



# THE NAUTILUS

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Photo provided by Melton Nelson from Mar Carranza

By Gail Lonngi, '24, and Bubba Nelson, '25

Following the conclusion of TAMUG student body and Yell elections on February 29 at 5:00 p.m., Lauren Bothwell '25 and Abigail McKenna '25 announced their successful uncontested re-election as student body president and student body vice president, respectively. The two have expressed their excitement and gratitude to continue on to their second year of serving and leading the TAMUG community from their positions, and are looking forward to many projects designed to embrace TAMUG's leadership among universities of Texas and maritime academies of the nation.

"We have more to accomplish," said McKenna, "more to give, and more to try, to see that our student body is as successful as possible. ... I truly believe our future is to lead as a campus."

### Internship program

Among one of their current works-in-progress is a comprehensive internship program that will be involved with multiple areas of Galveston city government and applicable to most, if not all, TAMUG majors. Bothwell and McKenna stated this internship program will be the first of its kind since the COVID quarantine and will prioritize Sea Aggies, while encouraging UTMB and GC students to follow suit.

### Galveston Chamber of Commerce

Additionally, the two are working on involving TAMUG's student government more closely with the Galveston Chamber of Commerce, so the campus may have a stronger voice in the 89th Legislative Session of Galveston, Texas.

### PUMA

A national initiative they have been planning to formally propose is the Project Uniting Maritime Academies (PUMA). This project is intended to be modeled after TAMU's Chancellor's Student Advisory Council, and will be a means by which campus systems have the opportunity to network and communicate with each other, capitalizing on the development of corps, corps leadership, and SGAs across the

nation's seven maritime academies.

Ultimately, the goal is to connect all these organizations both virtually and in-person, with TAMUG in the lead. Projects like these will not only elevate TAMUG as a campus, but also continue to grow and cultivate its community involvement and impact on local, state, and national scales.

### Newly elected Corps leaders

New Corps leadership for 2024-25 was also announced at the SGA meeting on March 5, as follows:

- Corps Commander: Jason Elliott
- Deputy Corps Commander: Cole Young
- Chief of Staff: Alli DeYoung
- Adjutant: Tyler Heffernan
- Master At Arms: Anthony Wolfe
- Batallion 1 CO: Eugene Kwon
- Batallion 1 XO: Brent LeBlanc
- Battalion 2 CO: Tyler Williams
- Battalion 2 XO: Trevor Anglin

### Posthumous degrees

At the same meeting, an approved revision to a TAMU Bill was announced, regarding the conditions forwarded posthumous undergraduate degrees for deceased TAMU students. The change is pending in Faculty Senate. The change institutes that posthumous undergraduate degrees are to be granted upon the passing of an enrolled student who has completed 90 hours toward a specific bachelor's degree, with at least 45 of these hours completed at TAMU while maintaining a 2.000 total GPA or higher.

### New name

Furthermore, it was reinforced at the meeting that the new name appointed to the TAMUG campus is to be the "TAMU College of Marine Science and Maritime Studies" (CLMM). Appropriate changes on campus websites are imminent.

## 2 Blue Economy Conference

By Madison Ealey, '24



Photo by Sean Chavez, '24

The Blue Economy initiative at TAMUG offers a unique, interdisciplinary approach to solving real-world maritime and environmental challenges. The conference took place February 16 and 17, where students across various majors came together to tackle difficult case studies, fostering collaboration and practical problem-solving skills.

Blue Economy is a part of TAMUG's continuing efforts to increase the university's societal and community impact, and encourage winning students to submit their research proposals to state and professional organizations interested in improving the world's oceans and environments.

The Blue Economy process begins with a dinner event where students are presented with an in-depth case study. The case studies were presented with thorough instructions, though frequently vague and up to interpretation.

For this particular case, students were tasked with exploring

the process of dredging, focusing on the estimation of costs, the development of environmental plans, and the identification of key contacts necessary for the project.

Sounds straightforward? If you aren't very knowledgeable about your topic or similar projects, this task comes with extensive research.

Following the dinner, students are allowed to study the case for the remainder of the evening and an additional three hours the next day to develop the information and make a PowerPoint. The time crunch is just enough time for you to get your presentations done and work on presenting.

In working with students of different majors, students collaborate and utilize their individual academic backgrounds to address the case study's specific questions. The challenge requires them to not only apply their theoretical and in-class knowledge, but also to think critically about problems and practical applications and solutions.

This collaborative effort culminates in the creation of a PowerPoint presentation, in which student groups share their findings and solutions.

The following day, students are able to not only present their work but also gain a valuable learning experience. The participants also have the opportunity to gain information from employers associated with the field of their research topic. These employers expand on the knowledge and real-world perspectives that help the students' further understand and approach their challenge.

This experience demonstrates the commitment that TAMUG has in promoting learning of all kinds, from problem solving and critical thinking to interdisciplinary and research skills.

This semester, Blue Economy brought students, professors, and employers together for a valuable experience. This conference is intense, but is a great opportunity to be immersed in a space where students can learn from each other and gain their own experience during their college careers, specifically if they aspire to be recognized by employers in industrial and environmental fields, and expand their future options for employment and other research opportunities.

## Is it legal to travel by water from Pelican Island to Pelican Cut?

By Jason Osburn, '26

If you've spent time exploring Pelican Island, there's a chance you've noticed the smaller, isolated islet slightly northwest of the main island. A little research into the history of Galveston and Pelican Island reveals this place was known as "Pelican Spit" in the 19th century. But today, it is more commonly known as "Pelican Cut".

You may have also wondered whether you're as free to go explore Pelican Cut as you are Pelican Island. As no public transportation exists between these landmasses, you'd have to accomplish this by means of crossing Galveston's part of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway in your own watercraft. This part of the waterway between Pelican Island and Pelican Cut seems smaller than the Galveston Channel, but it does experience tug traffic from shipping companies situated along Pelican Island.

According to the TAMUG Police Department, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Houston/Galveston Sector of Waterways Management, however, it is indeed legal to travel between the two islands, because this body of water is not considered a safety or security zone. This means an individual legally cannot be restricted to travel across at their own risk. Although, they advise using motorized watercrafts, if possible, to avoid traffic, especially tug traffic. It's entirely acceptable,

regardless, to use any form of transportation possible as long as you avoid other parties crossing the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.

Additionally, the small island is in fact known as a decent fishing spot, for those with the necessary license to do so. Camping, however, is not permitted in this particular area.

It's essential to stay mindful of tug traffic during your travel, as tug boats have a restricted ability to maneuver. It's therefore advised you do the best you can to avoid coming close to these vehicles when traversing the waterway on your way to Pelican Cut. Just like crossing the street, take preventative measures by making sure you look every way before you take ongoing across the waterway to Pelican Cut.

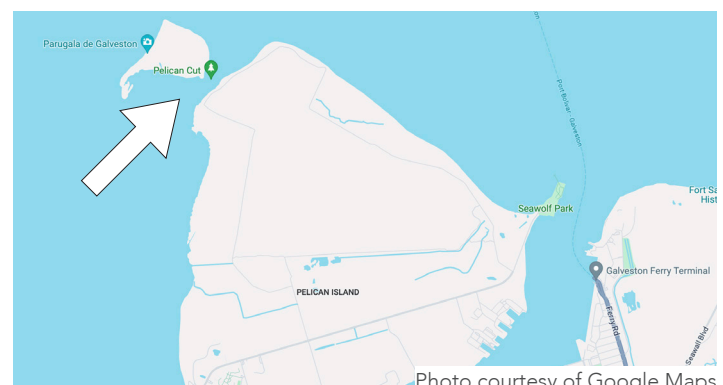


Photo courtesy of Google Maps

## Bubba's Bites: Marmo Cafe and Lounge

By Bubba Nelson, '25

While I am studying at my favorite coffee shop on the island, The Proletariat, I get hungry. If I'm there and I get hungry, I go just a block away to Marmo Cafe & Lounge, located in Marmo Plaza at 2121 Market St. in Downtown Galveston. Marmo Plaza is an office space and event venue that serves as the headquarters for Vision Galveston. The Cafe & Lounge is located on the first floor in its own wing of the building, you can't miss it.

With a brand new menu that adds brunch and removes some previous menu items, it's a must-try in Downtown Galveston until 10PM everyday. I've had every item on the menu: the pizzas, the loaded tater tots, the pulled pork mac and cheese, and the amazing spinach dip. But if there's anything that keeps me coming back for more, it's the Slow Roasted Chicken Sandwich. Just when you think you've had enough of chicken sandwiches, I can assure you that you haven't had anything like what Marmo has to offer.

With what may seem like an uncouth combination of crisp green apple slices, smooth and creamy dijon mustard, slow roasted chicken, and all of that with some lettuce on delicious grilled sourdough with fresh brie cheese, the sandwich is something you have to experience



Photo by Bubba Nelson, '24

yourself to truly understand what Marmo is about (I personally get the onions taken off). The chicken is roasted on a barbecue pit that sits on their outdoor lounge space that hosts frequent events, music, and fireplaces for guests to enjoy food and hangout.

With fresh cake from the Galveston local business, Lavender Cake Studio, they have dessert covered too (Strawberry Rosé champagne cake was the cake this week). Earlier, I mentioned a brunch menu, which has a phenomenal croissant sandwich, and you can even get a Butterbeer Latte. There is nowhere to go wrong on this menu, whether it be the brunch, the coffee, the bar menu, or the food overall; I just can't get enough of Marmo.

There is one glaring caveat to Marmo, and that's the price. The Chicken Sandwich sits at \$14 and comes with a bag of chips or tater tots, with the rest of the menu sitting at a similar price range of \$8-\$20 per item, apart from the bacon egg and cheese burritos that are \$2.25 each and served with brunch until 3PM. For the majority of college students who have a meal plan, this just isn't feasible to eat at as often as Mcdonalds or Taco Bell as a treat. However, if you feel the need to treat yourself to a place with fresh food, and that has the best chicken sandwich I have ever had in my entire life, or just need a quick bite a block away from The Proletariat, then Marmo is the place for you.

## Anime Review: Attack on Titan's Finale

By Isabella Chan Tack, '27

Even for those who are not too familiar with anime, the *Attack on Titan* anime series is definitely a show that many audiences have heard of. It's a classic among both anime and manga, a good starting point to approach anime-watching and manga-reading from, and a series with consistently positive ratings. On November 3, 2023, the show's final episode aired.

For those who may be unfamiliar with *Attack on Titan's* story, the series follows the life events of the protagonist, Eren Jaeger, as he struggles to fight against monsters called Titans invading his home. The story unfolds in a dystopian society where the last of humanity has been sealed off from the rest of the world by 50 meter tall walls, while the outside world is overrun by man-eating Titans.

The world building and character development is captivating, and leaves viewers wanting to know more about the secrets of the world outside the walls. As the story progresses, several tragedies occur, each one with a purpose. Every character loss or setback furthers the plot and deepens the meaning of the story, and the way in which the final moments of the series tied everything together was impressive.

Although there many wished for a happier ending to *Attack on Titan's* story, the tragic nature of the series and its messages about purpose, cruelty, beauty, death, and genocide simply don't allow for all the characters to get a happy ending. The ending instead is used as an opportunity to emphasize elements of human nature.

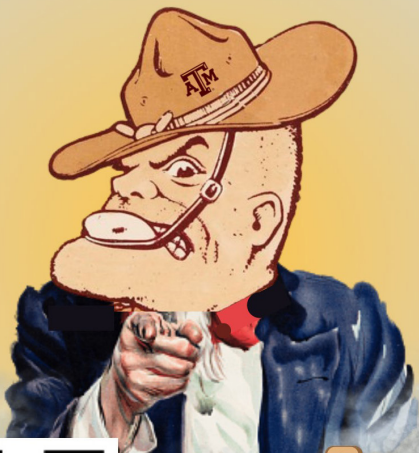
*Attack on Titan's* story highlights the repetition of history and how humanity is constantly stuck in a cycle of violence against one another. Strong symbolism carried on throughout the show through the characters, their motivations, actions, and masterful foreshadowing.

*Attack on Titan* is a highly acclaimed series for good reason, and is a must watch in the anime community, anime newcomers, fans of tragedy, philosophy, or horror, and anyone else looking for a new favorite show.



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