



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

From the President

Shipmates,

As winter winds down and we start to see the first signs of spring, I hope this note finds you well. It's been a strong and active start to 2026 for the Maritime College Alumni Association, and I wanted to take a moment to share a few highlights.

One of the things I'm most encouraged by is the continued growth in alumni engagement. Our PROP training in February brought together another great group of volunteers who are stepping up to represent Maritime College and help guide prospective students and their families in exploring the benefits of a Maritime education and the opportunities made available thereby. It's a simple idea—but a powerful one—and it speaks to the pride we all have in our alma mater.

That same spirit carries through in how we support today's cadets. Our Summer Sea Term Scholarship program closed submissions on February 3, and we're currently reviewing a strong group of essays. These scholarships truly make a difference, and I encourage you to consider supporting the program if you're able. As you'll read in this newsletter, we are on track for another record year in terms of award money given and for the number of scholarships being issued. We want to make sure every cadet who wants to make their way up the gangway has that opportunity and money is not holding anyone back!

Please enjoy this issue of the Newsletter as it is our way of keeping alumni connected to our Association, to the College, and to what's going on in our Maritime family. If you get a chance, make sure your dues are paid up and that we have your correct contact info on file at the Fort. And, if you can, support the various causes on the College's upcoming Giving Day which starts at noon on Tuesday, April 21, and runs through noon on Wednesday, April 22, 2026. We all appreciate anything that you can give.

Thank you, as always, for everything you do for the Association and the College—whether it's your time, talent, or treasure. It all matters, and it all adds up.

And please keep the feedback coming. If you have ideas, suggestions, or just want to stay engaged, don't hesitate to reach out to us at Editor@MaritimeCollegeAA.org.

Wishing you a great spring season ahead.

Stephen J Carbery '80
President, MCAA

Association News

Paying it Forward: New Alumni Night at the College

On Thursday, March 26, we continued our spring tradition of New Alumni Night, meeting recent and upcoming Maritime grads in a relaxed setting on campus in the Special Events Room of Vander Clute Hall. 22 alumni enjoyed helping 47 students to make connections and get ready to launch their careers beyond the classroom and the training ship. In addition to developing mentor-mentee relationships, the gathering helps alumni in business with talent needs become acquainted with eager Maritime-bred career-seekers – a clear win-win for everyone!

Special thanks to Brian Meade '01 and Skanska for their sponsorship.



More Pull with PROP: Outreach Opps NOW, Next Training July 15

On Friday, February 13, eleven more alumni joined the ranks of **PROP**, the **Privateer Recruiting Officer Program** jointly driven by Maritime College and the MCAA. This brings a total of 53 PROP officers recruiting for the College by meeting with college-bound high school students and answering their most challenging questions about the value of a Maritime degree and the career paths it offers.

PROP Outreach opportunities are available NOW. With college fairs scheduled across the NY/NJ/CT area, Maritime College is calling on available PROPs to help the Admissions Department, faculty, and staff recruit college-bound students. Contact President Steve Carbery '80, President@maritimecollegeaa.org, to register your interest. In addition to college fairs now scheduled with Maritime College staff, opportunities exist for trained PROPs to independently recruit at schools the College staff cannot cover.

The next PROP training takes place Wednesday, July 15; those participating will be invited to ride the Empire State VII from NY Harbor on its return to campus the next day, July 16. Contact Association President Steve Carbery '80, President@maritimecollegeaa.org, if you are interested in participating!



Golf Classic Excitement is Building

In spring, the fancies of golf enthusiasts young and old, male and female, turn to the links. So, be sure to mark your calendars for the **37th Annual Golf Classic!**

**Monday, June 8
Plainfield Country Club
Edison, NJ**

Meet, network, and enjoy golf with colleagues old and new, with cocktails, fine dining, auctions, and raffles at day's end! Cocktail-and-dinner-only tickets also available.

Sponsorship opportunities are available.

Registration will be launching soon - we are capped at 120 golfers so do not wait to register!

SST Scholarship Awards Continuing to Grow

Scholarship Committee Chair John Valvo '83 announces that we are on track both for **record SST Scholarship award monies and recipients**. By the February 3 deadline, 489 applications were received—including from 245 MUGs—with nearly 65% expected to receive awards from a fund projected to exceed \$600,000. The College worked tirelessly to keep cruise tuition below last year's level – and YOU are further helping to fill the gap financially for these deserving young men and women sailing this summer. Our SST Scholarship Awards "Big Check" photo presentation on campus is set for Thursday, May 7, at 1:00PM on Olivet Pier.

Keep "paying it forward" and help our cadets get up that gangway and out to sea! SST Scholarship Fund donations are gratefully accepted [HERE](#). *Maritime College Giving Day 2026, April 21-22, will offer an opportunity for your donations to be directed to MCAA SST Scholarships!*

A Warm Winter Around the Chapters

Throggs Neck and the Fort endured a chilling winter and a historic February blizzard – but warmth and camaraderie was shared at several of our Chapters up and down the East Coast!



Tampa Bay Chapter held a Winter Trivia Event Tuesday, January 27th at the Escape Brewing Company in Trinity, FL. A small group of Alumni and friends formed teams for a fun, challenging, and exciting evening further enhanced by memorabilia shared by Parks Honeywell '56 (pictured here with his wife).

An offshoot of the Tampa Bay Chapter held an inaugural meeting at **The Villages**, a vast active retirement community in central Florida, on Thursday, February 19. Four pioneer members in attendance included Parks Honeywell '56, Chris Johnson '82, Steve Richter '64, and Joe Ward '67. As at Tampa Bay's January Trivia, Parks brought memorabilia to share. With other local folks interested, the group is planning to host a couple more casual lunch or dinner gatherings over the winter.

The Baltimore Chapter hosted 20 alumni at their Social at Nick's Fish House in Baltimore, MD on Wednesday, February 25, for casual discussion and collaboration on growing the Chapter, a task in which Beth Christman '87 and Roger Brow '85 are taking the lead. "Our Chapter is rebuilding, and we hope to be a resource for fellow shipmates in the region," they said. While

they thoroughly enjoyed Nick's, they are scoping a variety of venues suitable for future meetups of alums and their families.

The Baltimore Chapter also gathered at Miller's Ale House in Annapolis, MD for a meet-up following Maritime's Privateers men's lacrosse game Thursday, March 5, against the United States Naval Academy Club.



The Space Coast Chapter held their Spring Social Wednesday, March 18, at the George & Dragon English Tavern in Cocoa, FL for a relaxed gathering of area alumni. This is the Chapter's second gathering since they first met up last December 10, also at the George & Dragon.

The Charleston Chapter held their Spring Social at Island Cabana Bar in Charleston, SC for a relaxing Saturday afternoon of fun, food, and drinks on March 21. The Chapter held a gathering of nearly twenty folks last Homecoming Day 2025 at Topgolf Charleston for a Privateers Watch Party. The MCAA is working with the Chapter for a gathering during the TSES VII's Charleston port call on May 24th – stay tuned!

The Tampa Bay chapter is exploring new locations for events and headed to O'Toole's Irish Pub in Brandon, FL, for another evening of trivia on Tuesday, March 24. Alumni were joined by friends and family for a fun night together.

Be sure to check the Upcoming Events calendar below, and the Events listings at our web page [HERE](#), to find the next Chapter gathering near you!

REMINDER to Chapters: We're here to help you! If you want to host an event, please submit the form [HERE](#). If you have additional questions, please email Communications@maritimecollegeaa.org. We can assist with funding, contacting venues, and getting word of your event on the website and our social channels.

POPMS 2026 Student and Professional Scholarship Applications Open through April 15

The Port of Philadelphia Maritime Society will award up to SIX scholarships of \$4,000 each in 2026. Not only are the current maritime students in your life eligible to apply – **you may be eligible as a marine professional** training for an original credential or license or upgrade thereof, or in a certificated marine-oriented professional development course. Eligibility details and application form located [HERE](#).

You Oughta Be in Pictures!

If you missed your calling as a film star, here's a chance to make up for it – and to make a Maritime graduate's day, too! The MCAA and the College are collaborating on a video being presented for the graduates at Commencement on Friday, May 8. Alumni and College staff will be featured in brief video spots giving our grads uplifting, inspirational quotes, comments, and advice. Contact Executive Director Maggy Williams Giunco, Director@maritimecollegeaa.org if you wish to participate!

TO JOIN, OR TO RENEW YOUR MCAA SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP:

Please access the Membership Form [HERE](#).

College News

2nd Annual College Giving Day! April 21-22

More than 540 donors from around the world—even as far as the Indian Ocean—came together to make Maritime College's inaugural Giving Day in April 2025 a success. The MCAA raised over \$20,000, including a \$5,000 anonymous matching gift, in support of the 2025 SST Scholarship Appeal—helping drive total scholarship awards to a record-breaking \$575,000.

Giving Day 2026 kicks off Tuesday, April 21 at 12:00 noon and runs for 24 hours through Wednesday, April 22. Donors will have multiple opportunities to make an impact, including support for MCAA SST Scholarships. Join us and the College in this meaningful effort. To get involved, contact Executive Director Maggy Williams Giunco at Director@maritimecollegeaa.org



25 Cadets Earn USCG Licenses during January Exam Week

A total of 25 cadets of the Regiment earned their U.S. Coast Guard licenses during licensing exams given the week of January 5-9, 2026. This included 17 Third Mate Deck licenses and 8 Third Assistant Engineer licenses.

66 Graduates at Winter Commencement

A total of 66 students, including 28 cadets of the Regiment and 38 students of the traditional curriculum, graduated from Maritime College at Winter Commencement Friday, January 23, 2026.

SUNY Maritime College Virtual Tour Updated

Maritime College's virtual tour has been updated with new images of the Training Ship, Waterfront, Gymnasium, and Seamanship Center, expanding access and offering a more immersive view of the highlight areas. If you haven't visited in a while, this is the next best thing! AND – you can show us off to any prospective students you may have contact with. Experience the tour right [HERE](#).

SST 2026 Instructors Needed!

Licensed and unlicensed instructors are needed for Summer Sea Term 2026. Positions are available for Cruise A (April 30-June 9), Cruise B (June 10-July 20) or for the full duration. Requirements include U.S. passport, Transportation Worker Identification Credentials (TWIC), Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC), and current Medical Certificate. **The Marine Engineering Department can assist with paperwork required for any credentials. The full position**

offering and description is available [HERE](#). Contact Catherine Strez, Associate Professor – Marine Engineering, cstrez@sunymaritime.edu or Dan Fridline, Chair, Engineering Department, dfridline@sunymaritime.edu, for more information.

Additional Positions Available at the College

Maritime College is hiring talent for a variety of positions. Click [HERE](#) for all posted vacancies. Search on Indeed [HERE](#).

Upcoming Events

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

Wednesday, April 15, 6:00-8:00PM – **Space Coast Chapter Social**, George & Dragon English Tavern, 502 Brevard Ave., Cocoa, FL USA. Join us for a relaxed evening of fun, food & drinks with your fellow Space Coast Alumni! Event and contact information [HERE](#).

April 16 - **New Jersey Chapter Dinner** at the Dublin House in Red Bank, NJ. Details & registration coming soon!

Friday, April 24, 2026, 9:00AM – **12th Annual Port Tampa Bay & Partners Golf Tournament**, The Eagles Golf Club, 16101 Nine Eagles Drive, Odessa, FL USA. Supported by the **MCAA Tampa Bay Chapter**. Event information & registration [HERE](#).

Friday May 1, **Houston Chapter Clay Shoot** at American Shooting Centers. Sponsorships and registration available [HERE](#).

Friday, May 8 – **May Commencement** – SUNY Maritime College

Tuesday, May 12 – **TS Empire State VII departure** – Olivet Pier, SUNY Maritime College

Thursday, May 14 – **MCAA 2026 Spring Networking**, Pennsylvania 6 NYC, 132 W 31st Street, New York, NY. Join us for an evening of networking and camaraderie. Free drink ticket to the first 50 to arrive! Information and registration link [HERE](#).

Monday, June 8 – **37th Annual MCAA Golf Classic**, Plainfield Country Club, Edison, NJ. Join us for an exceptional day of golf and camaraderie at the famed Plainfield Country Club! Information [HERE](#).

Wednesday, July 15 – **Privateer Recruiting Officer (PROP) Training**, SUNY Maritime College. Absorb what Maritime College offers goal-oriented young people today so that you can help recruit incoming students. Contact MCAA President Steve Carbery '80, President@maritimecollegeaa.org, for details.

Thursday, July 16 – **TS Empire State VII returns to campus** – Olivet Pier, SUNY Maritime College

Friday, October 23 – **MCAA Ancient Mariner Golf Outing**, Pelham Bay & Split Rock Golf Courses, Bronx, NY. Save the Date!

Saturday, October 24 – **Homecoming** – Save the Date! Year '1 and '6 Class Reunions, All-Day Tailgate, Pass-in-Review, MCAA Annual Meeting '26, Privateers Football, Alumni Sporting Events, Paddy's-On-The-Bay. Get the scoop [HERE](#).

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

Aaron "AJ" Lyte '49
Raymond Single '56
Ray Gomez '58
Thomas "Tom" Hancock, Sr. '58
Paul Schmidt '61
Christian "Chris" Vorndran, Jr. '61
Harry Higgins III '62
John "Jack" Dee, Jr. '63
Robert "Schwiegs" Schwieger '64
Thomas "Tom" Hall '65
Charles "Chuck" Nolfo '67
Michael Theodoseau '77
Charles Cook '81
Sinclair Ekekeubor '81
Peter Feliccia, Jr. '81
Brian Fuller '81
Francis "Frank" McDonald '81
Mark Wollman '81
Kenneth "Ken" Kujala '85
Paul Gilmour '88
Joseph "Joe" Cucchiaro '25
Christopher "Chris" Moscatello '25

Signal Flags

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

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<https://www.maritimecollegeaa.org/about/>

From Your Friends at the Maritime College Alumni Association



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