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THE MAGAZINE FOR MARITIME COLLEGE ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

SPRING 2019





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FEATURES



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18 Barnes-Hayes Mother/Daughter Maritime Duo



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ON THE COVER:

The offshore sailing team won its first national championship since 1983. The McMillian Cup win qualified the team for the Kennedy Cup and the team won the final three races to complete the national title bid.

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Greetings, Fellow Alumni.

I would like to introduce myself to those of you who do not know me. My name is Jennifer Barnes-Hayes and I am class of 1980. I carry on a proud tradition of being the third alumnus from the class of '80 to serve as President*. This is an exciting time for the College and the Association and I am honored and privileged that the alumni have placed their confidence in my stewardship.

Stewardship. What does that word mean? I found a definition of stewardship in a *New York Times* article on leadership that I would like to share:

“At its most basic level, stewardship is acting upon the understanding that leadership is a temporary role, which is outlasted by the lifespan of an organization. A leader is performing the act of stewardship whenever he or she is actively preparing for an organization’s future vitality.”**

LETTER FROM JENNIFER BARNES-HAYES '80

President, Maritime College Alumni Association

Every one of us is a steward of Maritime College and has an obligation to protect the College’s future vitality. We strive to meet this obligation when we join the Alumni Association and pay our annual dues; when we attend the Alumni Association and Maritime College events; when we contribute financially to the Summer Sea Term scholarships; when we spend time volunteering in some way, when we mentor a student who is struggling to find his or her way; when we share our Fort Schuyler experience with a high school junior who may join our ranks, and when we hire a fellow graduate which in turn strengthens our network.

And every dollar that we spend, and every hour that we dedicate to this stewardship only serves in increasing the value of our degrees and preserving the Fort Schuyler Experience for the next generation. The better the College does, the better we all do. One for all, and all for one.

Thank you.

New York Maritime: First and Foremost,

Jennifer Barnes-Hayes, Class of 1980

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* Editor's Note: Jennifer chooses only to highlight the statistic of her being the third President from the Class of 1980. We'd also like to highlight the statistic that Jennifer is the first female President in the 116-year history of the Alumni Association, and we proudly welcome her.

** The referenced article was entitled "What is Stewardship, and Should All Great Leaders Practice It?" by Bekele Geleta, Senior Advisor, *NY Times*.



LETTER FROM RADM MICHAEL ALFULTIS

President, SUNY Maritime College

Dear Friends,

As I approach the end of my fifth year, I have been reflecting on the past and looking forward to the future. Each of the years has been marked with a different “theme”:

- My first year was listening and learning. I had much to learn about the College and the maritime industry.
- My second year was laying the foundation. We spent a lot of time re-examining our mission, vision and core values.
- My third year was focusing on the future, including replacing T/S Empire State VI, building a new relationship with our Alumni Association, establishing the SUNY Maritime Foundation and commencing a comprehensive strategic planning effort.
- Last year, my fourth year, was reaping the results. In one year, we:
 - Signed the new, collaborative agreement with the Alumni Association
 - Formally established the SUNY Maritime Foundation
 - Secured \$300 million for the first ever purpose-built training ship in U.S. history
 - Adopted our new strategic plan “Charting a New Course”

None of this would have been possible without the support of the Maritime College community: alumni, faculty, staff, students, industry and benefactors. Key to our success has been working together on a shared vision for the College.

Many people ask me: “So, what’s next?” And my answer is that we have laid the foundation and now we are ready to take Maritime College to a new level.

- We are establishing new centers of excellence and new programs of national distinction.
- We are adding new applied learning platforms in the classrooms, in the labs and on the water.
- We are investing in our waterfront in ways not seen in decades.
- We are focusing on attracting the best and brightest faculty by equipping them with the tools they need for teaching and research.
- We are expanding our reach and impact by attracting exceptional students from across the U.S. and beyond, and providing them with the resources they need to succeed here at Maritime College and beyond.
- We are building a vibrant student life experience as we are about to begin construction on our new student union within Vander Clute Hall, which will be the hub for social life and student life programming.
- We are focusing on being the “supplier of choice” for employers by developing our students’ leadership and other skills.

I want to give a special thank you to an illustrious alumnus and outgoing Alumni Association president, Dan Gillette '97, whom I will always gratefully call my friend. I look forward to working closely with Jennifer Barnes-Hayes, the incoming president.

I hope I can count on you to join me as we continue to “chart a new course” for Maritime College.

Sincerely,

RADM Michael A. Alfultis, Ph.D.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS



CAPT Scott Kelly with his wife, Amiko, as he signs books in the Maritime Academic Center.

Community Read Program Featured Astronaut and Maritime Alumnus Scott Kelly '87

"Endurance," by world-famous astronaut and Maritime College graduate Captain Scott Kelly '87, was chosen as the inaugural book in the College's Community Read program. Implemented for freshmen starting in the fall of 2018, the Community Read program is designed to foster and inspire team learning.

Incoming members of the class of 2022 received copies of "Endurance" for Freshman Lead 101 and English 101 courses. During the summer, students posted social-media selfies in a sponsored contest designed to encourage their reading.



At a November 2018 event, contest winners and a group of student leaders lunched with CAPT Kelly; after which, he spoke to students, faculty and staff about his path to Maritime College, his interest in space travel and his time at NASA. Kelly then signed books and took selfies with every attendee. ■

Women on the Water Conference

Eight SUNY Maritime cadets connected with other women in the maritime community, learned from industry leaders and networked with mariners at all career levels at the annual Women on the Water Conference ("WOW") in November. Rotating among the maritime academies around the country, Maine Maritime Academy played host in partnership with the US Maritime Administration. The conference featured keynote speaker Captain Deborah Dempsey, who captivated more than 100 attendees with her legendary story, beginning as the first woman graduate of a maritime academy through her success as the first woman Columbia River bar pilot.

Vast and varied panel discussions provided platforms for professional development, including "Bringing Your Career Ashore" featuring SUNY Maritime's own Acting Deputy Commandant of Cadets Capt. Catie Hanft '85.

According to SUNY Maritime Cadet Maura Neely, 2/C: "Attending WOW was an empowering experience that allowed me the opportunity to expand my network, meet

cadets from other Maritime academies and learn more about the industry that I'm preparing to enter." ■



(L-R): Maura Neeley '20, Ashley Hallaian '21, Madison Burbo '20, Caroline Gibbons '20, Captain Deborah Dempsey, Shannon McSweeney '21, Gabriella Franco '20, Catherine Teige '19, and Elizabeth Millicker '20.

Partnerships

Maritime's strong partnerships with industry, government and alumni bring extraordinary knowledge opportunities to campus. This fall, the College hosted three conferences focused on evolving issues for the maritime community.

- **"America's Blue Highway"** conference featured more than 20 maritime-industry experts from ports, government, shipping and logistics, who discussed ways to move cargo transport from land to water, increasing delivery times of goods while decreasing road congestion and air pollution. More than 300 attendees advanced this short-sea shipping conversation.
- **"MARSECON II"** focused on vital maritime security issues. The conference informed attendees about security from a time-charter perspective, major developments in maritime cybersecurity, simulators as effective tools in security training, cybersecurity education and training and the impact of blockchain technology on the maritime industry.

- **"Career Success Beyond Maritime"** provided students with access to high-level, experienced professionals, who offered seasoned career advice in three concurrent industry panels: Shoreside Business, Shoreside Engineering, and Shipping Out (deck and engine). A meet-and-greet reception followed the sessions, allowing students to engage directly with the following industry leaders:

Shoreside Business

Peter Austen '87, *CEO, Marine NA of Willis Towers Watson*
Chris D. Hughes '92, *vice president of Dome Chartering and Trading*
Joseph P. Starck Jr. '90, *president of Great Lakes Towing*

Shoreside Engineering

Dr. Charles R. Cushing, MS '73, *president of C.R. Cushing & Company, Inc.*
Michael R. Haeser II '98, *director of district energy system for Columbia University*
Rich F. Merhige '83, *president of Advanced Mechanical Enterprises*

Shipping-out

Captain John DeCruz '92, *president and pilot at the NY/NJ Sandy Hook Pilots' Association*
Timothy Photopoulos '99, *technical superintendent for Ridgebury Tankers*
Michael Woodrick, *chief engineer for Polar Tankers* ■

Interactive Opportunities Foster Learning for Maritime Students

Dynamic educational activities on and off campus encouraged learning by Humanities professor **Dr. Mark Meirowitz**, including:

- **Lt. General H.R. McMaster's Skype Discussion.** In December, students engaged in a lively discussion about American foreign policy and military strategy with Lt. General H.R. McMaster (U.S. Army, Ret.). The former National Security Advisor to the President spoke with students in an address entitled: "Current and Emerging Challenges to National and International Security."



- **Supreme Court Visit.**

In November, the Pre-Law Club traveled to Washington, D.C. for a behind-the-scenes look at the Supreme Court. Sixteen students and two professors listened to oral case arguments before the full bench. The Marshal of the Supreme Court briefed the Maritime College contingent about the Court and its activities, after which students toured the Court.



- **"The Holocaust: How Could This Have Happened?"** Part of the Stephen B. Luce Library Lecture Series, this program drew historical and personal insights into present day concerns to emphasize the need for inclusion, tolerance and respect.
- **The Mess Deck Table Talk Series.** Students dined and discussed matters of civic significance, such as the First Amendment and why speech matters. The well-received forums broadened students' understanding of pressing current issues and of each other.

- **Constitution Day.** On September 17, 2018, the College commemorated Constitution Day by welcoming the sailors and ship historian from the USS Constitution, who discussed the history of "Old Ironsides." Distinguished presenters spoke about the First Amendment, the Founding Fathers and the Supreme Court. Opposing teams of faculty, staff and students competed in a spirited Constitution trivia contest. ■



Monomoy Races Offer Competition and Camaraderie

Fun yet fierce competition unfolded on the East River during the annual Monomoy race between the MUGs of Maritime College and the Plebes of the United States Merchant Marine Academy. Prevailing against the Plebes, the MUGs won glory and an award of \$1,000.

For the first time in years, the competition generously sponsored by the Marine Society of the City of New York was expanded to include the George C. Preville Memorial Inter-Academy Monomoy Challenge. The late Captain Preville was a USMMA graduate, a past president of the Marine Society of the City of New York and captain of Maritime College's T/S Empire State V.

Teams from the five East Coast maritime academies – SUNY, Mass, Maine, USSMA and US Coast Guard – competed in the Preville Challenge. Following a series of round-robin heats, Maine Maritime and SUNY Maritime racked up the most wins. The front-runners squared off in a final race, and Maine Maritime emerged victorious to win the grand prize of \$2,500. SUNY Maritime took second place, receiving a \$1,000 prize and the determination to come back next year and take the cup. ■



Top: Admiral Buzby and members of the Maine Maritime team accepting George C. Preville Memorial Award.
Bottom: Ft. Schuyler Monomoy team.

Athletics

The fall 2018 season for Maritime Athletics was highlighted by the **offshore sailing team winning its first national championship since 1983**. The McMillan Cup win qualified the team for the Kennedy Cup, a race that proved rough



initially for the Privateers. After a miraculous comeback, the team won the final three races to complete the national title bid. Team members (L-R): Garrett Bolton '21, Bailey Kerr '20, Kyle Comerford '19, Jeffrey Ellington '19, Miller Condrack '20, Paul Monks '18, Peter Mosconi '19, Coach Kevin Cahoon, and Daniel Watkins '20.

The men's soccer team picked up the most wins in program history with 14. The team finished the regular season 9-0-1 at Reinhart Field and finished second overall in the Skyline Conference. The Privateers earned six All-Skyline awards, including Coach of the Year distinctions for head coach Dan Gwyther. Additionally, Parker Galt earned All-Region recognition from the United Soccer Coaches (USC) and Second-Team All-ECAC.





An **Athletics Advisory Board** was established by Athletics Director **Kris Schnatz '98**, to increase athletics' presence on campus and among the alumni community. In February, the group held a networking event for alumni who competed on athletic teams during their time at Maritime. The board also will build up campus alumni records to include individual record holders and team rosters. Recently, the board re-introduced the Athletics Hall of Fame for the first time since 1999. Mark your calendars for the next Hall of Fame event on Homecoming Weekend: Friday, October 18, 2019.

Attendees of the networking event: Alex Korb '11, Alyssa Esposito '17, Brendon McNally '19, Cullen Palicka '18, Donald Toby '08, Irene Gogos '17, James Schubel '10, Janice Abdelmehseh '02, Joe Cordero '83, John Moore '90, Marissa Danzy '10, Mathew Christophersen '92, Michael Brown '82, Nicholas Pellegrino '18, Paul LaFrancesca '14, Richard Crowe '89, Richard Scales '17, Sarah Gambel '19, Sean Kennedy '08, Thomas Harvey '98, Timothy Murray '02, TJ Ragusa '18, Brian Houst '02, Kristofer Schnatz '98, Annmarie Bhola '98.

For the women's volleyball team, **Meredith Hayes '19** capped off her fantastic four-year career by setting a new program record for kills in a match with 25 in a five-set win against Sarah Lawrence. Hayes was named to the Second-Team All-Skyline and finished her career second all-time in kills.



The men's cross-country team ran a strong championship race and finished second overall. Sean Hobson '20 (L) and Curtis Bates '20 (R) led the way



with fifth and sixth place finishes, earning First-Team All-Skyline recognition. On the women's side, Katia Aaron secured a ninth place finish and added Second-Team All-Skyline honors.

The football team qualified for its second straight New England Bowl after finishing the regular season 7-3. The Privateers saw an unprecedented passing attack behind senior quarterback **Thomas Wright '19**, who earned Eastern Collegiate Football Conference (ECFC)

Offensive Player of the Year honors. Additionally, the football team took home 19 all-conference awards, including Assistant Coach of the Year accolades for **David Benoit**.

Cammie Havens '19 concluded a spectacular career for the women's soccer team. The four-year goalie finished the season with 127 saves and First-Team honors. She ended her career as the all-time save leader with 632. The women's soccer team also received the United Soccer Coaches (USC) Team Ethics & Sportsmanship Award. ■



More highlights on next page

Building a Culture of Respect



Maritime students, faculty and staff packed the College's MAC Multipurpose Room on a cold January afternoon to hear SUNY Cortland senior and football linebacker **Kyle Richard** discuss his experience as an active bystander intervening in an assault in progress. The program was streamed simultaneously to the Mess Deck and the ABS lecture hall where many more students heard Kyle's message.

In 2017, Richard became a hero when, during a summer party on Long Island, he stopped a sexual assault. Richard chased the assailant, who pulled a gun and shot his pursuer three times. Two of the bullets hit their mark, wounding the athlete in each leg. Richard underwent rehabilitation for his injuries and returned to the varsity team as captain at the start of the season.

Local and national organizations recognized Richard for his actions, including former Vice President of the



United States Joe Biden. Richard received the 2018 Biden Courage Award for Bystander Intervention.

"I hope that other students follow my lead and do what they can to prevent and stop domestic violence and sexual assault," Richard said. "Say something. Reach out to police or other authorities. Don't be a bystander."

Richard's program about the importance of bystander intervention is part of a larger college-wide effort to build a culture of respect that has gained great momentum. Beginning in 2017 and again in October 2018, **Brenda Tracy**, a rape survivor, nurse, advocate and anti-sexual-assault activist, addressed the Maritime community about her experience as a victim of sexual assault and her recommendations to higher education institutions for handling and addressing appropriately cases of sexual violence. ■



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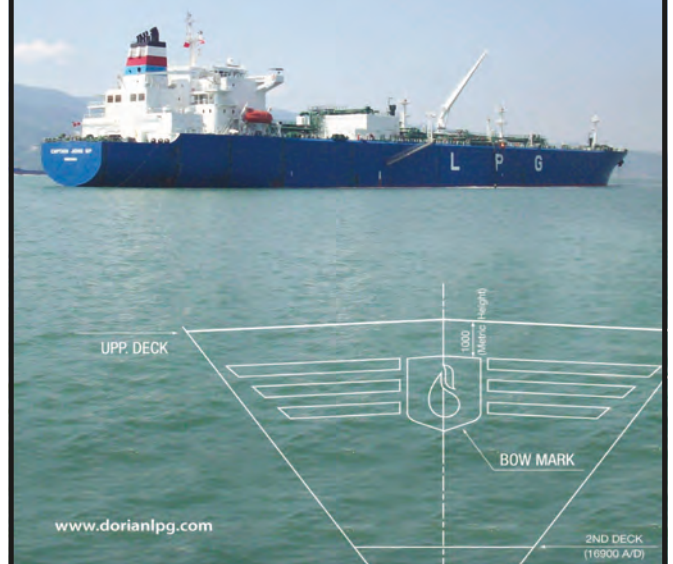
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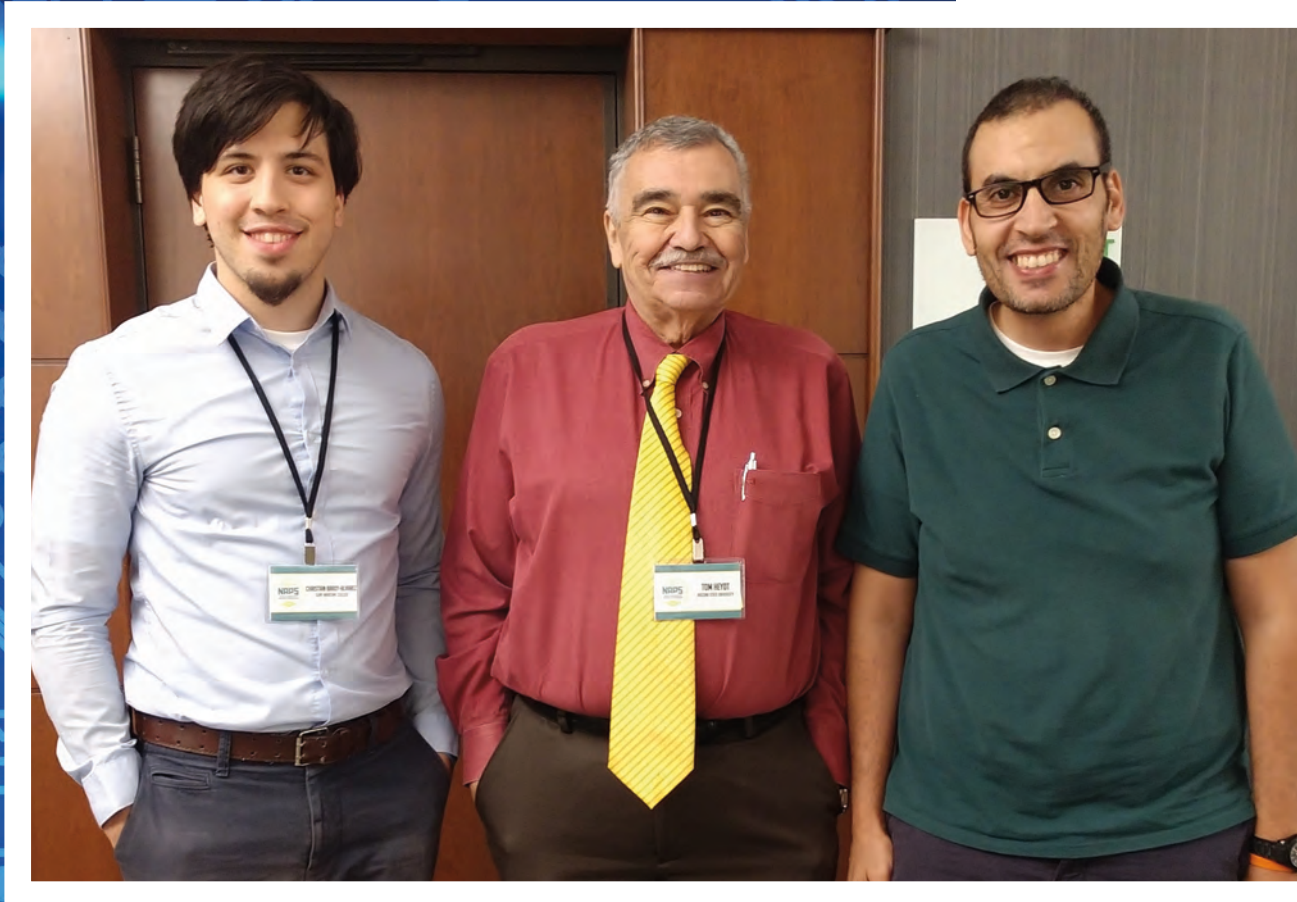


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FEATURE



STUDENT/FACULTY COLLABORATION

*Yields Acclaim and National Science
Foundation-Sponsored Internship*

BY PAULINE BARTEL

In September 2018, Electrical Engineering senior **Christian Brady-Alvarez '18** and Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering **Dr. Salem Elsaiah** attended the North American Power Symposium (NAPS). This annual meeting of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) brings global researchers together to discuss the present and future development of the nation's power grid.

The Maritime student and his professor had collaborated on a switched reluctance motor drive system paper. Brady-Alvarez disseminated their joint research at the conference, alongside graduate and Ph.D. students from Georgia Tech, Michigan State University and Virginia Tech.

"When Chris presented his work, he was fully confident and disseminated the research work professionally," Professor Elsaiah recalled. But Brady-Alvarez remembers being "a bit intimidated" by all the presentations.

Many professors in attendance endorsed Brady-Alvarez's presentation and expressed surprise that he was an undergraduate. Then it was the Maritime team's turn to be surprised. Out of the 200 conference papers presented, Professor Elsaiah and Brady-Alvarez were awarded Best Paper Award, third place, in the Emerging Topics in Modern Power Systems track. According to Brady-Alvarez: "For me, the recognition was amazing." Professor Elsaiah added: "I'm so proud of him. I'm so proud of my work, too. We competed with graduate students from prominent U.S. schools and we won! It is a big victory."

That big victory had its roots in fall 2016 when student and teacher first met in Maritime College's Engineering course, entitled Network Analysis. Brady-Alvarez was a newly minted honors graduate with an Associate degree in Electrical Engineering from LaGuardia Community College. Professor Elsaiah was teaching his first semester at Maritime, having previously been a Visiting Assistant Professor at Pennsylvania's Bucknell University. Through class discussions and after-class conversations, student and teacher realized they shared an interest in the optimal integration of renewable energy resources into the nation's electric grid, distribution systems and microgrids.

"I found him very eager to learn," Professor Elsaiah recalled. "Because of this eagerness and passion to learn, we started working together."

Over time, the pair wrote several research papers, presented their findings at scholarly conferences and even co-authored a book chapter about renewable energy. Impressed with his student's scholarship, Professor Elsaiah mentored Brady-Alvarez through the competitive application process for a summer internship offered through the prestigious National Science Foundation (NSF). Their collaboration delivered the first National Science Foundation award to a student in Maritime's history.

"That had always been a goal of mine: doing research to contribute to the field that I'm working in and standing on the shoulders of scientists whose discoveries I have studied in textbooks."

— Christian Brady-Alvarez '18

Opposite page (L-R): Christian Brady-Alvarez '18, Tom Heydt and Dr. Salem Elsaiah at the North American Power Symposium (NAPS).

Christian Brady-Alvarez '18



A Queens' native who grew up in public housing, Christian Brady-Alvarez was drawn to science from an early age. His interest in physics spurred him to research the science, technology engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields, where he discovered his educational path.

"The lifeblood of scientific exploration is how much power is available, how long it will last and what's the source," he said. "I found that electrical engineering was an avenue for me."

That discovery and a friend's recommendation brought him to SUNY Maritime College as a transfer student from LaGuardia Community College for undergraduate study. At Maritime, Brady-Alvarez found his career trajectory through the teaching and teamwork of Dr. Salem Elsaiah.

"That collaboration helped me more than I ever imagined," Brady-Alvarez said. He credits the academic partnership with preparing him for the opportunities that followed. "I would like my success to show that it really doesn't matter where you come from. You can be successful in whatever you do, as long as you have the drive."

Professor Elsaiah mentored Brady-Alvarez through the competitive application process for a summer internship offered through the prestigious National Science Foundation (NSF). Their collaboration delivered the first NSF award to a student in Maritime's history.

In June 2018, Brady-Alvarez joined a select group of undergraduate interns from across the country to participate in the NSF's Research Experience for Undergraduates – Immersive Research in Energy Generation, Storage/Conversion and Power Transmission. He partnered with Electrical Engineering faculty from Tennessee Tech University, where the 10-week internship program was housed, for an original research project focused on improving integration and power transfer between solar panels and the electric grid.

"That had always been a goal of mine: doing research to contribute to the field that I'm working in and standing on the shoulders of scientists whose discoveries I have studied in textbooks," Brady-Alvarez said.

Upon his graduation from Maritime College in September 2018 with a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering with highest honors, Brady-Alvarez pondered his future path and his interest in pursuing a power systems engineering track in an industry that has markets in aerospace and defense. "My general skill set and background can contribute to those areas," Brady-Alvarez said.

While he explored job opportunities in industry, he applied for the Department of Energy's Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships program. Accepted by his first choice, Los Alamos National Laboratory, he began a five-month stint in January of this year.

"Los Alamos is the perfect place for me to get experience as a research assistant and become familiar with the operational formalities of a large DOE laboratory," Brady-Alvarez said. "Conducting research has always fascinated me. To contribute to the growth of a knowledge base, from the basic principles to the latest discoveries, is extremely rewarding and fulfilling." ■

Dr. Salem Elsaiah




Dr. Salem Elsaiah joined Maritime College's Department of Engineering as an assistant professor and researcher. He holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Benghazi and a doctoral degree in Electrical Engineering from Michigan State University. At Maritime, he focuses his research in the area of power distribution, specifically microgrids. A microgrid system disperses various power generation sources throughout the main network, creating redundancy and reliability for end users.

He and Christian Brady-Alvarez collaborated on research for the maritime microgrids. They assisted with implementation of the U.S. Navy Vision of 2035, which requires All Electric Ships to be powered by hybrid AC and DC systems. Elsaiah indicated that since a ship must generate its own power, redundancy is critical. Losing power for an extended period of time could jeopardize the ship, its crew and cargo.

In 2018 and 2019, Maritime College recognized Professor Elsaiah with the President's Award for Outstanding Scholarship for his research and collaborative work with undergraduate students.

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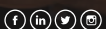
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INTERVIEW WITH BRIDGET BENDO '96

BARNES-HAYES MOTHER/DAUGHTER MARITIME DUO



Meredith Hayes '19 graduates this May and has accepted a position with General Dynamics Electric Boat in its Special Projects Division.

HOW DID YOU FIND YOUR WAY TO FORT SCHUYLER?

Jennifer Barnes-Hayes '80: When I was in junior high school, I read an article in *Scientific American* about mining manganese nodules off the ocean floor. At that point, I knew I wanted to obtain a degree in Oceanography. I heard about Maritime through a guidance counselor in high school, who told me Maritime offered an Oceanography degree program and a Third Mate's license. I thought that was perfect, as I would get my degree and license and be the quintessential research scientist aboard any Woods Hole or Scripps Oceanographic vessels. I also knew of the Merchant Marine as a profession, as my father had sailed as a steward for the British Furness Withy lines. After four years of math and four years of sailing aboard ARCO tankers, I pivoted towards law and became an admiralty attorney.

Meredith Barnes-Hayes '19: I come from a long line of merchant mariners from both my mother's and my father's sides; however, I never thought I would be one. I have always loved the water and found the maritime industry fascinating, but it wasn't until I started looking at colleges in my junior year of high school that I seriously considered Maritime. I had been exposed to the abundance of opportunities that the maritime industry offers but took them for granted. When applying to colleges, I realized that I would never have the opportunities that Maritime College offers anywhere else.

WHAT IS THE GREATEST STRENGTH YOU GAINED FROM YOUR FORT SCHUYLER EXPERIENCE?

Jennifer: The experience of learning how to be a member of a team is an



WHAT WAS YOUR PROUDEST MOMENT AT FORT SCHUYLER?

Jennifer: My proudest moment as a mom was when I dropped Meredith off at Maritime for her first day of Indoctrination. She had been forewarned as to what was in store for her, and yet she decided to attend anyway. Sometimes it is easier to get through something when you don't know what's coming. But my classmates and I had all warned her about the tough path she was choosing. And she chose it anyway.

Meredith: My proudest moment at Fort Schuyler is going 8 for 8 on my Engine Coast Guard License Exam. As a cadet at Maritime College, you spend seven semesters and three cruises learning and studying to prepare to take these tests. Passing the license exam not only made me feel like all of the hard work had finally paid off, but it was also a proud moment for me. I was finally a licensed officer like my mother, like my father, uncle, my great uncle and many more merchant mariners in my family. Joining their ranks was a proud moment for me. ■

experience I continually lean on to this day. Understanding that sometimes you are the leader of the team, while other times, your role is to be the best follower you can be. You have to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of your team members and of yourself and know how to fit the pieces together in the best way, in order to maximize the result and achieve the team goal – not the individual goal. I hope Maritime College will continue to maintain its high academic standard and its concentration on training young women and men to push themselves in their learning, experiences, teamwork, outreach, self-discipline and understanding of their roles in the future of their chosen industries.

Meredith: Perseverance!

“When applying to colleges, I realized that I would never have the opportunities that Maritime College offers anywhere else.”

– Meredith Hayes '19

Jennifer Barnes-Hayes '80 is the president and founder of Barnes Hayes Global Compliance Solutions, Inc., specializing in maritime



compliance law and regulations. After sailing for ARCO Marine for three years, she became an admiralty attorney and worked in litigation, Office of Marine Safety. She assisted in drafting the state of Washington Oil Pollution Act of 1990, led the legal department of American Bureau of Shipping and directed the legal tactics for “the largest maritime case in history” involving the M/V Prestige oil spill. She is a member of the Maritime Law Association and the Association of International Petroleum Negotiators.

MARITIME FACILITIES ENGINEERS

Resolve High-Stakes Hospital Problems



"It takes a special breed of facilities professional to keep them running in top flight condition."

Stephen Carbery '80

Vice President of Facilities Design Construction and Real Estate at Yale New Haven Health System

BY BRIDGET BENDO '96 and PAULINE BARTEL

Few industries face higher stakes in facilities management than health care. Hospital systems must function around the clock, enabling surgeries, emergency care and life support services to continue uninterrupted.

"Our hospitals have to be able to run 24/7/365. We need to be that shining beacon of hope in times of bad weather and during all types of disasters," said Stephen Carbery '80 vice president of Facilities Design Construction and Real Estate at Yale New Haven Health System.

"It takes a special breed of facilities professional to keep them running in top flight condition." Accepting those facilities management challenges are Maritime College graduates from the Facilities Engineering program.

A number of leading alumni in this field consider Charlie Balancia '56 the father of the modern hospital facilities engineer. According to Leonard Mellusi '72, former vice chairman of Engineering at Maritime College, "Charlie was a big supporter of developing a professional program for

"The training and degrees we receive at SUNY Maritime College make an easy transition for alumni to adapt to the codes, regulations, and laws in which hospitals need to be constructed, operated and maintained."

Stephen Monez '97
Vice President, Mount Sinai Health System

facilities engineers. He was the impetus for doing that at Maritime College." Then Engineering Department Chair Professor Jose Femenia '64 asked Mellusi, who was an adjunct professor, to develop and teach the program's first course: an elective in facilities engineering plant operations.

According to Maritime College's Department of Engineering Professor Joseph Breglia '80, "Charlie made possible the transition of merchant mariner to a professional shoreside facilities engineer. It was not unusual



Mount Sinai - Maritime College Alumni

Standing: Brian Meade '01, Chris Hariegel '94, Michael Kaleda '01, Joe Uhl '84, Stephen Monez '97, Douglas Rome '16 and Craig Heaney '13. Sitting: Christopher Palmer '17, Gil Soto '93, Daniel Sarnelli '18, Robert Denver '14 and Jose Villatoro '17.



Montefiore Health System - Maritime College Alumni

Everton Reid '98, Anthony Mellusi '15, Joseph Fusco '17, Paul LaFrancesca '18, Ed Pflieger '86, Samuel Awoleke '94, Paul Jennings '83, Leonard Mellusi '72, Winston Williams '03, Peter Murphy '19, Russ Avolio '00, Nelson Casey '15 (Not pictured: Joe Maddalena '04, Charlie Tarna '88)

for marine engineers to come off the ships and operate a building. Charlie took it a step further. He took it up to the corporate level. He introduced things like commissioning and some other techniques into engineering that have become normal operations."

The keystone of Maritime College's facilities engineering curriculum is the Capstone Project, a spring semester course taught by Professor Breglia. "This project course is a culmination of four years of knowledge and is what really converts

a student into a potential employee," Professor Breglia said.

In the fall, Professor Breglia solicits from alumni at engineering firms and tristate hospitals small capital projects that students can undertake. By January, he has six to nine projects identified. Students are assigned to three- or four-member teams, and projects are selected early in the spring semester.

"Students have to organize agendas, kick-off meetings and site surveys,"

Professor Breglia said. “They meet the folks that have offered these projects and then work on the projects. Students do technical feasibility studies and come up with two or more alternatives to solve the sponsor’s problem. They also do a complete life cycle cost analysis on each of the alternatives.” Recent projects have included a boiler replacement, a thermal storage system evaluation and the installation of a parking-lot photovoltaic system.

At the end of the semester, students make presentations to which sponsors and building facilities professionals are invited as judges. “They grade the students based on the criteria our program needs to meet to remain ABET accredited,” Professor Breglia said. “So they help us evaluate not only the students but also the program. That’s how we keep the program relevant.” Professor Breglia estimates that up to 90 percent of the proposed solutions become real projects.

“Many students wind up with job offers after these presentations,” Professor Breglia said. “The presentations give future employers confidence that students know more about the facilities world than most. They love our students.”

Jay Johnson ‘96, plant operations manager at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center agrees: “Balancing the demanding daily needs in our facilities while maintaining forward-thinking, economically-sound, sustainable solutions takes energy, enthusiasm and tremendous work ethic. These attributes, as well as an ability to adapt and adjust to adversity, make SUNY Maritime graduates the most suitable and successful in the health care facilities industry.” ■



Memorial Sloan Kettering - Maritime College Alumni

John Letson ‘76, Eric Lorenzen ‘98, Robert Berninger ‘86, Marissa Danzy ‘10, Jay Johnson ‘96, Deep Sahota ‘08, Tom Kassebaum ‘07, David Lawson ‘17. Not pictured: Kevin Comerford ‘83, Dan Lilly ‘98, Matthew Filardi ‘84, John DelPozzo ‘18, Jay Zhong ‘18, Dante Cocchiarella ‘17, Hubert Piotrowski ‘16, Michael Volpe ‘17.

“Healthcare facilities comprise common and specialized systems varying in complexity, all of which contribute to the well-being and environment of care for our patients.”

Jay Johnson ‘96

Manager, Plant Operations at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center



Northwell Health - Maritime College Alumni

Bob Foley ‘82, Mike Rohan ‘83, Dan Talese ‘17, Angel Lopez ‘07, Eric Zehnter ‘85, Mike Sardone, Piney Point MMA, Steve Frost ‘16, Mike Arnold ‘16, Mike Hoelzer, Kings Point MMA. Not in photo: John McGee ‘90, Kory Stimpfl ‘15, Joe Nicholas ‘81.

"During my career, it has been a pleasure hiring and working with many Maritime graduates in all aspects of the facilities management field...They have exceeded my expectations well beyond my requirements."

Joseph Lorino '87

Vice President, Facilities Management, Valley Hospital;
Adjunct Professor of engineering, Maritime College



Joseph Lorino '87, an Adjunct Professor of engineering at SUNY Maritime College, teaches about steam pressure-reducing valves in the Analog Control Lab. Joe is also vice president, Facilities Management of the Valley Hospital based in Ridgewood, NJ.

MARITIME GRADUATES AT VARIOUS HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

Einstein Healthcare Network, NY

Steve Pierce '94
Craig Seiving '92

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, NY

Robert Berninger '86
Dante Cocchiarella '17
Kevin Comerford '83
Marissa Danzy '10
John DelPozzo '18
Matthew Filardi '84
Jay Johnson '96
Tom Kassebaum '07
David Lawson '17
John Letson '76
Dan Lilly '98
Eric Lorenzen '98
Hubert Piotrowski '16
Brian Reilly '04
Deep Sahota '08
Michael Volpe '17
Jay Zhong '18

Montefiore Medical Center, NY

Russ Avolio '00
Sam Awoleke '94
Nelson Casey '15
Joseph Fusco '17
Paul Jennings '83
Paul Lafrancesca '18
Joe Maddalena '04
Anthony Mellusi '15
Leonard Mellusi '72
Peter Murphy '19
Ed Pflieger '86
Everton Reid '98
Charlie Tarna '88
Winston Williams '03

Mount Sinai, NY

Jason Curley '95
Robert Denver '14
Chris Hariegel '94
Craig Heaney '13
Michael Kaleda '01
Brian Meade '01
Stephen Monez '97

Christopher Palmer '17
Douglas Rome '16
Daniel Sarnelli '18
Gil Soto '93
Joe Uhl '84
Jose Villatoro '17

New York Presbyterian, NY

Thomas Breglia '80
Ben Ciferri '72
Brian Kirk '83
Timothy Smyth '98

Northwell Health, NY

Mike Arnold '16
Steve Frost '16
Angel Lopez '07
John McGee '90
Joe Nicholas '81
Michael Rohan '83
Kory Stimpfl '15
Dan Talese '17
Eric Zehnter '85

NYU Winthrop Hospital, NY

Mike Hinchcliffe '83

RWJ Barnabas Health, NJ

James Hogle III '88

St. Jude's Research Hospital, Memphis, TN

Douglas Hartley '82

UHS Wilson Hospital, NY

Chris Arnold '18

Valley Hospital, Ridgewood, NJ

Joe Lorino '87

White Plains Hospital, NY

Christian Ciferri '11

Yale New Haven Health, CT

Stephen Carbery '80
Michael Wolpensinger '96
(Greenwich Hospital)

CHAPTER GATHERINGS



LONG ISLAND CHAPTER | November 11, 2018, Long Island, NY

The Long Island Mariner Museum honored the memory of Rear Admiral Floyd "Hoss" Miller with a Flag Staff naming and dedication ceremony. Admiral Miller was Class of 1953 and president of the College from 1982 to 1995. The Long Island Alumni Chapter paid their respects.

Alphonse Guardino '71, Rich Ohlsen '90, Gerhard Muller '65, Captain Harry Stumme '65, Stu Fitz '53, Chris Pitfick '97, Jim Yahner '86, Tom Hall '65.

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER | February 13, 2019, Metuchen, NJ

NJ Chapter held its Winter Networking Meeting at Hailey's in Metuchen.

Attendees: John Marriott '84, Galin Gouzoulis '98, Chris Katz '99, Raj Panda '01, Kevin Comerford '83, Charles Hoffman '60, Nick '96 and Stephanie Makar, Alumni President Jen Hayes '80, Jamie McNamara '94, Carl Hausheer '79, Chris Begley '82.

Chapter election results as follows:

Jamie McNamara '94	Chapter President
Chris Begley '82	1st VP
Raj Panda '01	2nd VP
Kyle Grant '05	Secretary
Nick Makar '96	Treasurer





DELAWARE VALLEY CHAPTER | December 20, 2018, Philadelphia, PA

The 10th annual All Maritime Academy Holiday Party, hosted by the Delaware Valley Chapter of the Maritime College Alumni Association, was held at Spasso Italian Grill in Philadelphia on December 20, 2018. Twenty-five alumni and cadets from the Classes of 1963 to 2021 attended, along with 23 of their guests from sister maritime academies and the port community. Also in attendance were Saira Yoo, director of the Maritime College Alumni Association and Doug Hasbrouck, executive director of development at Maritime College.

Steve Richter '81, Woody Stevens '13, Bill Skahan '75, Paul Ginnane '95, Keith Hermann '96, Harry Rogers '77, Art Sulzer '74, Dave Chalson '74, John Reynolds '63, Andrew Hinge '14, Uve Schultz '63, Sun Yang '11, Kirsten Johnson '21, Robert Cook '81, Ahdiyah Robey '20, Bill Hough '83, Jim McGee '89, Carl Matia '67, Howard Wyche '79, Chris Grupp '03, Erika Ammon '04, Jason Hubbard '03, Mike Reagoso '96, Derrick Kennedy '21, Chris Guilday '96.



TEHRAN (UNOFFICIAL) CHAPTER | November 29, 2018, Tehran, Iran

Tehrani alumni met on November 29th with 28 alumni in attendance – including four who have joined for the first time since the chapter has been revived.

Front: Mehdi Dehghan '77, Hossein Fazeli '79-'80, Shahpour Safaei '75, Mojtaba Vahhabi '78, Mansour Mehrabi '76-'77, Shahab Azodi '79, Omid Siushi '78, 2nd row: Siamak Gholami '78, Parviz Ghavidel '79, Saeid Azadnezehadi '78, Ali Ghaffari '77, Hossein Shafiei '77, Mohsen Nouri resigned '78, Reza Rahiminia '77, 3rd row: Esmaeil Khosravi '78, Hossein Roustaei '78, Reza Bateni '78, Shahpour Giahi '78, Ali Ranjbaran Kermani '78, Last row: Seyyed Agha Saei '82, Khoda Rahm Yari Heibat '82, Farhad Miriany '76-'77, Parviz Kahali '77, Abbas Azhdari '79, Yousef Mobini '75, Asadollah Solgi '75, Mansour Mahmoudi '78. Absent in photo: Majid Hesami.



2019 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS DINNER

This year's Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner, held at Tribeca 360° on a cold and windy January 31, 2019, honored three very deserving candidates:

- **Dan Gillette '97** for Distinguished Alumnus of the Year
- **RADM Michael Alfultis**, President of SUNY Maritime College, for Special Recognition
- **Dick Bracken '56** for Lifetime Achievement.

Dan Gillette '97 wrapped up his four years of service as Alumni Association president by accomplishing his chief objective – reuniting the Alumni Association with the College. Dan's commitment to this goal, as well as his leadership style, allowed engaging in the difficult debates, presenting proposed awkward compromises, and continuing the conversation on a regular basis until resolution was achieved. An apt description of Dan's leadership style is engraved onto his Silver Medallion Award: PATIENCE and TENACITY.

RADM Michael Alfultis, although not an alumnus, enjoyed unanimous support from the board of directors for receiving this special recognition at this year's awards dinner. RADM Alfultis' tireless commitment to his priorities – reunion with the Alumni Association and receiving funding for a new training ship – is a main factor in achieving the result. It is for these reasons that the Admiral's Silver Medallion Award is engraved with: VISION and PERSEVERANCE.

Dick Bracken '56 has earned his Lifetime Achievement Award for his careers in the US Navy, the commercial aviation industry and through his volunteering efforts. His Silver Medallion is engraved with: WISDOM and TRUST. To learn more about why CAPT Bracken was selected, please refer to the highlights on pages 28-29. ■





Pages 28-29

1 Dick '56 and Geraldine Bracken (seated) celebrate with their immediate family, including five of their six children and spouses. From left: Friend Allen Fligor '11, Son-in-law Frank, Daughter Colleen (middle), Daughter Pam, Son-in-law Espen, Son Brendan, Daughter-in-law Nancy, Daughter Patty, Son-in-law Kim, Daughter-in-law Meghan, Son Tim. Their oldest son Joseph, living in Copenhagen, couldn't make the dinner.

2 The Honorees: Rear Adm. Michael Alfultis, Dick Bracken '56, Dan Gillette '97.

3 RADM Alfultis, James Higgins '90, John Gallagher, Kim Alfultis, and Capt. James DeSimone '73.

4 Front row: Joseph Scerra '19, Jeffrey Ellington '19, Alexander Duqmaq '19, Meredith Hayes '19, Jennifer Barnes Hayes '80, Peter Searles '79
Back row: Joanne Rydzewski '10, Hannah Leese '19, Ciara Murphy '19, and Isabella Kent '19.

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5 Outgoing Alumni Association President Dan Gillette '97 with his wife Kristen and their children Gehrig and Grace.

6 Maritime College Color Guard Members: Brandon Bordelon '22, Kristen Schmahl '20, Katherine Mooney '22, Michelle Eckert '22, Uri Shakked '22.

7 Tom Breglia '80, Paul Bello from AKF Engineering, Andrew Werner '80 and David Choe.

8a Geraldine pins on Dick's boutonniere at his Lifetime Achievement Award reception, 2019.

8b Geraldine pins on Dick's aviator wings in 1957.



DICK BRACKEN '56

As Dick Bracken approaches his 85th birthday in June, he looks back at a life filled with challenges, adventure, danger, fun – and, most importantly, gratitude.



Along the way, Dick experienced adventure at every turn. As a MUG, he was thrilled to take the helm of the T/S Empire State II as she steamed up the Potomac River to celebrate the 4th of July in Washington, DC. During three Summer Sea Term cruises, Cadet Bracken visited most of the Western European capitals - London, Copenhagen, Paris, Madrid and Rome. The “Fort Schuyler Experience” left its mark upon Dick.



Following graduation in 1956, Dick activated his US Naval Reserve commission and proceeded to Pensacola for Navy flight training as an attack pilot. In July of 1957, fiancée Geraldine pinned on Dick’s Naval Aviator wings. They married shortly afterwards. During 1958-'59, serving with San Diego-based Attack Squadron 145, Dick flew single-engine, single-seat Douglas Skyraiders, completing two Cold War deployments aboard the new supercarrier USS RANGER. He logged 750 hours of flight time and 125 carrier landings.



Soon after leaving the Navy, Dick was hired by American Airlines. Within three years of his arrival, he was in the "left seat" – a captain. During his thirty years with AAL, Dick flew six different aircraft - from straight-wing props to swept-wing jumbo jets - DC-6, DC-7, Electra, BAC 111, Boeing 727 and 707, plus widebody McDonnell Douglas DC-10s - clocking in a total of 21,000 hours of professional flying time.

Those are some impressive statistics. There are more – on the personal side. Gerry and Dick, married for 61 years, have 6 children and 12 grandchildren. Geraldine is an integral part of the Fort Schuyler family.

Since leaving American Airlines, Dick has been involved in a variety of volunteer service - one of the most rewarding being one in which he and Gerry participate together - the Jesuit Infirmary at Fordham University in the Bronx. In addition to Fordham, Dick has played the following roles:

- Personal coach helping people overcome their fear of flying, ongoing
- Volunteer Coach of the Maritime College Offshore Sailing Team, 2001 – 2005
- Executive Director of the NY Maritime College Sailing Foundation, 2002 – 2005
- Board Member of the Fort Schuyler Maritime Alumni Association, 2006 – 2018
- President of the FSMAA, 2008 – 2009
- Editor Emeritus of the Fort Schuyler "Mariner" magazine, 2009 – 2012
- Member of the College/Alumni Association Contract Negotiating Committee, 2016-2017
- President of the Hudson River Yacht Racing Association
- Chairman of the Class of '56 50th Reunion Committee in 2006 leading to a \$615,000 endowment to the College for cadet scholarships; this represented the largest class gift ever donated to the College, as recognized by a bronze plaque on the sea wall.

Dick Bracken lives a life of giving and gratitude. We are grateful and better off because of how this dedicated man chooses to use his talents to contribute to the world, to Maritime College, and to our Alumni Association. We can think of no better person to celebrate and honor for this year's Lifetime Achievement Award. ■



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**HATS OFF TO THIS YEAR'S
SUNY MARITIME COLLEGE
GRADUATES!**

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CLASS NOTES



Ken Hansen, Terry Mackey, Bob Hession, Paul Narbut, Larry Colyer, Grey Bonar, Steve King, Ted James, Bill Culver, Irv Patz, Shelly Johnson, Al Ross, Jay Barsin, Ralph Katz, Bob Calabrese, Dick Albers, Cliff Dahl, Joe Maurelli, Bob Marshall, Charlie DiGiovanni, Jim Willis, Burt Newmark, Ed Filardi, Charlie Kearney, John Dropp, Bob Tambini, Norm Maender, Paul Metzger, Jim Rosenthal.

Thirty members of the Class of 1963, most with their significant others, traveled to Charlotte NC in October 2018 to celebrate their 55th reunion. This was approximately 50 percent of the known class members. The reunion featured a barbecue at the home of **Jay Barsin**, a spirited game of golf among those who still play and most significantly a formal dinner with Admiral Alfultis and his wife Kim as the featured guests. Following introductory remarks by **Al Ross**

and an introduction by **Joe Maurelli**, the Admiral brought the group up to date on developments at the college and the plans going forward including the anticipated arrival of a new training ship within the next few years. According to Al Ross, "the general consensus of those attending was that although the school has changed a lot since we left, it is in good hands with Admiral Alfultis at the helm and that we can be very proud of how it has evolved."

'49 Ed Dangler '49 was honored to have **Vinnie Cassiano '83** come up from San Diego where he has his elder law legal practice. Vinnie visited Ed at the VA Hospital in Palo Alto.



'69 On January 12, 2019, **Captain Paul Lobo '69** and **Captain John Piotrowski '69** were the invited guests of **Ron Dreher '85** to the Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club in Channel Islands Harbor, CA. Captain Lobo delighted and



entertained club members and invited guests with a presentation and book signing, based upon his book Crossing

the Bar: The Adventures of a San Francisco Harbor Pilot.

'78 Michael Holmes '78 was recently promoted to be the chief engineer/Modernization and technical director for the Littoral Combat Ships (LCS) at the Naval Sea Systems Command, Program Executive Office Unmanned and Small Combatant Program Office. Mike is in charge of acceptance of new LCS ships, currently at four per year, planning of all modernization alterations to the ships and in-service engineering support to the ships and crews as issues arise. Mike recently accepted delivery of four LCS ships – USS Milwaukee, USS Jackson, USS Detroit, USS Montgomery – and accepted the USS Gabrielle Giffords into

"in-service" status for the U.S. Navy; he is preparing four of the LCS ships for 18-month deployments in 2019.

The Class of 1978 held a mini 40th reunion at the 2018 Homecoming. In attendance were **Mark Kazemi, Wayne Naylor, Michael Holmes, Bill Berberich** and **Bill Preston** (not shown). They are calling all members of the class of '78 to start planning for their 50th!



'80 Attendees at the **class of 1980 Islamorada's fishing excursion**: (pictured below, not in order, Class of 1980 unless otherwise noted). Pete Brock, Doug McKay, Paul Theofan, Brian Kreppin, John Bradley '83, Victor Corso '83, Brian Kelly, Steve Carbery, Andy Werner, Joe Collella '79, Bob Langstine '83, Pat Sheehan, Jenny Barnes-Hayes, Mike Stark, Eric Axelson, Brian Dengel '79, Tom Breglia, Joe Breglia, Dan Hawley, Wayne Schmidt, Randy Johnson, Kevin Comerford '83, Dave Mackey, Rich Merhige '83, Steve Gulotta.

And the Class of '80 brought their own security detail staffed by underclassmen: Rick McClain '13, Pat Ramsbothem '13, Alex Todd '13, Ted Green '13, Max Lockwood '13, Sean Belsky '14, Mike Paturas '13, Corey Palladino '17, Kevin Connolly '16.



Bartley J. Eckhardt '79, and his wife Bonnie L. Johnson, and Brian Dengel '79, established

THE SURFACEBLOW ENDOWED ENGINEERING FUND

After talking with the engineering department about the current needs of the programs, Bart Eckhardt '79, and his wife Bonnie L. Johnson, majority owners of Robson Forensic and Brian Denzel '79 approached the College about establishing an endowment, which they wanted to name for Surfaceblow, an Engineering term. They directed that the funds generated be invested in laboratory needs and improvements in order to maintain and fortify the connection between theory and practice for Maritime engineering students. "We are thrilled to support today's students. They will have strong career options if the College's laboratories and their upkeep remain relevant to the needs of industry today," said Eckhardt.

Department Chair, Dr. Carl Delo, was thrilled to work with Eckhardt, Johnson and Dengel to establish this generous and much needed funding stream. "Our hands-on approach to teaching requires that our labs and training remain top-notch and industry relevant. These additional funds will assist us in purchasing new equipment and maintaining what we already have," said Delo.

For more information about the Surfaceblow Fund, or to make a donation, please contact:

Douglas Hasbrouck

Executive Director of Development
dhasbrouck@sunymaritime.edu or 718.409.3938.

'83 Tom Munster '83 was elected commodore of Freeport Yacht Club for 2018. Here he is with his wife Liz, Class of '84.



CLASS NOTES

'86 Classmates from 1986 and their better halves met up at the Rockefeller Christmas Tree for their annual Christmas dinner: **Hanky Ayers, Darren McGowan, Sean Rajkumar, Eddie Crean.**



Greg Tuthill '86 assumed the role of chief commercial officer for SeaCube Container Leasing, one of the largest global container leasing companies in the maritime industry, as of July 2018. In his new role, he is responsible for implementing and executing the global commercial strategy, including business development and creating equipment financing, leasing and structured finance solutions.



Kevin Graney '86, the president of NASSCO and vice president of the General Dynamics Corporation, leading his team in San Diego on January 11, 2019 at the commissioning ceremony for NASSCO's new panel line which was the culmination of two years of hard work and innovation.



The new panel line features state-of-the-art technology that will keep NASSCO at the forefront of shipbuilding for many years to come.



Roger Restaino '86 and his wife **Miriam Martinez** created the **Maritime Military Veteran Endowed Scholarship.**

Proceeds from the fund will provide financial support for full time undergraduate or graduate license program students who have served two years or more in the U.S. armed forces, or on active duty deployment of six months with the Reserve/ National Guard.

'98 Brian Ledwith '98, formerly vice president, has been promoted to director of Offshore Chartering at L&R Midland, Inc. L&R Midland, based in Houston, TX, is an integrated marine services company offering professional brokerage services for American flag ships, inland barges and offshore vessels for both chartering and sale & purchase. The non-brokerage services include worldwide shipyard representation, inventory management and facilitation of integrated marine projects.



Operation Santa

On December 22, 2018, Operation Santa at the Centerport Fire Department in Long Island found these alumni volunteering their time: **Andy Heglund '02, Bill Milanese '16, Charles Hudson '90** and **Kevin Hudson '94.**



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Ralph J. Mellusi '67 • Rjmellusi@SeaLawyers.com

Jake Shisha '81 • Jshisha@SeaLawyers.com

'99 After almost 12 years at Rolls-Royce Marine, **Eric Larsen '99** became government business leader at Trident Marine in Bradenton, FL. He started his new position in October 2018.

'09 Recently promoted to command the container vessel M/V President FD Roosevelt, Captain **Lillian (Lilly) Gallo '09** became the first female master at APL Maritime (US-Flag).

'00 The guided-missile destroyer USS Sterett (DDG 104) held a Change of Command ceremony August 15th. **Cmdr. Sean Lewis '00** assumed command of the guided-missile destroyer USS Sterett (DDG 104), relieving Cmdr. Claudine Caluori. Cmdr. Lewis' sea tour assignments include gunnery, electrical and main propulsion officer onboard



USS Barry (DDG 52), auxiliaries officer onboard USS Bataan (LHD 5) in Norfolk, VA, and chief engineer onboard USS Pinckney (DDG 91) San Diego, CA and USS Chosin (CG 65) Pearl Harbor, HI. "I am deeply honored to have been chosen to take the helm of the Navy's finest warship... You have my trust and confidence, and I will work tirelessly to earn yours." shared Sean at the ceremony.

Dylan Donald Moore made his arrival on August 29, 2018 to Daddy **Donald Moore '00** and his wife **Helen Yu**, joining his brother and sister. Grandfather **Don and Mrs. Moore '75** were ecstatic to welcome their future Maritime College cadet, Class of 2039.



US SAILING HONORS 2013 ALUMNUS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SPORT

Patrick "Taylor" Walker '13, an executive ocean cargo underwriter with AGCS, received notice for his accomplishments as the volunteer Offshore Sailing coach for MudRatz Sailing. The program was recognized

for their accomplishments to the sport of sailing with the Captain Joe Prosser Award for Excellence in Sailing Instruction by US Sailing, at its January National Sailing Programs Symposium.

Maritime's Waterfront Program Director Alicia Martorella also presented at the Symposium about US Sailing's STEM program, called Reach, which is utilized as part of the

College's Maritime Adventure Boat Camp each summer.

The MudRatz Youth Sailing Organization is known for its offshore team, which won the Stephens Brothers Youth Trophy in the 2018 Newport to Bermuda Race and was featured on the cover of the Fall 2018 issue of Sailing World. Founded in 2013 by 10 junior sailors, MudRatz is devoted to educating youth about the importance of sustainability. Their 2018 "Dinghy Race" attracted youth teams from as far away as Florida and Illinois. For the second time, their volunteered regatta earned Sailors for the Sea Clean Regatta Platinum status.



Far left: Captain Walker and his team in Bermuda.

Near left : Brandon Flack the MudRatz CER (Chief Executive Rat) and Patrick Taylor Walker '13.

CLASS NOTES/WEDDINGS



Kevin Brennan '11 married Dara Kovarsky '13 on September 8, 2018 on Fire Island

Twenty alumni attended the Kovarsky-Brennan wedding on September 8, 2018 at The Casino Café and Bar on Fire Island. Captured in the photo: Bride Dara Kovarsky '13, Groom Kevin Brennan '11 celebrating with: Jay Bradford '11, Meagan (Golden) Bradford '10, Baby Marlee (Future class of 2040), Nick Cottone '11, John Guliano '12, Vinnie Tomasso '11, Matthew Deedy '07, Brad Ruppel '10, Pete Meyer '13, Mark Bischoff '10, Scott Hanson '12, Joe Atkins '11, Pat Ferrie '11, Matt Augi '10, Chris Brennan '74, Bob Deedy '74, Jim Brennan '67.

Matthew Mahanna '94 married Stacie Alexiou '04 on January 19, 2019 in Playa Mujeres, Mexico

Photo at far right: Kneeling: Michelle (Bears) Murgolo '04, Craig Lyon '17, Peter Vecchio '92. Standing: Matt Herrington '94, Phil Kretzmer '94, David Pritzker '94, John DeCeasare '94, Matt Mahanna '94, Toshi Tanaka '92, Sean Perreault '94, Mariya (Bazzicalupo) Perreault '96, Billy O'Sullivan '94. Alumni present but not pictured are: Efstratios Voukidis '15, Stephanos Alexiou '72, Stacie Alexiou '04, Ron Siegmann '74 and T/S Empire State VI Crew: Ed Madigan, Dominic Valvo and Sal Ergin.



Daniel O'Brien '14 married Phelicia Hilcken '14 on October 7, 2018 in Virginia

Twenty-six alumni gathered at Keswick Vineyards in Virginia on October 7, 2018 to celebrate the wedding of Phelicia Hilcken '14 and Daniel O'Brien '14.

The bridal party included Jenna Regal, Thomas Callahan '15, Stuart Schechter '14, Laura O'Brien (Cignarale) '13, Michael Cignarale '14, Michael Schreiber '16, Joe Anderson. The officiant of the ceremony was none other than Commander John Yesko. Other alumni included: Duane Case '02, Regina Fox '12, Katie Lamboy '11, Joe Holomshek '14, Jake Tuttle, Michael Kellner '14, Maggie Anderson, Amanda Brown '14, Herman Wolfrey '14, Kyle Steinhoff '19, Chris Austell '19, Jay Arnold '17, Zac Cirtis '15, Natalie Ocher '18, Brandon Haibern '19, Amy Landman '21.



Bittersweet

REUNION

Classmates gather together to celebrate their 15-year reunion and to honor the memory of one of their own –

Richard Pusatere '03

BY BRIAN ABBOTT '03



On October 13th, 2018, the Class of 2003 returned to Fort Schuyler for our 15-year reunion. Even though it had been almost 20 years since we first stood in the Quad on day one of Indoc, it still seemed like just yesterday. Some of us had been back to the Fort many times since graduation; for others, this was their first time back. It was great to see old friends, and share some bear hugs and a lot of laughs.

This year's reunion was especially bittersweet. While we came together to celebrate our 15-year reunion, we also came together to honor the memory of one of our own. **Rich 'Pooch' Pusatere** was the chief engineer on the S.S. El Faro when she sank during Hurricane Joaquin on October 1st, 2015. Rich's wife, Emily, spoke following the traditional Pass-in-Review of the MUG Class inside St. Mary's Pentagon, and thanked the Maritime College family for their generosity and support following Rich's passing. Our Class had purchased a memorial brick for Pooch in the Quad a few years ago, but this year Pooch was formally inducted into the Hall

of Honor located inside Fort Schuyler. Captain Eric Johansson, the director of the Maritime Industry Museum at Fort Schuyler, spoke first, explaining the significance of the Hall, and the memories it honored and preserved. Rich's Dad, Frank, spoke next, talking about how much Rich loved Maritime College, how proud he was to be an alumnus, and how much he loved being an engineer. Our classmate Matt Parker spoke last, sharing some great stories of one of his closest friends, and making all of us laugh through our tears. Following the ceremony, Rich's parents, Frank and Lillian, and his wife and daughter, Emily and Josie, were officially 'adopted' by our Class and made honorary members of the Class of 2003. Rich's family will always be our family.

Pooch was one of the founding members of the 'BBQ Club', a group of cadets who would routinely meet up down at the Point to fire up a grill and enjoy a beverage or two. The plan was to have a BBQ at the point in Pooch's honor, but unfortunately Mother Nature conspired against us. The BBQ was shifted to the Maritime Academic Center located

by Reinhart Field, and as we walked from the Fort to the field, we stopped next to Pooch's brick in the Quad and poured out a beer for our friend. The afternoon was spent sharing laughs, enjoying some great food and drinks, and for many of us, getting to meet and get to know Pooch's family.



At the end of the day, everyone present signed the Class of 2003 banner that we had been given by the College as part of our Reunion festivities. After everyone had signed it, we presented it to Emily on behalf of not only our Class, but Pooch's friends from all different graduation years.

Pooch's loss will forever leave a large hole in the Class of 2003 and the Maritime College family. However, his smile and his laugh will always stick with those of us who knew him. We'll always make sure to share with his family what an incredible guy he truly was. ■



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INDUSTRY ENCOUNTERS



The American P&I Club and **Resolve Marine Group** hosted a Loss Prevention Partnership Workshop in New York City in October 2018.

Front: Don Moore '75, Danielle Centeno '07, Marino Hwang '01;
Back: Larmyk Beltran Balancia '07, James Knutson '07, Daniel Dolson '95, James Ash '82, Lars Gustafson '91.

WHERE IN THE WORLD



Scotland

Summer Sea Term 2018 found Kevin O'Donnell '76, Charles Sheahan '75 and Rich Fitzgerald '76 in Glasgow, Scotland. Charlie and Rich were instructors while Kevin was the 12-4 watchstander.



The Netherlands

The Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers Open Day in Rotterdam entitled "Blockchain Revisited" was held on January 29, 2019, and found Austin Dooley '96 and Michael Fay '96, both presenting on their respective expertise within the supply chain. Austin is the trading manager for Stolt Tanker Trading and is based in Rotterdam. Michael is vice president, Product and Operations for Akamai Technologies (Blockchain) and is based in Boston. Austin and Michael are not only 1996 classmates from Fort Schuyler, but they are also 1992 classmates from Fordham Prep.

Editor's note: We are pleased to highlight Schuyler graduates meeting around the globe. As you take your selfies and share them with your friends on Facebook and Instagram, please send them to the Fort Schuyler at director@fsmma.org or communications@sunymaritime.edu



HOMECOMING 2018

BY MARY MUECKE

While the early morning mist infused a damp chill in the air, it did little to dampen the warm spirit of enthusiastic alumni returning to campus to celebrate reunions with classmates and friends. The Class of 1968 arrived in full force to celebrate their 50th reunion and were joined by the classes of 1958, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993 celebrating their 25th reunion, 1998 and 2003.



Class of 1958: Tom Hancock, Bill Caldwell, Scott Mackenzie, Al Tuzes, RADM Alfutis, Ken Morrison, Dom Fortunato, Bill Forman, and Rich Blatus inside the Maritime Museum.

The Maritime College football Privateers celebrated homecoming in a big way defeating the Bulldogs of Dean College of Franklin, MA, by a score of 35-7. Alumni, family and friends enjoyed touring the campus, the Maritime Industry Museum in Fort Schuyler, and the Empire State VI. Prior to kickoff, reunion groups marched onto Reinhart Field with banners proudly identifying their reunion year, and many enjoyed tailgate gatherings throughout the day. ■



Class of 1983 marching onto the football field: Kevin Comerford, Andy Rosina, John Maguire, Victor Corso, Mike Reilly, Tim Parsons, Brian Kirk, Chris Harvey, Brian Goetchius, Mike Hinchcliffe, Randy Lund, Ed Morea, Tom Keating, Tim Nelson, Holly Tripp, Chuck Anderson.

2018 HERITAGE HALL INDUCTEE

Captain Edward Dangler '49, USN (Ret.)

A native of Bronx, New York, Dangler graduated from SUNY Maritime College in 1949 with a bachelor's degree in marine science, a U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Marine Officer license and an Ensign's commission in the US Navy. He traveled extensively throughout his career which included positions with the Isthmian Steamship Company – a subsidiary of U.S. Steel, the U.S. Navy, General Dynamics, Lockheed and NASA. A firm believer



in lifelong learning, Dangler went on to earn a degree in industrial engineering, a master's degree in business administration, and a law degree. He was admitted to the California bar Association at the age of sixty nine years. A loyal and proud alumnus, Captain Dangler has consistently supported the College and our students.



CLASS 73

Dave Wiegand, Dave Scott, Rich Wills, Rich Metcalf, John Wolak, Dave Dombrowski, Barry McVey, Len Kuhnemann, Stu Wikander, Ron Dull, Tom Serrago, Gary Jobson, Roger Paulus, Bob McGinn, Ray Gardiner, Jim DeSimone & Tom Rice.





Row 1: Jim Clark, Steve Gonzalez, John Luard, Lou Lortz, Dennis DiSalvo. **Row 2:** Peter Nissen, Andrew Sferra, Roland Parent, Ned Cray, Henry Scully, John Fichtman, Rick Morrison, Ray Miles, Dennis Durand, Bill Cotter, Admiral Alfultis. **Row 3:** Howard Merkel, Ed Martin, William Chaloupka, Mike Axelsson, George Seirmarco, Robert Petersen, Bob Falaguerra, Ray Berweger, Vincent Franzik, James Keane. **Row 4:** Ed Van Loenen, John Antweiler, Lou Harlow, Austin Dooley, Fred Guenther, Joe Ludwiczak, Anthony Coppola, Ron Field, Tom Abernathy, Anthony Libero, Mark Feldman, Brian Halloran. **Row 5:** Bryce Laraway, Vic Rapp, Duke Adams, Charles Hommel, Bruce Abugel, Stan Abrahamsen, Bob Degán, Rod DeVeau, Paul Fuda.



John Valvo '83, Nikki Lund, Randy Lund '83, Tim Parsons '83 reminisce over old pictures.



Class of 1993 celebrating their 25th Reunion
 John Razulis, Gary Lefebvre, Mike Conroy, John Hotaling, Chris Schierloh, Mark Munion, Brian McClintock, Joe Menta, Jimmy Duffy, Mark Kunkin, Dave Callaghan.



Maritime alumni enjoying the day with friends and family.

Since its inception in December 2017, the **SUNY MARITIME FOUNDATION** has supported the College in many ways.

"Having unrestricted funds on hand enables us to respond to the College's needs – that sort of flexibility is invaluable."

Bob Johnston '69
Chairman, SUNY Maritime Foundation Board

FAST RESCUE BOAT BRIDGES CLASSROOM AND EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

With financial backing from the SUNY Maritime Foundation, the College acquired a 25-foot government surplus Port Security Boat in November. A priority for RADM Admiral Michael Alfultis and the Marine Transportation department faculty, the boat will be



used for the Fast Rescue Boat course and for other learning opportunities. "Tomorrow's mariner needs far more opportunities to learn, to navigate inland waters and to stand watch," Admiral Alfultis explained. "We need to diversify our training resources."

For 2/C Jack Belardo and 3/C Mike Geller, the vessel will add to the classroom and training ship experiences through the Boating Club offerings, which they lead.

Marine Environmental Science faculty will be putting the boat into service for student research projects such

as collecting and analyzing water samples. The newly funded Seamanship Training Center, to be constructed on the waterfront, will utilize the boat to provide regional workforce development program training.

MINI-CAMPAIGN FOR DINGHIES

Over the last two years, \$4 million in capital investment has improved the waterfront in numerous ways including

floating docks, pier and a new 50-ton Marine Travel Lift with a boom crane. According to Rob Crafa, waterfront director, "We have exceptional infrastructure, but to help the sailing team remain competitive we really need to replace our aging fleet of dinghies."

Now sailing powerhouse Gary

Jobson '73, along with Tom Rich '79, Joe Starck '90 and Mark Barker '94, is partnering with the College and the Foundation to rally further investment in the waterfront programs – specifically, working toward the purchase of a new 20-boat fleet of dinghies.

Naming opportunities exist for both single boats and racing trios, and the Committee plans to acknowledge leadership donors as 'Plankowners', in a prominent area of McMurray Hall. Those interested should contact a committee member, or Rob Crafa, at rcrafa@sunymaritime.edu or at 718-409-7460.

JOHN BREE '78

Vice Chairman, SUNY Maritime Foundation

FOUNDATION'S BOAT DONATION PROGRAM

Having retained the management of the boat donation program for the College, The Foundation rang in the new year with the receipt of its first boat donation, a 2002 Boston Whaler Conquest 25 named "Emunah" ("Faithful" in Hebrew).

Donating your boat to SUNY Maritime Foundation can provide substantive tax benefits, immediate cost savings and great personal satisfaction as you directly benefit the College's hands-on, on-the-water training. Waterfront Director Rob Crafa advises, "It's important that a boat donation make sense for the donor and the College. I always work those details out with donors in advance."

Alumni interested in donating their boats or helping to spread the word about the program are encouraged to contact Rob Crafa at 718-409-7460 or via e-mail: rcrafa@sunymaritime.edu.

UNRESTRICTED FOUNDATION GIFTS ENCOURAGE INNOVATION

A \$10,000 challenge grant from the SUNY Maritime Foundation to support the NY Maritime Innovation Center (NYMIC) was quickly matched by industry partners this



spring. The Center brings new and innovative approaches to the world of shipping by bridging the maritime and technology centers. Professor Chris Clott, ABS chair of marine transportation and logistics and director of NYMIC, explains that the innovation center connects the maritime industry with technologists, problem solvers and venture capitalists. "The shipping world is just beginning to take advantage of the information revolution, and by bringing key players together we have a significant impact on ships, ports and terminals", said Clott.

Foundation Board Chairman Bob Johnston '69 explained, "We saw this matching challenge gift as the perfect opportunity to leverage our assets and encourage corporate support. Having unrestricted funds on hand enables us to respond to the College's needs – that sort of flexibility is invaluable." ■



John Bree was a vice president, Global Marine Services for Exxon Mobil four years ago when he found himself seated with SUNY Maritime College's relatively new president at a Connecticut Maritime Association dinner. "Admiral Mike was engaging and talked about his vision for the school," said Bree. "I was struck by his sincerity and determination to see things through and the next day I had the chance to visit the campus." Bree recalls how the campus facilities looked much better than he remembered, and the teaching technology such as full-mission bridge simulators was "impressive."

Two years later, Bree retired from ExxonMobil after a rewarding 38-year career in senior executive positions in Exxon's oil and gas, supply and distribution and shipping businesses all over the globe. With the earlier exchange with Admiral Alfultis still on his mind, Bree decided to call him. He told the Admiral that "My Schuyler education and leadership training afforded me an incredible career and I would like to find a way to give back." Hearing that issues with the Alumni Association were being worked out and learning about the establishment of a supporting foundation, Bree decided to get involved.

Bree was particularly attracted to the mission of the SUNY Maritime Foundation, an independent organization, committed to managing and raising private funds solely for the benefit of the College. "I'm proud of the role we are playing to help advance the College's academic programs into new areas and solidify the College's position as a world-class maritime institution," said Bree. ■

PLANET  SNAME

MAKING WAVES IN THE MARITIME INDUSTRY

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Harold J. Mackey '46

Richard Albert Palmer '46

Joseph J. Lemaire '48

George Taborsky '48

Edward C. Goll '49

Donald J. Penniall '49

Vincent W. Wilson '52

Thomas Russell '54

Chauncey Mason '55

Louis F. Reginato '55

Alden F. Gray '57

Tom McCarthy '57

Allen E. Bosch '58

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Michael R. Madden '62

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ALL MARITIME ALUMNI CHALLENGE

May 6 - 20, 2019

Once again, Fort Schuyler is up against our rival maritime academies: Massachusetts, Maine and California.

The school with the highest participation of contributing alumni between May 6-20 wins.

To be counted as a participant:

- Your gift of any amount must be received by **May 20***
- First-time donors are counted twice for maximum impact
- If you gave earlier in the year, make a token gift now and **show your Fort Schuyler pride!**

* Use the enclosed envelope, visit www.sunymaritime.edu/donate-now or call Ashley Scotti at 718 409 4001. Make your contribution to the [SUNY Maritime Foundation](#).

“The amount of your gift is not what counts, but being counted is what matters. Please help us win!”

Jennifer Barnes-Hayes '80
President, Maritime College
Alumni Association

UPCOMING EVENTS

FOR MARITIME COLLEGE ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

Admiral's Dinner
April 30, 2019

Alumni Association Spring Networking
May 2019 (date TBD) - Manhattan

Commencement
May 3, 2019

Summer Sea Term Alumni/Industry Gatherings
On board the T/S Empire State VI
(Dates subject to change)
May 21 - New Orleans, LA
June 20 - Manhattan, NY
July 8 - Baltimore, MD

31st Annual Maritime College Alumni Association Golf Classic-Old Westbury Golf & Country Club
June 10, 2019

George C. Preville Memorial Inter-Maritime Academy Monomoy Race
Saturday, September 14, 2019

Fort Schuyler, Maine, Massachusetts, US Coast Guard Academy and the US Merchant Marine Academy face off in the Second Annual Monomoy Race. Sponsored by the Marine Society of the City of New York.

Offshore Energy Symposium
Thursday, September 26, 2019

Homecoming, Parents Weekend and Ancient Mariner Golf Tournament
October 18-19, 2019

- Maritime College Alumni Association golf tournament at Pelham Bay & Split Rock Golf Courses, Bronx, NY
- Class reunion events, Pass-in-Review and Alumni Association meeting
- Heritage Hall Induction
- Tailgate and Football Game with Reunion Class Parade/Regimental March On
- Alumni Post-Game Celebration at Paddy's on the Bay

Maritime Risk Symposium: Understanding and Managing Risks to the Maritime Transportation System
November 13-15, 2019

For academics, operators and local/state/federal authorities involved in the maritime transportation system.

Maritime College Alumni Association Fall Networking and Nominations meeting
November 28, 2019 - Manhattan

Maritime College Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner
January 30, 2020 - Manhattan

For more information, visit www.sunymaritime.edu/events-alumni-friends

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