

FORT SCHUYLER

THE MAGAZINE FOR MARITIME COLLEGE ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

SPRING 2022



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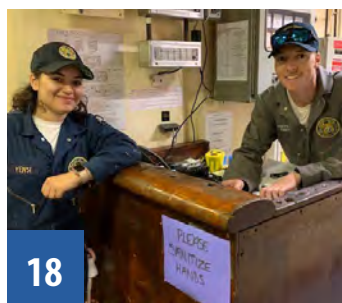
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ON THE COVER:

Women are an integral part of the maritime industry. Learn about the successful Maritime College women leaders and alumae who are advancing other women in the sector.

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LETTER FROM KEVIN DANKO '95

*President,
Maritime College Alumni Association*



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Dear Fellow Alumni,

Another exciting season to be a part of the greatest association of alumni, the Maritime College Alumni Association! If I could encourage you to do only one thing, it would be to engage. What does engagement look like, you might ask? Well for one reach out to a fellow alum and find out what they have been up to. One of the most important reasons to be part of this great association is to expand your personal and professional networks. You are already part of the Maritime College Alumni Association, by virtue of your graduation and part of the MCAA's mission is to be a vehicle for your network expansion. You can and should reach out to us to connect with other alumni.

Another part of the mission of the MCAA is to provide students with financial and career support and boy did we deliver big again this year! Over a \$500,000 in Summer Sea Term scholarships have been awarded for the 2022 summer term. As you are all too aware, costs have skyrocketed, and your generosity is needed more than ever. It is estimated that over 80 percent of all goods are moved by ship and this education has never been more vitally important. These scholarships are for many the difference between going or staying and we helped at least 100 cadets say YES to cruise!

In March, we had an opportunity to engage with students graduating this year at our annual New Alumni Night. We had several engaging conversations over dinner in the special events room (formerly the First-Class mess). As an association we continue to engage students and support the school to develop our future Alumni.

By the time you read this, we will have had our Annual Alumni Awards Dinner. The last time we were able to pull this off was 2020. We are expecting a great evening for recognition and yes, networking! This event has always been a great way to reconnect, and we are all looking forward to it, and will share stories online.

Also we will have had hosted the June Golf Classic, another outstanding way to connect and enjoy some friendly competition. This event is a major fundraiser for the MCAA, funding our administration and event support so we can continue to be a vehicle for you to expand your network. We look forward to sharing updates, tune into our media platforms for those updates.

As I reflect on all things Maritime, I am struck by the magnitude of our good fortune to be stewards of the first of class, purpose-built training ship for training future mariners. I say good fortune as a term of gratitude, this opportunity did not happen by chance. New York Maritime again leads the way and was a driving force in making this happen not only for our school, but for our neighboring State Maritime Schools. Also looking forward to sharing progress and timelines of the new ship through our media channels.

We continue our focus on increasing engagement with our membership and welcome non-board members to join a committee. If you have ideas drop us a note, we'd love to hear them. As I mentioned before, we are using virtual meetings, to create new opportunities for your involvement in committees and the board so do not let your geolocation hold you back from engaging us.

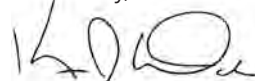
We will only grow stronger together. Membership dues support the programs that support you, please consider being an active member today.

I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.



www.MaritimeCollegeAA.org

Fraternally,



Kevin Danko, Class of 1995
President MCAA

LETTER FROM MICHAEL ALFULTIS

President,
SUNY Maritime College



Dear Maritime College Alumni and Friends,

Spring is in full gear at Maritime College and the campus has never looked more beautiful in bloom. For the first time in two years, many if not all, in person activities that are critical to the hands-on academic and extra-curricular student experience resumed this semester.

As academicians, coaches, mentors, and teachers, women at the College have stood front and center, playing a significant part in fostering the educational and student life experience. In an industry where women are underrepresented, it is more important than ever for young female students to rely on the support of their counterparts in college leadership. In this issue, dedicated to women in the maritime industry, we feature a few of the many women whose role and work at the College serves to guide and inspire the young women seeking to take their place as professionals in the global maritime community. From the Provost, the first woman to be appointed to the prestigious position; to the athletics head coach who led the Women's Lacrosse Team through one of its greatest seasons; to the alum and maritime professional who left the high seas to return to the College and teach; these are some of the women who will change the face of the industry and usher in a new generation of maritime leaders.

This issue also features the milestone event of the Keel Laying of the first National Multi-Mission Vessel, the Empire State VII, currently under construction at Philadelphia Shipyard, PA. Since the December event, significant progress has been made and we look forward to celebrating its arrival to Maritime College in 2023. Other activities abounded in 2022 including the groundbreaking of the William Austen Marine Education and Seamanship Center, and the ribbon-cutting ceremonies of the newly constructed Student Learning Center and the Marine Engineering Systems Laboratory. Each of these construction projects, which were made possible through state funds and the generosity of donors, will provide long-lasting opportunities for state-of-the-art learning and workforce development in the maritime and offshore wind sectors.

All the efforts that have been put forth to progress and advance Maritime College are due in great part to those alumni, sponsors and friends who dedicate their time, expertise, and generously support the College. Their donations and contributions are part of a collective effort to generate the crucial funding needed for student scholarships, provide relevant maritime education and training, and greatly assist in enhancing the overall student experience. Thank you for being a part of the student success story at Maritime College!

Please enjoy this issue of *Fort Schuyler* Magazine.

Be well.

All the best,

Handwritten signature of Michael Alfultis in blue ink.

RADM Michael A. Alfultis, USMA, Ph.D.

KEEL LAYING OF NSMV I

Marks Historic
Milestone for U.S.
Maritime Industry &
Maritime College



In an event that brought together maritime industry officials from the U.S. Department of Transportation Maritime Administration (MARAD), Philly Shipyard Inc., TOTE Services, Inc., government officials from Philadelphia, and higher education leaders from several State Maritime Academies, December 10 proved to be a historic and memorable day for the U.S. maritime industry and for Maritime College. The milestone event was covered by numerous maritime trade publications and outlets including, The Maritime Executive, Hellenic Shipping News Worldwide, Work Boat, Marine Log and Trade Winds, to name a few.

The keel laying ceremony for the first National Multi-Mission Vessel (NSMV I) was held in Philly Shipyard. Attendees witnessed the keel laying firsthand at the shipyard while countless others viewed the milestone event via livestream. In attendance were Acting MARAD Administrator Lucinda Lessley; Congresswoman Mary Gay Scanlon of Philadelphia's 5TH District; Philly Shipyard President and CEO Steinar Nerbovik; TOTE Services Inc. President Jeff Dixon; and four State Maritime Academy Presidents, RADM Thomas A. Cropper of California State University Maritime Academy, RADM Francis

X. McDonald of Massachusetts Maritime Academy, RADM Michael Fossum of Texas A&M Maritime Academy, and RADM Michael Alfultis of SUNY Maritime College.

"That we would all be gathered here on this particular day to celebrate this event is somewhat serendipitous," stated RADM Michael Alfultis. "December 10 holds a historic and significant meaning for two reasons. First, it was on this day in 1874 that the St. Marys arrived in New York harbor to serve as the first training ship for the College, then known as the New York Nautical School. Second, today we celebrate for the first time in U.S. history, the design and construction of a U.S. Government-owned class of multi-purpose ships for training U.S. mariners and supporting national security missions."

"Today's first NSMV keel laying is a critical milestone in an innovative effort that is producing state-of-the-art vessels in an American shipyard that will both train the next generation

of American mariners and provide a new disaster response capability for the Nation," said Acting MARAD Administrator Lucinda Lessley.

The keel laying was a realization of a vision many years in the making involving conceptualization, discussion, collaboration, letter writing campaigns, meetings, visits to Washington, D.C., and testifying before



CAMPUS NEWS

Capstone Presentations Return for Facilities Engineering Students

For the first time in three years, seniors in the Facilities Engineering degree program presented their Facilities Engineering Design II Capstone projects before an audience of almost two dozen industry professionals who served as evaluators. Five teams comprised of three students conducted their presentations, proposed their findings and recommendations, and responded to questions from members of the audience. Industry professionals representing companies such as LaGuardia Airport, Turner Construction, NBC Universal, Fresh Meadows Mechanical, and Yale New Haven Health, among others, were on hand to question, offer advice and evaluate the presentations.

Capstone projects allow students to apply their cumulative engineering education to a real-life dilemma. Projects are solicited from various engineering firms, operating facilities and/or equipment manufacturers and contractors operating within the New York tristate area. This spring, five presentations were held in person and featured students speaking on the following topics within their respective firms:

- Armstrong Humidifier Repair/Replace Options – Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Nassau
- AHU Upgrade/Renewal/Replacement – Mount Sinai, Annenberg
- Level II Energy Audit with ECM's – New York City Police Department, 43rd Precinct, Bronx
- Hybrid Chiller Plan Upgrade Planning & Actions – Northwell Health, Syosset
- Ex Vivarium-Energy Reuse & Systems Modifications – Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Long Island City

The capstone project provides an outstanding experience through participation, project significance and urgency, and active critique by attendees at oral presentations. ■



Congress. It was also made possible by the efforts and support of partnerships between the State Maritime Academy Presidents, Maritime Administration, and members of Congress. Construction of the first state-of-the-art world class training platform that will be utilized by cadets is expected to be completed on schedule and Maritime College is poised to receive the vessel in 2023. When it arrives to the College, the NSMV I will replace the aging Empire State VI.

Prior to the NSMV I keel laying, Philly Shipyard President and CEO Steinar Nerbovik explained the traditional aspect of a keel laying ceremony in the shipbuilding industry. "As part of the shipbuilding tradition, the keel laying ceremony invites good luck in the construction and life of a ship as the first prefabricated block is lowered into the building dock," he stated. After descending to the building dock, coins were placed on the blocks directly below where the keel would be laid. The keel, hanging over blocks suspended by a crane, was then lowered onto the blocks, finalizing the keel laying ceremony and solidifying the birth of the first world-class training ship that will improve the experiential learning and training of U.S. mariners for generations to come. ■

CAMPUS NEWS

Faculty Exchange Views with Maritime Industry Leaders Through a Series of Colloquia

In an effort to engage faculty directly with industry leaders, the Office of the President established a series of Faculty-Industry Colloquia in late 2021. The colloquia served as a forum for discussing future changes and workforce requirements in the maritime industry.

Over a dozen top leaders in the American maritime industry have participated in five sessions since that time. The inaugural Faculty-Industry Colloquium featured Jennifer Carpenter, President & CEO, The American Waterways Operators, and Michael Roberts, Senior Vice President of Government Relations at Crowley Maritime Corporation.

Other colloquia followed featuring Bart Kelleher '96, Chief Executive Officer of Chembulk Tankers, a recognized leader in the chemical tanker industry, and Josh Shapiro, Chief Operating Officer at Liberty Maritime Corporation, a global shipping

company with decades of superior vessel management.

The final Faculty-Industry Colloquium of 2021 featured two distinguished Maritime

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

During the Spring 2022 semester, additional sessions were hosted by the School of Business, Science and Humanities, and the School of Maritime Education and Training. Speakers for those events included Andrew Genn, Senior Vice President New York City Economic Development Corporation; John McCown, Founder at Blue Alpha Capital; Jerry Crooks, Marine Technical Advisor, Shell Trading Company, Ira Douglas, VP Labor Relations, Crowley Maritime Corporation; Rick Luliucci, VP Operations, Vane Brothers Company; and Craig Reid, VP Marine Services, Noble Denton.

Follow-on discussions were held after each session to review the information presented at the colloquia, consider the changes that will occur in the maritime industry, and the College's response to those changes. ■



LEADing Change at Maritime College: Campus Climate Task Force and President's Council on Campus Climate and Culture

The LEADing Change initiative was established by RADM Michael Alfultis in 2020 to work towards building an inclusive campus community and climate where everyone is respected and valued. Since the initiative's inception, listening forums were held for students, faculty and staff, campus-wide surveys were conducted, and a Campus Climate Task Force was formed to offer immediate, longer term and aspirational recommendations.

In February 2022, RADM Alfultis announced the establishment of the President's Council on Campus Climate and Culture. This Council, which is based upon the recommendations of the Campus Climate Task Force and follows best practices used by other SUNY campuses, will focus on campus-wide justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion. Its purpose is to cultivate a veritable and visible culture of respect, civility and inclusion among students, faculty and staff, so that collectively, the College community may experience the intellectual growth that is at the core of the educational experience.



Building a more inclusive and respectful campus community, one that comprises diverse faculty, students and staff, supports a richer educational environment and ensures that Maritime College graduates possess the understanding, empathy and cultural fluency to thrive in an increasingly diverse society and workplace.

To learn more about LEADing Change at Maritime College, and to view the recommendations offered by the Campus Climate Task Force and the College response visit the Maritime College website: <https://www.sunymaritime.edu/aboutdiversity-equity-and-inclusion/leading-change>. ■

Maritime College Breaks Ground on the William Austen Marine Education and Seamanship Center and Reveals Two New Student Learning Facilities in Ceremonial Ribbon Cutting

Funding includes a generous \$1 million donation, the largest individual gift to Maritime College, from William F. Austen '80



April 4 was a day of milestone events at Maritime College with the groundbreaking and two ribbon-cutting and ceremonies for three capital construction projects: the William Austen Marine Education and Seamanship Center, the newly constructed Student Learning Center, and the fully renovated Marine Engineering Systems Laboratory.

The celebrations highlighted major construction projects totaling \$24.8 million with support from the SUNY Construction

Fund, Empire State Development, the Marine Society, and a generous \$1 million donation from William Austen '80, the largest individual gift to Maritime College. Officials from SUNY, New York State and New York City attended the events including SUNY Board of Trustees Chairman Merryl Tisch, SUNY Board of Trustees Member Marcos Crespo, SUNY Interim Chancellor Deborah Stanley, SUNY Construction Fund Deputy General Manager of Design & Construction Jeff Vandenburg, Empire State Development

Acting Commissioner and President & CEO-designate Hope Knight, Bronx Borough President Vanessa Gibson, and NYC Council Member Marjorie Velázquez.

Festivities began at Olivet Pier, where distinguished guests, alumni, students, faculty, and staff gathered at the site of the future William Austen Marine Education and Seamanship Center. "What we will witness through these ceremonies is a significant investment in the future of Maritime College by the State of New York,

DEBORAH F. STANLEY
SUNY Interim Chancellor:

.....
“These capital projects are a collective pledge to student opportunities in science and innovation, as we are actively encouraging students to pursue and succeed in STEM fields. Maritime College’s use of this remarkable and well appreciated funding is directly in line with the goals of SUNY and Governor Hochul’s outlook for our students’ futures.”
.....



(L-R) Jeff Vandenburg, Marjorie Velázquez, Vanessa Gibson, Deborah Stanley, Nancy Austen, Bill Austen '80, RADM Alfultis, Hope Knight, and Marcos Crespo at groundbreaking ceremony.

VANESSA GIBSON
Bronx Borough President:

.....
“I recognize the work and the mission SUNY Maritime stands on every single day. All of the investments that have been made are investments in the future of the Bronx, the City and State of New York. On this important milestone, as you move full steam ahead, I say Congratulations and thank you to all of the benefactors, contributors, funders and the support of distinguished alum, William Austen.”
.....



(L-R) Marcos Crespo, Marjorie Velázquez, Vanessa Gibson, Jennifer Waters, Deborah Stanley, Carl Delo, RADM Alfultis, and Richard Angerame '73 in new Marine Engineering Systems Lab.

MARJORIE VELÁZQUEZ
NYC Council Member, District 13:

.....
“These facilities are creating a bigger and brighter path for our students and our community to continue to grow. It’s an opportunity for SUNY students to choose their path.”
.....



(L-R) Class of '80 at Marine Engineering Systems Lab, Tom Higgins '81, Roland Roeckle '80, Bill Austen '80, Stephen Carbery '80, and Joe Breglia '80.



I fully enjoyed. This donation was a way for my wife, Nancy, and I to give back to the College, its students, faculty and staff in a meaningful way.”

The state-of-the-art Center will boast a wet lab on the first floor consisting of aquaria and touch tanks for teaching and research. The second floor will support seamanship and offshore wind training for students and professional mariners.

Two ribbon-cutting ceremonies immediately followed the groundbreaking event. Attendees gathered at the Student Learning Center on the third floor of Heritage Hall. The newly constructed, purpose-designed space will provide academic support services, skills assistance, group and individual tutoring and studying, and meeting rooms for student study groups. The Veteran’s Center was moved to that location to better serve veterans.

A second ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrated the newly reimagined and reinvigorated Marine Engineering Systems Laboratory, which is now a state-of-the-art learning platform for students studying marine, facilities, and mechanical engineering.

Creating these three modernized learning spaces for students and providing much-needed academic support services will attract and retain students interested in the maritime industry and fully prepare generation of merchant mariners to come. ■

SUNY Construction Fund, Empire State Development, and the generosity of an alum. We view these improvements as a means of further strengthening the development of a well-prepared merchant mariner and offshore wind workforce while leveraging the uniqueness of the college,” said RADM Michael Alfultis.

Alum Bill Austen ‘80, was acknowledged by RADM Alfultis as an outstanding global business leader with a steadfast commitment to Maritime College, its programs and students. As he reflected on the groundbreaking of the building that would be named in his honor, Mr. Austen said, “Maritime College provided me with the foundation to have the successful career that

BILL AUSTEN '80:

“Maritime College provided me with the foundation to have the successful career that I fully enjoyed. This donation was a way for my wife, Nancy, and I to give back to the College, its students, faculty and staff in a meaningful way”

HOPE KNIGHT Empire State Development President & CEO-designate:

“ESD is moving full steam ahead with strategic investments in the William Austen Marine Education and Seamanship Center, which will advance statewide initiatives such as workforce development and skillbuilding. The Seamanship Center, along with the new Student Learning Center and renovated Marine Engineering Systems Laboratory, will be state-of-the-art facilities that will serve SUNY Maritime’s talented student body and is a win for the Bronx and New York State’s economy.”



New Student Learning Center

MARCOS CRESPO SUNY Board of Trustees:

“These three significant construction projects are a part of the state-of-the-art facilities emerging at SUNY Maritime around its historic Fort, and it is made possible from New York State capital investment and the generosity of William Austen.”

Cultural Club Hosts 35th Annual Black History Month Dinner

The Cultural Club was pleased to hold its 35th Annual Black History Month Scholarship Dinner as an in-person event on February 24. It is a celebration that recognizes the importance and significance of Black History and the achievements of Maritime College students who are presented scholarships by the Organization of Black Maritime Graduates during the dinner event.

This year's guest speaker featured Captain Tevin A. Freeman '13, the first Black Captain to serve as Deputy Harbor Pilot at the Tampa Bay Pilots Association. During his time at Maritime College, Captain Freeman was active in the Regiment of Cadets, as a member of the Cultural Club and the Propeller Club, and as Resident Advisor. After receiving his degree in Marine Transportation from Maritime College, he went on to become an experienced mariner working as Chief Mate for Crowley. He enjoys mentoring young cadets and unlicensed crew, and during his talk

at the event, encouraged students to "Stay motivated, stay humble, and most importantly, stay resilient because you will need it when you go out into the real world."

The highlight of the evening was Keynote Speaker and Honoree Captain Zeita Merchant, Commander, Sector New York, Captain of the Port, United States Coast Guard. Captain Merchant assumed command in 2021 and directs all Coast Guard missions in the Port of New York and New Jersey. Her sector spans over 6,00 square miles from 200 miles offshore and inland to Albany, NY. She has enjoyed over 24 years of active-duty service. Her academic accomplishments and accolades abound and she is recognized as an authority in maritime safety and security, and crisis management. The ease with which she easily connected with students was evident throughout the night. "I am living proof that you can do whatever you dream of doing. That you belong and have the right to be right where you are." ■



Captain Tevin A. Freeman '13, first black captain to serve as Deputy Harbor Pilot, Tampa Bay Pilots Assoc.



Captain Zeita Merchant, Commander, Sector New, Captain of the Port, USCG.





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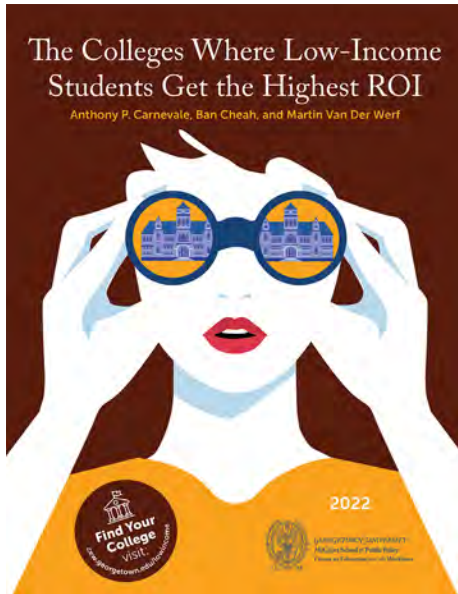
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CAMPUS NEWS



Maritime College Ranks in Top Public Colleges with the highest Return on Investment for Low-income Students

In a new study conducted and recently published by the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, researchers found that lower-cost public schools tend to produce the highest earnings and return on investment (ROI) for low-income bachelor's students. The study defines low income as students whose annual family income is \$30,000 or less. One measure of the economic value of college attendance and completion is the ROI, which refers to the ratio of an investment's net profit to its overall cost.

As a public college, Maritime College was ranked among the top public colleges

with the highest earnings and ROI for low-income bachelor's degree students. The report found that a 40-year ROI on a bachelor's degree from a public institution for a low-income student is \$951,000 compared to the ROI on a bachelor's degree from a private nonprofit school (\$863,000), a difference of \$88,000 over the 40-year time-frame.

Additional information and the full Georgetown University report is available at https://1gyhoq479ufd3yna29x7ubjnwengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/cew-roi_low-income-fr.pdf. ■



WE THANK SUNY MARITIME COLLEGE FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE AMERICAN MARITIME INDUSTRY

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Library Lecture Series Showcase Maritime and International Topics

Virtual and in-person lectures hosted by the Stephen B. Luce Library throughout the Spring semester were well attended by faculty and staff. Each of the lectures posed opportunities for dialogue on important and timely topics.

08
FEB

Dr. Richard Burke: Froude-Limited Ships and Global Warming

ABS Professor of Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering, Dr. Richard Burke discussed environmentally sound mechanisms for marine transportation as it relates to global warming.

15
MAR

Unraveling the Mystery of the El Faro Featuring Investigative Journalist Rachel Slade

Rachel Slade's narrative for Yankee Magazine about the sinking of the El Faro container ship led to her national best-selling and award-winning book, Into the Raging Sea.

24
MAR

Bohdan Nahaylo and Dov S. Zakheim: Understanding the Situation in Ukraine

Bohdan Nahaylo, a British-born journalist, political analyst, and Chief Editor of the Kyiv Post in Ukraine and Dov S. Zakheim, Senior Advisor at the Center for Strategic and International Studies examined and analyzed the situation in Ukraine.

29
MAR

John McCown: Framework for Growing Our Merchant Marine

John D. McCown Jr. discussed a framework for growing the Merchant Marine, referencing his 40-year career in the shipping industry and a close relationship with Malcom McLean, the celebrated "Father of Containerization."

05
APR

Return of Lightning Talks

Students, faculty and staff presented a favorite article, story, book, song or lyric in lightning-fast speed.

Admiral Alfultis and State Maritime Academy Presidents Attend Gold Medal Ceremony

In the National Statutory Hall of the Capitol Building, Washington, D.C., a Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony honoring the Merchant Mariners of WW II was held on May 18. RADM Alfultis attended the special Ceremony alongside State Maritime Academy Presidents Jerry Achenbach of Great Lakes Maritime Academy; Frank McDonald of Massachusetts Maritime Academy; Allan Post of Texas A&M Maritime Academy; and Thomas Cropper of California State University Maritime Academy. Congressional Gold Medal recipients, George Shaw and Charles Mills were among the WW II merchant mariners to be honored that day. ■



(L-R) Gold Medal recipients George Shaw and Charles Mills stand with SMA Presidents (l-r) Jerry Achenbach, Frank McDonald, Allan Post, Michael Alfultis, and Thomas Cropper.

Over 200 Graduates Awarded Diplomas in Two Commencement Ceremonies

A flurry of Commencement activities and celebrations began on the morning of May 5, with the NROTC Commissioning Ceremony where eleven ensigns took their oaths to be commissioned as officers in the U.S. Navy or Navy Reserve. During the ceremony, Ensign Meghan Eagleton was awarded the Sword of Leadership by the New York Council Navy League. In the evening, graduating seniors were invited to the Admiral's Quarters for a champagne toast followed by the Senior Awards Dinner.

On May 6, despite the cloudy skies, the Veteran's Military Recognition was held in the damp St. Marys Pentagon. Two Commencement Ceremonies followed: one for the School of Business, Science and Humanities, and a second for the School of Engineering and the School of

Maritime Education and Training. Between both ceremonies, over 200 graduates were awarded their diplomas.

Cadets Meghan Eagleton and Christopher Myers received the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. The award acknowledges students for outstanding achievements that have demonstrated the integration of SUNY excellence within many aspects of their lives such as academics, leadership, campus involvement, community service, or the arts. It is the highest honor bestowed upon a student by SUNY.

Captain Thomas Morkan attended the event on behalf of MARAD and offered congratulatory remarks. Captain Bradley Clare, USCG Commanding Officer of the National Maritime Center, administered the USCG license oath to cadets. ■



CAMPUS NEWS

The 2022 Commencement Ceremonies featured two Honorary Doctorate Degree recipients, both of whom are Maritime College alumni. Donald P. Brennan '61 was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters during the ceremony for the School of Business, Science and Humanities. "This degree is a license to learn as you transition from education to experience," said Dr. Brennan to the graduates. "The authority of knowledge is the gateway to success, and the one thing all great leaders have in common is knowledge."

Richard A. Angerame '73 received an Honorary Doctor of Science during the ceremony for the School of Engineering and the School of Maritime Education and Training. "It's up to you to make your mark on the world," Dr. Angerame said to the graduates. "You can influence change and make the world a much better place to live in by bringing your knowledge, experience and passion with you wherever you go next."

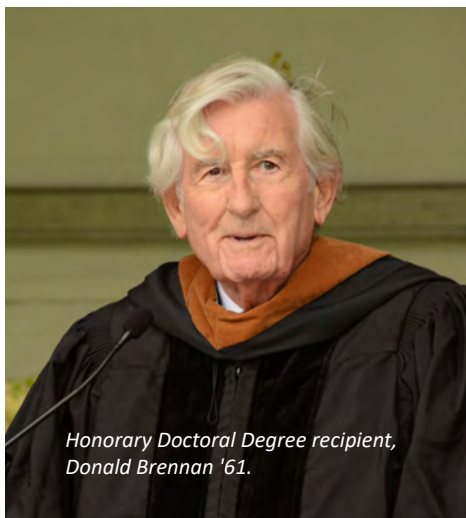
Congratulations to the Class of 2022! ■



Ensigns at NROTC Commissioning Ceremony



Senior Toast at Quarters One



Honorary Doctoral Degree recipient, Donald Brennan '61.



Honorary Doctoral Degree recipient, Richard Angerame '73.

ATHLETICS

Mike Berkun Announced as 10th Director of Athletics at Maritime College



Following a nationwide search and after serving in an interim capacity since August 2019, Mike Berkun has officially been announced as the College's 10th Director of Athletics. As Director of Athletics and head coach of the Privateers' men's basketball team, Berkun will oversee a department that features 16 varsity teams and more than 400 student-athletes competing at the NCAA Division III level in the Skyline Conference, Eastern Collegiate Football Conference, Intercollegiate Sailing Association and USA Rowing. He is also responsible for the College's three club programs and all intramural sports. "We've been doing some great things here at Maritime, with more on the horizon," said Berkun. "I'm excited by that growth and look forward to seeing it continue."

Berkun took over as Interim Director of Athletics in August 2019 and helped to steer the Athletic Department through the pandemic. All athletic activity was shut down for nearly an entire year, but effective protocols were put in place, allowing the spring teams to play a limited schedule in 2021 before a full return to

competition for all sports during the 2021-22 academic year.

Under Berkun's leadership, three Maritime teams have won conference championships: football and men's soccer in 2019 and men's lacrosse in 2021. He hired new head coaches in men's and women's soccer, women's lacrosse and volleyball, and was instrumental in the reintroduction of women's basketball as a varsity sport. Berkun also played a major role in the football team's upcoming move to the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) in 2023.

A 2010 graduate of Medaille with a degree in Liberal Studies, Berkun received his master's degree in Sport Administration from Canisius College in 2015. Originally hired as Head Men's Basketball Coach and Assistant Athletic Director in 2017-18, Berkun amassed a wealth of experience in different areas of the Maritime Athletic Department, from facilities to compliance to development, before taking over as Interim Athletic Director. ■

Privateers Three-Peat as Skyline Conference Champions



The Maritime College men's lacrosse team is headed to the NCAA Tournament for the third straight time! On a cold and wet Saturday at Reinhart Field, the top-seeded Privateers (11-7) took control of the game midway through the first quarter and never let up, knocking off third-seeded Farmingdale (12-4) 22-13 in the Skyline Conference Championship Game. With the victory, Maritime earned its third

consecutive Skyline championship and extended its winning streak against conference opponents to 25 in a row.

"To do what we did (win three straight conference championships) is pretty hard," Head Coach Justin Manjares said. "Three years undefeated. Not a lot of teams can do that. I'm just proud to be a part of it." ■

ATHLETICS

CHANCELLOR'S AWARD *for Student Excellence*

Meghan Eagleton Announced As 2022 SUNY Chancellor's Award Recipient

Senior Meghan Eagleton, a four-year starter on the Maritime College volleyball team, has been selected as the 2022 winner of the Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. She was honored at the Chancellor's Award Ceremony in April, as well as Commencement.

Eagleton has earned her Mariner's License and will be commissioned in the United States Navy as a Nuclear Submarine Officer after graduating at the top of her class. She has held various leadership posts in the Naval ROTC program and was the NROTC Battalion Commander during the Fall 2021 semester. She also serves as a calculus and physics tutor.

"I put so much work and pride into every facet of my life here at Maritime College, and it feels amazing to be recognized with this award," she said. "The experiences I have had as a Cadet, Midshipman and student-athlete over the past four years have challenged and pushed me in so many ways. Most importantly, it has made me a better person while forming life-long friendships.

On the volleyball court, Eagleton appeared in 71 of the Privateers' 72 matches during her career. Eagleton also earned a place on the Skyline Fall Academic Honor Roll. "My (volleyball) teammates have become some of my closest friends. It means the world to me to have had the opportunity to be a student-athlete here and represent SUNY Maritime."

The Chancellor's Award is presented annually to graduating SUNY students who best exemplify academic excellence, leadership, campus involvement, athletics, career achievement, community service or creative and performing arts. ■



Maritime Honors Student-Athletes at 2021-22 Awards

Football player Joseph Gagliardi and Sara Wright of the women's lacrosse and soccer teams were honored as Maritime College's Male and Female Student-Athletes of the year at the Athletic Department's

annual Awards Show. This marked the first time since the 2018-19 school year that the event was held in person.



Gagliardi became the second player in Maritime history to be named an All-American, earning Third Team honors at punter. He was also a First Team All-Region selection and captured his second straight Eastern Collegiate Football Conference (ECFC) Special Teams Player of the Year award. ■



Wright was chosen as team MVP in both of her sports. She led the women's soccer team with nine goals and was named Second Team All-Skyline. Wright is also on pace to earn all-conference honors in lacrosse after nothing her 100th career goal, 200th career ground ball and 300th career draw control this season. ■

Training Ship Empire State VI Departs for its FINAL SUMMER SEA TERM



May 27 proved to be an exciting day at Maritime College as the Empire State VI departed Olivet Pier for its final summer at sea before it is retired in 2023. On board for the 75-day sea term were 442 cadets and 81 faculty, staff and crew members. Bronx elected officials Councilwoman Marjorie Velázquez (13th District) and Assembly member Jaime Williams (59th District) joined the hundreds of families, friends and visitors who gathered to send cadets and crew off to sea. The Empire State VI will stop at the ports of Philadelphia; PA, Porto, Portugal; and Belfast, Ireland during the summer term.

This summer's cruise incorporates the transition from two 50-day cruises to one 75-day cruise, which has been planned for

the past several years. The new model allows for more flexibility among cadets, faculty and staff in terms of preparing for the fall semester and is the most cost-effective model.

In addition to the cadets, faculty, staff and crew sailing this summer, a chaplain from the Seaman's Church Institute will accompany the group throughout the summer term to provide mental health and counseling services to all on board. Chaplain services were offered during last year's Sea Term for the first time and due to its overall success, this highly beneficial and essential service will once again be made available to all on board.

The first port visit for the Empire State VI is Philadelphia, PA where the new training ship, Empire State VII is currently undergoing

construction. Both ships will simultaneously share the same pier at the same time. At this port, Cadets will be allowed to tour Philly Shipyard and view the new ship in its construction phase. The ship will then depart to Europe for the international portion of the cruise.

Upon completion of its final voyage, the Empire State VI will be retired after 60 years of service. Throughout its years at Maritime College (since 1990), the TSESVI has been utilized to train and prepare thousands of cadets for careers within the global maritime industry. It will always be known to many as the vessel that effectively served its purpose by providing generations of mariners with the hands-on training and experience that is at the core of the Maritime College mission. ■





Maritime College Alumni Association Present SST Scholarship Award Check Totaling Over \$500K and Sembler Scholarship; Class of 1965 Presents Scholarships to Four Cadets

In a small ceremony prior to the training ship's departure, previous Maritime College Alumni Association (MCAA) President John Valvo '83 presented Admiral Alfultis with the 2022 MCAA Summer Sea Term Scholarship Award check in the sum of \$502,284. Attending the ceremony was Cadet Christopher

Saisa, who was selected as the recipient of the 2022 MCAA Sembler Scholarship Award. His scholarship in the amount of \$13,517 will cover the full cost of the Summer Sea Term.

Harry Stumme '65 and Gerhardt Muller '65, were also at the event on behalf of

the Class of 1965. They presented Admiral Alfultis with an MCAA SST Scholarship check totaling \$20,000, which will be distributed to four cadets (\$5,000 award each). Cadet Kathryn Sandford and Cadet Taylor Jackson were present to receive their scholarship award from the Class of 1965 representatives. ■



John Valvo '83 presents Admiral Alfultis with MCAA SST Scholarship Awards check



Class of 1965 representatives present check to Admiral Alfultis alongside two scholarship recipients. L-R: Harry Stumme '65, Cadet Kathryn Sandford, Admiral Alfultis, Cadet Taylor Jackson, Gerhardt Muller '65.



Cadet Christopher Saisa (right), recipient of the 2022 MCAA Sembler Scholarship Award with John Valvo '83.

F E A T U R E

LEADING, COACHING and TEACHING

Preparing the Next Generation of Women for the Maritime Industry

BY ODALIS MINO

Through the College experience, women are preparing and encouraging a new generation of women to take on the global maritime industry.

In 1974, six women were the very first to attend Maritime College as students. Since that time, women have continued to become a growing force, striving for success in the maritime industry. According to the Maritime College Fast Facts for 2021, 14% of women make up the student body at the College, and a 2021 study by Michalopoulou (Diversity in Maritime Industry: Women's Role in Maritime Industry, Sept. 2021) suggests that 2% of women take part in the global maritime establishment.

While the maritime sector is very broad, women are seeking to actively contribute to the social and economic development of the industry in various ways. These include marine transportation, port operations, services and logistics, naval architecture and shipbuilding, finance and legal services, marine insurance, marine environmental science and research, the cruise industry, and education through maritime training schools and academies, among others.

At Maritime College, women in positions of leadership are cognizant of the current industry statistics. By applying their vast experience in the maritime industry and athletics, three professional women at the College focus their efforts on supporting the young women of tomorrow, encouraging them as they begin their professional journey as members of the global maritime community.

LEADING the Academic Charge

Dr. Jennifer Waters, a native New Yorker, grew up in a sailing family on Long Island. After receiving her bachelor's degree in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering from the Webb Institute, she went on to attend Stevens Institute of Technology earning a master's and doctoral degree in Ocean Engineering (making her the first woman in the program's history to be awarded a doctorate). She served as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD for over 25 years.

Now as the first woman assume the role of Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs for Maritime College, Dr. Waters oversees the nine academic departments and 13 degree programs within the College's three academic schools: School of Engineering, School of Business, Science and Humanities, and the School of Maritime Education and Training.

Her arrival to Maritime College in July 2020 posed its challenges for Dr. Waters as the College and the country was in the midst of grappling with the COVID-19 pandemic. She not only found herself adapting to a new work environment but leading the charge to pivot to new ways of supporting student learning. Her top priority was student health. "There were many competing priorities when I began, and although I was trying to learn the most critical elements of the College and my position, the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff was always paramount," she said. "It was essential to continue forward with the academic programs and focus on how to best accomplish teaching and learning in a way that least affected the health and safety of those in our college community."

Two years into her role as the senior academic administrator for Maritime College, Dr. Waters now commits herself to offering support to students, faculty and staff, carefully listening to their perspectives and applauding the accomplishments of those around her. She views women as unique in their capacity to overcome adversity, thrive, and make the world a better place around them and is ready to foster the success of young women who will soon enter the maritime industry. "While women make up half of the

population, we only make up a small fraction of the maritime industry. I hope to inspire women to take their place in the forefront rather than the background and show the pride of their value and contributions."

Looking ahead as a thought leader of the College, ocean engineer and woman in a male dominated industry, Dr. Waters understands the significance of her platform as Provost and role model to young women entering the professional maritime community. "Believe in yourself. Know that you have something important to contribute to the field, the discipline and the future. It takes many perspectives and many people coming together to make things better in an industry where women are underrepresented. We need to hear those voices and make sure women know that those perspectives really do count."

Dr. Waters will head to the classroom in the Fall 2022 academic semester where she will teach an applied naval architecture course offered to students from different disciplines, and a more advanced ship dynamics course in the Spring 2023 semester. "I'm looking forward to being in the classroom for the first time here at Maritime, making more connections with the students, and experiencing that aspect of instruction at this institution." ■



JENNIFER K. WATERS, PH.D., P.E.

Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

“It takes many perspectives and many people coming together to make things better in an industry where women are under-represented. We need to hear those voices and make sure women know that those perspectives really do count.”

Cultivating Character Through **COACHING**, Guiding and Mentoring



KERRI HANDRAS

Head Coach, Women's Lacrosse

They are going into an industry with a small percentage of women and it's important for them to carry themselves with confidence.

The 2022 season has proven to be a victorious one for Women's Lacrosse. Through mid-April, the team experienced a winning streak of 10 undefeated games (10-0, 4-0 Skyline), giving the team's coach, Kerri Handras, a total win of 175 games. Her experience in coaching is vast and she has dedicated her professional career to developing young women athletes.

Handras started the Women's Soccer program in Dowling College, Long Island and served as its coach. The Long Island native was then charged with starting and coaching the Women's Lacrosse program at the College. When Dowling College closed in 2016, Handras was invited to New York Institute of Technology (also in Long Island) to start the Women's Lacrosse program. In its first year, her team went on to compete in the NCAA tournament.

During the pandemic, which caused many college athletics programs to come to a grinding halt including those at New York Institute of Technology, Handras found herself working at Maritime College in

an interim position for the Women's Lacrosse team in March 2021. She led a successful season with the team placing second in the Skyline Conference Tournament, a first for Maritime College Women's Lacrosse. "We would have gone to the playoffs, but the entire team had to go to sea for the summer after missing the sea term the year before due to the pandemic," said Handras.

After taking on the full-time position of Head Coach of Women's Lacrosse and Assistant Athletics Director, Handras has led her team to win game after game this season. While at Stony Brook College, she played soccer and lacrosse and understands firsthand the importance of a coach in sports. "I have always had a passion for coaching, and began my coaching career straight out of college," said Handras. "I found so much success in sports during college and grad school and found it to be very motivating. Now, I'm able to strike a good balance between coaching and my responsibilities at home."

Coaching at Maritime College has been a distinct experience for Handras as she navigates the nuances of preparing athletes, many of whom are in the Regiment of Cadets. "The College is unique and the women who study here know what they want to do with their career," she said, "but they want to win in lacrosse as well." Handras' approach to working with her team is one of encouragement, especially knowing the demands of their coursework and responsibilities as Cadets. "They are going into an industry with a small percentage of women and it's important for them to carry themselves with confidence."

Handras believes that forming a relationship with each member is a motivating factor. She also provides opportunities for leadership and expects the team to build their skills as athletes and leaders. She instills in them the importance of discipline and working as one cohesive unit. "I remind them to work together, represent each other well as a team, learn from their mistakes, and try harder for the next game. Being a part of athletics means being committed to a team, and that applies to everything they're going to do in their professional life." ■

Transitioning from Maritime Student, to Maritime Professional, to Maritime **EDUCATOR**

Raina Barnes is no stranger to Maritime College, or the Bronx for that matter. The Bronx native began studying at Maritime College in 2010 as a civilian student to explore the business aspect of the industry. By the following year, she joined the Regiment of Cadets and studied Marine Transportation (deck license). After graduating in 2014 with a Bachelor of Science and earning a Third Mate Unlimited License, Barnes continued at the College to pursue a graduate degree in International Transportation Management. She was awarded her master's degree in 2016. During her time as a graduate student, she worked as a license staff assistant at Maritime College. "That position led me to the Great Lakes Maritime Academy as their license staff assistant. My first experience as a professional was on the training ship for the Great Lakes Maritime Academy," said Barnes. Her experience on the training ship, working with students, ship's deck and other crew, and pilots prompted her to seek a pilotage in the Great Lakes region.

By September 2016, Barnes began sailing as a Third Mate with American Steamship Company and intended to remain at sea for the next several years. She was one of a handful of women on the ship and the only Black woman. She found a support system through the ship's crew and relief captain who advised, mentored and encouraged her to grow professionally in the industry. "It never bothered me that I was one of just a few women on a ship, or the only Black woman on a ship, but it was pointed out to me," she said. "I have always thought of myself as equal to others, regardless of gender, and worked just as hard as anyone else to be in this industry."

In early 2020, Barnes was placed in the cohort for captains in training, sailed as observing captain, and by 2021 received a Captain's license, Master - Unlimited Tonnage, for the Great Lakes and Inland waterways of the U.S. During this time, COVID-19 was greatly affecting the global marine transportation industry and she began searching other opportunities outside of transportation. She remained incredibly focused in her employment search, acquiring additional professional certifications in project management. "I wanted to be a big fish in a small pond. I knew that I needed to be different and build my niche."

Then she learned about the lecturer position in the Marine Transportation department at her alma mater and applied for the position. "I thought about how training for this industry begins at the college level and that I could be a part of making it a positive experience for students at Maritime." Barnes was invited to work on the TSES for the 2021 Summer Sea Term and accepted a lecturer position in the MT Department. "It was surreal to be back on the training ship because I wasn't coming on as a student."

Now that Barnes has settled in as lecturer in the Marine Transportation department (the first Black person to teach in that department), she has a better understanding of who she is and the responsibility that lies before her in teaching the next generation of maritime professionals. "I keep reminding myself that I belong, and my hope is to empower the young women who train here; to teach them to stand in their authority, be proud of who they are, and prepare them for the real world. That's the legacy I'd like to leave behind" ■



RAINA J. BARNES '14 (G) '16

Lecturer, Marine Transportation,
School of Maritime Education and Training

...my hope is to empower the young women who train here; to teach them to stand in their authority, be proud of who they are, and prepare them for the real world.

LETTER FROM ROBERT JOHNSTON '69

Chairman, SUNY Maritime Foundation



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Dear Ft. Schuyler Community:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the SUNY Maritime Foundation, I am very pleased to congratulate the Admiral, faculty, staff, cadets and all students on an outstanding 2021/2022 academic year! We all offer our very best wishes to the graduating seniors- Bravo Zulu!!

This issue of the Fort Schuyler magazine celebrates the contributions of women to the maritime community, and the SUNY Maritime Foundation is very proud to partner with the College in supporting and promoting women both at Fort Schuyler and in the industry. To demonstrate this support, the Foundation has taken several actions a few of which I would like to highlight below.

In 2021, with the objective of attracting more female students to the College, the athletics department and the Admiral expressed a desire to create a basketball program for women but unfortunately were lacking the funds to do so. The Foundation was pleased to step in with the needed financial support to make it happen. Specifically, the Foundation provided the funding to hire the first ever woman's basketball coach to the College, Coach Cheri Eleazer. Come on out to one of the women's basketball games, support the coach and route for the Privateers

Further, the Foundation and the College are very excited to be honoring at this year's Admiral's Dinner one of the foremost organizations dedicated to attracting and supporting women at the management level in the maritime, trading and the logistics sectors. WISTA, or Women in International Shipping and Trading Association, is a significant and influential voice in the industry, paving the way for women across the country and the globe, to lead, strengthen and expand the maritime industry. With its 700 members across the United States, WISTA proudly provides women opportunities for networking, professional development, and for movement into leadership roles.

Along with WISTA, we will be honoring at the Admiral's Dinner WISTA's current President, Boriana Farrar who is the Chief Legal Officer for Patriot Contracting Services. Boriana represents the heights of achievement that are available to women in the maritime industry. You can learn more about Boriana and WISTA on the next page.

In closing, the Board and I extend a heartfelt thank you to Bill and Nancy Austen (Bill is from the Class of 1980 and currently sits on the Board of Directors of the Foundation), for making a record setting \$1 Million gift to the Foundation, which enabled construction to begin of the new Austin Seamanship Center on the pier. See page 7 to see photos and learn more about the groundbreaking ceremony for this important campus improvement project.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and the College. I hope you all have a healthy and happy summer and look forward to seeing you at our Admiral's Dinner on September 20, 2022. Save that date!!! A good time will be had by all.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Johnston'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue rectangular background.

Capt. Robert Johnston '69
Chairman, SUNY Maritime Foundation

2022 ADMIRAL'S DINNER HONORING

WISTA USA AND BORIANA FARRAR

The 2022 Admiral's Dinner will take place on Tuesday, September 20, at the beautiful Marina del Ray, just minutes from campus. At this year's dinner, Admiral Alfultis is proud to be recognizing the monumental contributions women have made to the maritime industry. He has also announced that among the distinguished honorees are the Women's International Shipping & Trade Association (WISTA) USA and Ms. Boriana Farrar, the immediate past president of the WISTA USA. Admiral Alfultis said, "In a male-dominated field, women are integrating their expertise, leadership, and invaluable perspectives to strengthen and enrich the maritime industry. By supporting women seeking to enlist and expand the industry, we are building a new generation of brilliant and competent leaders and entrepreneurs."



Formed in 1974, WISTA is a global networking organization connecting female executives and decision-makers around the world. With more than 3,800 members in 54 countries, WISTA's mission is to attract and support women at the

management level in the maritime, trading and logistics sectors. WISTA welcomes members of all genders who support a diverse and inclusive maritime industry. Internationally, WISTA works toward minimizing the existing gender leadership gap in the maritime, trading and logistics sectors; building a community among its members; facilitating the exchange of contacts, information, and experiences; promoting the creation of business relationships among its members; facilitating the professional development of its members; and providing liaison with other related institutions and organizations worldwide. WISTA promotes diversity in the maritime, trading and logistics sectors, empowering women to lead through their unique perspective and competencies, with the conviction that gender diversity is key in providing a sustainable future for the shipping industry internationally.

WISTA USA, founded in 1997, is among the largest National WISTA Associations (NWAs) worldwide, with nearly 700 members spread across eleven regional chapters. Members represent all facets of the maritime industry, including shipowners, charterers, operators, brokers, bankers, insurance professionals, attorneys, analysts,

and government officials. WISTA USA is led by its new President, Christina Liviakis Gianopulos, a member of the New York State Governor's appointed SUNY Maritime College Council. Ms. Liviakis Gianopulos succeeds Admiral's Dinner honoree and past president of WISTA USA, Boriana Farrar.

Ms. Farrar is Vice President and Chief Legal Officer of Patriot Contacts Services LLC (PCS) and brings 17 years of legal experience to PCS's executive team. Before joining PCS, Boriana was a Vice President, Senior Claims Executive and Counsel at the American P&I Club in New York, and previously served as partner at Hill Betts & Nash LLP, a prominent New York maritime law firm. Ms. Farrar holds dual master's degrees in Admiralty & Maritime Law from Tulane Law School and International Law from the University of San Diego School of Law. Her international background allowed her to pursue legal studies in the U.S., her native Bulgaria, the U.K., and the Netherlands. She is multi lingual and fluent in English, Russian, and German.

In addition to her involvement with WISTA USA, Ms. Farrar is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Church Institute (SCI); past chair of the SCI's Development Committee; former board member of the Maritime Law Association of the United States (MLA); and current chair of MLA's International Conventions and Standards Committee. She serves as a trustee on the boards of the Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association, and the International Organization of Masters, Mates & Pilots. Ms. Farrar was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of the American P&I Club. ■





CRYSTAL ALLEN '01

Hero without a cape

BY MATTHEW BONVENTO '01

Not all heroes wear capes, some wear roller skates. This superhero, Crystal Allen '01, has the power of compassion and empathy. From battling disabilities at an early age, to her Ph.D. candidacy and fostering a baby, not much can stop this graduate.

Crystal Allen '01 is one of those people born with a drive and passion that many only dream about. From an early age she wanted to join the Navy and did everything possible to ensure that happened. Crystal carefully allocated her time to training her mind and body. From Police Explorers to Sea Cadets, soccer and karate, her diligent training program prepared her to pass the Navy physical readiness test with ease. Her only hurdle: she was legally blind in one eye. Knowing that Annapolis might not be an option, this fifth-generation merchant mariner also applied to SUNY Maritime.

For many, Indoctrination is a difficult period of adjustment where one questions whether they made the correct decision to attend Maritime. That was not the case for Crystal, who was well prepared for the physical demands of Indoc, and who was a source of encouragement and support for her classmates, many of whom were on the brink of quitting. This demonstration of leadership quickly earned her the respect of her peers and upperclassmen.

An outstanding athlete, Crystal lettered in seven varsity sports in high school and played men's soccer at Maritime. When the cross-country team needed an extra runner, she was there. When the women's basketball team needed a captain, who stepped up to the plate? You know who.

Crystal took her studies just as seriously. She joined the National Society of Black Engineers as a MUG. She was the only female engineer of her class to sail, and the first engineer of the class of 2001 to earn her Chief Engineer's license. She attributes this to her grit and determination.

Crystal first displayed her stellar work ethic working at McDonald's at the age of 16 to pay for her first car. She worked at Six

Flags Great Adventure because her sisters worked there, and she wanted to see if she could do it better. During the winters she had a job at a movie theater as well as at Champs Sporting Goods at the mall. Crystal would sweep up and wash hair at her sister's hair salon, babysat, mowed grass, and shoveled snow. She did anything she could do to learn, earn, and get ahead. During her time at Maritime, she worked weekends as a caterer and valet parking attendant.

After a successful career at sea, Crystal decided to settle down, have a kid and come ashore full time. She spent 10 years working for ABS as a surveyor and several years as an independent surveyor for smaller companies.

Balancing work and family are a struggle many of us have, but Crystal was never one to shy away from challenges. After being laid off from Royal Caribbean due to the pandemic, Crystal took in her cousin's baby, Luca. She fosters Luca while also raising her 13-year-old son.

Once word of her foster child spread on social media, Maritime graduates from across the decades showed an outpouring

of alumni support by contributing money and supplies

When many at this point would say enough, this Maritime graduate went on to pursue her PhD in Leadership and Organizational Management. With her education and background, her goal is to work as an advocate for the maritime industry and mariners everywhere. ■



MARTA BETE '05 (G)'06

Trailblazing Alumna

"Don't go with the flow. Being an outlier can serve you well. Speak up for yourself".

BY MATTHEW BONVENTO '01

PNCT container terminal, Newark NJ

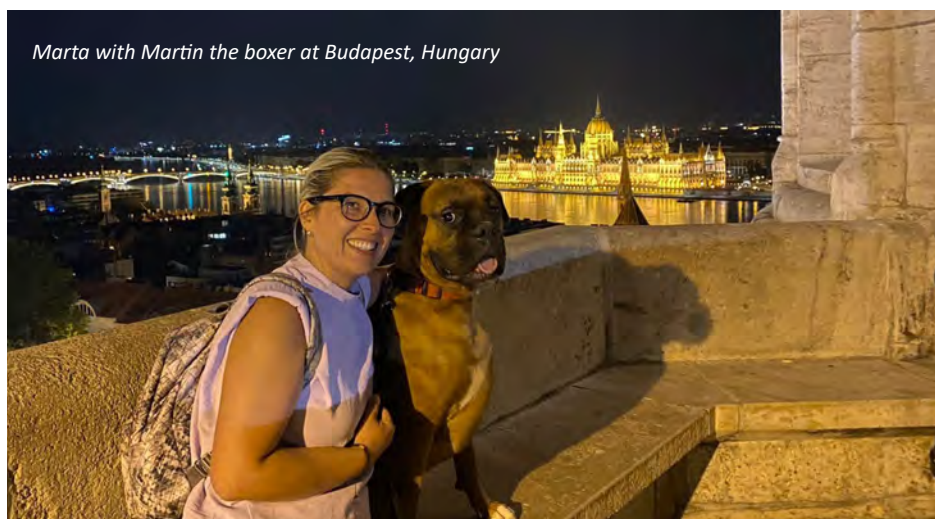
When speaking about Maritime, alumni often emphasize the global reach of the school and the diversity of our graduates.

Few graduates exemplify this in their life and experiences as Marta Bede '06. Marta has had a fascinating career built on the knowledge and skills she learned while earning her undergraduate and graduate degrees at Maritime. In her current role as a Senior Director in the Infrastructure Department at ING Capital LLC, the US subsidiary of ING Bank NV, the largest Dutch bank, she works with global clients in the Americas to realize their goals of financing infrastructure. These projects range from ports and rail terminals to public works such as hospitals and water treatment facilities.

Born in a northern city of Hungary close to the Slovakian border, she is the youngest of two children. Driven and hardworking from an early age, Marta was one of 19 students in Hungary selected for a cross-cultural study program with Austria at the age of 15. She spent her next five years in high school perfecting her English and German amongst her other studies. After graduating from high school, she went to New York to scout out colleges and she never left.

Having an exceptional academic background, she was courted by several colleges offering full scholarships. Marta inquired as to the job placement rate post-graduation at each school. Not a single school met her expectations until she found Maritime. Here was the rub: Maritime did not offer a scholarship. After working out the details, Marta was in the first class of non-regimented GBAT students at the school, forsaking free rides elsewhere on the promise of near 100 percent job placement upon graduation.

As a new face on campus, but not in uniform, she and her other GBAT students experienced classroom rivalry with the regimented students who were not necessarily happy to see folks out of uniform in class. Marta co-founded a GBATs club to highlight the positive aspects of the program, not only to current regimental students, but also to the multitude of alumni who were not pleased with this new program. The program garnered her



Marta with Martin the boxer at Budapest, Hungary

a lot of positive attention, which eventually led to her landing an internship at the NYC Economic Development Corporation ("EDC") where she spent her days learning about port and terminal development.

After graduation Marta landed back at the EDC doing what she loves: developing infrastructure for the people of NYC. Marta entered Columbia Business School in 2012 majoring in General Business management and focusing on finance. This led her to financing large-scale infrastructure projects in the Americas with ING. Marta's clients turn to her for her broad scope of knowledge and her deep understanding of ports and supply chain. Her favorite part of the job includes visiting ports around the world. One of the completed projects that she takes great pride in was working with a global terminal operator on the revitalization of a mixed-use port in Callao, Peru. The project had its share of trouble experiencing delays and cost overruns requiring strong negotiation and analytical skills to come up with additional funding to complete the project. She's also a trusted advisor to one of the largest US port operators, assisting with their various acquisition financing or capex needs around the country.

When not working, Marta actively gives back to her community in subtle ways. On the weekends she delivers food to the homebound and mentors young people. She

is also on the Board of Directors for the Maritime Industry Museum at Fort Schuyler. You would think that after all of this at the end of the day she would kick her feet up and watch Netflix or read a book. Not Marta, she prefers to go on long bike rides, hike Kilimanjaro or plan her next adventure with her beloved pup, Martin the boxer.

Marta is an example of a Maritime graduate who took a very different path and trailblazed the way for others. When asked what advice she has for those about to graduate, Marta replied: "Don't go with the flow. Being an outlier can serve you well. Speak up for yourself!" ■





LISA DOWNING '79

International Woman of MYSTERY

BY MATTHEW BONVENTO '01

Attending Maritime was not a choice for Lisa Downing '79, the first Black female graduate of SUNY Maritime, it was a calling. At the time there were only a handful of schools in the nation that taught her chosen field of Meteorology. Lisa's youth was spent in Catholic schools driven by uniforms and discipline and when she walked onto the Maritime campus, saw the uniforms, and experienced the regiment, she knew that she had found her college.

At the time, Lisa was one of the few people of color on campus in what was only the second year of women being admitted to SUNY Maritime. While other underclassmen might get away with infractions like failing to square their corners or sneaking out at night, Lisa would not be as fortunate as she would undoubtedly be noticed. In her own words, she "learned to operate within the rules of the school." She would skirt a rule here and there, knowing what she could

and could not get away with. Her tact and discretion helped her rise to the position of Regimental Adjutant.

Being the only Black female on campus came with its challenges, but her perseverance made her a pioneer, paving the way for other women in underrepresented groups to follow and find their place in the industry.

Her decision to attend Maritime was not without its fair share of difficulties. The industry was not yet ready for racial and gender integration. Through the support of her friends, classmates, and instructor she graduated, but not with the intended degree in Meteorology. Instead, she switched to business when she realized that Meteorology was not quite the field for her. She took a position at Conoco Shipping Co., as one of the first women to be hired as an economic analyst.

She left Conoco to attend Harvard Business School but ended up leaving before graduating when she realized that big business was not her calling. She is quick to counsel others that there is nothing wrong with trying something and when you find that it is not for you, to move on. No one will think less of you. It is ok to make a mistake, learn from it, grow, and then take that lesson with you.

When the opportunity to apply for and work for the CIA came, she answered the call to serve her country. She was hired as an analytics transportation analyst, then, on a life-changing day, she ran into a fellow Maritime alum who also worked in the Maritime Branch of the CIA. Both being surprised to see each other they discussed their current roles. Lisa, having the qualifications and determination to work there, switched departments. This change was monumental. She went from a desk job to working in paramilitary operations. One could imagine her parachuting behind Soviet lines, shooting herself out of a submarine torpedo tube, or digging a tunnel to get to where she needed to be - but all one can do is imagine her work as Lisa cannot share with us exactly what she did.

Lisa's lateral move enabled her to communicate with those behind the Iron Curtain, to show them that there is a different way of life outside of Communism and Authoritarianism. From pamphlets to books, she would share Western ideas and ideals across



ideological enemy lines. While she did not directly distribute the materials, this is the type of work that her department handled. Her work, in conjunction with that of her colleagues in other departments, agencies, and nations is what eventually saw the fall of the Iron Curtain.

Her continued success prompted the CIA to send Lisa back to school full-time for a master's degree in Public Administration from The George Washington University. Armed with her MPA, Lisa's career in the CIA saw her working in various departments such as technical, budgeting, human resources, counterterrorism. The capstone of her career was supporting the production of the President's Daily Brief.

Lisa is now enjoying a well-deserved retirement with her beau living near her family outside of Washington, DC. Her time is well spent with family, being involved in her Reformed Temple, and enjoying some peace and quiet.

Lisa's career highlights the flexibility of a Maritime education. She entered Maritime with the knowledge that, as a female Cadet, she could not receive a USCG license. She credits her success at Maritime with her success in a career that few pursue – the CIA. ■



Lisa proudly display the proclamation she received from NYS Senator Alessandra Biaggi.

THE MARITIME COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Annual Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner

The Maritime College Alumni Association (MCAA) held its annual Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner on April 29, 2022 at Tribeca 360° in New York City. This year the MCAA honored:

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

GRIFF LYNCH '88

Executive Director, Georgia Ports Authority

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

JAMES STARACE '81

Chief Engineer, The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

MICHAEL TONER '65

EVP General Dynamics (Retired)



This year's honorees (l-r), Michael Toner '65, James Starace '81, and Griff Lynch '88.

After two COVID-related postponements, more than 200 friends, classmates, colleagues, and family members were present to properly salute to the 2022 Distinguished Alumni Honorees. In their acceptance remarks, the honorees spoke about their appreciation for their alma mater, that their SUNY Maritime education taught them at a young age to be accountable, to always support your colleagues, and that hard work and determination will see you through the most challenging of times. Each honoree gave a heartwarming tribute to their family for supporting them along the way.

The MCAA wishes to thank the lead sponsors of the event: The Georgia Ports Authority, McAllister Towing & Transportation, and Fresh Meadow Power. More than 50 students and cadets were in attendance thanks to the generosity of Maritime College Parents Association, McAllister Towing, and individuals who sponsored tickets for the students to attend. Thank you to everyone who supported the event. The proceeds raised help the MCAA expand networking and career opportunities for alumni and to provide programming and scholarships for the next generation of SUNY Maritime graduates. ■



The Toner Family.

*Thomas Door, Jim Yahner '86,
and John Valvo '83.*



*Leonard Imperial '01, Kevin Danko
'95 and the Starace Family.*

*Leonard Imperial '01,
Kevin Danko '95, Denise and
Griff Lynch.*





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MARITIME COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

One of the fundamental purposes of the MCAA is to support the student body through scholarships. Below are some letters from recent recipients. Your generosity enables these students to continue their studies and graduate.



ERIKA KIRCHNER

Dear Maritime College Alumni Association,
I am extremely thankful to be receiving the Maritime College Alumni Association \$5,000 Summer Sea Term Scholarship Award. Over the past year, my family along with millions of other families have struggled financially, mentally and physically. It has been a tough year for all, but earning this scholarship has given me so much to be grateful for and shown me that the world is on an upward mend. Being one of five children, my parents cannot afford to put all of five of us through school. Thankfully, they have always impressed upon my siblings and I the characteristics of hard work and independence. I knew I had to find a way to pay for school myself while doing my best to avoid debt. My last hope for not taking out a loan to pay for SST was to apply for scholarships. Earning this

scholarship has been such a blessing to me and my family because I now do not have the burden of worrying about where I will find all the funding I would have needed for SST. My sister is currently a 3/c cadet and one of my brothers will be entering as a MUG this upcoming Fall semester. With the great financial and moral support offered at this great institution, I have no worries about them excelling in their academic endeavors at SUNY Maritime College, just like I was able to. Thank you so much for your bountiful donation that has really given me the motivation and perseverance to complete my degree and in the future earn my USCG 3rd Assistant Engineer's license. I am looking forward to graduation in July and truly feel as if I could not have done it without the support of the Maritime College Alumni Association. ■



SALVATORE ESCALDI

Dear Maritime College Alumni Association,

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for awarding me with a scholarship for Summer Sea Term. I am very excited to embark on my 1/C cruise as a bosun rate. I am looking forward to applying all my skills I learned the past four years to this cruise and learn many more which will benefit me in my career as an officer. I look forward to graduating this summer and joining the maritime industry as a third officer. Once again, thank you for this opportunity, and I hope to meet you all soon. ■



JOSHUA FORBES HART

Dear Maritime Alumni Association,

A simple thank you cannot explain the immense gratitude I have for the organization that has made it possible for me to arrive closer and closer to finishing my undergraduate career at SUNY Maritime College.

Summer Sea Term is more than just a training opportunity. It is an experience that will shape my future and teach me values that I am sure I will take with me when I join the maritime industry. I would not have been able to attain the training and experience necessary to propel me forward, if it were not for the generosity of the Maritime Alumni Association and its members.

Again, I am forever grateful for your support! ■

CLASS NOTES

Class of 57 Reunion

Edward and Linda Vilella are generously hosting a dinner party at their Manhattan Brownstone home kicking off the Class of 57's 65th Class Reunion this October. Edward Vilella was Founder/Artistic Director of the Miami City Ballet of international acclaim. His accomplishments include 12 honorary degrees, appointment by President Johnson to National Council of Arts, recipient of National Medal of Arts by President Clinton and recognition by the Dance Magazine Award(1965); an Emmy award (1976), from the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences; the Capezio Award (1989); the National Medal of Arts (1997); and a Kennedy Center Honor for lifetime achievement (1997). While at Fort Schuyler, he was a Golden Gloves Boxer not to tangle with while Linda was a National Champion of Canada, World and Olympic competitor, Star of Ice Capades, Choreographer for Dorothy Hamill television specials.



'67 Class of '67 gathering in Key West under the banner "55 years later the sea is still selective."

Front row: J. Warren, J. Hagedorn, C. Youngren, G. Ford, J. Brennan, A. Allocco, J. Ward, R. Liddell, P. DiCapua, R. Saleeby, R. Plant, J. George.
Back row: M. Gaskin, P. Mason, R. Kriete, G. Ferrante, D. Cooke, L. Yanazzo, T. Connors, J. Sargente, E. Robinson, R. Mellusi, J. Egan, D. Bordron (hidden) E. Cropper, E. Stuart, A. Aymer, (NP: C. Mattia, R. Danesi).



Dinner with Capt. David Steiner '72, Capt. Paul Ginnane '95, Capt. Kathleen Friels '91, Chief Mate Jason Ihrig '14, and Capt. Alex Hagerty '12. Congrats to Captain Kathleen for becoming the first female AMO union official and to Jason on passing his Chief Mate exams!



CLASS NOTES

'83 Class of 1983 celebrate St. Patrick's Day: l-r John Maguire, John Bradley, Kevin Comerford, Mike Hinchcliffe, and Brian Kirk.



'91 Congratulations to Bethann Rooney '91 who has been named the top maritime executive for the Port Authority for New York and New Jersey. Ms. Rooney will become the third woman to head operations for the largest container ship port on the U.S. East Coast. She will leave her current position as deputy port director to assume the position of port director on May 2.



'87 Scott Kelly '87, commander of international space stations, raises \$500,000 for Ukraine through his art project, "Dreams Out of This World." His story is featured in the April 13 online issue of The Teal Mango.com.

Scott Kelly ✓
@StationCDRKelly

I'm proud to announce that my NFT collection is officially sold out on [@opensea](#)
Thank you to everyone who supported this project! In the midst of this war, it's amazing that we can come together through art to aid the people of Ukraine. Over \$500,000.00 raised today!

4:55 PM · Apr 12, 2022
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↻ Reply
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'91 30-year reunion pregame at Rory Dolan's Restaurant, Bar, & Caterers. (L-R) Bill Caliendo, Charlie Palmaccio, Jim McEnteggart, Cliff McDougall, Will Museler and Greg Smith.

'93 Congratulations to Captain Roy Love USN (RET) for being awarded the Hispanics Inspiring Students' Performance and Achievement (HISPA) ISNPRE Award.



CLASS NOTES

'94 Pablo Guillermo '94 accepting an award on behalf of his unit for their participation in International Maritime Exercise/Cutlass Express 2022.



'04 Grant Begley with wife Heather taking the first family photo in front of Grant's Pilot boat with sons Finnegan and the newest, Hunter. Standing guard is the ever vigilant Tilley.



'02

Congratulations to James Zatwarnicki for receiving tenure at the US Merchant Marine Academy.



'03

Brett Rauenzahn '03 and his wife Esmeralda welcomed their first child, Stella Isadora Rauenzahn Ponce, on December 9, 2021 @ 1952 in Santiago, Chile. Stella Isadora came into this world measuring 48cm and 7.3 lbs.



'06

Congratulations to Gabe Castellanos and his fiancé Kimberly on the recent engagement on top of the mountains of Ecuador.



'12 Bob Kamb of Kamelot Marine Services, LLC and alum, Arthur "Artie" Seaman '12 of Sea Machines Robotics conducted a presentation at Maritime College in March that focused on the future of the maritime industry, new technology, alternative renewable energy (specifically LNG), and its functionality compared to present fuel sources.

CLASS NOTES

'16 On March 1, 2022 Timothy McNamara '16 was sworn in as the newest Sandy Hook Apprentice Pilot. Left to right are Sandy Hook Director of Operations Chris Maglin '05, New York Board of Pilot Commissioners President James Mercante, Timothy McNamara, Mary Martino, and his proud father Sandy Hook Pilot Captain Kevin McNamara.



'06 Chris Angerame '06, Vice President at utiliVisor, visited the facilities team at Maritime College to discuss operations challenges, including planning and preparing for the new Empire State VII while adhering to the energy efficiency and sustainability goals of the College.

utiliVisor video story:

<https://www.utilivisor.com/video/energy-services/suny-maritime-balancing-campus-and-ship-loads.html>

The complexity of SUNY Maritime's facilities



Coast Guard Foundation Raffle Surpasses Fundraiser Goal

By Christopher Saisa '22, *Coast Guard Club President*

From February 14-24, the Coast Guard Club hosted a fundraiser raffle for the Coast Guard Foundation. The Coast Guard Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to ensuring all United States Coast Guard members and their families have the resources they need to build resilience throughout their lives. Initially, the goal was to raise \$1000. To achieve that goal, two bundles were offered: "Beach Bum Bag" and "Gym Rat Bag." Each bundle, donated by the Maritime College Parents Association, had a value of over \$200.

Raffle tickets were sold for \$5 each (\$20 for 5), and at the end of the fundraiser, \$1635 was raised, well exceeding the Club's initial goal!

Winners were awarded their respective prizes and the Coast Guard Foundation received the donation.

Thank you to Brian Murphy for planning and assisting at the event, club volunteers who operated the table, and everyone who donated. The Coast Guard Club looks forward to having additional fundraising events in the future.



(L-R) Justin Kern, Club Vice President, Brian Murphy, AUP Enlisted Advisor, Christopher Saisa, Club President, and Captain Ernest Fink, Club Advisor.

WHERE IN THE WORLD

Invasion of Islamorada

When Maritime Alumni want to get together for a fishing trip, they do so in Maritime style. For the class of '80 that entails going to Islamorada, FL for a long weekend of fun, fishing, camaraderie, and... church.

Beginning nine years ago several of the deckies from the Class of '80 decided to escape the cold winter months of the Northeast and head to Florida for some fishing. Reaching out to the Water Buffaloes, an unsanctioned, unofficial, slightly illegal engineering fraternity from the Class of '80, these classmates began a tradition that is now almost a decade strong. This annual fishing trip to Islamorada takes place the week between the NFL playoffs and the Super Bowl. Everyone is responsible for their own lodging, however the Water Buffaloes purchase all the food and adult beverages for the weekend. The weekend starts Friday night with Mama Nonna's meatballs, pasta and salad. One unit prepares breakfast for the group every morning. On Saturday night, after the all-day fishing event, they host their annual fish fry. Sunday is typically a down day by the pool. This year however, Father John Corbett '80 performed mass on Sunday morning for fishermen and guests. Monday is typically either more offshore fishing or a day trip to Key West. Tuesday is departure day.

Every year, Doug McKay, the organizer of this trip, designs and supplies a commemorative baseball hat to mark the annual excursion. Doug shares, "We typically get around 40-45 friends and classmates coming down. It is no longer exclusive to the Class of 1980. We have members from '78, '79, '82, '83, '84, '85, '93. It is a great weekend with lots of laughs, sea stories and shenanigans, but most of all, fraternity and camaraderie. The Schuyler bond is strong with this group."



Class of 1980, during the annual invasion of Islamorada: Jennifer Barnes-Hayes, Stephen Carbery, Randy Johnson, Earl Baim, (Sue Kelly, spouse), Bill Krepein, Brian Kelly, and Douglas McKay.



Rob McCleery '75, with wife Cathy, and Lenny Pellegrino '75, also with his wife Cathy, in Hilton Head, S.C.



Annmarie Bhola '98 and Chris Pitfick '97 run into each other while hiking in Maui.



Matthew Bonvento '01 and Christopher Shaw '16 at a recent engagement party for Matt's sister-in-law.

CHAPTER GATHERINGS



NORTHERN FLORIDA CHAPTER

April 19, 2020, Jacksonville, FL

The Northern Florida Alumni chapter in association with the College hosted a Meet and Greet to bring alumni together to welcome the Admiral during his stay in Jacksonville. There were 20 attendees spanning the classes of 1946 through 2016. The event was held at Culhane's Irish Pub and Restaurant in Jacksonville, FL.

(R-L): Admiral Michael Alfultis, Doug Hasbrouck, Tom Orr '46 (cap & bow tie) Bob DeGennaro '84, Ray Strack '81, Chris Terajewicz '75, Pete Cotter '71, Scott Fernandez '82

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INDUSTRY ENCOUNTERS



Six Maritime Alumni sailing together on the USNS Soderman: Keith McFly Martin '18, Sean Cavey '13, Amy Torres '21, Brain Gottlieb '18, Sean Sullivan '04, and Joseph Altamura '12/'15.



Captain Michael Parr '89, first engineer; Jason Fetter '09, chief mate; Matt Colla '11, third mate; Kyle O'Brien '20; and third mate Nate Gass '18.



CDR Loza '94 and LT Amandola '94 at NSA Bahrain during IMX/CE 2022.



Michael Fiorenza '05 and Timothy Knapp '00 meet up at sea.

EBB TIDE

William Meagher '40

Donald Baker '47

Robert Barr '47

Carnegie Hamersly '48

Bill Gabriellini '50

Fred West '50

Ferdinand Wight '50

William E. Baird '53

Edward Jarski '57

Frank Meyler '57

Richard Blatus '58

Charles Boutin '63

Charles R. McIntyre '64

Stanley L. Pobutkiewicz '64

David R. Richards '64

Brian O'Donnell '65

Louis F. Harlow '68

Thomas Burns '71

Gerry McNamara '71

Peter J. Schwalbenberg '72

John Tylawsky '76

Edward Bailey '78

Joseph Knizewski '81

Erik Muller '92

Steven Obser '99

Sean Varela '19

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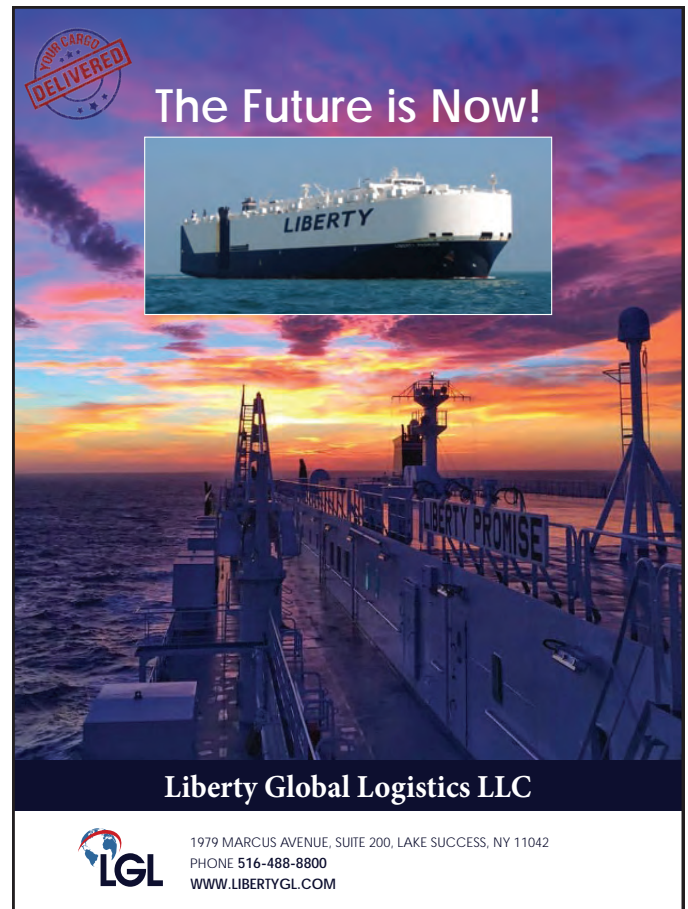
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UPCOMING EVENTS

FOR MARITIME COLLEGE ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

TS Empire State VI Returns

August 2, 2022

Joint families, friends and visitors at Olivet Pier to welcome cadets and crew back to Maritime College.

Indoctrination Graduation Ceremony

August 26, 2022

New students pursuing a deck or engine license enter into the Regiment of Cadets and participate in the ten-day INDOC program. Through the program, MUGs transition to life in the Regiment by following highly structured guidelines and learning vital skills necessary for life onboard a ship. The graduation ceremony was the culmination of the 10-day indoctrination program.

Admiral's Dinner

September 20, 2022 - Marina del Rey

The annual Admiral's Dinner, the College's premier event to raise support for our students, returns to campus for the first time in years! A new format will allow for added networking and socializing as we shift to a buffet style cocktail/dinner party. A wide range of sponsorship opportunities provides support to students while promoting professional networking among alumni and industry partners.

HOMECOMING WEEKEND

Maritime College Alumni Association – Ancient Mariner Golf Outing

October 28, 2022

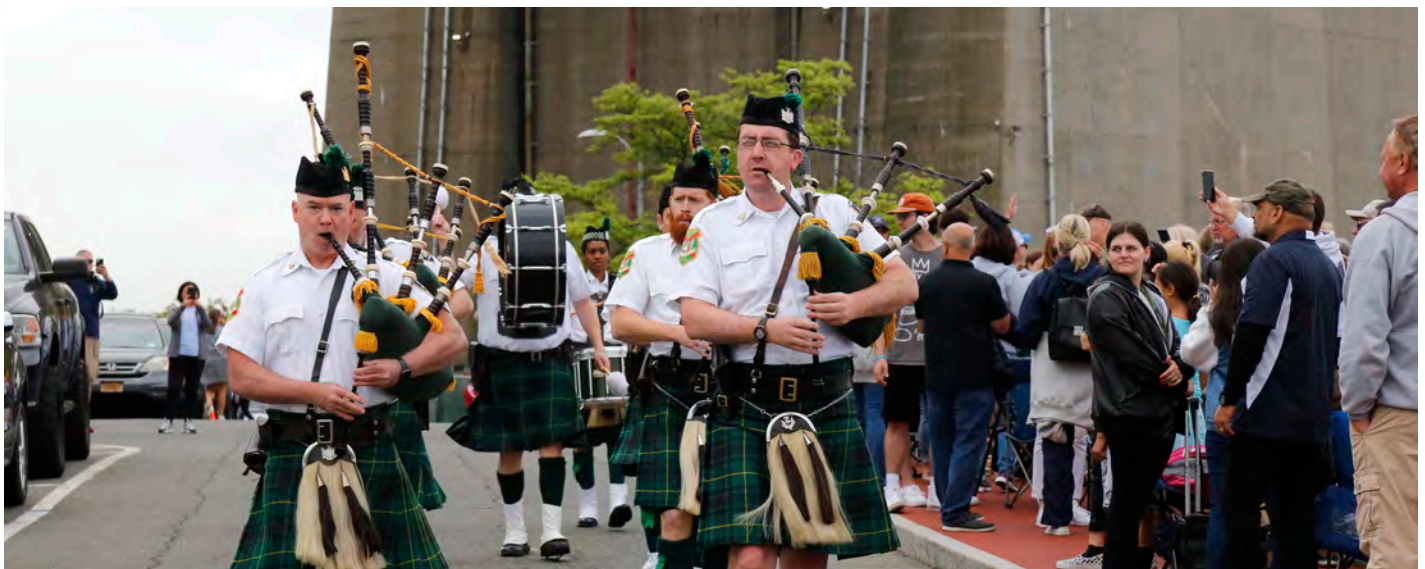
Maritime College Alumni Association Ancient Mariner Golf Outing at Pelham Bay & Split Rock Golf Courses, Bronx, NY

October 29, 2022

- Maritime College Alumni Association Annual Membership Meeting
- Class Reunion events, Pass-in-Review
- Heritage Hall Induction
- Tailgate and Football Game with Reunion Class Parade/Regimental March On
- Alumni Post-Game Celebration at Paddy's on the Bay

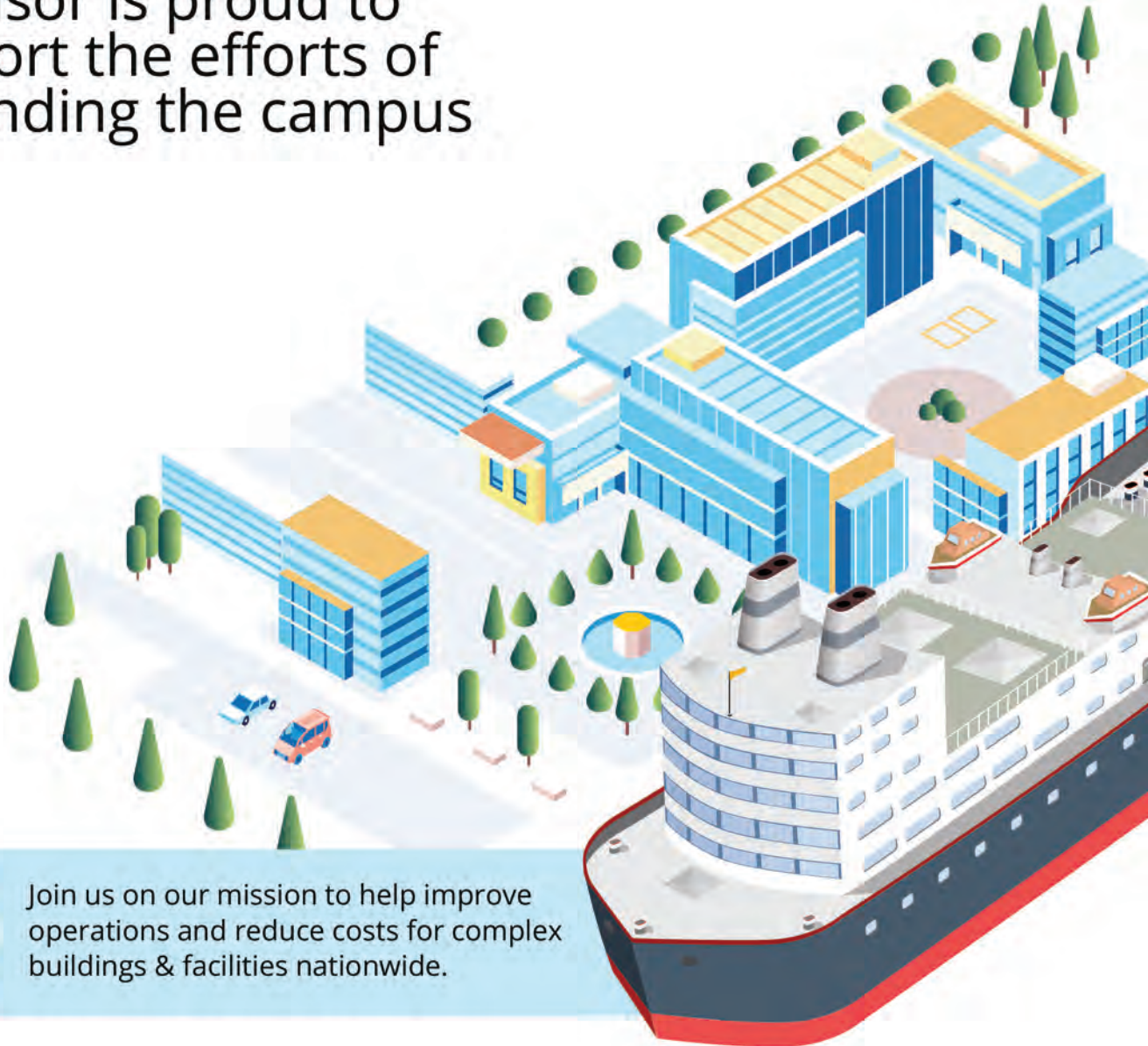
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SAVE THE DATE

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Registration and Cocktails - 5:30 pm | Dinner - 7:00 pm

Marina del Rey, Throggs Neck, NY

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