



From the Fort: YOUR Alumni Newsletter
November 15, 2024

From the President

The PROP (Privateer Recruiting Officer Program) is off to a rousing start. Twelve (12) PROP candidates were onsite on September 16th, one day before the Admiral's dinner. A detailed and informative PROP training curriculum was designed by Dean of Admissions Danielle "Danny" Robinson in conjunction with senior leadership, academic deans, and department heads across campus. Training covers all academic departments, admissions requirements, the Regiment, the license program, Traditional student intern requirements, student life including support, career fair and job placement practices, and speaking with today's high school students. This immersive training exposes PROP participants to information relevant to how the school operates today, not back in "the old days." We are currently working on the next onsite training evolution in late November/early December.

If you are interested in becoming a PROP candidate, please reach out to me directly at president@maritimecollegeaa.org.

Any comments or suggestions regarding YOUR newsletter, please contact our Editor, Don Gale, at Editor@MaritimeCollegeAA.org.

Stephen J. Carbery '80
President MCAA

Association News

The Swag Shop is now open until November 17th! Last Call!

Commemorate the 150th Anniversary of Maritime College with a Limited-Edition Fort Schuyler Blanket, featuring ALL the training ships. This item can be customized with your name and class year - it is an excellent gift! Plus, the return of the iconic "Ship Shirt," Carhartt and cozy sweatshirts, and professional polos (including Ladies Fit)! Act fast—these exclusive items won't last long!

[Shop Here by 11/17](#)

The SWAG SHOP is OPEN!



Homecoming Weekend a Winner!

Alumni flocked to campus on October 18-19 to hook up with classmates and friends old and new for Homecoming weekend. Everyone was a winner at the Ancient Mariner Golf Outing at Pelham

Bay and Split Rock Golf Course, and the Privateers' 42-35 grid win over Worcester Polytech added to the Maritime fervor. At the Annual Meeting, MCAA President Steve Carbery '80 celebrated the past year's achievements, thanked officers, board and committee members for their efforts, and outlined upcoming MCAA plans to partner with the College on recruitment. "Our connection with the College is as strong as ever, especially with Admiral Okon at the helm!" says Steve. To view photos from the weekend's festivities, please click [HERE](#).

Fall Networking and Nominations Event

Meet up Tuesday, November 27 from 6:00 to 9:00 PM, at Reichenbach Hall (5 West 37th St, New York, NY) to network and to nominate fellow alumni for 2025 officer and board positions. Click [HERE](#) to register. If you are unable to attend but wish to nominate an officer or board member, please send your request to fmichael2@gmail.com and you will be contacted with instructions.



SAVE THE DATE! January 30, 2025 A Sesquicentennial Celebration in Manhattan

The MCAA honors the 150th Anniversary of the founding of the New York Nautical School, precursor to SUNY Maritime College, in 1874 with a commemorative dinner Thursday, January 30, at Tribeca Rooftop in Manhattan, NY. Reminiscent of the Association's 1974 Centennial Ball in Flushing Meadows Park, the Sesquicentennial Celebration will feature keynote speaker Rear Admiral Philip Sobeck, USNA '91, Commander, Military Sealift Command. Interested in attending, sponsoring, underwriting or volunteering? Click [HERE](#).

Greek Chapter Closer to Reality!

A group of around 30 Greek alumni are on the verge of forming an MCAA Greek Chapter. Eight alumni gathered last January 25 in Greece, followed by a gathering of 14 alumni in Athens on October 9, with a gathering planned for Wednesday, November 27, right before Thanksgiving. A few formalities are pending for final Chapter formulation with the MCAA. "Keep moving the ball downfield – you are doing a great job," says MCAA Pres. Steve Carbery '80 to Capt. Dimitrios Kokkinis, representing the Greek contingent.

College News

CAPT Mark Woolley, USN (Ret.) Retires, Named Honorary Alumnus

Mark Woolley has been The Chief of Staff and Director for Institutional Research and Assessment at Maritime College since 2012. Woolley is a retired U.S. Navy Captain who served for 30 years. He was assigned to ships in the Atlantic and Pacific fleets and commanded the destroyer, USS Kinkaid. His service medals include: Defense Superior Service Medal, two Legion of Merit Medals, three Meritorious Service Medals, three Navy Commendation Medals, and the Navy Achievement Medal.

As Chief of Staff, Mark also served as the College's Director of Government Relations. Mark was a key player in obtaining funding for Empire State VII. Mark has represented three College presidents and worked closely with the Alumni Association and other groups. He is well known

among alumni through his association with the Marine Society of the City of New York and the NY Chapter of the U.S. Navy League. He has always taken a personal interest in mentoring cadets – from unsuspectingly sitting down with MUGs in the Mess Deck to find out “what’s really happening on campus,” to his friendly corrections for uniform and protocol issues. He has worked with alumni to promote legislative initiatives to benefit the College, including strengthening the Cadet Appointment Program (CAP) legislation, facilitating letter-writing campaigns by alumni to the State, and promoting Fort Schuyler to U.S. Representatives to suggest to students not admitted to U.S. service academies. Mark’s service to the College, and to advancing the Alumni Association’s desire to see the school thrive, are without question.

At the request of Admiral Okon and by unanimous vote of the MCAA Board of Directors, we bestowed the title of Honorary Alumnus to Captain Mark Woolley (USN RET.), Chief of Staff, SUNY Maritime College on October 1, 2024 at his “Farewell Celebration” held at Dakota’s on the Cove in the Bronx.

CAPT Thomas Murphy ’93 Named New Chief of Staff

On Monday, October 7, CAPT Thomas Murphy ’93, USN (Ret.) adopted his role as the College’s new Chief of Staff and Executive Director for Legislative and Government Affairs. As a Maritime alumnus with 30 years’ naval experience, he will provide valuable insight in shaping cadet training.

RADM Bob Roncska ’91 Looks “Beyond the Sea” with Book, Presentation

On Tuesday, October 8, at the Maritime Academic Center, RADM Dr. Robert “Navy Bob” Roncska ’91, USN (Ret.) kicked off the James Harvey Tomb Leadership Lecture Series. He spoke on the concept of “leading with love” that is presented in his new book “Beyond the Sea”. Bob is a former naval aide to POTUS, attack sub commander, hospital chain director, and now adjunct professor and business leadership consultant.

SUNY Job Opportunities

The University is looking to fill some openings associated with the Engine License program and would like to get the word out to the Alumni.

First and most immediate is a need to fill an opening for an STCW Engine License Instructor. This is a Full-Time 10-Month position with instructions being carried out on Campus. Instruction would be both classroom, onboard, and in Labs. It is an excellent opportunity for recent grads (with five years) that are interested in coming ashore and possibly looking to attain an advanced degree. Job Postings are available [HERE](#).

Save The Date for Summer Sea Term

Summer Sea Term 2025 is months away but we are planning now and ask alumni to consider the opportunity. The Engine Training and Operations department of the TSES VII would like you all to consider participating in SST 2025. Individuals with active USCG licenses are needed for watch standing or training. If your license is inactive, you can still be an instructor in the training department. If you are able, please consider helping us with the upcoming 2025 summer training cruise.

Timing: Posting of jobs and applications will be available in January 2025. We want to put this on the minds and calendars of interested folks now so that if you require job coordination, application for a TWIC, MMC, or medical certificate, that you have plenty of time.

Cruise Dates: Pre-cruise starts May 30th and the ship is scheduled to depart Maritime College on June 4th. The ship returns on August 6th and "post cruise" ends on August 8th. Ports and dates are not available at this time. There are usually "segments or legs" of the cruise that can be done.

Please consider this opportunity. If you need help with TWIC, Med certificates, and MMD

paperwork contact Catherine Strez (cstrez@sunymaritime.edu). She can help you navigate this process.



Alumni Spotlight: Gerhard "Gary" Mueller '52

Learn about alumnus Gerhard "Gary" Mueller, Class of 1952, by reading his story [HERE](#).

Gary is pictured with his wife, Edith, at a recent Tampa Chapter event.

Upcoming Events

Friday, November 22 at 5:00 PM: **New Jersey Chapter Meet Up** at Birdsmouth Beer (675 Oceanport Way, Oceanport, NJ) No registration required, cash bar.

Tuesday, November 26 at 6:00 PM: **Networking & Nominations** Reichenbach Hall (5 West 37th St, New York, NY). Click [HERE](#) to register.

Thursday, December 12 at 5:30-9:00 PM– **Del Val Philadelphia Chapter's 15th Annual All-Maritime Academy Holiday Party** at Spasso's Italian Grill, Philadelphia, PA. Registration coming soon

Tuesday, January 7 at 10:00 AM-12:00 PM – **Tampa Chapter Port Boat Tour** . Free to attend; limited space! Details & Registration [HERE](#).

Thursday, January 30 at 6:00 PM - **150th Anniversary Gala** at Tribeca Rooftop in Manhattan. Formal Invitation to follow.

Please email communications@maritimecollegeaa.org or editor@maritimecollegeaa.org for local POC's for all events.

Signal Flags

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

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From Your Friends at the Maritime College Alumni Association



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