Anchors Aweigh

GOVERNOR CHARLIE BAKER ADDRESSES THE CLASS OF 2016

CIVICALLY ENGAGED
MMA stands tall as a reliable partner for community programs

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS
From exhibits to parties, MMA celebrates a milestone
Buckeye Partners, L.P. (NYSE: BPL) is a publicly traded master limited partnership and owns and operates a diversified network of integrated assets providing midstream logistic solutions, primarily consisting of the transportation, storage, and marketing of liquid petroleum products. Buckeye has pipelines located primarily in the Northeast and Midwest and terminals located throughout the United States and an integrated network of marine terminals located primarily in the East Coast and Gulf Coast regions of the United States and in the Caribbean. Buckeye also markets petroleum products in areas served by its pipelines and terminals. Finally, Buckeye operates or maintains third-party pipelines and performs certain engineering and construction management services for third parties.

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Visit www.maritime.edu/give and make your best gift to support cadets of today and tomorrow.

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ON THE COVER: GOVERNOR CHARLIE BAKER SPEAKS AT THE 2016 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY. PHOTO BY GINA MANNING
As we celebrate our 125th year, we want to honor Captain Al Wilson’s dream of creating a detailed, printed account of his beloved Academy. We are proud and pleased to announce that Captain Al’s dream is now a reality. Follow the evolution of MMA through this beautiful coffee table book, loaded with photographs of the Academy — cadets, leaders, ships, and more — from its years in Boston, Hyannis, and Buzzards Bay.

RESERVE YOUR LIMITED-EDITION BOOK, SIGNED BY FAMED CAPE COD AUTHOR NATHANIEL PHILBRICK, WHO ALSO PENNED OUR FOREWORD, BY EMAILING CHUCK RICHARDSON AT CRICHARDSON@MARITIME.EDU. THESE AUTOGRAPHED COLLECTOR’S COPIES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE ADMIRALS SCHOLARSHIP GALA ON OCTOBER 22, 2016, FOR $125 EACH. PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF THESE COLLECTOR’S COPIES WILL GO DIRECTLY TOWARD CADET SCHOLARSHIPS.
etts Maritime Academy
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Please Join Us for the

2016 Admiral’s Scholarship Gala
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2016
6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Pande Dining Hall, Massachusetts Maritime Academy

Entertainment: GQ and the Lady
Military Attire: Mess Dress Blues • Civilian Attire: Black Tie Optional

Individual ticket: $225 (tax deductible amount $175)
All proceeds to support scholarships at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy.

Please RSVP by October 5, 2016
125 Years and Counting

As I said to our guests at the 125th celebration on board the TS Kennedy, it seems like just yesterday that 35 young men from the greater Boston area were climbing aboard the USS Enterprise — a barque-rigged, screw sloop, three-masted, square-rigged ship, with both sail and a propeller — docked alongside Rowe’s Wharf in the heart of Boston. And although 125 years seems like quite some time ago, when you consider what the world was like back then, it seems even longer. The city was still illuminated predominately by gas lamps — those newfangled electric ones didn’t show up for a few decades. Boston’s subway system, ultimately the nation’s first, didn’t even open until some six years later.

Where the western Massachusetts towns of Enfield, Duma, Greenwich, and Prescott existed, now sits the Quabbin Reservoir. Oklahoma was still a territory. There was no Cape Cod Canal, no Panama Canal. But there was a new school about to open in Boston — or actually in Boston Harbor. A school that had a unique educational philosophy. It was a school that imbued hands-on education with theoretical classroom pedagogy … a school that blended teamwork skills with an opportunity to practice leadership … an institution of learning that lived its ethos of experiential education by utilizing the world as its classroom. Even in its first decades, this exceptional college-of-nautical-knowledge provided an unsurpassed return on investment to its students, to this great Commonwealth, and to our nation.

Well, much has changed since 1891 for the world, and, yes, for our beloved Academy. We have had a new campus, new ships, new academic programs, and new technological advances. Technology that then seemed almost unimaginable today seems commonplace, like ship simulation that can put a deck officer on the bridge of just about any ship in any ocean under any operating condition — just for practice!

Despite all the changes and the advances, the core “deliverables” of the Massachusetts Nautical Training School have held as steady as Captain Tom Bushy’s hand on the helm for his 20 sea terms as master. It’s a unique blend of education and opportunity that has always attracted a hardworking, selfless, never-afraid-to-get-dirty student that delivers a talented employee, and a well-rounded citizen. The school continues to return 10 times the Commonwealth’s investment in its people and programs.

This incredible institution of higher learning would not be here today to serve the students and citizens of Massachusetts and beyond if not for the visionary leadership in the Commonwealth more than a century ago. I am extremely pleased and unbelievably proud to say with unwavering confidence that the Commonwealth’s Maritime Academy is vibrant, thriving, diverse, and dynamic and remains second-to-none.

Sincerely,

“…[the Academy] is vibrant, thriving, diverse, and dynamic and remains second to none.”

Rear Admiral Francis McDonald
President, Massachusetts Maritime Academy
The Boston Connection

MMA WORKS TO INSPIRE CADETS OF TOMORROW

Students from Camp Harbor View and the John D. O’Bryant School of Math and Science were treated to a tour, ride, and hands-on workshops aboard the TS Kennedy while she was in Boston.

Among the many tenets to which Massachusetts Maritime Academy subscribes is community outreach. Athletic teams welcome child guest teammates. The Student Government Association collects toys, food, and other necessities for those in need. Cadets even find ways to volunteer their time to help communities they visit during Sea Term. More recently, the Academy has been working with Boston-based organizations to inspire teenagers to look at their futures with a wide-angle lens.
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Born out of deep concern for the safety and well-being of the children living in Boston neighborhoods plagued by violence, Camp Harbor View (CHV) has been positively impacting hundreds of Boston’s youth for nearly 10 years. Former Mayor Tom Menino worried that children did not have enough structured, supervised time in the summer. He shared his fear with Boston businessman Jack Connors, and expressed his desire to create an organized summer program for kids that might help alleviate the spike in violence that the city witnesses when school is out. Connors not only agreed, but he also suggested Long Island in Boston Harbor as the campsite.

The camp was built and soon the Camp Harbor View Foundation formed a partnership with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston to help develop curriculum and operate the camp. CHV welcomed its first 300 campers in 2007 and continues to grow each year. It currently serves 900 youths through two four-week summer camp sessions, as well as programs for campers and their families throughout the year.

Two years ago, current Academy President Rear Admiral Francis McDonald spearheaded a partnership with CHV. The benefit of the partnership is twofold: first, students from CHV are exposed to opportunities that they would not normally have known about. Also, MMA is also able to provide emergency transportation to the camp on Long Island via the cadets who work at the marina at Spectacle Island.

As the partnership builds, the Academy has begun working with CHV staff and students to expand their knowledge base. In addition, CHV has offered opportunities for cadets to apply for summer counselor and other positions within CHV. While the affiliation is still young, the Academy is hopeful that it will welcome its first CHV campers as cadets within the next few years.

SPOTLIGHT ON STEM

With “math and science” in its name, it is clear that students who attend the John D. O’Bryant School of Math and Science (JDO) have an interest and proficiency in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Many of the Academy’s academic programs have a heavy STEM focus, which makes a relationship between the two schools a win-win. For this reason, MMA created an articulation agreement with Boston Public Schools and JDO this past June. “The school’s focus on STEM subjects is a natural pathway for their graduates to be successful at MMA,” says Elizabeth Stevenson ‘97, vice president of Enrollment Management.

As part of this partnership, the Academy is providing a number of services to the students of JDO. One major benefit is the opportunity to take part in dual enrollment courses, free of charge. To further foster the relationship between the students at both schools, Stevenson enlists cadets who are JDO alumni to return to their alma mater and speak with students about the various opportunities waiting for them at Taylor’s Point — and beyond. These alumni-cadets are also serving as mentors for current JDO students. After learning more about MMA, some JDO students are eager to see the Academy in person. For those who would like to attend an Open House but have no way of getting to campus, the Academy will provide transportation to and from Taylor’s Point, without charge.

In the vein of showing these teens what’s out there, MMA provided JDO students and Harbor View campers the opportunity to ride aboard the TS Kennedy while she was in Boston Harbor this past June. “How can you dream of a career if you don’t even know it exists?” says Stevenson. While on board, the students participated in hands-on workshops and got a glimpse at some possible fields to consider.

Higher education is costly, particularly for the inner-city students attending JDO. To help ease the financial stress for prospective students, MMA hosts financial aid workshops for JDO families in addition to waiving application fees. Qualified participants can also receive scholarships to attend MMA’s summer Sea, Science, and Leadership Program.

As a result of this yearlong initiative, the Academy has seen a small but growing number of applications. Qualified students, of course, were accepted. For students who did not meet the minimum standards as set by the Department of Higher Education, MMA is working with Roxbury Community College to create a pathway to future enrollment at the Academy.

The Academy is proud of its involvement with both CHV and JDO. Allowing cadets to lead by example holds true to one of the college’s core values. These organizations, and MMA’s partnership with them, help guide high school students to a treasure trove of opportunity — a victory for all involved.
A Professor with Passion

DR. HEATHER BURTONSHARES HER SPIRIT, KNOWLEDGE, AND EXPERIENCE WITH CADETS

As a child growing up in southern Connecticut, Dr. Heather Burton spent much of her time on the water. Boating, fishing, and exploring the beach from a very young age are what fed her interest in the natural world. “I was constantly being drawn to the shore,” Burton says. These early influences shaped her future as an oceanographer and, ultimately, as an assistant professor at Massachusetts Maritime Academy.

BY LAND AND BY SEA
Burton’s advanced academic journey did not begin on the water. Rather, she headed west to the landlocked campus of Hamilton College in Clinton, N.Y. True to her love of nature and science, Burton earned a bachelor of arts degree in geology, with a mathematics minor. But, as all sea-lovers know, the pull of the ocean is strong. During her junior year, Burton went on a research cruise to Antarctica. “I loved being part of the research expedition,” she says. “I truly felt like I was at home at sea.” The following year, she returned to Antarctica to continue the climate change research with her undergraduate advisor.

It was her experience on the research cruise that influenced Burton’s career path. From Hamilton College, she moved on to the University of Rhode Island’s Graduate School of Oceanography, where she earned her Ph.D. in oceanography. There, she concentrated her studies on how microorganisms influence the chemistry of the marine sediments and the ocean. Burton says, “To carry out my research, I spent time on research vessels in the South Pacific, Equatorial Pacific, and Bering Sea.”

JUST FOR FUN

LAST BOOK YOU READ?
How Children Succeed: Grit, Curiosity, and the Hidden Power of Character by Paul Tough

CD CURRENTLY IN YOUR CAR?
The Beatles

FAVORITE PLACE TO VISIT?
Local Cape Cod beaches

FAVORITE PASTIME?
My favorite thing to do when I am not at work is play with my two children. They constantly make me laugh and fill my life with joy.
After graduate school, Burton took a position as an oceanographer with the Sea Education Association (SEA) in Woods Hole, Mass. The job involved teaching oceanography to students on shore and for several weeks aboard SEAs tall ship Corwith Cramer. “SEA is where I realized my love for teaching,” Burton says. “When a position opened at MMA, I was excited to bring my experiences in science and sailing to the Academy.”

STUDENT BECOMES TEACHER

Arriving at Taylor’s Point in the spring of 2012, Burton dove right in. She joined the Environmental Protection, Safety, and Emergency Management (EPSEM) department, teaching a variety of Marine Safety and Environmental Protection (MSEP) courses, including Earth Science, Coastal Ecology, General Biology, Aquaculture, and Biology of Fishes. In addition, she developed the Marine Microbiology course, as that is her field of expertise.

To date, Burton’s greatest professional achievement was being offered her tenure track position at the Academy. Since arriving on campus, she has taken on several leadership roles, developed new curriculum, designed new courses, and fostered new collaborations outside the Academy. While her contributions have been plentiful, Burton would like to be remembered for her role in developing and teaching the MSEP Freshman Experience course, an environmental field course that takes place on St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands, during the winter term.

For Burton, the objective of the Freshman Experience is not only for her students to learn a lot of science during the course, but also for them to gain a new appreciation for themselves, each other, and our natural resources. “My best experiences as an undergraduate were in the field,” she says. “I really want to pass that forward to my students.”

Burton’s passion for her students and for the Academy shines through. “I truly feel like I have the best job in the world — great colleagues, great students,” she says. Part of what she believes makes MMA so special is the fact that the faculty is strongly encouraged to make teaching their priority.

“Because I teach freshman- through senior-level classes,” Burton says, “I have the opportunity to see my students grow intellectually and emotionally, which is extremely rewarding.” What’s more, she can truly relate to her students because of her own experience as a student researcher and as a sea-going oceanographer. She adds, “It is really my connection with my students and with the campus community that makes my career at MMA so fulfilling.”

PREPARING THE NEXT GENERATION OF TEACHERS

The Academy has learned that over the past few years, several Marine Safety and Environmental Protection (MSEP) graduates have pursued careers in teaching. Because of this trend, faculty members from the MSEP major began investigating options to assist cadets who are considering a career in education. The result is a new program called the Massachusetts Teaching Concentration, which recently was approved by the university governance. Dr. Heather Burton explains, “We are not offering licensure to teach, but rather the opportunity to take coursework and a classroom observation internship.”

MASSACHUSETTS TEACHER CONCENTRATION

The Massachusetts Teacher Concentration is designed to help prepare cadets who are considering a career in secondary education. Students must complete two courses in history, science, math, or humanities. The two courses can satisfy the Academy’s two free electives and must be in addition to any core or support course requirement for the degree. The practicum also includes the completion of a six-credit classroom observation internship at a secondary education institution. The coursework and classroom observation internship total a minimum of 12 credits. This concentration is available to juniors and seniors in any major.

SECONDARY EDUCATION CLASSROOM OBSERVATION INTERNSHIP

Cadets will participate in up to six weeks of classroom observation at a secondary education institution over the winter term. The internship provides students with the chance to observe successful teaching techniques, gain knowledge of curriculum design, and become familiar with the operation and organization of a secondary education classroom. This internship is available to juniors and seniors from any major who seek to complete the Massachusetts Teacher Concentration.
William Flanagan ’64 came from humble beginnings. One of eight children growing up in Barnstable, Mass., he didn’t let his family’s lack of extra funds stop him from getting an education and achieving great success. Now Flanagan is giving back to those who helped him rise. A grateful Massachusetts Maritime Academy is on the list.

Together with his wife, Barbara, known as “B.A.,” Flanagan has pledged $3 million to MMA. The gift is the largest individual donation in Academy history, and MMA will rename Blinn Hall in Flanagan’s honor.

Flanagan believes the base for his career and his success was formed at the Academy. To that end, the decision to donate such a large sum of money was easy for the Flanagans. “Why not reinvest in the opportunity for men and women to do the same thing I was able to do?” Flanagan says. “It’s payback of the investment they made in me when I was going to school.”

The Flanagans’ gift kicks off a 10-year, $50 million comprehensive campaign at the Academy. A large percentage of the money raised will go toward student scholarships and capital projects. Academy President Rear Admiral Francis McDonald says, “This gift from Bud Flanagan is huge. To get where we want to be, it’s just a fantastic start — and the timing couldn’t be better for us.”
Teaming Up
FMGLOBAL AND MMA ENTER A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Massachusetts Maritime Academy and FMGlobal, Rhode Island’s largest private company and one of the world’s largest commercial property insurers, are entering into a five-year strategic partnership to build on the company’s continuing education program for its boiler and machinery loss prevention engineers. The partnership includes a $100,000 donation from FMGlobal to support the Academy’s advanced large-equipment laboratory, named the FMGlobal Laboratory.

“This commitment reinforces the strong training partnership FMGlobal and MMA have developed over the past eight years. It will ensure that FMGlobal’s boiler and machinery engineers continue to receive the highest level of experiential training with large steam turbines, gas turbines, and auxiliary and support systems encountered at our clients’ facilities around the world,” says Brion Callori, FMGlobal senior vice president of engineering and research. “This practical, hands-on training will enable our engineers to assess complex equipment hazards and develop cost-effective solutions that help our clients reduce property risk and keep their businesses resilient.”

The FMGlobal Laboratory, which is located in Bresnahan Hall, is one of the most heavily used spaces on campus. It serves the MMA’s Engineering and Facilities Management cadets as well as governmental agencies and industry groups. FMGlobal also plans to host client and industry events that are focused on equipment loss prevention and risk management at the Academy.
Civically Engaged

Massachusetts Maritime Academy is a busy place no matter how you define it. From its commitment to nationally recognized charities, to others right around the corner from Taylor’s Point, when it comes to contributing to the wider community, in many ways MMA is second to none. The impact of these initiatives cuts both ways, helping people who are often in the greatest need, while making those involved more aware of the challenges many face. The cross section of MMA cadets — students within the community service program, the Student Government Association, and the BUC Student-Athlete Advisory Committee — all find themselves committed to the betterment of individuals through local charities. Community service is something that adds a great deal of value to the Academy way of life.

RIDING FOR DOLLARS

If you have ever found yourself on the roads of southeastern Massachusetts the first weekend of August you would no doubt be sharing them with bicycles — lots of them. Many people recognize that these are Pan-Mass Challenge (PMC) riders, giving their all for the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. What they probably do not realize is the degree to which the Academy has been involved in the success of this two-day fund-raising event.

Founded in 1980, the PMC is an annual bike-a-thon that today raises more money for charity than any other single event in the country. The PMC donates 100 percent of all rider-raised dollars directly to the Dana-Farber. In its 36 years, the PMC has raised $500 million. Last year alone it raised $46 million. It
happens thanks to the roughly 4,000 volunteers who donate their time, and 200 corporations that provide more than $4 million in products and services each year.

2016 marked the 31st year that the Academy proudly hosted the Pan-Mass Challenge, serving as the major gathering point for PMC participants. During PMC weekend, approximately 6,300 volunteers, staff, riders, and their families gather on the MMA campus to celebrate their achievements. Roughly 2,000 people remain overnight, sleeping in the dorms, aboard the ship, and in tents before getting up bright and early (true Academy fashion) to embark on Day 2 of their rides.

“The relationship between PMC & MMA began in 1985,” says Billy Starr, Pan-Mass Challenge founder and executive director. “It was, and is, a critical linchpin in the dynamic growth of the PMC and our ability to stage a cross-state bike-a-thon that traverses Cape Cod.” MMA offers the use of its facilities at a discounted rate, which over the years has contributed approximately $1 million in in-kind gifts to support the efforts of Dana-Farber’s doctors and researchers with the necessary resources to discover cures for all types of cancers. These efforts very recently hit close to home as one of MMA’s cadets was just diagnosed with leukemia and is receiving treatment at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Starr says, “Both the staff and the student body are, and remain, tremendously supportive of the PMC and its mission to fundraise for cancer research at Dana-Farber.” The Academy could not be more proud of the role it plays in the success of the Pan-Mass Challenge.

[The MMA relationship] ... is a critical linchpin in the dynamic growth of the PMC and our ability to stage a cross-state bike-a-thon that traverses Cape Cod.

“Both the staff and the student body are, and remain, tremendously supportive of the PMC and its mission to fundraise for cancer research at Dana-Farber.” The Academy could not be more proud of the role it plays in the success of the Pan-Mass Challenge.

A TEAM EFFORT

Making a difference in the community is something for which all Academy cadets strive. The Department of Athletics shares in that tradition. “Members of the Buccaneer Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) have volunteered hundreds of hours raising funds and awareness for several organizations and groups on Cape Cod, around the region, and throughout the country,” says SAAC Advisor Jim Seavey. The SAAC, which is made up of cadets from the Academy’s 14 varsity intercollegiate athletic programs, is involved in many worthy causes.
SAAC does a lot of work to help families in the community. For example, they help the Pat Tillman Foundation, which provides assistance and services to veterans and their families. Each November, they distribute Thanksgiving baskets to food pantries in Bourne and Wareham. At Christmas they organize the Children’s Cove Christmas Toy Drive. They have even received NCAA recognition for their work with the Special Olympics.

SAAC also works with The Herren Project (THP) Project Purple Initiative, which raises awareness and provides counseling in the battle against substance abuse. In its fourth year, THP Project Purple now has nearly 500,000 students, politicians, sports figures, and teams nationwide supporting the cause. This year, THP continued to expand the theme of promoting good decision making and launched a “Go Purple” Scholarship Program as well as a “Purple & Proud” Grant to encourage sober prom and graduation activities.

Additionally, the Department of Athletics has enjoyed an ongoing partnership with Team IMPACT, a non-profit organization based in Quincy, Mass., that partners with colleges and universities across the region to improve the quality of life for children facing adverse issues and events by establishing and expanding vibrant, team-based support networks. Once a Team IMPACT child is drafted, he or she becomes an official member of the team. As the child joins the athletic team, the student-athletes become part of his or her support team. The match allows the child to gain great strength, camaraderie, and support, while MMA student-athletes learn lessons about courage and resilience, and gain a new perspective.

CITY CONNECTION
Camp Harbor View (CHV) is an initiative of the Camp Harbor View Foundation, Inc., in partnership with the City of Boston and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston. Campers have been selected based on outreach to community organizations and city agencies and represent every neighborhood in the city. The Academy is one of 17 proud partners engaged in the success of this program.

This past spring, CHV students attended the MMA career fair, where they engaged in conversations with the many employers about the variety of paths leading to maritime-related careers. The camp’s “Leaders in Training” (LIT) are former campers who return to guide the current program. They participate in a retreat, learning about MMA and participating in team-building activities. During this time, current cadets act as their hosts, interacting directly with these future leaders in order to give them a hands-on MMA experience.

Each year, four to six CHV LITs are awarded scholarships to attend MMA’s Sea, Science, and Leadership Program in August. There, they take part in interactive, educational workshops that build confidence, challenge decision-making skills that develop and strengthen leadership qualities. “We are extremely proud of our ongoing relationship with CHV and the opportunity to expose their next-generation leaders to those core values taught here at MMA,” says Vice President of Enrollment Elizabeth Stevenson ’97.

PEDAL PUSHERS
According to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society’s website, “Bike MS cyclists, volunteers and donors have raised over $1 billion so people affected
Community service is at the heart of Massachusetts Maritime Academy. Cadets, faculty, and staff are vested in helping others on campus, within the local community, and overseas. It seems that when a need is identified, MMA heeds the call to serve.

For more than half a decade, cadets in the Emergency Management program have been participating in an unusual cooperative learning experience: examining water wells in Île à Vache, a small island off the south coast of Haiti. Developed by Professor Tom Lennon, the objective was to encourage cadets to think globally. Living and working for five weeks on Île à Vache, which has no electricity, no potable water, and no motor cars, forces cadets to appreciate what they have and acknowledge the needs of others.

Lennon refers to this experience as “rough on steroids,” and it is not for everyone. He selects cadets who have the proper focus, skill set, and demeanor to handle both the job and the living conditions. While their primarily role during their time on Île à Vache is to assess and collect data about water wells, cadets also spend time volunteering at Sr. Flora’s orphanage. There they help with the children as well as with any cleaning or maintenance needs. Lennon says the cadets leave Haiti forever changed. Many consider it the toughest, yet best experience they have had to date.

Connected to the Île à Vache co-op are the humanitarian deliveries that the TS Kennedy has made to Haiti. Organized by cadets in Haiti and aboard the training ship, supplies have been carried, offloaded, and delivered to grateful villagers. The deliveries, while a great service to the people of Île à Vache, also serve as amazing training lessons for all cadets involved. They are responsible for organizing the shipment back in Buzzards Bay to carrying out the logistics of delivery — no small feat on an underdeveloped island.

Sea Term and the newly launched Winter Experience programs for non-license-track majors provide opportunities for cadets to serve the greater community as well. Many students use their liberty time in a foreign port to participate in prearranged service projects. Over the past several years, MMA has done landscaping and cleanup at a center for mentally and physically handicapped people in Curaçao; volunteered at a children’s hospital in Ecuador, and worked on Habitat for Humanity projects in Florida.

In home port, the Academy’s dedication to helping others shines bright. Cadets embrace the opportunities to help through any number of efforts. As these young people get a taste for going beyond themselves, they learn how powerful it is — and how powerful they are. The hope is that their call to community service is long-lasting.
The Call to Duty

A SALUTE TO NEWLY COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

Before the first notes from the bagpipers’ horns could be heard signaling the start of Massachusetts Maritime Academy’s 173rd Commencement exercises, 11 members of the Class of 2016 had already taken their first steps in their next role. These men and women were selected to receive commissions to the U.S. Army, the U.S. Navy, and the U.S. Coast Guard. Receiving a President’s Commission to any branch of the military is a distinct honor. It is what defines the difference between enlisted personnel and officers, and it shows exemplary performance and promise on the part of the cadet.

To be selected for a commission, a cadet must first show commitment to the military through participation in a specific U.S. officers training program, of which there are three at the Academy. The requirements of these programs — coursework, tests, and fieldwork — are in addition to the cadet’s college academic responsibilities.

Not every cadet member is assured a Commission. In fact, only a few, select cadets receive that distinction. “The President’s Commission is very special because it requires a lot of training, tests, and proving oneself in the classroom and in the field,” retired Army Colonel Timothy Dilliplane explains. “It means that one has met and exceeded medical standards, psychological standards, leadership standards, and educational standards.”

The 11 recent MMA graduates now serve as officers in their respective service. A young officer has a tremen-
We congratulate the following newly minted officers:

**U.S. ARMY**
Shawn Slaney, Second Lieutenant

**U.S. NAVY**
Shavonne Boyle, ENS USNR
Jamie Foy, ENS USN (Aviation- Naval Flight Officer)**
Kyle Blakeman, ENS USNR*
Andrew Murphy, ENS USNR*
Mathew McIsaac, ENS USNR*
Connor Flynn, ENS USNR*
Peter Schultz, ENS USN (Surface Warfare Officer)**
Luca DeFazio, ENS USNR**

**U.S. COAST GUARD**
Jonathan J. Gardner, ENS USCG
Brittany M. Driscoll, Selected for Commission later this year

*USNR: United States Navy Reserve
**USN: United States Navy (Active Duty)

Shawn Slaney is sworn in as second lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

The Making of an Officer

The road to becoming a Commissioned Officer in the U.S. Army is not short or straight. There are twists, intersections, and even the occasion detour that make the trip exciting and rewarding. Shawn Slaney ’16 was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Vermont Army National Guard, in the Military Police Corps, June 17, after four years of hard work and perseverance.

Slaney knew he wanted to be an officer in the Army after college. With that goal in mind, he joined the Army ROTC program during his freshman year at the Academy. After one year of learning what the Army expected of him, and he in turn proving himself to Retired Colonel Timothy Dilliplane, officer in charge of Army ROTC at MMA, Slaney was all in.

Dilliplane was impressed with Slaney from the start. He says, “From the very beginning he has had two solid and unwavering interests: to be an officer in the U.S. Army’s Reserve components, and to additionally serve his community as a law enforcement officer.” From all observations, Slaney was highly motivated, well prepared, and a strong contributor in his ROTC classes. His leadership ability also shined through. Determined to get as much soldierly and leadership experience as possible, Slaney enlisted in the Massachusetts Army National Guard and, through the Army ROTC Simultaneous Membership Program, began to learn what officership at the platoon and company level was like.

Slaney’s proactive nature culminated in three distinguished honors: the MMA Army ROTC Cadet of the Year Award in 2015; his selection as Regimental Executive Officer; and the Otis Civilian Advisory Group’s Military Member of the Year at MMA Award for 2015.

During the Commissioning ceremony, Dilliplane said, “Cadet Slaney has demonstrated superb dedication, intellect, and leadership in his effort to reach his goals. He has proven himself to be absolutely devoted to accomplishing the mission, whatever the mission might be, to doing his duty.”

Congratulations!
HONORING THE PAST, CELEBRATING THE FUTURE

MMA OBSERVES NATIONAL MARITIME DAY
In 1933, Congress declared May 22 National Maritime Day, a day set aside to honor the United States Merchant Marine. Each year, Massachusetts Maritime Academy holds a special National Maritime Day observance that pays tribute to all mariners past, present, and future. Throughout the celebration, the Regiment of Cadets is front and center on the field of Clean Harbors Athletic Stadium.

This year, MMA observed National Maritime Day on May 25. Keeping with tradition, the celebration included a remembrance of members of the MMA community who have “passed over the bar” during the past year, its annual Regimental Change of Command ceremony, and recognition of the 2016 Mariner of the Year. U.S. Army Major Marisol Chalas ’96 was named this year’s Mariner of the Year. She was selected as a 2017 Army Congressional Fellow by the U.S. Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness. In this 35th year of women at the Academy, Chalas is a great example and reminder of what hard work and determination can yield.

Born in the Dominican Republic, Chalas came to the U.S. at age nine. She began her military career as an enlisted soldier in the Army in July 1990 and was later commissioned as Second Lieutenant in the Aviation branch from the Georgia Military Institute Officer Candidate School. While pursuing her military career, Chalas also furthered her education, earning a bachelor’s of science in Marine Engineering from MMA and a master’s of business administration from J. Mack Robinson School of Business, Georgia State University.

Her military education is also broad, ranging from Aviation Officer Basic Course to Strategic Fellows Program at the Institute of World Politics in Washington, D.C. Today Chalas, who is a Blackhawk helicopter pilot, is serving as Battalion Operations Officer for 7-158th Aviation Regiment (Attack Reconnaissance Battalion) in Conroe, Texas. She is also on the Academy Board of Trustees.

Chalas was at the Academy to accept her award on National Maritime Day. While addressing the Regiment, she focused on leadership and the importance of accepting challenges that force them away from their comfort zones. She also encouraged cadets, assuring them that it is alright to make mistakes, but they must own them, learn from them, and then move on.

The day’s ceremonies concluded with the annual Regimental Change of Command ceremony. It was then that the Class of 2016 passed the leadership baton to the Class of 2017. The Academy now looks forward to witnessing continued steady leadership as new regimental officers take the helm.

PHOTOS BY GINA MANNING

2016-2017 REGIMENTAL STAFF

REGIMENTAL COMMANDER
Thomas McEntee

CADET CRUISE COMMANDER
Maxwell McCarthy

REGIMENTAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Lexy Halpin

CADET CHIEF MATE
Tyler Hochstetler

CADET CHIEF ENGINEER
William Ilkovich

STUDENT GOVERNMENT PRESIDENT
Paul Frost

REGIMENTAL ADJUTANT
Timothy Wolanin

REGIMENTAL OPERATIONS OFFICER
Zachary Ziolkowski

REGIMENTAL TRAINING & RETENTION OFFICER
Rashida Plummer

MSEP OPERATIONS OFFICER
John Roy

FENV OPERATIONS OFFICER
Stephen Bouchie

IMBU OPERATIONS OFFICER
Joshua Lausier

EMHS OPERATIONS OFFICER
Laura Hahn

ESEN OPERATIONS OFFICER
Matthew Woodward

SENIOR CLASS PRESIDENT
Melissa Harris

STUDENT TRUSTEE
Joshua Rand

PHOTOS BY GINA MANNING
CELEBRATING 125 YEARS
A SERIES OF EVENTS HELPS HONOR A LEGACY
PHOTOS BY GINA MANNING
The TS Kennedy sailed to Boston for 125th birthday festivities.
ABOVE: Rear Admiral Francis McDonald unveiled the 125th Anniversary Exhibit, a display of wall panels that showcase the Academy’s history, housed in the ABS Information Commons.

HUNDREDS GATHERED for the 125th birthday celebration aboard the TS Kennedy while it was tied up in Boston.
The year 2016 has been one of celebration at Massachusetts Maritime Academy, and rightly so. MMA has weathered some storms over the years and now basks in the glory of not only surviving but also flourishing 125 years after opening its doors. Rear Admiral Francis McDonald says, “I’m proud to say that the Commonwealth’s maritime academy is vibrant, thriving, diverse, and second to none.”

The first event to recognize this milestone year took place on May 25, during the Academy’s observance of National Maritime Day. After the Regimental Change of Command, attendees were invited to the unveiling of a new historical exhibit charting the Academy’s 125 years. The panel display, which is located on the first floor of the ABS Information Commons, tells the story of the Academy from inception to today, complete with photos that bring you back to each era.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

June 11 marked the 125th birthday of Massachusetts Maritime Academy. To celebrate, members of the MMA community boarded the TS *Kennedy* on Thursday, June 9, and sailed to Boston. Two days later, the ship’s helo-deck became center stage for a cocktail reception and birthday party complete with friends of the Academy and dignitaries, including Boston Mayor Marty Walsh, Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito, Massachusetts Speaker of the House Robert A. DeLeo, and Massachusetts Senate President Stanley C. Rosenberg.

Having the celebration aboard the *Kennedy* was apropos, as attendees witnessed various segments of the maritime industry at work in Boston Harbor. Tugboats waited to guide in ships; a State Police boat was on patrol; a cruise ship was docked at a neighboring wharf; and fireboats put on a water show. The mood was light as cadets entertained the crowd with great music and even a fun-loving trumpet retort to a passing ship’s whistle.

Academy President Rear Admiral Francis X. McDonald reminded guests of what the world was like 125 years ago. He said, “The city was still illuminated predominantly by gas lamps ... Boston’s subway system, ultimately the nation’s first, didn’t even open until some six years later ... Oklahoma was still a territory. There was no Cape Cod Canal, no Panama Canal. But there was a new school about to open in Boston — or actually in Boston Harbor. A school that had a unique educational philosophy ... an institution of learning that lived the mantra of experiential education by utilizing the world as its classroom.”

After thanking the MMA administration and faculty for educating students for the dynamic maritime sector, DeLeo presented three statistics that point to the Academy’s success. When compared to other state colleges and universities, DeLeo said, “MMA has the highest retention rate in all the Commonwealth, the highest graduation rate in all the Commonwealth, and the highest job placement rate in all the Commonwealth.”

Before a ceremonial re-signing of 1891 legislation that established the Academy, Polito took a moment to thank the cadets and their families. “Thank you to the parents, alumni, friends, and families who support your sons and daughters at the Academy,” she said. “It takes a special person to do this job — it takes courage and a spirit of adventure.”

The celebratory year will culminate with the Admiral’s Scholarship Gala, complete with a special ribbon-cutting ceremony, on October 22. The prominent theme of the gala, to be held on campus, will be the 125th anniversary. It will be a chance for Academy family and friends to gather and honor the great institution while raising funds to continue its important mission.

Here’s to the next 125 years! 🎉
Hats Off to the Class of 2016

MMA welcomed Governor Charlie Baker as Commencement speaker

The Massachusetts Maritime Academy Class of 2016, comprising 300 cadets and 50 graduate students, mustered for the last time on the picture-perfect morning of June 18. During his remarks, Rear Admiral Francis McDonald, president of the MMA, noted that this year’s graduating class was the largest in Academy history. He also congratulated the class for achieving the highest passing rate on the Coast Guard licensing exam of any maritime college in the country.

With the TS Kennedy tied up just beyond him, Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker offered his congratulations to the graduates during the college’s 123rd Commencement exercises. Joking that he does not recall the message of any of the three commencement speeches directed at him during his academic life, Baker expressed his desire to share some pieces of wisdom that might resonate with the MMA grads. He said, “Here are five things I wish someone had said to me when I graduated from college, and hopefully at least one of them will make some sense to you. You can take it from here.” Baker went on to encourage the graduates to marry well; to stretch themselves and not be afraid to fail; to remember that their first job likely will not be their last; to take care of themselves; and to make the Academy proud.

Pride in the Academy, and it in its alumni, is a long-standing tradition. “As you know, you’re graduating from the biggest and best maritime college in the country,” Baker said, reminding the audience of MMA’s legacy. “Your predecessors have dominated the Merchant Marine for generations, and more recently made their mark in the fields of energy, emergency management, international business, engineering, environmental affairs, and life sciences.”

Noting the Academy’s commitment to hands-on learning, Baker said, the Academy “has been requiring 100 percent of its cadets to participate in experiential learning for over 100 years; and what a return on investment.” PayScale Magazine ranked the Academy third out of 1,400 colleges in the country for return on investment because graduates find jobs and build careers. Baker said, “You, more than virtually any of your peers attending liberal arts colleges, understand the gigantic impact containerization and ocean travel have had on commerce, economic development, and global trade.”

Concluding his speech, Baker urged the Class of 2016 to embrace the blank chapter in their life and to write an incredible story. “The slate at this point is pretty clean, and every chapter after this is pretty much up to you,” he said. “Don’t waste this precious chance you have to make a difference, because the opportunities are everywhere, you just need to find them, and go get them.”

During Commencement the Academy awarded honorary degrees to Baker as well as 10-year MMA Trustee Paul Kelly and Vice Admiral Manson Brown, the NOAA deputy administrator.

Fair winds and following seas, Class of 2016.
It was a picture-perfect day for Commencement on Taylor’s Point. Among the day’s honored guests was Governor Charlie Baker, who imparted advice to the Class of 2016 as they embark on their next adventure.
**SPOTLIGHT ON GIVING**

**A GIFT OF HONOR**

The tragic events of October 1, 2015, hit every member of the Academy family hard. We lost two of our own, but it also brought up the fact that we all know and keep buried deep, that the industry we work in is dangerous. Our MMA family and the entire maritime community immediately jumped into action to help those who were touched by the loss of life on the *El Faro*.

The Student Government Association almost immediately began selling bracelets to help support the families. At the time they were not sure exactly how they would do that. Classmates of Jeff Mathias ’96 and Keith Griffin ’05 reached out to the Academy to inquire how to establish scholarships in their classmates’ names and began to work on establishing these scholarships.

Then the Senior Class Campaign Committee heard about the efforts of classmates of Mathias and Griffin, and they knew they wanted their class to do two things: help fund the two scholarships, and fund a memorial for all those lost on the *El Faro*. From the start, the seniors had a partner helping them motivate their classmates to participate in their Senior Class Campaign and to help them fulfill their goal. Geoffrey Wilkinson ’72 challenged the class to reach $5,000 and 50 percent participation. If they achieved this goal, he would match dollar for dollar up to the $5,000, and $2 for every dollar raised over $5,000. The seniors held a kickoff in March to inform their class of what they were striving to achieve by May 23. In addition to daily conversations with classmates about the importance of giving and the purpose of the campaign, the committee also held several events to educate their peers on life outside MMA. They had a presentation on etiquette and Human Resources, as well as how to manage their money once they graduated.

Beyond events they also took part in the first participation challenge against SUNY Maritime’s senior class. It was a close fight, but in the end our senior class was victorious with 20 percent of the class participating in their Senior Class Campaign during the month of April, versus the 15 percent participation at SUNY. MMA seniors were rewarded for their hard work with a cookout at which Wilkinson and Rear Admiral Francis McDonald cooked hot dogs and burgers for them to enjoy and celebrate how they came together for others.

The Class of 2016 left their mark on the Academy in many ways, including an example of generosity for others to follow. They achieved their goal and raised more than $7,000. In addition, they were able to get the full $10,000 match from Mr. Wilkinson, making the Senior Class Campaign total more than $17,000 — with 51 percent participation at SUNY. MMA seniors were rewarded for their hard work with a cookout at which Wilkinson and Rear Admiral Francis McDonald cooked hot dogs and burgers for them to enjoy and celebrate how they came together for others.

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

| COURTNEY COLLINS | BRENDA MARTINEZ |
| BRITTANY DRISCOLL | EMILY MCDONOUGH |
| DANIEL JOHNSON    | ANDREW SALOIS  |
|                   | TAYLOR SJOBerg |

Charitable donations may be deducted when itemizing your tax return. For several years, provisions of federal tax law have allowed contributions directly from an IRA to a Qualified Charitable Donation. This QCD applies to IRA holders over 70½, and avoids federal tax and is credited toward your IRA Minimum Required Distribution. Please consult with your tax preparer for more details.
Meet the Callers

wakes me up at 0700 ready to get things done. With this drive to succeed that I did not know I had before, I have become more confident and more willing to take chances. I’m strong in my belief that MMA really does help build individual character.

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO DO WITH YOUR LIFE AFTER MMA? I would like to see myself becoming involved with a board of health somewhere. My goal as an emergency manager is to help people. I would like to start off on a small scale and work my way up to helping others on a larger scale. Although, at 22 years old it’s tough to say where I’ll be in 10 years, I think that public health would be a great foundation for my career!

Michael Robert Lively ’18
HOMETOWN: GREENFIELD, MASS.
MAJOR: MARINE ENGINEERING

WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT BEING A CALLER? My favorite thing about the Phonathon program is being able to interact with MMA alumni. A pledge is not only a gift to MMA, but also the start of a long-lasting relationship. Through my conversations over the phone, I really feel like I am creating or continuing something that will help students like me be able to earn an MMA education.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT BEING A CADET AT MMA? My favorite thing about the Academy is Sea Term. Not only is it the most fun part of the MMA experience for me, but it is also a time when we receive our “hands-on” training. Sea Term is when I have learned the most, and been able to put the lessons learned in the classroom and labs into action. The opportunity to be out on the open ocean and to travel to exciting ports is something that very few colleges offer — and it’s a life-changing experience. I also am grateful for the advanced leadership opportunities offered at MMA. I will be an orientation squad leader this year. I know the lessons I will learn during the orientation experience will help me throughout my life. I look forward to shaping the MMA experience for the class of 2020!

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO DO AFTER MMA? When I graduate, I’ll receive my 3rd Assistant Engineers license from the U.S. Coast Guard. I plan on making the most of it and shipping out. I hope to work toward getting my 2nd, my 1st, or even a Chief’s License, which will take a long time. I also know that if I choose not to follow that path, I still will have opportunities in various career fields. I have met many alumni who were Marine Engineer majors who now do something completely different, but are just as successful. That is another part of MMA that I really appreciate: we are educated to know we can do anything!

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Scholarship support provides educational and experiential opportunities for cadets

2/C Leah Burns
MAJOR: MARINE SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
WITH A MINOR IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME BUSINESS
CHAMP SCHOLARSHIPS
CONOCO PHILLIPS SCHOLARSHIPS

You hear it a lot at MMA: cadets are often the first in their families to attend college, let alone one as demanding as the Academy. Swansea native Leah Burns is on her way to a degree in Marine Safety and Environmental Protection, with a minor in International Maritime Business. Burns came to MMA after graduating from Bristol County Agricultural High School, where she received a solid grounding in the technical skills required to leap into the environmental field. Some high school dual enrollment courses at MMA fueled her passion, but she credits her father’s influence for helping her realize the importance of this opportunity.

She has taken full advantage of everything she has been offered, including serving as 1 Co training and retention officer, community service operations assistant, SGA co-chair, and chapter president for NAMEPA, where she created K–12 lesson plans on the various components of the shipping industry. Despite all of her success, Burns was unsure if she would be able to return to MMA. Thanks to the scholarship support she has received, now her senior year will be a reality. “I know I am extremely fortunate to have received such support,” Burns says. “This has only made me want to work harder, be well-rounded, and contribute to the community.”

1/C Dasan Simon
MAJOR: FACILITIES ENGINEERING
CSL, INC. SCHOLARSHIP

Dasan Simon wasn’t your typical wide-eyed cadet fresh out of high school when he arrived at the Academy three years ago at age 22. The second oldest of five (step) siblings, he has moved more times in his young life than many ever will — from Boston to Brockton to Bridgewater to Jamaica Plain and finally to Canton, where Simon graduated high school before completing studies at the Benjamin Franklin Institute in Boston. Money was always tight, and there have been many obstacles to overcome. He has cleared many of them with a maturity that takes some people years to develop. As is often the case, facing true adversity forces one to take stock. The reality is, sometimes you have to make decisions that, while on the surface seem counterintuitive, are the right thing to do.

For Simon, that might have put his tenure here in jeopardy. As he has done for most of his life, he worked hard, learned to be self-sufficient and find answers to problems on his own, and has persevered through the challenges. For obvious reasons his transition was not an easy one. He was older than his classmates — as old as the cadets charged with leading him through that first year — and he had experienced things many had not or would ever want to. In the end, Simon realized that could be a silver lining. Had he come to MMA as an 18 year old, without the benefit of a few more years to mature and see things differently, he probably would not have lasted. Simon says, “This is a great place … I have enjoyed the challenges, developed confidence … and am ready to move on.”
2/C Erica Mutoh

MAJOR: MARINE TRANSPORTATION
BOSTON MARINE SOCIETY, CONOCO PHILLIPS, ADM. FLANAGAN SEA TERM,
MMA ALUMNI SEA TERM SCHOLARSHIPS

Originally from the Los Angeles area, Erica Mutoh’s journey to MMA has been circuitous, to say the least. Moving to Panama as a young girl, she was educated at the Balboa Academy before returning Stateside when her family relocated to the East Coast and Florida. She chose to go back out west, graduating from the University of California San Diego with dual degrees in International Studies (Political Science/Latin America) and Sociology. Mutoh was looking into law school, in particular Admiralty Law, when an old schoolmate from Panama who attended MMA told her to look into the Academy if the maritime industry was where she saw herself. Mutoh did not expect that the “hands-on” nature of the MMA experience was something that would appeal to her. But, before she knew it, she was at Taylor’s Point, a graduate student of sorts, taking a full course load in Marine Transportation — a program she will complete in three years instead of four.

“Here at MMA you learn everything you need to know to go to work and be recognized and respected as someone who knows what they’re talking about,” Mutoh says. Upon graduating, she hopes to take an active duty commission in the U.S. Navy or at least reserves. If everything works out according to plan, she can always get that Admiralty Law degree.

2/C Jacob Deschamps

MAJOR: MARINE ENGINEERING AND FACILITIES ENGINEERING
ABS SCHOLARSHIP

Not that there was any undue influence placed on him when he was in high school in Londonderry, N.H., but with a grandfather and a great uncle who shared sea stories about their days at MMA and shipping out, it might have been pre-ordained that Jacob Deschamps would end up at MMA. He was heavily invested in STEM courses while in high school, taking electives all the way through. So, when the time came, he was more than ready to commit to life here on Taylor’s Point.

But Deschamps did not just end up here — he has excelled as a dual Marine and Facilities Engineering major. He was No. 1 on the commercial shipping list for the Marine Engineering program, a squad leader, on the Drill Team, and a member of the Student Government Association. And he does it all while consistently making President’s List — every single term. With three siblings in college next year, getting the most out of his experience at MMA is a priority. He looks forward to shipping out after graduation — something else that will, no doubt, make his forebears awfully proud.

Brittany Driscoll ’16

MAJOR: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
MASSPORT SCHOLARSHIP

When her MMA journey was nearing its end, Charlton, Mass., native Brittany Driscoll said, “I’m not ready to leave.” Given what she accomplished during her time here, it is easy to understand why. The recipient of the MMA Foundation Award for her role on the softball team, Driscoll’s plate was full as regimental adjutant; senior class president; chair of her class gift campaign and social; working in Haiti during Sea Term, which she described as “life altering”; and the Change of Command on May 25, when she and her fellow senior leaders officially handed over the reins to their successors. As Driscoll looks back on her Academy career, she finds the changes both within herself and those around her hard to believe. She credits her experience as regimental adjutant with instilling leadership qualities that she will have for the rest of her life — skills she will put to the test at GE/Lynn Aviation. Speaking at the Admiral’s Scholarship Gala last October, Driscoll summed it all up. She said, “Our successes would not be possible without scholarships that make it possible for all of us to thrive and achieve academically, as individuals, and as leaders on campus.”
There’s a new golf tourney in town, and it looked and felt a little different than many of the other successful tournaments organized on behalf of the Academy’s athletics and scholarship programs. Set at the Ridge Club in Sandwich, Mass., attendees were greeted at the bag drop by someone who many consider the greatest hockey player of all time — the man who set the bar for all of those who would follow — Boston Bruin (which he shall always remain) Bobby Orr, Number 4. “Hi, I’m Bobby Orr, good to see you, thanks for coming.” And things only got better from there.

We all know that early spring weather in New England is a roll of the dice: you can get 45 degrees and rain, or 70 degrees and sunny. Tourney day arrived with perfect conditions. Adding to an already impressive rotation, the tournament for women’s athletics is a major initiative coming out of MMA Athletics Director Garin Veris’ office. Early in his tenure, Veris recognized that several new opportunities existed and quickly moved to put some of those on his front burner. And so, the Women’s Athletics Golf Tournament was born. Its inaugural year raised $18,000 for the program.

Following the round, Athletics Hall of Fame member Meghan Duggan ‘99 (M’05) spoke to those gathered at the luncheon. A member of the Academy’s Board of Trustees, on which she chairs two sub-committees, Duggan’s commitment to all things MMA goes without question. That commitment is a direct result of her experience as a member of the crew team. The bonds she formed with her teammates and friends, her “sisters,” as she put it, endure through the present day. “College sports teach tremendous life lessons — the
most important one of all being that if you want to have good friends, you need to be a good friend. And I met the best friends of my life through MMA Athletics.”

The whole event had a close-knit family feeling as many current MMA female athletes, coaches, and Athletics Department staff were in attendance, helping to make the day a great success. Alumni, friends, parents, and former professional athletes all realized the importance of the day. All funds raised directly impact the lives of these young women who, as MMA’s intercollegiate athletes, go above and beyond expectations in competition and by representing the Academy in the best light possible. The Academy looks forward to a bright future for this event as it works hard to support our female players and coaches — true Bucs in every sense of the word.

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THERE WAS A LOT TO CELEBRATE AT RECENT ACADEMY EVENTS


MMA honored sailors past and present during its annual National Maritime Day celebration, at which the cadet leadership baton was passed to the Class of 2017.
Members of the Academy family gathered aboard the TS Kennedy in Boston to celebrate MMA’s 125th birthday. Dignitaries, including Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito, took part in a ceremonial re-signing of Chapter 402, the legislation that established the Massachusetts Nautical Training School in 1891.

125th Birthday Celebration Aboard the TS Kennedy  JUNE 11, 2016

PHOTOS BY GINA MANNING
Graduation JUNE 18, 2016

It was a beautiful day for Commencement on Taylor’s Point. Among the day’s honored guests were Governor Charlie Baker, who imparted advice to the Class of 2016 as they embark on their next adventure, and Vice Admiral Manson Brown and Academy Trustee Paul Kelly, who both received honorary degrees.
Hello, alumni!

It is hard to believe that almost two years have come and gone since I was elected president of the Alumni Association. It has been a busy, but fun, two years. I set a few goals, with the support and hard work of a dedicated and volunteer board — and these goals were met. I can’t thank them enough.

The MMA Alumni Association is celebrating its 100th birthday this year. The festivities kicked off with a Maritime Alumni Sea Term (MAST 2016) — goal one. Approximately 300 attendees met at Quonset Point for a fun day at the Air Show. There was a VIP tent on the flight line, complete with food, drink, swag, and lots of laughs. True to our training and our ability to adapt, the few hurdles we encountered did not disrupt the day. Thanks to all for joining us.

Also, in June we held the 10th Annual Daniel Foley Thunderbird Classic at the New Seabury Country Club. The final summer gathering was our annual Red Sox outing, which took place on Saturday, July 9. The board also enjoyed Homecoming. As we close out our 100th year, please keep an eye on The Bulletin, the bimonthly alumni magazine that all members receive, for updates along with lots of pictures from past events, information about the Bruins outing, and meeting times of networking events.

Joining the Association is easy: Check your mailbox for our annual dues reminder notice or go on our website at www.mmmaaa.org. Our membership is up 15 percent — goal two — and hopefully it will continue to increase. Please consider joining us.

Thanks again for your support. I look forward to seeing you soon. Be safe and take care of one another.

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Terry Novak

VICE PRESIDENT, MMA PARENTS ASSOCIATION

As the 2015–2016 academic year came to a close, the MMA Parents Association bid adieu to four board members whose cadets graduated in June: Leanne Avakian, Marilyn Cyr, Carol Eccleston, and Deirdre Macinnis. We are grateful to these parents for the countless hours they dedicated over the years to the mission of the Parents Association. With five new board members, including new president Bill Tranter, the MMAPA is committed to continuing the work of supporting the MMA parent community and raising funds for cadet scholarships. We encourage all parents to visit maritime-parents.org for information on the group and for directions on how to join the MMAPA Google group, which supplies invaluable information to both new and veteran MMA parents.

We once again assisted in Sea Bag Week this past August; Admissions Liaison Marie Rossi spearheads this massive undertaking. The Parent Association was also on hand for Orientation Drop-off Day to assist with the distribution of PT gear and sea bags, as well as to answer parent questions and to sell a variety of items in order to add to our scholarship funds. You could also find us at Orientation Graduation, as well as at Homecoming, fall Open Houses, and Recognition Day. Calls for volunteers for future events will be posted to the MMAPA Google group.

Our first MMAPA meeting of the 2016–2017 academic year will be held in early October. Information on the exact date and location will be posted to the Google group, as will long-distance access information and the meeting agenda. We encourage all parents to become involved in the MMAPA this year.

With the efforts of many, mighty deeds can be accomplished!
MMA 125th Sponsorship Levels

Massachusetts Maritime Academy is celebrating its 125th birthday in 2016!

**PLEASE CONSIDER BECOMING A SPONSOR IN THIS VERY SPECIAL YEAR:**

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► **GOLD SPONSORSHIP**  $12,500

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► **SILVER SPONSORSHIP**  $2,500

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► **BRONZE SPONSORSHIP**  $1,250

This level includes admission for two to the Admiral’s Scholarship Gala and listing on the 125th Celebration Plaque as a Bronze sponsor.

For more information on sponsorship information please call Holly Knight, Vice President for Advancement, at 508-830-5099 or e-mail hknight@maritime.edu.
GRADUATION DAY
The Class of 1953 takes the U.S. Merchant Marine oath during Commencement at Faneuil Hall in Boston.
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