



January 2023

Happy 2023 New year, new opportunities, new energy! When my daughters were very young, I used the expression “quick like a bunny” to visualize how I wanted them to get from one place to another or to complete a task. As we celebrate the Lunar New Year this month (January 22) and welcome the year of the Rabbit, that phrase pops into mind. But now, the phrase seems to describe how time flies for me... “quick like a bunny.”

When my oldest went off to college, her sisters and I, including my youngest an 8<sup>th</sup> grader at the time, waved goodbye in the driveway as dad and the oldest drove off. Apparently, a rabbit came out of its hole and hopped across the lawn among the frenzy of activity and emotional goodbyes. The symbolism of the rabbit and her sister leaving for college would become part of the cutest darn essay my 8<sup>th</sup> grader wrote for English class that year and later gave to my oldest as a Christmas gift. The rabbit story has become a family legend and quite the symbol. This past weekend, it all came full circle when our family moved the youngest, the author of the story, to Boston where she starts a new chapter in her post college career. You bet we joked about the rabbit story and the entire moving experience was over quick like a bunny. Our rabbit hole is once again empty.

The CMA EF will be very busy over the next few months helping students pursue their next chapters, such as starting or continuing their maritime studies, sharing their research, introducing them to maritime careers and providing internship stipends. There are many opportunities to volunteer your time and talents as well as to donate or fundraise. If you would like to read scholarship essays and join the scholarship selection committee, mentor a student, or assist with social media, please reach out. Be part of the CMA EF team! Here’s a calendar of upcoming events and activities.

January 23- Business of Shipping Research Papers are due

January 24-Maritime Career Day at Brien McMahon High School in Norwalk, CT

February 23-Fairfield County Giving Day

March 7- Scholarship Essays are due

March 21-23- CMA Shipping 2023 including Business of Shipping Winning Student Presentations

May -Spring Splash Fundraiser

Thank you to all those who donated to the CMA EF at the Holiday Party on December 13. The event was a big success for both the Toys for Tots and the CMA EF. We appreciate your generosity and support of the mission to support maritime education.

The rabbit symbolizes grace, beauty, mercy, and good luck. It is considered one of the luckiest of the Chinese animals in the zodiac. Wishing you a happy, healthy, prosperous, and lucky New Year, both lunar and Gregorian!

Sincerely,

Beth Wilson-Jordan  
Executive Director  
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