



CAL MARITIME

Contact:

Doug Webster
Director of Public Relations
California Maritime Academy
200 Maritime Academy Dr.
Vallejo, CA 94590-8181

W: (707) 654-1720
C: (707) 328-1887
E: dweb823@aol.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JOHN KEEVER NAMED U.S. MARITIME SERVICE COMMODORE

(Vallejo, CA – April 12, 2006)...Captain John Keever, Captain of the training ship *Golden Bear* and Vice President - Marine Programs and Student Development at The California Maritime Academy, has been promoted to the rank of Commodore in the U.S. Maritime Service (USMS).

The announcement was made in a surprise ceremony Saturday, April 8th during the Academy's annual black-tie student scholarship fund-raising Gala. Cal Maritime President and Rear Admiral William Eisenhardt introduced Rear Admiral Frank X. Johnston, Western Region Director of the U.S. Maritime Administration (MarAd), who presented Captain Keever and his wife Lindy with a Commodore's flag, uniform insignia and official proclamation. The over 250 Academy faculty, staff, students and friends assembled gave Keever a standing ovation in recognition of his achievement, and of the esteem in which he is held by his colleagues. The honor makes Keever the senior officer among all the USMS training ship Masters nationwide.

President Eisenhardt said, "This promotion recognizes John's long service to the training and education of cadets, and his leadership in the development of industry certification and training ship standards within the U.S. Department of Transportation. As long as he is Master of the *Golden Bear*, he is still our 'Captain,' but we are proud to now formally address him as Commodore."

-more-

As Academy Vice President, Kever oversees the daily activities of the Corps of Cadets, Cal Maritime's leadership development program, the training of new Corps officers, and watch standing. He also commands the 500-ft. Training Ship *Golden Bear*, which each year takes Cal Maritime students on a two-month cruise to Pacific Rim countries to further their understanding of the cultures and economics of the region, while gaining experience in large-vessel operations. The 2006 cruise will visit the West Coast of the Americas, with calls in Mexico, Costa Rica, Peru and Chile.

A 1970 graduate of Cal Maritime, Captain Kever served in varied capacities at sea and ashore—including positions with Sealand Services, States Steamship, and the Army Corps of Engineers—prior to starting his career at Cal Maritime in 1974 as an assistant professor. He is today a tenured professor of maritime management and has taught atmospheric science, meteorology, seamanship, and navigation. He has also served as department chair of maritime management and as vice president for administration and finance.

Captain Kever is a co-author of the *American Merchant Seaman's Manual*, and the *Manual for Lifeboatmen, Able Seamen, and Qualified Members of the Engine Department* (both Cornell Maritime Press).

He is a member of the Council of American Master Mariners, the Propeller Club of the USA, the Ship Operators Cooperative Program, and the Association of Maritime Education and Training Institutions in Asia Pacific. He was a member of the United States Delegation to the 2003 IMO-MSC-STCW Convention.

Captain Kever graduated from The California Maritime Academy with a Bachelor of Science degree in nautical science. He also holds a master's degree in public administration from Golden Gate University.

Captain Kever lives in Grass Valley, California with his wife, Lindy.

##

Note: Hi-res Photo of Award Presentation available at:

<http://www.csum.edu/News/images/KeeperAward300.jpg>

L-R: Cal Maritime President/Rear Admiral William Eisenhardt, Rear Adm. Frank X. Johnston, Western Region Director - MarAd, Capt. John Kever and wife Lindy