



United States Merchant Marine Academy Northern New England Parents Association



Volume 3 Issue 3

NNEPA NEWS

March 2008

PURSUING OUR MISSION

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.

HOLLY BALL RECAP

Thank you to all you who helped USMMA-NNEPA host the 30th New England All Service Academy Holly Ball. It was the first time that USMMA has hosted this event. Thanks go out to everyone who helped get sponsorships, get donations, make table decorations and check people in. Thank you again for all your help. Our Ball Sponsor was BAE Systems and they provided gift cards to each Midshipman and Cadet attending and additionally presented each graduating senior with a Leather Portfolio and \$50.00. Senators Judd Gregg and John Sununu of NH sponsored Midshipmen attending the ball. Penn Maritime sponsored the deserts that were made especially for the event by Fredericks Pastries. The Table favors were made possible by a discount from Lindt Chocolate USA. We had a delicious meal followed by Dancing that lasted until Midnight. Thank you to all who helped make this event a grand success.

SHIPS AHOY

Welcome home MN Matthew Goggin, MN James Henry Gurney, and MN Jay Voishnis our 2010 “A” Splits – we hope you had an excellent sea term and have put the finishing touches on your sea projects. We want to share in all your exotic and adventurous experiences, so please send us your photos and sea stories so that we can post them on our site. We want to know your ships and ports and what you have seen and learned.

Fair Winds and Following Seas to MN Andrew Baldwin, MN Joseph DeSantis, MN Patrick Flynn, MN Kristoffer Hickey, MN RJ Jameson, MN Ben Lyons and MN Peter

McCann our 2009 “A” splits who are currently out to sea on their final sea term and MN Keegan Boyle, MN John Cain, MN Kevin Cambell, MN Richard Curry, and MN Gregory Mansbach our 2010 “B” Splits, who are heading out to sea for their final sea term. We hope you have a great time at Sea – continue to learn a lot. We can’t wait to hear about your exotic and adventurous experiences. Each of you are in our thoughts and prayers as you continue your education out at sea.

QUARTERLY MEETING

We have had sparse attendance at our quarterly meetings. I am up for suggestions as to how we can enhance our attendance. Is there a place that is more central that we should consider? What day is better Saturday or Sunday? and what time? Our By-Laws require a Meeting in March or April to elect new officers. Please call 603-493-5643 or send me a quick email at karen@usmma-nnepa.org to let me know your preferences for a meeting location and time.

NEW OFFICERS

With the advent of the Spring Term we will be electing new Officer for NNEPA for the 2008-2009 calendar year. Please prepare your nominations and send them to karen@usmma-nnepa.org. We will be electing officers at our April Meeting.

WELCOME ABOARD

Can you believe that the Class of 2012 will be passing thru Vickery Gate in 4 months. Preparations are underway for our Annual Welcome Aboard Luncheon to welcome our New Candidates to USMMA.

Please mark your calendar and plan on attending to welcome our new members and candidates to our USMMA family.

USMMA-NNEPA

WELCOME ABOARD Luncheon

USMMA CLASS of 2012

When: June 21 2008

Time: 12:00 PM Business Meeting

1:00 PM Welcome Aboard Luncheon

Cost: 25.00 per person

Where: Joes American Bar and Grill

985 Providence Hwy

Dedham, MA

(781) 329-0800

NO MORE PLEBES!

On the morning of 21 Mar at 4:30 the Plebes were roused from their sleep for the experience of Recognition. This event marks the end of Plebe Year and the acceptance of the class of 2011 into the Regiment of Midshipman as Fourth Classmen. From this point forward the Class of 2011 will all will be known as Midshipmen.

GRADUATION IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

Graduation plans are well underway for the Class of 2008. With slightly less than 100 nights until Graduation and licensing beginning for some upon return from spring break. We wish all our prospective New England Graduates the best as they begin to prepare for Licensing and their last semester at Kings Point. Our 2008 Graduates are MN Mark Burns, MN Keegan Doig, MN Meagan Fahey, MN Christopher Lancaster, MN Daniel Lancaster, MN Shamus O'Shea and MN Jaquelyn Peterson.

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 "boodle 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 February 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.

SPORTS NEWS

Academy varsity teams enjoyed one of their best weekends in winter sports history. The Men's Swimming Team earned their first victory over Coast Guard (157-143) since 1985, improving their dual meet record to 9-1. They were led by First Classman Jay Carpenter, who won three events, including an NCAA B-cut in the 100 Breaststroke, and Plebe Nick Halbach, who set the pool high board diving mark and made NCAA cuts for both the low and high boards.

The Men's Basketball squad put themselves squarely in the Landmark Conference playoff picture with home victories over Scranton and Moravian with a 4-3 conference record and 9-9 overall. The Lady Hoopsters continued its best start in history by upsetting Landmark leader Moravian College 58-57 in O'Hara Hall to go 11-6 overall and 3-4 in conference play.

The 19th-rank Wrestlers remained perfect in Centennial Conference competition at 5-0 with victories over Ursinus (21-12), conference champs past five years, Muhlenberg (38-5) and Stevens Tech (26-11). Plebes Jim Beshada and New England's own Vincent Renaut, 3/c Eric Vincent and Phil Greene were victorious in all three matches.

USMMA Mens Swimming and Diving completed its season on February 15-17 when the Landmark Championships were held at USMMA. The Men placed First and won the Landmark while the Women placed Sixth Overall. USMMA senior Jaquelyn Peterson and Plebe Nicholas Hallbach were named Landmark Divers of the Year after their First Place Finsh on both 1M and 3M. Congratulations to all.

The LaCrosse season opens on February 20th and it will be an exciting season for our Northern New England Midshipmen and Plebes who 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 which unfortunately 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. We will be watching for you and wish you great success.

USMMA ALERT SYSTEM FOR PARENTS

The United States Merchant Marine Academy has established a cell phone and email alert system for parents to inform you of any developing campus emergencies. This system will supplement a separate on-campus system for midshipmen, faculty and staff.

Please read the letter from the Superintendent at http://www.usmma.edu/parents/AAS_Letter_from_SUP_T.pdf.

You can register for the system by going here: <http://www.e2campus.com/my/usmma2/signup.htm>

WHITE HOUSE INTERNSHIPS

The application deadline for the Summer 2008 White House Internship is February 26, 2008.

A White House Internship is an opportunity for current students and recent graduates to experience everyday life at the White House while working with high-level officials on a variety of tasks and projects.

Strong applicants should exhibit:

- Sound academic credentials
- A demonstrated interest in public service
- Solid written and verbal communication skills
- A history of community involvement
- Strong character and leadership skills

Beyond experiencing the day-to-day operations of the White House, interns participate in a speaker series, tours, community service projects, and various White House events.

For more information please visit our website at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/intern>.

Applications should be submitted to intern_application@whitehouse.gov on or before February 26, 2008 for the Summer 2008 Internship.

If you have any questions please contact White House Personnel at 202-456-5979.

ACADEMY GRADUATE PROGRAM ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Engineering Graduates - Are you interested in advancing your professional status an engineer? Many practicing engineers find that an advanced degree in engineering is a very effective way to distinguish themselves and set the stage for professional growth and advancement.

The Academy has been successfully offering an on-line, practice orientated distance-learning Master of Marine Engineering program since September 2006. Program details can be found at <http://www.usmma.edu/gradcourse/>.

The terminal degree is a Master of Science in Marine Engineering from the United States Merchant Marine Academy.

The courses scheduled to be offered in the Fall 2008 semester are:

First Year Student

EM610, Computational Methods

EM621, Advanced Marine Power Plants

EM620, Marine Propulsion Systems (for non-ME or NA undergraduates)

Second Year Students

EM650, Internal Combustion Engine Analysis and New Technologies

EM623, Advanced Marine Materials

Third Year Students

EM625, LNG Vessel Operations and Design Considerations

EM632, Power Electronics

EM641, Management of Shipbuilding and Repair

The Academy is presently accepting applications for students interested in commencing the program in September 2008. The program is available to U.S. and international students. Admissions criteria and information on applying can be found on the MMarE web page noted above.

SPRING LEAVE

Winter Trimester Leave begins on Friday 29 February and runs thru Sunday 9 March. Plebes and Midshipmen are not to make travel plans in conflict with exam

schedules and may not depart until cleared by their company officer.

Spring Break ends on 9 March and all MIDN Officers must return to campus no later than 1200. Those MIDN who are returning from their sea terms (2009A) must report no later than 1200 on 9 March. 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 beginning of Daylight Savings Time so Remember, Set your clocks ahead one hour.

Third Term Classes begin on Tuesday, 11 March.

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.

Taking a plane: Here is how to get to and from the airports.

[Classic Airport Shuttle](#) Shared door-to-door services
(800) 666-4949 or (631) 567-5100

Taxi (Nassau County)(Metered)

Friendly Taxi

106 Steamboat Rd

Great Neck, NY 11024

(516) 466-0066

Uniformed Taxi Dispatcher

The amount on meter from airport to NYC limits PLUS double the amount from city limits to final destination.

Private Car/Limousine/Van Service

[Super Saver by Carmel](#) 1-800-924-9954 or 1-212-666-6666

Dial 7 Car & Limo Service 1-800-222-9888 or 1-212-777-7777

Westchester Express (Republic) 1-800-910-5466 or 1-201-997-7368

Classic Limousine 1-800-666-4949 or 1-631-567-5100

Other Ground Transportation is available at the Info counter at Airport

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
Merrimack, NH 03054

603.232.9112
email: karen@mainstream.net

Vice Presidents: Steve and Laura Hickey
125 Oak Street
South Weymouth, MA 02190
781.331.3747
email: laura_hickey@sshosp.org

Secretary: OPEN

Treasurer: Laura Hickey
125 Oak Street
South Weymouth, MA 02190
781.331.3747
email: laura_hickey@sshosp.org

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

Midshipmen Support
Coordinators: Aaron and Linda Flynn
6 North Mountain Rd
Lanesboro, MA 01237
413.499.7999
email: aaron@flynner.us

Fundraising
Coordinators: William and Lisa Lyons
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 April)

We need news for our April 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 about their License Prep, 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