



MARITIME COLLEGE
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION - SINCE 1903



From Fort Schuyler & Beyond: YOUR Alumni Newsletter
August 27, 2026

From the President

Dear Fellow Alumni,

Summer at the MCAA is never really a vacation. Our Chapters kept the fellowship rolling all season, from the New York Capital Region Chapter's July 9 evening with the cadets and crew of TSES VII at a Tri-City ValleyCats game in Troy, where we were proud to help welcome the ship in the Port of Albany before her return to campus on Thursday, July 16. We also had New Jersey, Baltimore, Houston and Tampa Bay Chapter events that ranged from gatherings in both July and August at the Jersey Shore to "Sips & Ships" in Tampa. On July 15, six more alumni completed PROP training to become Privateer Recruiting Officers, capping the training off the next day by riding TSES VII from the Stapleton Anchorage into her home berth at Olivet Pier to close out SST 2026. Working with the College Admissions Office, our robust complement of Privateer Recruiting Officers have been speaking at college fairs nationwide, and, we look forward to continuing the momentum in the coming academic year.

On campus, RADM John Okon '91 and Valerie Okon '92 hosted the MCAA-sponsored INDOC Graduation Legacy Breakfast at Quarters One on Saturday, August 22, welcoming 20 alumni and their cadets among the latest 405 MUG INDOC graduates who officially joined Maritime Nation this month. Add in a strong slate of cadets earning their USCG licenses in August and a fall calendar already filling with a Tomb Leadership Lecture on September 3, the Admiral's Dinner on September 15, our Second Annual MCAA Sporting Clays event on October 5, Homecoming weekend October 23 and 24, and more. It's clear that Academic Year 26/27 is off to a great start. As you can see – we have been busy! Where did the summer go?

If you're a paid MCAA Sustaining Member, you can expect your copy of the Summer 2026 issue of Fort Schuyler in your mailbox soon – so for you, the summer is not quite over yet. And remember: you can always [contact our Editor, Don Gale](#), with your comments and suggestions for our newsletters and magazines.

Fair winds and following seas, Shipmates; I hope to see you at an upcoming MCAA event soon!

Stephen J Carbery '80
President, MCAA

Association News

July 15 PROP a Success!

On Wednesday, July 15, six more alumni came to campus to receive training for PROP – the Privateer Recruiting Officer Program jointly offered by Maritime College and the Alumni Association. We now have a team of 59 PROPs ready to represent Maritime College in helping high school students to learn about

the educational and career pathways the college offers. Capping off their training, new PROPs rode the TS Empire State VII from the Stapleton Anchorage to Olivet Pier for her homeporting the next day! PROP has undoubtedly helped grow the incoming Maritime student body this year, and we can't wait to continue working with the College Admissions department on more outreach going forward.

Summer Chapter Updates

For many of us, summer means relaxing and spending time with family, friends, and favorite colleagues – and several MCAA Chapters offered ample opportunities to reconnect. Domer pride never takes a vacation! Look forward to more gatherings as the summer winds down and we head into fall.

On Thursday, July 9, the **New York Capital Region Chapter** hosted the cadets and crew of TSES VII on their way from Sail250 and before her return to campus. Alumni and College staff accompanied the party for an evening at **Joseph L. Bruno Stadium** in Troy to enjoy a Frontier League game between the **Tri-City ValleyCats** and the Trois-Rivières Aigles for a fun, casual networking event for cadets and alumni alike. Special thanks to everyone who sponsored a cadet for the evening, to our beverage sponsors John Valvo '83 and Carver Companies, and to the SUNY Maritime Parents Association for helping to bring this event together.



July 9 also saw the **New Jersey Chapter** gather at **Bar Anticipation**, a.k.a. “**Bar A**”, in Lake Como, NJ for their second event of the year. Around a dozen alumni came out to this Jersey Shore venue for drinks and camaraderie under the summer evening sky.



The **Tampa Bay Chapter** met Thursday, July 23, at **Willa's** in Tampa, FL for “Sips & Ships” with about thirty alumni and friends gathered for a social evening. The Chapter is glad that Gerhard Muller '52 was able to attend and are grateful to OSG for supporting this event – as well to Chapter



On the afternoon of Saturday, July 11, the **Baltimore Chapter** hosted their fourth event of 2026 at **Guinness Open Gate Brewery** in Halethorpe, MD. Thank you to Beth Christman '87 & Roger Brow '86 for organizing the event!



Never to pass up a summer get-together “down the shore”, the **New Jersey Chapter** once again gathered Wednesday, August 19, at **The Sandbox at Seastreak** in Highlands, NJ. Thanks to Paulina Trzepacz '05 and

President Ashley O'Brien '17 and Vice President Kerri Bancroft '05 for their leadership and enthusiasm.

Capt. Jamie McNamara '94 for bringing NJ Chapter's summer events together!



eBrochure

Look Sharp: MCAA Sporting Clays Tournament Returns

Monday, October 5
Orvis Sandanona Shooting Grounds

3047 Sharon Turnpike
Millbrook, New York 12545.

Set in the forested hills of Dutchess County, about two hours from Manhattan, Sandanona is the nation's oldest permitted shooting preserve. Test your marksmanship and enjoy an early fall day with your friends while supporting our cause.

Proceeds fund our SST Scholarships and MCAA programming. **Sponsorship opportunities are available!**

For additional inquiries, please contact Joseph Colella '79, jcs.colella@gmail.com.

Registration



eBrochure

Direct to Registration

Tee up for the Ancient Mariner Golf Outing!

Hit the links for more autumn outdoor enjoyment at the annual **MCAA Ancient Mariner Golf Outing** on **Friday, October 23**, at the **Pelham Bay and Split Rock Golf Courses** in The Bronx, just a short drive, cab, or Uber ride from campus to kick off the Homecoming weekend festivities.

7:00 AM Registration & Breakfast
8:30 PM Shotgun Start
1:30 PM Luncheon

Sponsorships available! Lunch-only tickets also available for non-golfers. ***Golf Prices will increase on September 23rd. Register now!***

October 24: Welcome Home, Alumni!

Join us for **Homecoming 2026** on **Saturday, October 24**, featuring reunions, the All-Day Tailgate, Regiment Pass-in-Review, alumni athletic events, the MCAA Annual Meeting, Privateers football, and a post-game celebration. View the full schedule and register [HERE](#).

Call for Nominations: 2027 Distinguished Alumni Honors Dinner

Help us recognize classmates and colleagues who have made an exceptional impact on our alumni community and the maritime industry. **Nominations close September 15.** Submit your nomination [HERE](#).

Call for Content: Fort Schuyler Magazine

Share your career updates, alumni gatherings, Maritime memories, sea stories, and photos for the Winter 2027 edition. Submit your story [HERE](#).

Join or Renew Your MCAA Membership

Stay connected to the Association and your fellow alumni by joining or renewing your MCAA Sustaining Membership. Our Sustaining Membership gives you **voting rights**, the ability to hold an **Officer or Board position**, supports the work of YOUR Alumni Association - AND gets you a biannual **hard copy of Fort Schuyler magazine**. Access the Membership Form [HERE](#).

College News**9/11 Boatlift Commemorated at September 3 Tomb Lecture**

On **Tuesday, September 3**, as part of the James Harvey Tomb Leadership Lecture Series, Jessica **DuLong**, author of **"Saved at the Seawall"**, will present the account of what became the largest boat rescue in history following the 9/11 terrorist attack on lower Manhattan. A cocktail hour and VIP book signing is offered at 5:30-6:30PM, followed by her lecture, free of charge, at the Maritime Academic Center Multi-purpose Room (MAC MPR). **This event is made possible through the generous support of the Class of October 1946 Fund of the Maritime College Alumni Association.** Registrations for the cocktail hour and for the lecture are available [HERE](#).

October Shipbuilding Conference at Maritime Museum

The Maritime Industry Museum at Fort Schuyler will host a one-day **2026 Shipbuilding in America Conference** on **Tuesday, October 20, 2026**. Industry leaders will discuss the resurgence, current state, and future of American shipbuilding and repair. Sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, contact Matt Bonvento '01, maritimeindustrymuseum@gmail.com, or visit their website for registration and sponsorship details [HERE](#).

Cadets Earn USCG Licenses during August

Congratulations to all of the Maritime cadets who passed their USCG License exams this August, including seven Third Engineers who passed all eight of their required exams on their first attempt!

INDOC: Class of 2030 is IN!

On Wednesday, August 12, the Maritime College campus came alive with 415 INDOC entrants who became acclimated over the next ten days to the disciplines and conduct of life at Maritime in preparation for their journey of "Learning at Sea". Congratulations to 405 MUGs who graduated Saturday, August 22, and to their families. Special thanks to guest speaker Denalin Randall '13 for his inspiring address to the MUGs. Welcome to the Maritime Nation!

Admiral's Dinner Set for September 15

Mark your calendar for **September 15** at Marina Del Rey in The Bronx for the annual **Maritime College Admiral's Dinner**, celebrating the College and supporting students. This year's honoree is International Registries, Inc. (IRI), with President William R. Gallagher accepting the award. Registration and sponsorships are available [HERE](#).

Upcoming Events

Click [HERE](#) to view all events on the MCAA Calendar.

Thursday, September 3 – **James Harvey Tomb Leadership Lecture Series:** “Saved at the Seawall” by Jessica DuLong, SUNY Maritime College Campus. Details & Registration [HERE](#).

Thursday, September 10, 3:00-4:00PM – **Fall Commencement**, SUNY Maritime College

Friday, September 11, 7:45AM-6:00PM – **Ports of Philadelphia Maritime Society Annual Golf Outing and Crab Feast** – Philadelphia PA. Details & Registration [HERE](#). Supported by the Delaware Valley Philadelphia Chapter.

Tuesday, September 15 – **Maritime College Admiral’s Dinner**, Marina Del Rey, The Bronx, NY. The College’s premier networking and fundraising event! Registration and sponsorships [HERE](#).

Saturday, September 19, 9:00AM-1:00PM – **Fifth Annual George C. Previll Inter-Academy Monomoy Classic**, Waterfront, SUNY Maritime College. Sponsored by the Marine Society of the City of New York.

Wednesday, September 23, 5:00PM, **DelVal Chapter Whiskey & Cigar Night** at Admiral Ben Bow Inn, Glen Mills, PA. Event information [HERE](#).

Monday, September 28, 7:00AM-4:00PM – **Houston Chapter 3rd Annual Golf Classic**, The Club at Falcon Point, Katy, TX. Details & registration [HERE](#).

Monday, October 5, 8:30AM-4:00PM – **2nd Annual MCAA Sporting Clays Tournament**, Orvis Sandanona, Millbrook, NY. Email Joseph Colella '79, jcs.colella@gmail.com with any questions. Details & Registration [HERE](#).

Tuesday, October 20, 8:00AM-4:00PM - **Shipbuilding in America Conference**, Maritime Industry Museum, SUNY Maritime College. Discuss the status and future of shipbuilding in the U.S. Registration and sponsorships [HERE](#).

Tuesday-Wednesday, October 6-7, 12:00-4:00PM – **Maritime College Fall Career Fair**, Riesenbergy Gymnasium, Maritime College. For information and to register, click [HERE](#) and contact Michelle Reina, Director of Career Services, Mreina@sunymaritime.edu.

Friday, October 23, 7:00AM-3:00PM – **MCAA Ancient Mariner Golf Outing**, Pelham Bay & Split Rock Golf Courses, The Bronx, NY. Tickets and sponsorship packages [HERE](#).

Saturday, October 24 – **Homecoming**, SUNY Maritime Campus, The Bronx, NY. Year ‘1 and ‘6 Class Reunions, All-Day Tailgate, Pass-in-Review, MCAA Annual Meeting, Privateers Football, Alumni Sporting Events, Paddy’s-On-The-Bay. Homecoming info page with registration links to events [HERE](#).

November 2026 – **Fall Networking & Nominations** Night, Manhattan, NYC

Tuesday, January 12, 2027, 9:00AM-3:00PM – **2nd Annual Port Tampa Bay Maritime Expo**, Tampa, FL. For area high school, college, and adult students; outreach, recruitment, and sponsorship opportunities by Port Tampa Bay maritime tenants, partners, maritime academies, military branches, and educational institutions. Event information [HERE](#).

Thursday, January 28, 2027 – **Save the Date for the MCAA Distinguished Alumni Honors Dinner**, Manhattan, NYC. Join us as alumni, College staff, and friends honor our Distinguished Alumni for their personal and professional accomplishments.

Ebb Tide

Fair winds & following seas to fellow Alumni who have most recently crossed the bar.

David "Dave" Treffs '54
David Koczur '64
Col. Robert "Bob" Gilman USAF (Ret.) '65
Michael "Mike" Jacobs '65
Anthony "Tugboat Tony" Savas '65
John Balletto '70
Robert "Robbie" or "Frac" Fracchia '70
Richard Kilhenny '71
David Costill '72
John Tylawsky '76
John "Jay" Webster '80
Darrell "Pops" Garvey, Sr. '82

Please click [HERE](#) to view the full Ebb Tide log on the MCAA Website.

Signal Flags

In case you need to get ahold of us, please reach out to the following individuals:

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From Your Friends at the Maritime College Alumni Association



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