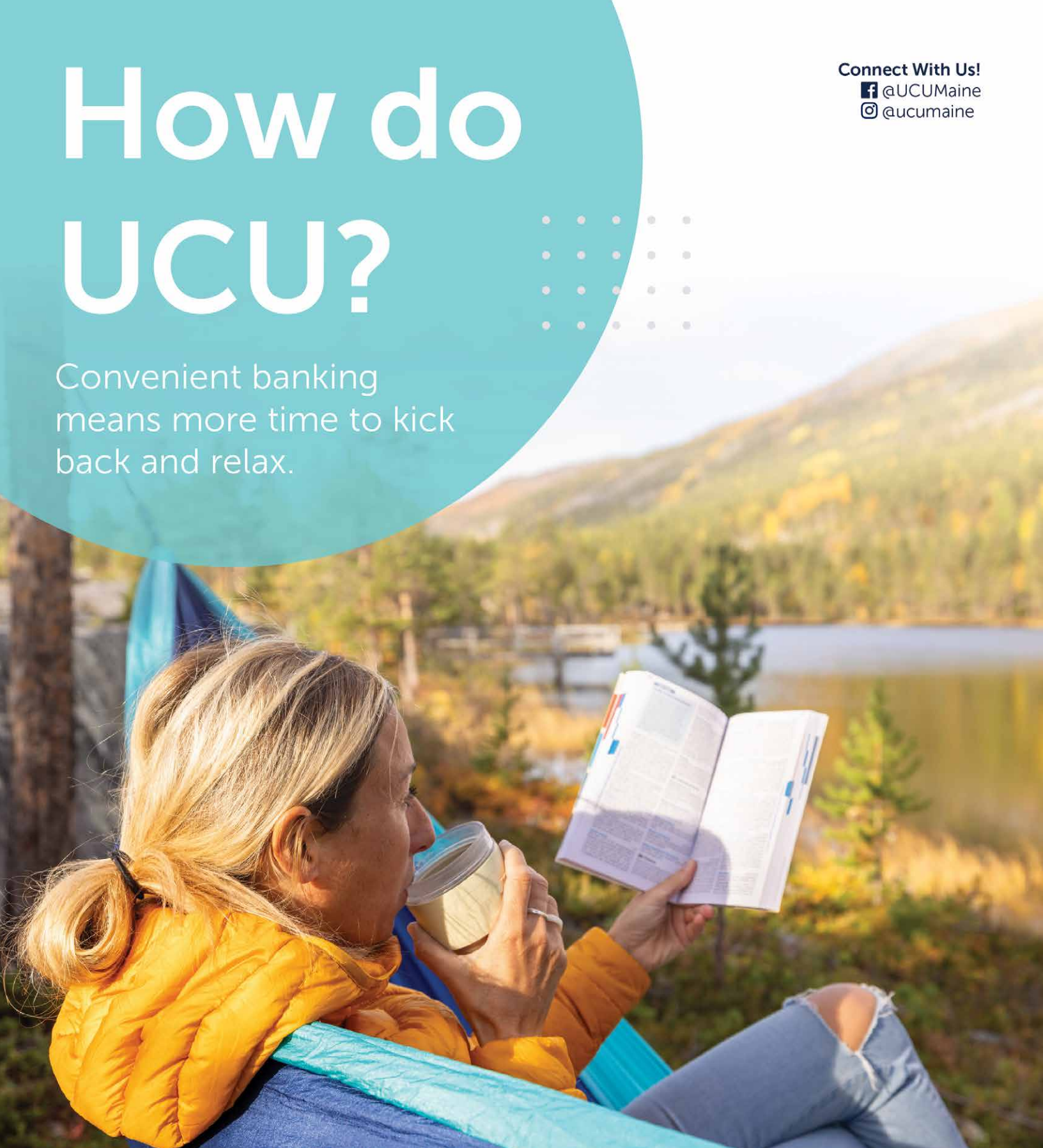
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