



From the Fort: YOUR Alumni Newsletter  
September 12, 2024

## From the President

I hope you've been fortunate to kick back, relax, and enjoy special times this summer. While our board has taken a break from meetings in July and August, we've continued attending to the business of your Alumni Association. On July 1st, Rear Admiral John Okon '91 (USN, ret.) took over as President of Maritime College, and he and I have already had several very productive meetings. Admiral Okon is addressing crucial issues now facing the College, including enrollment challenges and their financial impact. Read on to learn how alumni will soon be empowered to help meet this challenge. I was also honored to be invited aboard TSES VII for her arrival at the Port of New York Tuesday, August 6th, and to ride her up the East River back to campus. As our uniformed cadets manned her rails and with a small group of Sandy Hook Pilots and VIPs on her bridge, I couldn't help but feel pride in our Maritime traditions being carried forth. Capping off TSES VII's arrival was a masterful stern-around docking maneuver executed by our own Captain Morgan McManus '92 that was nothing short of stellar. Bravo Zulu, Skipper!

Both our legacy Long Island Chapter and our brand-new Tampa Bay Chapter took time for gatherings during the tranquil summer days, about which you'll read herein. As summer becomes fall, we look forward to the Admiral's Dinner Tuesday, September 17th, the Ancient Mariner Golf Outing Friday, October 18th, and Homecoming Day Saturday, October 19th. Please mark your calendars and make each of these events an opportunity to connect with friends and colleagues old and new.

Remember, too, that this is YOUR newsletter. Please send your comments and suggestions on how we can better serve you to our Editor, Don Gale, at [Editor@MaritimeCollegeAA.org](mailto:Editor@MaritimeCollegeAA.org).

Stephen J. Carbery '80  
President MCAA

## Admiral Okon on Leadership

"I break it down to KYKO, GYGO. Know yourself; know others. Grow yourself; grow others. ... Continually [grow] yourself through life-long learning and relevance. And [build] the lives of those that are under [your] charge." – RADM John Okon '91, for The Fort Schuyler magazine, October 2022

## Association News

MCAA President Stephen Carbery '80 on Captain Morgan McManus '92's Docking of TSES VII at Olivet Pier

“With 12 Sandy Hook docking pilots, one McAllister pilot, Admiral Okon, and several VIPs on the bridge, plus two McAllister tugs shadowing to assist, Captain McManus brought the ship nose-on to the pier, swung the stern around to starboard, and brought her right up alongside the bulkhead with barely a shudder. It was a masterful thing to witness.” Home port arrival and docking of TSES VII can be viewed [HERE](#).

### **PROP: Privateer Recruiting Officer Program**

The MCAA, in concert with the Admissions department, has developed a program that will aid President John Okon '91 in recruiting students to enroll at Maritime College. Twenty-five hand-picked alumni have been asked to join the PROP, our new Privateer Recruiting Officer Program, for a “soft start” that will include a training session on Monday, September 16th, before the Admiral’s Dinner. PROP will be expanded in coming months. Stay tuned!

### **CONTENT CALL: Fort Schuyler Magazine, Fall '24 Issue – Alumni News and Maritime Memories**

Please submit stories and photos of achievements, family, work, and travels for the Class Notes, Industry Encounters, and Where in the World segments of Alumni News by September 30th. We are also collecting Maritime Memories – stories and photos of your time as a Maritime College student! Click [HERE](#) to send us your submissions.

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## **College News**

### **Dr. Craig J. Wright – Dean of Student Affairs**

On Monday, July 8th, Dr. Craig J. Wright stepped in as Dean of Student Affairs at Maritime College. With over 20 years of student life and student development experience, Dr. Wright last served as Vice President for Equity and Inclusion at Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT. “I am excited and honored to be joining SUNY Maritime during its 150th anniversary,” says Dr. Wright.

### **INDOC Class of 2028!**

INDOC, or indoctrination to the Maritime College Regiment, took place Wednesday, August 14th – Saturday, August 24th. Of 343 entrants, 330 successfully completed INDOC, built teamwork and leadership skills, and were acclimated to campus life as a Mariner Under Guidance (MUG).

### **Opening Day August 25th: Enrollment Stats – Pam Jones, SUNY Maritime Director of Communications**

- Freshmen: Regiment – 270; Traditional – 123; Class of '28 total – 393
  - Transfer students: Regiment – 31; Traditional – 22; Total – 53
  - Graduate students: Regiment – 25; Traditional – 59; Total – 84
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## **Upcoming Events**

**Ports of Philadelphia Maritime Society** – The Del Val Chapter is attending the 55th Annual Crab Feast & Russ Larsen Memorial Golf Outing on Friday, September 13th from 0730 - 1800. Click [HERE](#) for more information & registration.

**Admiral’s Dinner** – Tuesday, September 17th, 1730 hrs., Marina Del Rey, Bronx, NY. Click [HERE](#) to register.

**New York Maritime Inc. (NYMAR) presents "A Troubled Bridge Over New York Waters: What If?"** – Thursday, September 26th at 1600. Featured speakers include Bethann Rooney '91 and Captain Tim Ferrie '78. Discussion / prognosis of a ship-bridge allision in NYC waters. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

**Second Annual Patrick Baeszler '14 Memorial Golf Outing** – Friday, September 27th at Silver Lake Golf Course, Staten Island, NY. The event is full but there is a waitlist and

sponsorship opportunities available.) Visit the website [HERE](#) or contact Josh Renta at [maritimegolfclub@gmail.com](mailto:maritimegolfclub@gmail.com) with any questions.

**Tunnel to Towers Foundation “Jonathan’s Way”** – The family of Det. Jonathan Diller '14 has formed a team to run the Tunnel to Towers Race on September 29th. Click [HERE](#) to show your support.

**Houston Chapter's Inaugural Golf Classic** – Monday, September 30th, 0700 - 1600 hrs. CDT, The Club at Falcon Point, Katy, TX. Information & registration [HERE](#).

**Maritime College Career Fair** – Wed. October 9th and Thurs. October 10th, 1200 – 1600 hrs. daily, Maritime Academic Center (MAC) Multi-purpose Room (MPR). Contact Michelle Reina, Director of Career Planning and Development at Maritime College, [Careerservices@sunymaritime.edu](mailto:Careerservices@sunymaritime.edu) for registration information.

**Class of '57 Reunion** – The Class of '57 is having a small gathering for their 67th reunion on October 8th and 9th in Mystic, CT.

**Ancient Mariner Golf Outing** – Friday, October 18th, 0700 – 1600 hrs., Pelham Bay and Split Rock Golf Courses, Bronx, NY. Click [HERE](#) for registration.

**Homecoming Day** – Saturday, October 19th, SUNY Maritime College

- Alumni Tailgate, 0900 – register for space [HERE](#).
- Class of '74 50th Reunion – Reunion Events registration [HERE](#)
- 50<sup>th</sup> and later Quinquennial Reunion Class Breakfast, 0830, Stephen B. Luce Library, '74/'69/64/59/'54 classes only – register [HERE](#)
- Quinquennial (5 Year) reunion Classes '4 and '9 events
- MCAA Annual Meeting, 1200 -1300 hrs. – Reisenberg Gymnasium, Band Room
- Football Game – Privateers vs. Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) – 1400 hrs, Reinhart Field
- Post-Game Alumni Celebration – Paddy's On The Bay, 50 Pennyfield Ave., Bronx, NY, 1600 – 1900 hrs. Register [HERE](#).

**International Propeller Club Annual Convention** – Wednesday-Friday, October 23rd-25th. Tampa, FL. For more information & registration, click [HERE](#).

## Around the Ports: MCAA Chapters

A new Greek Chapter should launch in the next few weeks – stay tuned!

### Recent Events



#### Long Island Chapter

On Saturday, August 17, alumni with the Long Island Chapter from 1965 to 2023 gathered at Ralph's Fishing Station and



#### Tampa Bay Chapter

Tuesday, August 20, saw nearly 60 alumni, plus another 20 industry colleagues, gather with the newly-formed

Marina, operated by Jill Davenport '13 and her family, for the fourth consecutive year.

Tampa Bay Chapter from across Florida. Gary Mueller '52 and wife, Edith, were accommodated with a special visit. All agreed that the event exceeded expectations.

## Signal Flags

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

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

From Your Friends at the Maritime College Alumni Association





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