Big Man on Campus
GARIN VERIS NAMED NEW DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

WHERE IN THE WORLD
Winter experiences take cadets all over the globe

DOCTOR IN THE [WHEEL]HOUSE
Dr. Jeffrey Cukor’s passion for patient care shines bright on land and at sea
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ON THE COVER: GARIN VERIS PHOTOGRAPHED AT THE CLEAN HARBOR ATHLETIC CENTER. PHOTO BY GINA MANNING
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Reason to Celebrate

Here’s to our 125th year!

Founded in 1891 in response to the Merchant Marine Act, the Massachusetts Nautical Training School was established to help meet our country’s growing need for qualified merchant marine officers. Today, the Academy is one of only two “special mission” institutions within Massachusetts public higher education, which comprises 27 community colleges, state universities, and the University of Massachusetts. This year we are celebrating our 125th birthday as the nation’s premier maritime college.

These are extraordinary days here on Taylor’s Point. Applications for admission from students with impressive academic credentials reached an all-time high in the fall of 2015. Since 2005, enrollment has increased 70%. The top two majors, Marine Engineering and Marine Transportation, now account for 57% of the seven majors offered at the Academy. The numbers remain equally impressive on the outbound side for those entering the workforce. Prospects for employment are extremely high, with 98% of our graduates securing employment or attending graduate programs within one year of graduation.

However, beyond the superlatives, there is something even more impressive happening here — something about which we are extremely proud. If it could be summed up with one word, that word would be “inclusive.” The Academy knows full well that it is sending young people out into a world that, while it has grown smaller, has become exponentially more complex. We have placed as a top priority our need to diversify our faculty, staff, and cadet populations so that we reflect the myriad cultures that our students come from, and will inhabit in their professional careers.

As you read this issue, you will find example after example of cadets engaged in our signature “Learn-Do-Learn” experiences across the globe, whether as one of 600 cadets aboard the T.S. Kennedy under Captain Tom Bushy’s 20th Sea Term as Master or as one of our 4/c Marine Safety and Environmental Protection cadets studying sustainability in St. John, USVI. Freshman Emergency Management cadets in Florida invested their sweat equity for Habitat for Humanity, while International Maritime Business cadets studying in Panama, Costa Rica, and Singapore brought our unique approach further abroad. Our 2/c Marine Transportation and Marine Engineering commercial shipping cadets found themselves as far off as the Indian Ocean, while other cadets in our Facilities Engineering, Energy Systems Engineering, and other majors completed co-ops from Boston to Mossel Bay, South Africa.

From those early days of instruction on a steam-powered, wooden hulled sailing vessel docked in Boston, what a story we have lived over the decades. With our physical campus improvements, surging enrollment, demand for our graduates, and national rankings that make us the envy of our peer schools, we now find ourselves far removed from that modest, dockside beginning. That said, we remain connected to those same roots, for we continue to succeed by being the best at what we have always done: instilling critical thinking, discipline, teamwork, and leadership skills in our cadets. These are all attributes of a legacy created by legions of cadets, faculty, staff, alumni, parents, and friends over the years. As president (and proud alumnus) of this institution, I could not be more humbled by our achievements.

It is a very special time to be associated with MMA.

During this anniversary year, we are asking everyone in the wider MMA family to consider an investment in us. I will commission a unique 125th Sponsor Plaque created to honor our maritime heritage, which will include the names of our 125th Sponsors to be prominently displayed on campus. Sponsorships will also include special invitations to 125th events. During our National Maritime Day observance on May 25, we will unveil a historical exhibit in the ABS Information Commons. Then, on the Academy’s actual birthday, June 11, we will sail the Kennedy to Boston for a reenactment of the 1891 signing by the legislature that created our great Academy. To top it off, we will close out the celebration with an Admiral’s Gala on October 22 that will surely be like no other!

Our Academy would not be where we are without your support. I look forward to an incredible future with you …AND ON TO OUR NEXT 125 YEARS!

Sincerely,

Admiral Francis McDonald
President, Massachusetts Maritime Academy

FROM THE FLAG BRIDGE A WORD FROM ADMIRAL FRANCIS MCDONALD
Cadets, pictured aboard the R.V. Liberty, have been conducting video mapping of the benthic habitats in Buzzards Bay. The effort has revealed extensive seafloor areas covered with slipper shell reef habitats.

**Under the Sea**

MMA CONDUCTS VIDEO MAPPING OF BUZZARDS BAY

Have you ever wondered what is happening beneath the surface of the water off Taylor’s Point? Since 2014, Massachusetts Maritime Academy has been conducting video mapping of the benthic habitats, those found at the lowest level, in Buzzards Bay. The findings indicate a vast change at the bottom of Buzzards Bay since scientists last examined the area more than 60 years ago. Ecosystems will shift their functional components in response to stressors. A new balance of dominant and transient species will evolve in response to physical impacts, such as climate change, overharvesting of predators, and eutrophication. The recent discovery of extensive seafloor areas covered with *Crepidula fornicata*, the common slipper shell, led MMA scientists to begin mapping the spatial dimensions of these shell reef habitats. “In 1955, 19 benthic stations were examined in Buzzards Bay, and there were no *Crepidula fornicata* present,” says Bill Hubbard, marine ecologist at the Academy. “Now we are mapping living slipper shell reefs that cover more than 100 acres in several different areas.”

MMA’s research is being conducted with the marine sciences group of the Coastal America Foundation, the Massachusetts Environmental Trust, and other Massachusetts institutions. The location of the Academy’s campus on Buzzards Bay, and the significant support of its Marine Operations Department, allows scientists and students easy access to the areas of investigation. “This project allows the communities surrounding Buzzards Bay to benefit from the extensive skills and capabilities of the MMA

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WILLIAM A. HUBBARD, COASTAL AMERICA FOUNDATION
Having this type of mapping will allow the Commonwealth to make management decisions about Buzzards Bay activities...

The findings of the video mapping will ultimately be used by the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management, which will make ocean policy decisions and establish long-term management goals in association with the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, another collaborator on this research. “Having this type of mapping will allow the Commonwealth to make management decisions about Buzzards Bay activities, such as pipeline routes, power cable dredging, navigation dredging, disposal areas, and more,” says Hubbard. “Understanding the ecological functioning of the C-reefs and their proliferation in response to climate changes will provide insight into the resiliency of the Buzzards Bay system.”

LEARN-DO-LEARN

The heavy task of video mapping Buzzards Bay has provided dozens of cadets the opportunity for hands-on experience aboard research vessels with state-of-the-art equipment without leaving Taylor’s Point. Some have become experts in underwater video mapping as well as piloting the VideoRay Remotely Operated Vehicle. Thirty students in the Life Sciences class have assisted with video and water quality equipment. They have gained experience with the concept of C-reefs and ocean mapping. In addition, students from the Advanced Studies Leadership Program, a three-week program for high-achieving middle schoolers from the Cape Cod Collaborative, have been aboard the Liberty for half-day sampling events.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WILLIAM A. HUBBARD, COASTAL AMERICA FOUNDATION

The Coastal America Foundation is collecting donations for MMA student stipends to participate in field research. You can donate at http://coastalamericafoundation.org/donateonline.html.

If you would like to support or obtain more information about the benthic mapping in Buzzards Bay, please contact William Hubbard at whubbard@maritime.edu.
A New Brand of Leadership

WHITNEY GRIFFIN ’05 RETURNS TO MMA

By Chuck Richardson

There are people who find themselves in a certain place and time when who they are and what they do set a course for those who will follow. Whitney Griffin ’05 is one of those people, whether she knows it or not. She arrived at MMA in the summer of 2001 from King Philip Regional High School in Wrentham, Mass., where she had already decided that “regular” college was not where she was headed.

In fact, it could be said that Whitney may not even have come to the Academy at all if not for her twin sister, Stephanie, who had attended an MMA Admissions Open House their senior year. Stephanie returned home to say, “I found our school.” Four years later, Whitney graduated from the Marine Safety and Environmental Protection program, having had the honor to serve as the Academy’s first female Regimental Commander.

With a father who had served in the U.S. Navy, and both a grandfather and grandmother in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II, the Griffin household was already used to the ideals of duty, discipline, and service. Coupled with a love of the ocean, which both Whitney and her sister had developed during summer camps in Maine, a seagoing career was on her radar. As it turns out, both
Whitney Griffin ’05 brings experience from her time at the Academy, as well as her nine years with the U.S. Coast Guard. Bottom right: As an enlisted Coast-guardsman Whitney was stationed on board the CGC Eagle “America’s Tallship” as Master Helmsman. Top right: Whitney (left) with her officer sisters Meryden Griffin and Stephanie (Griffin) Carroll ’05 (right).

Stephanie and Whitney would join the U.S. Coast Guard, with MMA providing the foundation for their goals.

Though Whitney never saw herself as the command prototype, her support network did. By her second year she had become a Squad Leader in 2nd Company, finding the role something that came naturally to her. So much so, that by the middle of her junior year she was urged by friends and faculty to put her name in for Regimental Commander. When considering the reality of that, she remarked, “I never thought seriously about ‘the wedge’ because I didn’t see myself as fitting the stereotypical role.” There were others, in her opinion, who were obvious choices for that position based on what many would agree remain defining characteristics of traditional leadership.

But as often happens, it isn’t how you see yourself, rather it’s how others see you that can make a difference. So began a long vetting process for the position. “It was exhausting, with three levels of intense Q & A from your own company officers, to the current Reggie staff, and finally to the Commandant’s Office,” Whitney recalls. After learning she had been selected for the job, things were a whirlwind. Despite some initial reticence on the part of others to serve along with her, she resolved to get the job done.

Surviving that process — and that year — taught Whitney a few things, not the least of which was how she came to view leadership. She realized that the qualities needed to effectively lead may just be reflected in her own values, and not just those defined by others. This was reaffirmed during her nine years with the Coast Guard, serving with senior officers who best exemplified what Whitney had come to be. “They did not fit the old-school stereotype. They were very accomplished, but with a complex and nuanced leadership style centered on humility, generosity, and always having time for others,” she says. “They were the type of leaders that I strove to be, and they gave me the confidence to embrace my own style.”

Whitney learned that personal perspectives can be skewed by that voice in your head, and by the daily challenges that force us all to doubt ourselves. The mentorship that she received helped her find confidence in her own innate leadership ability. She says, “Having someone in my life to point out strengths and weaknesses was pivotal.”

As the new Assistant Deputy Commandant, Whitney views mentoring as a large part of her job. She knows that in this leadership-based environment, she must assist cadets in seeing things they may not see in themselves in order to help propel them forward to begin the quest of defining their own style. “I am lucky to have had great people in my life — family, friends, teachers, and coaches — all supporting me along the way,” she says. “But I am acutely aware that this may not be the case for many.”

In fact, according to Deputy Commandant of Cadets Steve Kelleher, who has known Whitney since her student days, it’s been a baptism under fire of sorts. “Starting on the first day as Assistant Commandant, Whitney was immediately thrust into the middle of a complex and sensitive cadet situation. However, having been the regimental commander, she understands the dynamics of the Regiment of Cadets,” he says. She managed to resolve the situation quickly and effectively. Kelleher adds, “She has very quickly closed what can be a steep learning curve, and she is a pleasure to work with.”

Whitney brings a wealth of real-world experience, a mentor-based leadership model, and an appreciation and understanding of what it is to be an MMA cadet. She says, “The Academy is always looking to the future, and I see myself as a piece of this larger process in continuing to produce creative, positive, and progressive leaders that businesses, corporations, and even the military are looking for to meet their ever-growing needs and diverse missions.”

And her door will always be open.
Paging Dr. Cukor

ACADEMY PHYSICIAN COMBINES HIS PASSION FOR PATIENT CARE WITH HIS DESIRE TO PREVENT TRAUMA THROUGH EDUCATION

By Meghan Rowley Little

JUST FOR FUN

LAST BOOK YOU READ: Thinking Fast and Slow
CD IN YOUR CAR: Buddy Holly
FAVORITE PLACE TO VISIT: National parks — any and all of them, as much as possible. They never disappoint.
FAVORITE PASTIME: Soccer. I became a national soccer referee and worked in professional leagues. Even with a medical degree, humility is assured when you have several hundred people all swearing at you at once.
PERSONAL MOTTO: “If you’re lucky enough to have a voice that tells you the right thing to do, then all you have to do is listen to it; the more you listen to it, the better you will hear it.”
FAVORITE QUOTE: “When you’re in a hole, put down the shovel.”
Even as a teenager growing up in Natick, Mass., Jeffrey Cukor was a keen observer. He noticed that when someone had an illness or was seriously hurt, everything else suddenly became less important. “I thought it would be great to have some skills and knowledge to try to help in these situations,” he says. “It just seemed meaningful to me.” So, when Cukor turned 18, he became an EMT and volunteered with an emergency ambulance service in Boston. Thus began his journey in medicine.

Cukor studied at Tufts University before moving on to University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester. He has been a physician since 1994, and board certified in emergency medicine for the past 18 years. “I did my internship and residency in emergency medicine at UMass Medical School, a level one trauma center,” he says. He served as chief resident and was an attending physician at the UMass pediatric emergency department. In addition, Cukor worked as a flight physician for UMass Life Flight, completing more than 130 medical missions.

EMERGENCY 911
After three years at the St. Vincent Hospital emergency department in Worcester, where he was a director of education for the department, Cukor returned to UMass as the emergency medicine residency director for 11 years. “I was responsible for the education and training of all physicians at UMass who were specializing in emergency medicine, along with the clinical experience of other residencies and students rotating in the ER as part of their own training programs,” he explains. The fact that Cukor remained in that role for more than a decade is a testament to his passion for emergency medicine — the average program director lasts three to five years.

The ER, particularly a level one adult and pediatric trauma center, sees a lot of tragedy. The variety of problems matches the variety of people from every walk of life, and learning how to connect and care for them has been rewarding for Cukor. “I have often felt that if you are open to it, life comes to you in the ER,” he says. “There is no way you would have access to all the different types of people and all their different types of worlds, but each shift they enter your world and you have the chance to help out.”

What is missing from the ER, however, is continuity. ER physicians are not afforded the opportunity to form a relationship with a patient and nurture it over time. Another challenge

TRAVEL TIPS FROM THE DOC
This year, MMA had more than 90 cadets traveling abroad for winter experiences in addition to those cadets aboard the T.S. Kennedy for Sea Term. Thanks to the Health Services team, all cadets who were participating in international travel were well prepared. Here are some tips from Academy Physician Dr. Jeffrey Cukor and his team for anyone who is traveling outside the United States.

• **Access to care is more challenging away from home**, so prevention is the key. Learn basic first aid skills, including how to clean a wound and prevent infection. Understand how to avoid potential health risks such as mosquito bites and proper food and water sources.

• Dr. Cukor recommends a dental check-up prior to departure, as reliable and modern dental care is not always readily available.

• In addition to a passport, a **yellow fever book may be required** in some countries. Be sure to double check before taking off.

• **Emergency contacts and phone numbers should be readily available.** The Internet is not always an option and phones can get lost or stolen, so having hard copies of contacts is important.

• Make **color copies of your passport** and have a picture of it on your phone. It is also wise to keep important documents in zip-lock bags to help keep them dry.

• **Be sure to pack enough prescription medications** for the whole trip. Also, bring an anti-malarial if traveling to a malaria area, 100% DEET spray, over the counter medications, including Tylenol, bismuth, Imodium, and hydrocortisone cream. Don’t forget bandages for blisters and cuts.

• **Up-to-date EpiPens** are a must if you have a serious allergy. Be sure to bring the prescription as well. Because these devices contain a needle, they can sometimes pose a problem with airport security. The same goes for diabetics who need needles for insulin.

• **Travel insurance** can offset the high cost of evacuating a country. Insurance is relatively inexpensive and can be purchased for short time periods.

Dr. Cukor climbs down the Kennedy’s Jacob’s ladder during Sea Term 2015 in order to attend to a patient on route to on-shore medical care.
As the medical resource for the Academy, Cukor becomes involved in any issues impacting the campus or cadets as they relate to health. His list of duties is not short. He provides medical direction for the Health Services and campus EMS programs; he supports Sea Term and ensures physician coverage for the training ship; he serves as the Buccaneers’ NCAA-designated team physician, working closely with athletic trainers; he assists with cadet education, giving about 10 lectures each year; he provides travel briefs and risk assessments for cadets traveling abroad; and he partners with local hospitals and consultants to create networks of care for cadets and bring more resources to campus.

Life at MMA is quite different from that at UMass, but Cukor embraces the change, the challenges, and the rewards that college health brings. For example, he now can forge relationships with his patients, checking on cadets as often as needed and taking a more directed approach with some treatments. “Health Services supports the cadets during so many of the different programs and chapters of their schooling that when they graduate we are truly excited for them and genuinely miss not seeing them anymore,” he says.

Cukor is proud that the Health Services team is willing to go beyond just trying to cure sicknesses. They truly care and connect with the cadets in order to help guide and encourage them in any way possible. “This is such an important developmental time in the cadets’ lives,” he says.

“They are not just learning how to be sailors and other types of professionals; they are learning what kind of people they are. What kind of people they are capable of becoming.” And with Cukor in the mix, they are sure to learn that kindness is part of the measure of success.
Energy, water and environmental services for sustainability and human progress

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To learn more about Garin Veris and his path to MMA, please go to mmabucs.com/insideAthletics/directory/staff/Garin_Veris.
Leading the CHARGE

GARIN VERIS NAMED DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

By Chuck Richardson

The Academy’s new Director of Athletics Garin Veris has been to places and seen things most of us will never experience. In college, he sat in classes taught by former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Vietnam War hero Vice Admiral James Stockdale. He played in college football All-Star games where he was named MVP; he played in an NFL Super Bowl (which he still cannot talk about); and he even had lunch with the Queen, yes, Queen Elizabeth II of England. A heavily recruited schoolboy athlete from Chillicothe, Ohio, Veris starred in football, basketball, track, and baseball. He ended up playing for eight seasons in the NFL, though he actually thought he would spend his days firing fastballs for the Cincinnati Reds. But, when Stanford, Notre Dame, Penn State, Michigan, and, yes, Ohio State (OSU) came calling, they were all talking football.

Field of Dreams
Chillicothe is about an hour’s drive due south from Columbus. It is a factory town, with Mead paper, Kenworth trucks, and a DuPont factory, where Veris’ father worked, just 20 miles up the road. Though not the small-town America that Norman Rockwell painted, Chillicothe was tight knit since the big companies employed practically everyone you knew. His mother, a surgical technician at a local hospital, and father raised a family of four children, Veris and his three younger sisters, with whom he shared a bedroom. “It was tight,” he recalls, “but we weren’t wanting for things.” In many ways, he was just a normal kid from a typical working-class family in which values were formed by parents and passed along to their children, who then took those lessons on their own life journeys — even when those journeys took them through rarified air.

There is nothing comparable to big-time college football recruiting. The whole process can be a heady one, derailing even the most grounded of young people who hear much talk of how special they are, all in the hope that they will sign on the dotted line. With coaches visiting Chillicothe almost weekly throughout his junior and senior years, it would have been easy for Veris to start believing the recruiting magazines that featured him, along with other top high school players from across the country. But, between his upbringing and the lessons learned from his own playing experiences, he already had maturity.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14
extending beyond his years.

Receiving a few reality checks from coaches along the way helped too. The first, which came in high school, was instrumental in forming Veris’ priorities with regard to being a teammate and a leader. He was taught that no matter how good a player is, being what others expect extends well beyond the ability to make big plays. Performing on the field is one thing, but developing humility and being a good citizen are more important. Veris’ second check involved Ohio State, where many might have assumed a homegrown product like Veris would land. The Buckeyes were looking at him as a linebacker, but Veris wanted to remain at the tight end position, and maybe run track in the spring. So when then OSU recruiter Nick Saban told him flat out, “Nope, not here,” it was goodbye Columbus.

Given his high school experience as a multi-sport athlete, Veris’ perspective aligns with what many in athletics have been saying for more than a decade about youth sports — that throughout the formative years, an athlete’s focus on one sport can often lead to stagnation and early burnout. It is something that is antithetical to the character and spiritual development of young people. So, perhaps it was more than fate, and the recruiting effort from fellow Ohioan Jack Harbaugh, that caused Veris to find himself heading west to Palo Alto, Calif., and Stanford University. There, a young Veris, who had always lived within a few blocks of his schools back in Ohio, found academic and other challenges that were the most eye opening and rewarding of his life.

Keeping Focus
Many colleges hope to fulfill the academic mission within their athletic programs, wanting their athletes to graduate on time, prepared to succeed. While easier said than done, the reality is that there are very few schools that actually achieve those goals. Stanford is at the top of that list.

Stanford’s athletic teams have always been able to compete (and win ... big) at the highest levels, yet their academic mission supersedes all else. What does that say about the athlete who commits to attend such an institution? There are no shortcuts, so you better love the classroom because you are going to hit the books.

For Veris, the transition from Chillicothe High School to one of the most intellectually stimulating campuses in the country could have sidelined him. He is the first to admit that at the outset it was a real struggle, even a shock. “I don’t want anyone thinking that because I went to Stanford I was this 4.0 student coming out of high school,” he says with a huge grin, laughing. “But I already had a respect for learning and, more important, a desire to learn and to be open to new experiences.”

And there were plenty of those, to be sure. For the first time in his life Veris was among kids from all over the country and the world. They lived together in a coed freshman dormitory where late-night discussions about religion, politics, family, and different cultures were the norm. He quickly grew to love all of it, including living with others who, even if it was the first time they had ever met someone from an ethnic minority, formed their opinions based on beliefs, ideas, tolerance, and the ability to remain open to people and ideas of all hues. “That was the biggest lesson from my first year,” Veris says. “That reaching out and being open to new ideas was what the learning process was all about.”

No longer just a jock prized solely for his athletic prowess, he came to know what being part of a truly diverse environment was all about. By his sophomore year, football in some ways became secondary. “It was not
unusual to have guys missing part or all of a practice because they had a lab, a paper due, or a test,” he says. “There was a real sense of teamwork between the deans and our coaches, so we never felt pulled in one direction or the other — it helped us define our priorities, focusing our energies on what was important.”

Despite Veris’ commitment to all things academic, he was still a standout football player, as evidenced by his induction into Stanford’s Athletic Hall of Fame and, of course, by being taken in the second round of the 1985 NFL draft by our very own New England Patriots. He recounts, smiling, “Draft day was a lot of fun being with my friends at a local gathering spot — and when my name popped up, I could not have been happier — except for the fact that I had no idea where New England was!” He was off to Foxboro, where he began a stellar career for the Pats, leading the team throughout the rest of the ’80s in many defensive categories, and once again finding himself in rare company as a member of the Pats “All ’80s” squad.

A New Playbook
Depending on who you ask, the average career longevity for an NFL player ranges between three and six seasons. Given that the salaries back in the day were not what they are today, having a plan for life after football was not an afterthought. Life will go on long after the cleats are hung up. Veris played eight seasons, seven with New England and one back out west with the San Francisco 49ers. The physical nature of the game and a few knee surgeries took their toll, but when it was time to leave, Veris already knew where he was headed: law school. “I had gone into Stanford wanting to study business, but found the economics classes were not what I had envisioned,” Veris says. “Learning and drilling defensive end techniques was nothing compared to trying to absorb Marxist economic theory!”

After the NFL he would have remained out west, but Boston College Law School offered him admission and the best package. Back to Massachusetts he came to earn his Juris Doctor from BC, with his eyes set on a career in sports management, labor relations, and arbitration. He had firsthand experience as one of eight players who filed a temporary restraining order in federal court in 1992 in order to prevent the NFL from restricting their pursuit of a contract with other NFL teams. The court ruled in favor of the players and Veris was given the opportunity to sign as total free agents with any NFL team.

When Veris was just getting his feet wet in sports management, his father fell ill. He immediately moved back home to be close to his father and to help him fight a losing battle with cancer at 58. Two years later, he made a call to his former athletic director at Stanford about a staff position that brought him back out west and into an environment at Stanford that he loved. “I owed so much to Stanford. It was home during my off-seasons with the Pats, and being around these kids brought a lot of that feeling back,” Veris says. “I realized I had a great deal to offer them in terms of what it’s like to go through the program, to be able to talk about the importance of setting goals, priorities, and achieving balance while still striving for success on and off the field.”

It was a foothold into a life in academia through athletics administration, a life that Veris has enjoyed for more than a decade. “I was just a kid from Ohio who had no idea where he would end up. I had been put in challenging positions my whole life, but the support I received made a huge difference,” Veris says. “Given my own experiences, as a student-athlete, mentor, and as an athletic administrator in the external relations fields, wherever I have been, my passion for kids and what we can provide for them has driven me always forward.”

At first glance, Stanford and Massachusetts Maritime Academy seem worlds apart. In many ways they are, until you begin to look a little deeper under the surface to see what really drives their missions. It’s no coincidence that both schools have been showing up on the same national ranking lists as schools that turn out top-notch students. It is fitting that a person whose athletic career was guided by a school with a steadfast commitment to academics is now charged with adding value to the Academy’s athletic program.

Before the holidays, Veris had the opportunity to meet the legend himself, Bob Corradi. Both men came away from the meeting with a shared sense of what is truly important about their work — and that their philosophies aligned, and always have. It was as if they had known one another for years. Veris understands that athletics has always been very important in terms of its value to the Academy as a whole. “The goal is to include everyone, from the intercollegiate to the intramural… and if they are getting the best possible coaching and support, that all means a great deal,” he says. “I want everyone invested in our program — our kids, our faculty and staff, our parents, and certainly our alumni, all of whom I know care deeply about our success on and off the field. This is what I believe, and I know it is what the Academy has always believed.”

Welcome aboard, Mr. Veris.
Drills are a frequent and important part of life at sea for MMA cadets.
The sound of the T.S. Kennedy’s horn delighted the hundreds of family and friends who cheered from shore as she made her way through the Cape Cod Canal on the morning of February 21 — the final stretch of Sea Term 2016. The 588 cadets on board manned the rails, taking in the sights and trying to spot their own personal welcoming committees. These cadets, and 102 crew members, successfully completed 52 days at sea filled with briefings, safety drills, training sessions, classes, exams, ceremonies, and port adventures. From anchoring drills off the coast of Puerto Rico and humanitarian delivery off the coast of Haiti to white-water rafting in Costa Rica and the grand parade at Carnival in Aruba, the six-week journey provided practical experience and memories to last a lifetime.
Passing through the Panama Canal is a treat for any sailor who gets an up-close view of this engineering marvel. Once through the canal, cadets enjoyed their first port of call in Panama City.

Left (top and bottom): Play hard! White-water rafting in Costa Rica; exploring Guadirikiri Cave in Aruba. Right (clockwise from top left): Work hard! Exam day; lifeboat testing in port at Aruba; NOAA drift buoy launch; snaking a drain as part of maintenance work.
Dancers from the Grand Carnival Parade, Oranjestad, Aruba.

Captain Thomas Bushy making plans.

Jousting fun between ports.

Sea Term
BY THE NUMBERS

588 cadets on board
102 crew members on board
52 days at sea
4 ports of call
8 hours it took the Kennedy to pass through the Panama Canal
614 newly minted Shellbacks
8,000 miles of travel saved by passing through the Panama Canal
16 pallets of supplies delivered to the people of Île-à-Vache, Haiti
54 gallons of ice cream consumed during Shellback celebration
2,000 gallons of fuel burned every 4 hours under way

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20
After six weeks at sea, cadets and crew members are greeted by loved ones who lined the Cape Cod Canal.

Papers are in order for entry back into the USA.

A tug assists the Kennedy to the pier in Key West, Fla.

Colorful downtown Key West, Fla.

Pyrotechnics demonstration of the various flares on board.

Cadets enjoy the view from the deck.

After six weeks at sea, cadets and crew members are greeted by loved ones who lined the Cape Cod Canal.
Winter EXPERIENCES

It has been said that with growth comes change. That certainly holds true at Massachusetts Maritime Academy, where this year Sea Term ran a bit differently. Due to the recent increase in the size of the student body, cadets sailing on the T.S. Kennedy were strictly from license track majors. Cadets in non-license majors were offered other kinds of winter experiences appropriate to their fields of study.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Professor Thomas Lennon, chair of the Emergency Management (EM) program, welcomed the opportunity to develop an experiential learning program for freshman cadets. He wanted to create a winter curriculum that was tailored to their professional development while preserving the team-building aspect of a challenging group experience that exists on the training ship. To that end, EM partnered with Habitat for Humanity (HFH) because of its established public service record in supporting vulnerable populations and enhancing community resilience.

A total of 57 underclassmen, divided into two groups of cadets, worked with the HFH “Domestic Global Village” in Eustis, Fla., which specializes in supporting collegiate groups. The cadet teams were organized and led by Assistant Professor George Cadwalader, Jr. with help from Dr. Malcolm MacGregor, along with EM Rates 1/c Emily Behen, 1/c Daniel Johnson, 1/c Brenda Martinez, and 1/c Raymond Savignano, who assisted with leadership and supervision. While in Florida, the cadets participated in HFH building and rehabilitation projects. They received work details and were supervised by HFH personnel. In the evening, the faculty and rates led an academic program to tie the experience together. Additional activities included site visits to the Lake County, Fla., Emergency Operation Center and the Walt Disney World Security Communications Center.

Cadets who successfully completed this EM Winter Experience received three credits — along with practical knowledge and memories that will last a lifetime.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22
INTERNATIONAL MARITIME BUSINESS

The International Maritime Business (IMB) department carefully restructured its curriculum in response to the change in Sea Term parameters, using input from employers and the IMB Advisory Board to introduce a six-credit experiential learning program for juniors. In keeping with the MMA’s “Learn-Do-Learn” philosophy, the initiative included academic coursework through which students learned the concepts and principles of international maritime business. Then, they applied this knowledge in a faculty-guided, global setting. When the cadets returned to the Academy, they reflected on the experience and adapted their understanding of the concepts and theories initially learned in the classroom. The winter experience was geared toward enhancing cultural awareness and global business competencies. Three groups of cadets traveled to the Ol Pejeta Conservancy in Kenya, Africa; NMIT in Malaysia; several maritime businesses in Singapore; and Earth University in Costa Rica.

1/c Spencer Meine, a member of the 2016 Ol Pejeta project, wrote us from Kenya: Since the moment we landed, the Kenyan experience has been an incredible, eye-opening journey. We were immediately introduced to a culture unknown to any of us. This 90,000-acre conservancy we’re staying on, Ol Pejeta, is a world apart from the urban American life we are accustomed to. As we began our work at the conservancy, we got to know the staff and helped them with their individual needs as applied to their own jobs here. Our work has centered mostly around teaching EXCEL as well as an Inventory Inflow program the conservancy has recently purchased. The staff also has been very generous with our group in giving us tours of the conservancy, bush walks, countless safari rides, and even lion tracking. This has been nothing short of an incredible experience. As they say here in Kenya, “Hakuna matata, hakuna haraka.” Got no worries, all in good time.

1/c Benjamin Eggert wrote about his experience in Singapore. My trip to Singapore and Malaysia was one of the best parts of my life. The experience taught me not just about other societies and people, it showed me how different cultures come together for international business and leisure. This was most evident during my time in Singapore with Neptune Orient Lines (NOL), the parent concern of APL. The field trips helped me gain a strong understanding of what makes Singapore the major port state that it is. Many of us have seen container ports before, but nothing even close to the size of Singapore. It was interesting seeing the section where robotic vehicles were being tested. It was cool looking into the future of port operations. Seeing the real-life applications in Asia of what I have spent the previous few years studying was extremely helpful. I feel that this will be a terrific experience for future IMB students. It will allow cadets to have international experiences as well as have a clear view into the maritime industry.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: HAITI

A note from Professor Thomas Lennon

It is Saturday night on January 23rd. I am writing to you from Île-à-Vache, Haiti, the location for our annual EM winter Haiti Co-op. While the East Coast is in the middle of a large snowstorm, temps here are high 80s and the humidity is oppressive. You have snow; we have political turmoil.

The presidential election, scheduled for tomorrow, was postponed because of rioting in Port-au-Prince. Fortunately, we are located approximately six hours south of the capital. There is no rioting here.

I am in Haiti with seven undergraduate students. This is the seventh group of students to make the trip to Haiti with me, and our sixth year in Haiti. This trip involved coordinating the offload of humanitarian supplies using the T.S. Kennedy. I am happy to report that the offload went as planned and our supplies were successfully delivered to our non-governmental organization partners.
MARINE SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Like other non-license track majors that would not be sailing on Sea Term, Marine Safety and Environmental Protection (MSEP) faculty brainstormed ideas for a memorable, unique, hands-on freshman winter experience. The goal was to expose students to scientific fieldwork that would promote academic and personal growth. The result: a course based out of the Virgin Islands Environmental Resource Station (VIERS) on St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands.

The 12-day, three-credit course is required to complete a degree in MSEP. This year, 42 freshman and four seniors who served as MSEP Rates traveled with Dr. Heather Burton (formerly Schrum) and Dr. Kris Jop. Students studied the ecology of both marine and terrestrial ecosystems on St. John. “Dr. Jop and I led snorkeling expeditions at several coral reefs and sea grass beds,” Burton says. “We led and participated in guided hikes to evaluate the organisms of the island’s tropical forests and taught our students how to keep effective field notes so that they could complete the major assignment of the course — a field guide outlining the ecology of every field site visited.”

The winter experience also included components on sustainability, local culture, and history. “Our students got to experience firsthand strict water conservation and resource management over the 12 days at VIERS,” Burton explains. “All the water at this remote camp is collected rainwater, and the island was just coming out of a six-month drought.” Several guest speakers addressed issues of sustainability and local culture. Burton says, “The most memorable speaker brought in a variety of local plants and discussed the medicinal value of each. He also exposed our students to local drumming and music.”

Another highlight was a tour of Concordia Eco-Resort, where cadets were shown how sustainable systems, including solar power, electrical, water collection and purification, function. A favorite field trip was to The Baths at Virgin Gorda, British Virgin Islands. At The Baths, giant boulders are piled on top of each other along a one-mile stretch of sandy beach. “We navigated a trail over and under these boulders and through pools of water,” Burton says.

According to Burton, this first MSEP Winter Experience was a huge success. “I was delighted to see how engaged our freshmen were at the various sites, in the classroom at VIERS, and while working on the field guides,” Burton says. “I witnessed them truly enjoying the learning process, and that was very refreshing.”

The MSEP faculty are already looking forward to next year’s freshman experience.
THE BOILER MAKER
FULL STEAM EFFORT TO ACQUIRE NEW TRAINING TOOL
By Chuck Richardson

Recently retired CDR Arthur Aldrich ‘56 instructing cadets on boiler construction methods.

There is a steam boiler sitting in the U.S. Navy yard in Newport, R.I., that needs a home — and MMA looks like it could be the place. It was 2011 when a representative of the Navy called to say they had some static engineering displays they wanted MMA to look at and take off their hands. Some of those pieces, including an EM diesel cut away, have already found their way to Engineer’s Alley in Bresnahan Hall. There, they have been put to good use as hands-on training tools for cadets who are being snapped up in record numbers by leaders in the marine and facilities engineering industries.

The centerpiece of the entire U.S. Navy collection is a two-story-high, 43-ton, field-erected, water tube steam boiler worth $6 million that remains on the Newport base, in a building that is scheduled for demolition sometime this year. According to project manager Carlos Montanez ’77, unless the boiler gets out of that building, whoever does the demolition will have to take the boiler as well, cutting it into scrap. That is something Montanez and his colleagues in the Academy’s Engineering Department have been hoping to avoid. For the past five years, Montanez has been working with various contractors, including his classmate, Peter Starr ’77, to develop an extraction plan and budget for the tricky boiler acquisition.

TRUE TO HIS SCHOOL
In 2010, after careers in both the Merchant Marine and the facilities industry, Montanez returned to MMA to teach. You need only spend a few minutes with him to understand why: his commitment to the Academy and its mission is front and center. His passion surrounding the boiler is so
boiler represents MMA’s ability to retention. Only promotes learning but also leads to convey information in a way that not process lies the ability of an instructor on component. Still, at the core of the simulation becoming a much-relied-synonymous with technology, with teaching and learning have become and blackboards were the norm. Today, they were back in the day when books ting edge. Things are certainly not like experience to keep things on the cut-while applying the time-tested MMAneer’s attention to the smallest details in a process that demands an engi-need to be able to physically take it apart to really understand how and why things are put together as they are, and then put it back the way it was,” Montanez says. “While this is already happening with diesels and turbines where actual static displays have always been used, real-world access for steam is limited at best — shutting down a boiler on a ship or in a facility just does not happen.” Having this display on campus and accessible 24/7 will reap rewards for decades. Montanez adds, “It will be the only one of its kind. Anywhere.”

FUNDING THE MOVE
Challenges still lie ahead in acquiring the boiler. The biggest hurdle is the cost to move the boiler from Newport to Taylor’s Point. A conservative estimate for the delivery, setup, and modifications once at the Academy is $365,000. The funds required for this endeavor still have to be procured, likely through private and corporate donors. MMA’s Director of Corporate Relations Ian MacLeod has a keen understanding of who would be interested in supporting this project and why, and he is already looking at potential partners. “The acquisition of this ‘one of a kind’ boiler represents a unique opportunity to further enhance, perhaps even transform, the curriculum. The difference between book learning and real-world application is that “now I get it” moment for the student. “When these kids learn about a piece of equipment, they need to be able to physically take it apart to really understand how and why things are put together as they are, and then put it back the way it was,” Montanez says. “While this is already happening with diesels and turbines where actual static displays have always been used, real-world access for steam is limited at best — shutting down a boiler on a ship or in a facility just does not happen.” Having this display on campus and accessible 24/7 will reap rewards for decades. Montanez adds, “It will be the only one of its kind. Anywhere.”

Carlos Montanez ’77 is spear-heading efforts to bring the two-story, 45-ton, field-erected, water tube steam boiler to the Academy.

NUTS AND BOLTS
- Constructed by Foster Wheeler in 1966 as a Navy training aid
- Full scale, field erected “D” type water tube (not firetube) design
- Cut away with fully accessible display
- Rated at 1,200 PSI with all fittings, attachments, and internals

SUPPORT
This $6 million steam boiler belongs in Engineer’s Alley. Go to www.maritime.edu/give to learn how you can help bring it home.
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 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.

Did you know your gift to MMA could be doubled or even tripled by your employer? Over 22,000 companies match gifts that their employees make to nonprofits. Every gift is a belief in the mission and history of MMA over the past 125 years and an investment in the future of our cadets. Find out if your company matches by going to www.maritime.edu/matching, or you can ask your human resources office. Once you find out, follow the procedures given to you and your gift will have an even bigger impact on our cadets.
MMA 125TH SPONSORSHIP LEVELS
Massachusetts Maritime Academy is celebrating our 125th birthday in 2016! We have several exciting events planned over the year and would love for you to join us!

Upcoming events and activities being planned are:

National Maritime Day
→ WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2016
Come join us for a special reception after the Change of Command and visit the new historical exhibit on the 125 years of the Academy that will be unveiled that day on campus in ABS Information Commons.

Academy’s 125TH Birthday
→ SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2016
The T.S. Kennedy will be setting sail to Boston for a reception on board. She will be docked at Black Falcon Terminal, where dignitaries will conduct a reenactment of the signing of the legislation that created the biggest and best maritime Academy!

Admiral’s Scholarship Gala
→ SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2016
On campus an Admiral’s Gala to remember! The anniversary will be the prominent theme of the Gala as well as a special ribbon-cutting ceremony held on campus.

PLEASE CONSIDER BECOMING A SPONSOR IN THIS VERY SPECIAL YEAR:

PLATINUM SPONSOR $25,000
Sponsorship includes the underwriting of one full scholarship in your organization or family’s name, invitations to all 125 special events, including a VIP table of 10 at all three events listed here, sponsorship signage at all events, electronic signage and advertising on campus throughout the year, ads in all the Enterprise magazines in 2016, and a listing on the 125 plaque as a platinum sponsor.

GOLD SPONSOR $12,500
Sponsorship includes the underwriting of one Sea Term scholarship in your organization or family’s name, invitations to all 125 special events, a table of 10 to the Admiral’s Gala, sponsorship signage at all events, electronic signage and advertising on campus throughout the year, ads in all the Enterprise magazines in 2016, and a listing on the 125 plaque as a gold sponsor.

SILVER SPONSOR $2,500
Sponsorship includes the underwriting of one $500 Sea Bag scholarship in your organization or family’s name and admission for two at all 125 special events as well as listing on the 125 plaque as a silver sponsor.

BRONZE SPONSOR $1,250
Sponsorship includes admission for two at all 125 special events and listing on the 125 plaque as a bronze sponsor.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION PLEASE CALL HOLLY KNIGHT, VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADVANCEMENT, AT 508.830.5030 OR E-MAIL HKNIGHT@MARITIME.EDU.
Save the date for the month of April to participate and win the MMA Challenge!

We beat Maine in 2015! It was a close fight the entire month of April, but we prevailed because of each of YOU who made your best gift online, in person, or through the mail.

The final score was:

Mass.: 471 gifts and 6.5% participation

Maine: 429 gifts and 6.4% participation

The first year of the challenge, we lost by about the same percentage point, so we need to make sure that we win again this year. We are playing Maine on Homecoming weekend, September 16–18, and we do not want their flag flying above our game (the price for losing the challenge)!

Save the date for the month of April to participate and win the MMA Challenge!
OCEANS OF OPPORTUNITY

Santander® is proud to sponsor the Massachusetts Maritime Academy Admiral’s Scholarship Gala.

santanderbank.com

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FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAMES

New Director of Athletics is committed to building on a legacy of pride, tradition, and excellence
Dear MMA Family,

It is with a great deal of pride that I begin my journey as the Director of Athletics here at Massachusetts Maritime Academy, an institution that has shaped and defined the future of countless young men and women over its long and storied history.

I’ve had the opportunity to work at many special places during my administrative career, including my alma mater, Stanford University, and most recently at the University of Massachusetts Boston. Each stop along the way has prepared me for an exciting and vibrant future at the Academy. Since arriving on the MMA campus in late November, I have found a strength of pride and commitment from the cadets and alumni alike. I have the great fortune of following one of the true gentlemen in all of intercollegiate athletics, Bob Corradi. Coach Corradi’s legacy of pride, tradition, and excellence in all aspects of daily life is one that I fully embrace, and one that all of us will build upon in the coming years.

The achievements of our cadets in competition, in the classroom, and in the community are second to none. That is a testament to both their hard work and that of our coaches and administrators who instill life lessons and place our young men and women in a position to succeed. Our facilities are among the finest in the region, and through the generosity of so many alumni, families, and friends, those amenities will be further enhanced in the years to come as the support for our young men and women continues. Athletics is a celebration of commitment, opportunity, passion, integrity, and accomplishment. At MMA, that celebration is only beginning.

In this role, I certainly will look forward to hearing from and seeing many of you on campus. I thank you for the great legacy you have helped create, one that has sustained the mission of the Academy. Please feel free to contact me at any time, and most importantly, Go Bucs!

Very sincerely,

Garin Veris
Director of Athletics

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
JIM SEAVEY AT 508.830.5054
OR JSEAVEY@MARITIME.EDU

Class of 2016
Robert E. Corradi H’15
Sean P. Crowe ’97
Robert L. Delhome ’91
Kenneth F. Ramsey ’88
Ann Veillette Slagle ’86

Clean Harbors Athletic Center
Saturday, May 21, 2016
5:15 p.m.
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
JIM SEAVEY AT 508.830.5054
OR JSEAVEY@MARITIME.EDU

Class of 2000 - Lee Harrington, Donald Flynn ’55, Peter Marrocco ‘46, John Whorf ’80, Jim O’Keefe ’77, John Whoorf ’01 - Mario Palombo ’78
Class of 2001 - John Aylmer, John Henney ’82, Michael Palombo ’78, Daniel Markert ’80, John Gilmartin ’83, Lawrence Butler ’58, Tony Rychlec ’84, Kevin Piechowski ’95, Paul Diamantopoulos ’96, Robert Kauserud ’47, Michael Fauvell ’78, Denis Sheehan ’78, Meghan Carter Duggan ’99
Class of 2002 - Joe Haidul ’07, Greg Folino ’07
Class of 2003 - John Aylmer, John Henney ’82, Michael Palombo ’78, Daniel Markert ’80, John Gilmartin ’83, Lawrence Butler ’58, Tony Rychlec ’84, Kevin Piechowski ’95, Paul Diamantopoulos ’96, Robert Kauserud ’47, Michael Fauvell ’78, Denis Sheehan ’78, Meghan Carter Duggan ’99
Class of 2004 - Peter Hexter, Tom Duggan ’93, Mark Mozelak ’09
Class of 2005 - Buzz Schofield ’59, Michael Tobin ’79, Tim Quinn ’84, Jack Dever ’84, Class of 2006 - Joe Haidul ’07, Greg Folino ’07
Class of 2007 - Bill Wixon, Anthony Domingos, Bill Johnson ’85, David Webb ’90, Brian Woodhouse ’81, David Webb ’90, Brian Woodhouse ’81, Dan Rugguri, Michael Fauvell ’78, Denis Sheehan ’78, Meghan Carter Duggan ’99
Class of 2008 - Richard Covel ’67, Joe Reading ’00, Brian Woodhouse ’81, David Webb ’90, Brian Woodhouse ’81, Dan Rugguri, Michael Fauvell ’78, Denis Sheehan ’78, Meghan Carter Duggan ’99
Class of 2009 - Scott Bresnahan ’81, Nicholos Rakes ’98, Mike Kelley ’81, Class of 2010 - Lee Harrington, Donald Flynn ’55, John Whorf ’80, Jim O’Keefe ’77, John Whoorf ’01 - Mario Palombo ’78
Class of 2011 - Lee Harrington, Donald Flynn ’55, John Whorf ’80, Jim O’Keefe ’77, John Whoorf ’01 - Mario Palombo ’78
Class of 2012 - Bob Long ’81, John Hendy ’82, Derek Gagnon ’94, Nate Gravelle ’94, David Burrill ’02, Dan Rugguri ’06, Class of 2013 - Bob Long ’81, John Hendy ’82, Derek Gagnon ’94, Nate Gravelle ’94, David Burrill ’02, Dan Rugguri ’06, Class of 2014 - Alen S. McKim, Jim Cabucio ’82, Peter Hexter, Tom Duggan ’93, Mark Mozelak ’09
Class of 2015 - Alen S. McKim, Jim Cabucio ’82, Peter Hexter, Tom Duggan ’93, Mark Mozelak ’09
A LOOK AT RECENT ACADEMY EVENTS

Admiral’s Scholarship Gala OCTOBER 17, 2015

Friends of the Academy gathered for a celebratory evening designed to raise funds for cadet scholarships.
Current cadets and alumni alike celebrated the camaraderie that is Massachusetts Maritime Academy during Homecoming Weekend 2015.
Loved ones wish cadets, faculty, staff, and crew fair winds and calm seas as they embark on a six-week Sea Term with stops in Panama, Costa Rica, Aruba, and Florida.
While in Panama, the Kennedy welcomed alumni and distinguished guests for a reception on the Helo Deck. The ship’s Master was honored with the announcement of the Captain Thomas Bushy Panama Student Scholarship.
Home sweet home. After six weeks of countless drills, hours of class time, four ports, and a humanitarian delivery, cadets and crew members were greeted by family and friends who cheered along the Cape Cod Canal all the way to campus.
On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Maritime Academy Alumni Association (MMAAA), I wish you all a happy and healthy spring. Alumni, Inc. (as it was called in 1916) turns 100 years old in 2016. Wow, have things changed. The MMAAA has some special events planned that are sure to please all. Our goals for the centennial celebration are to honor our past, celebrate the present, and look toward the future. We hope you will join us.

Ever since I joined the Board of Directors, 14 short years ago, MMAAA has had many discussions on how to get the word out about the organization and how to increase our membership. The latest numbers from Membership Chair Capt. Frank Cantelmo ’71 show there are 872 paid members (from the classes of 1966–2014) and 622 Life members (from the Class of 1965 and earlier). Additionally, there are 5,712 non-paid alumni. Obviously, there is much room for improvement. How can this be achieved? I hope the following brief explanation about our organization and our mission will help do that.

Many alumni do not realize that the MMAAA is a separate organization from the Academy. Yes, we work together and have some overlapping goals, but we are not the Academy. Our Board is an elected group of volunteers who meet once a month. The MMAAA is a 501(c)3 non-profit and governed by its own bylaws. Our mission is simple: to promote networking and social events for our members.

Over the past several years, the Board has worked hard to increase the number of social gatherings. However, we often hear comments like, “I didn’t know there was a Red Sox event?” “How come I didn’t hear about the Bruins game?” “The golf event is sold out?” There are three ways that events are advertised: The Bulletin, our web site, and word of mouth. All paid members receive The Bulletin six times per year. It is the primary source of information about what goes on within the MMAAA. Also, information is available on our web site, www.mmaaa.org.

Another question we are often asked is regarding donations. Many alumni donate directly to the school — and that is fantastic. Some of us donate to the Alumni Association — also fantastic. If money comes to the MMAAA, we acknowledge your contributions (General and/or Scholarship Fund) in a small way via The Bulletin. The generosity of alumni and friends during our membership drive, Homecoming raffle, and the two golf outings also allows us to give out an impressive $44,000 per year in scholarships.

The Board recently voted to increase the scholarship sum and the scope of recipients. The letters of appreciation and face-to-face thanks from the scholarship recipients are proof enough that this is money well spent! Our Scholarship Committee reviews applications closely with the Academy (Cathy Kedski,}

**EIGHT BELLS**

The Massachusetts Maritime Academy family was shocked this past October when the disappearance of the Container Ship *El Faro* made headlines. Two of the 33 crew members were MMA alumni: Jeffrey Mathias ’96 and Keith Griffin ’05. On Sea Term 2016, Captain Bushy stopped the T.S. *Kennedy* at the last known position of *El Faro* and held a memorial ceremony, which included lowering a wreath into the sea while eight bells were rung. Our deepest sympathy to Jeff’s and Keith’s loved ones.

**NETWORKING IN ACTION**

The Boston Foreign Commerce Club, Inc. was founded in 1932 to promote international trade in the region, and specifically to support activity in the Port of Boston. Each year, the club’s holiday gathering is attended by folks in the maritime sector, including carriers, importers, exporters, forwarders, custom brokers, and Massport.

This past December, a group of International Maritime Business cadets joined Bob Coyne ’64 at the Boston Foreign Commerce Club’s Christmas Dinner at the Park Plaza Hotel in Boston.
Members of the MMA Parents Association were hard at work raising money for their cadets during Departure Day.

Leanne Avakian
PRESIDENT,
MMA PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Currently the MMAPA is working on our biggest annual fundraisers. We raffle off a seven-day cruise to the Caribbean and sell Sea Term T-shirts, Sea Term commemorative steins and certificates, and etched glassware. We also sell all of our usual items via mail at this time of year, in an effort to reach those folks who are not able to be on campus during our traditional “sell days.” The proceeds from these fundraisers benefit all cadets. We deliver two checks to the financial aid office: one on the day the T.S. Kennedy departs for Sea Term and the other at the end of the academic year. On Departure Day 2016, we were proud to donate $18,000 to the Academy in support of the cadets.

The arrival of spring brings with it preparations for graduation and the incoming class. The MMAPA has a presence at Welcome Aboard, which is the day the incoming cadets and their parents come to the school to meet with representatives and learn about what is next on their MMA journey.

We are taking names and encouraging people to join the MMAPA Executive Board for the 2016–2017 academic year — all positions are open. Elections will be held at our May 10, 2016, meeting. Please direct related questions or expressions of interest to any member of the current Board. All of our email addresses can be found online at www.maritime-parents.org. I can say for certain, the benefits I personally have gained in my three years on the Board have been immeasurable. I highly recommend taking the time to share your time, if you are able.
MASTERING THE SAILS

Cadets on the masts during Sea Term.
Boston Marine Society
THE OLDEST MARINE SOCIETY IN THE WORLD
EST. 1742

The Boston Marine Society is proud to support
Massachusetts Maritime Academy’s
Admiral’s Scholarship Gala
BELIEVE IN US. INVEST IN THEM.

EACH YEAR HUNDREDS OF ALUMNI, PARENTS, CORPORATIONS, AND FRIENDS OF THE ACADEMY MAKE THEIR BEST GIFT TO SUPPORT MMA. YOUR GIFTS HELP MMA PROVIDE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS AND ENSURE THE EXCELLENCE THAT DEFINES MMA CONTINUES WELL INTO THE FUTURE.

DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

A GIFT OF $50 ALLOWS ONE CADET TO GO OUT FOR FOUR HOURS ON THE MMA’S TRAINING VESSEL RANGER.

SUPPORTING A BUCS ATHLETIC TEAM WITH FIVE GIFTS OF $150 WILL GET THEM TO AND FROM AN AWAY GAME.

A TRANSPORT THROUGH THE PANAMA CANAL FOR ONE CADET CAN BE COVERED BY ONE GIFT OF $250.

DURING THE SIX-WEEK SEA TERM, A GIFT OF $350 FEEDS TWO HARDWORKING CADETS FOR A WEEK.

$2,500 COVERS THE COST OF A CADET ATTENDING THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MARITIME UNIVERSITIES EDUCATIONAL CONSORTIUM.

THESE ARE JUST A FEW EXAMPLES OF WHAT YOUR GIFTS SUPPORT AT MMA.

MAKE YOUR BEST GIFT TODAY AT WWW.MARITIME.EDU/GIVE!