

UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND FOUNDATION

SHIPMATE

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1,000
WORDS



Blue Angels Training

CDR Alex P. Armatas '02, USN, commanding officer and flight leader of the U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, the Blue Angels, renders a salute prior to a training flight on 17 January 2023. The Blue Angels were conducting winter training at Naval Air Facility El Centro, CA, in preparation for the 2023 air show season.



Alex Armatas

SPRING FORWARD

By Jeff Webb '95



PHOTO BY SPENCER JONES

A new plaque was unveiled during the renaming ceremony of Maury Hall to Carter Hall on 17 February. From left to right, Jimmy Carter's son, Jeff; Carter's grandchildren, Josh and Sarah; and CAPT Greg Mendenhall '97, USN, director, Special Events, USNA.

Greetings from Annapolis, where we emerge from the Dark Ages into a spring of great promise, propelled by the legacy of one of our very special alumni.

On 17 February, Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro was in Annapolis to commemorate the renaming of Maury Hall in honor of President James Earl Carter Jr., Naval Academy Class of 1947 and 2002 Distinguished Graduate Award recipient. It is a rare event to have a building naming opportunity on the Yard, in this case mandated by a Congressional commission. Thanks to Superintendent Vice Admiral Sean Buck '83, USN, for describing the renaming process in more detail on page 28 of this issue.

President Carter becomes the second Distinguished Graduate Award recipient to have a building named for him on the Yard and the first to have the honor bestowed while living. The late Admiral Charles R. Larson '58, USN (Ret.), a 2006 Distinguished Graduate Award recipient, was honored with the renaming of the Administration Building to Larson Hall in 2015, one year after his passing.

At the renaming ceremony, President Carter's grandson, Josh Carter, had this to say: "It would be impossible to overstate what this Academy and the Navy has meant to my grandfather, and by extension to my family ... It is my hope that every student that comes through this great hall will learn the same foundational values that my grandfather learned here and through his career in the Navy."

The Carter family recently announced that President Carter has entered hospice for end-of-life care. Our thoughts are with First Lady Rosalynn Carter, their four children and the entire Carter family as they care for him.

On the topic of naming buildings, I am pleased that we can announce the name of our new alumni home—the Fluegel Alumni Center. Several years ago, Rick Fluegel '61 and his wife, Donna, generously made the lead gift that enabled us to fully commit to the construction of the building. Thanks to their leadership, other individuals and groups followed, enabling us to fund the project fully without taking on a dollar of debt.

Our transition to the 65,000-square-foot Fluegel Alumni Center from our dispersed offices at the Ogle Hall complex, Maryland Avenue and Hospital Point will take place this summer. We are planning a September dedication event, and will begin hosting events in conjunction with reunions this fall.

The entire project is a testament to the loyalty and commitment of our alumni body with more than 3,500 total donors, including more than 1,200 who contributed at the "plankowner" level. Read more about the Fluegel Alumni Center on page 16 of this issue.

I am pleased to welcome the newest member of our senior leadership team, Captain Thomas J. "TJ" Grady '96, USN (Ret.), who has joined us as executive vice president of engagement and communications.

TJ served for 26 years in Naval Aviation as a P-3 and P-8 pilot. As a recent Deputy Commandant, current Blue & Gold Officer and soon-to-be plebe parent, TJ is well acquainted with the Naval Academy. As an Athletic & Scholarship Programs Trustee, he was already a volunteer leader in our enterprise and is quickly gaining altitude now that he is in the seat.

He joins us at a strategic inflection point for the enterprise. We are in the latter stages of our Alumni Association Strategic Plan 2030 process. With the help of a committed group of volunteers led by Jim Schwab '88, chair of the Alumni Association Board of Trustees Plan 2030 Committee, we are zeroing in on a core set of initiatives that will help us focus on building and improving the programs and services most important to our alumni, wherever they are in their life journeys.

One likely area of growth for us is with our Shared Interest Group (SIG) network. The program began a decade ago with three SIGs initially. We added two last fall and have interest from multiple alumni groups in establishing others. The interest in new SIGs is generally oriented around career interests. In our strategic planning research, we are seeing a trend nationally towards SIGs as focal points for engaging alumni. We expect to build stronger connections and include more of our alumni through these important networks.

Finally, I'd like to thank our great editorial staff at *Shipmate*, led by our Editor Jimmy DeButts, for the tremendous response we have received from across the community to the POW feature in the January-February issue of *Shipmate*. So many of you have rightly observed how important those stories are to our community, and how well they were told. Bravo Zulu to everyone involved. 🚩

SHIPMATE

VOLUME 86 • NO. 2

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Get the Goat

This Bill is hiding somewhere in this issue. Find him and email us at getthegoat@usna.com with the correct page number and you will be entered into a drawing for a prize from the Alumni Association. Good luck! The drawing is limited to the first 100 correct answers, so get reading.

Bill was hiding in the upper left image on page 8 of the January-February 2023 issue of Shipmate.

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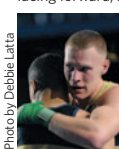
Our Mission

To serve and support the United States, the naval service, the Naval Academy and its alumni by furthering the highest standards at the Naval Academy; by seeking out, informing, encouraging and assisting outstanding, qualified young men and women to pursue careers as officers in the Navy and Marine Corps through the Naval Academy; and by initiating and sponsoring activities which will perpetuate the history, traditions, memories and growth of the Naval Academy and bind alumni together in support of the highest ideals of command, citizenship and government.

SHIPMATE is the official alumni magazine of the United States Naval Academy.

On the Cover

MIDN Adrain Johnson '23 and MIDN Aidan McNally '23, facing forward, are roommates and best friends.



They each entered the 2023 Brigade Boxing Championship as three-time champions. They met in the 147-pound championship round with McNally prevailing. It was the first meeting of three-time champions in the 82-year history of the event.

ALL HANDS

Editor's Note



It's no accident that Naval Academy alumni are always at the cutting edge of technology.

From the depths of the sea to the skies above America's borders, Naval Academy alumni can be found at the forefront of the artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning arena. This issue of *Shipmate* spotlights the extraordinary talent of Naval Academy alumni, largely from the millennial generation, who are developing new capabilities for AI technology (see page 10). Whether they were classmates or

served in the same community post commissioning, the shared knowledge base forged at the Academy pulls these tech-savvy alumni together.

The Naval Academy's Center for High Performance Computing Education and Research is preparing midshipmen for the known dangers and giving them the skills to adapt to the threats of ever-evolving technology. Alumni are using those skills to develop industry-changing autonomous vehicles and potentially life-saving software to serve the environmental, public safety, national defense and national security sectors using AI.

This story features alumni who exemplify the ability to not only successfully pivot to the civilian sector but lead in their chosen fields. Vice Admiral Bob Harward '79, USN (Ret.), succinctly summarized the value of the foundation set at the Academy for the 15 alumni working at Shield AI. Shield AI's V-Bat vertical takeoff and landing unmanned aircraft is designed to help secure borders and identify other security threats.

"We all entered the Academy because we wanted to serve our country," he said. "This is an extension of that mission-first mindset."

This edition of *Shipmate* also features five minutes with artist Kristin Cronin '11 (see page 33). She shares her journey to the Academy, how it shaped her and the inspiration she found on the Yard for her artwork. Her paintings—showing familiar scenes and experiences of midshipmen life—line the walls on the second deck of the Naval Academy Museum.

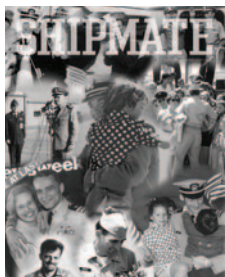
It is an exceptional exhibit that captures life at the Academy.

BZ to the Class of 2023 and best of luck leading in the fleet and Marine Corps.

Go Navy! Beat Army!

Jimmy DeButts, Editor, *Shipmate*

Correction



The introduction to the "Courageously Defiant" article in the January-February 2023 issue of *Shipmate* incorrectly stated each of the alumni featured was deceased. Captain Allen C. Brady '51, USN (Ret.); Captain John D. Burns '57, USN (Ret.); Captain Leo G. Hyatt '57, USN (Ret.); Captain Wilson D. Key '63, USN (Ret.); Commander Aubrey A. Nichols '64, USN (Ret.); and Vice Admiral Joseph S. Mobley '66, USN (Ret.), are not deceased.



PHOTO COURTESY OF USNA

The *Astrophysical Journal* featured the research of MIDN Kara Kniezewski '23 and solar physicist Dr. Emily Mason who determined the frequency and duration of post-flare rain and how the energy of a flare impacts the rain.

Kniezewski '23 Presents Solar Flare Rain Research

Midshipman Kara Kniezewski '23 presented her research of solar flare rain at the 241st meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Seattle on 10 January.

With assistance from Dr. Emily Mason, a solar physicist, Kniezewski, an astrophysics major, carried out statistical analysis of rain that forms as the byproduct of a solar flare. Their research was conducted at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center to determine the frequency and duration of post-flare rain and how the energy of a flare impacts the rain observed. Their work was recently published in *The Astrophysical Journal*.

"Solar flares and rain on the sun have long been studied, but the statistical analysis on these events has never been carried out," Kniezewski said. "This study provided the statistics surrounding flare-driven rain, but also contained many unexpected findings which significantly add to our understanding of solar flares and how we can utilize rain events following the flare to estimate the strength of solar activity in the future."

Understanding the future of solar activity is critical to examine how flares and coronal mass ejections can impact our satellites, astronauts, and even technology on the ground. In an age of growing technological reliance on the ground and in space, estimating and predicting such solar activity is crucial.

Kniezewski is also a 2022 Goldwater Scholar, which provides scholarships to college sophomores and juniors who intend to pursue research careers in the natural sciences, mathematics and engineering.

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Gulbrandson '23 Named Churchill Scholar



PHOTO COURTESY OF USNA

Midshipman Anders Gulbrandson '23 was selected as a Churchill Scholar in January. Gulbrandson is a chemistry major, a 2022 Goldwater Scholarship winner and a Trident Scholar. Under the guidance of Naval Academy faculty Commander Dave Durkin '98, USN, and Professor Paul Trulove, Gulbrandson conducted research involving nano-modified biopolymer composite materials, nanoparticle synthesis and applications and ionic liquids. He has co-authored three articles about his research in the *Journal of Ionic Liquids*, *Macromolecular Materials and Engineering* and the *Journal of Materials Science*.

Gulbrandson has also conducted electrochemical sensor research at Vanderbilt University under the direction of Professor David Cliffel. Most recently, he conducted research at MIT Lincoln Laboratory under the direction of Dr. Gary Smith. Gulbrandson is a member of Navy's hockey team.

At the University of Cambridge, he intends to pursue a master's degree in chemistry, and is interested in exploring the ability to create carbon-absorbent textiles from naturally occurring and renewable sources, such as carbon. Following his time in the Churchill Scholar program, he will begin training to be a Navy submariner. The Churchill Scholarship provides funding to American students for a year of master's study at Cambridge. The program was created by Sir Winston Churchill in order to fulfill his vision of U.S.-U.K. scientific exchange with the goal of advancing science and technology on both sides of the Atlantic, helping to ensure our future prosperity and security. □

Sadler, Academy's First Woman Instructor, Dies at Age 81



PHOTO COURTESY OF USNA

Captain Georgia Clark Sadler, USN (Ret.), taught political science and international relations from 1972 to 1975 at the Naval Academy. She was the first woman faculty member at the Naval Academy.

She died on 30 November 2022 of complications from Alzheimer's disease in Alexandria, VA. She was 81.

Sadler graduated first in her class at Women Officers School in Newport, RI, and was commissioned as an ensign in the Navy in 1963. Among her many firsts, in 1975, she became the first female intelligence briefer for the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. In 1979, she graduated from the off-campus seminar program offered by the Naval War College.

In the fall of 1980, she became the head of the women's programs section for the office of the Chief of Naval Operations. She was responsible for monitoring the progress of all programs specifically dealing with women serving in the Navy, including women serving on ships, which began two years earlier.

In July 1982, Sadler became the first woman to serve as the duty director for intelligence for the Pentagon's National Military Intelligence Center, according to a Naval History and Heritage Command biography. □

New Lacrosse Facility Proposed

The Naval Academy Athletic Association in conjunction with the Naval Academy Alumni Association & Foundation accepted a leadership gift from an anonymous donor earmarked for constructing a new \$22 million, 33,000-square-foot lacrosse facility on the Yard.

The project will need endorsement by the Secretary of the Navy. The anticipated facility would be constructed adjacent to the Glenn Warner Soccer Facility on the Academy grounds. The two-story Navy Lacrosse Center would celebrate the history and traditions of Navy lacrosse, while serving as a testament to the Naval Academy's commitment to the physical mission. Once constructed, the men and women who play for Navy Lacrosse will be playing in one of college lacrosse's preeminent facilities.

Coaches' offices, locker rooms and wardrooms for the men's and women's programs will provide cutting-edge technology and amenities to include athletic training and rehabilitation spaces, a strength and conditioning facility, a nutrition center and theater. Additionally, a



RENDERING COURTESY OF NAAA

The Naval Academy announced in January a plan to build a new \$22 million, 33,000-square-foot lacrosse facility on the Yard.

rooftop terrace that features a 360-degree view of the Naval Academy and the Severn River is planned and would provide an inviting gathering space for recruits and their families, as well as a space to host alumni functions. □

Grady '96 joins USNAAAF as Executive VP, Engagement and Communications



Captain Thomas J. "TJ" Grady '96, USN (Ret.), joined the Naval Academy Alumni Association & Foundation as executive vice president, engagement and communications in February.

Grady spent more than 26 years in naval aviation and the past two years helping build a company focused on eliminating single-use plastic drinking bottles for a more sustainable environment. He previously served the alumni community as a volunteer leader, donor and Athletic & Scholarship Programs Trustee since 2014.

During his time as a naval aviator, Grady amassed more than 3,000 hours in the P-3C Orion and P-8A Poseidon. He served as the commanding officer of the VP-45 "Pelicans" and the VP-30 "Pro's Nest." His shore assignments included duty as the deputy commandant of midshipmen (2017 to 2019).

Grady earned a B.S. in economics from the Naval Academy and was the captain of the soccer team. He later earned graduate degrees from both American Military University and The Naval War College. He is married to Christine and together they have two children, Lindsey and Gavin. Gavin will join the Class of 2027 this summer.

Grady can be reached at thomas.grady@usna.com. □

HARNESSING THE POWER OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

By Kim Catley

The next generation of leaders will be fluent in the language of artificial intelligence (AI). Today, U.S. Naval Academy graduates are using AI to support ocean exploration, prevent mass shootings and improve defense capabilities.

As officers in the fleet and in the Marine Corps, Naval Academy graduates are charged with making decisions that matter. Part of their training at the Academy is aimed at using evidence and data to make smarter decisions—a process that is now made even better with the help of artificial intelligence and machine learning.

“AI and machine learning can include a very large amount of data from many sources and summarize that information into a recommendation,” said Gavin Taylor, professor of computer science at the Naval Academy. Taylor is also the co-director of the Academy’s Center for High Performance Computing Education and Research, which was founded after the Department of Defense provided advanced technology with the hope midshipmen would graduate with more experience in the high-performance systems.

The center aims to complement academic programs—like the new data science major and the computer science certificate in artificial intelligence—with funding for internships, research, conferences and other experiential opportunities. It also provides seed grants for faculty members to integrate performance computing and machine learning in their own research.

“We have all these people who are going to graduate and be at the sharp end of these DoD-specific problems,” Taylor said. “The idea was to get the Academy involved early so that when the students graduated and went out in the fleet, they would have accounts on these big computers already and could start trying to solve these problems.”

However, he says, the Academy is more than a training center focused on specific systems. Graduates need a deeper



background that equips them to learn about and use new technologies as they’ve developed.

That foundation is evident in several alumni businesses that integrate AI and machine learning—even though the technology has evolved rapidly since they were midshipmen. Here, they share why AI is integral to their businesses in the private sector, and how they’re contributing to the future of security and defense.

‘WE’RE PROBLEM SOLVERS’

The story of ZeroEyes begins in Parkland, FL, following the 2018 mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. ZeroEye’s founders, all former Navy SEALs and military veterans, had lived through active shooter situations and wanted to find a proactive way to keep people safe.

As they brainstormed, they kept coming back to one common element of most mass shootings: the perpetrator could often be found holding a rifle in view of an active security camera.

“The vast majority of active shooters start in a staging area—like parking

Joe Wolfel '04 is CEO of Terradepth which produces Autonomous Underwater Vehicles that are being designed to create a high-resolution geophysical data map of the seabed.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TERRADEPTH



garages, loading docks or stairwells—that are covered with existing cameras,” said Kieran Carroll ’07, the company’s chief strategy officer. “The problem is no one has the ability to watch hundreds or thousands of cameras.

“But we’re problem-solvers. We started looking at a technology solution that could mitigate, or hopefully prevent, the next shooting from happening.”

They developed a software solution that integrates with the existing cameras and uses AI to detect a visible firearm. An alarm sounds and the staff at ZeroEyes’ operation center make a rapid assessment of the situation and can contact the authorities and first responders when warranted.

The software-to-human hand-off is critical to ZeroEyes’ success, said Carter Stapleton ’07, vice president of operations. While humans don’t have the capacity to carefully monitor hundreds of cameras for hours on end, AI can’t always accurately detect a weapon and false positives can cause a major disturbance. ZeroEyes also intentionally stacks the operation center with military

veterans who are trained to identify a weapon and conduct a threat assessment in three seconds or less.

“Our goal is always to de-escalate,” Carroll said. “That’s why we hired the military analysts who have the right constitution to make these critical decisions quickly, and with an absence of wider information. One analyst can manage thousands of cameras simultaneously without getting overly saturated.”

While education settings are the core of the business, ZeroEyes is further expanding into commercial and government settings. Julia Fries ’19, a sales project manager who is exploring DoD innovation efforts around AI and machine learning, said the ZeroEyes system can provide base security and support for combat environments.

“We have ways to mitigate cognitive overload for operators, and use AI for greater situational awareness involving surveillance and intelligence,” she said. “It’s different from the schools, but still part of our focus on providing force protection.”

‘HOW DO WE MAKE ROBOTS SMARTER?’

At Terradepth, CEO Joe Wolfel ’04 is using unmanned robots to explore and map an area humans know little about: the vast floor of the ocean.

Using acoustic data, sonar, laser line scanners, optical cameras and more, Terradepth’s robotic fleet is creating a high-resolution geophysical data map of the seabed. The data can then be used to determine where to place an offshore wind farm or submarine telecommunications cable, or studied over time to evaluate the effects of climate change.

Only 5 percent of the ocean floor has been precisely mapped—meaning the potential data to be collected is immense. To make the process scalable, Wolfel and his team are turning to AI. They’re focused on two avenues in particular: data processing and initial analysis by the robots, and delivering energy to sensors without human intervention.

“How do we make robots smarter, and how do we make them stay out longer?” Wolfel said. “Because humans are the limiting factor, from an exposure risk and a cost standpoint.

“But the question isn’t how do robots fully replace you, but how do they minimize human cognitive load or involvement? What you don’t want is to set a robot loose for two weeks, come back, and realize the algorithm failed.”

Building a scalable fleet of smart robots is an initial priority, but Wolfel said AI and machine learning will also be critical as they develop systems to automatically detect changes in the seabed and, eventually, create augmented reality fly-through



This aerial image shows Terradepth’s Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV) in Lake Travis, TX. The AUV is being developed to map seabeds.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TERRADEPTH

FEATURE

environments that allow users to experience the ocean floor.

Wolfel, who also served as a Navy SEAL, says he realized the value of AI from the outset, but he had little experience with the technology before launching Terradepth. However, he said, his broad-based education at the Academy gave him the necessary exposure to complex, cutting-edge technology that allowed him to hire the right experts and lead with awareness.

'CONTRIBUTING TO THE GREATER DEFENSE MISSION'

After a career that took him from supporting Naval Special Warfare on the West Coast to working for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Senate and the White House, Andrew Keene '12 shifted to the private sector in early 2020 when he joined the defense technology startup Anduril Industries.

The 5-year-old company specializes in cutting-edge autonomous defense capabilities, such as surveillance systems to detect drone threats and protect military bases and enforce borders. It also produces advanced command-and-control software as well as autonomous air and undersea vehicles used for a variety of missions. Everything leverages a proprietary AI-powered software, Lattice OS, which is the core of Anduril's work.

Keene said he joined Anduril after being recruited by a fellow veteran who he served with on the SEAL team, and quickly noticed how many people moved to the defense tech space after successful careers in the government and military. He was promoted to chief of staff at Anduril in June 2022.

"It's a wonderful opportunity to continue to contribute to the greater defense mission with a company that is taking a completely different approach to defense technology," he said. "Having the experiences from both the Academy and military service prepared me to understand the needs of the warfighter and what capabilities they need, and how the technology can translate into an advantage."

He also notes a growing shift toward investment in Silicon Valley as a destination for defense tech. The move is a necessary



one, he said, as startups bring a nimbleness and innovation that is critical to staying at the forefront in the cyberwarfare space.

"China is outpacing the U.S. in the AI and autonomous systems," Keene said. "But high-caliber engineers that normally would be going to top-tier companies like Google, Tesla, Uber and Microsoft are coming to defense companies like Anduril and applying their talents to solve some of the most complex defense problems."

It's not just the engineers who are making moves. In 2020, Anduril became the youngest company to win a program of record with the U.S. government since the Korean War. The contract called for Anduril's autonomous surveillance towers to be deployed. Late last year, Anduril announced it received nearly \$1.5 billion in Series E funding—the third largest venture capital raise by a U.S. company in 2022—which will dramatically increase their research and development efforts and further expand their portfolio of capabilities.

"Our software-first approach allows us to move quickly when developing our capabilities," Keene said. "Then we can go to the government and say, here's this novel thing we've developed that we believe addresses the needs that you have. Let's continue to work together and refine it, and ultimately deliver it to the warfighter in large enough quantities on a timeline that makes a decisive difference."

"The military and large defense companies are historically good at building exquisite hardware systems like planes, ships and tanks. But the wars of the future are not going to be won with large hardware that takes a ton of time, money and human capital to build. Large quantities of lower-cost unmanned systems and the software that enables them is going to be critical and there simply needs to be more focus on true mission autonomy." 📍

Andrew Keene '12 joined defense technology start-up Anduril Industries in 2020. Anduril produces several types of autonomous systems, including a Large Displacement Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (LD-AUV) that can rapidly integrate diverse payloads for a variety of undersea missions.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDURIL

IRON SHARPENS IRON, EXCELLENCE ATTRACTS EXCELLENCE

U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI FLOCKING TO DEFENSE INDUSTRY DISRUPTOR

By Lily Hinz '11

After serving as a surface warfare officer and Navy SEAL for seven years, Brandon Tseng '08 had an idea of what he wanted to do in his civilian career.

His experiences serving in uniform shaped a clear vision for what the future of warfare would look like. While earning his MBA from Harvard Business School, he asked himself “what does the military of 2030 look like and what role does autonomy play?”

The answer he kept coming back to was artificial intelligence (AI) pilots powering every military asset and from there, Shield AI was born. With a mission to protect service members and civilians with the best AI and autonomy technology, he and his co-founders began to assemble a world-class team that has grown to more than 500 people since its founding in 2015. Shield AI boasts 15 Naval Academy alumni on its staff.

The company's explosive growth and appealing value proposition inevitably yielded a steady onslaught of Naval Academy alumni joining the Shield AI ranks. In 2022, Shield AI doubled the company's equity value to \$2.3 billion and grew the team to more than 500 people from 320.

For Brian Hamilton '08, it started as a thought exchange with Tseng.

“When I started doing banking work related to defense companies, I realized that although I knew the operational Navy well, I knew very little about the business side of the DoD. I knew Brandon from school and so I would occasionally ask him some questions,” Hamilton said.



Shield AI's V-BAT on the flight deck of PORTLAND during a 2021-22 deployment. In the summer of 2021, Shield AI acquired the firm that developed the vertical takeoff and landing (VTOL) unmanned aircraft, V-BAT. PHOTOS COURTESY OF SHIELD AI

In parallel, Tseng wasn't as familiar with mergers and acquisitions (M&A), so Hamilton helped him start to think through how the right M&A strategy could help catapult his business.

“After a couple exchanges, we realized that it made sense for me to devote my full bandwidth to Shield AI and work full time, and I have no regrets about that decision,” Hamilton said.

Shield AI made two back-to-back acquisitions in the summer of 2021: Heron Systems, the company known for decisively defeating seasoned fighter pilots during DARPA's AlphaDogfight trials; and Martin UAV, the company known for its logistically simple, medium-size, class-leading vertical takeoff and landing (VTOL) unmanned aircraft, V-BAT. These two strategic acquisitions allow Shield AI to continue to climb and conquer the DoD “Aviation Food Chain” through the integration of

the company's AI and autonomy software, Hivemind, on all military aircraft.

It's not that working in investment banking wasn't intellectually rigorous or rewarding. Hamilton had the opportunity to help advise some of the world's leading companies on their strategic decisions and capital formation. But he jumped at the opportunity to help build what he and the other Naval Academy graduates working at Shield AI believe is quickly differentiating the company as this generation's leader in defense technology.

“The Naval Academy's motto of *Ex Scientia Tridens* endures in the company's work

to continue developing and deploying the world's best AI pilot—an inevitable, key enabling technology to maintaining deterrence and our ability to deter global conflict,” Hamilton said.

Vice Admiral Bob Harward '79, USN (Ret.), stood up Shield AI's International Business Development team in early 2022, which is an experience he likened to going into Afghanistan.

“I was on the board at Shield AI for a long time prior to taking on my current role,” Harward said. “When I retired from Lockheed Martin, I was the right guy in the right place at the right time—just like when I was tapped to be the commander of a special multinational task force that went into Afghanistan in the immediate aftermath of the September 11 terrorist attacks.”

Harward's only negative feedback about Shield AI is that his fellow Academy grads are “not upholding the physical fitness standards they were



VADM Bob Harward '79, USN (Ret.), Brandon Tseng '08, Chris Brinkley '11 and a visitor to Shield's San Diego office share a laugh and a fist bump. Tseng co-founded artificial intelligence firm Shield AI and has hired more than a dozen Naval Academy alumni.

taught to maintain on the Yard.” He spends a significant amount of time with Tseng and Chris Brinkley '11, who are both fellow SEALs, and claims to be “outrunning all of them” at 66-years old.

Shifting to a serious tone, Harward explained why so many Academy alumni with such diverse backgrounds and experiences have decided to join a defense industry disruptor.

“I think all the grads here have realized the impact this technology can have on not just the Navy, but for warfighting capabilities,” Harward said. “We all entered the Academy because we wanted to serve our country. This is an extension of that mission-first mindset.”

Brinkley had the “privilege” of receiving firstie-to-plebe mentorship from Tseng as they were both 14th Company Cobras.

“Brandon was a tyrant of a cadre during Plebe Summer, like a Marine indoctrination instructor,” he said laughing. “Then, he was less intense during the academic year because he wanted us to focus on school, which is when I realized he was just doing his job during Plebe Summer. Everything came full circle since Brandon’s roommate, Bram Arnold '08, was my platoon commander in the SEAL teams. He played a big part in my landing at Shield AI.”

Tseng can remember the exact conversation he had with Arnold when Brinkley applied to Shield AI.

“I hadn’t worked with Chris in the SEAL teams. We had very similar backgrounds—Naval Academy, 14th

Company, mechanical engineering majors, SEAL team members and Harvard Business School grads; but I hadn’t really kept in close touch with him since the Academy,” Tseng said. “When he applied to Shield AI, I called Bram and asked how Chris was professionally. He said ‘Chris is the most professional, hardest working person I know. You have to hire him.’

“The amazing thing about the Naval Academy alumni network is how small and tightknit it is. This is just one example of the power of the network.”

Shield AI’s 15 USNA grads are employed on teams ranging from business development and marketing to product/program management and engineering. Alex Burtness '10, Chris Swigart '07 and Tim Jarratt '07 are leaders on the product management team, while Mike Mathis '05 and Chris Turl '00 lead program management efforts in Shield AI’s office in downtown San Diego, CA.

Paul Schauppner '11 reached out to Lily (Powers) Hinz '11 after seeing her LinkedIn posts about the company’s work. Soon after, he joined the engineering team as a technical communicator, where he works on developing the software tools to align company processes and streamline cross-functional communication.

Naval Academy alumni work alongside two West Pointers, an Air Force Academy alum and one Merchant Marine Academy alum, which keeps the spirit of friendly service academy rivalries alive.

Dan Imbat '91, who has spent his career building a strong reputation in the Navy and defense industry as a thought leader and innovator in the unmanned aircraft space, joined the company in early 2022. He was elated when he discovered he could engage in friendly competition for contract awards with his service academy counterparts.

“What I love about Shield AI is that we drive our business knowing that our work is both highly beneficial and consequential for the United States,” Imbat said. “This is one race where the United States can’t settle for second place, and I am proud to be working alongside so many service academy grads in pursuit of this noble mission,” he said.

Shield AI’s youngest Naval Academy alum, John Keck '16, completed a Hiring Our Heroes fellowship on the company’s business development team during his final months in the Marine Corps.

“At the beginning of the fellowship process, I did a lot of interviews at companies across several industries,” Keck said. “Going into it, I didn’t think I would land somewhere affiliated with the government or DoD because I thought I needed a change. When I learned about Shield AI, however, something just clicked for me. The intersection of the company’s mission, culture and my general skillset fit made it an easy choice.”

JD Parker '09 and Weston Bartkoski '12 are Shield AI’s newest Academy alumni hires. They work on the business development and customer success teams, respectively. Parker attended his first defense industry trade show (the Association of the U.S. Army’s Annual Meeting and Expo) in October 2022, where he met fellow alums who descended upon the nation’s capital for this widely attended event.

“I owe so much of who I am as a person to Annapolis, where I forged strong bonds with classmates and developed leadership traits that served me well in the Marine Corps,” Parker said. “When I was active duty, I treated my Marines like family. I see this same approach taken at Shield AI so being a part of this team feels like coming home.” 🚢

Lily Hinz '11 served as a surface warfare officer and public affairs officer, on active and Reserve duty, for 10 years. She lives in San Diego, CA, with her husband Brendan Hinz '11, an MH-60R pilot on his department head tour at HSM-35, and two children.



Chris Turl '00, Mike Mathis '05, Chris Swigart '07 and Alex Burtness '10 at Shield AI’s San Diego, CA, office.

FLUEGEL FAMILY'S LEGACY GIFT HELPS NEW ALUMNI CENTER BECOME A REALITY

When Naval Academy alumni, family and friends gather for reunions or receptions at the new 65,000-square-foot facility alongside College Creek this fall, they will be able to call the Fluegel Alumni Center “home.” A dedication event is planned for September.

Construction of the modern alumni center was made possible in large part by the generosity of the Fluegel family. An anchor gift from Donna and Rick Fluegel '61, helped ensure the success of this legacy for the Naval Academy alumni community and a world-class home in Annapolis. The Naval Academy Alumni Association & Foundation will begin moving into the Fluegel Alumni Center later this year.

“Thanks to the generosity of all our lead donors, the United States Naval Academy Alumni Association & Foundation will be better equipped to uphold our mission of supporting the Naval Academy, the Brigade of Midshipmen and the entire alumni community,” said U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association & Foundation President and CEO Jeff Webb '95. “The Fluegel Alumni Center is a first-class facility, and we are eager to welcome alumni to their new home this fall.”

The center is designed to provide a premium venue for a wide range of alumni events, streamline and enhance Alumni Association & Foundation operations and provide an ideal space to celebrate alumni achievements—all of which help support the Naval Academy mission and strengthen the global alumni network. This facility will allow the Alumni Association & Foundation to better serve alumni and provide a centralized home when they return to Annapolis for reunions, governing board and volunteer leader events, activities on the Yard and sporting events.

Construction on the Fluegel Alumni Center is expected to be completed by June. In addition to reunions, it will host alumni gatherings and special events. Reservations for fall events will open later this year. The finished facility will include 4,000 square feet of exterior deck space, 2,000 square feet of lower-level bar/event space, two banquet facilities and on-site parking.

Thanks to the generosity of the alumni community, most of the project's construction costs were contributed prior to the razing of the site in November 2021. More than 3,500 alumni contributed to the new facility, including more than 1,200 plankowners and 37 classes also supported the alumni center to raise more than \$36 million in contributions to build, equip and operate the facility. Construction of the center was fully funded by philanthropic gifts.

The concept for the project dates back more than a decade. The initiative was codified in the *Naval Academy Strategic Plan 2020* and the Alumni Association & Foundation's strategic plan.

“The naming of this center is an exciting next step in the realization of more than a decade of effort,” said Admiral Robert J. Natter '67, USN (Ret.), who directed the project. “This is a shining example of our alumni community's shared vision to invest in itself and in our alma mater, that influenced us so greatly in what it means to serve and to lead.”

The Naval Academy Alumni Association, the Naval Academy Foundation and the Athletic and Scholarship Programs will consolidate from five buildings—on and off the Yard—into one location. The facility is designed to allow for multiple events concurrently, capable of supporting the



In November 2021, demolition of the greenhouse keepers quarters began alongside College Creek. Construction of the Fluegel Alumni Center began in early 2022. The new facility is scheduled to be complete by June.



Construction of the Fluegel Alumni Center continued during February. The 65,000-square-foot facility is scheduled to be complete in June. A legacy gift from Donna and Rick Fluegel '61 helped ensure the Naval Academy alumni community has a first-class home in Annapolis.



distinct missions and functions of the three organizations that comprise the Enterprise.

“Thanks to the generosity of Rick and Donna, the Alumni Association & Foundation will be able to host and support our alumni in a center worthy of their service to the nation,” said Admiral Mark Ferguson III ’78, USN (Ret.), chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Naval Academy Alumni Association. “We are very grateful our alumni community will have a home they can be proud of when they return to Annapolis.”

The Fluegel Alumni Center will allow staff to serve a larger number of alumni and other Association members as well as host a greater number of events throughout the year. A single, dedicated space for serving alumni will also produce clearer lines of communication between the Yard and alumni groups supporting midshipmen.

The Associations of Graduates at West Point and Air Force have found that an investment in facilities enhanced their programs and service to alumni with the James K. Herbert Alumni Center in June 1995 and Doolittle Hall in 1992, respectively. “The Fluegel Alumni Center will provide the Alumni Association & Foundation with modern amenities to support a growing alumni base inside an unparalleled venue,” said J. Ronald Terwilliger ’63, chairman of the Board of Directors for the Naval Academy Foundation.

Academy leaders, volunteer leaders and alumni groups will be able to access all Alumni Association & Foundation resources and staff at the Fluegel Alumni Center instead of coordinating meetings, agendas and staff among multiple locations. With a new facility, the Alumni Association & Foundation expects to double the capacity for visitors to the building and provide improved engagement and opportunities as an event venue.

For more updates on the Fluegel Alumni Center, visit www.usna.com where there are links to the project’s details and to a webcam that captures photos every 30 minutes to document construction progress. ⚓



This stairway in the Fluegel Alumni Center is modeled after the one in Bancroft Hall leading to Memorial Hall.



The entrance of the Fluegel Alumni Center.

PHOTOS BY SPENCER JONES





MIDSHIPMEN AT WAR: VIETNAM—AN UNTOLD STORY

Part II

By Captain Gordon I. Peterson '68, USN (Ret.)

Editor's Note: This is the second part of the story of midshipmen experiences during the Vietnam War. Part I was published in the January-February 2023 issue of Shipmate.

The Vietnam War continued at a deadly pace in 1969. However, the gradual U.S. effort to expand, equip and train South Vietnam's armed forces for an increased combat role began in January that year. Described as "Vietnamization" (a term that slighted South Vietnam's many years of high combat losses), one of its goals was to allow U.S. forces to be withdrawn progressively so that the conduct of the war could eventually transition to South Vietnam. In June, President Nixon announced the withdrawal of 25,000 U.S. troops to begin the U.S. drawdown.

Following a similar summer schedule as the prior two years, 100 first-class midshipmen in the Class of 1970 were assigned to Seventh Fleet ships. The Naval Academy's Annual *Register* for 1970 notes they were assigned to junior officer billets and given "... opportunities to assume their responsibilities in as many departments as practical during summer training."

BOOTS ON THE GROUND

Commander Lawrence "Skid" Heyworth III '70, USN (Ret.), served on the guided-missile destroyer BUCHANAN. "Part of my cruise was spent conducting harassment-and-interdiction missions—mostly at night—in Da Nang Harbor and further south off the Mekong Delta," he said. "One of my duties was to check the gun-target line visually to ensure that it was clear—primarily from U.S. helicopters that wandered into our 'hot' area. I was on the sound-powered phone circuit with gun control and had the authority to call a 'check fire' if the gun target line was fouled."

Following commissioning, Heyworth deployed to Vietnam in 1971 and 1972 on the frigate DAVIDSON.

Curtis O. Hingson '70 served on the aircraft carrier BONHOMME RICHARD during its operations at Yankee Station.

Then-MIDN Bruce E. Brunn '70 made foot patrols ashore with U.S. Army soldiers, observed operations from a command-and-control helicopter and embarked on armored assault craft during operations with the U.S. Navy-U.S. Army Mobile Riverine Force in South Vietnam's Mekong Delta region in the summer of 1969.

PHOTO COURTESY OF COL BRUCE E. BRUNN '70, USMC (RET.)

“Nothing in my life, outside of my father’s tales about his service on the submarine *BATFISH* during World War II, impacted me as deeply as observing the return of A-4s to Bonnie Dick following sorties onshore—daily it seems. We lost at least two in 30 days of flight operations as I recall. Most of my midshipmen assignments were in engineering and navigation, but my heart was in the ready rooms with the squadrons.”

The potential hazards of operations at sea were brought home to Lieutenant Junior Grade Gary D. Knight ’70, USN (Ret.), and other midshipmen who made a port visit to Subic Bay during the summer of 1969. They saw the stern section of the destroyer *FRANK E EVANS* in a floating dry dock. During night flight operations in June, the Australian aircraft carrier *HMAS MELBOURNE* collided with the destroyer and cut it in half. Only the destroyer’s stern section remained afloat. Ensign Dwight S. Pattee ’68 and 73 of his shipmates perished. Knight’s photo of the destroyer’s stern section was published in the Class of 1970’s *Lucky Bag*.

The Class of 1970’s experiences during this cruise were not solely at sea. Several first classmen also put boots on the ground in South Vietnam. Commander Brock A. McMunn ’70, USN (Ret.), Major Louis “Sam” Hollier IV ’70, USMC (Ret.), and Commander George G. Karch ’70, USN (Ret.), were assigned to the amphibious assault ship *IWO JIMA* when its amphibious ready group conducted Operations Bold Pursuit and Mighty Play near Da Nang in June and July 1969.

During these operations, they made several helicopter flights and observed the activities of *IWO JIMA*’s Battalion Landing Team. They also spent two days on the ground with Marines of the 1st Battalion, 26th Marine Regiment. They were exposed briefly to enemy fire.

“We visited B Company performing a sweep of an area near Da Nang,” Hollier recalled. “We thought hornets were flying by. Then we took cover, and the Marines got the woman sniper that shot at us.”



During their deployment on the amphibious assault ship *Iwo Jima* in 1969, then-MIDN Louis “Sam” Hollier ’70, Brock A. McMunn ’70 and George G. Karch ’70 (not pictured) spent two days with a Marine infantry company during its sweep of an area near Da Nang, South Vietnam.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MAJ LOUIS “SAM” HOLLIER IV ’70, USMC (RET.)

Colonel William Clay Grubb Jr. ’70, USMC (Ret.), and two classmates were embarked on the amphibious assault ship *VALLEY FORGE* with Marines of its assigned Battalion Landing Team aboard.

“We operated from Chu Lai to Yankee Station off North Vietnam,” he said. In addition to standing normal watches, Grubb served as assistant flight deck officer. The midshipmen occasionally flew aboard the ship’s UH-34 Seahorse helicopter during mail-and-resupply runs to Da Nang and Chu Lai. “As ‘future admirals’ we were also able to fly as copilot on some flights.”

He spent a night ashore on one flight following an in-flight emergency. “The ship’s Marine helicopter squadron HMM-164 also took us out on their CH-46 over coastal areas,” Grubb recalled.

Grubb and his classmates were transferred to the guided-missile cruiser *BOSTON* in early August for their return to Subic Bay and flight home. En route, they witnessed the cruiser’s naval-gunfire support missions along the coast of South Vietnam. The ship fired hundreds of 8-inch rounds from its two forward gun turrets.

Further south in the Mekong Delta, Captain Carl Weiscopf ’70, USN (Ret.), made a brief visit ashore while assigned to the destroyer *RUPERTUS* during a total of nearly six weeks on the gunline.

“One of my most memorable experiences was going ashore at one of the Navy’s riverine bases in the Rung Sat Special Zone south of Saigon,” he said. “While ashore, I met Lieutenant Richard “Rick” Farrell ’66, USN (Ret.), who was with the riverine force. He is the brother of my classmate Captain Jerry Farrell ’70, USN (Ret).”

At least three members of the Class of 1970 served with the Brown Water Navy on the Mekong Delta’s waterways in the IV-Corps tactical zone. Navy operations there had expanded significantly in that southernmost region of Vietnam in late 1968 when Vice Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr. ’43, Commander Naval Forces Vietnam, launched Operation Sealords (Southeast Asia Lake, Ocean, River and Delta Strategy) jointly with South Vietnamese forces to extend the Navy’s reach into more rivers and waterways. The late Lieutenant Colonel Edward J. Robeson IV ’70,

USMC (Ret.), for example, conducted patrols on Navy riverine patrol boats (PBRs) while assigned to the tank landing ship HUNTERDON COUNTY when it served as a “mother ship” for Brown Water Navy units.

Colonel Bruce E. Brunn '70, USMC (Ret.), had one of the most unusual experiences in the history of midshipmen's wartime operations with the Brown Water Navy. He served alongside U.S. Army soldiers—ashore, afloat and in the air.

Brunn was assigned to the landing ship tank WHITFIELD COUNTY and the self-propelled barracks ship BENEWAH during their operations on the My Tho River 35 miles southwest of Saigon in the Mekong Delta. They were two of several Navy ships serving as an afloat mobile base for the U.S. Navy-U.S. Army Mobile Riverine Force—Task Force 117. Soldiers of the U.S. Army's 2nd Brigade of the 9th Infantry Division were embarked as the task force's ground component. The Navy's River Assault Divisions 151 and 152, with their large array of combat craft and boats, were also assigned. They made for a potent joint force.

“I was issued standard jungle fatigues that everyone wore in the Delta,” Brunn said. “I sewed a USNA patch over my left breast pocket so no one would mistake me for being in the Army.”

The 2nd Brigade's commanding officer was a West Point alumnus.

“He was the only one who thought it was a good idea that I had made it ‘in-country,’ Brunn said. “He went out of his way to show and educate me in ways he thought important.”

Armed with an M-16 rifle and .38-caliber revolver, Brunn joined Army soldiers conducting foot-patrol missions ashore. He was embarked on armored assault craft during riverine missions and observed other TF 117 operations while flying in the brigade commander's command-and-control helicopter.

“I was involved in several engagements where I returned fire like everyone else,” he said.

Brunn was awarded the Combat Action Ribbon for his participation in these engagements with the Viet Cong.



“This proved to be the best experience of my entire time at the Academy,” Brunn said. “It helped me re-focus on my purpose there.”

Commissioned as a Marine, he went on to graduate at the top of his class at The Basic School at Quantico.

THE END OF AN ERA

According to Superintendent Rear Admiral James F. Calvert's '43 special order for summer training in 1970, 135 first classmen in the Class of 1971 trained aboard Seventh Fleet ships during two sequential cruises, with 100 assigned to the first cruise and 35 to the second. Additionally, the Naval Academy Training Squadron Pacific (NATRONPAC) made an unprecedented port visit to Da Nang on 9-10 July with hundreds of midshipmen embarked on its two assigned ships.

Calvert introduced the use of two NATRONs for at-sea training in 1969 as part of his efforts to restore a better balance between the Academy's professional training-and-education programs, a process initiated by his predecessor, Rear Admiral Draper L. Kauffman '33, in 1967. Each East and West Coast squadron was assigned two amphibious warfare ships with no other operational commitments. Approximately 200 first classmen and the entire class of third classmen were equally divided between the two squadrons. First classmen served as division officers and assisted in training third classmen. Naval Academy officers were assigned to each ship to supervise training.

The amphibious transport dock ships CLEVELAND and VANCOUVER were assigned to NATRONPAC in the summer of 1970. Approximately 100 first classmen in the Class of 1971 and 600 third classmen in the Class of 1973 were assigned in roughly equal numbers to each ship. A few second classmen from the Class of 1972 were also assigned to repeat their third-class cruise. The Landing Platform Decks embarked midshipmen in San Diego in early June and departed for the Western Pacific. Following a port visit to Hong Kong, they made a two-day port visit to Da Nang

In addition to shipboard duties during the summer of 1969, midshipmen in the Class of 1970 embarked on the amphibious assault ships VALLEY FORGE, shown here, and Iwo JIMA put boots on the ground in South Vietnam and made operational flights in Navy and Marine Corps helicopters.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE U.S. NAVY

Then-MIDN William R. Nevitt Jr. '71 honed his navigating skills while assigned to the destroyer LYMAN K SWENSON in the summer of 1970. During his time aboard, his ship conducted naval-gunfire support missions, carrier plane-guard duties during flight operations at Yankee Station and other combat missions.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE U.S. NAVY



on 9-10 July. Moored pier-side, both ships took on a contingent of Marines, their personal gear and other cargo for return to the United States.

Brief, supervised liberty ashore was authorized.

“Midshipmen not in the duty section were notified that there would be liberty,” said James E. Toomey '71. “Buses took us to China Beach. I remember passing numerous fully armed soldiers and Marines.”

The port visit left lasting memories.

“As we were traveling through the streets of Da Nang,” Donald K. Hakanson '71 said, “we observed many bullet holes in the sides of buildings. Also, that night we saw flashes and heard gunfire in the hills around the city.”

Other members of the Class of 1973, including Commander William E. Short Jr. '73, USN (Ret.), assigned to CLEVELAND, vividly recall their assignments in nonstop, pier-side working parties loading cargo. Their mission completed, both ships departed Da Nang on 10 July. Following a port visit in Pearl Harbor, they arrived in San Diego on 1 August and disembarked the midshipmen.

Midshipmen in the Class of 1971 saw plenty of action during the summer of 1970. Captain William R. Nevitt Jr. '71, USNR (Ret.), and an NROTC midshipmen were assigned to the destroyer LYMAN K SWENSON.

“We were well-received by the ship’s wardroom,” Nevitt said.

During their weeks on board, they experienced naval gunfire support missions, escorted guided-missile surface combatants to protect them from North Vietnamese torpedo boats during air-control and early warning missions in the Positive Identification Radar Advisory Zone (PIRAZ) off North Vietnam and served as the trail “plane-guard” ship during carrier flight operations at Yankee Station.

“It did not escape me that my father, a U.S. Air Force pilot, flew his last, pre-retirement combat mission in Southeast Asia in 1968, and here I was—two years later—participating in the war,” Nevitt said. “Some of the surreal images of my time aboard SWENSON are burned into my mind as permanently as a brand on a steer’s hide.”

Assigned to the guided-missile destroyer JOHN PAUL JONES as part of the BONHOMME RICHARD carrier battle group, James G. Gonzales '71, M.D., served as the assistant combat information center officer and a junior officer of the deck. During flight operations, his destroyer was normally assigned plane-guard duty. Gonzales remembers several flight deck accidents on the carrier by combat-damaged aircraft during landings as well as ditchings.

“One night, we searched for a pilot in the water with no success,” he said. His destroyer also conducted naval gunfire support missions close ashore. “On one mission, incoming rounds landed about 150 yards off our bow.”

Captain Kenneth A. Marks '71, USN (Ret.), assigned to the destroyer ROGERS with two NROTC midshipmen, also saw action on the gun line off South Vietnam.

“Everything was going fine until late one night a tugboat crossed our path and took a chunk out of ROGERS’ bow. There were no injuries, and flooding was minor, but the damage was done.”

The destroyer proceeded to Vung Tau Harbor for temporary repairs to allow the destroyer to return to the gun line as soon as possible. Once alongside the repair ship HECTOR, Marks was authorized liberty to accompany a few officers going ashore at Vung Tau.

“I hoped to get a glimpse into a sailor’s life in a slice of Vietnam beyond the gun line,” he said, “and packed a small overnight bag with essentials.”

His initiative was rewarded. A visit to the U.S. Army air base resulted in a 1.5-hour flight as an observer on a CH-47 Chinook helicopter. Subsequently, seeking to observe Navy patrol-boat operations, he went to the South Vietnamese Navy–U.S. Navy–U.S. Coast Guard naval base at Cat Lo, six miles northeast of Vung Tau.

A chance encounter there with Navy lieutenants from the Academy Classes of 1966 and 1967 led to an invitation to bunk with them and assist the next day boarding Vietnamese civilian junks to search for contraband.

“An armed sailor would stand watch on the bow of the patrol boat while others searched,” Marks said. “I was glad to take multiple turns in the barrel and, after my search, sign and date the junk owner’s papers. I did this for two days and then took a post-maintenance check ride on a PBR before returning to ROGERS.”

The ship’s officers were deeply involved in repair work; few knew or cared he was gone. “The other two midshipmen surely did,” Marks said, “and they were jealous!”

The Class of 1971 also experienced Brown Water Navy operations in the Mekong Delta. Mark E. Mauriello '71 reported to the tank landing ship WASHOE COUNTY during its support of Operation Sea Float/Solid Anchor on the southernmost tip of the Ca Mau Peninsula, 150 miles southwest of Saigon. Established in 1969, Sea Float was a Mobile Advanced Tactical Support Base located in the middle of the Cua Lon River. It consisted of large, self-propelled pontoon barges. Navy patrol boats and assault craft, helicopters and teams of SEALs and other units operated from the barges. South Vietnamese naval units were also assigned to these joint operations.

"WASHOE COUNTY was stationed about five miles offshore and provided logistical support for the gun boats, Navy helicopters and their crews," Mauriello said, "including fuel, ammunition, maintenance, berthing and medical care."

Two Navy UH-1B "Huey" helicopter gunships assigned to Helicopter Attack (Light) Squadron Three—the Seawolves—staged off WASHOE COUNTY by day and on the barges at night.

"One of the pilots, Lieutenant Junior Grade John E. Ludwig III '68, was a firstie in my company plebe year," Mauriello said. "I was authorized to fly with him on one mission when the ship calibrated its guns. I spotted its gunfire. However, the Huey was soon diverted to support ground forces. Time was critical, so I was dropped off at Sea Float."

Mauriello was retrieved and returned to his ship later that day. Lieutenant Commander Ludwig was later killed in an aircraft accident in 1980.

Michael J.L. Greene Jr. '71 took a direct, if irregular, approach to see the Navy in action in Vietnam during his summer cruise. He sent a letter to Vice Admiral Zumwalt, Commander Naval Forces Vietnam, requesting the assignment.

"I was pulled out of class in April and told that the Commandant of Midshipmen, Captain Robert P. Coogan '44, wanted to see me," Greene said. After ascertaining his reason for writing Zumwalt directly, Coogan delivered a "loud and forceful" lecture on the chain of command and then handed Greene a letter—signed by Zumwalt

(who was nominated in April to be chief of naval operations and assumed those duties in July).

"Addressed 'To Whom It May Concern,' the letter said I was to be shown the U.S. Navy in action in Vietnam—wherever I wanted to go," Greene said. "With that, my adventure began."

Greene sought the Vietnam cruise assignment for professional and personal reasons. He lived in South Vietnam as a teenager and attended high school in Saigon. A cousin was killed there in 1968 during Greene's plebe year. Four other members of his family also served in the war, including his father who was serving in Cambodia with the Army's 25th Infantry Division.

"First-class cruise was like a homecoming," Greene said.

In June, Greene and seven classmates reported to the aircraft carrier SHANGRI-LA.

"We soon found ourselves off North Vietnam operating from Yankee Station with three other carriers," Greene said. "Flight operations were 24 hours a day. We were watching in real time the aviators we had heard so much about and knew some of their numbers were already POWs—and those we were watching might become so."

After two weeks on SHANGRI-LA, Greene presented his letter from Admiral Zumwalt to the officer overseeing midshipmen's training and asked to be assigned to a Navy unit in South Vietnam. He was soon on his way to the Mekong Delta and the self-propelled barracks ship BENEWAH anchored near the border between South Vietnam and Cambodia. Much like Colonel Bruce E. Brunn '70, USMC (Ret.), during his midshipman cruise a year earlier, Greene also experienced operations with the U.S. Navy—U.S. Army Mobile Riverine Force for two weeks.

"The U.S.-South Vietnamese incursion into Cambodia was still going on," he said, "and I went on PBR patrols going upriver into that country. We took some intermittent incoming fire, but the Vietnamese side of the border was pretty quiet at the time."

When his destroyer underwent repairs at Vung Tau, South Vietnam, in the summer of 1970, then-MIDN Kenneth A. Marks '71 used his liberty time to good advantage. Here, during a two-day stint on a Navy coastal patrol boat, he inspects a South Vietnamese civilian's junk for contraband in the waters off Vung Tau.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CAPT KENNETH A. MARKS '71, USN (RET.)



Greene soon returned to SHANGRI-LA and rejoined his classmates. “Now three weeks behind in completing my cruise book,” he said, “I stood back-to-back duties on the bridge.”

He also assisted the carrier’s navigator when the carrier sailed into Tokyo Bay en route to Yokosuka, Japan, for ship repairs in dry dock.

“All of these experiences completely fulfilled my wish to see the Navy in action,” Greene said. His cruise book and journal describing his cruise received an “A.”

During Greene’s absence, his classmates on the carrier experienced the battle group’s intense around-the-clock flight operations.

“Our entire at-sea periods during cruise were spent on Yankee Station launching raids,” said Commander Brian J. Horais ’71, USN (Ret.).

Pilots were lost during combat missions. Accidents were not uncommon. Several midshipmen were topside when an A-4E Skyhawk pilot ejected safely following a brake failure after landing.

“We heard the blast of the ejection seat and saw an A-4 hanging over the edge of the flight deck just after the pilot ejected,” said Captain Brent C. Greene ’71, USN (Ret.). “Amazingly, the chute popped open in just enough time for the pilot to land safely on the deck.”

Horais and Lieutenant Commander Arlington R. Miller Jr. ’71, USN (Ret.), both recall SHANGRI-LA’s short port visit to Da Nang Harbor so a helicopter could deliver a new cable for one of the carrier’s elevators. While observing the transfer from “vulture’s row,” they noticed several splashes in the water off the carrier’s landward side.

“The small geysers seemed to continue until two U.S. aircraft appeared overhead,” Miller said, “swept down over the nearby hills on the other side of the harbor and turned them into flaming clouds of fire and smoke—a napalm strike. There were no more splashes.”

Miller returned to Vietnamese waters twice following commissioning, the final time as a helicopter pilot assigned to the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier ENTERPRISE during a nine-month deployment that concluded with the evacuation of the U.S Embassy in Saigon during Operation Frequent Wind in April 1975.

Luis Alvarez ’71, a midshipman from Peru attending the Academy through the foreign-exchange program, was assigned to the attack carrier ORISKANY.

“I wanted to see the war firsthand on a carrier, and the Peruvian Navy had no carriers,” he said.

He was assigned several duties and watches in the ship’s combat-information center and as an assistant to the catapult officer.

“We lost two aircraft while I was onboard,” he said.

After more than 50 years, he vividly remembers the roar of aircraft taking off from the carrier with the flight deck shaking. He echoes the sentiments of many midshipmen who first experienced combat operations during the Vietnam War.

“I consider myself privileged for serving onboard ORISKANY during a time of war, serving side by side with a fine crew who did their duty 24/7,” he said.

The summer of 1970 at-sea training program was the final time midshipmen were assigned to Seventh Fleet ships deployed for combat operations during the war. The Academy’s Command History for 1971–1972 notes that NATRONPAC made visits to Pearl Harbor and several Western Pacific ports in 1971, but none in South Vietnam. The USNA Command History for 1972–1973 documents no WESTPAC wartime training cruises were conducted in 1972. A unique era in the history of Naval Academy at-sea training had ended.

By all accounts, midshipmen acquitted themselves well during their unprecedented wartime assignments. They returned to the Academy as Vietnam veterans with a better understanding of combat and combat-support operations—and a renewed respect for those who served—based on firsthand experience. They had a richer appreciation for the important “end in

While observing flight operations on the aircraft carrier SHANGRI-LA in July 1970, several midshipmen witnessed this pilot eject from his A-4 Skyhawk following a brake failure during landing. After his parachute deployed, the pilot landed safely on the carrier’s flight deck.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE U.S. NAVY



THE VIETNAM WAR'S CONTINUING HEAVY TOLL

By Captain Gordon I. Peterson '68, USN (Ret.)

More than 58,000 U.S. service members died during the Vietnam War. More than 1,500 remain missing in action. The names of the 174 Naval Academy graduates lost in wartime operations are listed with honor on the Naval Academy's Vietnam War Memorial.

Tragically, the war continues to take a heavy toll on veterans resulting from the U.S. military's widespread application of toxic herbicides, especially the highly deadly Agent Orange. The chemicals were used to defoliate forested areas providing cover for the enemy, mangrove jungles along major shipping channels and inland waterways, enemy food crops, and tall grasses and bushes around the perimeters of major U.S. bases and airfields. From 1962 until 1971, the U.S. Air Force sprayed nearly 19 million gallons of herbicides—more than half of which was Agent Orange—in South Vietnam. "Free spraying" of herbicides was also conducted by units on the ground and by boat on inland waterways.

Many thousands of veterans have contracted diseases as the result of their exposure to these herbicides during the war and at numerous other specified locations and periods during their military service. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) currently recognizes 19 diseases associated with exposure, including eight types of cancer and other illnesses. Veterans may be eligible for VA disability benefits if they have been diagnosed with a health condition that is caused by exposure to Agent Orange or other herbicides (a "presumptive condition") and if they served in a location where they were exposed (a "presumptive exposure").

For South Vietnam, for example, the VA will assume exposure for service between 9 January 1962 and 7 May 1975, on the ground, aboard a U.S. military vessel that operated in the country's inland waterways and on a vessel operating not more than 12 nautical miles seaward from the demarcation line of the waters of Vietnam and Cambodia. Port visits in South Vietnam are consistent with these requirements. The VA maintains a list of U.S. Navy and Coast Guard ships used for military service in Vietnam associated with exposure to Agent Orange. Information on eligibility requirements and the process for applying for benefits is provided on the VA's website (www.va.gov).

Owing to the number of their classmates who have contracted diseases resulting from Agent Orange exposure, several Naval Academy classes have responded to assist them in many important ways. The Classes of 1965, 1968 and 1973, for example, have formed support groups. The Classes of 1965 and 1968 each focus on Parkinson's Disease. Volunteers work to facilitate the flow of information, help members stay abreast of current medical research and treatment protocols, provide information on filing for veteran's benefits, and assist in helping them live successfully with the disease. To learn more, visit www.usna.com/programs-parkinsons-toolkit.

The Class of 1973 has been extremely proactive assisting its members who are afflicted with Agent Orange-related diseases through its Task Force '73 Agent Orange. Many members of the class who have successfully completed the VA disability process serve as volunteer advisors in the group's multifaceted work. "We began by focusing upon our Class's unique exposure in 1970 to the Agent Orange challenge," said Commander William E. Short Jr. '73, USN (Ret.). "Then our mission expanded to help any veteran in need, not just USNA alumni. That necessitated our forming a nonprofit organization, Task Force 73 for Veterans Inc."

Short encourages any Vietnam veteran who suspects they have an Agent Orange-related illness to access "Agent Orange Information" posted on the Class of 1973's website (www.1973.usnaclasses.net) to learn the most expeditious path to VA assistance. Contact information is provided for Task Force volunteers for pro bono assistance. "Our mission has been to help anyone and all in need," Short said, "and we have been highly successful. Our country will never be able to do enough for veterans who have served so selflessly. It is not just by chance that our Class motto in Latin is *Non Sibi*—not for self."

The Naval Academy's Vietnam War Memorial honors the 174 graduates lost in wartime operations.

PHOTO BY CDR JOSEPH V. CONWAY JR. '68, USN (RET.)



During his visit to the attack carrier ORISKANY in June 1970, Secretary of the Navy John Chafee met with then-MIDN Luis Alvarez '71, a foreign-exchange midshipman from Peru. "I consider myself privileged for serving onboard ORISKANY during a time of war," Alvarez said.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE U.S. NAVY

mind" of the Academy's professional training program in preparing them to lead sailors and Marines as commissioned officers.

For some, their experiences influenced or reinforced their subsequent service-selection decisions. For others, wartime service as a midshipman was an affirmation of the Academy's warfighting culture.

Following commissioning, many returned to serve again in the war until the cessation of hostilities and departure of the last U.S. combat forces in South Vietnam in March of 1973 following the signing of the U.S.-North Vietnam cease-fire agreement in January. Seventh Fleet deployments to South Vietnam continued, however, until the evacuation and fall of Saigon in April 1975. †

CAPT Gordon I. Peterson '68, USN (Ret.), the Class of 1968's corresponding secretary, served in the Vietnam War on the destroyer JENKINS during his first-class midshipman's summer cruise in 1967. He served again in Vietnam as a helo gunship pilot with the Seawolves of HA(L)-3 in 1970-1971, flying 515 combat missions.

The author expresses his deep appreciation to all those who assisted him in researching and writing this article, including Ms. Jennifer Bryan, head of Special Collections and Archives/Archivist at the Nimitz Library; Mrs. Barbara Breeden, former librarian at the Nimitz Library; Editor Jimmy DeButts and Ms. Maria O'Shea at Shipmate; Naval History and Heritage Command; and members of the Naval Academy Classes of 1965, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972 and 1973.



HEALING THROUGH CONNECTION

ALUMNAE WORK TOGETHER TO HELP SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

By Marycate Walsh '12

The U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation's Women's Shared Interest Group (SIG) has spent the past two years building a community of concerned alumnae focused on providing advocacy and healing resources to alumnae who survived sexual assault. The main ingredient is connection.

Studies show that the key to healing and building resilience is connection with others who can validate, empathize with and understand shared feelings and experiences. A committee of the Women's SIG, the Survivor Advocacy Network (SAN), is proof of this concept.

I had the opportunity to meet with the SAN's chair, Stefanie Goebel '80. The following is a conversation with Goebel that discusses the past and ongoing group initiatives with midshipmen and alumni, and the positive impact these initiatives have had on survivors within the Naval Academy family.

WALSH: When did you first think to start the Survivor Advocacy Network?

GOEBEL: The motivation for this initiative was the Department of Defense Report on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the Military Service Academies (2018–2019). It struck me that despite all the time and resources devoted to the issue and the many improvements made, sexual assault continued to rise at all service academies during the previous academic year. As chair of the Women's SIG Policy and Issues committee, I broached the topic with my fellow alumnae. The group consensus was that we loved and respected our alma mater too much to stand idle, and this was an opportunity for us to help.

WALSH: And that is when you approached Naval Academy Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) office about a partnership?

GOEBEL: Yes, I approached them and said we would like to support their work. We had a wonderful conversation where they filled us in on some of their programming and services, and we proposed a few ideas.

The idea they liked the most was an alumnae survivor panel that was designed to show midshipmen that even after sexual assault, individuals can thrive in the Navy and Marine Corps after such a trauma. Often when midshipmen are assaulted and start to experience PTSD symptoms, they begin to wonder if they can finish the semester, let alone commission. But the alumnae survivor panel showed them it is possible to live happy, successful, full lives.



Marycate Walsh '12



Stefanie Goebel '80

We held our first Survivor Panel for midshipmen virtually in November 2021, and that was so successful we held another panel in-person at the Academy in April 2022. Overall, we had about 75 midshipmen attend these two events.

WALSH: I was a panelist on the April panel last year, and after the panel, a second class midshipman approached me and shared that hearing my story was the first time she felt her experience validated. We had a really beautiful conversation. I realized in reflection that knowing I helped someone else by sharing my experience was equally healing for me.

GOEBEL: That is precisely the point of our efforts. There is lots of science that says connection builds healing. We are working with the Naval Academy to create another panel event in April 2023, but the majority of our efforts in the next year are focused on alumnae. Through our work with USNA SAPR, I came to have a great appreciation for their efforts and initiatives. As long as sexual assault still exists, we still have work to do, but the resources available to midshipmen survivors today are top-class. We realized there is a significant need for resources dedicated to survivor alum, who likely do not have the resources and community inherent to the academy.

WALSH: This past October, you hosted the first-ever Naval Academy Survivor Retreat, designed for alumnae who have had a negative sexual experience. Can you tell me more about that retreat?

GOEBEL: Even before our Policy & Issues team approached the Naval Academy SAPR office, I'd had the idea for a retreat to help alumnae survivors heal from assault. It's been 40-plus years since my assault at the Naval Academy, and I am still struggling with healing. Based on the numbers in the DoD reports, I knew there must be hundreds of others like me. So, I put out a call to other women alumnae asking for volunteers interested in helping to plan this retreat.

Survivors stepped forward, as did alumnae who were not survivors but who had relevant specialized skills and were interested in helping—for example, naturopathic doctors, acupuncturists, psychotherapists and women with doctorates in holistic healing. The response was wonderful, and working together on this project was a very encouraging experience for all of us.

WALSH: It's almost as if the work that went into planning the retreat was as helpful as the retreat itself.

GOEBEL: Something that none of us fully anticipated was how healing it was to make something positive come out of a painful experience, that your experience might help another woman have an easier time. Talking openly on this topic, which is so often shrouded in shame, was a breath of fresh air for the survivors on the planning committee.

WALSH: Talking now about connection, it strikes me that a midshipman graduating this year will have nearly half a century of women ahead of her who could help guide her through this experience. When you were a midshipman or even an officer in my position, these types of events would have not only been improbable but impossible. That you were able to reach out to a network of women and find not only those needing help—but those with the skills, experience and drive to help others—is pretty incredible and a marker in itself of positive change.

GOEBEL: It is not a club anyone wants to be a part of, but the ability to connect and grow together is powerful. The planning team was very diverse, with women from the Class of 1980 through 2014, and, as I mentioned, not all identified as survivors of sexual assault. The retreat attendees included even younger grads who graduated in the last couple of years. Working with younger survivors taught me so much about how things have changed at the Academy or in the fleet, particularly the resources available through DoD. We have a lot to offer one another.

WALSH: Besides connection, what were some of the committee's other goals for the retreat?

GOEBEL: Our first goal was to create an event that allowed women to connect with other survivors so that they would finally, after decades for some, realize that they're not alone. The other goal was to educate attendees on how trauma, particularly military sexual trauma, can manifest in both the mind and body.

What kind of symptomatology can they expect? Many people have symptoms of PTSD but don't recognize it for what it is, and then they don't get help because they don't understand what is happening. On the topic of getting help, the last goal was to provide education on healing modalities that we know make a huge difference for survivors—acupuncture, biofeedback, talk therapy, nutrition and more.

We recruited experts in these fields to lead these discussions. Most of the practitioners were Naval Academy alumnae, and we even had a couple of West Point alumnae join us. Since the retreat was virtual, we set up small breakout groups to facilitate connection outside of the larger educational sessions. Women could come into these breakout rooms and hear one another, see one another and share how the material resonated with them.

WALSH: You mentioned earlier that sexual assault is a topic that can be shrouded in unnecessary shame; shame or not, it is inherently private. What kind of steps did you take to ensure the participant's privacy?

GOEBEL: Privacy and confidentiality were at the forefront of our planning efforts. We spent a lot of time preparing to ensure that people felt safe and comfortable talking about their experiences with one another without any fear that their words would leave the event. We designed a set of community agreements that went beyond standard confidentiality practices. We agreed we would share nothing we'd heard from others without permission, even without attribution. It was a totally contained space.

WALSH: What other things did you do to make women feel comfortable?

GOEBEL: We had therapists standing by all day to meet with anyone who needed individual or specialized support. The purpose of the event was not to retraumatize anyone, but the thing about trauma is it does not always take much to bring about strong emotions. We had a simple process so that any woman who wished to could move quickly to a separate breakout room with a therapist for more individualized care.

WALSH: Besides anecdotal evidence, how did you measure success? What was the outcome of the retreat?

GOEBEL: We were grateful to have one of our volunteer alumnae use her expertise in social science research to survey the attendees. We wanted to know what worked and what didn't with an eye on improving each event as we go forward. Most significantly, around 80 percent of respondents said that this event helped them and that they would be interested in future events.

WALSH: If you're comfortable sharing, what did you take away from the retreat personally?

GOEBEL: I took several things away from the retreat. I was especially moved by the resilience of the women there. Some women in the retreat had suffered alone in the aftermath of their assaults for decades, and yet, for the first time in their lives, they were prepared to say, I'm here; I'm ready to heal now. It was just extraordinary.

I was equally impressed by the young women who had experienced a more recent assault. They didn't wait 40 years the way some of us did. They recognized that they had been traumatized and were working hard to take their lives back. The retreat pushed me to take more active steps toward my own recovery. Along with the other women in the retreat who were in my age group, I realized that it's never too late to heal, and we deserve to experience the benefits of healing, even if it is 43 years later.


WALSH: What's next for the committee?

GOEBEL: In addition to the survivor panel planned for April at the Naval Academy, we started planning for the next retreat almost as soon as the last one finished. It is scheduled for Saturday, 21 October. While this event will also be virtual, we hope to offer an in-person retreat in 2024.

We will also open the October retreat to alumnae from the other academies. We know there is a great need for this, both from the post-event survey and the number of women who inquired about but couldn't make it to the first one. We're also running a webinar series this year to offer the educational content from our first retreat in a way that is more accessible for those who can't easily carve out a whole day to go to a six-hour retreat. The first will happen on Tuesday, 28 February at 7 p.m. EST.

WALSH: Where can people find more information on upcoming events or how to become a member of the SAN?

GOEBEL: We are advertising upcoming events on the Women's SIG website, social media and through the Women's SIG email distro list. One thing we haven't touched on today—we realize that sexual assault is not a women's issue alone and that there are men out there who would like to help or could benefit from these resources. We would love to partner with or support a men's group in putting together something similar for male survivors.

In the meantime, remember to check with those who might continue to struggle—especially during months where there is a heightened awareness of the topic in the media. Anyone looking to get involved can contact me directly at stefanie.goebel@gmail.com. 

To learn more about the resources discussed in this article, or to register for upcoming events, visit <https://women.usnagroups.net/>.

HONORING PRESIDENT CARTER'S EXEMPLARY LEGACY OF LIFELONG SERVICE

By U.S. Naval Academy Superintendent Vice Admiral Sean S. Buck '83, USN

As Naval Academy alumni, we have all taken an oath; first, as plebes on our Induction Day, next as new Navy and Marine Corps officers upon commissioning and then on numerous promotion occasions throughout our careers. Each of us swore to “support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign or domestic.”

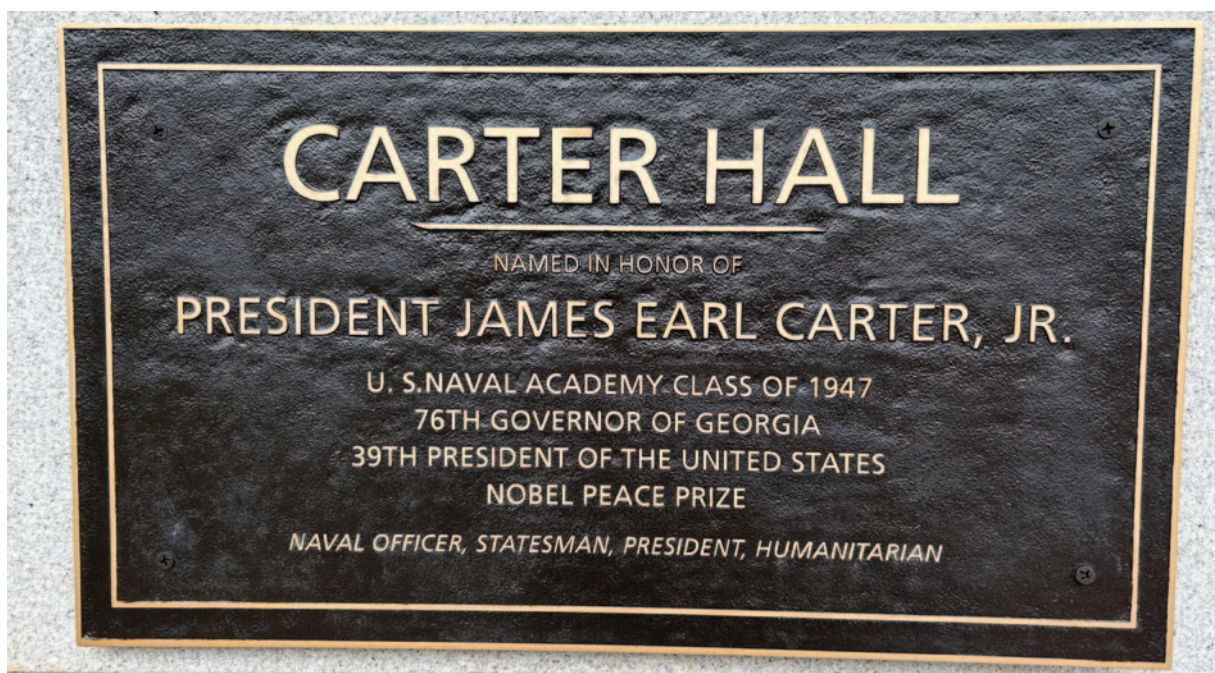
As we uttered each word we affirmed our allegiance to our nation, and in doing so we joined the ranks of countless others who have gone before us. Some served for five years, others for long careers and others have given their lives adhering to this oath and the idea that the United States and all that she stands for are worth fighting for. No matter the length of our service, each of us answered the call to serve.

Part of our mission here in Annapolis is to graduate leaders with the potential to someday “assume the highest responsibilities of command, citizenship and government.” While no one’s service to our nation is

insignificant, we have a long-standing tradition of honoring those whose contributions to our nation are exceptional and those who have borne the highest responsibilities outlined in our mission.

On the Yard, honoring those individuals who, throughout our nation’s history, have so wholly embodied both the sentiments of the Oath of Office and the aim of our Academy mission recognizes their historical significance, but it also serves as inspiration for the future generations of midshipmen who walk by these buildings and roads and see the names of our naval heroes whose examples they hope to emulate.

In the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2021, Congress established the Naming Commission that was charged with developing and recommending procedures for the renaming of assets on military bases that commemorated personnel who voluntarily served



A plaque on the Naval Academy's weapons and systems engineering building honors former President Jimmy Carter '47.

PHOTO BY JIMMY DEBUTTS

the Confederate States of America during the Civil War. In August of 2021, the Commission, led by Admiral Michelle Howard '82, USN (Ret.), met with groups on the Yard that included midshipmen, faculty, staff, alumni and members of the local community to gain better insight into the Naval Academy and our culture and history.

During their review, the Commission identified three sites on the Yard named after men who served in the Confederate Navy: Buchanan House and Buchanan Road, both named after the Naval Academy's first Superintendent, Franklin Buchanan; and Maury Hall, named after Matthew Fontaine Maury, the preeminent oceanographer of his time. At the onset of the Civil War, both Captain Buchanan and Commander Maury resigned their commissions in the United States Navy and chose to fight instead for the Confederacy, against the United States of America. The Commission unanimously agreed that Buchanan House, Buchanan Road and Maury Hall should all be renamed.

Having identified these sites and recognizing that the Naval Academy has a long-standing memorialization process, the Commission recommended Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin authorize Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro '83 to commence the Naval Academy's naming process. Secretary Austin concurred with all the Commission's recommendations.

Here at the Academy, we assembled a committee of individuals from across the Yard who thoughtfully contemplated numerous possible recommendations. This committee took into account Navy guidance on facility naming, long-standing Academy traditions for naming buildings and streets and considered individuals who most strongly represent our values, whose legacies of service are most exemplary and those who inspire our current and future midshipmen to fully embrace the mission of the Naval Academy and the oath we have all sworn to uphold. I reviewed and endorsed the recommendations made by the committee.

Secretary Del Toro reviewed and considered all the recommendations submitted, and this February we celebrated



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE U.S. NAVY

the first renaming when Maury Hall became Carter Hall, in honor of President James Earl Carter Jr. '47.

"The highest responsibilities of command, citizenship and government"—of the many thousands of Naval Academy graduates our institution has produced since 1845, only one has assumed the very highest office in our land, that of the President of the United States. President Carter graduated in 1946 and served as a submariner until 1953.

He eventually pursued a career in politics, serving in the Georgia State Senate and as the Governor of Georgia. In 1977, he was sworn in as the 39th President of the United States, serving until 1981. His service did not end there.

Throughout his post-presidential life, he worked tirelessly supporting diplomatic and humanitarian efforts around the world, as notably recognized by his 2002 Nobel Peace Prize, awarded for "decades of untiring effort to find peaceful solutions to international conflicts, to advance democracy and human rights and to promote economic and social development."

President Carter's lifelong commitment to service will inspire generations of midshipmen who walk through the doors of Carter Hall, and while the names for Buchanan House and Buchanan Road have not yet been released, I have no doubt that they will honor leaders who exemplify the traits we aim to instill in every midshipman at the Naval Academy.

With Carter Hall and the two new names to be announced soon, I think the process worked well for renaming these three sites on the Yard, as directed by Congress and the Secretary of Defense. I'm proud of the work our committee did in recommending names, and I am glad that when future generations of midshipmen walk by Carter Hall and by all our buildings on the Yard, that they will be walking in the shadows of great leaders that have gone before them; leaders who embodied our oath of office and our mission.

Lastly, I have one more naming related matter I'd like to discuss. In this instance we've corrected our long-standing practice of calling one of our most prominent monuments by the wrong

Josh Carter, the grandson of former President of the United States Jimmy Carter '47, delivers remarks during a renaming ceremony held in Mahan Hall at the Naval Academy on 17 February. He is joined in the ceremony by (from left to right) Naval Academy Senior Chaplain CAPT Maurice A. Buford; Naval Academy Superintendent VADM Sean S. Buck '83, USN; Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro '83; and RADM Samuel J. Cox '80, USN (Ret.), director of Naval History & Heritage Command.

FEATURE

name. T-Court—I'm certain we all recall the "T" stood for Tecumseh. However, as we've learned, that statue isn't Tecumseh. It's Tamanend, a notable and popular Chief of Chiefs in the Delaware Valley during the late 1600s. When the wooden figurehead of DELAWARE was brought to the Naval Academy following the Civil War, there was no indication who the statue portrayed, and the midshipmen eventually settled on the nickname "Tecumseh."

Over the years, the weather had taken its toll on the statue and decayed it into a state of disrepair, so the Class of 1891 took it upon themselves to cast the statue in bronze and presented it to the Brigade and Naval Academy. At the time, the Class of 1891 recognized that the statue, the former figurehead of DELAWARE, portrayed Tamanend, not Tecumseh. They noted in their dedication speech that, "Midshipmen of the present and the future, we ask you to bind to your hearts the Traditions of the Service and to emulate the courage and fortitude and patience of this great Indian



Chief Tamanend, of the Delawares, whose admirable traits of character are so well defined in this statue."

It is fitting that we return the name Tamanend to the statue that was so lovingly and carefully preserved by the Class of 1891 so that midshipmen for many generations to come will be inspired by the worthy ideals and patriotism of Chief Tamanend of the Delawares.

The next time you visit the Yard some of the names you remember from your time as a midshipman may be different. I'm grateful that we can honor those whose lives of service have so wholly embodied the sentiments of the Oath of Office and our Naval Academy mission, and to inspire midshipmen for generations to come. ⚓

Carter Hall was renamed in honor of former President Jimmy Carter '47 during a 17 February ceremony.

GOOD THINGS COME IN THREES

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LEADER DEVELOPMENT BEST IN CLASS

By Jeff Webb '95, President and CEO, U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association & Foundation

Since assuming leadership of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association & Foundation last year I've enjoyed my conversations with hundreds of alumni I have met either in Annapolis or on the road.

Alumni I meet sometimes say something along the lines of "I'll bet you have to put up with a lot of disgruntled alumni" or "I'm sure you meet a lot of people who think they know the best way to run the Naval Academy."

The ideas and feedback I receive are overwhelmingly constructive. To me, our ability as alumni to quickly connect, relate to one another and trade ideas and stories is what makes our culture so interesting and refreshing. We say what we think with respect, goodwill and often humor.

Occasionally, I do hear from alumni who are concerned that the Naval Academy is not sufficiently focused on developing leaders and warfighters. In my nine months at the helm, I have seen exactly the opposite—a laser-focus on developing men and women who are ready to lead sailors and Marines upon commissioning.

A tremendous benefit of spending significant time on the Yard is the opportunity to get a closer look at the world-class training and resources available to today's midshipmen. Midshipmen benefit from developmental opportunities that most of us alumni could only have dreamed of during our time in Annapolis. Below is a sampling of some of the programs and initiatives that we support through the generosity of our donors.

- The Class of 1963 **Center for Academic Excellence** delivers study skills instruction, time management techniques, and tutoring services vital to the success of the Brigade of Midshipmen. Thanks in part to the Center of Academic Excellence, over the past decade, the Academy's academic attrition rate fell to 1.2% from 3% while overall graduation rates rose to 89% from 85%.



Class of 1963 CAE

- Midshipmen have access to a variety of first-in-class **Experiential Leadership Development (ELD)** programs. Launched in 2017, ELDs include National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) which allow midshipmen to experience real-world decision making in unpredictable wilderness environments. The Class of 1977 Gettysburg Leadership Encounter



ELD Programs

sends varsity team captains and Brigade leadership together to learn about the responsibilities and challenges of command through lessons from the Civil War battlefield.

- The **International Programs Office** provides opportunities for midshipmen to gain knowledge about strategically important geographic regions and proficiency in foreign languages as defined by Navy Leadership.



International Programs

- The Academy's **Center for Cyber Security Studies** was one of the first four institutions to receive ABET accreditation. The Cyber Operations major was designated a National Security Agency Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Operations in 2020. Midshipmen have won six NSA Cyber Defense Exercise Championships. Hopper Hall delivers training and instruction unavailable at most of the Academy's peer institutions.



Center for Cyber Security Studies

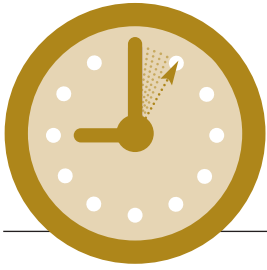
- **Navy athletics** exemplify the commitment our alumni community has to the physical mission. Midshipmen benefit from elite facilities, coaches and support services. Navy has claimed eight straight Patriot League Presidents Cups and now fields 36 varsity sports, tied with Ohio State and Stanford for the most in the nation.



Athletic & Scholarship Programs

These programs are effective not just because of the financial support that they receive, but equally importantly, because of the quality of the uniformed and civilian leaders who oversee them. The dedication and commitment of the Naval Academy faculty and staff is inspiring and energizing. The Superintendent, Commandant and the other senior leaders on the Yard are mission-focused on developing leaders and warriors of the highest character for the Fleet and Marine Corps.

I'd like to thank each and every member who has taken the time to offer an opinion or insight. Please keep the feedback coming as we strive to improve how we connect and support our alumni community and the U.S. Naval Academy. 🙏



FIVE MINUTES WITH... KRISTIN (OTTERSON) CRONIC '11

This feature spotlights the extraordinary things being done by alumni in the Navy and Marine Corps and their unique, impactful achievements in the private sector and in their communities. Please send suggestions to jimmy.debutts@usna.com

Kristin (Ottersen) Cronic '11 majored in naval architecture. She pursued an informal art education in her free time for the joy of it. She has dedicated recent years to documenting the midshipman's journey through painting under the alias "Easel on Stribling," painting more than 150 pieces about the Naval Academy, with work included in the Naval Academy Museum's permanent collection as well as at the Pentagon.

Her book, *A Midshipman's Journey: Plebe to Officer at the United States Naval Academy Through a Graduate's Eyes and Painter's Brush* explores the Academy experience through paintings and prose. The majority of the paintings were made between 2018 and 2022. The book is scheduled for release this spring.

She and her husband, Caleb, met on I-Day, when their parents fortuitously sat next to one another at the swearing-in ceremony. As Plebe Summer squadmates, they quickly became friends, and eventually, many "inner" runs later, more than friends.

They both served as surface warfare officers before transitioning to civilian life in 2017. They now have three kids and hope they get to be Naval Academy parents one day. She has a master's of fine art degree in visual art from Jacksonville University and is currently teaching drawing at JU as an adjunct professor.

To learn more about Cronic, visit www.easelonstribling.com.

Shipmate: What inspired you to become an artist?

Cronic: I have turned to art as an outlet ever since I could remember, with too many artists of influence to count. In high school, I was deeply impacted by Pete Souza's photographs of Plebe Summer. I knew one day I would go back and capture the story from my perspective but needed to grow in my skill first. For ten years, I practiced and learned everything I could in the edges of midshipmen and active-duty commitments.

It was not until I was transitioning out of the Navy that I realized I could not see myself doing anything else. The week I left active duty, dealing with the normal challenges of transition on top of becoming a new mother, we lived through catastrophic damage to our home during Hurricane Irma. It was in that vulnerable space of change and loss that I received all the clarity I needed to dive in and just begin.

Shipmate: Why did you choose to attend the Naval Academy?

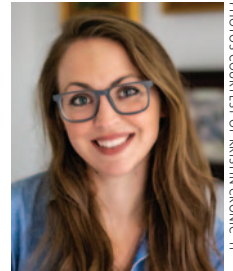
Cronic: It was a bit of restless and idealistic patriotism, a sense of longing to be part of something so big, a dash of rebellion from the status quo, and maybe even a little love at first sight to a place that just felt ... special.

Shipmate: How did you use your artistic talents while at the Academy? Was it hard to make time for those endeavors with all your other responsibilities as a midshipman?

Cronic: Aside from getting pegged to make a ton of boards as a plebe, most of my creative curiosity came out in small commissions for friends (many for dating couples, who all seemed to break up after, so I'm not sure what to make of that!). I drew and painted in small moments

amidst those long days, simply because it made me happy.

During my second class year, I discovered an abandoned studio in the tower of Dahlgren (yes, really!) and started a small art club. The flight surgeon's wife was working on her master's of fine arts degree at the time and agreed to teach us a few classes here and there. Even a few hours a month was enough to help me grow as an artist and keep the dream alive.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KRISTIN CRONIC '11

Shipmate: How did the Academy prepare you for your life post commissioning?

Cronic: USNA was a place I was able to refine my leadership style, juggle many things at once, acclimate to the military lifestyle and even break the rules from time to time. That's an underappreciated life skill.

Shipmate: What has the response been from the Naval Academy community regarding your art, which features familiar Academy scenes?

Cronic: The response has exceeded my wildest dreams. Above all, I seek human connection and empathy through my paintings. My work is a success if it is surrounded by people sharing with one another their versions of these stories. I hope the book enables this to happen in a new way! ☑



A self-portrait painted by Kristin Cronic '11.

MIDSHIPMEN CAN HELP THE PENTAGON PREPARE FOR TOMORROW'S WARS

By Captain George Galdorisi '70, USN (Ret.)

Carl von Clausewitz, the famous philosopher of war, said: “The first, the supreme, the most far-reaching act of judgment that a commander has to make is to decide the kind of war he is embarking upon, neither mistaking it for, nor trying to turn it into, something that is alien to its nature.”

Many commentators have accused the U.S. military of not understanding this sage advice, but rather, of “preparing for the last war.” There is likely some—and perhaps a great deal of—truth to this criticism. Fortunately, there is a movement afoot to better prepare for the wars of tomorrow, not yesterday’s wars.

Throughout the 20th century, planning for tomorrow’s conflicts occurred almost exclusively within the walls of the Pentagon. With a known adversary—first the Soviet Union and then the threat of worldwide terrorism—this was an acceptable (and largely successful) strategy. However, today, with the United States facing more-nuanced threats to its security and prosperity, this is no longer the case.

For years, many writers have envisioned future warfare and have expressed those ideas in novels and shorter works. However,

by and large, U.S. national security officials either disregarded these stories or criticized them as unhelpful in crafting a coherent national and military strategy.

This has changed in the 21st century with a new genre of military-themed works of fiction. Labeled FICINT—generally understood to be imagining future warfare scenarios based on the realities of high-end combat and real-world intelligence, not fantasy—the U.S. national security community has now embraced this new genre as a useful instrument to leverage to intuit how tomorrow’s wars will be fought.

As one indication of how FICINT is having an impact, a number of U.S. military commands and think tanks focused on military matters, such as the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory, the Joint Artificial Intelligence Center, the U.S. Naval War College, the U.S. Army War College, the Atlantic Council, the Center for International Maritime Security, the U.S. Naval Institute and others, now sponsor fiction writing contests to tease out good ideas from FICINT writers.

This represents a sea change in the way that the U.S. national security community, and especially the U.S. military, is embracing the changing landscape regarding how to begin to try to understand what the wars of the future might entail. And to be fair, this effort is not limited to the United States, witness the June 2021 article in *The Guardian* regarding Germany’s efforts in this area with the headline: “At first I thought, this is crazy. The real-life plan to use novels to predict the next war.”

Naval Academy graduates have been at the forefront of the FICINT effort, most notably Admiral Jim Stavridis '76, USN (Ret.), whose book *2034: A Novel of the Next War* (co-authored with former Marine Corps officer Elliot Ackerman) offers a view of what a war with China might look like in years hence. A review in the *Wall Street Journal* captured their novel this way: “A work of fiction, co-authored by a retired Navy admiral, that envisions a catastrophic showdown in the South China Sea.”

As a FICINT writer, my novel *Fire and Ice*, written in 2019–2020, was prescient regarding today’s war in Ukraine in so many ways: from Russia invading an Eastern European country, to Vladimir Putin using throttling oil and gas supplies as a weapon, to cyberattacks on energy facilities, to atrocities committed against civilians, and more.



Other Naval Academy alumni, such as Captain P.T. Deutermann '63, USN (Ret.), Captain Dick Couch '67, USNR (Ret.), and Captain David Poyer '71, USNR (Ret.), have also written military thrillers that envision what warfare will look like in the future. It is likely true that for all of these alumni writers, their stories germinated not just from a desire to spin a good yarn, but from things that worried them regarding how the United States would deal with—and prevail against—a peer adversary years in the future.

Future FICINT Writers

Which brings me to the Class of 2023 and beyond. I suspect that it is not lost on you that our alumni writing in the FICINT genre are not getting any younger! Admiral Stavridis is, by far, the youngest of the group. Who will pick up the FICINT mantle? No one is more qualified to help the Pentagon prepare for tomorrow's war than the men and women living in Bancroft Hall.

Midshipmen might not think it is for them because they don't have the experience that serving naval officers possess. At the risk of getting too philosophical about it, midshipmen have an advantage because they are not burdened by the preconceived notions that those with decades of experience carry around with them. They have the gift of possessing a "beginners mind."

Beginner's mind is a concept from Zen Buddhism that refers to having the almost-childlike mindset of a beginner. The larger idea is that by being able to look at the world anew, without

preconception, one might be able to gain wisdom that would otherwise be unavailable. From the perspective of writing FICINT, this translates to being wide-open to new ideas, and to channel *The Guardian* article, to be open to ideas that others might dismiss, "At first I thought, this is crazy."

Not quite ready to take on an 80,000 word novel? I get it. How do you get started? Enter one of the aforementioned writing contests is a good next step. You will get important feedback from editors that will help shape your writing for when you are ready to take on a full-on FICINT novel.

Here is the "inside baseball" from someone who has been in this business for decades. Publishers are always looking for fresh new voices, especially those with "beginner's mind," who are willing to push the edge of the envelope with their writing. Writing about future warfare scenarios based on possible events, not fantasy, is a high concept that is compelling to any publisher.

One of the things that President Joe Biden has displayed in the Oval Office is a framed copy of a *Hagar the Horrible* cartoon. In it, Hagar yells to the sky: "Why me?" to which God replies: "Why not?" For those of you in the Class of 2023 and beyond, my challenge to you is this: "Why not write the next FICINT thriller?" ⚓

CAPT George Galdorisi '70, USN (Ret.), is a career naval aviator and writer. He has written 12 books distributed by mainstream publishers, including four New York Times best-selling novels. His latest thrillers, published by Braveship Books, are: The Coronado Conspiracy, For Duty and Honor, and Fire and Ice.

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MIDSHIPMEN UNEARTH HISTORY OF ANCIENT VIKING SWORD

By Jill Fitzgerald, associate professor in the Naval Academy's English Department



PHOTO COURTESY OF JILL FITZGERALD

In April 2022, the Viking sword was removed from glass for the first time in six decades.

Sometime around the year 850-950 CE a 91cm single-edged sword was forged in Norway. That sword was likely wielded by a Viking warrior.

In that person's possession its edge sustained dents and divots, clear evidence of use. Eventually, that sword was placed in the earth, likely buried alongside the person who used it. Over many centuries, the rich peat the sword was buried in caused rust, pitting and corrosion along its surface. Roughly 900 years later, that battle-scarred sword was presented to Admiral Charles Larson '58, USN (Ret.), (then brigade commander) by President Eisenhower at the inaugural "lightweight" football game on 4 October 1957.

The sword has since remained on the Yard as the oldest weapon in the Academy's possession, its past a mystery, until now. During the spring 2022 semester, a group of enterprising midshipmen, with the help of their English professor, uncovered its remarkable beginnings—and perhaps its even more remarkable original owner.

The Viking sword arrived in Annapolis through an unlikely and circuitous route. In December 1956, it traveled across the Atlantic from Oslo to New York aboard the *Christian Radich*, a full-rigged Norwegian ship. The vessel's captain along with four cadets then accompanied the sword to Washington, DC, to present the artifact to Eisenhower on behalf of Crown Prince Olav of Norway.

We might reasonably conjecture that Crown Prince Olav's reasons for proffering the sword to President Eisenhower stem back to U.S.-Norwegian relations during World War II. In 1940, Norway fell to a swift and devastating Nazi invasion. In the aftermath, the royal family was divided with Crown Princess Märtha and her children fleeing Norway and eventually residing in an estate atop Pooks Hill in Bethesda, MD,

while Crown Prince Olav and his father, King Haakon VII, remained in London to help mobilize Allied efforts against the Nazis.

Perhaps the sword was intended as a gesture to recall the connection fostered by the two countries during this period. A ceremony took place on 3 October at the White House with President Eisenhower, several dignitaries including Norway's Ambassador to the United States Wilhelm de Morgenstjerne and Midshipman David B. McGuigan, editor of *The Lucky Bag*.

The following day, President Eisenhower arrived at Thompson Stadium by helicopter during the halftime of the first Army-Navy sprint football (known at the time as lightweight football) game. On the field, he gave the sword to Brigade Commander Midshipman Charles Larson '58 to add to the Academy's collection of war artifacts.

Details of the sword's surprising history remained almost entirely unknown until last spring. In April 2022, students in my popular Literature of the Vikings course undertook a project to uncover its origins.

Midshipmen Investigation

To begin their investigation, the class held several sessions in Preble Hall with the sword (encased in protective glass), under the guidance of myself, Museum Director Claude Berube and Educational Specialist Sondra Duplantis.

One of our main objectives was to establish a typology for this sword.

Typological classification involves studying the hilt, pommel and dimensions of a sword to reveal a production date more accurate than carbon-dating; how common or distinctive a particular sword might be; and the place of production. This last piece of information is crucial because Viking swords, like the warriors who carried them, traveled extensively. Viking Age swords have been discovered in a variety of regions outside of Scandinavia including Ireland, France, Poland, the Czech Republic and England.

Based on the distinctive "I"-shaped hilt and measurements, my class and I concluded that this sword was what's classified as an M type. While some sword hilts were made from bone or antler and



PHOTO COURTESY OF MRS. CHARLES LARSON

could be decorated with precious stones, M types are typically unadorned and their hilts made from plain iron. Swords of this type are one of the most commonly discovered because its design proved to be one of the most pragmatic (today, there are roughly 450 known M type swords).

Midshipman Johnny Berardi '23 learned that approximately 85 percent of the M type swords that have been discovered are double-edged variants, which makes this single-edged find noteworthy. During the medieval period, swords were often deposited with the bodies of their deceased owners in a burial mound. These weapons were prestigious, associated with those of the highest social status. It is likely that this sword was buried with its owner between 850-950 CE. And there it lay, undisturbed for many centuries.

It was time for the class to get an even closer look. Thus, the sword sallied forth to a biology laboratory at Michelson Hall. There, Professor Joseph Lomax and instructor Leah Duke assisted the class in using a high-powered microscope to reveal details of the sword's original surface as well as the chemical combination of iron and steel in the blade. Pure iron breaks but steel bends and all were able to see some of the microscopic bends within the many divots. In other words, this sword was familiar with battle.

Another discovery was made while examining minute features of the blade's surface when Duke noticed what appeared to be a repair (made in modern times)—indicating the sword likely came out of the ground in two separate pieces. Following up on this new detail, I contacted Dr. Hanne Lovise Aannestad at the Museum of Cultural History at the University of Oslo, a leading

President Eisenhower presents the Viking sword to then-Brigade Commander MIDN Charles Larson '58.

expert on Viking swords, especially swords that were intentionally bent or broken prior to burial.

This part of the puzzle is still under investigation, but with the help of Dr. Aannestad, I learned about the sword's nineteenth century whereabouts. Records of the sword first surfaced sometime around 1880 in the Oslo Museum's register, when it was donated by Lars and Maurits Sundt, who had inherited it from their father, Eilert Sundt, a famous Norwegian sociologist who lived outside of Oslo. According to Aannestad, nothing further is known about this specimen's excavation; it was likely pulled out of the ground before archaeological reports were customary.

Newfound Twist

Class members also found an account of the presentation in the archives of the student magazine *The Log*. It noted that brigade commander Larson—who would later rise to the rank of admiral and be buried alongside Senator John McCain '58 in the Naval Academy Cemetery—had some Scandinavian ancestry, but the author misspelled the word as “Scandanavian.” (It was a midshipman publication after all.)

Some of my students, now-Ensign Jonathan Miranda '22, USN, and now-Ensign Jack Scypinski '22, USN, uncovered more history at the Naval Academy's Special Collections with the help of Dr. Jennifer Bryan. In 1959, a Seattle news station requested

the sword be loaned to the Navy's Bremerton Museum. This request was denied by a public information officer with the response: “The Naval Academy is a wonderful place to visit so why don't you tell your Scandinavians to head east next summer and see the Viking sword.”

My students also learned that the sword was intended to be displayed in Memorial Hall, but it mostly remained in Bancroft Hall over the years.

Still, there was one last—and most surprising—discovery yet to come. While the sword was out from its protective glass for the first time in six decades, now-Ensign Joey Gibbs '22, USN and now-Ensign Josh Carson '22, USN, took detailed measurements, including the hilt, pommel and grip. Most M type swords have grips that exceed 10cm and some are as long as 12cm.

Gibbs and Carson discovered this sword's grip was only 9cm. When I was asked about the unusually short grip length I said it wasn't uncommon for women to be buried with swords and shields. It is useful to know that a very similar M type sword was discovered in the grave of a Viking Age woman from Nordre Kjølén in 1900.

I don't think it would be out of the question, imagine that the venerated warrior who carried this sword may very well have been a woman.

Researching the mysterious Viking sword afforded all a memorable experience that brought a class together as well as professors from History, English, chemistry, and archeologists from Norway to find answers about an artifact about which very little is known.

“This project is an example of how we work better when we work together,” Berube said. “The English class used multiple skillsets to study the sword; Chemistry showcased what they can contribute; and the museum learns more about the Academy's artifacts.” ⚓

Midshipmen holding class in Preble Hall as they research the oldest weapon that can be found at the Naval Academy. In foreground are then-MIDN Andrew Laberee '22, USN; then-MIDN Wyatt Leonard '22, USN; MIDN Johnny Berardi '23, USN; then-MIDN Josh Carson '22, USN; then-MIDN Molly Gillcrist '22, USN; and then-MIDN Quiarra Barros '22, USN.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THEN-MIDN VICTORIA SMITH

WHEN TWO OR THREE SHALL MEET

By Commander Kevin Ringelstein '07, USN

Years ago, I realized just how close the United States Naval Academy bond is when I had the opportunity to drive across the country from Norfolk, VA, to San Diego, CA. During this trip, I ran into grads at every intersection of the journey west. Some meetups were intentional, but most were random including running into alumni on a hiking trail and in a hotel elevator. With each interaction there was an instant connection and mutual understanding taking place, even if we had never previously met. Conversations about the explorer Ernest Shackleton, geopolitics and climbing Mount Everest are just a few of the enthralling topics that have come up after the introductory questions of “what company were you in?” and “what sport did you play?” I have never felt so connected to our alumni community than when I was invited to an alumni event in Boulder, CO, during my cross-country drive. A Class of '85 member, upon our introduction shouted to the group, “Listen all! We have ourselves an active-duty member here! Please ensure he pays for nothing tonight!” As stated in a prior *Shipmate* article, it felt as if I had stumbled upon a family reunion. Lately, I find myself having the same feelings of kinship and deep appreciation for our alumni community that I experienced



Alumni Kevin and Kate Ringelstein '07 and Sarah McGuire '12 meet during a road trip in Prague, Czech Republic.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CDR KEVIN RINGELSTEIN '07, USN

driving across the U.S., except this time in Europe—demonstrating how the Naval Academy alumni bond is not only strong and lasting, but far-reaching.

On our most recent road trip we ran into alumni from France to the Czech Republic. During one stop on this adventure, we found ourselves sharing a meal with two other Navy families in Germany and discovered that all six

adults, each husband-and-wife, were USNA grads. Upon this realization, we turned to our collective group of kids in the room and watched with delight as they all shouted spontaneously a loud “Beat Army!” They would have made any Academy detailer proud. Later in the journey, we ran into a classmate on the same weekend as our class’s 15-year reunion. With the immediate connection and happenstance timing, it felt as if we were a part of the actual reunion gathering in Annapolis though we were literally an ocean away.

The enduring bonds between Naval Academy alumni exist for a reason, for the shared experiences on the Yard are unique and serve as a foundation for any interaction, anywhere in the world. The third verse of “Navy Blue and Gold” captures this sentiment well, “We’re scattered far and wide; But still when two or three shall meet, and old tales be retold, from low to highest in the Fleet, we’ll pledge the Blue and Gold.”

The Naval Academy alumni bond is strong and lasting, and each time alumni run into each other, no matter where they are in the world, it is as if they stumble upon a family reunion. ⚓

CDR Kevin Ringelstein '07, USN, is currently serving as an Olmsted Scholar in Parma, Italy, with his wife, Kate Huppmann Ringelstein '07, USN.

BRAVO ZULU

1960s

'66: **CDR Frank Day, USN (Ret.)**, was inducted as part of the 12th USA Triathlon Hall of Fame class. Day was nominated in the fall of 2020 with 60 other candidates. He is one of only 58 members of the USA Triathlon Hall of Fame.

1970s

'70: **George E. Sauer III, USN (Ret.)**, retired from Chartway Credit Union's board on 31 December 2022, following more than 30 years of service and has moved to emeritus status. Sauer began his volunteer service in 1987 as Chartway's military liaison officer and became a member of the board in 2008.

1980s

'87: **CAPT Brett Pierson, USN (Ret.)**, was appointed president and CEO of Textron's Aviation Defense Division; **Edward Magee** was named vice president for strategic operations of Belmont University in January. He will be responsible for connecting the work of major university initiatives including the Belmont Data Collaborative, Belmont Innovation Labs, Story Studio and the Office of Educational Innovation.

'89: **CDR Carol June (Womack) Holland, CEC, USN (Ret.)**, had an athletic award named after her in the fall of 2022 and has been inducted as a Trustee for the Naval Academy Foundation Athletic & Scholarship Programs. The Carol Womack Award will be presented to a Naval Academy female varsity or club athlete (not necessarily of the graduating class) who has shown the grit and determination throughout the team season to earn the title of Most Improved.



Maj Heather Ichord '05, USMCR; ADM James O. Ellis '69, USN (Ret.); LT Lisa McKinnon Munde '07, USN; and LCDR Dan Imbat '91, USN (Ret.), attend a Veterans Day dinner hosted by the Hoover Institution on the Stanford University campus last fall. Ichod, Imbat and Munde are part of the 2022-23 Hoover VFP cohort.

Alumni Connect in Veteran Fellowship Program

Major Heather Ichord '05, USMCR, Lieutenant Lisa McKinnon Munde '07, USN, and Lieutenant Commander Dan Imbat '91, USN (Ret.), are part of the 2022-23 Hoover Veteran Fellowship Program (VFP) cohort on the campus of Stanford University. They are working on projects related to maritime security, port logistics and artificial intelligence to encourage American innovation and leadership on today's most challenging security challenges.

The Hoover Institution Veteran Fellowship Program is a nonresidential, yearlong program for ten military veterans that was launched in the fall of 2021, according to its website. The program

seeks participants who desire to address critical challenges in the public sector with actionable solutions. The program is building a network of successful veteran practitioners who confront real-world challenges alongside Hoover fellows with support networks at the Hoover Institution and Stanford University.

The Naval Academy alumni Veteran Fellows are joined by two other fellows at the Hoover Institution. Admiral James O. Ellis '69, USN (Ret.), is the Annenberg Distinguished Visiting Fellow, and Admiral Gary Roughhead '73, USN (Ret.), a former Chief of Naval Operations, is the Robert and Marion Oster Distinguished Military Fellow at the Hoover Institution. □

1990s

'90: **Marc Scheipe USN (Ret.)**, was named CEO of Allvue Systems, a leading provider of technology for investment managers in the private capital and credit markets industry. **Bob Pragada** has been named chief executive officer of professional services firm Jacobs.

'92: **CAPT Shelby Mounts, USN (Ret.)**, is now the executive director of NextOp, a veteran service organization. NextOp veterans bridge the divide between middle enlisted (E-3 to E-7) military members and companies looking to hire military talent.

'95: **Sonja Knight Lamott**, a former varsity member and captain of the USNA track and field team, was inducted as a Trustee for the Naval Academy Foundation Athletics & Scholarship Programs. She is currently the chief technology

officer for the Program Executive Office, Defense Healthcare Management Systems.

'99: **Charles Westerhaus** is part of law firm Faegre Drinker's 2022 first-year associate class. Westerhaus' practice area is government and regulatory affairs. The associate class participated in an immersive development program as they started their careers with Faegre Drinker.

2000s

'01: **Maj Dave Cote, USMCR (Ret.)**, is in Harvard's Kennedy School Mid Career MPA program and scheduled to graduate from the program in May. His Naval Academy roommate **CDR Kevin Barnard, USN**, graduated from the program in 2017. Both received full scholarships for the program.

'06: **Chris Deluzio** is now serving as U.S. Representative to Pennsylvania's 17th Congressional District.

2010s

'10: **LT Alberto Ramos, USN**, was hired as the Veterans Administration's chief speechwriter in January. He served 12 years as a submarine officer and post-active duty, he completed a nonpartisan White House Fellowship at the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation.

'12: **Benjamin Currin** was named to Wilmington, NC's 40 Under 40 List for his leadership as CEO of Vantaca, a Wilmington-based cloud software company.

Do you know someone who deserves a Bravo Zulu? Send to comms@usna.com.



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his wedding; **Fred Berthrong, John Bloomer, Fred Vogel, C.M. Wood** and **Joe Faltisco**. I'm aware that not all of our classmates subscribe to the groups, so I'm asking that any 65ers who may have contact with any of the above-named guys, please pass the word to them. You can also contact Herb at herbert_barnett@bellsouth.net.

Anson Burlingame, via emails to **Ted Nanz** and me, indicated that his wife, **Janet**, suffered a stroke and died within 24 hours, peacefully, on 05 Jan. Janet had suffered long-term from many physical and mental issues beginning 12 years ago with slow but increasing disability until her death. She married Anson in late 1999 in Joplin, MO. Together they were blessed with 23 years before her passing. She lived her life to the fullest and shared her love and passions with her family and friends all her life. She will be sorely missed by all who loved her.

Now on to some happier news. However, I hate to have to do this, but due to an inundation of classmate reports and photos, I've had to prioritize what follows. I've given priority to classmate inputs that were not postings on our Wardroom eForum. If you're reading this and not part of that great source of classmate stories and thinking, I highly recommend your contacting Lee Mager at lee.mager@gmail.com who will get you subscribed. I'll hopefully get to some of the eForum reports later when I'm not trying to reduce 8400 words and 14 photos down to 1600 words and 4 photos!

Pete Seibert checked in on 12 Nov with a report of his and his wife Midge's hosting a Class of 1965 Northeastern mini-reunion in the guise of a barbecue at their home in Wellesley, Mass. in September. Attending were five classmates, including **Pete, Steve Chubb** and his wife, **Patricia; Brian Doherty** and his wife, **Lydia; Bart Jealous** and his wife, **Deborah; and Tom Colyer** and his wife **Andrea**. Pete did a fine job in his report, updating us all on the status and activities of these attendees. Alas, too much to squeeze in here. As for Pete, he has only just retired a year and a half ago after nearly forty years in the financial advisory industry following, several years in the consulting business, an MBA degree and five years on active duty in nuclear submarines followed by 23 years in the Reserves. For updates on all these guys, please contact Pete at pkseibert@comcast.net or contact me.

The USNAAA, on 07 Dec, emailed out Issue Nr. 1 of "From the Bridge", featuring none other than **Jim Minderlein** and Jeff Beard, USNA '72 on their successes in fundraising. If you'd like more info on this, please check out this link - <https://www.usna.com/support/from-the-bridge-a-tale-of-two-classes-minderlein-beard?erid=935dbc33-0a6a-4ed6-a226-98d81a937e3b&trid=935dbc33-0a6a-4ed6-a226-98d81a937e3b>. Or if that link's too long, contact me and I'll forward you the email.

My ol' Roomie, **Rick Rickard**, reported on 10 Dec on the Bay Area '65 Army-Navy party held

at the home of **Ron and Sue Wecht**. Despite the outcome, they had a fun gathering! In the photo, L to R, are: **Mike Malone, Ron Wecht, Doyle Borchers, Wayne Goodroe, Chip Allen, and Rick Rickard**. All in appropriate B-robies!



From **Phil Ferrara**, 16 Dec

✉ On 10 December several '65ers gathered to cheer for a Navy victory at the home of **Sted and Robin Garber**. Alas, a Navy win didn't happen, and we discussed a thousand recommendations for how to do it better. Lots of angst and head shaking, but it was what it was as someone said. A good time was had by all, and we'll look forward to next season, albeit with many changes. Beat Army!



12-10-22 Army-Navy game party at Sted and Robin Garber's house; l to r: Jim and Diann Minderlein, Mark and Kathy Kikta, Sharon and Dan Mitchell, Sted Garber; also present Robin Garber, Phil and Linda Ferrara

Much, much more from **Mitch Henderson** in the last two months on this super on-line health support group he's founded and managing. You've read about that in previous columns, but Mitch has done a lot of enhancements and finding collaborators among other classes and with USNAAA. For more info, contact Mitch at dace222607@gmail.com or contact me.

Jim Minderlein reported on 28 Dec about the latest Class Presidents meeting in Annapolis. He has a link to a YouTube video of it if you're interested - <https://youtu.be/yWcwANcloWQ>. At the end of the meeting, Jim presented to **Mitch Henderson** a faux bronze Class Crest for his superb work on his Health Care Initiatives to assist our classmates with their health care needs for various diseases.

On 05 Jan **Ted Nanz** alerted us that our '65 Lucky Bags is online! He got this notice from USNAAA. All the ones up to the Class of 1970 are available. Enter this link into your Browser: https://usna.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/discovery/collectionDiscovery?vid=01USNA_INST:01USNA&inst=01USNA_INST&collectionId=81101730500006751. Or contact me and I'll email the link to you

Matt D'Amico on 14 Jan posted a bunch of great gouge on VA health care and caregiving support. Contact Matt at mjdamico1965@gmail.com for this info, or contact me and either of us will forward it to you.

From **GG Marshall**, 27 Jan

✉ **Paul** is continuing to recover and recuperate at home. We are doing physical therapy routines and working to get stronger. Praying for warmer weather to encourage outdoor activities. Paul is continuing to have issues with his right eye. Doctors still encouraging patience. We are very grateful for the prayers and communication from all. GG

Conrad Best, on 18 Jan, posted an email with a filtered version of the fantastic '65 Class Directory (Excel version). It's been filtered by youngest classmate down to oldest classmate. If you'd like a copy, contact Conrad at ccbest@verizon.net or me. I can also give you the original Excel (alphabetical version) put together by **Wayne "Bull" Durham** ages ago and last updated in 2017.

Finally, **Jim Minderlein** reported on 21 Jan about USNA's Plankowner Campaign and all of our classmates who ponied up to be these generous plankowners. The great class of '65 raised \$491,000 dollars from 97 classmates. If you didn't get this info, please contact Jim at jimm65@verizon.net.

I carried over lots of stuff to the May 23 *Shipmate*. Hopefully, if you didn't see your input here, you'll find it there.

Thazzit, Guys! Aloha, Dave

'66

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West Coast Sec'y: **Robert G. Johnson Jr., Esq.**
41391 Kalmia St., Ste. 210, Murrieta, CA 92562

Website: www.usna66.org

Spring will arrive soon, and I hope everyone is experiencing some warmth. Colorado has been cold and snowy, and as I write this article in mid-January the 13 inches of snow from two weeks ago is still around and 8-10 more are slated for the next two days. I love Colorado. Whoopee!!! There is much news to relate so I'll get to it.



'66ERS AT THE GONZALEZ LEADERSHIP AWARD CEREMONY

The GONZALEZ (DDG-66) Leadership Award ceremony was held aboard GONZALEZ on 2 November 2022. Presiding for the Class was Class President, Scott Redd. His remarks are provided on the Class web site, usna66.org. The awardees were BM1 (SW) John E. Monroe, USN and LT Eryn N. Stockdale ('17). The award letters are also posted on the web site with several pictures. Classmates attending are pictured L/R: **Charlie Votava, Chuck Grutzius, Bob Titcomb, Charlie Pfeifer, Scott Redd, Pat Muldoon, and Rob Ploeger.** Thanks to Donna Redd for taking the picture.

We have lost six Classmates since my last writing. Most passings have been announced via Class-wide email. **Jerry Kerr** (33rd Co.) died on 26 October 2022. He will be buried in the New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery, possibly this summer. **Nile Vail** (6th Co.) died on 21 November 2022. Nile's ashes will be combined with his late wife Dee's with half to be scattered in the Pacific and the other half in the Atlantic, in memory of their shared sailing trip around the world. **Jack Jewell** (10th Co.)

died on Christmas Day 2022. **Scott Redd** reports that a warm celebration of life service him was held on 7 January 2023, in McLean, VA. Despite the cold weather there was a good '66 turnout with some coming from far away. '66 attendees included Mary Ann and **Carl Fulford**, Peggy and **Mike Kelly**, Jan and **Carl McCullough**, Kathy and **Robert Percival**, Tina and **Bob Branco**, **Pete Bernier**, **Bill Gaffney**, **Don Jackson**, **Sam Marrone**, **Jim Williford** and Donna and **Scott Redd**. Interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery on a future date. **Paul Copenbarger** (12) died 6 January 2023. **Matt Herbison** (17) died 30 December 2022. **Jerry Knott** (34) died 14 January 2023 while starting a vacation in Mexico. Emails were sent with details for all. Please keep all their families in your prayers.

Jack Drake sent the following write up of the Class of 1966 participation in the 2022 USNA Homecoming Golf Tournament, held in October 2022 at the USNA golf course.

✉ "We were referred to as the "senior statesman" of the tournament as the oldest Class fielding a team. Our goal, as always, was

to shoot 66 or less in the scramble format. We were competitive but slightly less-so than last year when we finished with a 64. In 2022, our team, consisting of **Don Eshleman, Pete Hesser, Pete Wright, and Jack Drake**, shot a combined 67 on the par-71 course. We hope to be better next year; we certainly will be older."

Thanks, Jack. You guys look good.



JACK, PETE W., PETE H., AND DON

Charlie Jones sent the next photo to document the Thursday, 1 December 2022 Class Breakfast gathering at Eggcellence Brunchery in Annapolis, MD. Nine Classmates; **Charlie Jones, Robert Percival, Rodger Carter, Scott Gordon, John Posoli, Don Jackson, Jack Drake, Steve Niss, and Jim Long** participated.

Tom Eubanks provided the following thoughts regarding the decommissioning of HUE CITY (CG-66).

✉ "I had not previously attended a decommissioning ceremony. It was a unique and moving experience, especially to "bookend" HUE CITY (CG-66), having commissioned her, and then to serve as the guest speaker at her end of active service 31 years later. Many Classmates, plank-owner shipmates, and Marine veterans of the Hue City battle were in attendance, making it a mini-reunion for each group, most of whom were also at the 1991 commissioning ceremony in Pascagoula. She was a special ship, the only US Navy ship named for a Vietnam battle, and leaving only GONZALEZ (DDG-66) - named for a Vietnam Medal Of Honor recipient from the Hue City battle - to carry forward the battle's legacy and our Class numerals.

I'm not sure who shows the most wear in the accompanying photo, the vessel, or her first CO. Coincidentally, **Pat Muldoon** did the same just weeks earlier, when he participated similarly in the decommissioning of WHIDBEY ISLAND (LSD-41), nearly 38 years after he served as her first CO."

Thanks, Tom.



'66 BREAKFAST IN ANNAPOLIS



TOM WITH HUE CITY

Clay Spikes visited Joan and **Allen Sears** in San Mateo, CA on 15 December 2022. Al and Clay played nine holes of golf, and later enjoyed lunch together reminiscing about days at the Academy. Pictured are Clay and Al and Joan, Clay, and Al.



CLAY AND AL



JOAN, CLAY, AND AL

Frank Day emailed to tell me that he was informed he had been selected for induction into the USA Triathlon Hall of Fame. The citation read as follows.

☒ "Congratulations on your induction into the USA Triathlon Hall of Fame! You are being inducted into the Hall of Fame along with your fellow original 12 Ironmen. All of you were the genesis of a movement that became a sport, an Olympic event, and an engine of fitness and technical innovation. As you probably know, this is one of the most coveted awards given in our sport. The selection process started with your nomination in the fall of 2020 with 60 other qualified candidates, continued through

multiple rounds of voting, and resulted in you being part of the 12th USA Triathlon Hall of Fame class and one of 58 in our history to have been so aptly named. It clearly signifies the impact you have made on this near 50-year-old sport."

Frank was stationed in Hawaii as medical officer for DESRON 33 at the time. He had learned to do long distance running in medical school and, even though he only heard of the race about two weeks before it occurred, thought he could probably do it if he slowed down enough. No one could have predicted that this "silly" race could ever become what it has. Frank is currently creating an app to help others to improve their heart fitness. Induction will be in Milwaukee, as part of Nationals, the first week in August 2023.

Congratulations Frank! Well done.

That does it for March-April. If you are in the DC Area in May, the Class luncheon will be held in Annapolis. Check the Class website for details and location. Local Classmates will receive an email. In the meantime, everyone stay healthy and safe. Until May...All the best...Mike!!!

'67

Life Membership: 76%

Donor Participation: 43.11%

Pres: **CDR David E. Church, USN (Ret.)**

Sec'y: **LtCol Jim McNeece, USMC (Ret.)**

1603 John Worthington Way, Crownsville, MD 21032
p: 410-849-3423; e: scribe67@gmail.com

Jack Parry received news from **Jim Buchli** that **Bob Holihan** had passed away on 4 December 2022. We have received no other information except that his interment was to be at the Beaufort National Cemetery, Beaufort, SC with family in attendance. The condolences of '67 go out to Jean and the family.

Jack also heard from **Ed Meintzer** that Kay, Ed's wife of 55 ½ years passed away at home surrounded by her family on 17 January 2023. Arrangements are not yet known. Kay and Ed were special to him, Jack said. He had been Best Man in their wedding in Chicago in June 1967.

Michael Cathey passed the word that George Samaras died on 6 January 2023 as a result of glioblastoma. George was a bona fide Annapolitan, having been raised here and graduating from Annapolis High School. After a year at The Citadel, he joined us at Navy and became a Marine after graduation. George was an artillery officer in Vietnam, and also rode the back seat of OV-10s calling in supporting fires. His family called him a "Texan by Choice" after he relocated to San Antonio for executive roles at Church's, Popeyes and Hartz Krispy Chicken before leading the acquisition of Wingstop and serving as CEO. George is survived by his wife of 41 years Jeanne of Fair Oaks Ranch, TX, daughters Elizabeth (Rich)

Waring, Eleni (Chip) Allen, Jennifer Gartner Maurin, sons Nicholas (Nancy) Samaras, Richard (Lorrain) Gartner, a brother, and seven grandchildren. Burial services with Military Honors will be at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery in lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made to St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church, 2504 N St. Mary's St., San Antonio, TX 78212 (www.stsophiagoc.org).

Michael Cathey's heartfelt tribute to George:

☒ I wanted to pass on something to you, our Marine Classmates, about our little giant of a Marine. George was a dynamo, always full of enthusiasm. He was a member of 5th Platoon of our TBS class under the guidance of his Staff Platoon Commander, **Fred Fagan '64**. He chose artillery and went off to Fort Sill along with **Dave Vetter, Pat Howard, Mike Shields** and maybe some others I've missed. George and I along with four other young Marines were drafted to attend Aerial Observer (AO) training at MCAS New River near MCG Camp Lejeune. We flew in Huey's and the relatively new OV-10 Broncos to learn calling supporting arms, tactical photography, navigation, fire support coordination and other stuff I don't remember. George and I and some others caught a commercial flight to Okinawa in early July 1968 - George went to Third MarDiv and I went to First MarDiv. George spent ten years on active duty and ten years in the Reserve. He was one of a kind, we won't see his like again.

Rick Poole sent us a small world story:

☒ We were in Sarasota, FL (74 degrees, blue sky). I was checking in for an aquabike (swim/bike) race and started talking to a gentleman who looked to be about my age wearing a NAVY jacket. He formerly was Commander of the Navy Recruiting Command in New York. As we talked, he gave me a challenge coin that had an image of John F. Kennedy with the following words circling the perimeter: "Any man who may be asked in this century what he did to make his life worthwhile can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction, 'I served in the United States Navy!'" He said he gave one to each recruit. I thanked him and asked if he knew where and when JFK spoke those words. He did not. As you know, they were part of the address to the Naval Academy Plebe Class of 1967 in Tecumseh Court in August 1963, three months before JFK was assassinated. I told him a picture of JFK speaking and the text of the speech are included in the 1967 Lucky Bag. It was a great moment for both of us.

And the West Coast Legends gathered at **Pete Phelps's** vast estate in Alpine, CA for an Army-Navy watch party. Here's the visual evidence courtesy of Bob Lang (as always). Front row: Lew Madden, Bruce Wright, Steve Fisk, Gordon Pettus, Mia (Pete's dog), Pete Phelps. Back row: Bob Lang, Budd Goodwin, Poopie Schear, Warren Millard, Rich McNeal,

CHAPTER NEWS

Alabama

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Vice Pres, Northern Alabama: **Michael McFarland**
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Exec. Assist: **Carolyn Freeman, son, Reid '24**
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Arizona Chapter

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Southern Arizona Chapter

Pres: **Thom Rossa '63**
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Sec'y: **Capt Carl Roy Catalan '08, PMC (PN)**
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Vice Pres: **Andy Harrell**
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Sec'y: **LTJG Nicole Uchida '12, USN**
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Chapter Email: USNASG@gmail.com

Republic of Korea Chapter

Pres: **CDR Chong (John) M. Yi '85, USN**
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Pres: **Mori Nixon '81**
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California

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Sec'y: **Russel Hill '06**
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Treas: **Michael Seaver**
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BGO Area Coordinator (LA County/Orange County):
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BGO Area Coordinator (Riverside/San Bernardino):
CDR Bill Lauper, USN (Ret.)

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Hello Shipmates,

The LA/OC Alumni Chapter has had several fun outings and get togethers since the last *Shipmate* issue. We were finally able to get back to our Annual Tiki Boat Cruise in Newport Harbor. We also joined the Naval Academy Parent's

Club of Southern California for their Navy vs Air Force Watch Party which included the Air Force Parent's Club. Lastly, we had our big Annual Army/Navy Watch Party onboard USS IOWA (BB-61) in San Pedro. The result of the game wasn't what we had hoped for, but the event and game was still a blast. We had 175 attendees and several organizations which included the West Point Association of Graduates, West Point Parent's Club, Naval Academy Parent's Club of Southern California, and Air Force Alumni Association. We hope to continue holding joint events with the other academies and parent's clubs.



CHAPTER NEWS



Upcoming Events:

March 8: Monthly Zoom Board Meeting
 April 12: Monthly Zoom Board Meeting
 May 10: Monthly Zoom Board Meeting
 *We are beginning to hold board member elections. Please join the Zoom meetings so you can cast your vote.

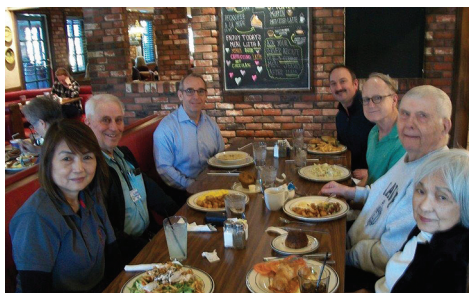
Events Unscheduled but Upcoming:

Army vs Navy Gunshoot
 Cirque du Soleil: Corteo (Microsoft Theater Los Angeles)

Attention

We are in the process of switching over to the new MyUSNA.com website from Alumni Magnet. We will be completely switched over by the end of this quarter (End of March). Please go to MyUSNA.com, create an account, log-in, and join the Los Angeles and Orange County Chapter. We do not want to lose anyone in the transition. We will continue to send email reminders to members throughout the transition process.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our chapter in 2022. We look forward to a great 2023!!



Seated L to R around the table: "Ping" (Lillian's assistant), Glenn Shindler '64, Colin Mackenzie '77, Eric Krause '00, Joe Lyvers '71, Bob Rogers '54 and Lillian Rogers

The San Gabriel Valley contingent of Los Angeles Chapter met for lunch on 26 January 2023 at Mimi's Café in Monrovia. Our group meets at Mimi's the 4th Thursday each month. For more info, contact gshindler64@earthlink.net.

Monterey Bay Chapter

Pres: **LT Vic Kanth '15**
 e: usnaalumnimontereybay@gmail.com
 Corr Sec'y: **Steve Tackett '87**
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 Website: <http://montereybay.usnachapters.net>
 BGO Area Coordinator: **Bob Garcia**
 e: bob@coeususa.com

Despite the outcome, Monterey Chapter had a good time at The Trident Room watching Army v. Navy. It was a packed house of grads spanning generations. Next year we will try for a whole group photo. In the meantime, here are "two or three" meeting:



Joseph and Viviane Wiggins '66



Katherine Poulin '14 and Ben Ziemiak '14



Matt Borkowski '12, Stephanie Benn '17 and Andrew Benn '17



Keegan Kush '17, Peter Barkley '06, Paolo Singh '03 (and the next generation of Plebe Detail)



Scott Walter 1991 and Lance Strauss 1973

Sacramento Chapter

Pres: **Terri (Riggs) Maginnis '82**
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 Vice Pres: **Brian Grubbs '92**
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 Sec'y: **Paul Deveaux '96**
 e: paul@pauldeveaux.com
 Treas: **Alan Abbs '91**
 e: alanabbs@gmail.com
 Treas: **Jack Everett '64**
 e: jeverett@quicknet.com
 Past President: **Dennis P. Joyce '61**
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It was a rainy, windy Saturday afternoon for the Army-Navy viewing party, but we still had over 50 Navy supporters show up at Rock and Brews near Cal Expo. We definitely outnumbered the Army attendees, but not enough to get the win! We had a group of loyal Navy fans at most of the games this year and tried out a few of the local establishments. We'll definitely keep rooting next season and hope for the N-Star result.



Sacramento Chapter

We have some regular events each month now and seem to be settled on the day and location for each:

1st Friday: Every 1st Friday at 7:30 AM, we've been meeting at Black Bear Diner for our monthly breakfast meeting. This is very informal, but always fun to get together, share a few stories, do some planning for the chapter, and then on our way. We welcome anyone from the area or just passing through to stop in and join us. Black Bear Diner, 7935 Madison Avenue, Citrus Heights, 7:30-9 am.

2nd Wednesday: Starting in January 2023, we added a monthly lunch event on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 11:30 AM at Brookfield's, 4343 Madison Avenue, Sacramento.

3rd Thursday: A monthly Happy Hour was added last Fall on the 3rd Thursday; we tried different venues and agreed on Clubhouse 56, 723 56th Street, Sacramento, 5:00-7:00 PM.

In an effort to increase our networking opportunities, we now include our friends from the Air Force Academy and West Point local chapters to join us at each of these events. They are also inviting us to their special events throughout the year.

Look for some more information on our 'first possibly quarterly' business networking evening event. We're coordinating with the other academies and with some of our alumni involved in career placement to include some of our younger members and create a closer network of academy alumni.

Our VP, Brian Grubbs, is sending monthly emails for reminders and updates to our calendar. If you don't get those emails and would like to be included, let one of us know. We continue to work on transitioning to myusna.com for all of our communications and networking. If you're in the area and would like to join us, just show up.

San Diego Chapter

Pres: **Steve Rasmussen '88**
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Corr Sec'y: **Charlie Carey '70**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Mike Philbrook '83**
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The San Diego USNAAA Chapter has been quiet over the holidays as we do not meet during December. Most everyone is caught up in the holidays and busy. So not quite as much to report for the new year.

We did have our first luncheon of the year 18 Jan and our guest speaker was Capt. Bill Driscoll, USNR (Ret.). If his name sounds familiar to you it's because he is one of only two Vietnam War Aces having shot down five enemy jet fighters in aerial combat. Bill was awarded the Navy Cross in addition to two Silver Stars, the Purple Heart and 10 Air Medals.



CDR Willie Driscoll (F-4 RIO) and CDR Rufus Moore '53 (F-8 Pilot)

Bill gave a great presentation and recounted in detail the engagements during the Vietnam War. He has taken his experience in war and business and put them into a very succinct discussion of leadership skills and work habits that are essential

to success in the military and in business. He emphasized all of the attributes that we aspired to at USNA in being mentally and physically prepared for known and unknown challenges. His engaging interaction with the audience on how the dog fights transpired using models and his hands (aviator thing) was enlightening. We were fortunate to have Bill there to give us such a great presentation.

We have many events upcoming that should still be in play when you read this including the USNA Track Team here in March, the USNA Glee Club Concert also in March. Our USNA at the Padres Ball Game is on for June should you be in the area. We always have a Happy Hour

going each month and other activities listed on our website should you be visiting. Look us up and join us.

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Pres: **Bobby Nefzger '14**
e: bobbynefzger@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Gordon McDonald '06**
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Sec'y: **Ray Fazzio '57**
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Treas: **Brian Frack '89**
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Website: <http://sfbayarea.usnachapters.net>

BGO Area Coordinator: **LT Paul Kepner '04, USN (Ret.)**
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Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/usnaaasfbayarea>

Instagram: [@usnaaa_sfchapter](https://www.instagram.com/usnaaa_sfchapter)

BGO Area Coordinator: **Bob Garcia**
e: bob@coeususa.com

ARMY NAVY VIEWING PARTIES

The San Francisco Party was facilitated by **Bobby Nefzger '14**. Alumni in attendance were: **Steve Hall '75, Chad Dorr '88, Jim Schroder '89, Stephen Verner '89, Doyle Galvin '02, Eric Gonzales '03, Gus Hernandez '11, Chester Heer '12 and James Van Kirk '13.**



San Francisco Chapter: Army Navy Party Petaluma



San Francisco Chapter: Army Navy Party San Francisco

CHAPTER NEWS



San Francisco Chapter: Army Navy Party San Mateo

The Petaluma Party was facilitated by **Cherlene Griffith '02**. Alumni in attendance were: **Alan Chesterman '67, Tom Berns '68, John Seil '71, James Gafford '78, Scott Ricker '78, Brian Frack '89, Shawn Cullen '90, Jeremy Newton '01** and **Michael Mieres '02**.

The Walnut Creek Viewing Party was facilitated by **John Mooney '72**. Alumni in attendance were: **Fred Wachowitz '68, Art Odom '82, Klaus Barboza '88, Devin Cross '93** and **D J Harrington '67**

The San Mateo Party was facilitated by **Ray Fazio '57**. Alumni in attendance were: **Marty Mason '75, Michael Hausell '76, Joe Martiaka '76, Lee Delony '78, Michael Fazio '85, John Brady '90, Tim Henderson '90, John Devine '91, Anthony Perez '06** and **Lexa Gass '10**.

Santa Barbara Chapter

Pres: **Stephen L.A. Callahan '81**

Treas: **CAPT Stephen H. Huber '80, USN (Ret.)**

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Greg McGiffney '76**
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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/santabarbarachapterusna.9>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/usnaalums_santabarbara/

Colorado

Colorado Chapter

Pres: **CAPT S. Guy Higgins '69, USN (Ret.)**
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Sec'y: **CAPT Matthew McLaurin '92**
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BGO Area Coordinator (Denver):
CAPT Dick Eason '84, USN (Ret.)
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Greetings Colorado Shipmates,

Hope all our winter sports lovers have had a great time hitting the slopes this year. With the seasons shifting there are probably still a couple months of good spring runs left.

The Chapter is looking forward to our annual Arleigh Burke Dinner, scheduled for 28 April 2023 at The University Club of Denver. Admiral **Harry Harris '78, USN (Ret.)** will serve as the keynote speaker and we are anticipating a strong turnout to our annual formal gathering. We are particularly excited to have such a distinguished speaker for the event. Admiral Harris' impressive 40-year career included several major fleet commands (Indo-Pacific Command, U.S. Pacific Fleet, U.S. 6th Fleet) and culminated with his service as Ambassador to South Korea. Information for the Arleigh Burke Dinner may be found on our website at www.usnacolorado.com and tickets will be available after 1 March.

Stay safe and look forward to seeing many of you at the Arleigh Burke dinner on 28 April. Go Navy!

Matt McLaurin '92

Colorado Springs Chapter

Pres: **LCDR John Sledgianowski '87, USN (Ret.)**
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Connecticut

BGO Area Coordinator: **Evan Barnett '91**
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Connecticut Chapter

Pres: **Alan Weigel '79**
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Treas: **Tom Hogsten '85**

Sec'y: **Eric Irwin '86**
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Comms Dir: **David Candler '67**
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Meeting Chairman: **Vacant**

Website: <http://connecticut.usnachapters.net>

Naval Academy Parent Club of CT
Website: <http://ct.usnaparents.net>

Ahoy Shipmates!

Here in Southeastern CT, on a late January day, it is snowing outside and chilly and not alluring! So I thought I would write this to put some joy in your magazine for the end of March edition as you will receive!

January has not been resplendent with USNA Activities, as you would expect. The Connecticut Chapter held its annual Blue & Gold Admissions Dinner on Thursday, 8 December at the Officer's Club of Connecticut in Hartford. Great to have had this great opportunity to encourage them, and for us to see each other after the COVID peak had passed. We look forward to events in the coming year that will allow refreshments and camaraderie as we get back together.

Speaking of refreshments... A bit of history? Some of you will remember past renovations of King Hall, aka Mess Hall! Perhaps the most recent was in 2006. Built in 1909 the mess hall would accommodate 1800 Midshipmen — and that was a LOT of people all at once. In the 1950's it was expanded to its current size. In 1981 the dining facility was named in honor of Fleet Admiral Ernest King, a 1901 Academy graduate and former Chief of Naval Operations.

And a logistical ordeal that was to do the renovation. \$21.4 million was awarded to do the King Hall renovation, and \$1.7 million to convert the Dahlgren Hall ice rink into a temporary dining facility. During the summer of 2006, the Plebes ate in the 5th wing portion of King Hall- renovations began in the rest. After the Brigade returned the first and second battalions ate in the 5th wing portion while the remainder of the Brigade ate in Dahlgren Hall. Dahlgren Hall had a seating capacity of 3,200. Two box trucks made two trips between the King Hall galley and the Kelly Court staging area for each day's three meals. By August 2007, the entire Brigade returned to dine in the finished King Hall.

Oh, and for the old-timers: in addition to the seating, King Hall was updated with upscale A/V equipment so that the entire Brigade could hear a presentation (like Alumni Hall). In addition, upgrades to mechanical and electrical systems, raised roof, replacement of some of the entryways, and skylights!! (Submariners shun skylights).

Related items: the "Navy Dairy Farm" in Gambrills, MD — the source of the seemingly endless supply of milk and Ice cream— was sold a number of years ago. And the main entrance and farmhouse (and maybe whole property) was bought by a Russian couple (my info from about 12 years ago when I was doing background research...). That was also the farm where "Bill" the Navy Goat and brother was maintained. Without knowing the USNA connection, (which had no sign on the property) that was a destination for daughter and grandson (who happened to live down the road) to "pet the nice goats". Small world sometimes!

And despite all the modernization at King Hall, an item no longer served is: Cannonballs! Not the fault of the mess hall, but of young,

enthusiastic (aka reckless) Midshipmen who had no need for additional challenges/temptations.... I, your AI for *Shipmate*, do have the recipe for Cannonballs should you be in need of a dozen or two. Send request, with interesting items you would like to share in the column, at the email atop this article!

Dave Candler '67

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PENSACOLA CHAPTER ARMY-NAVY GAME 2022

Alumni Gather to Cheer for Navy

"The USNA Alumni Chapter in the Cradle of Naval Aviation is strong and vibrant with new members from the classes of 2021, & 2022!" cheering for USNAAA's **Joe Walker '02** during the 2nd annual Army Navy Football Game march-on event. For this year's Army-Navy football game watch event, more than 150 Naval Academy Alumni gathered to share in lighthearted memories of the yard while preparing for another decade of defeat for the Army West Point mules. To cap off the event, a goat from a local USNA family's farm greeted guests with a buck as they played lawn games and mingled waiting for kickoff. Although lacking the steady beat of the Drum & Bugle Corps, a bullhorn kept the march-on organized by blasting the soundtrack of Top Gun.



A Large Herd of Goats Gather to Defeat Army



Jose Perez '10 & Hannah Geison '13 Hold a Young Goat

This year's gathering concluded a busy 2022 for the Pensacola Chapter, a year full of community service, civic leadership, and participation in local sporting events. "This year we've felt a resurgence of participation from the youngest graduates, the classes of 2021 & 2022 have shown a strong desire to remain active with their USNA peers while in flight training. That is really the core of a vibrant alumni chapter in Pensacola, the new grads, the flight students," shares Hannah Geison '13.

The alumni chapter looks to continue the strong participation into 2023 by planning Blue Angel watch events, sporting events, smaller chapter meetings, and community service as the spring turns to summer in the Panhandle. As the class of 2023 wraps up their time in Annapolis come May, the USNA Alumni Association looks forward to welcoming them to a robust local community.

CHAPTER NEWS



Florida Suncoast Chapter

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Greetings from the sunny Southwest Florida Alumni Chapter! Happy New Years! We look forward to what 2023 brings us. Our members have demonstrated outstanding resilience with the southwest Florida area looking like the aftereffects of a B-52 strike post-Hurricane Ian.

Up next on our schedule are a few fun events with guest speakers and good food. Closest to the boat, on Monday, **20 March 2023**, there will be a luncheon at Wyndemere Country Club with guest speaker **RADM Marc Pelaez '68, USN (Ret)**, former director of the Navy Research Lab and a USNA SWF member.

On Monday, **10 April 2023**, there will be a luncheon at the Audubon Country club with a guest speaker (TBD). Also in April, our chapter will participate in the Tri-Academies Golf Outing hosted by USAFA at The Plantation in Fort Myers. More details to come on this event. Please contact our chapter if you would like more details on the upcoming events!

*Respectfully,
Luke Rebertus*

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Tough Football season. Sorry to see Coach N leave but we wish Brian Newberry all the best.

He has tall shoes to fill! And it was a tough loss to Army, after almost having a win in our clutches. Both teams played their hearts out right through two overtimes. But congratulations to Army for a well-played game. We'll get 'em next year! Here's a photo of alums and spouses and friends who cheered for Navy at the Florida Suncoast Chapter of the USNA Alumni Association's tailgate at Gecko's Signature Room.

We're enjoying the delightful Spring weather on the Suncoast and a few mixers. Watch for announcements.

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Recent Events:

Army-Navy football 2022 was a tough loss, but the Tampa Bay Chapter brought the spirit out on both sides of the bay. Putting on their game faces at the December chapter meeting were **Jack Plunkett '70, Jody and Paul Borer '70 (from Atlanta), Jim Kramer '74, Jane Lochner '84, Brian Tsai '16, Gary Polansky '69, Jose Sanchez '07, Jonathan Shannon '02, Austin Gullett '03, Paul Matthews '85, John Miles '93, Matt Packard '06,**



Tampa Bay Chapter: The St. Pete contingent says BEAT ARMY!



Tampa Bay Chapter: Janel Brown '97 inspired Middle School students with a talk on STEM education and USNA!

Peter Damisch '75, Eric Kennington '88, Maria and Paul Rock '88, Miller Detrick '63, Bill Graham '72, Warren Hahn '60, Perry Dempsey '72 and Chris Heath '72.

TAMPA BAY RECOGNIZED FOR THIRD YEAR

The chapter is very proud that we have been recognized by the Alumni Association as a Distinguished Chapter for the third year in a row. The award is recognition of the talent, willingness to serve, and leadership that continues to fulfill our mission of service to the Naval Academy, candidates, and our great members. We celebrated the occasion at our February chapter meeting - held outside, of course, in the "deep Florida winter"!

Chapter Board Planning

Led by President **Jane Lochner '84**, the Chapter Board met in January to plan 2023 events. We had a very enjoyable and productive evening, fueled by homemade pizzas from Jane's husband-of-the-year candidate Mike Zabel!



A TRADITION OF LEADERSHIP - The Tampa Bay Board includes (R-L) **Chriis Heath '72, Dave Spoerl '82, Chris Thompson '92, and Jonathan Shannon '02.** The deuces have it!

Winter and Spring Events

It's tough to call this winter, but someone has to do it. We had an exciting new "Saturday Social" in February - a guided tour of the highly regarded James Museum of Western and Wildlife Art followed by dinner in St. Petersburg, and our annual spring Candidate Information Picnic in March - the largest USNA recruiting event in Florida, with 150-200 candidates and families attending. Watch for details and photos in the next issue of *SHIPMATE*.

We started the year off well with our January chapter meeting, including installation of the new officers and Board. Participating were **Jane Lochner '84, Brian Tsai '16, Jonathan Shannon '02, Austin Gullett '03, Paul Matthews '85,**

Matt Packard '06, Miller Detrick '63, Bill Graham '72, Warren Hahn '60, Perry Dempsey '72, Chris Heath '72, Tom Draude '62, Fr. Tim Corcoran '67, Tom Hartline '81, Steve Swift '87, Don Aiken '78 and new member Robert "V" Villanueva '03, who is assigned locally at SOCOM. Welcome aboard, V!

Janel Brown '97 Speaks to STEM Students

BGO LCDR **Janel Brown '97**, USN (Ret.) spoke at Stewart Magnet Middle School John Glenn Top Gun Academy (Tampa) to all three middle school grades. She spoke about careers in STEM and Space, representing Naval Academy Admissions, and of course mentioned USNA STEM programs! BZ, Janel!

Future Events

- Monthly Meetings on first Wednesday of each month
- All-Academy Tampa Bay Rays baseball game (May TBD)
- Army-Navy golf match (TBD)

Our social media links are above. Don't forget to enroll on MyUSNA.com, our new all-service platform, and join the Tampa Bay Chapter.

Georgia

Atlanta Chapter

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Greetings from Atlanta!

Last December we held our annual Atlanta Army-Navy get-together, with 77 signed up to support the Blue and Gold. This year's event was hosted by West Point at the appropriately named Hudson Grille. It turned out to be a great location for the festivities, and we can say it was a "qualified" success. The party was terrific - the game, not so much.

Our next event is our "Dark Ages" party, held on 11 February at the 57th Fighter Squadron

Restaurant at the DeKalb-Peachtree airport in Atlanta. Past events at this location have been well-attended and a lot of fun. We are sticking with the casual (spirit) motif, which has been more popular than our formal dress of past decades.

One final item of business: the Board is very pleased to announce two new officers, Vice-President **Mike Leigh '79**, and Secretary, **John "Wiz" Withers '79**. We thank Mike and Wiz for their willingness to serve in their respective offices.

The Atlanta chapter is open to all alumni in the Atlanta area. More events are in the works, and the best place to see what's happening is the chapter website. We welcome input from all Atlanta-area alumni - if you have an idea, please let us know!

Hawaii

Hawaii Chapter

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Spring is starting to take hold as we emerge from the "dark ages". Two events filled out our December 2022 calendar: the Army-Navy game watch party and the All Service Academy Dinner and Ball.

SIC members joined with the USMA AOG for our annual Army-Navy game watch party. The venue was again graciously hosted by the Warhawk Aviation Museum in Nampa, Idaho.

CHAPTER NEWS

Many thanks to our hosts John and Sue Paul. Food and beverage was provided again by Wings and Bear Island Brewery. Thanks to all! A good turnout by both alumni groups contributed to a festive gathering. A large contingent of USMA AOG members were present accompanied with lots of cheering and pushups. Alas, in the end Navy had to sing first. The following SIC members along with Spouses/SO's, family members, and parents were in attendance. SIC attendees included: **Bill Previty '65, Steve Berg '66, Rufus Taylor '66, Del Giffen '67, Jim Perkins '68, Rick Schellhaas '68, Dennis Hanrahan '68, Wes Stanfield '69, Mike Kehoe '71, Tom Simmonds '73, Markus Gudmundsson '91, Van States '91, Chris Horak '94, Chris Benson '97, Paul Campbell '98, Andrea Hovey '03, Matt Bishop '03 and Cody Rome '12.**



All hands stand and salute as the National Anthem is played and sung by the combined academies Glee club.

After a two-year hiatus the 23rd Annual All Service Academy Ball took place on 30 December at the Riverside Hotel in Garden City, Idaho. The event was hosted by the combined Idaho parents' clubs of the five service academies. BZ to Nicola McIntosh, the USNA Parents' Club president, for her work in helping to organize the event. Cadets and midshipmen from the various academies were present along with about 200 parents, guests, and academy alumni. There was an excellent pre-dinner program, a silent auction, and recognition of those who have gone before us along with the appropriate solemnity. Thanks to **Paul Campbell '98** who was the emcee for the event. Chapter members present with their Spouses/SO's included **Mike Coyle '65, Rufus Taylor '66, John Kuechle '66, Dennis Hanrahan '68, Tom Simmonds, '73, Ken VanderHorst '79, Van States '91, Todd Severance '96, Paul Campbell '98 and Cody Rome '12.**



Cheryl and Ken VanderHorst '79, and Danny Hanrahan enjoy pre-dinner activities.

The Southern Idaho Chapter (SIC) meets monthly. Alumni and their spouses/SOs living in or visiting the Boise area are invited to join us. If you would like information about SIC activities, contact Rufus Taylor '66 at <tincansailor980@gmail.com>.

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Join the Chapter: [https://www.signupnow.events/USNA AlumniChapter_Annapolis/](https://www.signupnow.events/USNA_AlumniChapter_Annapolis/)

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1118214745191/> (or search for: Naval Academy Alumni Annapolis Chapter)

Greater Southern Maryland Chapter

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EVENTS

December 9 and 10: Eggs and Legs at the Flashback in Lexington Park and the Army-Navy

Game Day Party at the Pax Ale House, also in Lexington Park.



It didn't work but we still believed!



Chapter President Mike Thumm '75 discusses Eggs and Legs Arrangements with Flashback Manager, Dinah Burselson.



Member Bill McCracken '67, Director Jim Sandberg '69, and GSMC Treasurer Ted Herring '67 enjoy Eggs and Legs fare.



Members enjoy Eggs and Legs while Flashback Employee, Stacy Smith, supervises.



Mike '75 and Patti Thumm work on the GSMC score matrix while Dan Krall '83 makes sure they get it correct.



Michigan Chapter: The whole crew at the Army/Navy viewing party.

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS:

Brian Sandberg '97 is President of the Society of Experimental Test Pilots.

COMING EVENTS:

16 March Happy Hour at the Flight Deck
 April 12 Spring Social at Brudergarten following Chapter meeting. Please, check your email and the GSMC website www.navyalumni.org for updates on these events.

1700, 2nd Wednesday of each month: Chapter Meeting. The Brudergarten, Leonardtown.
 Please, check your email and the GSMC website www.navyalumni.org for all event updates throughout 2023!



At the January Luncheon: (Top, from left) Ken Barrett (father of Joe Barrett '18), Martin Woomer '03, Steven Stivers '00, (Bottom, from left) Michael Johnson '79, Joe Zane '07, Art Bryant '66.

Since our last article, two events of note took place. First, we had a great time at the Army Navy viewing party jointly hosted by the Michigan Chapter and the West Point Society of Michigan! While the final score didn't turn out as we would have liked, the game was hard-fought and we had a great time. Second, we had a luncheon on 26 January. We had planned to have it a day earlier, but we were thwarted by a winter storm. While the shift depressed turnout somewhat, we still had a good time catching up.

By the time you read this, we should have met up for a 100th Night celebration on 14 February. There should be a March luncheon on 14 March. Keep your eye out on your e-mail for details. If you are reading this and want to join but haven't seen that e-mail, feel free to reach out to me personally at joseph.zane.2007@gmail.com. As always, keep your eye out on MyUSNA and your e-mail for the latest on events and updates.

Thank you for reading, and until next time: Beat Army!

Joe Zane '07
 Chapter President

Massachusetts

Boston Chapter

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Michigan Chapter

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CHAPTER NEWS

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Sec'y: **Glenn Truitt '97**
e: glenn@idealbusinesspartners.com

Website: <http://southernnevada.usnachapters.com/>

The Las Vegas Chapter hosted the Army-Navy Game Party at the MacKenzie River Pizza, Grill & Pub at City National Arena in Henderson on 10 December and despite the suboptimal outcome of the game, we again broke out own attendance record, with plenty of rowdy Army fans and an amazing buffet from our hosts.

On Friday, 28 April 2022, the Las Vegas Aviators, the pride of Minor League Baseball, will be again hosting the Chapter, and tickets to sit with the group can be purchased here (<http://tinyurl.com/5xvkr363>) \$53 per adult and \$43 for children 12 and under (includes game tickets, food and a non-alcoholic beverage). Last year's event was one of everyone's favorites, including a walk-off win! We are still planning to open the tickets to USMA and USAFA alumni chapters at a later date and we would love to have more NAVY folks than anyone else! You're already at the back of this issue - so GO BUY TICKETS!

We are looking forward to more local events, so please stay tuned to your favorite source of Chapter news! As always, the Chapter puts out all of its news and events on our Facebook page - so if you're not a member yet, come find us at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/851758039084714>. The latest pictures, event invitations, and all the good gouge can be found! See you all soon!



New Jersey

Pres: **Patrick Hurley '87**
e: patrick.hurley@1987.usna.com

BGO Area Coordinator (North NJ): **Marcy Abbate**
e: Abbate.Marcy.M@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator (South NJ): **Martha Christinziano**
e: Christinziano.area114@gmail.com

website: www.usnanj.org

New Mexico

New Mexico Chapter

Pres: **John Scott Kraus '73**
2304 Madre Dr. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112
h: 505-296-7409; c: 505-366-7457
e: skraus@aquilagroup.com; or jkraus2304@aol.com

Sec'y: **Joseph McGuire '68**
p: 505-857-9679; e: sunnymack@msn.com

Vice Pres: **Dr. Doug Meints '77**
p: 505-888-6800; e: dmeintschiro@gmail.com

NM Parents' Club Pres: **Ms. Karen Hanthorn-Rhodes**
e: KBHant@aol.com; p: 505-507-5543

Website: <http://newmexico.usnachapters.com>

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT David Swingle**
e: dswingle@newmexico.com

Our largest social event of the year took place on 10 December 2022 at the Craft Republic sports bar in Albuquerque as alums and their guests hopeful for a victory gathered to enjoy the annual Army/Navy football contest televised from Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia, PA. By previous arrangement,



New Mexico Chapter: Navy Alum Gathering in Albuquerque for 2022 Army/Navy Football

our lively crowd was provided their own room with several TVs to enjoy the game from any seat. Those present included **Brink Trammell '57; Hoppy (G.J.) Hopkins '59, Herb Richter '59; Norm Falk '60; Bonnie and Mike Blackledge '63; Olen Thompson '63;** Angela and **George Goryanec '66; Joe McGuire '68;** Judy and **Paul Wilson '68;** Ashby Albright '71 Assoc.; Rebecca and **Tom Gutierrez '70** with guests including John and Janice Arnold Jones; **Lynden (Tolly) Toliver '71; Ed Johnson '73; Scott Kraus '73;** Loren and **Max Legg '74** with guest Charlie Ecklund; **Jay Carrizales '75; Bill Hartman '77; Doug Meints '77; Ken Fladager '78** with guest Kathy; Deborah and **Mark Schaefer '83;** William and **Anne Hammond '86; Christine Hoaglund '97; Seth Powell '05** and wife **Carrie Powell '06** with children Owen and Cora; **Selina Benavides '13** with her mother Alma and sister Sophia; Alex and **Michael Spinello '13** with their children Oliver and Penny and parents Jim and Rosalie Spinello; and Matt and Roberta Fotter, parents of **Thomas Fotter '26.** During the game's halftime break, Chapter President Scott Kraus '73 conducted our annual corporate meeting to inform members of Chapter events and personnel changes. Unfortunately, even with all the camaraderie generated in Craft Republic's room, Navy could not surmount the field goal that boosted Army a notch above Navy to their 20-17 edge when the double OT clock ran out. Next Year!

Of special note during the big game was the family of **Courtney Lapahie '17.** Although Courtney was stationed aboard her ship in the Indian Ocean, half a world away, four of her family members drove the 280 miles round trip from Gallup, NM to Albuquerque to make sure she was represented at this Chapter event. The family members representing Courtney were her mother Elsie Begay, her aunt Janice Begay, a niece Danielle Begay and a brother J.C. Carl.

The Triannual Chapter Count for the NM Chapter was completed on 26 December. This count identifies USNAAA Chapters who may have qualified members sit on the USNAAA Board of Directors based on their numbers of Life members who are also Chapter dues-payers. Of New Mexico Chapter's 285 registered alumni, 25 are Chapter dues-payers and 23 of those are also Life members of the USNAAA.

Hail and Farewell! After volunteering to serve as Chapter webmaster since 1995, **Mike Blackledge '63** was able to turn over the responsibility for maintaining the Chapter's future online bulletin board to **Michael Spinello '13.** In doing so, the website transitioned from <http://newmexico.usnachapters.com> to <http://newmexico.usnachapters.net> in accordance with USNA web design guidance. Many thanks to Mr. Blackledge for his 28 years of service and to Mr. Spinello for accepting this new responsibility. Similarly, since **Ken Fladager '78**

is changing his home address from Rio Rancho, NM to the Texas gulf coast, **Mark Schaefer '83** has assumed the role of Chapter Treasurer. Mr. Fladager's service to the Chapter as Treasurer is acknowledged with gratitude.

The next scheduled Chapter event is the annual Family Picnic, scheduled to be held on Sunday, 4 June 2023, at the Kiwanis shelter on the Elena Gallegos Open Space facility, 7100 Tramway Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87122. Check the Chapter's new online bulletin board listed above for additional details as the date draws near.

We were recently informed that **Jon Michael Barr '61** RADM, USN (Ret.), former COMSUBPAC was buried at the Santa Fe National Cemetery with full military honors on 13 January 2023. RADM Barr succumbed at his Santa Fe, NM home at the age of 84 on 22 October 2022.

New York

New York Capital District Chapter

Pres: **Frank Hughes '80**
p: 518-432-9193; e: frankhughes2@yahoo.com

Sec'y: **Gordon Lattey**
40 First St., Troy, NY 12180
p: 518-274-4989; e: ussflater@aol.com

Website: <http://capitaldistrictny.usnachapters.com>

BGO Area Coordinator: **Jessica Barr**
e: jessiebarr.usna99bgo@yahoo.com

Central New York Chapter

Pres: **Steve Erb '68**
e: steveerb@windstream.net

Sec'y/Treas: **Bob Fegan Jr. '64**
e: bobfegan64@gmail.com

Website: CentralNY.usnachapters.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **Tom Ravener**
e: tom.ravener@gmail.com

A very few alumni, and Navy family and friends were able to get-together at the Brae Loch Inn in Cazenovia for the Army-Navy game. Attending were **Steve Erb '68, Doug Marshall '73, Rob Sawyer '84, Bob Fegan '64** and his wife Marilyn, **Howard Gutzman '75** and his wife Mary, and **Mike Piazza '07** with his girlfriend Jackie and his friend Eric Austin (also Bob Fegan's neighbor). The result of the game was enjoyed by a few Army fans in attendance.

Alumni, family and friends are encouraged to attend the weekly Wednesday lunch at 1200 at Clear Path for Veterans in Chittenango, NY. You can call (315-687-3300) to let them know if you will be attending a lunch but calling is not necessary...just show up.

Alumni, family, friends, USNA parents, and others with an interest in the Naval Academy are welcome to join the Chapter at all Chapter functions. Call (315-663-7490) or e-mail Bob Fegan to let us know if you plan to attend a function.

Future Chapter activities will be addressed by email as they are planned.

The Chapter has instituted the payment of a Life Membership Fee as an option to Annual Dues. As the information was provided through the USNA Alumni Association, there are quite a few Alumni in the CNY area who may not have received the information so it is again being provided herewith. With the new year, annual dues of \$20 are now being accepted.

The Central New York Chapter leadership discussed offering Life Membership and with inputs from a few Alumni, the following table shows what was decided:

Year Groups	Life Membership Fee
1941-1950	\$0
1951-1960	\$50
1961-1970	\$75
1971-1980	\$100
1981-1990	\$125
1991-2000	\$150
2001-2010	\$175
2011-2020	\$200
2021-∞	\$200

If 40% of the Alumni in the Central New York area opt for Life Membership and with over \$2,000 currently in the Chapter's non-profit checking account with M&T, the Chapter would have over \$10,000 which is more than enough to support the Chapter's financial commitments through 2030.

Alumni who have paid dues for the Chapter year 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 and for subsequent years may apply those dues to their Life Membership Fee. Also those Alumni who have made Donations to the Chapter may apply all or part of the Donation to their Life Membership Fee. Each Alumni to whom the above applies should contact Bob Fegan (bobfegan64@gmail.com) (315-663-7490) and let him know what to do or to check what your dues status may be.

For those Alumni who choose not to pay the Life Membership Fee, the annual Chapter membership fee of \$20 will be continued.

Payment of dues (Life Membership or Annual) can be made in cash or check at a Chapter function or by mailing a check payable to "CNY Chapter of USNA Alumni" to Bob Fegan, 1570 US Route 20, Cazenovia, NY 13035-9202. Please provide a note to indicate your USNA AA status (Life Member, Annual or Not a member) and your email address to ensure that the Chapter's database is complete and up-to-date.

CHAPTER NEWS



Cape Fear Chapter

Metro New York Chapter (NAANY)

Pres: **William B Biles '08**
 p: 585-410-1941; e: daniel.sullivan@savox.com
 HotLine: 1-800-234-USNA (8732)
 Website: <http://www.NAANY.org>
 BGO Area Coordinator: **Gardner Jackson**
 e: ghjackson86@gmail.com

Western New York Chapter

Pres: **Dan Sullivan '95**
 p: 585-410-1941; e: daniel.sullivan@savox.com
 Vice Pres: **Pete Owen '86**
 p: 949-702-2733; e: pfowen0302@gmail.com
 Website: <http://westernny.usnachapters.net/>
 BGO Area Coordinator: **Doug Peters '73**
 e: douglaspeters@gmail.com

North Carolina

BGO Area Coordinator: **Col. Kevin Hart '75 (Ret.)**
 p: 847-910-4502; e: kevinhart1@gmail.com

Cape Fear Chapter

Pres: **Ray Decker '72**
 p: 703-939-0202; e: dax24@icloud.com
 Vice Pres: **Paul Normand '74**
 e: paulnormand@mac.com
 Sec'y/Treas: **Steve Yandle '17**
 e: sryusna75@gmail.com

With the new year underway, the Cape Fear Chapter stepped off smartly with its first monthly meeting on 10 Jan. The guest speaker

was VADM **Joe Leidig '78**, USN (Ret.), who shared a remarkable firsthand account of the tragic 2012 Benghazi incident. During that period, Joe served as the Deputy Commander of the US Africa Command. Impressively, about half of the Chapter's paid members were in attendance to hear Joe's fact-based presentation. Present for muster: **John Hicks '56, Peter Friedman '58, Tim Marvin '59, Mary Ellen and Robin Boswell '64, Bill Caiazza '66, John and Bernie McGuire '64, Alan Smith '64, Dave Scheu '67, Tom McQueen '69, Paul Smith '71, Ray Decker '72, Rick Haley '72, Hugh McWilliams '72, John Pilli '73, Paul Normand '74, Bart Whitman '74, Steve Yandle '75, Martin Brittingham '76, Gary Beaver '77, Pete Varvaris '77, John Casey '78, Joe Leidig '78, Gallen Negaard '88, Jim Slaughter '93, Anne Leanos '98 and Major Jimmy Housley '10 USMC.** Well done, shipmates.

On 07 Feb, the Chapter held its annual "business" meeting with a full agenda: President's Perspective, Membership Drive, Financial Review, Summer STEM Initiative, Logo Competition, and Future Events.

Under the able leadership of **Bill Caiazza '66** and **John Casey '78**, the Chapter will support the first 2023 local high school STEM event on 11 Feb. Two more are planned in March. Details in next *Shipmate*.

The 4th Dark Ages Dinner was Saturday, 11 March in the Ballroom at the Cape Fear Country Club. This event celebrates our common Academy experience between the December Holiday Leave and Spring Break with an evening of tasty food, chilled libations, a round of "Plebe professional questions," and embellished sea stories. The Uniform of the Night is tux or coat and tie with mini-medals for members and cocktail dresses for spouses and SOs.

Big Navy is coming to Wilmington 16-20 April for Navy Week. We are standing by to host a supportive event and very fortunate to have Captain **Anne Leanos '98**, USNR, serve as our liaison. Go Navy!

The Chapter's 2023 Calendar of Events is posted on our website: capefearn.usnachapters.net.

Charlotte Chapter

Pres: **Christopher (Nix) M. Nickels '91**
 e: CHRISNIX@AOL.COM
 Email: UsnaaaCharlotte@gmail.com
 Facebook Page: <http://facebook.com/usna-alumni-association-charlotte-251965968210794/>
 Website: Charlotte.usnachapters.net
 LinkedIn Group: <http://linkedin.com/groups/8344487>

Hello Charlotte Chapter: Watch for emails about upcoming chapter events this year: Socials, Golf, Family Picnic, Football Watch gatherings and more!

Event Recap: To close out the year, see the pictures from the Chapter Army/Navy football (2022) watch party at Blackfinn in Ballantyne. Great turnout and fun had by all!

Chapter Officers: Huge BZ and thanks to our outgoing, Chapter Treasurer, **Victor Perez '10** and Board Member, **Jeff Cleary '82**.

Miguel Cintron '86 has been elected as our new Chapter Treasurer. One of three foreign nationals in his class, Miguel didn't have the privilege of serving as a US Navy officer but as a proud Annapolis graduate, has been active in every Alumni chapter where he lived.



Charlotte Chapter



Charlotte Chapter

Miguel had a decorated career in the financial services industry working for numerous fortune 100 companies and managing multibillion-dollar deposit portfolios and its payments products. Welcome Miguel!

Brian Finegold '71 was elected as Chapter Board member. From Dayton, OH, Brian was a Systems Analysis major and varsity gymnast. After graduation, Brian did numerous assignments as a helo and C12 pilot. Post service, Brian had a decorated 25-year career with the FBI where he helped develop the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System and its major upgrade, Next Generation Identification, which included facial and Iris recognition. Welcome Brian!

Chapter Member News: CLT Chapter Board Member Capt. **Michael Kubiniec '83, USN (Ret.)** has been elected to a 4-year term on the Iredell-Statesville Schools (ISS) Board of Education District 5. Iredell County, located just north of Charlotte, NC, consists of 37 schools, 2,700 employees, and 20,000 students, and has seven board-elected members. His main priorities are: 1) Improve the poor performing schools; 2) Develop more innovative solutions to retain and recruit new teachers; 3) Build new schools that are cost effective; and 4) Address ongoing student behavioral issues which are detracting from the learning environment and teacher workplace climate. BZ Capt. K

Adam Kimball '08
CLT Chapter Secretary

Eastern North Carolina Chapter

Pres: **Rob Skrotsky '67**
P.O. Box 847, New Bern, NC 28563
h: 252-514-0299; e: robert.skrotsky@1967.usna.com

Vice Pres: **Rick Kunkel '67**
p: 910-347-6251; e: rkunkel@ec.rr.com

Sec'y: **Tim Marvin '59**
P.O. Box 731, Kure Beach, NC 28449-0731
e: tmarvin738@charter.net

Treas: **Randy Bogle '68**
4308 Periwinkle Pl., New Bern, NC 28562
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Website: <http://myusna.com/topics/9508>
Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/14196247/>

The meeting convened at 1200 26 January at La Rosa's Italian Restaurant in New Bern, NC. Thirty (30) members and their guests were present.

Rob Skrotsky '67, President, began the meeting with a moment of silence and prayer for military personnel who are deployed, their loved ones awaiting their safe return, and for those suffering or grieving.

Randy Bogle '68, Treasurer, reported the bank balance, all bills have been paid and chapter dues are due in January.

Capt. Skrotsky announced that he had formed a nominating committee of two members, **John Kieffer '67**, and **Rick Kunkel '67**, to find a new treasurer and secretary. He asked any members present who are interested to inform him or the nominating committee members.

Rob also noted that the meeting for alumni chapter officers will be held in April in Annapolis. Members who could attend in his stead are request3d to notify him. He also encouraged the members to attend the Freedom Classic next month in Kinston, NC, where the USNA plays USAFA in baseball, one game each day of the last weekend in February. He said he would look into a box for alumni to sit together. He also said that the Founder's Day Dinner for September is in the planning stage. He plans to use the New Bern Country Club.

Rob then introduced the guest speaker, **Jay DeLoach '78**, RADM, USN (Ret.) who is a trustee and the NC state president of the

National Society of the Jay DeLoach '78, Sons of the American Revolution. He gave an interesting audiovisual presentation of activities of the New Burn Chapter, as well as the state chapters.

Jay distributed a leaflet that describes the patriotic features of this organization. He also reviewed the process of becoming a member. This involves tracing one's direct ancestors back to participation in the American Revolution. Accurate identities and dates from one's ancestry are necessary to obtain membership.

After several questions Rob indicated that the next meeting will be at Camp Lejeune on 22 February and will include a discussion of the military working dogs that are trained and kenneled on the base. The meeting adjourned at 1340.

Tim Marvin '59
Secretary

North Carolina Triangle Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Steve Gillespie '87, USN (Ret.)**
e: smgillespie44@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Chris Perrien '74, USN (Ret.)**
e: ibmchris@mac.com

Website: www.usnatriangle.com

Greetings from the Research Triangle Park of North Carolina,

Our Chapter looks forward to Spring weather and Spring events including the resumption of our **Golf Squad's** monthly outings organized by the Chapter's able Golf Rep, **Warren Schultz '71** and hosted by courses throughout the Raleigh-Durham community. And our year began smartly with the 6th consecutive designation as a **Distinguished Chapter** in our proud alumni network. We're fortunate to enjoy reliable and enthusiastic support across all 8 of the year-groups represented in our 165 strong membership.



Triangle Chapter families: Julie, Reece & Mik Visgauss '08; Meghan, Cecilia & Tommy McNamara 11; Kelly '09 & Brooke Baker

2022 concluded with a return to the to Compass Rose Brewery for a family & pet friendly **Army-Navy Party** with buffet, bounce-house and USNA SWAG raffle. Outstanding Movement Order managed by event OIC, **Brad Osmun '08**. As customary, we circulated the Ammo-Can and collected \$1,600.00

CHAPTER NEWS



Triangle Chapter's Annual Army-Navy Party

for the USO of North Carolina. Great to be together and a good time enjoyed by all. The 120 in attendance included grads: **Paul Stiller '58, George Lipscomb '87, Shaun McAndrew '93, Bill Coleman '95, Lee Huffstetler '00, Grant Smith '06, Emory Miller '07, Brad Osmun '08, Erich DeHart '10, Kim Hanson '09, Elizabeth Hallinan '80, Joe Matza '85, Matthew Minor '07, Daniel Harris '08, Tommy McNamara '11, Anna Kim '27, Robert Adams '73, Kevin Alt '81, Warren Schultz '71, Stan Bashaw '85, Stephen Gillespie '87, Matthew Baker '06, Matt Gieszl '08, Alexander Dworjan '10, Christopher Moreno '12, William Gautier '68, Sankey Blanton '71, Christopher Perrien '74, Thomas M Clemons '82, William Sena '95, Kelly Baker '09, Jonathan Thai '10, Gia DeHart '12, Norman Elliott '58, Perry Taylor '71, Joel Parker '77, Michael McGuire '81, Eric Siebert '93 and Jeff Truitt '93.**

Recognized for the 6th consecutive year as a **Distinguished Chapter** in the USNA AA network, our Triangle Chapter comprises 165+ active members from eight decades of USNA classes, their families and a growing set of supporters (parents, friends, all-Navy veterans and families). To view the schedule of future events, please visit <https://www.usnatriangle.com> or follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/USNAAARTP/>. Linked-in: USNA Alumni Association-Triangle Chapter (USNAAA Triangle).

Piedmont Triad Chapter

Pres: **Tom Cornejo '00**
e: thomas.cornejo@yahoo.com

Sec'y: **Josh Fogle '03**
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North Dakota

Upper Midwest Chapter

See Minnesota

Send *Shipmate* input to: **Nathan CW Smith '98**
e: nathancwsmith@outlook.com

Blue & Gold Area Coordinator: **Mary Plumb**
e: Mary.plumb@yahoo.com



Columbus Chapter: Army-Navy 2022 group - Annual joint Army-Navy Watch Party with Columbus West Point alumni

Ohio

Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Chapter

Pres: **Earle Babcock '74**
p: 513-520-7776
e: earle.babcock@1974@usna.com

Vice Pres: **Gaby Blocher '98**
p: 513-316-5903; e: Gabrielle.Bolton@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Jennifer Yuchasz '98**
e: jen.yuchasz@rhinestahl.com

Chapter Sec'y and *Shipmate* Submissions:
Jon-Michael Pollock '10
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Website: <http://www.usnacinci.org>

BGO Area Coordinator: **Bryan Grubert**
e: bryan.grubert@gmail.com

Cleveland Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Fred W. Bergman '75, USNR (Ret.)**
p: 440-570-3564; e: FWayBergman@aol.com

Sec'y: **John Blackburn '82**
e: joblackburn@clevelandtrack.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **Doug Cabarle**
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Columbus

Pres: **CDR Tony Konecny '79, USN (Ret.)**
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Vice Pres: **Ben Sandman '10**
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Sec'y: **Dave Goins '84**
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Treas: **Jim Waddell '71**
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Shipmate Contact: **CDR Tony Konecny '79, USN (Ret.)**
e: adkonecny79@gmail.com

Chapter email: USNAAACbus@gmail.com

Website: https://columbus_usnachapter.net/

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/100549757152451/>

Twitter: [@USNAAACbus](https://twitter.com/USNAAACbus)

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12356597/>

Instagram: [USNAAACbus](https://www.instagram.com/USNAAACbus)

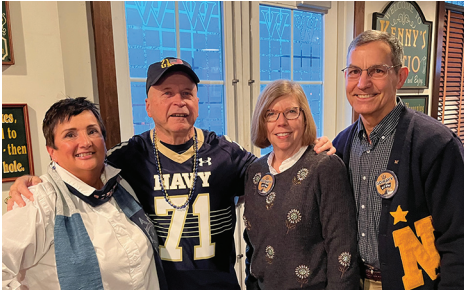
Parents' Club President: **Eric Forrest**
e: Ea4rest@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator:
Carla Dowling-Fitzpatrick
e: dowlingfitzpatrick@sbcgobal.net

By all counts, except the 2-overtime outcome, the joint 2022 **Army - Navy Watch Party** with West Point was a huge success. The former Mids, Woops, family and friends gathered at Wendell's Pub in Westerville to eat, drink, cheer, moan, and badger the rivals. The Navy contingent had the upper hand on attendance, with about 40 total Navy fans. This is the first year in memory that Navy had a bigger showing than West Point. Hats off to all who attended. The Columbus Chapter continues to grow, and it was great to see some new members join us!



Richard Olson '86, Chris Rosen '91



Wayne '71 and Lisa Hallenbeck, Fred '78 and Suzy Lucci



Kevin Johnson '83, Mark Andreas '85, Rich Linhart '97



Tom '70 and Libby Gomia

Toledo Chapter

Pres: CDR Meghan Michael '97, USN (Ret.)
e: meghanmichael@me.com

BGO Area Coordinator: Gregory Zerr
e: gtzerr@gmail.com



Tulsa Chapter:

Oklahoma

BGO Area Coordinator: Mike Whaley
e: mwhaley@ossaa.com

Oklahoma City Chapter

Pres: Jonathan Mason '07
e: jrmason03@gmail.com

Tulsa Chapter

Pres: Rocky Goins '84
e: rockygoins@hotmail.com

Vice Pres: Patrick Hamilton '87
e: patrickhami@gmail.com

Sec'y and Treas: Kasey (Cregge) Carradini '84
e: kcarradini@hotmail.com

Website: <http://tulsa.usnachapters.net/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/USNA-Alumni-Tulsa-Chapter-220243113307009>

Our annual New Year Kick Off at Ricardo's went very well with multiple Midshipman, potential Midshipman and their families participating. Alumni participating this year include (From Left to Right) Rocky Goins '84, George Carradini '84 Shea Ferrell '86, Craig LaGrone '67, Harry Rouse '77, Kasey Carradini '84 and Patrick Hamilton '87.



Members of the Tulsa Chapter will be sponsoring and participating in the local SEAPERCH Challenge where high school, middle school and elementary students will be competing with their homemade underwater robots. The U.S. Naval Academy is one of the sponsors. The event is 25 March from 9 am -4pm. Our Shea Ferrell '81 is involved with the program. Please contact Rock or Shea if you want to support this fun and worthy cause.

Our own Harry Rouse '77 participated with other classmates in the Oklahoma's LINK in the CHAIN at the incoming Midshipman send off, Feb 24. Our chapter has consistently assisted this program in recruiting a leader for this event every year.

Go Navy!

Rocky

Oregon

Oregon and Southwest Washington Chapter

Pres: CDR John Adams '69, USNR (Ret.)
e: john.adams@1969.usna.com

Vice Pres: CDR Mike Carmichael '69, USNR (Ret.)
e: mikec@1969.usna.com

Treas: CDR Ted Scypinski '90, USNR (Ret.)
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National Chapter Trustee:
LtCol Doug Ballard '74, USMCR (Ret.)
e: Cassandra.alpha61@comcast.net

BGO Area Coordinator: Gillian Richards
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Website: oregon.usnachapters.net

Both December and January were very busy months for the chapter.

December saw several Chapter activities. First was the Army-Navy game which we watched with our West Point comrades at Big Als in Beaverton, OR. While the game did not end as planned it was a good time for all. Attending were Mike Carmichael '69 wife Suzie and family, Chris Bizzano '97 and family, Todd Washburn '93, Rich Killian '86, Ted Scypinski '90, Janette Sandburg '96, Mark Springer '89, Seth Chung '10, Jake McMichael '58 and family, Tim Myers '64, Jake Owens '06 and family, Doug Bomarito '68 and guest, Chris Carlson '78, Lee Hall '80, Craig Replogue '02 and family, Jack Kohl '65 and wife Joan, Jim Unger '53, John Adams '69, Mark Cooksey '71 and his wife Susan, and Arlen Aspenson '93 and wife Nicole.

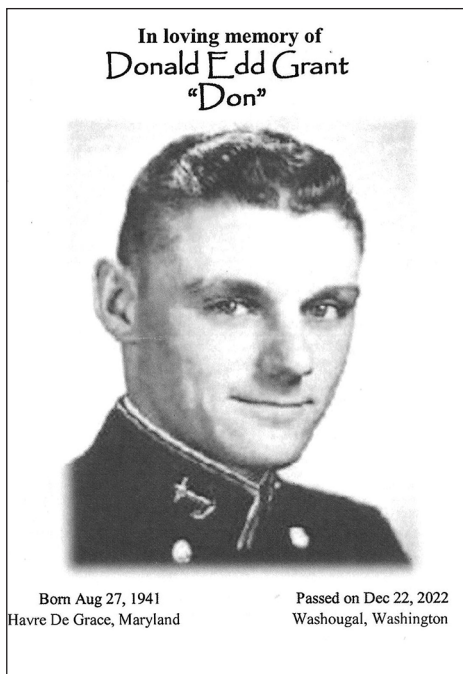
The week following the game we held our December luncheon honoring the "greatest

CHAPTER NEWS

generation”, those participating in WWII and the Korean Conflict. Present were **Mike Carmichael '69**, **Jake McMichael '58** and his wife Dianne, **Mark Cooksey '71** and his wife Susan, **Doug Bomarito '68**, Gregg Swanson USAFA '66, **John Frerichs '50** and his daughter Stacy, **Tim Myers '64**, **Jack Kohl '65**, **Jim Unger '54**, **John Adams '69**, **Doug Ballard '74** and his grandson Chase Odell, **Glen Weeks '65**, **Tex Harkins '67**, **Mark Springer '89**, **Paul Kaus '79**, **Butch Bewick '62**, **Brian Hathaway '89** and his father **Paul Hathaway '57**.

January's luncheon was a purely social time with no speaker or formal program. It was nice to just visit. Attending were **Mike Carmichael '69**, **Doug Ballard '74**, **Doug Bomarito '68**, **Tex Harkins '67**, **John Adams '69**, **Jack Kohl '65**, **Tony Lash VMI '58**, **Lee Hall '80**, **Hod Wells '59**, **Butch Bewick '62** and **Tim Myers '64**.

Sadly, January also had a memorial service for alumni **Donald "Don" Edd Grant USNA '63**. Attending the service were **John Adams '69**, **Mike Carmichael '69**, **Jack Kohl '65**, **Jim Unger '53**, Don's close friend **Joe Broz '62** and former roommate **Peter Soverel '63**. Don's picture is included below.



Donald "Don" Edd Grant '63

Our weekly Zoom happy hours continues to be an excellent forum to keep Chapter activities on track. We plan to continue them. Participating this month included: included **Mike Carmichael '69**, **John Adams '69**, **Doug Ballard '74**, **John Frerichs '50**, **David Lutes '63**,

Janette Sandberg '96, **Tim Myers '64**, **Jack Kohl '65**, **Mark Cooksey '71**, **Ted Scypinski '90**, **Shelley Liscom**, President of the Parents Club.

Pennsylvania

Philadelphia Chapter

Pres: **Rob Bender '73**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **CDR Tim Farrell '76, USN (Ret.)**
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Pittsburgh Chapter

Pres: **Conor McKenzie '06**
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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/usnaaapittsburgh/>

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT David Gates '77, USN (Ret.)**
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Susquehanna Valley Chapter

Pres: **Tim Farrell '76**
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VP: **Rob Gundlach '84**
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Treas: **Jim Nolan '70**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Matt Chabal '77**
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Bill Boniface '72 reports: Those of us who didn't go to Philly enjoyed our chapter's 11th Annual Army-Navy Watch Party at Lancaster Brewing Company in Harrisburg. Among the 22 attendees were host **Bill Boniface '72** and his wife Susan; **Bill Dornsife '66** and his daughter and son-in-law; **Lee Erdman '76** and his wife, Karen; **Dave Kern '80** and his wife Teresa and son (also USNA candidate) Michael; **Scott Sutherland '81** and his wife, Kim; **Matt O'Brien '94** and his wife Rosemary, son Michael, and friend Michael Wojcik; **Rich Olszewski '96** and

wife Patti and daughters Cecelia and Louise; and Kendra and Jim Pfeifer ('19 parents and Central PA USNA Parents Club members). Despite the game's final outcome after two overtimes, a number of attendees thought this was one of the best Army-Navy watch parties we've held over the years. Even having to sing "Navy Blue and Gold" first didn't dampen our spirit.

Our chapter gathers the third Thursday of every month 1630-1900 at Mad Chef Craft Brewing, East Petersburg, PA. Please join us and bring your family and friends with you. Open your own tab and pay only for what you and those you bring with you eat and drink. Our chapter's geographic area is large so if East Petersburg is too far to drive but you'd like to get together with other USNA alumni nearer to where you live please send one of our chapter officers a date, time, and place and we'll communicate it by all means available to us.



Left to right: **Dave Lawrence '76**, **Karen Erdman '76**, **Lee Erdman '76**, **Tim Farrell '76**

Beat Army!

*Tim Farrell '76
Commander, United States Navy, Retired
President, Susquehanna Valley Chapter*



Susquehanna Valley Chapter: Taken 12/10/22 at Lancaster Brewing Harrisburg, PA

Recreational Vehicle

American Chapter

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Treas: **Dale Gange '70**
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Rhode Island

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Rhode Island Chapter

Pres: **Mike O'Sullivan '73**
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Sec'y: **COL Paul Muller '88, USMC (Ret.)**
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South Carolina

BGO Area Coordinator: **Ryan Blacklock**
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Central Savannah River Area

(Aiken, SC; Augusta, GA; and surrounding areas)
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Charleston Chapter

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On Monday, January 16, The Charleston Chapter held its Monthly Meeting.

Our Speaker was Warren Lasch, Friends of the Hunley.

In Attendance were: **Max Hill '51; Fuzzy Knight '53; Jim Flatley '56; Curt Holcomb '61; John Common '64; Frank Bryant '66; Alan Burkhart '67; Roger Paradis '67; Bernie Magdelain '67; Jim Welsch '67; Mike Malone '69; Tom Gillespie '69; Gary Maxwell '69; Steve Weise '72; Jim Beltz '73; George Watt '73; Dave Shimp '76; Dennis Simon '77; Dan Clloyd '79; Rick Stein '82; OP Honors '83; Greg Shore '84; Dan Turbeville '97; and Scott McGinnis '97.**

On Monday, December 19, The Charleston Chapter held its Monthly Meeting.

Our program had several local Veteran Charities speaking on their missions.

In Attendance were: **Max Hill '51; Fuzzy Knight '53; Jim Flatley '56; John Nuernberger '64; Ray Setser '65; Roger Paradis '67; Bernie Magdelain '67; Mike Malone '69;**



USNA Low Country Chapter Army-Navy Watch Party 2022



Low Country Chapter

Charlie Young '70; Rik Dilgren '72; Kirk Donald '75; Dave Shimp '76; Dennis Simon '77; Dan Clloyd '79; Rick Stein '82; Seamus Flatley '83; Jeff Gordon '83; Perry Ramicone '83; John Hortman '90; and Andrew McMarlin '91.

The Charleston Chapter meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 12 Noon in Mount Pleasant. No reservation required.

Low Country Chapter

Pres: **Tom Cavanaugh '69**
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VP: **Dave Igyarto '74**
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Sec'y: **Tim Johnson '02**
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Treas: **John Scanlan '83**
e: ping1@hargray.com

Happy Spring to all from the ACE basin, Port Royal Sound, lower Savannah River, and any other geographic regions of the Low Country chapter I may have left off. If you are thinking of where to spend a vacation this year, come down and see us. If you do, drop us a line if you can make any of our events. The more shipmates the merrier.

At the end of 2022, we had our Army-Navy watch party at R Bar and Grill in Bluffton. It was a hard-fought game with the historic overtimes enjoyed by all. Thanks to Navy football for making

it happen, and we will get Army next year. The cheering section this year included many alumni, friends, family, and parents of alumni including the following USNA grads: Clearwater 1957, Polhill 1958, Green 1977, Weidman 1977, Ogden 1967, Scharnous 1969, Igyarto 1974, Graham 1974, Hallman 1977, Mau 1979, Scanlan 1983, Mangan 1983, Corolla 1983, Corolla 1989, Bennett 1988, Johnson 2002, and Latigo 2016.

We have several events planned for 2023. Our annual luncheon will be on **13 May 2023** at the Callawassie Club on Callawassie Island. This lunch will feature a guest speaker, Distinguished Graduate Admiral **Robert F. Willard '73, USN (Ret.)**. It promises to be an enjoyable day.

Other events upcoming with times and dates TBD include: April will include a lunch and tour of the Burnt Church Distillery in Bluffton; in June or July, we're hoping to arrange a tour and buffet lunch at the Mighty 8th Air Force Museum in Savannah; and we are also planning viewing parties for the Air Force and Army games, as well as flag placements at the graves of Academy graduates in Beaufort National Cemetery on Veteran's Day.

We encourage all members to stay up to date on our events by checking MyUSNA regularly. We also welcome suggestions for future events

CHAPTER NEWS



USNA Low Country Chapter Army-Navy Watch Party 2022

and activities, so don't hesitate to get in touch with us with your ideas (contact our current Pres- **Tom Cavanaugh**: tomcusna69@gmail.com).

More detailed information will be provided as we get closer to each event. We're looking forward to a great year with the Lowcountry Chapter and we hope to see you at our upcoming get-togethers.

(Check out our website <http://slowcountry.usnachapters.net> and our myUSNA.com SC Low Country Chapter group area for updates and additional information as it becomes available)

Palmetto Chapter

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Vice Pres: **Brian Treanor '89**
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Sec'y: **Suzanne Hopper**
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South Carolina Midlands Chapter

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Spain

BGO Area Coordinator: **Wes Trubeville**
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Rota Chapter

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Vice Pres: **Ryan Eilerman '15**

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Sec'y: **Dustin Cunningham '06**

Tennessee

Chattanooga Chapter

Pres: **Casey Turner '01**
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The Chattanooga chapter met at the Signal Mountain Golf & Country Club to watch the annual Army Navy game. While the result was not what we wanted, the company and libation **made up for it!** **Mr. Patrick Mcfadden '86** and his wife **Hallie**, **CAPT Don Drum '72** and his wife **Jane**, **VADM Ron Eytchison '58** and his wife **Patricia**, and **Mr. Casey Turner '01** were there to share in the joy/teeth gnashing woe. Go Navy, Beat Army!



2023 Army Navy game, Chattanooga

Knoxville-Oak Ridge Chapter

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Sec'y-Treas: **Jim Ward '85**
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After two rough years during the COVID pandemic and a recovery year, 2022 was much more to our liking as the Knoxville-Oak Ridge chapter returned to its normal agenda of events. As we discussed in our column in the June edition of *Shipmate*, the Navy Lightweight Crew team joined us once again during the Academy's spring break in mid-March. In typical fashion, our alumni hosted the rowers

of the Class of 2022 for lunch at Calhoun's restaurant near the Clinch River marina where several collegiate rowing teams hold their spring break practices. Midshipman 1/c **Miles Knight '22** was presented the CAPT William Francy award by chapter president **Kristen Daniel '00**. The Lightweights had a very successful season and missed out on repeating as national champions by a tie-breaking procedure that awarded first to Columbia University. Coach Shawn Bagnall has notified the chapter that the team is planning on training in Oak Ridge again this spring, from 11-16 March. Due to multiple elements in the current environment, the crew team will once again not be staying with host families as they did up to the 2020 visit. For various reasons, it is not likely that we will be returning to the host family model in Oak Ridge that the lightweight rowers have enjoyed for almost 25 years. Coach Bagnall said, "There certainly was a time and place for the system we were blessed to be a part of in Oak Ridge, but again, that time has likely passed." Regardless, our chapter is anxiously awaiting the visit of the rowers to mark a quarter of a century practicing on the Clinch River during their spring break.

We honored the incoming class of plebes and their families at our annual picnic in June. Four members of the Class of 2026 were with us and we presented the 2022 RADM Samuel P. Carter award to new graduate 2nd LT **Matthew Williams '22** USMC from Signal Mountain TN. **Scott Goodson** and **Bruce Bevard** represented the **Class of 1976** for the Another Link in the Chain briefing. They were assisted by **Andrew Waldmann '01**; this was the first time that the ALITC Class invited the 25-year senior class to join them.

In October, a group of us met at the appropriately-named Admiral's Pub in Farragut to celebrate the 177th anniversary of the founding of USNA. The chapter has recently included the singing of the last verse of "Navy Blue and Gold" when we conclude each chapter function. The phrase "but still when two or three shall meet and old tales be retold" could not have been more apropos to describe the event.



Celebrating Founders Day at Admiral's Pub

Our last function of the year was the annual gathering with our West Point counterparts for



Knoxville-Oak Ridge Chapter at Rarity Bay Golf Course clubhouse.

the Army-Navy football game. The Woops hosted the activity at the Rarity Bay Golf Course clubhouse. Both sides cheered hard and the game made history as the first overtime game. But we all know the outcome; Navy sang first. Although it was not aired while we were together, Brent Stover of CBS conducted an interview of the three children of our Parent's Club president Paula Treece and husband Tim, MIDN 1/c Elizabeth at USNA, Cadet 2/c Sarah at USAFA, and Cadet 4/c Dylan at USMA. Sarah was at USNA the past semester as part of the cadet/midshipman exchange program. Probably not the first time one family has had a midshipman/cadet to attend each of the three academies, but all at the same time? They each spoke about their love of their country and how they were motivated by their grandfather to follow in his footsteps.



2022 Army-Navy game

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Nashville Chapter

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Texas

Alamo Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Ron A. Sandoval '81, USN**
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 P.O. Box 461564, San Antonio, TX 78246-1564
 e: info@alamogoats.org
 Website: <http://www.alamo.usnachapters.com>
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 BGO Area Coordinator: **Dave Driskell '63**
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The Alamo Chapter enjoyed one of the largest turn-outs in years for the Army game. We gathered at the Flying Saucer as usual. We experienced an unusual situation this year with the attendance of four active candidates for the class of 2027. I'm not sure how the word got out, but I suspect BGO Laura Koerner '97 had something to do with it. I am including several pictures of the event and want to give a special BZ to chapter treasurer Tom Colbourn '68 for his organizing efforts for the event. Speaking of BGOs and candidates, we have some football recruits with this class. I am including a signing day event for recruit Gavin Woods that was attended by BGO Scott Outlaw '86



Alumni with friends at Alamo Chapter '22 ARMY/NAVY game viewing.



Active applicants for class of 2027 at ARMY-NAVY game viewing.



Bill Nash '80 and family at Aemy-Navy game viewing



Football recruit Woods signing Letter of Intent. BGO Outlaw is 2nd from left.

Austin Chapter

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 BGO Area Coordinator: **Dave Driskell '63**
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North Texas Chapter

Director at Large: **Daryl Smith '88**
 Pres: **Jamey Cummings '93**
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 VP of Programs: **Carrie Murdock '99**,
 VP of Membership: **Ty Rose '06**,
 Treasurer: **Greg Colandrea '90**
 Sec'y: **Frankie Delgado '95**
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 BGO Area Coordinator: **Tom Eschenbrenner**
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The dark ages are behind us and that light we see is Spring and the upcoming commissioning of a new class of graduates! As we all prepare to say "Fair Winds" to the class of 2023, in December, the North Texas Alumni welcomed candidates for the classes of 2027 to the annual Blue Chip dinner. There were 285 in attendance this year to hear the Superintendent, VADM **Sean Buck '83**, encourage the prospects and hand delivering appointments to a select few. This year's dinner was filled with distinguished visitors, the Commandant of Midshipman, CEO of the Alumni Association, the Dean of Admissions along with 11 area Blue and Gold officers.

CHAPTER NEWS



VADM Buck '81 delivers appointments to select candidates



Midshipmen lead the dinner attendees in Navy Blue & Gold

As always, the North Texas Parent's Club played an integral role in the evening's success, the Midshipmen home on leave served as the best ambassadors with their tales and candid discussions with the candidates. (A special thanks to Ownbey Photography for their support with this year's great photos!)

In January, the chapter was treated to a presentation by newly selected 2023 Distinguished Graduate recipient, **Ron Nicol '75**. The North Texas Alumni are very proud to have one of our own recognized with this tremendous achievement. Last, as we close out the Spring, the Chapter continues its migration to the new website and system. We encourage all members to make sure their USNA Alumni accounts are current to help ease the transition and avoid disruption of information flow. Please check the site for upcoming events to include our '27 welcome aboard lunch in June!

Texas Gulf Coast Chapter

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Vice Pres: **Jordan Mack '08**

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Treas: **Rich Bulger '69**
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United Kingdom

BGO Area Coordinator: **Wes Turbeville '01**
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United Kingdom Chapter

Pres: **Tim Fox '97**
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Vice Pres: **Cody Nissen '11**
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Sec'y: **Lisa Aszklar (Wife, Henry '81)**
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Board of Directors: **Tony Cox '89**
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Chris Robinson '98
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Greetings from London, where Spring has finally arrived after what seems like an interminably long winter!

The UK Chapter was pleased to once again host the annual Army-Navy Game Watch party in December, and although Navy lost by only a hair, it certainly wasn't for lack of spirit on our part.

Almost 65 alumni representing both service academies gathered at the Leake Street branch of Passyunk Avenue, near Waterloo Station (home of the best Philly cheesesteak this side of the Atlantic) to cheer on their respective teams in this time-honored rivalry, held on 10 December (Although the game will not return to Philadelphia until 2027, the UK Chapter always will be right here, backing the Mids!)



Members of the Class of '22, all recipients of scholarships to study at top UK universities after graduation, held a mini reunion of sorts as they cheered on their alma mater.



UK Chapter President Tim Fox '97 and Sarah Rollins '98 showed their team spirit.



Brian King '89, Jackie King, and Tony Cox '89 took the opportunity to catch up on class news.

Ahead in 2023, the UK Chapter looks forward to hosting the various groups of midshipmen on LRECs and graduate study look-see trips, and we're always open to meeting up with alumni passing through The Greatest City in the Western World (that's London, in case there was any doubt!).

Until next time, BEAT ARMY!

Utah

Intermountain Alumni Chapter

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Treas: **Mike Hester '69**
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Sec'y **Tabetha Moesinger '91**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Darrin Briggs '03**
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Central Virginia Chapter

Virginia

Central Virginia Chapter

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Vice Pres: **Ty Schieber '87**
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Sec'y: **Ed Borger '80**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Don Aldridge**
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ARMY NAVY GAME WATCH

The Central Virginia Chapter gathered at The Center at Belvedere to watch the game with other veterans from the Charlottesville community this year.



Army pushups.

We had a robust turnout, especially from the Class of '70, with 22 members and spouses, including: **Doug Zanzot '63**, Deanie and Alex Rucker, VT '65, Zen and **Jay Potter '68**, Ellen and **Tom Shields '70**, Mary and **Joe Nadolski '74**, **Gary Jones '75**, **Jeff Bust '75**, **Mike McDermott '75**, Diane and **Chris Cikanovich '75**, Terry and **Mark Metcalf '76**, Janice and **Russ Pope '76**, Blythe and **Charlie Watkins '77**, **Bill Murray '83** and **Ty Gallander '90**.

Despite the outcome, our band showed the NAVY flag well by mounting the stage and rendering 34 pushups by the end of the first overtime - and we were poised to press another 24 - when hopes were dashed by the fumble on the goal line. Our prone prowess (with **Zanzot '63** center-stage) WAY exceeded ARMY's, who could only muster one person to do push-ups, and even that took some cajoling.

Thanks to our hosts at The Center, and the sponsors (SKV Group and Gratitude Charlottesville), we enjoyed non-alcoholic beverages and good eats from Mission BBQ and Marco's Pizza, along with BYO beer and wine. And no one was injured, hospitalized, arrested or put on report.

Farewell, Godspeed and Thanks to Ken Niumatalolo for a mostly GREAT 15-year run. Hail to Brian Newberry and BEAT ARMY!

Bill Murray '83.

Hampton Roads Chapter

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Website: www.usnahamptonroads.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/USNAHamptonRoads>

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR David Lannetti '81, USN (Ret.)**
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Once again, the place to be to watch the Army-Navy game in Hampton Roads was Shorebreak Pizza in Virginia Beach! Although the Mids suffered a heartbreaking defeat, about 350 spirited Navy fans enjoyed camaraderie, great food, and liquid refreshments at a gala bash orchestrated by dedicated planners and doers, including Events Chair **Al Ponessa '68**, Chapter Prez **Renee Reedy '81**, **Dick Enderly '71**, **Steve Nimitz '76**, **Rob Aeschbach '90**, **Shalimar Brazier '04**, **Ken Marks '71**, **Vince Bowhens '85** and **Ted Digges '85**.



Smile and say, Go Navy! Beat Army!



(L to R) Ted Digges '85 and wife Lisa, Bruce Hacker '85, and Renee Reedy '81 at Hampton Roads party.



Despite the outcome Army-Navy partiers were happy in Hampton Roads.

In conjunction with the party, a very successful silent auction featuring 71 donated items raised over \$4,000, much of which will support three of the Supe's priority programs NASS, STEM, and the International Program! Many attendees also stepped to support the USMC Toys for Tots Program with lots of toys and cash donations! And the week prior to the game, the local CBS affiliate aired a great piece that included interviews with local former Navy players



Hampton Roads Army-Navy Party partygoers also took it outside.

CHAPTER NEWS

Shalimar Brazier '04, Shun White '09, LaVaughn Kelley '05 and Derek Peterson '99.

On 26 January the Dark Ages got a lot brighter with a terrific Happy Hour at the Yard House in Virginia Beach Town Center. And the plan is to keep the good times rolling with monthly happy hours in various Norfolk, Chesapeake, Virginia Beach, and Suffolk venues.



(L to R) Bob Gradel '84 and wife Marybeth, Bill Lee '74, Christy Cowan '95, and Matt Murphy '95 celebrate at Hampton Roads Dark Ages Happy Hour.

Our December Networking Breakfast featured a presentation by Marc Davis, the Sports Director at the aforementioned CBS affiliate, WTKR. To kick off 2023, our January speaker was **Vince Bowhlers '85** who highlighted Lynnhaven River Now and other non-profit organizations working on local water quality and conservation issues; and in February we heard from Rick O'Rawe, FLTCM, USN (Ret.), the Director, Norfolk Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society.

To get all the latest news on future Chapter initiatives and events, as well as USNA news and updates, be sure to check out our website under the Hampton Roads Group at myUSNA.com. And don't forget our LinkedIn and Facebook pages!

Dick Enderly '71

Quantico Area Chapter

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Vice-President: **George Williams '87**
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Treas: **Ron Diefenbach '00**
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Sec'y: **Nancy Springer '87**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Jim Ripley '74**
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Website: <http://quantico.usnachapters.net>

Quantico Area Chapter (QAC) remained active as we ushered out 2022 and welcomed the New Year! On 2 December, 22 QAC members gathered for the year's final installment of our breakfast speaker series. Our guest was VADM **John Fuller '87**, USN, the 42nd Naval Inspector General who gave a very interesting talk about the position's history and mission, and his intent to operationally orient the office. Priority areas for fiscal year 23 include TRICARE, logistics, and cyber resiliency special assessments.



December's breakfast speaker, VADM John Fuller '87, USN.

The next day, a few Chapter members braved the rainy weather and participated in the annual Sgt Mac Foundation wreath laying at the Quantico National Cemetery. This organization memorializes Marine Sergeant John McColley, who perished in 2006 in an aircraft mishap off the coast of Djibouti. QAC has supported this event for the last several years.

The following week, on 10 December, the Chapter hosted its 6th Annual Army-Navy Game Watch party at The Basic School, Quantico, VA. Though the final score was not to our liking, we still enjoyed the opportunity to gather and tell old tales with 100 new officers, Chapter members and their families and friends. Also in December, USNAAA named QAC a Distinguished Chapter for the fourth time in the past five years!

With the Navy football season now behind us, we greeted the new year with our monthly breakfast on 6 January. LtGen **John Wissler '78**, USMC (Ret.), the Distinguished Leadership Chair at the Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership was our first guest of 2023. He gave a very compelling talk to 17 Chapter Members



Quantico Area Chapter: Are You Ready for Some Football?

and one family member, complemented by several stories that illustrated his theme of transforming Midshipmen into ethical warriors.

Eager to continue supporting Navy sports, seven Chapter Members and families gathered at The 6 Bears and A Goat Brewing Company on 21 January to enjoy some camaraderie and watch Navy BEAT Army! The Navy men won their game, while, unfortunately, the women's team fell short.

All area (and visiting) alumni are welcome at Chapter events! Please check the webpage and Facebook site for more information. Also, QAC is actively recruiting members from the 202x decade. Come join us and add your unique perspective to the Chapter! For more information, please contact President **Robin Dreeke '92** at rdreeke@gmail.com.

Richmond Chapter

Pres: **Jeff Brown '84**

e:

Sec'y: **Pete Hayden '97**

e:

Website: <http://richmond.usnachapters.net>

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR David Lannetti '81, USN (Ret.)**

The Richmond Chapter just finished our election cycle and I'm pleased to announce our newest Chapter Officers:

President - **Jeff Brown '84**

Vice President - **Matt Laser '97**

Secretary - **Pete Hayden '97**

Treasurer - **Dave Sanders '90**

At Large - **Brook Schurman '83**

At Large - **Ed Lehre '69**

Shenandoah Valley Chapter

Pres: **David McLellan '73**

p: 540-722-2060; e: dcmlmd@earthlink.net

Sec'y: **LCDR Grayson Redford '63, USN (Ret.)**

p: 540-662-6142

BGO Area Coordinator: **Jim Ripley '74**

e: james.m.ripley@gmail.com

Virginia Peninsula Chapter

(formerly the Williamsburg Chapter)

Pres: **Kathleen Jabs '88**

e: kjabs@aol.com

e: vепенinsulachapterusna@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Rick Yasky '78**

e: rickyasky@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR David Lannetti '81, USN (Ret.)**

p: 757-423-8602; e: dlannetti81@gmail.com

Website: vепенinsula.usnachapters.net

Chapter dues are \$20 a year and nametags (optional) are \$12.

Dues and Contributions:

Send your checks to our treasurer:

USNAAA VA Peninsula

c/o Gary Carlile

3724 Mesa River

Williamsburg, VA 23188

Chapter Dues are primarily in support of Chapter events and support for USNA STEM and Summer Seminar participation by VA Peninsula high school students.

December 2023 Activities

On 10 December, the Virginia Peninsula Chapter and family members met at Williamsburg's Revolution Sports Bar for the annual Army-Navy football game.

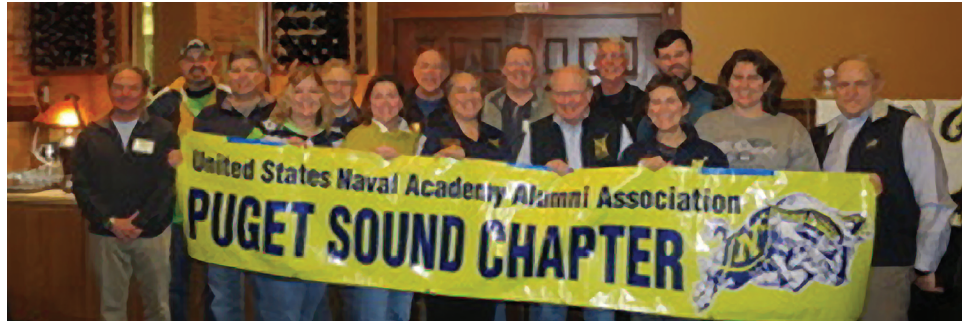


Rosemary Jasper, Steve Jasper '74, Rich Johnson '74, and Sarah Johnson at the Army-Navy party.



Lou Nordstrom (USNA supporter), Howard Russell '71, Meredith Russell, and Virginia Nordstrom at the A-N party.

The Chapter supported a visit to USNA on 14 December 2022, by the Marine Corps Junior ROTC of Phoebus High School, Hampton, VA. 14 Cadets went on an all-day Annapolis excursion. They received a video presentation, a briefing from the Admissions Office, and a walking tour of the yard with 2 recent USMC grads.



Puget Sound Chapter



Puget Sound Cruise PSC Leadership Meeting PSC Leadership Meeting.

Future Activities

We are in the planning stage of our annual spring wine-tasting event on 29 April, at Mo & Sandi Gauthier's '69 Vineyard in New Kent County and our annual Alumni Picnic in June at The Beaches at Capital Landing, the Spence Witten's family estate. All Navy alumni, family, and significant others are welcome at all our events. If you aren't on our email list, please send us a note at vепенinsulachapterusna@gmail.com and we will notify you about upcoming luncheons and other events.

Joint Service Academy

Small Business Development

On the 2nd Wednesday of each month, the Joint Service Academy Small Business - Business Development Forum meetings are held locally. Last May we started meeting in person and guests were able to join via Zoom. **Mike Ohlhaber '75** is the host of these Contact **Ben Francisco** <roger.benton.francisco@gmail.com> if you are interested in learning about this group or desire to attend meetings.

If you live on the Virginia Peninsula and are interested in joining our chapter, please contact Kathleen Jabs, our chapter president, to be welcomed and put on our email list. If you know of other USNA grads in the area who might be interested in joining us, please let us know and pass along their contact information. The hospitality committee will contact them and add them to our email list.

Washington

BGO Area Coordinator: **Darin Perrine**
e: dperrine@mailbox.org

Hanford/Tri-Cities Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Edward Schwier '69, USN (Ret.)**

1196 Brentwood Ave., Richland, WA 99352-8540

h: 509-627-7288; w: 509-372-0176

e: Edward_G_Ed_Schwier@rl.gov; eschwier@charter.net; egschwier@aol.com

Website: <http://hanford.usnachapters.com>

Puget Sound Chapter

Pres: **Linda Postenrieder '82**

e: usnaaa.psc@gmail.com

Corr Sec'y: **George Windsor '75**

e: gbwindsor@icloud.com

Website: <https://myusna.com/topics/9554>

The PSC joined in the fun on a cruise of Puget Sound with the WA State Parents Club and their Midshipmen who were home for the holidays. Though it was in the midst of the December snowstorm, many made the trip for a very fun night.

The new PSC leadership team officially took command on Saturday, 14 January in Everett, WA. Alan Schrader '92 is the new President. Alan is an exceptional addition with his vast experience in the Puget Sound area, including Commanding Officer of Naval Base Kitsap. Joining Alan and the rest of the existing team are Rick Snyder '77, Pete Hoffman '82 and Ryan Scott '01.

CHAPTER NEWS

The PSC Plebe Welcome will be on Saturday, 3 June this year. If you are interested in attending to welcome the '27 appointees, please contact us at usnaaa.psc@gmail.com.



Washington, DC Area

Greater Washington Chapter

Pres: **Luis Martinez '01**

e: president@usnagwc.org

Vice Pres: **Anthony Calandra '88**

e: vicepresident@usnagwc.org

Sec'y: **Alexis Opferman '17**

e: secretary@usnagwc.org

Treas: **Chris Georgi '96**

e: treasurer@usnagwc.org

Outreach and Engagement: **Heidi Lenzini '95**

e: outreach@usnagwc.org

Diversity and Inclusion: **Alberto Ramos '10**

e: diversity@usnagwc.org

Trustee: **Fred Latrash '87**

e: trustee@usnagwc.org

Website: www.usnagwc.org

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Jim Ripleye: (Ret.)**

Shipmates,

2023 is starting off with plenty to celebrate! As this column hits your mailboxes, our plans will be set for the chapter picnic to include our members, as well as our incoming area midshipmen (Class of '27) and families! Check out our social media for more information. If you haven't renewed your membership yet, check out our website (recently migrated onto HiveBrite!) and ensure your profile is also updated on MyUSNA. You should be getting emails from USNAAA that shares information across our extensive alumni network!

CHAPTER SECRETARY COLUMN DEADLINES

Send to: chapternews@usna.com

2023

ISSUE:	DUE DATE:
June '23	30 Mar '23
July-August '23	30 May '23
September '23	29 June '23
October '23	27 July '23
November-December '23	28 Sept '23

Due to popular demand, we revived our distinguished speaker series with our first event in March - Navy Astronaut **Robert D. Cabana '71**, NASA's associate administrator, its third highest-ranking executive and highest-ranking civil servant. Before taking that position, Cabana was director of NASA's John F. Kennedy Space Center in Florida. More details will be provided in the next column; we are always open to recommendations for additional guest speakers.

We will continue to hold networking events, support local STEM efforts to assist students, as well as post job fairs. Don't forget the Service Academy Career Conference in May, and the Joint Service Academy Business Network meets every month in a variety of locations around the DMV (DC, MD, and VA) - find out more on our social media!

The **Annual Service Academy Golf Tournament** has been hosted in July for several years and we anticipate the same for 2023. We will keep you posted on the details as planning for the event continues.

If you haven't already, please join our Facebook and LinkedIn pages for info about the chapter, USNA, and the Navy!

Go Navy! Beat Army!

*Semper Fidelis,
Luis Martinez, USNA '01
President, USNA GWC*

Wisconsin

BGO Area Coordinator: **Mr. Leonard Green**

e: leonard.green.a@gmail.com

Wisconsin Chapter

Pres: **Timothy Mahoney '10**

e: mahoney@2010.usna.com

At Large: **Chris Adams '75**

p: 414-553-0982

Website: <http://wisconsin.usnachapters.net/>

WISNAPA Co Presidents: **Andy and Laura Kittleson**

e: kittleson5@yahoo.com

Website: <http://wisconsin.usnaparents.net/>

BGO Area Coordinator: **Mr. Leonard Green**

e: leonard.green.a@gmail.com

United States Congressman Scott L. Fitzgerald (5th District, WI) presided over a Service Academy Certificate Ceremony honoring the

students that he selected on the recommendation of his Service Academy Nomination Advisory (SANA) Board as the principal and (first) alternate nominees to the U.S. Service Academies. The SANA Board makes recommendations to the Congressman so that he may select the best and brightest of Wisconsin's youth to represent Wisconsin's Fifth Congressional District at the Academies.

Congressman Fitzgerald's Ceremony was held at Saint John's Northwestern Military Academy in Delafield, WI on 15 January 2022, at 9:30 am. Several Wisconsin Alumni and Parents serve as members of the SANA board, recommending candidates for the seafaring Academies. The Congressman's official press release for the event may be found at:

<https://fitzgerald.house.gov/media/press-releases/rep-fitzgerald-honors-service-academy-nominees>



From left to right: Mark Germano, SANA Board Member, US Naval Academy Blue and Gold Officer, and father of LCDR Jessica Germano '10, Navy Instructor Pilot, USNA; Mark Johnson '82; SANA Board Member, Master Lock Company, and William Kopatich, from Sussex, WI attending Arrowhead High School, appointed to USMMA and an Alternate nominee for USNA; Ava Ulatowski, from Sussex, WI and attending Arrowhead High School, Primary Nominee for USNA; Congressman Scott L. Fitzgerald (LtCol, USAR (Ret.)); Commander Robert R. Grasse, USN (Ret.), SANA Board Member, US Naval Academy Blue and Gold Officer, Astronautics Corporation of America, and USNA '88.

SHARED INTEREST GROUPS



2023 U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI LEADERSHIP FORUM

SAVE *the* DATE

APR 28-29, 2023

“Strengthening Our Competitive Advantage Through Inclusive Leadership”

More details at www.usnama.com

NAMA

Pres: **RADM Julius S. Caesar '77, USN (Ret.)**
e: executive-director@usnama.com

Vice Pres: **LCDR Valerie Mansfield '92, USN (Ret.)**
e: deputy-director@usnama.com

CoS: **CDR Calvin Bumphus '97, USN (Ret.)**
e: chief-of-staff@usnama.com

Treas: **C.J. Willis '75**
e: treasurer@usnama.com

BGO Coordinator: **Nikki Betz '05**
e: bgo@usnama.com

Shipmate Contact: **LCDR Jessica Anderson '08, USN**
e: communications@usnama.com

Website: www.usnama.com

EVENTS

Upcoming Events:

The 2023 USNA Alumni Leadership Forum — April 28-29, 2023 is quickly approaching! The two-day Alumni Leadership Symposium theme is “Strengthening Our Competitive Advantage Through Inclusive Leadership”. The black-tie Saturday evening Gala Dinner theme is “Celebrating Hispanic Achievement at USNA and the Naval Service”. All Alumni are welcome!

Interested in volunteering? Let us know! Registration information will be available via email and social media. NAMA will continue to offer online sessions to help answer questions about finance, career progression, FITREPS, home buying, and more in the coming months. NAMA offers a multitude of resources and is an excellent way to GIVE BACK to the institution

that shaped us into the leaders we are today and in the future. Join NAMA today and get involved! We look forward to seeing what great work we can do together!

Past Events:

We started 2023 by actively planning the 2023 event and supporting the Brigade. NAMA attended the USNA Black History Month Banquet and hosted a “Kickback in the Mac” event in February.

NAMA partnered with the Naval Academy Foundation to establish the Naval Academy Minority Affairs Fund (NAMAF). Your donations support: on-campus visits for students and Centers of Influence, scholarship funding for STEM and NASS, Gospel Choir travel, and Midshipman activities.

Follow these steps to contribute today:

1. Visit usna.com/give or follow direction on the NAMA website
2. Select the dollar amount you would like to contribute.
3. In the “I would like my money to go to” box, select “Other”.
4. Type in Naval Academy Minority Affairs Fund.
5. Enter your donor information and click “Next”

Direction are on our website <https://www.usnama.com/donation-selection/>

NESA

Pres: **ADM John Richardson USN (Ret.)**

Vice Pres: **CAPT Sarah Rice '97, USN [Sel.]**

Sec'y: **CDR Renee Reedy '81 USN (Ret.)**

Run to Honor

Pres: **Steve Swift '87**

p: 813-787-6098

e: president@runtohonor.com

Treas: **Jan Kennedy**

Sister of **John Kennedy '79**

e: treasurer@runtohonor.com

Sec'y: **Shannon Webb '04**

e: secretary@runtohonor.com

Website: www.runtohonor.com

Looking for a way to support, remember, and honor our fallen alumni? Please join us! RuN* to Honor is looking for volunteers to help organize and support current events as well as develop new memorial events. Preserving the legacy of those in Memorial Hall is RTH's mission and running is not the only way to do so.

If you'd like to join a RTH committee, contact the committee leads listed with the events.

RTH is looking to identify “lost” families of our fallen shipmates. The Naval Academy owes so much to these families, but we only have contact information for a small fraction of them. Help us get in contact with “lost” families so they can be included in USNA events. Email Pat McConnell '02 at vp@runtohonor.com to support our efforts.



David Wayland finished the Big Bend Ultra 30K in honor of his son Patrick Wayland '10.

The colder weather months have not stopped our RuN* To Honor community. Supporters have been active across the country honoring our fallen alumni in various ways. David Wayland, Gold Star Family Member, ran the Big Bend Ultra 30K on 15 January 2023 honoring his son **Patrick Wayland '10**. Also on the 15th, **Steve Swift '87**, swam across Tampa Bay during the Frogman Swim in support of the Navy SEAL Foundation, honoring LT Brendan Looney '04 and CDR Brian Bourgeois '01.

SHARED INTEREST GROUPS

As outdoor activities begin to ramp up, we hope to see you at other upcoming 2023 events:

Memorial Day RuN To Honor 27-29 May

-Committee Leads: **Steve Swift '87**,
president@runtohonor.com, & **Danielle Beier**

'10, comms@runtohonor.com, for more information or to host an event in your area

*Memorial Day Reading of Names (Live reading of names listed in Memorial Hall)

-Committee Leads: **Pat McConnell '02**,
vp@runtohonor.com, & Jan Kennedy,
treasurer@runtohonor.com

*Honor Our Fallen Heroes in Annapolis, MD Fall 2023 (date TBD) (Memorial Hall service, other activities around a home football game)

-Committee Leads: **Shannon Webb '04**,
secretary@runtohonor.com and **Alexa Hunter '04**,
gear@runtohonor.com

* 48th MCM, MCM10K, & MCM50K in Washington D.C. Oct 27-29 (Shindig, run, cheer)

-Committee Lead: Steve Swift '87,
president@runtohonor.com

More information about these events will be posted on our website and social network pages listed below.

Follow and share with us at: www.facebook.com/runtohonor.

Sign up for our email list at: www.runtohonor.com/mailling-list/.

Learn the stories behind the names in Memorial Hall at: www.usnamemorialhall.org

Find RTH gear at:
http://honor_bigcartel.com

To Honor!

USNA Pride

Pres: **Christopher Goodale '17**

Vice Pres: **Isabel Krause '17**

Sec'y: **Ally Annick '20**

Treas: **Lucas Beltran '20**

Outreach Officer: **Adam Schuman '08**

The USNA Pride SIG was officially established in October of 2022, and we are excited and ready to welcome any alumni who identify as LGBTQ+ or Allies into our community!

Throughout the U.S. Naval Academy's storied history, many alumni who identify as members of the LGBTQ+ community, and their allies, have served with distinction in positions of command, citizenship, and government. This SIG shall serve to create a bond of community among USNA LGBTQ+ alumni and allies, serve as a platform for LGBTQ+ representation within the broader USNA alumni network, and establish

a network of mentorship and support for LGBTQ+ alumni and for current LGBTQ+ midshipmen as they prepare to commission.

Many LGBTQ+ alumni have had varied experiences relating to our LGBTQ+ identity. The USNA Pride SIG recognizes the pain and struggle that some LGBTQ+ alumni may have endured while at the Academy or while serving our nation. With a focus on the future, the USNA Pride SIG aims to celebrate both our LGBTQ+ identities and our service. The USNA Pride SIG stands ready to acknowledge and listen to the personal stories of our members in a positive and productive way.

Our core values of Inclusivity, Positivity, Character, and Community will assist us in building a SIG that recognizes the struggles and celebrates the accomplishments of our past and our future.

You can join us by requesting to join the "SIG - USNA PRIDE" Group on myUSNA, or you can email usnapride@gmail.com for more information.

USNA Women

Pres: **RADM Alma Grocki '81, USN (Ret)**
p: 808-343-1523; e: alma.grocki@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Col Maria Pallotta '94, USMC**
p: 410-440-7552; e: pallotta@usna.edu

Sec'y: **Dr. Rhonda Scott '97**
p: 240-462-0707; e: rhondabscott@gmail.com

Website: <https://women.usnagroups.net>

Congratulations! Members of the Women's Shared Interest Group (WSIG) and Friends greatly exceeded our fundraising goal of \$250,000 for a naming opportunity in support of the new Alumni Association building. Thank you to all who designated their contributions to the WSIG!

Membership of the Women's Shared Interest Group (WSIG) is open to anyone interested in issues involving women who have attended USNA. This includes classmates, parents, and friends of women midshipmen and women in the military, as well as veterans no longer in the service. Join us!

Look for many more WSIG events, stories, and other ways to participate this year.

Please contact us at ideas@usnawsig.com if you have:

*Recommendations for educational, mentoring events or STEM Fireside Chat speakers.

*Any recommendations for alumnae "her"-stories or would like to help write or contribute

stories that can be shared throughout the year on Alumni Association communication channels.

*Recommendations for other events, in-person and virtual.

In January, we kicked off the STEM Fireside Chats with **Anne Gibbon '03** and **Sean Lavelle '13** in a discussion about using artificial intelligence to better manage and analyze data. We also hosted a continuation of the Financial Wellness Seminar 13-part series by **Maureen Kane '08**. The January session discussed the nuts and bolts of stocks. Look for future announcements of sessions on different financial topics.

As we enter into Women's History month (March) and Sexual Assault Awareness month (April), we reflect on the need to tell our stories and assist survivors. Last October, the WSIG, led by Stef Goebel and a team of dedicated health-care professionals, held its first, extremely successful, Sexual Assault Survivors Retreat. It was a 6-hour zoom session attended by over 50 alumnae, and included a powerful variety of training presentations, breakout sessions, and personal sharing. Professionals with the experience and skills to aid in healing were present.

The next Survivor Retreat will be held on 21 October 2023. So that more alumnae and alumni survivors can access the material shared in the Survivor Retreat the team will offer quarterly webinars replicating the Retreat's content. Alumnae who would like more information about this important program can contact Stef Goebel '80 <survivor@usnawsig.org>. Men who would like to chat with a man concerning this topic may reach out to Wyman Winbush '82 at <wyman@wymanwinbush.com>.

Here is a calendar of events related to Sexual Assault Awareness and survivorship (details will be published to the myUSNA.com WSIG group site):

2023 Survivor Webinar Series (all on Zoom)
Webinar #1 TUES **28 February** 2023 at 7 - 8:30 pm Eastern. Understanding the Impact of MST on Body, Mind and Spirit.

Webinar #2 TUES **23 May** 2023

Webinar #3 TUES **29 August** 2023

Webinar #4 TUES **28 November** 2023

The WSIG will hold an Annual Meeting in April 2023. If you have not gotten the details, please go to the WSIG site:

<https://myusna.com/topics/9176/events> or contact the WSIG at info@usnawsig.com.

LAST CALL

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them." —Laurence Binyon, 1914

Charles Fredric Merz '43
Col, USAF (Ret.)
7 January 2019

Richard Hill DuBois '44
25 March 2018

John William Cox '45
CDR, USN (Ret.)
13 December 2022

Charles Dickson Jewell Jr. '45
LT, USNR (Ret.)
8 October 2018

Arnold Paul Sorenson '45
12 January 2022

Michael Bernard Elliott '46
Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)
6 September 2021

Victor Reid Gullatt '46
4 January 2020

Jerry David Heath '46
22 December 2022

Byron Neaves Bettis '47
31 January 2023

William Thomas Kelleher '47
8 January 2023

Richard Dana McNeil '47
29 December 2022

Joseph Daniel Costello '48
21 December 2022

Charles Christian Heid Jr. '48 ■
RADM, CEC, USN (Ret.)
20 December 2022

Boyd Berkeley Sibert Jr. '48
25 January 2023

Henry Brock Barkley Jr. '49
11 January 2023

Edward Samuel Briggs '49 ■
VADM, USN (Ret.)
22 November 2022

John Michael Donlon '49
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
26 December 2022

George Artrey Gomperts Jr. '49
19 December 2022

Alexander Dingwall Thomson '49
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
19 January 2023

Henry George Hiatt Jr. '50
26 November 2022

Creighton Robert Knutson '50
LCDR, USNR (Ret.)
28 January 2023

Arthur Lee Pleasants III '50
CDR, USNR (Ret.)
22 August 2022

Edmund Tyler Wooldridge Jr. '50
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
17 January 2023

Eugene Michael Avallone Sr. '52
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
30 January 2023

Robert Sipp Denbigh Jr. '52
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
21 December 2022

John McClellan Langford '52 ■
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
27 January 2023

Guy Bryan Townsend '52
CDR, USNR (Ret.)
7 January 2023

Barrie Bliss Locke '53
CDR, USN (Ret.)
30 January 2023

Robert Eugene Reid '53
30 December 2022

Edward Tyler Scott '53
CDR, USN (Ret.)
7 December 2022

Ronald Emory Finch '54
Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)
11 December 2022

Thomas Blackburn Hudgins '54 ■
CDR, USN (Ret.)
30 March 2018

David Stephen Kruger '54
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
10 January 2023

Kenneth Harold Moyer '54 ■
5 January 2023

John Walter Rigtterink '54
21 January 2023

Lawrence Grant Russ '54
Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)
23 January 2023

Charles Griggs Wheeler '54
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
26 December 2022

F. Daniels Butterfield '55
11 January 2023

Lee Donald Harmony Jr. '55 ■
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
31 December 2022

John Burton Haynes '55 ■
CAPT, USNR (Ret.)
6 November 2022

John Lafayette Johnson III '55
16 January 2023

John Clark Weaver '55 ■
RADM, USN (Ret.)
5 January 2023

Julian Lowell Coolidge II '56
CDR, USNR
24 November 2022

John Henry Kirkpatrick '56 ■
RADM, USN (Ret.)
14 December 2022

Herbert Elwood Miller '56
29 December 2022

Mark Anthony O'Hara Jr. '56 ■
14 December 2022

Clarence Robert Perry '56 ■
LtCol, USMC (Ret.)
7 January 2023

William Bower Cox '57
17 December 2022

Arden Charles Llewellyn Jr. '57
Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)
17 January 2023

David Brant McGuigan '57
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
31 January 2023

Roger Dixon Rothwell '57
Col, USAF (Ret.)
19 January 2023

John Walter Russell '57
23 December 2022

Frederick Norfleet Steiner '57
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
29 January 2023

Floyd Ronald Stuart '57 ■
Col, USAF (Ret.)
9 January 2023

Donald Frederick Swenor '57
10 January 2023

Charles Joseph Korzinek '58
23 January 2023

Clyde Cecil Morris '58 ■
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
14 January 2023

William Fulton Omberg '58
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
18 January 2023

Vincent Andrew Panaia '58
31 December 2022

John Joseph Seeberger '58 ■
CDR, USN (Ret.)
23 December 2022

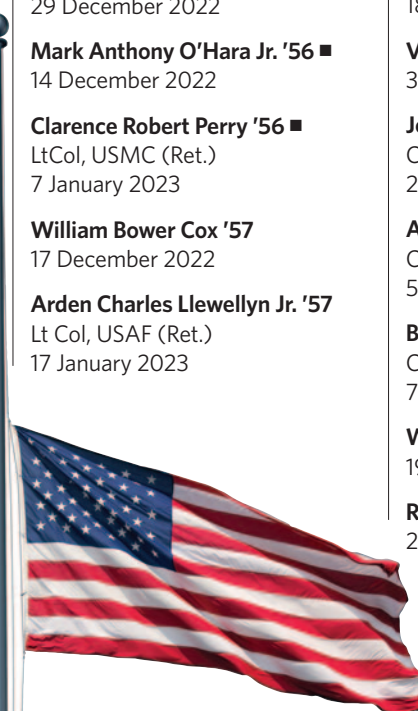
Arnold Robin Battaglini '59
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
5 January 2023

Bruce Gary Brown '59
Col, USMC (Ret.)
7 January 2023

Wade Leon Davis '59
19 December 2022

Ronald LeRex Hall '59
23 December 2022

■ *Obituary appears in this issue*



This list consists of alumni deaths we have learned of since our last issue. Full obituaries will appear in Last Call if/when families send them in.

LAST CALL

Leon Dale Minard '59

Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)
26 December 2022

Hollie Joseph Tiedemann Jr. '59

CDR, USN (Ret.)
2 February 2023

Toby Gene Warson '59 ■

CDR, USN (Ret.)
1 February 2023

Charles Milton Wilson Jr. '59

25 December 2022

William Frederic Bass '60

CDR, USN (Ret.)
11 February 2023

Calvin Richard McConnell '60

Maj, USAF (Ret.)
26 December 2022

Robert Oliver Dulin Jr. '61

CDR, USNR (Ret.)
16 September 2022

Paul Delton Hunt '62

2 January 2023

Frank Gilkerson Marshall III '62

2 September 2022

Edwin Rector '62

23 January 2023

Bruce David Alitt '63 ■

23 December 2022

Richard William Buelow '63

18 January 2023

Charles George Fishburn '63 ■

LCDR, USN (Ret.)
26 January 2023

Donald Edd Grant '63

22 December 2022

Charles Frederick Helsper '63

LCDR, USN (Ret.)
17 December 2022

Richard Frederick Kleinfeldt '63

8 January 2023

George Robert Leever '63

CAPT, USN (Ret.)
22 December 2022

Edward Francis McBride Jr. '63

LCDR, USNR (Ret.)
17 January 2023

James Presnall Newberry II '63

4 January 2023

James Kent Williamson '63 ■

CDR, USNR (Ret.)
28 December 2022

John Edward Gordon '64

RADM, JAGC, USN (Ret.)
22 January 2023

Orval Glenn Herrell '64

CDR, CEC, USN
2 January 2023

Robert Henry Lark '64

LT, USN
1 April 2018

David Lee Best '65

22 December 2022

James Michael Carroll '65

21 December 2022

Joseph Dominic Favaro '65

CDR, USN (Ret.)
1 January 2023

Fred Alois Hufnagel Jr. '65

9 February 2023

Paul David Copenbarger '66 ■

CAPT, USNR (Ret.)
6 January 2023

Matthew John Herbison '66

30 December 2022

Jack David Jewell '66 ■

LtCol, USMC (Ret.)
25 December 2022

Gerald Wayne Knott '66

CDR, USN (Ret.)
14 January 2023

George Nicholas Samaras '67 ■

LtCol, USMCR (Ret.)
6 January 2023

Ronald Martin Stoll '67

22 January 2023

Stuart Douglas Hammons '68

15 October 2022

James Edward Hurston '68

CDR, USN (Ret.)
1 February 2023

Henry David Tyler '68 ■

22 December 2022

Stephen McCall Lind '69 ■

CDR, USN (Ret.)
11 December 2022

Jeffery Lee Obst '69

2 February 2023

John Stratton Tolmie Jr. '69

29 December 2022

David Paul Faucher '70

CDR, USN (Ret.)
2 February 2023

Gary Anthony Gradisnik '70

CAPT, USN (Ret.)
8 January 2023

David Earl Lawrence Jr. '72

24 January 2023

Logan George Milliken '74

CDR, USN (Ret.)
9 December 2022

James Richard Moore '74

29 January 2023

William Oliver Meyers '75 ■

CDR, USNR (Ret.)
9 August 2022

Craig Charles Snee '76 ■

13 January 2023

William John Clement Jr. '77

LCDR, USN (Ret.)
29 January 2023

Roger Wesley Seldon '77

LCDR, USNR (Ret.)
10 December 2022

Steven Charles Champion '78

1 February 2019

Edmundo Paul Marquez '79

26 January 2023

Glenn Lewis Sheridan '79

14 January 2023

Mark Bass Vaughan '80 ■

CDR, USNR (Ret.)
22 January 2023

Jeffrey Hayden Salyer '81

4 January 2023

Rob B Roberson '87

Col, USMCR (Ret.)
19 December 2022

Troy Ellis Holland '89

19 January 2023

Steven Drew Samaniego '89 ■

19 December 2022

Dondi Michael Sheehy '89

CDR, USN (Ret.)
26 December 2022

Mark Frederick Springer '89

CAPT, USN (Ret.)
24 January 2023

Kent Talma Churchill '90

22 December 2022

Mark Anthony Strothkamp '93

21 December 2022

William Kenneth Haxton '94

LCDR, USN
26 September 2022

Timothy John Kidd '94

5 January 2023

Neil Lawrence Rapawy '94

29 January 2023

Curtis Jay Walkins '96

LCDR, USN (Ret.)
9 December 2022

David Michael Wallace '96

CAPT, USN
26 December 2022

Seth John Rosenberry '04

CDR, USN
3 January 2023

Zachary Alexander Kennedy '19

LTJG, USN
1 January 2023



ARTHUR WALTER WITTIG '65

Lieutenant Commander Arthur W. Wittig, USN (Ret.), died on 9 December 2022, in Calvert County, MD, of pulmonary and cardiac distress. He was 80 years old.

"Art" (also known as "Tex") was born in Philadelphia in 1942 to Gunther and Edna Wittig. The family later moved to Fredericksburg, TX, where they had a dairy farm. After graduating from high school, Art received an appointment to the Naval Academy as a naval reservist.

During First Class Year, he was in the 22nd Company and graduated with the USNA Class of 1965.

After flight training, he was ordered to VS-37. He served two tours in Vietnam and then transitioned to the T-2 Buckeye to be a flight instructor.

After earning a master's degree in personnel management at the Naval Postgraduate School, Art flew the S-3 Viking with VS-28.

He retired from the Navy in 1985 and became a Naval Science instructor in the Calvert County Public Schools, where he taught for 15 years. Art directed their first NROTC unit and helped many of his cadets receive appointments to the military academies, as well as scholarships from civilian colleges. Art then taught mathematics and social studies at Mill Creek High School (2001-2011).

Art will be remembered for his customary salutation, "Have a great Navy Day." He was a larger-than-life guy, riding his beloved motorcycles into his 80th year. Art even proudly rode in "Rolling Thunder" in Washington, DC, supporting veterans, POWs and MIAs.

Art especially enjoyed traveling with his wife, Joyce, growing plants in his greenhouse and eating Texas barbecue. He initiated a recycle-awareness program at Mill Creek Middle School; was an active member of the Saint Paul's Episcopal Church in Prince Fredrick, MD; was a volunteer for the Calvert County Fair Board; was a regular blood donor and donor coordinator; and volunteered with Saint Paul's homelessness program.

Art is survived by his wife, Joyce Hughes Wittig; daughter, Gretchen Renee Wittig of Mineral Wells, TX (and her partner, James Gallagher); stepsons, Scott Williams of Ojai, CA (and his wife, Becca and their children, Luca and Cole) and Van Williams of Bethesda, MD (and his wife, Noelia and their children, Kaitlyn and Victoria); and his brother, Bruce Wittig (and his wife, Nancy). Art was predeceased by his daughter, Shannon Nicole Wittig.

Donations in Art's memory may be made to Saint Paul's Episcopal Church (www.stpaulspf.org) or to the National Niemann-Pick Foundation (www.nnpdf.org).

Mrs. Joyce Wittig & Bill Zuna '65 ★



PAUL DAVID COPENBARGER '66

Captain Paul D. Copenbarger, USNR (Ret.), a native of Oklahoma, passed away peacefully on 6 January 2023, with his family at his side. Paul had fought glioblastoma, a brain tumor, for two years.

Having graduated from high school at age 16, Paul attended the University Oklahoma for one year, then received an ROTC appointment to the Naval Academy. Even after one year at Oklahoma, Paul was still the youngest in his class at Annapolis.

Upon graduation from the Naval Academy in 1966, Paul moved to a submarine assignment. First was Nuclear Power School, then nuclear reactor prototype training, then on to Sub School in New London, CT.

By early 1968, Paul was trained and ready to move west. Destination, San Diego, homeport of SCAMP (SSN-588), his duty station for the duration.

Paul's path continued in the Naval Reserve, with interesting assignments both in the United States and abroad, leading to his promotion to captain.

Paul also had a love for flying, and was a licensed pilot.

After a brief career as a Navy submariner, Paul attended law school and earned his Juris Doctor from Harvard University in 1974.

Paul moved to California, where he founded a boutique litigation firm. In his eyes, a litigator was not just a trial attorney, but a relentless warrior for justice. Paul won many more cases than he lost, many before the trials even began.

With him at the helm, Paul's small firm took on attorneys from many large prestigious firms and defeated them. With four fledgling lawyers, he represented women in a malpractice case against two lawyers who were represented by the largest law firm in San Diego. After winning the case, he learned that the firm had devoted 104 time-billers to try to defeat him.

More than once, Paul found his way to the Court of Appeal. While less than 20% of civil appellants succeed in the Court of Appeal, Paul won over 60% of his appeals. There are several published opinions arising out of the cases he brought to the Court of Appeal, including a case arising out of a shareholder's derivative action where Paul and his wife, Jaime, prepared the briefing.

Paul is survived by his loving wife, Jaime (Banfield); daughters, Dana and Erin; son, David (Cindy); stepdaughter, Danielle (Bruce); Ginger Copenbarger, the mother of his three children; and ten grandchildren.

The Copenbarger Family ★



JACK DAVID JEWELL '66

Lieutenant Colonel Jack D. Jewell, USMC (Ret.), 79, died from idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, surrounded by his family at his home in McLean, VA, on 25 December 2022.

Jack was born on 26 April 1943 in San Antonio, TX, to Lera and Harold Jewell. He grew up in Sulphur, OK, graduating as valedictorian from Sulphur High School (1961) and graduated from the Naval Academy in June of 1966 as a member of the Tenth Company (old Fifth Company).

After attending USMC Basic School, he was assigned in 1967 as an infantry officer to the First Battalion, Fifth Marines in Vietnam. Upon his return, Jack attended flight school and his first squadron was with VMO-1 in New River, NC, where he flew the UH-1, AH-1 helicopters and the OV-10.

In 1970, Jack was selected for the Combat Evaluation Team for the AH-1J Cobra and returned to Vietnam joining HML-367 Scarface. He served as aide-de-camp to the commanding general of III MAF, then attended the Amphibious Warfare School. He began transition training in the A-4 Skyhawk, completing training in VMAT-102 at Yuma, AZ. He was assigned to VMA-214 "Blacksheep" Squadron at El Toro, CA, serving as aviation safety officer. He was Marine Air Group 13 operations officer before returning to VMA-214. In 1977, the squadron flew from El Toro to MCAS Iwakuni, Japan, for a yearlong deployment, where he served as squadron maintenance officer. His next assignment was as 22nd Company officer at USNA, after which he attended the Command and Staff College. Returning to the Third Marine Wing in El Toro, he was wing assistant operations officer. Jack's career highlight was as CO of VMA-214. During his command, the squadron was accident-free.

After 20 years in the Marine Corps, Jack joined McDonnell Douglas, which became Boeing. During his 20 years there, he served both on the military and commercial programs. He was director of several Boeing programs in Long Beach, CA.

After retirement, Jack became a University of California Master Gardener. He was a member of the Orange County Master Gardeners, serving as chair of the advisory committee for several years.

Jack is survived by his wife of 54 years, Annette Milton Jewell; daughter, Jennifer Black (Kevin); son, Jonathan Jewell (Frank); and grandchildren, Kyle, Katherine, Joseph, Winslow and Saxony.

A memorial service was held at Trinity United Methodist Church in McLean, VA, on 7 January 2023. Interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a future date. ★



GERALD LEE KERR III '66

Commander Gerald L. Kerr III, USNR (Ret.), died peacefully of cancer at his home in Berlin, NH, on 25 October 2022. He was 78 years old. His loving partner of 16 years, Claudia Mac Kay, was at his side.

“Jerry” was born in 1944 at Fort Snelling, MN. He moved with his family to Virginia. After one year at The George Washington University, he received a presidential appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy and graduated in the

33rd Company, Class of 1966.

Jerry was assigned to HAVERFIELD (DER-393) and spent 18 months in Vietnam. He was next assigned to DesRon 28 in Newport, RI, and then to OpNav-941, Communications, in the Pentagon. During this tour, Jerry decided to become a lawyer. He passed the LSAT in the top 1% and was admitted to Catholic University’s Columbus School of Law in 1969. Jerry worked full time in the Pentagon and attended law school in the evenings. He was admitted to the DC Bar in December 1973. In January 1974, he transferred to the Navy JAG Corps, and his first JAG assignments were to Naval Operating Base Norfolk and ComTacWingsLant at NAS Oceana. On reporting, he was faced with a large backlog of court martials. He requested multiple JAG lawyers and courtrooms and cleared the backlog quickly, personally handling 800 cases. As Vietnam War POWs were released, Jerry was assigned to ensure direct communications from the President of the United States to every returning POW. In 1977, Jerry joined the Naval Reserve until his retirement as a commander in 1987.

Jerry was admitted to the Virginia Bar in 1977 and was exceptionally successful in private law practice. He won a difficult case causing a major auto manufacturer to remedy a serious safety defect. From 2000 to 2004, Jerry taught law at Tidewater College. He was honored as Professor Emeritus in 2005. Jerry traveled the world, had a villa in Spain, a second home in Nova Scotia, and regularly attended yearly Olympics, and Washington Redskin and Navy football games. Wheelchair-bound, Jerry bravely attended our 55+1 class reunion.

Jerry is also survived by his son, Jay (by a previous marriage); three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Jerry left his estate in trust to Androscoggin Valley Hospital to establish a research and teaching school for men and women entering the medical field.

Jerry will be interred at New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery. ★



GEORGE NICHOLAS SAMARAS '67

Lieutenant Colonel George N. Samaras, USMCR (Ret.), passed away surrounded by family on 6 January 2023 after a brave battle with glioblastoma. He was 78 years old.

Born on 28 September 1944, and raised in Annapolis, MD, George graduated from Annapolis High and attended The Citadel prior to his appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Upon graduation on 7 June 1967, he received his commission in the U.S. Marine Corps.

He served in Vietnam (1968-1969), earning numerous medals and commendations for valor. Among those were the Vietnam Service Medal w/5 Stars, Combat Action Ribbon, Navy Commendation Medal w/Gold Star, Navy Commendation Medal w/V, Strike/Flight Air Medal (6) and Navy Aerial Observer Wings. He continued his service at postings in the continental U.S. and Hawaii before retiring as a lieutenant colonel.

A Texan by Choice, George enjoyed a successful civilian career relocating to San Antonio for executive roles at Church’s, Popeyes and Hartz Krispy Chicken, before leading the acquisition of Wingstop and serving as CEO.

George is survived by his wife of 41 years, Jeanne of Fair Oaks Ranch, TX; brother, Nicholas Samaras (Darlene); daughters, Elizabeth Waring (Rich), Eleni Allen (Chip) and Jennifer Gartner Maurin; sons, Nicholas Samaras (Nancy) and Richard Gartner (Lorraine); and his cherished grandchildren, Lauren, Logan, Chet, Lily, Kaitlynn, Valentina and Vivianna, with whom he spent vacations, birthdays, holidays and pool time as their beloved “Papou.” He was predeceased by his mother, Christine “Ya Ya” Samaras and father, Nicholas Samaras.

George leaves a legacy of distinguished service to his country and humble service to his family and fellow man.

Funeral services were held on 27 January 2023 at St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church in San Antonio, TX, followed by burial with military honors at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests those who wish to make a donation in his name, do so to St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church (www.stsophiagoc.org).

Condolences may be left for the family at (www.ebensberger-fisher.com). ★



HENRY DAVID TYLER '68

Henry D. Tyler died suddenly of unknown causes on 22 December 2022, shortly after routine back surgery. He was 76 years old.

A native of Coraopolis, PA, “Dave” received an alternate nomination from his congressional district and a Secretary of the Navy appointment to the Naval Academy. He graduated with the Class of 1968, a member of the 25th Company.

After graduation and completion of flight school, he served as a flight instructor in VT-7 at NAS Meridian, followed by an operational tour in VA-12 flying A-7Es aboard INDEPENDENCE. His final tour was in the Recruiting Command in Cleveland, OH, finding and evaluating potential naval officers.

Upon leaving active duty in 1978, Dave went to work for a financial services company, where he held progressively more responsible positions. While there, he developed a fascination for computer programming. He developed customer relationship management software in his spare time that his company used operationally for more than a decade. He left that company after 13 years and became an entrepreneur, establishing and leading several companies and developing, selling and integrating his own software systems. His most significant development allowed hotel guests to use their room card to charge retail items to their room account from stores off hotel property. It was ready for proof of concept with one of Hawaii’s largest hotel chains when the financial crisis of 2008 shut the effort down, forcing Dave to find other employment. His last job was in an IT role with the Hawaii Medical Service Association.

Dave was an avid golfer who regularly joined the ‘68 spring golf outing in Florida, scheduled a weekly golfing afternoon for himself during his days leading his own companies and played many of California’s best courses with his sons.

LAST CALL

Dave generously lent his skills to the USNA Class of 1968. He developed, maintained and continually improved the class website, and helped plan multiple class reunions. In addition, he provided no-cost IT services to multiple non-profit groups in Hawaii, including the Ke'ehi Memorial Organization, which focuses on at-risk youth and disabled veterans and their families, where he served on the board of directors.

Dave is survived by his wife of nearly 33 years, the former Teresa Nicholson; three children (from a previous marriage), Alison Spivey (Mark), Clayton (Jennifer) and Marshall (Jennifer); stepdaughters, Alison and Sarah; and six grandchildren.

Services and inurnment will be at the Naval Academy at a later date.

Kit Ruland '68 ★



STEPHEN MCCALL LIND '69

Commander Stephen M. Lind, USN (Ret.), died of bone cancer in Olympia, WA, on 11 December 2022. He was 76 years old.

Son of Captain Irving Lind '22, USNR (Ret.), and Jeannette (née McCall), "Steve" was born on 18 April 1946 in Washington, DC. He attended San Rafael Military Academy, where he had the good fortune of meeting Terry Ann Goecker. Steve received his appointment to the Naval Academy from Washington state. A music

aficionado, he played guitar and was a prominent member of the Drum & Bugle Corps. He was also an avid golfer, a passion that continued throughout his life. In addition to his infamous late-night card games, he found time to do a vast amount of outside reading. Steve and Terry were married ten days following his graduation with the Naval Academy Class of 1969, First Company.

Following Flight School at NAS Pensacola, Steve was assigned to Helicopter Combat Support Squadron One (HC-1), nicknamed "Pacific Fleet Angels," at NAS Imperial Beach, CA. Steve's Sikorsky SH-3 Sea King helicopter detachment (H-3) made two deployments to Vietnam. Among many high stress missions, Steve and his crew rescued the crew of an F-4 Phantom that crashed following takeoff from CORAL SEA (CVA-43). During his WestPac deployments, Steve was awarded the Air Medal and Navy Commendation Medal. Later in his career, he was awarded those medals again, as well as the Meritorious Service Medal. Subsequently, Steve was assigned to the Pacific Missile Range at Barking Sands, HI. Aside from critical military missions, Steve rescued injured hikers off steep cliffs, tourists from a crashed helicopter and nude swimmers who were swept out to sea.

Steve's other active duty assignments included officer accessions at Navy Recruiting Command San Francisco; Controller, NAS San Diego; and Controller, NAS Whidbey Island.

Steve earned an MBA from Golden Gate University. Following active duty, he worked for the State of Washington for 25 years. He was Deputy Director, Traffic Safety Commission. In that role, he interacted with legislators and was an effective advocate on public policy.

Steve was a caring person throughout his life. He was devoted to his family. Steve's inquiring mind, wisdom, perceptiveness, subtle humor and quiet demeanor served him and his country well.

Steve is survived by Terry, his wife of 53 years; son, Judson; daughter, Alexis; and two grandchildren.

Dwight Bohm '69 ★



WILLIAM REDDING BACON '70

Captain William R. Bacon, USNR (Ret.), a loving husband, brother, father and grandfather, passed away peacefully at his home in Defuniak Springs, FL, on 27 December 2021 after a lengthy battle with Synovial Sarcoma cancer. He was 73 years old.

"Bill" received a BS degree in Naval Architecture upon graduation with the Naval Academy Class of 1970. He was an instructor on the Luder yaws for Plebe Summer while awaiting Nuclear Power School. Following the Vallejo-Idaho Falls-New

London route, he was assigned as the E&RC division officer on the boomer ALEXANDER HAMILTON out of Charleston-Rota. Following two patrols and a three-year extended shipyard overhaul and shakedown, he helped cast off the sub's lines and departed to the Naval Reserves, where he supported shipyards and SIMAs, ultimately retiring as a Reserve captain.

His civilian career followed the classical nuclear power route: B&W startup engineer, TVA nuclear power manager, IBM executive consultant to utilities and senior consultant to the power industry. Along the way, he earned master's and PhD degrees in Operations Management.

Bill was an innovative thinker and developed several cutting-edge applications and approaches to business optimization and project management, thereby winning industry respect for project risk management of complicated energy projects. In 2014, he was selected to join the multinational ITER nuclear fusion reactor prototype construction in southern France. His diligent and detailed work revamped the entire project schedule toward a risk-based approach, which realigned a failing project schedule into a realistic cost-effective project.

A true Renaissance man, he sought wisdom from learning and experiences with a restless mind. As a skilled blue water sailor, he would take his sons on weeks long sailing adventures. He was never more at peace than when he was on the water. His skills were endless: construction, electrical, plumbing, wood working, architectural design and classic automobiles, to name a few.

After discovering a lung tumor in 2015, he endured three surgeries, five chemotherapies and participated in three clinical trials. He never stopped fighting his cancer and earned the respect of his doctors, nurses, friends and family.

He leaves behind his beloved wife, Nadine; sons, Redding (Lauren) and Russell (Sheena); stepdaughter, Jamie (John); siblings, Virginia (Jim), Elizabeth (Leon) and Mark (Yubeiri); grandchildren, Mabel, Redding, Katherine and Jack; niece, Mabel; and nephew, Henry.

His ashes were interred on 19 March 2022 at the Old Gulf Cemetery in Santa Rosa Beach, FL, with graveside military honors from Pensacola NAS. ★



FREDERICK ROGER CLEMENTS '70

We are heartbroken to announce that on 10 December 2022, Captain Frederick R. Clements, CEC, USN (Ret.), of Hudson, WI, a loving husband, father and grandfather, passed away at the age of 74.

"Fred" grew up in New Lexington, OH. He showed early on he would grow up to be a strong and exceptional man, graduating high school as valedictorian and captain of the football, basketball and track teams. After receiving a

congressional appointment to attend the Naval Academy, Fred graduated from Annapolis with a mathematics degree and then earned his master's degree in civil engineering from Purdue University. Fred earned the rank of captain and proudly served as a naval officer for 28 years.

His awards include the Meritorious Unit Commendation (with BASILONE), Meritorious Unit Commendation (with OICC Guam), Navy Unit Commendation (with OICC Trident), Navy Commendation Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal.

After retiring from the Navy, Fred finished his distinguished career as Managing Director of Facilities at Northwest Airlines, where he met his devoted wife and traveling partner, Faye. Before Parkinson's disease changed life for Fred, they enjoyed nearly 20 years together traveling, biking, dining and simply having a wonderful time just being together. While Fred wore the cap of a Navy captain, he wore other caps too and wore them well. He was a devoted father, coaching his kids' youth soccer and basketball teams; a role model and inspiration to his stepchildren; and a supportive and loving husband and friend. Fred will forever be missed. Fair skies and following seas, Captain Clements.

Fred leaves behind his wife, Faye Proulx; his children and stepchildren, Christopher Clements, Corey Clements (Tara), Kelly Jacklitch (Cory), Mara Alvarez and Maxwell Proulx; brother, David Clements (Madeleine); and four grandchildren, Kayleigh, Aidan, Lucas and Abel. Fred was preceded in death by his first wife, Judy Clements; and his parents, Elmer and Mary Clements.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on 16 December 2022 at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Hudson, WI.

Memorials are preferred to the Tunnels to Towers Foundation (www.t2t.org).

The Clements Family ★

survived by his mother, Mary Goodson Hamm; daughters, Louisa Clary and Lori Snyder (Ron Blumka); son, Barton Robertson; sisters, Rosalyn Jenkins (John), Sharon Sickles (Carroll) and Darleen Bercovich; brother, Paul Hamm (Sharon); and three grandchildren, John, Zachary and Amelia. Marvin was predeceased by his father, Marvin Sr., and his brother, Harold.

A celebration of Marv's life was held on 25 September 2021 in Allen, TX.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials to (www.pancan.org) for pancreatic cancer research. ★



WILLIAM LEE HITCHINGS '70

William L. Hitchings died on 28 September 2021 of complications from COVID-19. He was 73 years old.

"Bill" graduated from Arcadia High School in Phoenix, AZ, in 1965. Entering the Naval Academy in June 1966, he was a proud member of the Class of 1970. He started in the Sixth Company and then, with his Companymates, shifted to the 36th Company. One of the highlights of Bill's Academy experiences occurred during

Youngster Cruise, when he had to use a mooring line to return from liberty as COLUMBUS (CG-12) was getting underway from New Orleans. After this incident, he "met" Rear Admiral Calvert, who was embarked on the cruiser. Several years later, the admiral (while Superintendent) remembered Bill's "initiative" during Youngster Cruise.

Following graduation, Bill attended flight training at Pensacola and subsequently flew F-4 Phantoms. He completed numerous training and certification programs, including the Navy Fighter Weapons School (Top Gun) in 1976.

After completing eight years of service, Bill transitioned to a very successful career in the burgeoning construction industry in the Virginia Tidewater area. Over a period of 35 years, he successfully expanded the Norfolk based Baker Roofing Company office to multiple locations throughout Virginia. In 2012, Bill retired as president and co-owner of Baker Roofing Company.

In addition to his professional career, Bill dedicated much of his time to the growth of his church, community and family. He was instrumental in raising funds, as well as the planning and construction of the sanctuary and fellowship hall of St. Mark's Catholic Church in Virginia Beach. He also coached neighborhood, select and high school soccer for 12 years, as well as supervising the construction of numerous parade floats by Kempsville High School students.

After retiring, Bill enjoyed traveling with his beloved wife, Ginger, singing in the church choir and volunteering his time for various positions at St. John the Apostle Catholic Church.

Bill is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Virginia "Ginger"; their three daughters, Nikki Koren (Sean), Stephanie Stallings (Keith) and Sarah Dunleavy (Matthew); and seven grandchildren, Madeline, Sean Philip and Kaitlyn Koren, Savannah and Sierra Stallings, and Sophia and Christopher Dunleavy.

After many years of being a "lost Companymate," Bill and Ginger attended a 36th Company reunion on Orcas Island in September 2019. Everyone enjoyed sharing stories and catching up on life's challenges. All the members of 36th Company were so happy to have this special time with "Hitch" and Ginger.

Carl Weiscope '70 ★



MARVIN JOSEPH HAMM JR. '70

Commander Marvin J. Hamm Jr., USNR (Ret.), passed away on 15 September 2021 in Richardson, TX, at the age of 73.

"Marv" was born on 12 April 1948 to Marvin Joseph Hamm Sr. and Mary Goodson Hamm, in Jacksonville, FL. He graduated from high school in Millington, TN, (1966), also receiving his appointment to the Naval Academy that same year.

Upon graduation from Annapolis in 1970, he reported for flight training in Pensacola, FL, where he began his love of flying. He received his Wings in 1972 in Beeville, TX, flying the F-9 Cougar. He immediately reported to Lemoore, CA, for A-7 Corsair training, then was deployed for two years with VA-56 on the carrier MIDWAY, homeported in Yokosuka, Japan. Marv completed over 100 carrier landings. His last active duty assignment was as an A-4 flight instructor in Beeville, TX. Marv's flight students held him in high regard, writing from the fleet in appreciation of his teaching and piloting skills.

Marv left the Navy in 1977, and worked for Honeywell controls as a pneumatic engineer in Austin, TX. He joined the A-7 Naval Reserve squadron in New Orleans, ultimately retiring as a commander after 20 years of service.

He was hired to fly for American Airlines in 1979, moving to Richardson, TX, and retired in 2012 as a 757-767 pilot. Still enjoying all things aviation, Marv worked eight years as an FAA inspector until retiring in August 2021.

His love of flying was only surpassed by his love of family. He was a proud father and loved his entire family immensely. Marv also became interested in Hamm family genealogy, built a genealogy website and helped plan and host Hamm family reunions in Selma, AL.

Marvin married Margaret Robertson on 15 September 2002 in Algodones, NM. She survives him and lives in Richardson, TX. He is also



THOMAS JOSEPH O'LEARY '70

"Tom" O'Leary passed away peacefully on 9 March 2022 at his home in Plano, TX, surrounded by his loving family. He was 74 years old.

Tom was raised in Des Moines, IA, and graduated from Dowling Catholic High School. As he wanted to fly the A-4 or F-4 airplanes, he turned down scholarships to Notre Dame and Iowa State and reported to the Naval Academy in June 1966 as a proud member of the Class of

1970. He started in the Sixth Company and then, with his Companymates, shifted to the 36th Company. One of the highlights of Tom's Academy experiences was while a Plebe, he was selected as the lead in one of the Masqueraders' plays.

Following graduation, Tom reported to Pensacola and received his Wings in 1972 at NAS Kingsville. He plowed back as an instructor in VT-22 to have an opportunity to receive F-4 orders after his tour in Kingsville. By becoming a "plankowner" in a newly formed Joint Transition Training Unit (JTTU), he extended his rotation by six months. This extension resulted in his dream orders to NAS Miramar. When the Marines pulled out of the F-14 program, he transitioned from the F-4 to the F-14. With two cruises with VF-1 on ENTERPRISE and subsequent orders to Top Gun as an instructor, Tom had achieved his early life goals.

After completing 13 years of service, Tom transitioned to the commercial airlines industry. He was a pilot for several airlines and retired in 2007 after 21 years with American Airlines. After retiring from American, he worked part time as a pilot instructor at CAE SimuFlite, Inc.

Tom married the love of his life, Denise Preston, in 1989. Tom always placed God and his family first. He enjoyed traveling, skiing, telling stories and listening to music in his screened patio room.

Tom is survived by his wife of 33 years, Denise; and three children, TJ O'Leary (Julie), Charlie Voltron (Nora) and Kristen Dickey (Nate); and five grandchildren, Abbey, Tommy, Vivian, Scarlett and Max.

Tom (also known as "Lears") attended all the class reunions and always was the center of every conversation. No one told a story better than Lears and he always had one to share, particularly if related to Navy or commercial aviation. ★



JOHN RICHARD SEELEY JR. '70

It is with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to Captain John R. Seeley Jr., USN (Ret.), a husband, father, naval officer and always, a gentleman. John passed away unexpectedly, and much too soon, after a brief health issue on 12 August 2022, in Saint Augustine, FL.

John began his distinguished naval career with the Naval Academy Class of 1970. As he joined his classmates in Tecumseh Court for swearing in, John stood out at 6 feet 6 inches

tall. An All-America high school basketball player from Ft Lauderdale, FL, John quickly impressed the Third Company with his wit and determination to excel both academically in class and athletically on Navy's basketball team.

After graduation, John reported to NoA (DD-841) as ASW officer. This was followed with duty as officer-in-charge of a Class "A" Naval

Recruiting Station. He had five additional tours at sea, including operations department head on LUCE (DDG-38), executive officer on PAUL (FF-1080) and an exemplary tour as commanding officer of MILLER (FF-1091).

Between tours at sea, John attended the Naval Postgraduate School, where he earned a Master of Science degree in Systems Technology. He served at the Fleet ASW Center, Norfolk, as the initial officer-in-charge, Ocean Systems Technicians "A" School and as the first officer-in-charge of the NavSurfLant Surface Ship ASW Analysis Center. After his command at sea, John returned ashore to share his ASW expertise with the innovative Surface Warfare Development Group in Little Creek, VA. John retired from active duty on 30 June 1994, having completed a distinguished 24-year naval career that significantly enhanced naval surface ASW capabilities and tactics.

During his career, John was awarded the following medals and decorations: Surface Warfare Officer pin, Meritorious Service Medal (3), Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Battle Efficiency Award (2), Expeditionary Medal, National Defense Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (3) and the Medal for Humane Action.

After John's Navy retirement, he worked as a civilian contractor. He was the Capstone Corporation's CNIC C4I Suite Manager at the time of his passing.

John leaves behind his wife, Susan; sons, Christopher and Jeffery; sister, Jackie Balmer; as well as many classmates, friends and shipmates.

He will be remembered as a class act and friend. Thank you, John, for your lifetime of patriotism and service to your county. ★



HAROLD BOYETTE WALLACE '70

Captain "Wally" Wallace, USNR (Ret.), passed away on 5 February 2022 after a courageous battle with cancer.

Wally was from Kenly, NC, and graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy with the Class of 1970, Fourth Company. He continued his military career with flight school in Pensacola, FL, and served in Meridian, MS, and Beeville, TX. He continued his active duty for eight years, going on to retire from the Naval Reserve as a captain

with 26 years served.

In 1978, Wally was hired for his dream job of flying for Delta Airlines, where he was privileged to fly all over the United States and internationally. He flew the DC-9, MD-88, 727, 767 and the L1011. He retired as a captain after 32 years total with Delta and settled in Beaufort, SC.

His passion for flying continued and he taught privately until a year before his death.

Wally loved the LORD and served as a deacon and an elder in his church.

He was a Scout leader for many years, earning the Silver Beaver Award and many others. He served as cub master, scout master, cub day camp director, assistant district commissioner, district commissioner and assistant council commissioner. Wally and his son were both Eagle Scouts and he was passionate about leading the next generation.

Wally leaves behind his wife of 40 years, Marilyn; two children, Jennifer Findley (Don) of Haslet, TX, and Matt Wallace (Rebecca) of Apex, NC; and three grandchildren, Elianna, William and Aaron Wallace.

Captain Wallace was laid to rest at Beaufort National Cemetery.

The Wallace Family ★



WILLIAM OLIVER MEYERS '75

Commander William O. Meyers, USNR (Ret.), passed away in his sleep on 9 August 2022 at his home in Townsend, DE. He was 68 years old.

Born on 5 January 1954, "Bill" was valedictorian of the 1971 Amos Alonzo Stagg High School class in Stockton, CA. He received congressional nominations and appointments to both the U.S. Air Force Academy and the U.S. Naval Academy. He graduated from Annapolis in 1975 with a Bachelor of Science degree,

majoring in both physics and mathematics.

Bill spent most of his active duty serving in the surface line community, first onboard ENTERPRISE (CVN-65) as auxiliaries division officer, and later, at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard as military support officer.

Upon separation from active duty in 1985, Bill transitioned into the Naval Reserves. He first served at the Naval Weapons Station in Concord, CA, as both training officer and executive officer of the reserve detachment (twice selected for command) and later, at the first detachment for the Naval Reserve Maintenance Depot Bremerton in Everett, WA. He was promoted to commander in 1992.

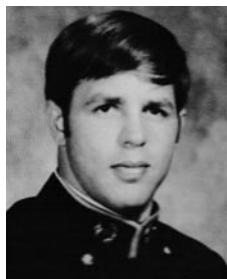
Bill's "day job" was as a federal civil servant, spending most of his career as a radiological controls/nuclear engineering inspector at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, WA. He retired in 2011 with over 40 years of federal service.

Bill's avocation was teaching people how to drive. In 1993, he earned his Washington state driving instructor certification. In 2003, he achieved his instructor's certification for developmentally challenged persons. Bill also contributed back to his community through the Knights of Columbus, attaining Second, Third and Fourth degrees.

Bill was predeceased by his mother and stepfather, Sigrid Sofia Frederica Thomsen and John Von Sosteen; his father and stepmother, William Nelson Meyers Jr. and Velma Meyers; and his son (from a previous marriage), William Patrick Meyers.

On 23 November 2012, Bill married Alessandra Gomes dos Santos. She survives, along with his grandson, Ivan William Meyers; a brother; a sister; several nieces and nephews; and his much-loved dog, Dixie Blue.

Donations in Bill's name may be made to the Gary Sinise Foundation (www.garysinisefoundation.org) or to the USNA 1975 Class fund (www.usna.com/give - choose "other donation options" and "support my class project"). ★



CRAIG CHARLES SNEE '76

Craig C. Snee was welcomed home to heaven on the evening of 13 January 2023, after a valiant fight against a recently diagnosed and extremely aggressive cancer. He was 68 years old.

A native of Jackson Township, OH, Craig was appointed to the Naval Academy from high school, where he was an all-county linebacker and varsity wrestler. He brought his wrestling talents to USNA where he also was a First Battalion Commander. He was a political

science major and very active in the Naval Academy Foreign Affairs Conferences. He graduated with the Class in June of 1976, as a member of the Second Company.

Upon graduation, he was commissioned in the Marine Corps, serving four years. Returning to civilian life, Craig and his family started two businesses—Earth 'n Wood Products and Buckeye Bison. Earth 'n Wood operated and grew successfully for 38 years.

He was a leader in his community, serving as Jackson Township trustee for two terms and co-founded several community organizations. Most recently, he continued to serve at Jackson Friends Church, and he coached Northwest junior baseball and softball league teams.

Craig was a devoted husband, father and grandfather. He encouraged his children and grandchildren's Godly faith, challenged them to learn and instilled the values of a strong work ethic, keeping family and friends close with laughter through it all.

He will be remembered for his leadership, for his mentoring and coaching that positively touched so many young lives and for his service to community. He lived his life and truly embodied his high school class motto, which he once shared with a Companymate: "Toil awhile, endure awhile, believe always, and never turn back."

Craig is survived by his wife, Nancy; daughters, Jamie Haren and Andi Snee Jewell; his brother, Michael R. Snee; son-in-law Edward Haren II; and five grandchildren, Spencer, Charlotte, Bailey, Harrison and Garrett.

A celebration of life service was held on 20 January 2023 at Jackson Friends Church in Massillon, OH. ★



MARK BASS VAUGHAN '80

Commander Mark B. Vaughan, USNR (Ret.), passed away in his home in La Mirada, CA, on 22 January 2023, surrounded by family, after a courageous battle with brain cancer.

A native of Shelbyville, KY, Mark completed a degree in Aeronautical Engineering at the Naval Academy, where he proudly rowed crew, sang in the choir and was an active member of the Navigators. Mark deftly avoided the Nuclear Power draft, and proceeded to Pensacola, FL,

earning his pilot Wings of Gold in 1981. He continued to prioritize his faith by participating in Navigators, where he met his future bride, Donna Hallberg. Mark and Donna were married on 12 June 1982 in the NAS Pensacola chapel.

Mark later transitioned to the TAR program and embarked on a career in Fleet Logistics Support. Career highlights included flying both the C-12 and the C-131 in VR-48; flying the C-9 and deploying to participate in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm with VR-59; and serving as commanding officer of VR-57. His final tour was in Italy as part of the ComFairMed staff, conducting operations in support of the Sixth Fleet.

Upon retirement in 2001, Mark began flying for Federal Express, primarily flying the MD-11. While at FedEx, Mark volunteered many hours of his flying skills to the ORBIS Flying Eye Hospital, helping to bring state-of-the-art eye healthcare training to medical personnel in several countries.

In 2009, Mark committed to deepening his faith. He completed a master's degree in Spiritual Formation in 2013 at Talbot School of Theology at BIOLA. Particularly fulfilled in the role of part-time spiritual director, he would cherish and live out that calling for the rest of his life.

Mark's greatest joy was his family: Donna, his wife of over 40 years; daughters, Anna (Zach) and Rachel (Parker); son, Nate (Andrea); and five grandchildren, Lewis, Graham, Julian, Walker and Sylvie. He is also survived by his brothers, Edgar '78, David and Doug '91.

Mark's 1980 *Lucky Bag* bio expressed confidence that those who would come to know Mark in the fleet would "see as much of Christ in his life as has been visible here" at USNA. Through his service to country, dedication to God, and love of family, Mark most certainly "fought the good fight, finished the race and kept the faith." We will all miss his cheerful grin, upbeat laughter, self-deprecating sense of humor and love of life. ★



STEVEN DREW SAMANIEGO '89

Steven D. Samaniego, who was a brief but honored midshipman at the Naval Academy, died suddenly on 19 December 2022 from pneumonia following complications from spinal stenosis. He was 55 years old.

Steven was born in San Antonio, TX, on 11 April 1967 to Florence Thompson of Texarkana and Robert Augustus Samaniego a U.S. citizen of Panamanian decent. He attended Westbury High School in Houston, TX, where he was an

exceptional student, participated in service work, played football and sang in the Glee Club. "Dimples" was always in good humor and was beloved by many. At his mother's suggestion, he applied and was inducted to the Naval Academy in 1985. It was the greatest honor of his life to attend. Due to an undiscovered health issue, he received his honorable discharge after just one semester. Even with his limited attendance at the Academy, this experience molded his character and guided his entire life.

Once Steven left USNA, he didn't go back to college, but instead went on and perfected his trade through hard work and a commitment to the

values he'd developed at Annapolis. He had a 27-year career at Wolmak Machine Supply, where he was a highly valued member of the company and Director of Inventory Management.

Steven met his second wife, Mary Krage, online in the summer of 2012. They were married shortly after at Prince of Peace Church in Plano, TX. They went on to create a life full of love, laughter and winks. Steven was a proud owner of a Harley Davidson, which he took out on weekend rides with Mary and to the Sturges rally. He was genuinely happy reaching out to friends and family to get together – maybe for a game of poker. He loved movies and had a quick mind for memorizing quotes. Steven's favorite movie was Idiocracy! He possessed a "larger than life" personality. He embraced warm heartfelt philosophies that made those he cherished smile and feel loved.

Steven is survived by the love of his life, Mary Krage Samaniego; two stepsons, whom he adored, Stephen Andrew Smith and William Farrin Smith; and his cherished grandson, Noah Zachary Rae Brooks.

He passed away at peace in the arms of our Lord, surrounded by his family and his closest friend. He was baptized Catholic and given Last Rights with absolution and will forever be devoted to the Naval Academy for shaping and anchoring his life. ★

HOW TO WRITE A LAST CALL OBITUARY

By Timothy Elizabeth Woodbury, obituaries editor, *Shipmate magazine*

Our previous guidelines, "A Fitting Tribute," were written by the late Chet Shaddeau '47 and printed in *Shipmate* for the first time in the December 2001 issue. Since then, the demographics of our alumni have changed, as well as the way we communicate about losing our beloved alumni. As soon as we are aware of a newspaper or funeral home obituary, it is posted on our website and shared with the class for further dissemination. Their name/rank/date of death will appear in the next possible issue at the front of the *Last Call* section. Obituaries are not automatically reprinted in the magazine. This allows families to choose whether they want an obituary included in *Shipmate* and allows them

to alter/correct/condense/expand on a previously published tribute for our alumni audience. We do not have military records on file, but it is possible that a class may have files or reunion books that could be helpful. Please remember: An obituary is as much a keepsake for families as it is informational to our readers.

The timing of our obituaries section is unique—please send in the material once the family is ready, and we will publish in the earliest possible issue after that time. We can give you an idea of which issue it will appear in, but cannot guarantee a print date.

We have a limit of 400 words and final family approval is required. We appreciate your efforts to keep to this

limit. Submissions over the word limit will be returned to be shortened. Once we receive an obituary, we will edit for style and return for final approval by the family. Please be sure to include contact information to expedite this process.

Our guidelines demonstrate our format and follow chronological order, but the emphasis will vary by the individual. For some, their military career was their focus, for others, their civilian career, their hobbies or philanthropic endeavors.

A "head and shoulders" photo of just the individual is recommended. It can be a formal uniform portrait or a favorite snapshot. Closeup, with an uncluttered background is best. If you can send an uncropped photo, we can crop it in the

best way to fit our photo box. For graduates, we have the *Lucky Bag* (yearbook) photo available—just ask when you send in the obituary text.

With thanks to Chet, we offer this updated version:

At the top is the full name and class year. If you are uncertain of the graduating class, we can easily look it up for you.

Then, name, including rank (only if active duty or retired) and date of death. Whether to include a location or cause is up to the family. Not necessary, but not discouraged.

Next comes date, place of birth and names of parents. If they attended NAPS or another college, include that here. Notable Midshipman sports and activities may be listed, along with the Company they were in upon graduation.

You may include marriages as they happen chronologically, or spouses may be listed later with survivors. If there are multiple marriages, details are not necessary, but if you mention one marriage and then another, it makes sense to briefly acknowledge the circumstances (death/divorce).

When describing military careers, we walk a fine line of not using too many acronyms but being concise. Highlights and duty stations of interest are most important. Note that our style removes “the USS” and puts the names of ships in small caps. If you know the hull number, it will help readers know the type of ship without having to spell it out. Date of retirement and individual military decorations can be included here. If they did not retire, you may wish to include their highest rank.

Civilian careers can be described showcasing favorite or noteworthy positions or locations.

Advanced degrees may be grouped where they make sense or included as they occurred.

Listing hobbies, charities, civic honors and interesting activities or things they are known for are encouraged.

Please remain sensitive to listing survivors—the usual order is parents (if still living), spouse, children, grandchildren, siblings and more distant relatives. The extent of this list depends on how much space you have. If you have room, include relation (their spouse) and where they live for children, but as you go down the line, first names or numbers of great-grandchildren are appropriate. Deceased close relatives may also be listed here. Double check your list—we won’t know if you have forgotten someone or if a name has been misspelled. If you have a unique situation and need help, feel free to ask and do not forget to include class years for any family members who also attended USNA.

Most likely, this will appear in print after services have taken place. Include date and place where services/interment happened. If the date is still undetermined, consider writing something like “services will be held at *PLACE* at a date to be determined.” If you happen to know that date, send it in and we will include if timing/space allows.

If the family wishes (and there is room), certainly include where to direct memorial donations.

Whether to include author credit or not also depends on the word count. It is preferred to list “The Smith Family” rather than an individual family member.

Here is a fictionalized example, and also please review back issues of *Shipmate* to see previous obituaries.

WILLIAM DAHLGREN GOAT 'XX

Captain “Bill” D. Goat, USN (Ret.), passed away on 1 January 2023 in Annapolis, MD. He was XX years old.

Born in Newport, RI, he was the son of Billy and Nanny Goat. In high school, he was captain of the wrestling team and editor of the school paper. He attended NAPS for a year and reported to USNA in YEAR. At Annapolis, he thrived as a cheerleader and as mascot for the football team. While he was a bright student, he is notorious for being the anchor of the class, due to his numerous hijinks.

Upon graduation with the Class of XX, he was commissioned as a Navy ensign and married his Academy OAO, MaryLou Smith. Bill excelled as a Surface Warfare Officer, using his enthusiasm to inspire his sailors. Over his 20-year career, he served on and commanded a number of ships, his favorite being PHILLO T. MCGIFFIN.

After the Navy, Bill served as a motivational speaker, speaking at venues throughout the U.S.

Upon retirement in DATE, Bill and MaryLou returned to Annapolis, where he was president of the local USNA Alumni Association Chapter and a fixture at home football games. He never missed a parade on Warden Field and sponsored many Midshipmen members of the Drum & Bugle Corps. He shared his love of the Naval Academy with everyone he met and was known for his extensive blue and gold wardrobe.

Predeceased by his parents, Bill is survived by his wife, MaryLou; their children (and spouses), Billy (Jane), Kidd (Susie) and Taylor (Chris); grandchildren, Billie, Charlie and Jordan; his sister, Nan; and brother, Bob. He was also predeceased by his maternal grandfather, W.T. Door '47, who encouraged him to pursue a military career.

Services were held at the Naval Academy Chapel on DATE, followed by interment at the USNA Columbarium.

Memorial donations may be directed to the Naval Academy Foundation (www.usna.com/give), the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society (www.nmcrs.org), Wounded Warrior Project (www.woundedwarriorproject.org) or his personal favorite, Goats of Anarchy (www.goatsofanarchy.org).

The Goat Family

Please direct obituary submissions and questions to obits@usna.com or 410-295-4064.



2023 SHIPMATE Classified Information & Insertion Order

Black and White Classified Ad Rates
SIZE

Non-LifeMember Rates	\$ 77.00	1"	\$ 60.00	25% LifeMember Discount Rates
	\$154.00	2"	\$120.00	
	\$230.00	3"	\$180.00	
	\$310.00	4"	\$240.00	
	\$385.00	5"	\$300.00	
	\$460.00	6"	\$360.00	
	\$540.00	7"	\$420.00	
	\$545.00	8"	\$485.00	



Color Classified Ad Rates
SIZE

Non-LifeMember Rates	\$100.00	1"	\$ 70.00	25% LifeMember Discount Rates
	\$195.00	2"	\$145.00	
	\$300.00	3"	\$215.00	
	\$395.00	4"	\$285.00	
	\$495.00	5"	\$355.00	
	\$595.00	6"	\$430.00	
	\$695.00	7"	\$500.00	
	\$790.00	8"	\$580.00	

2023 SHIPMATE Classified Information & Insertion Order

1 Classified Advertising Policy

Classified ads are accepted on a space available basis as a service to **USNA Alumni** only. The Alum's name and class year **MUST** appear in the ad. Spouse ads are accepted only with the Alum's name and class year included in the ad. Ads are accepted camera-ready and electronically; jpg., tif. or PDF formats. (300 dpi) Any classified ad may occupy one column width (2.5 inches) by a maximum of up to 8 inches of column length.

1 Advertiser

Name _____
 Street _____
 City _____ State ____ Zip _____
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2 Advertisement

Classified ad rates are \$77 per inch for black and white and \$100 per inch for color. A \$50 set up fee is charged if ad is designed for advertiser. **Life Members** are eligible for a 25% discount—reducing the cost to \$60 per inch for black and white and \$70 for color. Please select the issue(s) in which you wish to run, or specify: RFN - "Run Until Further Notice."

Issue Insertion Order/Ad Due

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Please contact Maria O'Shea via email or phone for space availability — even if the due date has passed, I will try to be as flexible as possible.

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The U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation's President and CEO, Jeff Webb '95, co-founded the **Shared Interest Group Run to Honor** because he, like many other alumni, was inspired to venerate those alumni killed in action or in military operations in service to our nation, and to support Naval Academy Gold Star families.

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