



Lou Marciello Takes Over School for New Retiree Joyce Matthews

Longtime member and Union official Lou Marciello will lead the Calhoun MEBA Engineering School (CMES) after Director Joyce Matthews announced her retirement that began in December. Joyce leaves with high grades after a 4½ year tenure leading the School – the third longest span as CMES Director after Roy Luebbe and Larry O’Toole.

Regarding her decision, Joyce cited the desire to reunite with her family and take advantage of her newly completed home in Florida. She wraps up a 26-year MEBA membership following her 1978 graduation from the CMES cadet program. She was the first female graduate of the School and its first female Director. Her appointment as Director in 2002 delayed an earlier retirement that had been planned following 16 distinguished years as a port engineer in Jacksonville, FL.

Lou graduated from the Calhoun School cadet program in 1971 and earned his Chief Engineer’s license (steam) nine years later and then his Chief’s (motor) license. He has sailed aboard all types of commercial vessels and spent many years aboard Ready Reserve Force fleet vessels as 1st A/E and relief Chief Engineer. He has also worked ashore as a port engineer, purchasing agent and in a research and development project with the Maritime Administration dealing with shipboard and shoreside use of computers. He also established a retail business for years which he operated successfully and eventually sold.

In 1975, Mr. Marciello received an undergraduate Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Boston University (B.U.) and four years later earned a Master of Business Administration (MBA) with honors at B.U. He also enrolled in the Calhoun MEBA School/Thomas Edison State College of New Jersey academic curriculum. Lou became the first Calhoun School graduate to earn a college degree through Edison by successfully completing additional core collegiate courses and applying credits earned from the Calhoun cadet program. In September of 1995 he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Engineering Technology specialization.

In 1996, he began serving as Dispatcher and later as Representative in the New Orleans hall gaining 5 years of experience in that capacity. In the 2001 MEBA election he was voted in as the Branch Agent in Houston where he won reelection three years later. As Branch Agent, Lou also served as an alternate MEBA Plans Trustee. His negotiation and leadership skills honed during his 10 years working out of MEBA union halls



Four of the now-seven School Directors in the history of the CMES line up at the Light Street/Redwood cornerstone near the cafeteria. Left to right are current Director Lou Marciello, Joyce Matthews, Roy Luebbe and Gil LaDana.

will be put to good use in his new job. Lou has extensive experience in the government procurement of vessel operating agreements. He has been intricately involved with developing economic proposals for all MEBA-Government contracts with MarAd and MSC over the past 10 years. In 1997, Lou produced the LMSR training manual while temporarily working at the Calhoun School.

Joyce oversaw some of the more dramatic and advantageous changes at the School that will benefit our members for years to come. Under her leadership, the School established the state-of-the-art bridge simulator suite which spawned valuable courses for our deck officers, she opened up the Propulsion Systems building as well as the 235-seat Art Newberry Auditorium and ushered in additional refurbishments and renovations of the worn-down campus buildings including dormitories. The children's playroom and members' lounge

were also created during her stay as were a slew of new courses that further diversify continuing education for our members.

She and her husband Mike are ready to embark upon the next phase of their lives which will surely involve spending a lot more time out on the golf course. Mike Matthews has proven a popular figure during his time at the School. He was recently honored as the Calhoun Alumni Association 'Man of the Year' stemming from his tireless work on behalf of the MEBA's Merchant Marine Memorial.

"Joyce's leadership has lifted the School onto another new plateau of excellence," MEBA President Ron Davis pointed out. "She has truly helped elevate the profile of our training facility to another level. Her leadership will be missed. I thank her and wish Joyce and Mike the absolute best." ■



Besides Joyce Matthews' retirement, two of the School's longest serving Instructors are also ending their exceptional MEBA careers: Roger Fullwood (foreground) has been an integral part of the School for 30 years. He has headed up electricity, electronics and computer courses during that time. His son Rick remains on the staff at the School continuing the Fullwood tradition. Darryl McCaslin has been teaching Diesel and Container Refrigeration courses at the CMES since 1974. His expertise has been critical in helping the School rise to prominence as a continuing education facility for mariners following the demise of the cadet program.

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