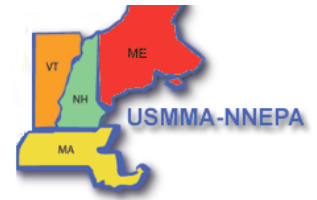




United States Merchant Marine Academy

Northern New England Parents Association



Volume 3 Issue 2

NNEPA NEWS

October 2007

FULL STEAM AHEAD

The Northern New England Parents Association has been busy pursuing its mission of providing a means of communication between the Academy and the midshipman parents by offering opportunities for fellowship and mutual support among parents whose sons and daughters are undergoing a rugged academic, physical, and military training program while enhancing the image of the United States Merchant Marine Academy in the northern New England area and promoting the academy to others who are interested in attending.

QUARTERLY MEETING

Normally, we hold quarterly meetings – HOWEVER, with our Parents Group in charge of hosting the New England All Service Academy Holly Ball this year it will be necessary to have more frequent meetings to make sure all the planning is going smoothly.

Since the Kings Pointer will be in Boston for a few days we would like to hold our meeting there to discuss the planning and operation of the Holly Ball. The Meeting will be on SUNDAY October 28 at 11:00 AM. With this event coming up in just three months, we will need everyone's help to pull it off. Please plan on attending.

Our last Quarterly Meeting was held at Kings Point on Parents weekend. Thank you for attending. It was a pleasure to meet many of you. For those of you we have not yet met, please introduce yourself at our next event. At this meeting, we adopted our new Constitution and By-Laws. Everyone should have received a copy in the mail. They are posted on our website for your reference.

If you have not been receiving emails with the subject USMMA-NNEPA NEWS, please call Karen Peterson at 603-493-5643 and make sure that she has your correct email address.

SHIPS AHOY

Fair winds and following seas are wished to all 2009 and 2010 Northern New England Midshipmen on "A" split midshipmen as they head out to sea. We want to share

in all your exotic and adventurous experiences, so please write your parents so they can pass on the info. We want to know your ships and ports and what you have seen and learned. Each of you are in our thoughts and prayers as you continue your education out at sea.

Welcome home 2009 "B" Splits and 2010 "B" Splits, we hope you had a great time at Sea – learned a lot and most of all finished your Sea Projects. We can't wait to hear about your exotic and adventurous experiences.

IN MEMORIUM

It is with deep regret that we notify you of the passing of Lieutenant (j.g.) Jerry R. Smith, United States Navy, a member of the USMMA Class of 2003. Lieutenant Smith was missing and presumed killed when his E2-C Hawkeye crashed during a training exercise off the North Carolina coast on Wednesday, August 15th. Also missing and presumed killed were LT Cameron N. Hall, of Natchitoches, La.; and LT Ryan K. Betton, of Collinsville, Va. All three were members of the Greyhawks of Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 120, and were flying off the USS *Harry S. Truman*.

You may send your condolences to Lieutenant Smith's parents:

Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Smith
Post Office Box 744
Greenville, ME 04441

NO MORE PLEBE CANDIDATES

Heartfelt Congratulations to all Northern New England 2011 Plebes. On September 15th they were accepted as Plebes in the Regiment of Midshipmen and as members of the Naval Reserve. They include Plebe Nicholas Aswad of Burlington, VT, Plebe Scott Bridge of Rye, NH, Plebe Matthew Bullard of Dartmouth, MA, Plebe Brian Curran of Plymouth, MA, Plebe Jeffrey Fasoli of Amherst, NH, Plebe Colin Giles of Brentwood, NH, Plebe Jean-Luc Gordon of Frankestown, Plebe Zachary Gray of Sitate, MA, Plebe Nicholas Hallam of Bourne MA, Plebe Thomas McLoughlin of Ipswich, MA, Plebe Vincent Renaut of Plymouth, MA, Plebe Thomas Smillie of Steep Falls, ME, Plebe Hunter Smith of Marblehead, MA, Plebe Merlin Suggs of Bath, ME, and Plebe Mark Trask of Mashpee, MA. Know that all

Northern New England Midshipmen and parents are proud of your accomplishment!

BLING! BLING! THEY GOT THEIR RINGS!

Ring Dance for the Class of 2008 was held August 24, 2007 at the New York Marriott Times Square. Thank you to the Class of 2011 for welcoming this momentous event, with the drawing of their Ring on the Grinder the morning of the dance. The class of 2008 is now sporting their new hardware and looking forward to licensing and graduation. Walking thru the ring were: MN Mark G. Burns, MN Meagan Fahey, MN Christopher Lancaster, MN Daniel Lancaster, MN Shamus O'Shea, and MN Jaquelyn Peterson.

SPORTS NEWS

The following Northern New England Midshipmen and Plebes have made the USMMA LaCrosse Team. Plebe Scott Bridge, Plebe Jean Luc Gordon, Plebe Zachary Gray, Plebe Hunter Smith, MN Kevin Campbell and MN Keegan Boyle. This is a large group from our area. The Lacrosse team has joined a new athletic conference and unfortunately this means that there will be no games in the Northern New England area during the upcoming year. The closest game will be Union College in Schenectady NY (24 April), which about 3.5 hours from Boston.

USMMA midshipmen participated in the Twenty-third Annual Gloucester Schooner Festival the weekend of August 31 - September 3, 2007. Assisting the crew of the Lettie G. Howard were 4 USMMA midshipmen including one of our own, Jaquelyn Peterson from Merrimack.

On September 22, We (NNEPA) welcomed USMMA Mariner Football to New England as they played Worcester Polytechnic Engineers. The game did not turn out as we would have hoped, but a good time was had by all.

On September 30, The Men's and Women's Crew teams from USMMA participated in the Textile River Regatta. This annual race takes place along the Merrimack River in Lowell, MA. USMMA brought home many honors. Our own Meghan Fahey from Plymouth is the Captain of the Women's team.

TAILGATING EVENTS

October 20-21 Head of the Charles Regatta -- Join us as we head down with a picnic for the USMMA Crew team and cheer them on as they accept the challenge of some

of the Top Crew teams in the Nation at this Annual event.

GOODIE BOXES

Any midshipmen will tell you that there is a direct correlation with the consumption of chocolate and the retention of educational facts and figures and that it especially applies to maritime facts and figures. We as a parent's organization provide "goodie boxes" for each of our New England students. Linda Flynn has asked many of you to make one or possibly more than one to send down a box during the week of October 15. Many of you have stepped forward to assist in this effort. Thank you. These goodie boxes usually consist of granola bars, nuts, dried fruit, microwave popcorn, powdered energy drinks, power bars and of-course chocolate. Sometimes fun things such as silly string and bubbles have been included. This activity was one of our first endeavors as an organization and was very well received by the midshipmen. The handwritten personal notes of appreciation were well worth the cost and effort involved in the preparation and shipping of the boxes.

FINAL EXAMS

This academy is academically challenging even for the best of students. Finals weeks are tough especially when they have to juggle sports practices and trainings, possibly games and regimental duties. Be prepared to hear complaints and just listen – and remember it will blow over.

TRAVEL PLANS

They will want to leave campus as soon as possible after the completion of their last exam and checkout. Try to make travel arrangements that accommodate their requests. There are a number of simple ways for the kids to return to Boston from NYC. For your convenience we have included the information below.

Chinatown Bus Services: *Due to popularity of chinatown bus, most buses will be very full, please make reservation ahead of time to guarantee your seat.

Midshipmen will take a taxi or bus or grab a ride from another midshipman from the Academy gate to the Long Island Railroad Station in Great Neck. They will take the LIRR to Penn Station NYC.

If they take **Amtrak**, that is where they catch their train. Amtrak runs 17 trains daily from NYC Penn Station to Boston South Station. This trip takes 4.5 hours for the regional service and the Acela (express) service takes 3.5 hours. The one advantage to taking the train is that they can hook up their computer and work

on homework (upperclassmen) or watch movies or sleep while they travel home.

If they are taking the Fung Wah Chinese bus then they will follow the Subway directions here:

Take either B, or D to Grand St then walk two blocks south to Canal. Alternatively, take either 6, N, Q, R, J, M, Z to Canal St and walk 7-8 blocks east to the Bowery.

The Fung Wah Bus runs 18 buses daily from Chinatown NYC at 139 Canal Street to Chinatown Boston at 700 Atlantic Ave, South Station gate 25.

<http://www.chinatown-bus.com/fung-wah-flyer.htm>
info: 212-925-8889, 718-438-3300.

If they are taking the Travel Pack/Lucky Star Chinese bus then they will follow the Subway directions here:

Take either B, or D to Grand St then walk one block south to Hester. Alternatively, take either 6, N, Q, R, J, M, Z to Canal St and walk 7-8 blocks east to the Bowery, and one block north to Hester.

The Travel Pack/Lucky Star runs 15 buses daily from NYC at 69 Chrystie St. to Boston 700 Atlantic Ave, South Station gate 13.

<http://www.chinatown-bus.com/travel-pack-flyer.htm>
info: 888-881-0887
<http://www.chinatown-bus.com/lucky-star-flyer.htm>
info: 888-881-0887

Other Bus Services:

Boston Deluxe runs 3 buses Fri, Sat, Sun from 2 NYC Stops. Pickup/Dropoff #1 is the News Stand at 1250 Broadway, at 32nd St and Pickup/Dropoff #2: is the coffee shop at Second Ave, and E 86th St. The bus makes two stops one in Hartford, CT at the Charter Oak Supermarket at 365 Capitol Ave then one in Boston: at the Christian Science Plaza at 175 Huntington Ave.

LimoLiner runs 2-3 buses daily from NYC. The Pickup/Dropoff is at the Hilton New York, 1335 6th Ave (at 53rd St) with Pickup/Dropoff at Hilton Back Bay at 40 Dalton St (at Boylston St).

There are often Upperclassmen or parents who are willing to give rides to underclassmen – the only problem is timing often they will complete their final exams hours or even a day before.

FALL LEAVE

Fall Trimester Leave begins on Friday 26 October and runs thru Sunday 4 November. Plebes and Midshipmen are not to make travel plans in conflict with exam schedules and may not depart until cleared by their company officer.

Fall Trimester ends on 4 November and all MIDN Officers must return to campus no later than 1200. Those MIDN who are returning from their sea terms (2009B and 2010B) must report no later than 1200 on 4 November. All Plebes must be on campus at 1800 hours for their Plebe Knowledge Test. Please remember to not try to cut it to close – traffic is not an excuse for being late. This is also the end of Daylight Savings Time so Remember, Set your clocks back one hour.

Second Term Classes begin on Tuesday, 6 November.

KINGS POINTER IS COMING TO BOSTON and NEW LONDON

During the Fall Break when most are enjoying their visits with family and friends, some of our Midshipmen will be bringing the M/V Kings Pointer to Northern New England on a Training Trip. The M/V Kings Pointer will depart Kings Point on October 26 and arrive in Boston on October 27. They leave Boston on the Morning of October 28 to go to Portland. They will be in Portland, ME from October 29 until the Morning of October 31 when they will head back toward Kings Point stopping in New London. They will return to the Academy on Sunday November 4.

HOLLY BALL IS ONLY 3 MONTHS AWAY!

We need everyone's help!!

Mark Your Calendar for December 28, 2007. That is the Night that NNEPA will host the 2007 New England All Service Academy Holly Ball (NEASAB) at the Hyatt Regency Boston .

All 5 Federal Service Academy's will be attending. This is a annual formal Dinner Dance is a great holiday event. Please plan on attending and helping with our fundraising activities. Fundraising Letters have been going out but responses are sparse. IF you know of a company that would like to advertise, please contact Karen Peterson and ask for a letter to send them.

We need companies to advertise at this event. A sponsorship will help pay for the attendance of Midshipmen and Cadets and will get their company

name in front the best and brightest Service Men and Women (and future employees) available. These young men and women are those who have chosen service above self by choosing to serve and protect our country and what it stands for, and will go on to be leaders of industry. When they provide an advertising sponsorship at this event it will give these young men and women the opportunity to see that the company is one that appreciates them and the choices that they have made and would be the caliber of company that would value them as an employee.

If you can help or have any special talents be sure to call Karen Peterson to offer your services. 603-493-5643

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

NNEPA has made a special Christmas ornament for each of our NNEPA midshipman to be displayed on the Christmas tree in Wiley Hall. This annual event is coordinated by Shirley Anthony the Parents Association Academy Coordinator and the National Parents Association. Make sure to tell your Midshipman to stop by during December and check it out.

FUNDRAISING

The NNEPA current fundraising effort that assists us in continued support of the midshipmen consistent with our mission statement is the selling of our beautiful ceramic coasters imprinted with the USMMA logo are sold in sets of 4 for a charge of \$20. Please add \$5 for shipping.

Orders for these items should be forwarded to:
USMMA – NNEPA
Laura Hickey - Treasurer
125 Oak Street
South Weymouth, MA 02190
email: Laura_Hickey@sshosp.org
(Be sure to include USMMA NNEPA in the reference or email will not be opened)
Checks should be payable to USMMA-NNEPA

These make great gifts for Friends and Family.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

How can I help, you ask?

The NNEPA is always interested in having parents to participate. A variety of opportunities exist! If you have any ideas for activities or fundraising – We would love to hear from you!!

Many thanks go to Linda Flynn who has again taken on the awesome responsibility of coordinating the sending

of “goodie/cram” boxes to the midshipmen during exam weeks three times each year. This activity was one of our first endeavors as an organization and was very well received by the midshipmen. Enclosures included granola bars, cookies, nuts and candy. The handwritten personal notes of appreciation were well worth the cost and effort involved in the preparation and shipping of the boxes.

WEB SITE

The “official” NNEPA website up. Check it out at www.usmma-nnepa.org today!

Please send any news (school activities, athletic scores/awards, sea duty adventures/countries) on your midshipman or plebe candidate to karen@mainstream.net

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

NNEPA membership has many rewards.

Joining is easy!

PLEASE JOIN US! We encourage all USMMA parents to become members of the USMMA-Northern New England Parents’ Club (NNEPA). Our annual dues are \$50 per year per family for all Classes payable June 30 for the 2007-2008 school year. This is your only commitment if that is what you choose.

This money is used to support various Midshipmen activities such as Graduation gifts, and the Welcome Aboard Luncheon. As our funds increase we will include more activities.

We send “Boodle Boxes” to all our Midshipmen at the end of each trimester (except when at sea). We need volunteers to sign up to send one or two boodle boxes. Linda Flynn is the “Boodle Box” coordinator – look for email from her in October, February, and May. We appreciate all those who join in this endeavor as they are greatly appreciated by all the Plebes and Midshipmen.

Benefits to our midshipmen:

- We donate money to Midshipmen Morale funds that go to pay for Class events.
- Boodle bags (substantial treats for finals) for all 3 trimesters
- Birthday, holiday and get well cards
- Pay for our midshipmen to attend our Welcome Aboard Luncheon
- Pay for Graduation gifts for our Graduating First Classmen

Remember, whether you are a member or not your son/daughter receives all the benefits of being a member, so won't you please support our club and send in your membership soon. Please send your dues to the address listed below:

Make checks out USMMA-NNEPA
c/o Laura Hickey
125 Oak Street
South Weymouth, MA 02190

CONTACT INFORMATION

Presidents: Craig & Karen Peterson
24 Penny Lane
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Vice Presidents: Steve and Laura Hickey
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413.499.7999
email: aaron@flynnner.us

Fundraising
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38 Greenhouse Road
Forestdale, MA 02644
508.477.4321
email: capemassll@aol.com

Website/Publicity
Coordinators: Craig & Karen Peterson
24 Penny Lane
Merrimack, NH 03054
603.232.9112
email: craig@mainstream.net
karen@mainstream.net

Alumni-Parent
Liaison: Brigitte Corcoran
1016 Lincolnshire Dr.
North Attleboro, MA 02760
508.761.4509
email: gobrigitte@comcast.net

ANY NEWS???

(Next Newsletter comes out in January)

We need news for our January Newsletter! If your son or daughter has been at sea, send us stories – places, ships and fun happenings, participates in fall/winter sports – send us scores, highlights and interesting tidbits, has a new job or position at the academy in their company – send us the details, Is a senior – tell us how their License Prep is going and their Job hunt and Graduation Plans and for Plebe parents keep us up to date on your trip to your Plebes experiences.

Please send all information – by mail or email to:

James and Denise Baldwin
2 Winding Hollow Road
Amherst, NH 03031
603.673.8760
email: dmvdb@yahoo.com

Publication Months are July, October, January & April

USMMA Presents the New England All Service Academy Holly Ball

**Date: December 28, 2007
Where: Hyatt Regency Boston**

**Price: \$120.00 per couple
\$50.00 per midshipman and cadet**

**Cocktails & Registration - 6:30 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.
Seating begins at 7:15 p.m. with Grand March In at 7:30 p.m.
Invocation and Opening Ceremonies - 7:30 p.m. – 8:00 p. m.
Formal Dinner – 8:00 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.
Cake Cutting and Senior Presentations – 8:45 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Desert Service and Video Presentation - 9:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Dance - 9:30 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.**

**Formal Dress: Mess dress or service dress uniforms for Midshipmen and Cadets.
Suit and tie or tuxedo and cocktail dress or gown for guests. (Changing rooms will be
available for female Cadets and Midshipmen to change into gowns for the dance
portion of the evening.)**

Hotel Room Reservations:

**Must be made directly with The Hyatt Regency Reservations: (617) 912-1234
Ask for the special New England All Service Academy Ball rate of \$105 + taxes per
night. This special rate is also available for December 27,28,29,30,and 31 stays.**

COME SPEND NEW YEARS IN BOSTON!

**Reservations must be made by December 5, 2007 for this special rate – Reservations
after that date are subject to Regular Rates and Hotel Availability.**
