



USMMA COLORADO

August 2005



**DO YOU HAVE
YOUR HOTEL
RESERVATIONS
FOR PARENT'S
WEEKEND YET?**

**CHECKLIST FOR
PARENT'S
WEEKEND:**

- ✓ **\$CASH\$**
- ✓ **Walking Shoes**
- ✓ **Hat**
- ✓ **Sunscreen**
- ✓ **Water Bottle**
- ✓ **CAMERA**

2005 All Service Academy Ball

The 2005 Colorado All Service Academy Ball will be held at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs, back by popular demand. Invitations will be mailed out in November. The ASAB committee would like to have a USMMA parent from the classes of 2008 and 2009 to assist with the preparations. This year's ball will be on Wednesday, December 28, 2005. Mark your calendars for this gala event! 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. The USAFA Parents' Club will be hosting this year's ball. If anyone would like to volunteer for the Ball Committee, please contact Dennis Sumner at dsumner@fcgov.com. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Ann Hall who can be reached at 719.661.4623.

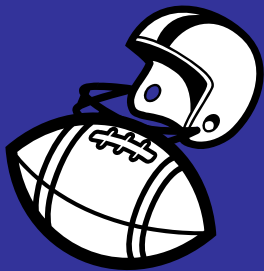
Survival Tips – Parents' Weekend

We hope all Plebe Candidate parents are planning to attend Parents' Weekend at Kings Point, Friday, September 16 through Sunday, September 18. It is so important to the kids! Not to mention fun and interesting for parents!! Who can't wait to see their Plebe in uniform? If you are not able to attend, be sure your Plebe has someone to leave Kings Point with - a roommate or friend, another Colorado family, or a sponsor family. Let Judy Tumblin or Carol Mast know if your son or daughter will be alone, and they will be sure to stop by for a visit.

Book your hotel and Kings Point activities NOW. Hotels and events sell out quickly!! If you have tried booking a hotel by phone, and find it is sold out, try online at their website or at a site such as www.hotels.com. The websites often have reserved blocks of rooms not available by phone.

It can be HOT at Kings Point in September. Remember to wear a hat, comfortable walking shoes, and sunscreen, and carry a water bottle. Finding bottled water for sale can be a bit tricky at Kings Point!! **Remember your camera!!** You will be allowed into the barracks. Pictures of those well-organized quarters are priceless!! Find out your Plebe's schedule for the day and arrange a meeting place. The lawn by the grinder (asphalt area where they form up) or the flagpole are good areas. The Midshipmen will sit together at Beat Retreat, Acceptance Ceremonies and at the football game. Be sure to arrive early at all events, as seating is first-come, first-served. Try to make Colors (flag raising) one morning. This is a very memorable event. If your Plebe is agreeable, you can attend one classroom session. Tour the Simulator and the Kings Pointer if you have the opportunity! Be sure to visit the ship's store and all the state parents' organizations tables where great Kings Point logo stuff will be for sale. Most of the state parents' organization tables take

**DON'T MISS THE
PARENT'S
MEETING ON
FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 16,
AT KING'S
POINT!**



cash only; the ship's store takes cash, checks and credit cards.

Maps of the campus are available on the Academy website, and can also be picked up as you enter the grounds. This is a great opportunity for Plebe parents to get to know one another, and to pick the brains of the "veteran" parents!

The Acceptance Day Ceremony, as part of the Regimental Parade on Saturday morning will mark the acceptance of the Class of 2008 into the Regiment. They will also be sworn in to the United States Naval Reserve. Friday night's BEAT RETREAT shouldn't be missed. This is an ancient military ceremony dating to 1554 when drum beatings were used to summon outlying troops back to camp. The Kings Point Beat Retreat will showcase the talent of more than 200 midshipmen, including the Regimental Band, the Color Guard and the Star Spangled Banner Brigade. The guest appearance by the Pipe and Drum Corps of the Nassau County Police Department will be great! Arrive early; seats go quickly!

Your plebe will be able to leave Kings Point with you after the football game on Saturday, returning on Sunday evening. Don't plan too many activities. Experience tells us he or she will want to sleep, visit with you, eat junk food and shop a little. Remember how few items he or she was allowed to take in July? After Acceptance, your Plebe will be allowed a few more creature comforts. Be prepared to haul some "stuff" (especially their favorite civilian clothes!) from home, as well as shop while in NY. He or she may need more personal hygiene items, school supplies, a fan, possibly an iron. If you can obtain a street map of Long Island ahead of time, your driving will be much easier. The Long Island (New York City to Montauk) and Nassau County maps have been invaluable! They are available at most gas stations and hotel gift shops, as well as at www.hagstrommap.com) A cell phone or calling card is a great idea - your Plebe will want to spend some time calling friends and family. Be sure to return your Plebe to Kings Point on time! Traffic can be a problem; we recommend dinner near the Academy.

DRIVING TO THE ACADEMY:

FROM LA GUARDIA OR JFK AIRPORTS

Long Island Expressway (I-495 East) to Exit 32 (Little Neck Parkway).
North on Little Neck Parkway.

Go about 3/4 mile on Little Neck Parkway and turn right on Northern Blvd/25A.

Proceed east through village of Little Neck and many traffic lights to intersection with Great Neck Road. (There is a Shell gas station on the right, a four-story, brown office building on the left, and two left turn lanes here. You want to be in the left turn lanes.)

Turn left on Great Neck Road and continue straight at second traffic light (Great Neck Road bears to the right).

Continuing northwest, the road is now Bayview Avenue which changes names further to West Shore Road.

At end of West Shore Road, turn right onto Kings Point Road.

Left at the next stop sign onto Steamboat Road to Academy front gate.

Both Midshipmen and parents can reach the Midshipman of the Day (MOD) at (516) 773-5282. This number is to be used by parents for emergencies only. Any M/N who will be late reporting to the Academy must report via telephone to the MOD prior to their assigned report time.

Miscellaneous Notes

For those of you attending Parents Weekend in Kings Point, there will be an informal meeting of Colorado parents at the Colorado Sales Table on Friday, September 16, at 3PM. The purpose of this meeting is to answer any questions that members might have and to set up the date, place, and time for the October meeting. Questions about parent's weekend can be directed to Carol Mast at 303.550.8075 or Judy Tumblin at 303.638.5835

Bob Rossi tells us that he needs birthday dates, especially from the new Plebe Candidates, in order to update the roster ensuring that special days will not be missed. Forward this information to bobrossi@bresnan.net

M/N Activities

Ben Arnett, 2009, has joined the Color Guard team and the Offshore Sailing team. He has participated in many activities with the Color Guard, including meeting the USO girls (autographed picture) and attending the Ring Dance.

Eric Cramer, Adam Hall, Michael Mikulak, Kimberly Sercel, Adam VandenBoogaard, and David Yi - Congratulations to all of these 1st Class Midshipmen who recently celebrated 300 days until graduation at a luau sponsored by the Alumni and received their class rings (knockers) at the Ring Dance on August 12th.

Our Academic Stars

Adam VandenBoogaard, 2006, received gold academic stars for the 2nd and 3rd terms of the 04-05 school year.

Kurt Mast, 2008, received a gold star for the 1st trimester, and a silver star for the 2nd trimester of the 04-05 academic year.

Dylan Tumblin, 2008, received gold stars for all 3 trimesters during his first academic year 04-05.

Join the AMMV Organization!

We encourage all current and former Midshipmen to become a member of the new Colorado Chapter of the American Merchant Marine Veterans (AMMV). The objectives of the organization include maintenance of our World War II legacy, pursuing veterans' status for service in all subsequent military conflicts, and the restoration of our Merchant Marine as a major maritime power. All active, retired and veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces (including Merchant Mariners and USN Armed Guard), U.S. Maritime Service (including cadets), their direct family members and certain U.S. Public Service members are eligible to join. To ensure continuity of purpose, recruitment from several generations is emphasized.

National dues for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2005, are \$15.00. Membership will entitle you to receive the excellent AMMV quarterly magazine. If interested, please call or email F.O. (Clarke) Valles for an application form. Clarke is a USMM WWII veteran, and can be reached at (303) 377-5716, or clarkeandlou@juno.com.



Parents' Club Membership

Outgoing Co-Presidents Ann Hall and Judy Cramer and incoming Co-Presidents Carol Mast and Judy Tumblin will represent Colorado at the USMMA State Presidents Meeting on September 15th and 16th.

Dues for the 05-06 year are \$35, with \$10 of that going to the New York Club as a thank you to them for the activities they sponsor for all Midshipmen, including our Colorado men and women. Ann and Judy will present a workshop on hosting an All Service Academy Ball. Also attending is Bob Rossi, who will present a workshop on Club Websites. Our website has received considerable notice from the Academy staff and parents, alums and interested parties from all over the country. We have received many thanks for the wonderful pictures, links, and updated info. Thank you Bob Rossi, you are doing such a wonderful job.

Did you know it is possible to pay your Club dues as well as Boodle Bag donations online?

The link is as follows:

http://www.usmmaparents.com/usmmaparents/buy_membership.cfm

PLEASE NOTE: For dues payments and boodle bag donations, the cost of the credit card transaction fee is being contributed by the Rossi Design Group. This is to assure that 100% of your dues and boodle bag contributions go into the Club's account. This grant is in effect until January 1, 2006.

The amount is not large. Credit card companies charge us about 2.9% plus a \$.30 fee per transaction. The credit card transaction fee for a typical \$35 dues payment is \$1.31. Don't forget, a stamp costs \$.37 and your Club treasurer doesn't have to drive to the bank to deposit your check. She is able to make a free deposit of your payment into the Club account electronically via the internet. There are no monthly fees and there were no initial set up fees. The payer, of course, is not charged a fee. Because the transaction is completed on 128 bit SSL encrypted PayPal pages, no one in the Club-including the webmaster or the treasurer- ever sees your credit card information. It is convenient, secure, and it benefits the USMMA Colorado Parents Association!! Please consider this as a possible avenue for paying your dues. The payer and the club receive an email confirmation/notification of the transaction and a history of transactions is available to our Club treasurer, again, on an encrypted site.

Where in the World is Waldo?

A Report on our Colorado Midshipmen at Sea

David Youngman, 2007, is currently on the USNS Laramie in the Mediterranean Sea. In June and July of 2005, he will be involved in a 6-week internship in San Diego, California at NASSCO. Following his summer internship, he will return to the sea, and then do another internship, this time 2 weeks in duration, at the Naval Air Warfare Center in Patuxant River, Maryland.

Ben Hayes, 2007, returned from the Persian Gulf and duty on the *SS Walter S. Diehl* July 31st. He spent six days at home before shipping out on the *Anasazi*, a tanker carrying refined petroleum products from the Gulf of Mexico to California.



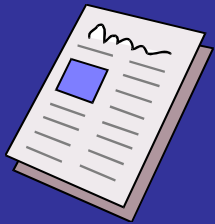
Alicia Nix, 2006, has just returned from Air Force Field Training at Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida, and is now getting on a Matson ship (pineapple run) that goes to Los Angeles, Oakland, and Hawaii, for the duration of her sea days.

Dylan Tumblin, 2008, is presently serving as an Engine Cadet on the *Horizon Spirit*, a cargo ship. The ship sails between Tacoma, Oakland, Hawaii, Guam, Hong Kong, Taiwan and back to Oakland. He has learned many new things and has throttled the ship out of the last several ports.

Kurt Mast, 2008, is currently on the M/V Ascension, a container ship. He will depart Cape Canaveral shortly and head to Antigua, Ascension Island (50 miles south of the Equator), then up to Poland and back to South Carolina. He should be back at Kings Point by early November.

**** A note to the wise! For those young men and women about to embark on their first sea semester, be aware that wires will inevitably be crossed and that orders can change even at the last minute.

****Please note! We are still very interested in receiving any pictures that you might have. Please forward them to bobrossi@bresnan.net If your midshipman captures some interesting shots while at sea we are looking forward to seeing them and posting them.



Newsletter Input

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 Patty Barber **and** Lea VandenBoogaard via email (pethelb@earthlink.net and leav22@qwest.net), fax to (303) 651-4134, or regular mail (1127 Venice Street, Longmont, CO 80501) any time.

Parents' Club Fundraisers

Activities Coordinator, Pat Sercel, will be selling flag pins and name badges at the Colorado Table during Parents Weekend at USMMA. Pins are also available on our website, at www.usmmaparents.com.

Two fundraising additions to our website are the Sierra Trading Post and Spyderco Knives. The Sierra Trading post is offering 5-10% of your order total to be donated to the USMMA Colorado Parent's Club, on purchases made through their link on our website.

Spyderco Knives, of Golden, is offering top quality marine and rescue knives at a greatly discounted price to our midshipmen and their families. Additionally, a portion of each order will be donated to our Parent's Club.

Also added to the USMMA Colorado website is a page outlining buying Long Island Railroad (LIRR) tickets from their website – 5% discount and they are mailed for free to your Midshipman or Plebe Candidate. You can buy a 10 pack of round trip tickets for \$114.00. The N58 bus schedule, N58 Route map, LIRR schedule, and the Subway maps are all on our website. Go to "LINKS"

<http://www.usmmaparents.com/usmmaparents/#links>



Make sure that you are looking at either the weekday or Sat/Sun schedule, ditto with the LIRR schedule and make sure you have the "To New York City: or "From New York City" correctly selected on their schedule.

The N58 bus cycles between the LIRR train station in Great Neck (near the Andrews) and the Academy.

Penn Station is located at 393 - 7th Ave near Madison Square Garden. It is basically between Times Square and Greenwich Village. There is a Google map on the website with zoom features and one can click and drag around with the mouse.

<http://maps.google.com/maps?oi=map&q=Manhattan.+NY>

Your midshipman will usually either share a cab or take the N58 from the Academy to the LIRR, then walks to wherever they are going from Penn Station, or takes the subway.

Excellent guide to NYC is the DK Eyewitness Top 10 Travel Guide to New York:

<http://search.barnesandnoble.com/booksearch/isbninquiry.asp?userid=CX0ZHx1CVq&isbn=0789483513&itm=2>



Parents' Weekend 2005

If you need to download any forms or are in need of information concerning the upcoming event in September, please visit the Parents Page at the USMMA website, www.usmma.edu.

Ring Dance

On Friday, August 12, the class of 2006 held their Ring Dance at the Marriott Marquee Hotel in Times Square in Manhattan. They had a lovely dinner, drank, danced, and Admiral Stewart performed the ring ceremony which officially allowed the 1/c to begin wearing their class rings.

The Ring Dance marks the climax of three years of patience, dedication, hard work and accomplishment in becoming a first classman. Being presented with the Ring symbolizes that we have successfully overcome the same trying obstacles of those who have gone before us. The trials and tribulations of Indoc, the Fourth Class System, Sea Year, and rigorous academics have all been forged and tempered in to the metal of the Ring. It is with pride that we shall wear it. As the class of 2006 moves beyond Vickery Gate, we know we can meet any challenge with confidence because of the experiences that the Ring represents. Remember the words of George Curtis, "It is not the ship so much as the skilled sailing that assures the prosperous voyage."

The Ring Ceremony, conducted by Admiral and Mrs. Stewart, takes place at the binnacle. Mrs. Stewart snips the ribbon holding the ring on the neck of the midshipman's date and passes the ring and the ribbon to the Admiral, who then dips the ring into the water in the binnacle. The binnacle contains water from the seven seas where we have all sailed. The Ring Ceremony symbolizes the successful completion of the first three years at Kings Point with the wish for "Fair Winds and Following Seas" in the future. After dipping the ring, the Admiral passes it back to the midshipman's date, who slips it on the



midshipman's finger, followed by a rewarding kiss. The midshipman and date proceed to walk through the ring, thus passing the midshipman into his or her First Class Year.

Class Ring of 2006 Meaning

American Flag

Our patriotism to our country is represented by this flag. We salute not just the colors, but the ideals it embodies and those who have served to keep it flying.

Verse from Eternal Father

"Oh Hear Us When We Cry to Thee"

Sailing Vessel

Signifies the history of sailing, when ships were wood and men were steel.

Class Motto

"Non Mihi, Non Tibi, Sed Nobis" "Not for Me, Not for You, But for Us".

Propeller

Representing the Marine Engineering Midshipmen who will use tools and their minds to move the world with ships.

Mermaid

The beauty of the sea entices us to sail, and only a mariner can appreciate the majesty of the ocean.

142

142 Midshipmen never saw their home port again during WWII. This serves as a reminder of those who served their country until the end.

Anchor

Representing those Deck Officer Midshipmen who will serve the maritime industry with their knowledge in the art of navigation.

Serpent

The Serpent can be overcome, just like any obstacles we encounter in life.

Poseidon

The Greek God of the Sea, he is relied upon by sailors for a safe voyage on the ocean.

Academy Motto

Acta Non Verba: Deeds Not Words. We need to remember that by taking initiative, we can accomplish much more than words ever will.

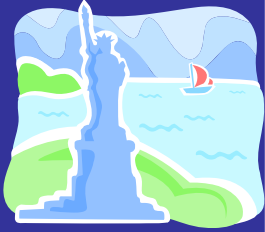
Polaris

Polaris is a symbol of consistency and direction, as it is in the night sky, and as it should be in our lives.

Battle Standard

Kings Point has a prestigious history and we are privileged to be the only academy to have a battle standard as a result of our past accomplishments.

USMMA Campus News



"The Old Port of New York" -- A Lecture in September

9/2/2005 - Manhattan Island's existing shoreline is largely man-made land. The remains of the early port of New York lie largely beneath the streets of Manhattan.

As modern skyscrapers are constructed along Manhattan's shoreline, the excavation of old landfill areas unearths structures and artifacts representing 300 years of New York City's rich history.

On Sept. 22 at 7 p.m., Dr. John Loret, a noted marine biologist and museum director, will talk about the "Old Port of New York" at the American Merchant Marine Museum, on the campus of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, Long Island.

The program is free and open to the public, made possible through the support of the New York Council for the Humanities. Refreshments will be served. To reserve a seat, please call (516)773-5515.

Dr. Loret is currently director of the Science Museum of Long Island. He holds degrees from New York University, the University of Connecticut and the University of Oslo, Norway. A past president of the Explorers Club, he led three expeditions in the late 1990s to Easter Island to study past climate and vegetation changes there.

The Academy is operated by the Maritime Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation.