Relieving the Watch

ADMIRAL FRANCIS MCDONALD TAKES THE HELM

PARENT PERSPECTIVE
A Q&A with Leanne Avakian, President of the MMA Parents Association

COMMON CONNECTION
MMA and the Girl Scouts Foster Strong Female Leaders
At Noble, we see a promising future for graduates of the Massachusetts Maritime Academy and proudly support the Admiral’s Scholarship Award.

"It's not what you look at that matters, it's what you see."

~ Henry David Thoreau

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We salute the cadets and alumni of Massachusetts Maritime Academy

www.mcallistertowing.com
Relieving His Watch

It was a warm and windy day on Taylor’s Point, and the ceremony itself not unlike others ... the colors marched on, the National Anthem was sung, an Invocation was offered, platitudes and speeches were made, awards were given, and U.S. Maritime Administrator Paul Jaenichen made it all official. It was over quickly, with very little fanfare, for its intent was not so much to celebrate a retirement as it was to transfer leadership. And it all would have made sense if this were just another bureaucrat calling it a day. But it wasn’t.

This leave-taking was special in that Rear Admiral Richard Gurnon was an increasingly rare “Jack of all trades” whose 37-year career could be defined by his unique ability to get things done across an unprecedented multitude of platforms. His early roles on campus included life “in the crypt” as 2nd Company Officer and as Commandant of Cadets, which he described as his “all-time favorite job.” For the past 10 years, he served as Academy president, meeting with top Commonwealth and Federal Maritime officials to talk about the future and MMA’s role in it. Gurnon was the Academy’s “chief salesperson,” as he often likened himself, and he approached all of his roles with an aplomb and a flair reminiscent of those naval heroes you read about in history class.

And, if you know your history, then you know Gurnon’s was not a journey of fair winds and following seas. From the beginning there were many difficult decisions to be made, those he knew would make him unpopular, derided, and in an environment where success was anything but guaranteed.

Gurnon defined what it means to be great; he developed a culture of discipline and got the right people “on the bus and into the right seats” in order to stimulate progress. He built the MMA brand while preserving the core, garnering MMA a worldwide reputation for excellence grounded in its long-held values of leadership, knowledge, and discipline. In the end it is not the fact that Gurnon directed the greatest growth in the Academy’s history, for despite all the personal and professional success, what he did and how he did it was never going to be about him, but rather about those around him — the cadets, the Academy, and its future.

The best part is that his successor, Francis X. McDonald ’85 is someone whose ideals and beliefs have been honed from within. Working as Gurnon’s right-hand man for the past five years, McDonald is quick to point out the influence that his mentor and friend has had on his life. “He taught me that my actions and decisions will have consequences,” McDonald says. “He taught me to dream big, leave your ego on the pier, and, if you miss the train, miss it running.”

Apt words for the next-in-line whose challenges, though perhaps different, might be as daunting to navigate as any in the Academy’s history.

“... the watch stands relieved ... by those you have trained and lead ... shipmate ... we have the watch.”

— from The Watch
Advancing **Safety**

Driven by **Innovation**

Building on a rich legacy in marine and offshore classification, ABS is driving the next generation of safety standards. We make the world a safer place, and nothing is more important.
As I write today as the Academy’s new president, I realize that this incredible opportunity would not have occurred had it not been for your generous and enthusiastic support — for that I am forever grateful. MMA is a very special place with a bold, prosperous past and a bright, promising future. How we choose to address the challenges ahead will define the Academy for decades to come.

Our strengths certainly include our specialized and employable academic programs: 100 percent STEM; 100 percent B.S. degrees. Our commitment to cooperative education and real-world experience for each and every student is an invaluable resume builder. And the Regiment of Cadets — our leadership laboratory — is second to none. We are well positioned to serve the Commonwealth and the nation in the energy and engineering sectors, the shipping and international trade fields, and environmental and emergency management arenas. Most recently, in an effort to combat the shortage of middle school and high school math and science teachers in the Commonwealth, the Academy created a path for our graduates to obtain state teaching licensure. Thanks to these core strengths, we move forward with a strong demand for our graduates across the globe.

Still, we do have challenges to overcome. We continue our effort to build diversity on campus. If we are to prepare global leaders of tomorrow, we must build a diverse student body today. We strive to provide a campus environment where one’s cultural competencies can be honed alongside academic and professional skills.

Another near-term challenge is our ability to offer this unique education to all qualified citizens of the Commonwealth. With Admissions denials and deferrals now outnumbering acceptances by a ratio of 3 to 1, we must work tirelessly to complete the campus expansion identified in our master plan.

Like all institutions, there exist longer-range challenges that require careful planning today. Our aging training ship is at the top of that list. As the T.S. Kennedy now approaches 50 years old, we must work with great purpose and in concert with the United States Maritime Administration and other state maritime academies to design, fund, and build a purpose-built training ship that will serve our academies for decades to come.

It is an honor to continue serving this Academy as an alumnus, a 20-year employee, and now as president. I look forward to our future together as we continue the successes achieved under the leadership of Admiral Gurnon and Admiral Bresnahan.

“If we are to prepare global leaders of tomorrow, we must build a diverse student body today.”

Admiral Francis McDonald
President, Massachusetts Maritime Academy
Welcome, Class of 2019
MMA’S INCOMING CLASS MAKES HISTORY

With Orientation behind them, MMA’s newest group of youngies is officially in the academic trenches and ready to make its mark. Truth be told, they started to do so before they even arrived on campus. Not only is the Class of 2019 the largest incoming class in Academy history — 505 cadets reporting to Orientation — but it also is the first class to be accepted into specific majors. With more than 2,000 applications received, the process was complex, yet the Academy remained selective in admitting qualified students.

The new admissions approach of accepting students into majors was a solution to the over-matriculation of certain programs, including Marine Engineering and Marine Transportation. The Enrollment and Academic departments worked closely to develop caps for each major before applications were even reviewed. These numbers then determined how many students each major could support. In the end, the new methodology allowed the Academy to monitor the more competitive programs and ensure that a higher-caliber student was being admitted to each major.

Each year the quality of students entering the Academy rises, as evidenced by the increasing number of transfer credits they bring. This year, for instance, 20 percent of the freshman class brought in transfer credits. The Enrollment Office has found that the more competitive the student, the more apt he or she is to take advanced placement or dual enrollment courses in high school. Additionally, it has been noted that many students attend community college with the express purpose of transferring to MMA.

The numbers tell an exciting story about the Class of 2019. Please see “By the Numbers” on the next page to learn more about this record-making class.
**CLASS OF 2019 BY THE NUMBERS**

- **2,009** Students applied
- **638** Accepted applicants
- **505** Students in the Class of 2019
- **24** States represented by the Class of 2019
- **3.2** Average high school GPA of incoming cadets
- **1080** Average combined SAT score
- **55%** Percentage of incoming class in Marine Engineering and Marine Transportation
- **45%** Percentage of incoming class in non-license track majors
- **20%** Percentage of students bringing 3 or more transfer credits
- **78%** Percentage of students who were accepted and deposited — the average at other Massachusetts state colleges is 45%
When people who embody kindness, integrity, generosity, and wisdom come into our lives, we take notice. Massachusetts Maritime Academy has been fortunate to have such people drop anchor at Taylor’s Point, working tirelessly, establishing unbreakable bonds, and making contributions that will benefit generations of cadets to come. In short, they are legends.

Last April, the Academy honored one of its legends, Captain Albert B. Wilson ’59, by forever connecting his name with Career and Professional Services, the department to which he devoted more than three decades.

Such an honor is reserved only for remarkable people who accomplished incredible feats. Captain Al undoubtedly lived up to this standard. First, he developed the Career Services department, which has evolved into a dynamic team of six people from his long-term operation of just two staff members. “Captain Al was a man of tireless energy and had a genuine passion for helping everyone,” says Tom Bushy ’74, vice president of Marine Operations and captain of the T.S. Kennedy. “Just think of all the cadets he helped get jobs from 1974 to 2006; he is an inspiration to anyone who works with our cadets.”

In addition to developing a critical department within the Academy, Captain Al also is credited with the erection of the Merchant Marine Memorial, which has become a focal point on campus. The construction of the memorial was fully funded by donation money that Captain Al raised. It is a shining example of his selfless devotion to the cadets, his fellow alumni, and all mariners.

When people speak about Captain Al, they recall the gentle man who got things done and who never spoke an unkind word about anyone, even those who were working against him. Bushy says, “He loved MMA more than anyone I have known in my 45 years of association with the Academy.” The feeling was mutual, as evidenced by the heartfelt words of those who addressed the crowd during the dedication.

Bushy says, “The dedication [of the department] creates a legacy that will never go away — from the etched glass on the door to the spirit of all those who work in that office, and to the thousands of cadets who will enter those doors to initiate their careers going forward from the Academy.”

Honoring a Legend

THE SPIRIT OF CAPTAIN AL LIVES ON

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It’s all about goals

Santander is proud to support Massachusetts Maritime Academy.
Empowering the Next Generation

NATIONAL GRID PHILANTHROPY SUPPORTS STEM STUDENTS

By Ian MacLeod

Eking out a living on Cape Cod always has been difficult, and it remains so today. In fact, income disparity and unemployment on the Cape are above the national average. The constant force and provider for the area has always been the ocean and the bounties it grudgingly provides to those who have the knowledge and determination to harvest. This relationship with the sea is as real today as it was 400 years ago.

Most local young people who wish to remain on their beloved Cape Cod are met with limited employment opportunities and income potential. For the majority of graduating high school students, the way to a better life still remains somewhere on the other side of the bridge. Ideally, these students will attend and graduate college and one day return home to Cape Cod. With the help of the Advanced Studies and Leadership Program (ASLP), which is predicated on the changing and growing maritime opportunities available to those with a little vision and a love of the sea, that cycle may be changing.

Summer programs designed around science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) themes are becoming increasingly instrumental in introducing developing minds to the opportunities these fields provide, particularly as middle school students begin to consider their futures. The Cape Cod Collaborative three-week STEM-oriented summer camp for ASLP is altering the dynamics of how some local middle school students view the natural surroundings of Cape Cod.

Now in its 11th year, the camp, which is held each summer at Massachusetts Maritime Academy, is arguably one of the Commonwealth’s most mature and successful STEM programs. When ASLP partnered with MMA in 2004, they began with 150 high-achieving eighth grade students. Over the past decade, the program has steadily grown, and it currently boasts more than 200 participants.

One objective of the program is to support and stimulate top-tier junior high school students by providing a residential summer program that offers hands-on academic pursuit and interactive leadership activities.
within a collegiate environment. As a result of the partnership with the Academy, students of the Cape Cod Collaborative are able to envision the potential for earning a living without needing to leave Cape Cod. The students are introduced to new ideas and technologies that make living and working on the ocean in the 21st century a very real and rewarding career choice.

MMA is home to the latest alternative and renewable energy producing resources. In fact, from an energy standpoint, the Academy is self-sufficient, with both solar and wind energy providing power throughout the campus. MMA also has plans for a new hydro kinetic energy producing system.

Teaching what it practices, the Academy just launched a new major in Energy Systems Engineering, which examines how to design, develop, and integrate cleaner and more renewable energy resources with current technologies in an effort to meet the needs of a growing population.

By attending the Cape Cod Collaborative camp and living on MMA’s campus, ASLP students are exposed to the potential opportunities a STEM-based education can provide. More important, they learn how their ocean surroundings can provide a future for them.

**FUNDING THE FUTURE**

Eighth grade students from the Cape Cod Collaborative come from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds and must meet the highest academic standards to be eligible to attend the three-week program. Unlike many communities, the income gap does not closely correlate with the achievement gap. To that end, many deserving, high-achieving students are unable to attend the camp simply because of the cost. This, too, is changing.

Thanks to the very generous and continued scholarship support of National Grid, $140,000 in scholarships have been awarded to the most deserving local students, all of whom otherwise would not have been able to attend the program. The Academy’s Director of Corporate & Alumni Relations Ian MacLeod says, “National Grid has been a stalwart and ardent sponsor of the Academy and the students of the Cape Cod Collaborative. The ASLP program has prospered and diversified because of their generosity.”

National Grid put it best when it said, “Our future as an energy provider depends on a diverse and creative workforce with new ideas and visions being put into practice. The kids we support today, with roots in the community, are those who will make a difference in our workforce and in their local communities in the future.”

**WAY COOL SUMMER SCHOOL**

ASLP students who attend the three-week Cape Cod Collaborative Camp at MMA have the opportunity to take exciting classes that explore the ocean’s value and the future of alternative energy. Here is a sampling of the courses available to the ASLP students:

**STEM PATHWAYS AND MODULES**

Pathway II – Remotely Operated Vehicles and Their Use in Oceanography, Ecology of Running Waters, and Ship Handling.

In addition to STEM coursework, students also are required to participate in a wide range of Humanities and Leadership classes to help round out their three-week experience.
Gerhard E. Kurz and Admiral Rick Gurnon celebrate the dedication of Gerhard E. Kurz Hall.
Unwavering Commitment

THE NEW GERHARD E. KURZ HALL IS A TRIBUTE TO ONE MAN’S DEDICATION TO THE ACADEMY

He was Massachusetts Maritime Academy’s second Maritime Person of the Year recipient in 1996, and his commitment to the “best maritime academy in the world” has been unwavering for almost two decades now. Despite the fact that Gerhard Kurz sits on a variety of boards and remains as busy as ever in the maritime industry, MMA continues to be one of his top priorities. One need look no further than the new Gerhard E. Kurz Hall, named in his honor and dedicated during Homecoming and Reunion Weekend.

If you ever have the privilege of meeting Gerhard, you are immediately struck by the warmth of his personality, his smile, his strength, his knowledge, and the fact that everything about him is dignified and regal. You know that this gentleman is an incredibly successful international businessman who continues to make his mark on the maritime industry — yet Gerhard remains grounded in the most simple of ways: he strongly supports what he believes in.

Fortunately for the Academy, Gerhard believes in the educational foundation that MMA provides its cadets. He believes in the regiment, the academic programs, and the faculty and administration, and he has invested in the fact that MMA is preparing future generations of successful maritime leaders.

“Gerhard has an uncanny ability to see things that are over the horizon and beyond the sight of most others,” remarked Admiral Rick Gurnon. “Back in 1989, when he was CEO of Mobil Shipping, his focus on remediating oil spills helped us launch our Marine Safety and Environmental Protection program and debut one of the world’s first oil spill simulators. Now he brings his vision and expertise to the marine business sector. MMA is proud to have him help us with the newly accredited International Maritime Business (IMBU) major.”

Serving as a board member on the MMA Foundation, Gerhard has seen the Academy grow — not just new buildings and expanded dorms, but programmatically and financially. Gerhard knows how much effort the Academy community has put into preparing for a prosperous future, because he has had a seat at the table and has personally helped guide the Academy to where it is today.

Gerhard E. Kurz Hall is located in the center of campus and serves as the commercial center and reception area for leaders of industry, distinguished visitors, alumni, faculty, and cadets. Once you walk inside Gerhard E. Kurz Hall, you see an interior design that in many ways is reflective of the man himself: open, logical, and collaborative. The building houses Career Services, Advancement, Alumni and Corporate Relations, the new Academy bookstore, faculty offices, and the Gerhard E. Kurz International Maritime Business Center.

Gerhard holds an MBA from New York University, and his vast business experience made him a natural choice to lead the effort not only to upgrade an existing campus structure, but to create an International Maritime Business Center.

The recent IMBU program accreditation makes Gerhard’s generosity seem prophetic and is certainly the icing on the cake for many involved in this important program. Had it not been for his vision, knowledge, experience, and investment, the whole project might have remained on the drafting table.
It is difficult to find someone who has more pride for Massachusetts Maritime Academy and its cadets than Dr. Madhubani (Bani) Ghosh. Chair of the International Maritime Business Department (IMBU) for approximately nine years, Ghosh is visibly ecstatic each and every time she has the opportunity to share her love for the Academy.

“When international companies are looking for an employee to run their operation and fit into this niche market [international maritime business], they find our students to be the perfect fit,” Ghosh says with a beaming smile. “They [our students] know the culture, they understand the language, and they have taken many specialized courses no other business school offers.”

IMBU is a forward-thinking program that is designed to prepare graduates for the ever-changing maritime industry. The program is attracting students interested in building a foundation that encompasses maritime business management, logistics, and transportation, as well as other allied disciplines.

“Our students are well-versed in insurance, brokerage, law, and finance,” Ghosh says. “The cadets are viewed favorably [by potential employers] because there is a level of discipline found in a regimental academy that makes them uniquely qualified for so many positions available around the globe.” Besides attracting students from all parts of the United States, China, and Panama, this specialized program has earned great prestige, and will undoubtedly draw even greater interest from those looking for a career-focused education.

In December 2014, the IMBU received its accreditation from the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education. The organization is an independent, outcomes-based, and mission-driven entity for the external evaluation of business programs offered by scholarly institutions.
The IACBE Board returned the ruling with the following accolades: “The (MMA) International Maritime Business Department has done an excellent job of making the connection between strategic planning and the assessment of outcomes related to student learning and operational effectiveness. The direct and indirect measures of student learning go above and beyond expectations in the amount and level of assessment. ... The commissioners commend the International Maritime Business Department for its strategic planning process, and suggest that the department consider submitting a proposal to present a paper on strategic planning at the IACBE’s Annual Conference and Assembly Meeting.”

Changes are taking place at MMA, and they are centered around each individual cadet’s need for experience. For those within the business program, the customary Sea Term will be replaced with an overseas trip — a non-traditional internship of sorts.

“With a shift in our curriculum, and only licensed majors shipping out on the T.S. Kennedy, I am attempting to make our business students’ experiences equally exciting,” Ghosh explains.

When asked if this will be a missing component of a cadet education, Ghosh says, “We are going to create a dual-track program; for those looking to work for a shipping company, a junior Sea Term may be possible. As for the other track, we look to send juniors for a land-based international experience, which would prove to be wonderfully educational. It could be in Africa, Australia, China, Japan, Panama, India, Singapore, or even Turkey. There will be a place for each student depending upon their individual interests.”

When questioned about the growth of the program, Ghosh responds, “We currently have more than 170 students, and great interest coming from so many young people. ... I am very excited about this program, my students, and their futures: this is my motivation!”

In an ever-changing world, the Academy is poised to meet the demands and requirements its alumni will face, while simultaneously giving them a competitive edge in every aspect of international maritime business.

To learn more about what lies on the horizon, please visit www.maritime.edu.
Protecting the environment by preventing pollution is a key aspect of modern marine operations. All marine operators are aware of the need to safeguard water quality and our seas, but there is a heightened awareness of this need for the shipping and offshore drilling industries. This awareness and commitment is driving the growing alliance between the offshore driller Noble Corporation and Massachusetts Maritime Academy.

A key outcome of that alliance is an innovative approach to teaching the fundamentals of MARPOL, or the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships. This convention is one of the most important international marine environmental compliance standards.

MARPOL was designed to preserve the marine environment through prevention of accidental discharge of oil and other harmful substances from ships into the sea.

The pilot program being offered through the Academy consolidates and enhances the MARPOL training to better equip seafarers to help prevent
pollution of the marine environment due to discharges of oil, chemicals, sewage, and garbage from ships.

The new class is designed around both class time and hands-on experience. With plans underway for the construction of a permanent MARPOL Lab on campus, during the first session of the class, scheduled for late September, the Academy will utilize a portable training lab, which will later be supplemented by a permanent installation. The temporary lab was sourced through Total Marine Solutions (TMS). Established in 2000 with a specific mission to supply environmental products, TMS offers a host of environmental services with a commitment to customer service and consistent, reliable support. The portable Oily Water Separator lab is designed into a mobile training unit built out to simulate and represent the equipment, systems, and tanks within an engine room as it relates to bilge water management and the processing of the fluids that are generated within the machinery spaces.

“Environmental non-compliance will not only impact a company’s bottom line, but will trickle down into local economies as well,” says MMA’s Vice President for Academic Affairs Bradley Lima. “In response to this demand for improved awareness, the maritime industries have been proactive in elevating the importance of environmental compliance, safety, and security-related issues. Our challenge is to ensure that all mariners are educated in such a way as to have the skills, training, and abilities to operate, maintain, and troubleshoot oil pollution protection equipment in a safe and efficient manner. This new class, developed in partnership with industry, will help us achieve that goal, while also properly preparing the next generation of seafarers on environmental compliance.”

“Among Noble’s core values are honesty and integrity, safety, environmental stewardship, respect, and performance. As we see it, partnering with MMA on projects such as the
enhanced MARPOL classes advances all of these values, while fostering an environment where future mariners will enter their careers with a clear understanding of these vital systems,” says James Sanislow ‘89, vice president and chief compliance officer at Noble Drilling Services Inc. “Our investments in programs, such as those being offered through the Academy, support our goal of being responsible stewards of the environment while helping our industry find, hire, and retain candidates who have had the very best training.”

In recent years, offshore drilling provided career opportunities for a number of MMA graduates. In 2010 and fresh from earning his U.S. Coast Guard Third Mate license at MMA, Tim Griffin was hired by Noble. After two weeks of industry and company-specific training, Griffin found himself on one of Noble’s most modern and advanced assets, the Noble Bully I.

Griffin took on the exciting but steep learning curve on the dynamically positioned, ultra-deepwater drillship while it was under construction at Keppel Shipyard in Singapore. Today, he still serves aboard the vessel and has risen to the rank of DPO and holds a Second Mate’s license. Like other key maritime industries, energy-related companies are looking to recruit MMA graduates, all of whom have participated in the school’s rigorous academics and hands-on approach to building leadership and professional skills.

The offshore drilling industry, transportation, and offshore support and supply operators depend on just such graduates to support the global fleet of increasingly complex vessels.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

Shipboard oily water separation and documentation is central to MARPOL compliance. The new program at the Academy features training on a working separator similar to those used offshore on vessels around the world.

Model Donated to Academy

Massachusetts Maritime Academy thanks Cameron International for its generous in-kind gift of a scale model blowout preventer (BOP) ram set. Cameron made the donation in support of the Academy’s technical and environmental protection programs. These programs are becoming better equipped with state-of-the-art technology to train the next generation of industry leaders. Cameron’s BOP ram set will help further that effort.

In 1922, Jim Abercrombie and Harry Cameron designed the world’s first blowout preventer. The new invention revolutionized the fledgling drilling industry and soon, Cameron’s BOPs were being used throughout Texas and as far away as Mexico and Venezuela. As the subsea market developed, Cameron was once again at the forefront with the development of the first 15,000 production system — an innovation that has been adopted as the industry standard for subsea production.

Cameron’s donation of the BOP scale model made an immediate and lasting addition to the Academy’s programs. In fact, the ram set is already on display in the school’s library in advance of moving to a more permanent home on campus. The Academy appreciates such donations and encourages industries worldwide to support maritime environmental protection related training programs.

Noble team members, (L-R) Captain Thom Burg, Angela Murphy, and Fritz Golding presented the Cameron BOP ram model during their visit to MMA to help launch the new MARPOL program.
A new approach to manage and analyze massive volumes of disparate information, and “get left of x.”

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Parents

MAKE A GREAT TEAM

A Q&A WITH LEANNE AVAKIAN, PRESIDENT OF THE MASSACHUSETTS MARITIME ACADEMY PARENTS ASSOCIATION

The success of the biggest maritime college in the country does not lie solely with one person. Rather, it takes many players to make Massachusetts Maritime Academy shine. Administrators are tasked with creating a vision and making sound decisions that support that vision. Faculty members must clearly instruct and creatively form a capable, responsible workforce. Staff members contribute long hours ensuring facilities run smoothly or raising awareness of the college or raising funds for current and future cadets. Parents are also working tirelessly supporting their cadets and each other throughout their four years at the Academy.

The Massachusetts Maritime Academy Parents Association (MMAPA) is a group of spirited moms and dads who are dedicated to their sons and daughters and to the Academy. Members of the MMAPA can be seen talking to prospective students and their families at Open Houses and selling their wares at any number of campus events in order to raise money for cadet scholarships. They support each other as parents of college students, and the typical anxiety that brings, and they support each other as members of the MMA family and the unique experiences that are associated with the college. In all aspects of their work, members of the MMAPA are champions of the Academy.

Leanne Avakian, two-term president of the MMAPA, lives in Bourne, Mass., with her husband, Mark, and their three children, Jacob, Courtney, and Ben. With Jacob, a 1/C Marine Engineering major and Cadet 1st Assistant Engineer, beginning his final year at the Academy, she is a veteran parent eager to help out where she can. We spoke with Leanne to learn more the MMAPA, its mission, and what life as a cadet mom is like.
ENTERPRISE: What prompted you to get involved in the MMAPA four years ago?

AVAKIAN: MMA provides a unique college experience, so I took an interest in the Parents Association early on — going to meetings, watching the Google Group posts for information, and so on. I wanted to have a better understanding of what my son was doing. A turning point for my increased involvement was winning the Cruise Raffle, a MMAPA-sponsored fundraiser, in 2013. I met the people on the Board at the time, started volunteering at Open Houses, and decided that since I live so close to campus, it made sense for me to help out. I first was elected as the Admissions Liaison. Last year I was elected President, and was honored to be re-elected to the position for my son’s final year.

For all of us on the Board, the decision to run for a position and take on a more active role has been about making a difference. Whether it is raising scholarship funds for the cadets or helping parents and families navigate this maritime choice that our sons and daughters have made, we all love being a part of it. It’s a true team effort.

ENTERPRISE: One major function of the MMAPA is fundraising. Can you explain how you go about raising money and why it is important?

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22
One of our primary goals is raising scholarship funds for MMA cadets. We raise money by selling our spirit gear at various MMA events throughout the year. In addition, we do some very important fundraisers prior to Sea Term, including a Caribbean Cruise Raffle, Sea Term T-shirt sale, and a Sea Term Stein, certificate, and glassware fundraiser. Our predecessors set the fundraising bar high, and each year the Board raises it a little higher. During the 2014–2015 academic year, the Parents Association donated $45,000 in scholarship funds for MMA cadets— for a total of 80 scholarships— and we are hopeful of making another similar contribution this year. With the cost of college education being what it is today, every little bit helps. We leave the scholarship recipient selection up to the Academy, but we received thank-you notes from every recipient. They all wrote of their future plans and the difference the funds made to them and their families. It makes a big difference! It’s why we do what we do.

Your work on behalf of the cadets is to be applauded. You do much more, though. How else do you serve the MMA community?

Yes, fundraising is just one of our objectives. We also strive to support parents and families of MMA cadets. We are present at all fall Open Houses, speaking with prospective families as they consider their college options. Later, once a student has committed to the Academy, we help point new families to “The List,” which will help prepare them for Orientation. In addition to showing new families the ropes, we also serve as a bridge between parents and the administration. When we don’t have the answer to a question— whether asked in person or through our Google Group— we reach out to the administration and get it.

You mentioned a Google Group. Does technology play a big part in helping you run the MMA PA?

We face challenges related to our membership being spread out. It is difficult to reach individuals at a distance and make sure they feel included in this maritime family. We offer a lot of online support via our Google Group forum. This online group allows parents who are at a distance to feel included in the MMA community. It also is a great way for us to share information, fund raise, and request volunteers. The Google Group is monitored by the administration with regular posts from Financial Aid and the Business Office. Even Admiral Gurnon would weigh in on issues and answer questions. People often tell us how helpful the Google Group has been for them. We closely monitor it, and we try very hard to make it a non-judgmental and supportive forum.

We turn to technology at each of our quarterly meetings as well. Because some members live too far away to attend the meetings, we offer a webcast and a teleconference line so they can still participate. We want everyone to have the chance to hear updates on activities and fundraising efforts, and to receive important briefings on Sea Term and other MMA events that take place during the academic year. During each meeting, members
requires the most hands on deck? tirelessly all year round. What project and a week to complete the task. In all summer to round up the volunteers tion, or regimental training. It takes the youngies to pack their Sea Bags and begin the two weeks of Orienta-
mium for Orientation Drop-Off Day. campus to help prepare the gymna-
parents, family members, and friends come to campus to help prepare the gymna-
sium for Orientation Drop-Off Day. Hundreds of items are sized, sorted, and organized in a fashion that allows the youngies to pack their Sea Bags and begin the two weeks of Orienta-
tion, or regimental training. It takes all summer to round up the volunteers and a week to complete the task. In exchange for our efforts in organizing more than 100 volunteers, Follett makes a donation to our scholarship fund. It’s a lot of work, but it is so worth it since it funds 10 scholarships! Our volunteers also find it a rewarding, fun time to meet other parents and fami-
ly. As parents, we see the same faces over and over again during our cadets’ time at MMA, so this is a really nice opportunity to connect.

ENTERPRISE: The MMAPA works tirelessly all year round. What project requires the most hands on deck?

AVAKIAN: In preparation for Orien-
tation each summer, our group works closely with Follett Bookstore. This is a huge undertaking for the MMAPA. It starts early with repeated requests for volunteers for Sea Bag Week. Parents, family members, and friends come to campus to help prepare the gymna-
sium for Orientation Drop-Off Day.

ENTERPRISE: The list is surely long, but of which MMAPA accomplishments are you most proud?

AVAKIAN: That’s a tough one. I’m so proud of our efforts in general, and while the members of our Board change every year we continue to offer consistent support to people locally and at a distance. This year we have had folks as far away as Puerto Rico sign onto our Google Group looking for information or advice. I have received emails from parents stationed overseas while their son was attending school at MMA. I’m also really proud of our scholar-
ship contributions and the creative avenues we have used to make them possible. In addition to the standard offerings of short- and long-sleeve shirts for moms, dads, siblings, and so on, we have added MMA-inspired jewelry, playing cards, and canvas totes to the mix. We make sure to tell people that all of the proceeds from the sale of our wares go directly to cadet scholarships. People feel good about contributing, and they get a nice memento.

ENTERPRISE: How does the MMAPA impact the college? Cadets? Parents?

AVAKIAN: I’d like to think our impact is positive across the board. We are a dedicated group of volunteers who work hard, have fun, and share expe-
riences. Of course, the old adage “You can’t please all the people all the

ENTERPRISE: What makes being a parent at MMA different than at a traditional college?

AVAKIAN: I think it’s the whole MMA experience. We, as parents, watch our sons and daughters reach different milestones at the Academy. We help them prepare for Orienta-
tion. We watch them sail off on the T.S. Kennedy and wish them well as they travel to places far and wide to help those less fortunate. We see them learn about themselves and watch them grow in MMA’s regimented environment. As they are doing their thing, we are doing our thing — supporting each other in the back-
ground and raising funds so that they don’t graduate with huge debt — all the while keeping our fingers crossed that they land an amazing job when they graduate. This unique college experience brings change and growth for everyone connected to the cadets.

ENTERPRISE: Can you offer some advice to parents who may have a student considering MMA?

AVAKIAN: This school is not for every-
one, but for those for whom the match is right, it’s an amazing education. They grow. They learn. They mature into strong men and women. I could see the difference in my son after Orientation — he had such a sense of accomplish-
ment. How many college students have the opportunity to travel the world aboard a floating classroom? Or spend a semester in Shanghai? Or work in Haiti for a semester bettering the lives of those less fortunate? I guess I would say to encourage your son or daughter to make the right choice for themselves, but to remember the rewards awaiting them after such a great education. The journey is amazing to watch.

The MMAPA’s success is the result of a team effort. From left: Marilyn Cyr and Carol Eccleston; Leanne Avakian and Eccleston; Kim Farber, Marianne MacLeod, and Dee MacInnis
Giampiero Soncini, CEO of SpecTec, speaks to cadets about the future of shipping.
AS ALL SAILORS KNOW, it’s important to chart your course well in advance, while being able to adapt to changing conditions and be prepared for the unexpected. When Giampiero Soncini, CEO of SpecTec, arrived on the MMA campus, many knew that he would bring a wealth of information in addition to his assessment of the current state and future of shipping.

Soncini and his company have been long-time friends of MMA, beginning in 2008 when SpecTec made a significant donation of their proprietary software known as Asset Management Operating System (AMOS) to the college. The official announcement spliced a licensing agreement between the two organizations, allowing this state-of-the-art management tool to be used as a teaching and training resource for Academy cadets. It also marked SpecTec’s first partnership with a maritime college in the United States.

Since the initial gift, SpecTec has played an important role in the cadets’ education by helping them better understand the world of maritime business management and its role in international shipping. It should be noted that Soncini continues to allow the Academy to access updates and changes made to the program as it evolves through its life cycle. With the advances taking place in modern shipping, and the expectation that these changes will continue, it is essential that today’s graduate is knowledgeable about future trends and what are known as “smart ships.”

Blinn Hall was filled to capacity when cadets of all majors, as well as staff from various departments, gathered in the lecture hall to hear about the observations and experiences of a man who has his pulse on nearly all aspects of the maritime industry.

From his opening remarks that “in four years shipping will not be the same as it is today,” to his taking the time to answer questions from cadets about how they might tailor their education to meet the challenges of tomorrow, Soncini kept his comments clear and on track. “You must be prepared for changes that will come sooner versus later,” he remarked.

Touching upon the history of shipping, disasters that have taken place on the high seas, the multitude of regulations, and the financial uncertainty in Europe; specifically Greece, he zeroed in on the need for seniors to focus on the multitude of options they have available.

Soncini’s words of advice come at the same time the Academy is expanding its infrastructure as well as its education courses, programs, and licensing options. At a time when many college graduates find it difficult to obtain gainful employment, the diverse MMA degree programs — Marine Transportation, Marine Engineering, Facilities Engineering, Marine Safety & Environmental Protection, International Maritime Business, Emergency Management, and Energy Systems Engineering, plus two graduate programs: Master of Science in Facilities Management and Master of Science in Emergency Management — are providing the pathway to a solid and secure career for men and women who understand how to adapt to changing educational and career demands so they may secure a future of success.
The term “Girl Scouts” means different things to different people. For most, it is the cookies, crafts, and camping that first come to mind. What many do not think of are the life skills learned by girls and young women through a vast array of programs and activities they become acquainted with during their participation.
Across the Commonwealth, to all corners of the globe, the mission of building courage, confidence, and character reaches more than 2.8 million Girl Scouts through 112 councils. Eastern Massachusetts alone boasts over 35,000 members, supported by 15,000 volunteers.

Without any doubt, the Girl Scouts have left — and continue to leave — their mark. In the United States, many female business leaders and upwards of 50 percent of women in Congress list participation in Girl Scouts on their resumes — and nearly every female astronaut was a Girl Scout.

Years ago, when MMA Vice President of Enrollment Management Elizabeth Stevenson ’97 met the CEO of the Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts (GSEM) and learned more about the organization, she began to realize that the qualities found in these young women were similar to, if not the same as, qualities in those who attended the Academy and went on to graduate.

With this enlightenment, Stevenson became involved and was nominated board chairperson and president of the organization. And while Stevenson was never a Girl Scout herself, she has had a near decade-long relationship with the group and is dedicated to its mission.

Recently the council’s largest fundraising event was held in Boston. “Leading Women,” as it is known, is an annual event to highlight and celebrate professional women’s achievements, as well as the Girl Scouts’ own “rising stars.”

The Leading Woman Award was created to recognize outstanding achievement and accomplishment in the professional world — an honor that makes these women ideal role models for Girl Scouts.

The honoree list from the past 20 years is a veritable “Who’s Who” in politics, education, healthcare, business, and law — while squeezing in a few leading men too. MMA Board of Trustees Vice-Chair Denise Hammon brought the honor home this year.

What makes this event timely is the fact that the Girl Scouts’ “three C’s” are the same highly sought-after attributes for admission at the Academy.

Look no further than the 2015 recipient of the Commonwealth’s “29 Who Shine Award,” 1/C Emily Behen. She joins her predecessors Crystal Sherman ’14 and Lauren DeNapoli ’13 as the third female cadet to be honored by the state.

Behen was a Girl Scout who also happens to be a Gold Award recipient. And like all winners of bronze, silver, and gold awards, she proudly displays her pin on her MMA uniform. The highest award in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award has inspired girls to find the greatness inside themselves and share their ideas and passions with their communities.

Remarking on these honors, Behen says, “The Girl Scouts fosters some of the same core values as MMA: leadership, service to others, and teamwork. Empowering girls and young women, increasing their self-confidence, and cultivating their desire to learn, it is encouraging to see how Girl Scouts of America has succeeded in recent years. I have no doubt that, like MMA, they are producing the future leaders of tomorrow.”
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 Qualifi ed Charitable Donation. This QCD applies to IRA holders over 70 1/2, and avoids federal tax and is credited toward your IRA Minimum Required Distribution. Please consult with your tax preparer for more details.

WHAT I SUPPORT THE CADETS

PAUL BERRY

Paul Berry was the first dual-degree graduate from Massachusetts Maritime Academy. He obtained his first degree in Seamanship and Navigation, and a Third Mate license in 1955. Then, in 1956, he completed the engineering program and earned a Third Assistant Engineer license. Berry’s maritime career included sailing for United Fruit, followed by his enrollment in the U.S. Navy. He piloted traffic on Nantucket Sound before moving shore-side and joining Sylvania Lighting. In 1986, Berry retired, ending a 25-year career.

Berry recently relocated to the Fleet Landing Community in Atlantic Beach, Fla.

ENTERPRISE: What was MMA like when you attended?

BERRY: I was from the Charleston era; we lived on the ship and the only building on campus was Blinn Hall, and it didn’t look then like it looks now. I am very proud of this group [of classmates/shipmates]; they achieved a variety of objectives in their personal pursuits. Two students in particular stand out: Jack Aylmer ’57 and Maurice Bresnahan ’59, both held the office of president at the Academy.

ENTERPRISE: Why are you so committed to supporting the cadets at MMA?

BERRY: [MMA has] outstanding leadership and has produced an expanded curriculum and school facilities.

ENTERPRISE: What has impressed you the most?

BERRY: The undergraduate, post-graduate, and continuing education studies available. Also, our school has maintained the regimental, uniformed, and disciplined student body.

ENTERPRISE: Where do you see your gifts doing the most work?

BERRY: My donations have been directed to scholarships, [while] state and private funds are supporting the physical growth of the campus. I believe there is still work to be done in scholarship funding, and I agree with Admiral Gurnon when he says, “The three most important funding goals are scholarships, scholarships, and scholarships!”

ENTERPRISE: How can those looking to give to cadets get involved?

BERRY: One way is the Revolving Loan Fund, founded by the Class of 1954 — it’s known as the RLF54. This program offers loans to cadets entering their third and fourth year. I highly recommend this fund for those wishing to make donations, or better yet, regular contributions. I would like to invite everyone to visit this fabulous campus and take a look at the web site at www.maritime.edu/why-give-mma.

NOW is the time to support our cadets and continue the legacy of MMA.

HOW YOU CAN GIVE BACK

Visit www.maritime.edu/why-give-mma for more ways to give.
“Thank you.” THREE CADETS SHARE THE IMPACT YOUR DONATIONS HAVE HAD ON THEIR EDUCATION

Patrick Goldsmith ’18

“I come from a long background of sea-faring tradition; it is often said that salt water runs in my blood. With this being the case, MMA has been an amazing fit for me. I am forever grateful for the [scholarships] awarded to me.”

Patrick Goldsmith is a sophomore from Huntington, N.Y., majoring in Marine Engineering and minoring in International Maritime Business. Patrick has been awarded the Trustees’ Milestone Scholarship, the Norman Upham Scholarship, the Class of ’61 Scholarship, and the Parents Association Scholarship. A President’s List member with a 3.8 GPA, Patrick has already earned his USCG 50 Ton Master license and towing endorsement through the Continuing Education Maritime Training Program. In addition to his devotion as a member of the Academy Sailing team, Patrick serves as the team’s student liaison to the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, and was elected as the Student Government’s Sophomore Class President. When he is not studying or on the water sailing, you can find Patrick working for the Yacht and Boat Donations Office and the Marine Department, or out fishing as the secretary of the Sport Fishing Club.

Sarah Lewis ’16

“Thank you very much for the generous scholarships I received this year. I wanted to return to school to study Marine Engineering, having discovered I loved the engine room and was the ‘right size.’ While I maintain my Mate license, I will graduate from MMA this spring with my Third Assistant Engineering license.”

Sarah Lewis is a senior Marine Engineering major. After growing up in Chicago, Ill., and graduating from college in 2007 with a degree in biology, Sarah went to sea working as a deckhand aboard research vessels. She then sailed for the NOAA Corps of Commissioned Officers and was granted a commission as an Ensign. After earning her USCG Mate license with NOAA, she switched to engineering. Since arriving at MMA in 2012, she has maintained a 3.9 GPA, Sarah is a recent recipient of the American Bureau of Shipping, Conoco Phillips, and Christopher Blair Erickson Scholarships. She serves as the Assistant Duty Officer, tasked with setting watches and being responsible for the overall safety of the 1,400 cadets on campus. Sarah also has been involved with the Emergency Medical Services on campus as a Basic EMT.

Robert Escalante ’16

“I would like to express my sincere thanks and gratitude for these generous scholarships. [It] has always been my dream to ship out; I thoroughly enjoy life on the T.S. Kennedy.”

Robert Escalante is a senior from Ludlow, Mass., who is majoring in Marine Engineering and minoring in Energy Systems. Rob maintains a GPA of 3.43 and expects to graduate this coming June. He is a Training and Retention Squad Leader and has worked for the MMA phonathon program for three years, serving as a supervisor for the last two years. Rob has sailed on two commercial ships — one owned by Sulphur Carriers and the other by Interlake Steamship Company. Both of those experiences have shown him that this is the only profession for him.

Rob is a current recipient of the American Bureau of Shipping and the Geoff Wilkinson ’72, H’03 Family Scholarships. He says he would not be able to complete his education without this generous scholarship support.
Everyone has a different reason for giving on “Giving Tuesday.” The Academy has joined this successful international movement that follows Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, and Cyber Monday. But unlike its predecessors, Giving Tuesday is not about racing through store doors or about chasing the best deals. Rather, Giving Tuesday allows people to really think about what is important to them and why, and encourages them to make their best gift to honor that.

Last year, through a social media and email campaign, MMA alumni, parents, and friends were given an opportunity to join in Giving Tuesday by making their best gift to MMA and telling us why they give. It was great hearing from our alumni about why they chose to support the Academy.

We offer a big THANK YOU to everyone who shared their thoughts.

“Giving back to MMA is the best way to ‘pay it forward.’ The young men and women of MMA today need our help more than ever. The cost of education is rising and it is our responsibility as alumni to help them as we once received the same help.”

– Josh Lamm ’13

“MMA complemented the work ethic and values instilled by my family by providing me with the professional tools and direction to have a successful and honorable path in life. I would like to see this tradition continue with future generations of MMA alumni, which is why I continue to give.”

– Alexander Soukhanov ’93

These explanations make up a small sample of why our alumni choose to support the Academy. Nearly 60 alumni, parents, and friends made their best gift to MMA on Giving Tuesday 2014, with donations totaling more than $10,000, a 500 percent increase from last year on the same date! The gifts were designated for scholarships, athletics, and everything in between. They certainly made a positive impact on every cadet.

Your support on Giving Tuesday, or any day during the year, ensures that the Academy maintains its place as one of the most sought after public colleges in the region and in the country. This year, on Tuesday, December 1, MMA will once again ask you to give. We hope you will help us set a new record!

Make sure to share with us why you give, using #IgivetoMassMaritime and participate in #GivingTuesday on December 1, 2015.
FOR OVER 100 YEARS, MASSACHUSETTS MARITIME ACADEMY HAS BEEN PREPARING WOMEN AND MEN FOR EXCITING AND REWARDING CAREERS ON LAND AND SEA. AS THE NATION'S FINEST CO-ED MARITIME COLLEGE, MMA CHALLENGES STUDENTS TO SUCCEED BY BALANCING A UNIQUE REGIMENTED LIFESTYLE WITH A TYPICAL FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE ENVIRONMENT. AS A MEMBER OF THE CORPS OF CADETS YOU WILL LIVE, STUDY, SAIL, WORK, AND PLAY IN AN ATMOSPHERE THAT ENCOURAGES YOU TO BE YOUR BEST.

**ADMISSIONS PROCESS**

Students interested in attending Massachusetts Maritime Academy are encouraged to apply Early Action. Early Action applications and all supplemental documents must be received by November 1 for consideration. The Admissions Committee begins to review applications in the fall. Admissions decisions are made on a rolling basis. Candidates not applying early action are strongly encouraged to apply as early as possible.

For Applicant Admissions Standards, visit www.maritime.edu

**APPLICATION PROCESS**

An application is considered complete when the following items have all been received:

1. Application
2. Official Transcripts: All schools attended
3. SAT/ACT Scores
4. Two letters of recommendation
5. Essay
6. Proof of Citizenship
7. Application fee ($50)
8. Notification of Good Standing Form (Transfers)

**Visit Us!**

The best way to learn about life at Massachusetts Maritime Academy is to visit campus!

**Tours**
Tours are offered Mondays through Fridays. Family and friends of the prospective student are welcome to join!

**Personal Interviews**
Interviews are offered after campus tours or by appointment. Please call our office at 800.544.3411 to schedule an interview.

**Overnight Visits**
Prospective students are able to “live the life” of a cadet for a day as they shadow their host cadet.

**Open Houses**
Discover the educational and career opportunities available by attending our academy.

www.maritime.edu
In case you missed the last Enterprise issue (Winter 2015), this past spring was Coach Bob Corradi’s last season on Taylor’s Point. Like others who have called MMA “home” throughout their careers, Coach C has been an integral part of the many wonderful changes that have taken place during his time on campus. One prominent project with which he was associated was the completion of the Clean Harbors complex in 2006. But there is still more to be done. A very important piece of MMA’s future involves bringing the remainder of the athletic facilities and programs in line with the improvements already being made.

What you might not know is that while the athletics campaign itself is in its early stages, there have been a number of people who have already “stepped up” to help. This mix of people includes alumni, ex-players, Trustees, coaches, and friends of MMA who will work on this effort with the Advancement and Athletic offices in the ensuing years. Some donors who came back to campus to visit include Dan McGuiggan ’79, Mike Quinn ’81, and Steve Flanagan ’82, all outstanding contributors to the athletics program, and men who credit Corradi and MMA athletics with much of their success today.

If you are interested in more information on the Athletics Campaign, please contact Greg Folino at 508.566.3135 or gfolino@maritime.edu; or Chuck Richardson, assistant director of Advancement, at 508.830.5269 or crichardson@maritime.edu.

Early last January — before the campus became a frozen tundra — former football coaches Don Ruggeri and Joe Domingos (both legends in their own right) came to campus with Campaign Co-Chair Greg Folino to look through vintage football programs. Soon they were joined by Bob Corradi, whose presence turned the afternoon into a mini-reunion as they reminisced about the good old days. From left: Greg Folino, Don Ruggeri, Bob Corradi, and Joe Domingos.
CONTINUING THE LEGACY

When you take the helm from a skipper who has achieved both a legendary status and following, you’re left with big shoes to fill. But, if you have played for and coached alongside a guy while watching, listening, and learning, like Mike Kelley ’99 has, in many ways you are more than ready.

It doesn’t hurt that Kelley came to Massachusetts Maritime Academy with athletics already in his blood. His father, Tom, longtime football coach and athletic director at Framingham State University, played for the Rams and returned to his alma mater to achieve great success. Though he did not follow in his father’s footsteps at Framingham (Mike was steered toward MMA by both parents), his achievements were just as impressive: he earned a degree in Facilities Engineering and an induction into MMA’s Athletic Hall of Fame.

Kelley’s route back to MMA included a couple of stops. After a few years with Bayer Pharmaceuticals in Connecticut, Kelley began coaching. He discovered he liked it — and he was good at it. In 2005, Kelley was hired by present-day MMA Football Head Coach Jeremy Cameron as part of his staff. Still holding a regular facilities job, by then in nearby Marion, Mass., Kelley joined the baseball coaching staff on a voluntary basis. Later, when a Company Officer slot opened up, he applied and found himself back on Taylor’s Point full time.

When asked about his decision, Kelley explains that in many ways it was a no-brainer. “I think having had the experiences I had here as a cadet is a real asset. I understand the daily challenges associated with the life ... the responsibilities, especially as a student-athlete — knowing where kids can trip up, and how best to avoid that,” he says. “Being here full time is a great fit, though I have to admit there’s a very good reason I went shore-side!”

Commenting on Kelley’s appointment, Cameron said, “I am extremely happy for Mike and his family. He has done a tremendous job for our football program as a recruiter, teacher, and motivator. This is a well-deserved opportunity for him.”

At Bob Corradi’s final baseball banquet this spring, Kelley was quick to point out that although this is a new era of sorts, in many ways he is committed to keeping alive those traditions he has not only been a part of, but has helped form. Through his recruiting efforts over the years, Kelley was always up front with ball-players who sought admission to the Academy. They need to know they are here for an education first, and baseball was just a piece of that experience.

That, in fact, is a mantra that has been heard throughout MMA athletics for decades. “Change is inevitable,” Kelley says, “but there is no need to fix what is not broken.”

And so begins the Kelley era of baseball at MMA. 🏠

Mike Kelley ’99 is named head baseball coach.
A LOOK AT RECENT ACADEMY EVENTS

Salute to Maritime Person of the Year: Presentation of the Emery Rice Medal
SEPTEMBER 10, 2015

Hundreds gathered at The Lighthouse Pier 61 in New York City to honor McAllister Towing and Transportation Co., Inc. and its leadership team Brian, Buckley, and Eric McAllister.
MMA welcomed 505 youngies to Orientation. Cadet-candidates were indoctrinated into life at the Academy through training, drills, and a mini-cruise aboard the T.S. Kennedy.

Mustering for the last time as a class, 328 seniors received advice from U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren during Commencement.
Cadets embarked on a six-week winter Sea Term, which included stops in Curacao, Barbados, Colombia, and Miami, Fla.

Friends of the Academy came together for a festive night geared toward raising money for cadet scholarships.

Familiar faces graced our campus during Homecoming Weekend.
Resolve Marine Group
Proudly Supports the Cadets of Massachusetts Maritime Academy
NEWS AND UPDATES FROM THE MMA FAMILY

Julie McMichen ’85
MMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
BOARD PRESIDENT

The MMA Alumni Association (MMAAA) has had a busy summer with meetings and events. We began in early June with a scholarship dinner for those cadets who received MMAAA scholarships over the past year. If anyone is questioning our future, this group of young people solidified our confidence.

A wonderful graduation ceremony took place on June 20, and the Thunderbird Golf Classic was played at the New Seabury Golf Club on June 22. Celebrating our military and their dependents, the tournament has grown from a small family gathering to a full-fledged event that supports scholarships for cadets. The annual Red Sox outing was on July 31, when the Sox beat the Tampa Bay Rays!

Each year the MMAAA revs up for Homecoming and Reunion Weekend, which took place October 2–4. We hosted a number of events that weekend, including the Capt. Al Wilson Golf Tournament, the Saturday morning pre-march-on Bloody Brunch, and the Alumni of the Year award presentation at halftime of the football game.

P.S. Check your mailbox for dues envelopes for 2015–2016 (or renew online) and ballots.

Leanne Avakian
MMA PARENTS ASSOCIATION
PRESIDENT

The MMA Parents Association (MMAPA) extends a hearty welcome to the Class of 2019! We enjoyed meeting some of the newest members of the Regiment and their families during Recognition Day, just one campus event that the MMAPA attends throughout the academic year.

It’s at these events where our spirit and cadet support shine. During Homecoming Weekend, for example, we are a presence at the football games, selling our T-shirts, totes, bracelets, towels, and more. Our board members and volunteers will be at upcoming events, including fall Open Houses, where we have the opportunity to meet parents of prospective students, answer questions, and share our experiences as parents of cadets.

Please check your mailbox frequently for order forms for our Sea Term T-shirt, stein, certificate, and glassware. Sea Term 2016 will be a shellback cruise, and our T-shirts reflect this exciting rite of passage. All proceeds from these sales go to MMA cadet scholarships.

New members of the MMAPA are always welcome. If you would like to help support our cadets, please email MMAPApresident@gmail.com. Please join us at our next meeting on December 2, at 6 p.m. in Blinn Hall.

Trish O’Brien
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS/CURRENT ACTING DIRECTOR

After an emotional year filled with championships, recognitions, and fond farewells, the Department of Athletics looks to continue honoring the past, enhancing the present, and touching the future of all those who are proud to call themselves Buccaneers.

There are many new faces within the athletic ranks. Three new coaches have assumed duties in the sports of baseball, men’s cross country, and volleyball. The highly successful launch of the Campaign for Buccaneer Athletics has engaged alumni, families, and friends from throughout the world who are eager to be part of our success story. As always, we strive to provide the best experience possible as our cadets excel in competition, in the classroom, and in the community.

The retirement of Coach Bob Corradi was certainly a bittersweet moment in our department, but his legacy is one that will endure forever — you simply can’t replace the National Athletic Director of the Year! Under his watch, MMA saw unprecedented growth and development of athletic opportunities, along with the construction and expansion of our amazing facilities. It is that blueprint that we will look to as we expand in the years to come. Undoubtedly, that will enhance the Pride In Our Tradition!
FLOATING CLASSROOM
Cadets aboard the U.S.S. Charleston assemble below deck during Sea Term.
Massachusetts Maritime Scholarship Recipients

Be Your Best!

Clean Harbors
is proud to support
scholarship at MMA

www.cleanharbors.com