#### ISSUE 1 · 2 JUNE 2023

# **UNDER WAY**

Newsletter For Incoming Mariners of MMA

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Welcome Class of 2027 to the first issue of UNDER WAY, a newsletter for incoming students at Maine Maritime Academy. The aim of this biweekly summer newsletter is to be an additional tool in MMA's onboarding of new Mariners to our community. In each issue we will highlight different aspects of MMA and the Town of Castine; provide you with relevant and timely information on topics and questions you may have in the lead-up to your arrival on campus in August; provide a small glimpse into what life is like at Maine Maritime Academy; and highlight some of the many ways you can enrich your MMA experience.

We know transitioning to college can at times be overwhelming with all the information tossed your way, needing to remember which department to talk to for this or that, and all that's before thinking about what to pack to bring with you to campus. Rest assured, all of us at MMA are here to help. If you have any questions at all this summer, please reach out.

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## MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY WHERE A SMALL COMMUNITY FEELS LIKE A LARGE FAMILY

### **ACRONYMS & LINGO**

Companies, industries, and higher education alike love acronyms and oftentimes have their own lingo. Below are some of the common acronyms & lingo you'll hear on campus:

<u>The Bilge</u> ~ Located within Curtis Hall, this recreational space has a pool & ping-pong table, TVs, board games, couches, a video game lounge, and a kitchen.

<u>CAB</u> (Campus Activities Board)  $\sim$  A student group that plans and sponsors a variety of on and offcampus events for students to take advantage of.

<u>Mess Deck</u> ~ Located in the Alfond Student Center, this is the main dining room/location on campus.

<u>MUGs</u> (Midshipmen Under Guidance) ~ New members of the Regiment of Midshipmen are known as MUGs during RPT and MUG Month.

<u>Non-Reg</u> ~ Students who are not a part of the Regiment of Midshipmen, also called Independent Students.

<u>OLs</u> (Orientation Leaders) ~ OLs are returning students who assist incoming students in their transition to MMA during New Student Orientations. <u>RAs</u> (Resident Assistants)  $\sim$  RAs are students who are charged with being leaders, resources, and community builders to the residents of Curtis Hall.

<u>Reg</u> ~ Refers to The Regiment of Midshipmen, or Regimental Students (those participating in The Regiment of Midshipmen).

<u>RPT</u> (Regimental Preparatory Training) ~ The time during which MUGs are prepared for regimental life.

 $\frac{SGA}{SGA}$  (Student Government Association) ~ Student leaders elected by their peers to represent the MMA student body as a whole.

<u>The Wedge</u> ~ Student leaders within the Reg who are responsible for the Regiment and its organization.

<u>Waypoint</u>  $\sim$  A snack bar and recreation area located in the Alfond Student Center, below the Mess Deck. Open in the evenings for food, but open all day for a place to gather, or play a piano.

#### **CASTINE HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **Outdoor Recreation**

Are you a fan of the outdoors? Here are some outdoor adventures to check out in Castine:

#### Backshore Beach | <u>Castine Kayak</u> | Dyce Head Lighthouse | Fort George | Fort Madison | Hatch Cove Preserve | Witherle Woods

Check out Castine's self-guided walking tour. Download the 'Castine History Highlights' app.

### Lodging

The following are lodging options in Castine:

Castine Cottages | Castine Inn | MMA's Leavitt Hall | Pentagöet Inn

**UNDER WAY** 

#### **CAMPUS HIGHLIGHT**

THE OFFICE OF RESIDENTIAL LIFE works to assist Maine Maritime's residential students in various capacities, with our largest focus on creating a community within the residence halls where students feel safe, supported, respected, and can become engaged members of the residential community. The Res Life team is comprised of Blossom Thao, Director of Residential Life & Student Activities; Dan Gardner, Assistant Director of Residential Life; and 13 Resident Assistants (RAs) who are the true heroes of the team.

For many students, when they first move into Curtis Hall, it will be their first time sharing a bedroom, and other common spaces with peers. Some will adapt to this with ease, while others will struggle. Some students may initially be a bit homesick, others will need some pointers on how to communicate with their roommate or on conflict mediation. In each of these instances, the RAs are a great resource for students to seek out.

There are three pieces of advice we'd like to share with you to keep in the back of your mind as you begin your college career:

#### HOW TO CONTACT US

Blossom Thao blossom.thao@mma.edu 207.326.2280

Dan Gardner daniel.gardner@mma.edu 207.326.2264

### General Email housing@mma.edu

You've heard it before but this is applicable throughout all of life: when you need help, reach out and ask for it. Remember, it's best to ask for help when the issue at hand is a small ripple in the water, rather than a tsunami.



Think about how your decisions and actions, for the good or the bad, will impact your peers. Part of being a contributing member of any community - whether within a residence hall or aboard a ship - is being mindful and respectful of others.



Take advantage of as many opportunities provided to you while at MMA as you can. Ahead of you lies an opportunity to forge lifelong friendships, as well as lifelong memories.

### The Residential Life Offices Are Located On The First Floor Of Curtis Hall In The Trophy Lobby

### RA HIGHLIGHT Hunnie Zuber-Stephens



#### Hometown: Lubbock, Texas

Year: Junior

Major/Minor: Marine Biology & Small Vessel Operations with a minor in Physical Science & Oceanography

What Instantly Makes Your Day Better: A kind conversation

What Are Some Of Your Hobbies: Volleyball, reading, beach walks

A Fun Fact About Yourself: I'm named after the teacher from *Matilda*!

## **UPCOMING DATES**

<u>Roommate Selection</u> (Optional): Open May 15 - July 17 <u>On-Campus Housing Applications</u> Due: June 30 <u>Off-Campus Appeals</u> Due: June 30 You can complete the above by navigating to mystudentife.mma.edu and then clicking Housing Applications 2023-2024.

New Student Orientation (Preregistration Required)

- + Saturday, June 3 (Registration Closed)
- + Saturday, June 24 (This Session Is At Capacity)
- + Saturday, July 15

Orientation sign-up is embedded in your housing application, so if you need to register, head to mystudentlife.mma.edu.

## **Did You Know:**

SENATOR RALPH LEAVITT OF PORTLAND LED THE WORK FOR THE CREATION OF MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY.

ON MARCH 21, 1941, WITH THE Passing of an act by the 90th maine legislature, MMA was born.

