



USMMA COLORADO

November 2004



**MIDSHIPMEN:
DON'T FORGET
TO BRING HOME
YOUR SERVICE
BLUE UNIFORM
AND BOW TIE!!**

**REMINDER:
Deadline for
Reservations is
December 18,
2004!**

**Discounted
tickets are
available if
purchased by
December 8.
Don't miss this
event of a
lifetime!**

**DO YOU HAVE
YOUR HOTEL
RESERVATIONS
YET? THE
BROADMOOR IS
OFFERING A
SPECIAL RATE
FOR THE ASAB.**

All Service Academy Ball

The USMMA Parents' Club of Colorado would like to extend a special invitation to your family to attend the 22nd Annual Colorado All Service Academy Ball on Tuesday, December 28, 2004, at The Broadmoor, 1 Lake Avenue, Colorado Springs, Colorado. Parents should have already received their invitations. The midshipmen will receive a separate invitation, sent directly to the Academy.

This special event is co-hosted by the US Merchant Marine Academy Parents' Club of Colorado and the US Coast Guard Academy Rocky Mountain Parents' Club. We are honored to host USMMA Superintendent VADM Joseph and Mrs. Stewart, and Director of the Department of Professional Development and Career Services Captain David and Mrs. Van Oss as our guests. We have also extended invitations to all of Colorado's local USMMA alumni.

This is the first time USMMA Parents' Club of Colorado has hosted this event. We would truly enjoy your presence at this gala affair. Please let us know if you have special seating requirements. The club is pleased to be able to pay \$25.00 towards the dinner of each current Colorado Midshipman who attends the ball. Please remember to deduct \$25.00 from the Midshipman's dinner ticket when you mail in your reservations. Be sure to include your Midshipman in the reservation total number.

This is a great opportunity to spend an evening with your midshipman in full dress uniform. All of the other Academies are represented as well. RSVPs must be received no later than December 18. Discounted tickets are available through December 8. Dress for the event is formal. Midshipmen, please remember to bring your service dress uniform with you for winter break. Changing rooms will be available for female Midshipmen to change into gowns following the formal academy photographs. The photographer will also be available for group pictures of friends and family for an additional cost.

Cocktails will begin at 5:45 p.m. The Broadmoor will have a cash bar available with gratuities included in the price of the drinks. Soft drinks will be priced at \$3.25; domestic beer will be available for \$5; well drinks, imported and non-alcoholic beer, and wine will be available for \$6; call drinks for \$6.95; and martinis and margaritas will be priced at \$8.50. Cash or credit cards may be exchanged for drink tickets, then tickets will be redeemed at the bar.

As always, fundraisers are a huge help when it comes to things like this. PizzaPalz coupons, in support of the ASAB, can be obtained from Pat Sercel, 719-528-5156. The coupons are a \$20.00 value at Old Chicago Pizza, and can be purchased for \$11.00.



**Colorado Parents'
Club Earns
Distinguished
Chapter Award!**

**Great memento
of Indoc for your
midshipman!**



Message Board for Sea Year

We've been advised by Shirley Anthony, USMMA Parents Program Coordinator, that a bulletin board has been established primarily for Midshipmen at sea and their parents. It is still in the preliminary stages, but already gives parents and M/N a forum for messages, questions, etc. The board is built on www.ezboard.com. Simply type in USMMA SEA YEAR in the "Find Message Boards" block.

Distinguished Chapter Award

At the 2004 Presidents' Conference held during Parents' Weekend in September, our Chapter was presented with a Distinguished Chapter Award.

The intent of the award is to recognize those Parents' Association Chapters whose distinguished service is characterized by the effectiveness of their activities, programs, and significant contributions in support of the Merchant Marine Academy and its Regiment of Midshipmen, and enhancements to the image of Kings Point. Chapters do not compete against one another.

The period of activity on which the award is based is the academic year (July 1 to June 30). The awards are then announced and presented at the annual Presidents' Conference in September.

To be considered for the award, our chapter had to engage in certain essential activities, each of which has a point value. It is necessary to accumulate a minimum of 1750 points as outlined in the National Handbook, Chapter 7. The National Handbook is included on the CD distributed to all incoming Plebes by the USMMA Parents Association entitled "What do you mean - He doesn't have Telephone Privileges??? This is his MOTHER!"

Judy and Ann proudly accepted this award on behalf of all the Colorado Parents Club members.

Indoc 2008 Photo CDs Available

Photo CDs of 2008 Indoctrination are now available through the Parents' Program Office. Supplies are limited. The 2008 CD costs \$20.00. Make your check payable to "Midshipmen Morale Fund" and mail to:

Shirley Anthony
USMMA Parents Program Coordinator/Special Projects Manager
Wiley Hall
Kings Point, NY 11024

For expeditious processing, note on the envelope that a CD order is enclosed.

We Ought to be in Pictures!

The Colorado Parents' Club picture (from the Welcome Picnic) is featured in the Fall 2004 edition of the Kings Pointer, as is Dylan Tumblin enjoying his first few hours as a plebe (page 26)!

Miscellaneous Notes

Every December holiday, the Long Island Parents' Club buys and decorates a 6-foot tree for Land Hall. This year they will be purchasing a 9 foot tree to be set up on November 29 in Land Hall. They wanted to ensure it was "fully decorated" and had invited the Colorado Midshipmen to bring in an ornament inscribed with their name and graduating year. Many, many thanks to Bev and Mike Halbach for supplying an ornament for each of our Colorado midshipmen! I tried unsuccessfully to incorporate a picture in the newsletter. If you are interested, please let me know (leav22@qwest.net) and I will email it to you!

To all parents who have had the opportunity to be with your M/N this Fall Break and Thanksgiving holiday, congratulations, we hope you have enjoyed this precious time!

Our thanks to Judy Tumblin and Ann Rychecky for coordinating, the Plebe Parents who assembled, and all parents that contributed to the Fall Boodle Bags! Great job! The 3rd class parents will be coordinating the Spring Boodle Bags for February finals.

In your directories, please make the following change: Change the email address listed for Rob and Amy Beeler from Dirtgirl14 and replace it with claydoodleab@yahoo.com.

M/N Activities

Adam VandenBoogaard, 2006, Robert Tenenholz, 2008, and Dylan Tumblin, 2008, have been named to the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) of the NCAA. The committee is made up of student-athletes to provide insight on the student-athlete experience. The SAAC also offers input on the rules, regulations and policies that affect student-athletes on NCAA member institution campuses. The national SAAC's for Division I, Division II, and Division III:

- generate a student-athlete voice within the NCAA structure
- solicit student-athlete response to proposed NCAA legislation
- recommend potential NCAA legislation
- review & comment on legislation, activities and subjects of interest
- participate in the administrative process of athletic programs & the NCAA
- promote a positive student-athlete image

Our Academic Stars

Eric Cramer, 2006, Kurt Mast, 2008, and Dylan Tumblin, 2008, each earned a Gold Academic Star for the fall trimester. Great job!

Callie Beeler and David Vasquez were named Honor Plebes at Acceptance Day in September. Congratulations to you both!



Parent's Club Membership

We encourage all USMMA parents to become members of the USMMA Colorado Parent's Club. Membership dues are \$30/year and can be sent to Peggy Kirschner, P.O. Box 683, Indian Hills, CO 80454. She can also provide you with the Dues/ Membership form. Your Parent's Club can be a wonderful support group for new parents as well as parents of upperclassmen.

WE ARE STILL IN NEED OF A HISTORIAN! Please contact Ann Hall or Judy Cramer if you're interested!

Where in the World is Waldo?

A Report on our Colorado Midshipmen at Sea

Eric Cramer, 2006, completed his internship in November at the Naval Air Warfare Center in Patuxant River, Maryland, where he was assigned to an FA18 flight squadron. Yep, he got to go up in an FA-18 a couple of times! Another dream come true! He is currently on his 8 months of sea duty, starting with a tour on the SL Quality in the Mediterranean Sea, Suez Canal, Red Sea, Arabian Sea and Persian Gulf. It really is a small maritime world - he has sailed with two of the ship's officers before.

Laura Nichols, 2007, shipped out last week on her first sea duty assignment. Laura is assigned to the Sealand Endurance, a container vessel managed by the Maersk Line. Laura's route takes her from Los Angeles, to Tacoma, Washington, then off to ports in Japan, South Korea, and China. This circular route repeats three times before Laura returns to the USMMA in March 2005. Laura's parents John and Deni were fortunate enough to meet Laura and her sea partner in Los Angeles, prior to the ship's departure, spending a couple of days in Disneyland, catching up on sleep and stocking up on supplies at Walmart.

Alicia Nix, 2007, is back from her voyage around the globe aboard the USSMV Greendale. She worked very hard and got to see many people and places. Her ports of call included Newark, Charleston, Houston, Egypt, the Suez Canal, Yeman, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Singapore (for 2 weeks for an engine overhaul) Pusan, Nagasaki, Yokohama, Tokyo and on to Hawaii. She arrived in New York in shorts and a lei, as she flew direct from Hawaii through Los Angeles. She was rather cold when she got off the plane! She ran up quite a roaming charge on her new world cell phone, but it was reassuring to be able to hear her voice and was well worth the cost. She even caught up on her sea project. Although she likes the adventure, she was glad to get off the ship for now. She is glad to be back and is looking forward to attending the ASAB.

David Youngman, 2007, completed his first 4 months at sea. He was on the MV President Jackson, a large container ship with a route from California to Alaska, 5 Asian ports, Vancouver, BC, Seattle, WA, and back to California. He had a great experience. A highlight of his time was meeting up with high school friends in Japan, Vancouver, BC and Seattle, and getting a personalized tour of Singapore! Additionally, David finished the EMT course in the Spring and passed the NY State EMT exam. Congratulations, David!



USMMA Campus News

Special Program Celebrates 30th Anniversary of Women Students at Kings Point

10/15/2004 - In the summer of 1974, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy made headlines and history. Fifteen women, the first to ever attend a federal service academy, were enrolled as members of the freshman class. [The other federal academies like West Point and Annapolis would not admit women for another two years.]



The Academy commemorated this milestone with a two-day conference, "Making a Difference: 30 Years of Women at Kings," October 17-18.

A goal of this event, according to Dr. Jane Brickman, who helped coordinate the program, was to have female graduates from the last 30 years meet with today's female students. "Through this interaction, our current women came to appreciate the issues and challenges that faced female students at Kings Point in the early years of the program," she said. "At the same time, our alumnae saw how far we've come since 1974."

Dr. Brickman is head of the Humanities Department at the Academy, and has served as an advisor to women at the Academy for many years.

The program began on October 17 with round-table discussions of such topics as: Do women leaders face special challenges? Do women participate in the classroom equally with men? Could they be better prepared for going off to sea? Is social life possible at the Academy?

The round-tables were followed by a dinner during which a number of guest speakers reflected on different periods of the women's program since 1974.

The program on October 18 began with the viewing of a special video about the admission of women to the Academy, prepared by Susan Clark, the public affairs officer of the U.S. Maritime Administration, which operates the Academy under the aegis of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Three panel discussions followed, looking at the topics of women in seagoing careers, ashore in professional and academic pursuits, and balancing work and family.

The conference closed with a luncheon for the Academy's entire Regiment of Midshipmen. The keynote speaker at the gathering was Maria Brooks, a documentary film-maker from Oakland, CA. Her current project is a film entitled, "Shipping Out: The Story of America's Seafaring Women."

Feedback from the conference was extremely positive. The participants enjoyed the opportunity to interact with each other and express their views and opinions. One thing was certain -- the Academy will not wait another 30 years for the next such gathering!



\$99 Liberty Pass

To say thanks to the men and women of the U.S. armed forces, Keystone Resort is again offering a discounted season pass for unlimited skiing and snowboarding. The \$99 Liberty Pass will be offered for the second consecutive year to all active U.S. military including Reserve and National Guard on active duty status, and immediate family members (family dependent ID required). Passes are valid for skiing and snowboarding at Keystone Resort throughout the 2004-2005 season, and were available beginning November 1.

HOW TO PURCHASE THE LIBERTY PASS

Active duty and reserve military personnel need to present their military issued identification cards at the Keystone Resort season pass office beginning November 1 to purchase the Liberty Pass.

The pass is good for unlimited skiing and snowboarding at Keystone for the 2004-2005 season, which is tentatively set for November 12, 2004 – April 10, 2005.

Keystone's season pass office in River Run Village will be open beginning November 1, every weekday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Newsletter Input

The next edition of the USMMA Colorado Parents' Club newsletter will be published in February 2005. If you have any ideas for articles, pictures to include, or any information that would be beneficial to parents or midshipmen, please forward them to Lea VandenBoogaard via email (leav22@qwest.net) or regular mail (1127 Venice Street, Longmont, CO 80501) any time between now and February 1.



Return to Spring Semester

You may notice that during the last few days of the winter holiday break, your midshipman is a little less buoyant than he or she had been over the earlier portion of their return to home. They may even get a little "down in the dumps" about going back and starting the spring semester. It's not such a concern for the upper class midshipmen, but it can be a disconcerting time for the plebes and their parents.

Think about it for just a minute. They will have just spent a couple of weeks with their families and friends. Everyone will have treated them wonderfully, and with a certain earned respect (a little unlike their recent treatment for six months at USMMA.) They most likely will have great stories to tell about Kings Point to all their old high school buddies and neighborhood pals. In turn, they will listen intently to what life is like in a more normal collegiate environment (a whole lot more freedom, and less pressure to perform.) While their buddies will head back to another semester expecting more of the same freedom, our midshipmen return to the academy, knowing that the finals await, and, for the plebes particularly, their training for Recognition, will start again in earnest. Coupled with the fresh emphasis on more training is the fact that when they get up in the morning, it is dark and cold. When they finish that afternoon in the gym, at practice, at intramurals, or doing whatever activity is demanding

their time, it is dark and cold. Sometimes, in addition to the dark and cold, it can be windy and snowy.

So, what can you do to help with these feelings? First, understand what they are going through. Next, provide whatever support seems appropriate to you for the situation. Continue to support your midshipman with instant messaging, mail and E-mail. There is nothing like real mail at the post office! Care packages are always well received. The key word here is FOOD! Be sure to include hot treats: items that can be made instantly with hot water, like hot chocolate, instant soups, noodles, macaroni and cheese, oatmeal, selections of teas, etc. Such treats can help your midshipman keep going later at night when they are tired from the busy day's activities, but are still hard at work on academics. Don't forget their favorite snacks, either. Send enough to share with roommates.

With our love and support, our midshipmen will make it through the "dark days" of the spring semester. In no time at all you will be hearing about waterfront activities. And don't forget that Recognition for the plebes is really not too far away. Life gets a whole lot better in the spring!

USMMA Alumni Foundation Introduces Online Mall

In conjunction with CareClicks.com, the USMMA Alumni Foundation is pleased to offer savings and convenience at nearly 800 quality merchants for your everyday shopping needs. Your purchases in the mall will generate income to help the Academy and its Regiment of Midshipmen.

Here's how it works:

1. Begin your shopping at our online mall. (Visit www.careclicks.com, select "Educational Institution" and select USMMA Alumni Foundation.)
2. Shop and save.

That's it! Nothing to join, no personal information to provide. Just the satisfaction of saving time and money while supporting us! It really is that simple.

