



May, 2015

Spring was late in coming to Castine but the annual preparations for the training cruise did not miss a beat. In a unique fashion, we have prepared two sets of "Ship Rates" since the Second Class will be split between the two halves of cruise, now known as Cruise A and Cruise B. The training opportunities have multiplied and as we embarked on the first month of Cruise A, it appears that the Midshipmen have rallied to the challenge. It is always astounding to see the number of alumni who are a part of making this training evolution a success. This year we have 15 alumni counted in the crew and staff on the training ship. While that is impressive, we are always looking for more. In fact, we currently have three open positions for full-time crew.

The academic year wrapped up with the Regimental Awards Banquet taking time to recognize those Midshipmen who have gone above and beyond. This was our second consecutive year of unveiling a new award for Midshipmen that ties a financial award to professional excellence. The new award is sponsored by the Amendola Family (Class of 86 and 2015) and ARTEC Machine Systems. The Regimental Alumni Development Award is awarded to the Midshipman who exemplifies diligence in the Marine Engineering Program and provides for one student per year to attend annual reduction gear maintenance and repair conferences with all expenses paid. For its inaugural presentation, two students were selected to attend the conference in Montreal this past April.

As we look toward the coming academic year, I am looking for industry professionals who are interested in participating as members of a regimental advisory board or those who are interested in presenting an up-to-date view of the maritime industry and workforce. I started the series with **Eric Smith '88** from OSG and **Alex Mitchell '11** with Chevron. Please consider coming back to Castine and sharing your knowledge with tomorrow's Mariners.

Until next time Shipmates,

Capt. Nate Gandy '92

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**Advice you can trust starts with a conversation.**

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