

BINNACLE APRIL 1974

Cruise was quite a trip this year, to say the least. Between Black Sunday and all those people missing the ship, I do believe that we got our share of excitement. The vacation was greatly needed however and it was nice to get back into the real world once again, where people are normal and they still smile.

BUT back into CMA style isolation... funny how sometimes one feels less isolated out at sea than back at Keema.

But on to better things...

CMA has gotten some new teachers since cruise-- a new physics teacher as well as a new math teacher. Mr. Rocks, the physics teacher, has a definitely new approach to the teaching art. He keeps the class awake with such explanations as "that's why clotheslines fall down when fat pigeons sit on them" or "suppose we have a little old lady sitting in a rocket throwing empty beer cans out the back." Mr. Dean is a grad from the class of 1970. He has very good explanations for the subjects he teaches. I hear reports that he teaches diesels well, too. We welcome him back to CMA but there's always that question... Why would anybody ever come back for more? Good wishes to both of them. *****

On Friday the fifth, the Baruna went to Stones Boat Yard for her annual overhaul. It was four days of good old elbow grease for her crew but we finally finished. Now once we finish the decks and the cabin top and the....

If you look out the window Saturday morning around ten or eleven and see a black shiny hull and a 90 foot mast, you guessed it-- we'll be sailing in the Vallejo Race. On opening day (4/28) we'll be leading the sail fleet and on May fifth it's Open House and a benifit. On the 11th and 12th we'll be in Drake's Bay and on the 19th it's Maritime Day Parade and last year we carried the Queen and her court. We've got other things such as the Master Mariner's Race and an overnight trip to Half Moon Bay. Maybe one of these days Baruna will get back to being her old self. *****

It would be nice if people could start getting their applications in for Financial Aid for next year.... *****

It's the same school when we return, that's for sure... there still isn't any kind of covering on the stair well to prevent people from slipping. Luckily the rains are probably over for this year but they are still dangerous.. especially on a Monday morning or a Saturday night.*****

It's finally happened! This article is about the new night courses which will hopefully begin here in September. This vocational education will be aimed specifically toward people related to the maritime industry. Mr. Armbrust hopes to help people in such fields as diesel repairing, stevedoring, radar and other fields which will enable people to become more proficient for a more proficient merchant marine. Mr. Armbrust graduated first in his class from King's Point and is now a Master Mariner. Now he has taken on the mammoth job of beginning a school. We wish him well. *****

The Duty Officer--There are many and varied interpretations of the function of the Duty Officer. Some seem to feel that he is a policeman. Some instructors who resent taking the duty try to avoid getting involved. The truth is that we are all responsible for the welfare of the Academy. Antisocial actions hurt us all. Vandalism, illegal involvement in traffic harmful to the Academy harms everyone connected with the school.

The Duty Officer is here to assume command in case of emergencies. His duty is to represent the Superintendent and the Academy legally. It is not his duty to snoop around the Residence Hall or to try to outwit groups of adolescent delinquents who feel that their day is made if a large number of them can outmaneuver one lone Duty Officer on some 67

acres of campus. It is obviously impossible for the D.O. to function as a squad of police on regular beats. He needs the assistance of the mature corps members in maintaining order on the campus.

The upper class have been delegated the responsibility and authority to maintain order and so organize the corps that they can be pointed to with pride as a group of young men and women who can effectively govern themselves. In the past, however, the statement that "rank has its privileges" has been much more popular than "rank has its responsibilities". If the upperclassmen took their responsibilities seriously, the perpetrators of such ungrateful and malicious vandalism that occurred last week would be quickly brought to justice and punished summarily for the honor and dignity of the corps.***** Amazingly, the potholes in the Res Hall Road haven't healed themselves up over the two months we were gone. In fact, they seem to have grown to kettle size or maybe cauldron.**** Job opportunities look good this year. Mr. Miller can help you first class that need help in writing a good letter and resume. See Mr. Hanson about other questions.***** Why is it that every year after cruise comes the after cruise purge? People are getting themselves together, working together well by the end of cruise, learning to live together and have a good time at it. But as soon as we get back to school, the system tightens down and people start having to hassle things more.

I don't think that the reason people quit after cruise is because they can't stand the idea of being away from home or something... I think it's because they can't stand the idea of going back to school. This school could really be a nice place if only the side stuff wasn't always standing in the way of the good learning. Nonetheless, in some ways we'll miss those that we didn't know were wise enough to quit until they'd already done it... the streak, the cool, and the porpoise. Goodbye and goodluck.*****

Samantha Gardiner(Sam) has quit her job as the school's mother. She's gone off on vacation at the moment and when she returns she'll be working at the tax assessor's office in Fairfield. Sam was a big help around here. For sure she kept a lot of people in this school. When she returns from vacation, I think we should pitch in and buy her something to show our appreciation of her efforts. The temporary secretary's name is Paige Gay. The only reason she's not going to stay in Sam's place is because she can't go on cruise .

PEOPLE (where?) we need help to put this thing out. If you have something you'd like to say and it's printable, we'll print it.