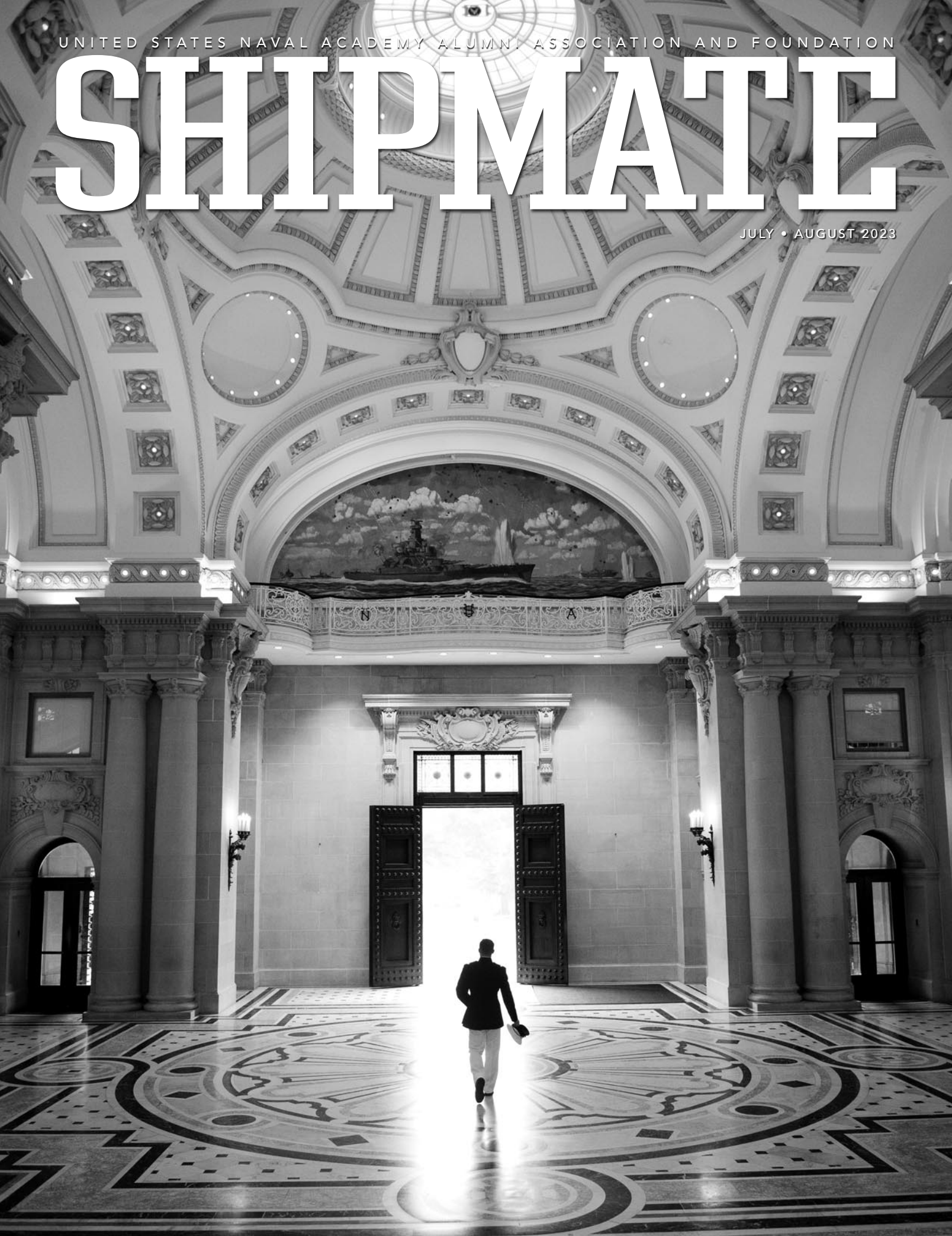


UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND FOUNDATION

SHIPMATE

JULY • AUGUST 2023



**1,000
WORDS**



Class of 2026 Herndon Climb

MIDN Chris Paris '26 concluded his class' Herndon Climb by placing the upperclassman cover atop the Herndon Monument at the 2:31.51 mark on 24 May. He shares the triumphant moment with his father LtCol Jon E. Paris '80, USMC (Ret.).

CHARTING THE RIGHT COURSE

By Jeff Webb '95

In my first year as President and CEO of the United States Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation (USNA AA&F), I have been privileged to get a closer look at the many ways that our Enterprise, our volunteers and our donors are supporting our alumni and the Naval Academy. From the philanthropic impact at USNA, to programs like the Service Academy Career Conference, Alumni Mentoring Program and Honor our Fallen Heroes, our community is in perpetual motion, taking care of one another in myriad ways.

Despite all of this positive work, our board and staff know that we must strive for continuous improvement to meet the evolving needs of our members.

In that light, we conducted a comprehensive nine-month, bottom-up review of our Alumni Association operations to develop **Strategic Plan 2030**. That plan was approved by the Alumni Association Board of Trustees in May 2023.

We were driven by the question: How can we better serve our members and support the Naval Academy? To answer this fundamental question, we considered a tremendous amount of data and engaged in many spirited debates and discussions.

In the midst of that work, we refined our mission statement, which will serve as our beacon as we chart the Association's course for the next decade:

We strengthen our MEMBERS' BONDS to the Academy and to each other, to help them THRIVE AS LEADERS in and out of uniform and reach their FULL POTENTIAL.

Through the lens of this revised mission, we are recalibrating our strategies and programs with greater emphasis on service to the entire spectrum of the alumni community.

In the coming years you will see recurring messages and themes related

to Strategic Plan 2030. For more details on the plan, see page 30.

THE NEXT CHAPTER

In July, the enterprise came together under one roof in the Fluegel Alumni Center. Working alongside each other—instead of from five separate buildings—will allow for greater collaboration and more seamless support of alumni, family and friends of the Naval Academy.

As we plan the USNA AA&F's next chapter, we are excited to welcome the alumni community to their new home on the banks of College Creek. The Fluegel Alumni Center was designed to host

groups—large and small—of alumni, inside and out. We will host reunions, special events and board meetings in our new space. An official ribbon cutting is scheduled for 8 September.

On 26 May, we celebrated the graduation of the Class of 2023. Their *Another Link in the Chain* (ALITC) counterparts, the Class of 1973, continued the tradition of handing the newly minted 2nd Lieutenants and Ensigns their bars of gold. The ALITC program embodies the USNA AA&F's commitment to support and connect through four-years of engagement.

The Class of 1976 cheered on the Class of 2026 during their 2:31:51 journey to place the upperclassmen's cap atop the Herndon Monument. And on 29 June, my colleagues and I helped welcome the Class of 2027 and their parents to the Yard on I-Day.

While the plebes' journey is just beginning, the USNA AA&F are ready to support them through the next four years and beyond. That begins with the Parent Photo Program and continues through each stop of their life's journey.

We are eager to see many from the alumni community in Dublin at the end of the month for the Navy-Notre Dame game in Aviva Stadium. We wish our players, head football Coach Brian Newberry and his staff the best of luck against the Fighting Irish in what is sure to be a thrilling game against a historic and respected rival.

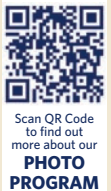
We are hosting several events in the days leading up to the 26 August season-opening game against the Fighting Irish and hope to see you cheering on the Midshipmen to victory! See page 10 for an Insider's Guide to Dublin provided by former Dublin resident John Lunger '90.

Go Navy! Beat Notre Dame! 🚢



PHOTO BY DEBBIE LATTI

CAPT James S. Bates '95 III, USN, administers the oath to his daughter, MIDN Jemma Bates '27, during I-Day on 29 June inside Memorial Hall. CAPT Bates is Chief of Staff at the Naval Academy.



SHIPMATE

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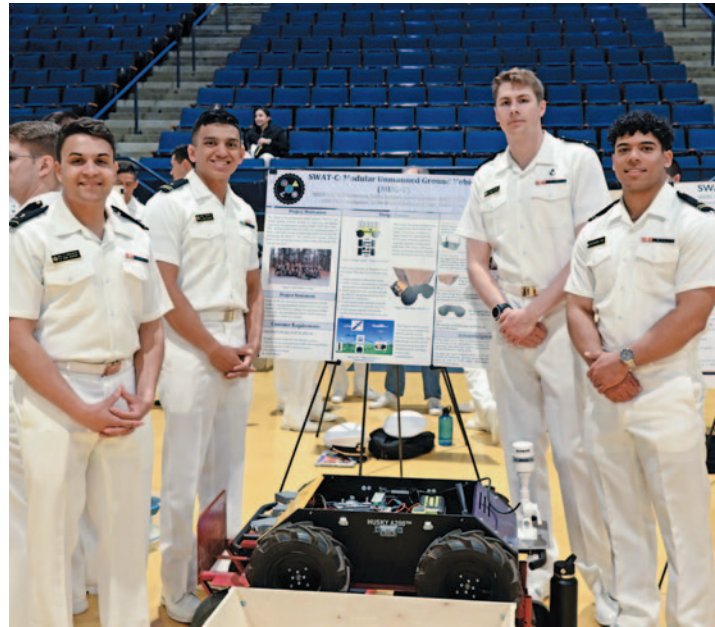
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STRATEGIC PLAN 2030

The USNA & AAF charts course for the next decade of supporting alumni and midshipmen. **30**



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 behind a member of the 1899 Navy fencing team on page 24 of the June 2023 issue of Shipmate.

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Our Mission

We strengthen our MEMBERS' BONDS to the Academy and to each other, to help them THRIVE AS LEADERS in and out of uniform and reach their FULL POTENTIAL.

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



On the Cover
A member of the Class of 2023 exits Bancroft Hall. He is one of 257 members of his class who commissioned into the Marine Corps.

Photo by Carolyn Andros '95

ALL HANDS

Alumni Association Board of Trustees Nominations Open



The window to nominate candidates for the mid-Atlantic and Western regions' trusteeships on the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association Board of Trustees is open from 1 July to 1 September 2023. Both of the incumbents—Commander Juliana Vida '94, USN (Ret.), (mid-Atlantic) and Captain Barbette Lowndes '80, USN (Ret.), (Western)—

are running for their second three-year terms, and will be challenged by candidates you nominate.

Nominees must be regular members of the Association (they must be current Association members who took the oath on I-Day and whose class has graduated), they must agree to be nominated and they must plan to reside in the region they represent for the duration of their terms.

The mid-Atlantic region comprises the states of Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. The Western region comprises the states of New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Hawaii and the region lying west of the West Coast of the United States to longitude 61 degrees east.

As a regular member residing in those regions, you may consider a petition candidacy. Collect 150 signatures from regular members who reside in your region and submit that petition prior to 12 September to be included on the ballot next spring. We welcome nominees from the wide span of our community background and experience. The Nominating Committee will screen nominees, including petition nominees, and forward the recommended slate of candidates to the Board for approval at the October 2023 fall meeting. The election will occur in March and April 2024. Send your nominee's name and class year by email to Nominating_Committee@usna.com, or by mail to:

Nominating Committee
U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association
301 King George Street
Annapolis, MD 21402

Regular nominations must be received no later than 1 September 2023. Petitions must be received by 12 September 2023. Let your voice be heard on the Board of Trustees!

Board of Trustees Update



Darryl Smith '88 Jen Tyll '01

Congratulations to Darryl Smith '88 and Jen Tyll '01 for their recent election victories to represent the Central and Eastern regions (respectively) as trustees on the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association Board of Trustees (BOT). During the 12 May spring meeting, the BOT welcomed four new chapter trustees and recognized the

Tampa Bay chapter as one of nine large chapters represented on the board, effective May 2024. The BOT also thanked the outgoing trustees for outstanding volunteer service during their terms.

2024 Distinguished Graduate Award Nomination Period Opens



The U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association considers the Distinguished Graduate Award (DGA) the highest recognition we bestow on a living graduate, recognizing leaders who through their personal example of service personify the fulfillment of their "potential for future development in mind and character to assume the highest responsibilities of command, citizenship and government."

As an additional criterion, we consider it vital that our DGAs demonstrate sustained and active support of the Naval Academy and our alumni. The window for nominating graduates for the 2024 DGA cycle opened 1 July 2023. We will consider packages for the 2024 award submitted on or before 15 October 2023.

Submit nomination packages as a single PDF document by email to dga@usna.com. Complete nomination process, package guidelines and selection criteria can be found at usna.com/dga. Please direct questions to Captain Wes Huey '87, USN (Ret.), DGA program manager, at wesley.huey@usna.com or 410-295-4023.

Shaner '80 Producing Documentary



Pete Shaner '80, back row middle, with members of the 23rd Company, is producing a documentary on his graduating Naval Academy class as part of his Ph.D. dissertation in leadership studies from the University of San Diego. PHOTO COURTESY OF PETE SHANER '80

Pete Shaner '80 is producing a documentary on his graduating Naval Academy class as part of his Ph.D. dissertation in leadership studies from the University of San Diego. The working title is *The Bow Wave of Change: The United States Naval Academy's First Gender-Integrated Class*, and it's the story of how both the Academy and the

Class of 1980 coped with the challenges of gender integration.

Shaner left active duty in 1987 and attended film school at the University of Southern California before working for several years as an independent screenwriter and director.

"One of the stories I've always wanted to tell is that of our groundbreaking class," Shaner said. "This documentary is my attempt to tell that story. My goal is to finish the documentary (and my dissertation) in spring of 2024, and after that to find distribution for the film so it can reach a wider audience."

To date, he has conducted about 40 on-camera interviews, mostly with men and women from the Class of '80. He is seeking input from other Academy alumni who were midshipmen between 1976 and 1980. If anyone has a story to tell about how their lives were impacted by the beginnings of the gender integration process at the Academy during those years, contact Shaner at pshaner@sandiego.edu.



2022 Donor Report Errata

The following donors were inadvertently omitted from or listed incorrectly in the 2022

U.S. Naval Academy Foundation Donor Report. The Foundation sincerely regrets the errors.

LIFETIME GIVING SECTION:

BUCHANAN SOCIETY

CAPT George P. Watt, Jr., USNR (Ret.) and Mrs. Peggy Watt

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE SECTION:

CLASS OF 1949

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard S. Gewirz

CLASS OF 1957

CAPT and Mrs. Lawrence B. Goldstein

CLASS OF 1962

Mr. and Mrs. Martin A. Seelig

CLASS OF 1973

CAPT George P. Watt, Jr., USNR (Ret.) and Mrs. Peggy Watt

CLASS OF 1978

CDR Charles F. Dawson, USNR

CLASS OF 1979

Mr. and Mrs. David B. Rich

CLASS OF 1980

CAPT and Mrs. Dale A. Lumme

CLASS OF 1985

CDR and Mrs. Norman G. FitzPatrick
CAPT and Mrs. Paul L. McElroy III

CLASS OF 1986

LtCol and Mrs. Joseph F. Wallis

CLASS OF 1993

LT and Mrs. Michael J. Cloyd

CLASS OF 1996

LTJG and Mrs. Mark D. Wrzyszczyński

CLASS OF 2002

Mr. John K. Karantonis and Ms. Stephanie Mills

CLASS OF 2004

Mr. and Mrs. David D. Brennan

PARENTS

Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Brakey
Mr. and Mrs. Abhijit Ganguly
Mr. Mark M. Hurley and Ms. Mary V. Petree

FRIENDS

Dr. and Mrs. Jeffrey H. Baybick
Mr. Bruce Berano

CORPORATIONS, FOUNDATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS SECTION:

LUCE ASSOCIATE

(\$10,000 - \$24,999)
Hampton Roads Chapter

WORDEN ASSOCIATE

(\$5,000 - \$9,999)
North Texas Chapter

ASSOCIATE

(\$2,500 - \$4,999)
San Diego Chapter

DONOR

Alamo Chapter
Cape Fear Chapter
Columbus Chapter
Quantico Area Chapter
Recreational Vehicle Chapter
Santa Barbara Chapter
USNA Northeast Florida Parents Club
USNA Parents Club Of MD

ALUMNI GIVING SECTION:

1964

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE
DEWEY ASSOCIATE
(\$50,000 - \$99,999)
Mr. Keith A. Waldrop and Mrs. Karen L. Waldrop †

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

WORDEN ASSOCIATE
(\$5,000 - \$9,999)
Mr. and Mrs. Edmund J. Farrell

1973

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE
LUCE ASSOCIATE
(\$10,000 - \$24,999)
CAPT and Mrs. Dean R. Brown
CAPT George P. Watt, Jr., USNR (Ret.) and Mrs. Peggy Watt

1976

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE
ASSOCIATE
(\$2,500 - 4,999)
CAPT and Mrs. Isaiah H. Owens, Jr.

1978

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE
ASSOCIATE
(\$2,500 - 4,999)
CDR Charles F. Dawson, USNR

1983

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE
WORDEN ASSOCIATE
(\$5,000 - \$9,999)
Ms. Tomoko Tanaka

1985

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE
WORDEN ASSOCIATE
(\$5,000 - \$9,999)
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene S. Benvenuto, Jr.

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

ASSOCIATE
(\$2,500 - 4,999)
CDR and Mrs. Norman G. FitzPatrick
Mr. and Mrs. Dan J. Holzrichter
CAPT and Mrs. Paul L. McElroy III

1986

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE
WORDEN ASSOCIATE
(\$5,000 - \$9,999)
LCDR Linh B. Le, USNR and
Ms. Minh-Nguyet H. Trinh

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

ASSOCIATE
(\$2,500 - 4,999)
LtCol and Mrs. Joseph F. Wallis

1988

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE
LUCE ASSOCIATE
(\$10,000 - \$24,999)
LCDR Kurt F. Miller, USN (Ret.) and
LCDR Cindy A. Miller, CEC, USN (Ret.)

1991

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE
LUCE ASSOCIATE
(\$10,000 - \$24,999)
CDR and Mrs. Joseph R. Baich

1992

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE
LUCE ASSOCIATE
(\$10,000 - \$24,999)
Mr. and Mrs. Michael P. Gebhardt

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

WORDEN ASSOCIATE
(\$5,000 - \$9,999)
Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm K. Palmore

1993

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE
HALSEY ASSOCIATE
(\$100,000 - \$249,999)
Joanna and Robert Sohovich

1996

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE
ASSOCIATE
(\$2,500 - 4,999)
LTJG and Mrs. Mark D. Wrzyszczyński

1997

HERNDON CLUB
(\$1,000 - \$2,499)
Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo Barber, III

2001

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE
WORDEN ASSOCIATE
(\$5,000 - \$9,999)
Capt. and Mrs. John J. Whang
Mr. and Mrs. Brendan J. O'Donnell

2002

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE
ASSOCIATE
(\$2,500 - 4,999)
Mr. John K. Karantonis and Ms. Stephanie Mills

HERNDON CLUB

(\$1,000 - \$2,499)
Mr. and Mrs. John A. Augusto

2003

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE
ASSOCIATE
(\$2,500 - 4,999)
CDR and Mrs. Matthew V. Kolb

PARENTS SECTION:

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE
LEJEUNE ASSOCIATE
(\$25,000 - \$49,999)
Col Edward G. Taylor, USAF (Ret.) and
Ms. Susan M. Fennelly

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

LUCE ASSOCIATE
(\$10,000 - \$24,999)
Ms. Anne C. Volpert and Mr. Romain J. Duchez

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

WORDEN ASSOCIATE
(\$5,000 - \$9,999)
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Brakey

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

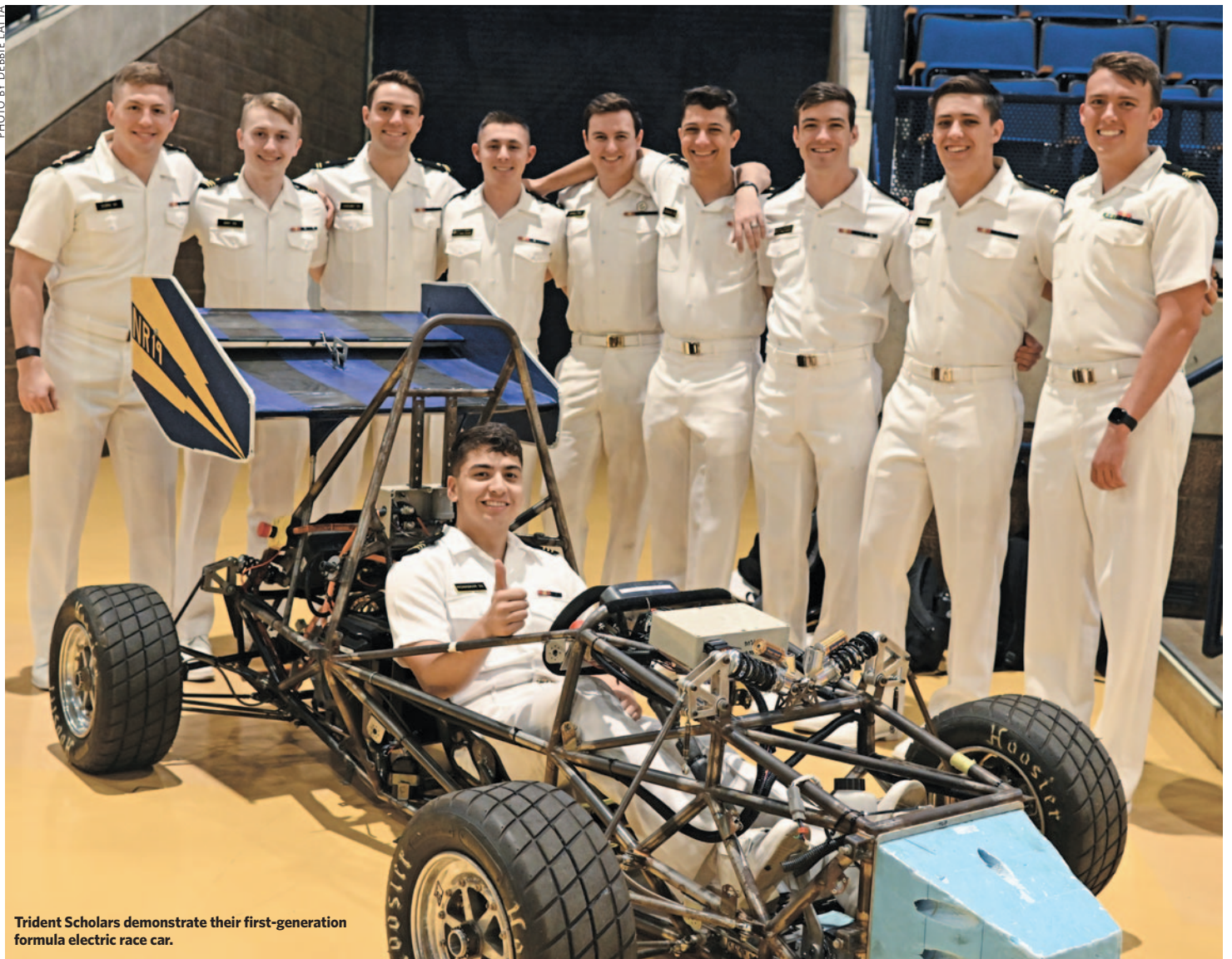
ASSOCIATE
(\$2,500 - 4,999)
Mr. and Mrs. Abhijit Ganguly ☐

Limitless Possibilities

MIDSHIPMEN EXHIBIT EXCELLENCE DURING CAPSTONE DAY

By Spencer Jones

PHOTO BY DEBBIE LALITA



Trident Scholars demonstrate their first-generation formula electric race car.

While on summer cruise as a midshipman, Ensign Eli Walz '23, USN, participated in a man overboard drill on her assigned carrier. During the drill, Walz realized the time it took for the crew to muster and perform the drill might have resulted in the loss of a shipmate while underway in a real-life scenario.

She knew execution needed to be faster.

This was the inspiration for the development of her team's Capstone project—to design a search and rescue (SAR) robot that communicates through neural networks to perform man overboard rescues that are safer and more efficient. Walz, a Naval Academy triathlon national champion, was joined by three other first class midshipmen who shared a similar vision as well as the drive to improve aspects of the fleet and Marine Corps.

Their work, which began more than a year ago, explored the requirements, research and design involved in creating a way to integrate their project into a direct need in the fleet. On 3 May, Walz and her teammates showcased their innovation during Capstone Day in Hopper Hall.

Capstone projects are the culmination of the academic achievements, hard work and dedication of first class midshipmen. Since their addition into the Academy's curriculum requirements in 2012, Capstone projects have provided midshipmen with a unique avenue to explore real-world issues and new territories in which to apply their leadership and academic skill sets. Each project is team based and represents studies in science, math, engineering, humanities and social sciences. Capstone projects not only offer midshipmen genuine experience, they also benefit the fleet, Marine Corps and, ultimately, each midshipman who commissions from the Academy and their shipmates.

"When you think about a Capstone project, the student is often working with incomplete information and crossing different discipline boundaries to define the problem," said Dr. Samara Firebaugh, whose term as Naval Academy Academic Dean and Provost began 1 July. "Evaluating the right sources of information to find the right quality of information, the creativity of structuring the solution, needing to communicate with stakeholders on the problem and on the solution—all of these are tremendous skills for a future leader in the fleet."

The SAR team defined, tweaked and communicated among its members in and out of the classroom. Constant evaluation and testing was crucial to maintain communication between the



PHOTO BY STACY GODFREY

locating camera, retrieval robot and the computer programming that dials in labeled images to detect all parties involved in the rescue.

SOLUTIONS WITH STAKEHOLDER SUPPORT

Accompanying the many institutional benefits of Capstone projects are sponsorship opportunities presented to several Capstone teams. More than 20 different organizations including Huntington Ingalls Industries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and NASA, sponsor multiple Capstone projects and independent research conducted by midshipmen. These sponsors provide first class midshipmen with additional resources for their projects such as funding for materials, organizational research tools and project-based support from staff members.

Sponsors give midshipmen the ability to move forward without limitations on their projects and bring extra expertise to help these young leaders solve problems in their industry. Sponsors also have the benefit of interacting with midshipmen and providing a preview of post-service career options in the professional civilian world. Through project collaboration, internship experiences and Capstone projects, organizations can begin to create bonds with midshipmen that often continue beyond the fleet.

"I am so grateful for the opportunity to connect with midshipmen during their time at the Naval Academy,"

SAR team member then-MIDN Eli Walz '23 explains the live camera feed attempting a search and rescue in the Aerial Robotics Testing and Mission Lab (ARTeMis) in Hopper Hall.

said Megan Cooney, manager of manufacturing engineering at Northrop Grumman. “We get to give them a sneak peak of Northrop Grumman and of the industry before they go into service so that when they are ready to come out of service, they can look to Northrop Grumman. They can look to an industry partner as a future path forward.”

The SAR team was sponsored by Boeing, and members were supported throughout their research and testing processes to help lead the team to a successful Capstone presentation. As a result, the SAR team will be presenting its findings at the International Conference on Unmanned Aircraft Systems (ICUAS) in Warsaw, Poland, later this year.

Along with external organizational support, midshipmen also receive internal support from Naval Academy faculty and staff. Each Capstone team is supported by a faculty adviser to help blend academia, creativity and problem-solving from the team’s ideation phase to its presentation on Capstone Day. Faculty advisers are selected based on each academic school at the Academy.

“What they have done is amazing,” said Richard O’Brien, a professor in the school of Weapons, Robotics and Control Engineering and the faculty adviser for the SAR team. “They’ve really learned to bring in a number of different areas, different skills, different technologies. What I told them when we first got to work was, ‘You’re going to remember the days where it worked; they’re exciting. But there are days where fewer component systems work than when you started.’ But they didn’t give up, and they kept pushing.

“That is an important life lesson—life is not linear. There are going to be successes; there are going to be setbacks. Keep working through.”

LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR FUTURE CREATIVITY

Many Capstone projects are further developed and followed up by upcoming first class midshipmen to advance the project from where teams left off before commissioning. The sponsored projects that are continually developed each year provide an even larger spread of new ideas and perspectives from each class year as they move forward. An example of continued creativity is the semi-autonomous Naval Academy Robot Football team sponsored by Lockheed Martin.

The team began with four robots and could only compete in the robot football combine to demonstrate basic skills. Now, there are five teams that operate the running back, quarterback, special teams, base and restoration and navigation for a fully operational team of ten robots. The Naval Academy team now competes in national competitions against top robot football teams across the country and will continue to grow thanks to financial, research and staff support from Lockheed Martin.

One of the final steps for Capstone projects is each team’s presentation of its findings on Capstone Day, which occurs in the beginning of May each year. This is a chance for midshipmen to present to customers, faculty and Yard leadership, members of the Brigade and industry sponsors. Individual team presentations and a poster session in Alumni Hall bring the projects to a close at the Academy. However, many of these projects will go on to the next level of research.

After presenting its Capstone project, the SAR team was able to answer questions and interact with representatives from Boeing to engage in Q&A session and discuss potential next steps for the project and additional resources that may be required.

The poster session hosts more than 300 Capstone projects and their teams. The first and second deck of Alumni Hall overflows with representations of yearlong dedication and a summation of four years of rigorous academia that challenges the Brigade of Midshipmen.

This is also a representation of the commitment of the first class midshipmen to combine varying perspectives and backgrounds to achieve a goal. Holding fellow midshipmen to high standards is part of the core values of the Academy and at the heart of Capstone Day. Combined with a set initiative from some of the top industry leaders in the world, the formula for success is set for truly special work.

“By working with the sponsors’ technologies, midshipmen are getting valuable, hands-on education

An example of a Capstone Day poster session. This particular team addressed accessibility by creating a low-cost automatic feeding device to assist quadriplegics in Puerto Rico.



PHOTO BY DEBBIE LATTI

A team of four midshipmen who developed and tested a semi-autonomous vehicle capable of carrying equipment to designated navigation points in a combat environment.

now, while also getting exposure to the type of systems that they will encounter in the fleet and Marine Corps,” said Jeff Webb ’95, president and CEO of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation. “Beyond the hardware and software, midshipmen also benefit from the mentorship and guidance of our sponsors’ employees, and in some cases are able to contribute to active project teams at sponsor companies. The collaboration we see through Capstone projects is a win-win for the Naval Academy, the participating midshipmen and our sponsor partners.” ⚓

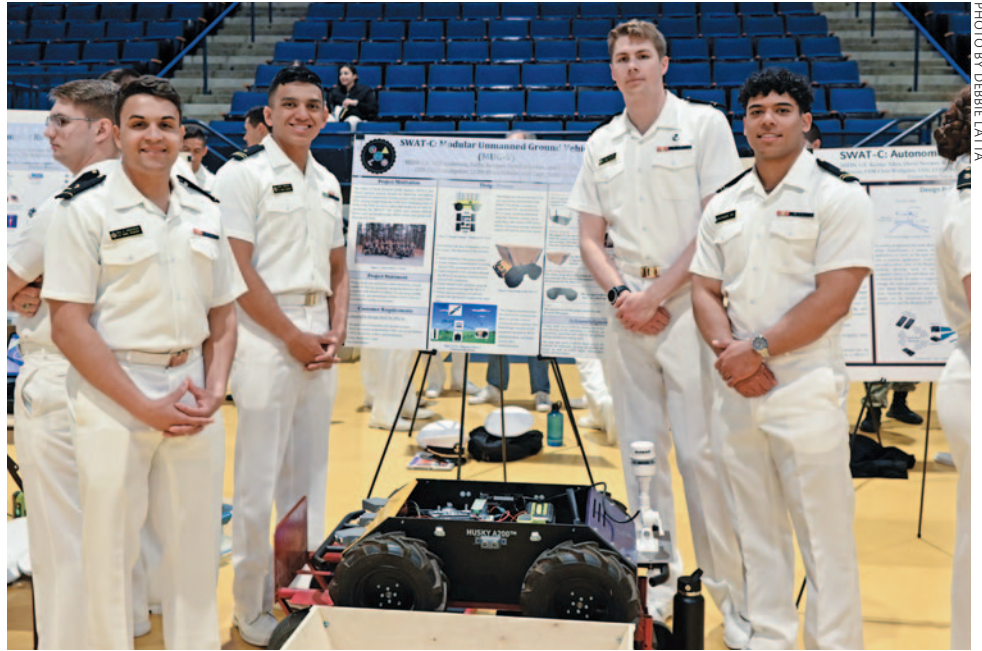


PHOTO BY DEBBIE LATTA

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FÁILTE

AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO DUBLIN

Dublin, Ireland, is a home-away-from home for the Lunger family. John Lunger '90 lived and worked in Dublin from 2004 to 2007.

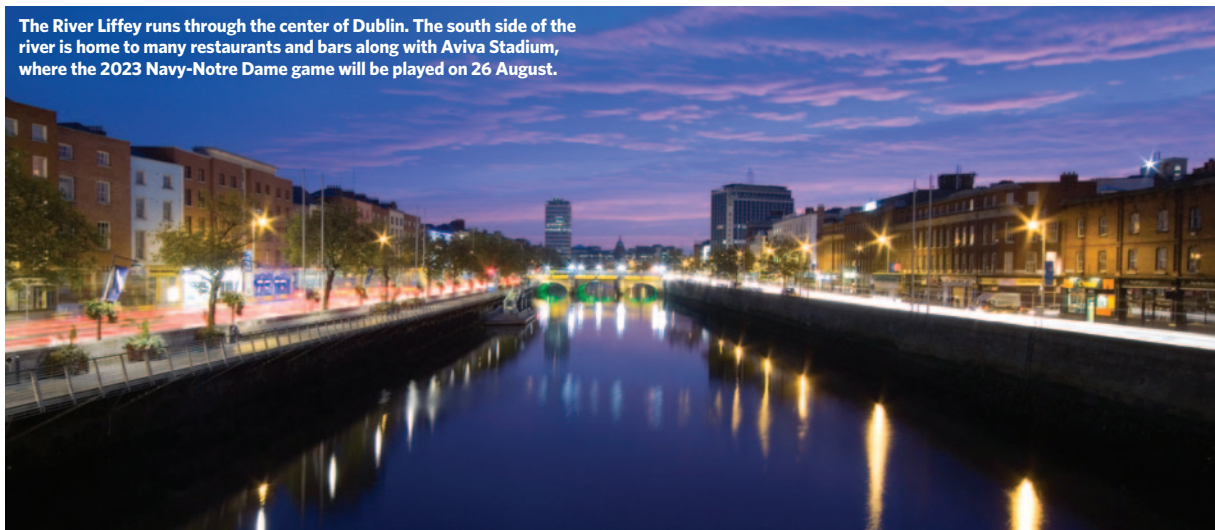
During that time, the Lunger family cobbled together a list of recommended destinations for their friends and relatives visiting the Emerald Isle. In preparation for the Naval Academy community's descent on Dublin for the Navy-Notre Dame game on 26 August, Carol and John Lunger provided *Shipmate* their "insider's guide" to the best of Ireland.

Although currently living in Philadelphia, PA, Dublin remains a special place for the Lungers, who returned to the city in the spring. The Lunger family attended the 2012 Navy-Notre Dame game and are excited to attend this year's battle between the Midshipmen and Fighting Irish in Aviva Stadium.

"Of course, the primary reason to go to the game is to support the Naval Academy and Navy football," John Lunger said. "Beyond that, it is a chance to share our love of Ireland with classmates and alumni and enable them to experience a bit of the great city of Dublin from a local perspective."



Navy and Notre Dame met on 1 September 2012 in Aviva Stadium in Dublin, Ireland. The Midshipmen open the 2023 season against the Fighting Irish on 26 August in Dublin.



The River Liffey runs through the center of Dublin. The south side of the river is home to many restaurants and bars along with Aviva Stadium, where the 2023 Navy-Notre Dame game will be played on 26 August.

LAUGHTER IS BRIGHTEST WHERE FOOD IS BEST —Irish Proverb

These are all in or around City Centre—most are located on the south side of the Liffey River—same side of the river as Aviva Stadium. All require reservations and many can be reserved through Open Table.

HIGH END

- **Merrion Hotel**—The Garden Room, chef Patrick Guillaud—www.merrionhotel.com/dine
- **Shelbourne Hotel**—The Saddle Room—www.theshelbourne.com/dine-drink/the-saddle-room
- **Marco Pierre White** (two locations)—www.marcopierrewwhite.ie/dawson

A NICE DINNER OUT

- **BANG Restaurant and Wine Bar** on Merrion Row, City Centre—www.bangrestaurant.com
- **Lennan's Yard Restaurant** on Dawson Street—www.lennansyard.com
- **Trocadero**—www.trocadero.ie
- **Fallon and Byrne Wine Cellar**—www.fallonandbyrne.com/restaurants/exchequer-street-wine-cellar
- **Ely Wine Bar**—www.elywinebar.ie
- **Roly's Bistro**—www.rolysbistro.ie
- **Caffe de Napoli**—www.ilcaffedinapoli.ie
- **Dunne & Crescenzi**—www.dunneandcrescenzi.com
- **Fade St. Social**—www.fadestreetssocial.com
- **Brasserie Sixty6**—www.brasseriesixty6.com
- **The Sussex**—thesussex.ie

RELIABLE RESTAURANTS

- **Milano** (several locations)—www.milano.ie
- **Elephant and Castle** (several locations)—www.elephantandcastle.ie

LUNCH/BRUNCH

- **Brother Hubbard** (several locations)—www.brotherhubbard.ie
- **Avoca Café** (several locations)—www.avoca.ie
- **Cinnamon** (several locations)—www.cinnamon.ie
- **Avoca Handweavers** continues to be good for lunch and breakfast, even though it has been sold to a big company. Great bakery, scones, etc. www.avoca.com/en/stores-and-cafes/suffolk-street

PUBS FOR LUNCH OR DINNER!

Most pubs serve food (pub grub) and we haven't had a bad meal yet.

DUBLIN SPIRITS

- **Guinness Storehouse**, despite being a big tourist draw, is cool. **The Gravity Bar** on top is great for a pint after doing the walk-around tour. www.guinness-storehouse.com/en/gravity-bar
- You can do the **Jameson tour** as well. www.jamesonwhiskey.com/en-us/visit-our-distilleries/jameson-bow-street-distillery-tour
- **O'Donoghue's** on Merrion Row. Famous for musicians (the Dubliners used to play here). www.odonoghues.ie/bar
- **Doheny and Nesbitt**—www.dohenyandnesbitts.ie
- **Brazen Head**. Claims to be the oldest pub in Ireland. www.brazenhead.com

FOR UPSCALE COCKTAILS OR DRINKS

- **The Horseshoe Bar** at the Shelbourne Hotel—www.theshelbourne.com/dine-drink/the-horseshoe-bar
- **Café en Seine**—www.cafeenseine.ie
- **The Blind Pig Speakeasy**—www.theblindpig.ie

FEATURE



From top to bottom:

The Guinness Storehouse in Dublin offers tours, food and the Gravity Bar, which provides 360-degree views of the city.

Pulling the perfect pint of Guinness at the Guinness Storehouse.

Epic: The Irish Emigration Museum in Dublin shares the stories of Irish people who made their marks around the world in all walks of life.

HISTORY

- The usual museums are free in City Centre (art, natural history, Irish history, Book of Kells, Dublin Castle).
- **The 1916 Uprising Museum**—www.anpost.com/Witness-history
- **14 Henrietta Street Museum**—www.14henriettastreet.ie

BEYOND DUBLIN

- Harbor around Dún Laoghaire—was the departure and entry point for many emigrants who left Ireland in search of work in England. It features the East Pier which offers views into the harbor. www.theirishroadtrip.com/dun-laoghaire-dublin
- Swim in the Irish sea at 40 Foot near Dún Laoghaire. en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forty_Foot
- Walk up Killiney Hill in Dalkey. Dalkey is an upscale seaside part of south Dublin, where the likes of Bono and The Edge of U2 live. www.wildirishwalks.ie/killiney-hill-walk
- Visit Howth Head and do the Cliff Walk. www.howthcliffwalk.com
- For a day trip, head south to the Wicklow Mountains. You can do Glendalough Monastery and Powerscourt Gardens and Waterfall in a day. www.glendaloughhermitage.ie/glendalough/ and www.powerscourt.com/gardens ⚓

FIERCE BUT FRIENDLY RIVALS



Rex Alexander '80

I knew the Navy-Notre Dame tradition as the longest running uninterrupted college football rivalry (including the painful NCAA record 43 game losing streak) but I didn't know why until a Notre Dame grad at a tailgater made me aware over a pint of ale. Though our two teams had played since 1927, it was solidified during WWII when the

Navy sent officer candidates to South Bend to save Notre Dame from closing its doors when so many young men went off to war and enrollment plummeted.

In fact, it seemed most Irish fans I spoke to in Dublin were aware of this fact while none of the Navy fans were, which was a bit humbling. Today, I live in Indiana surrounded by Irish fans so I make a point of sharing this important tidbit of history as often as I can. It is always received with a grateful, wide-eyed smile.

Tradition and camaraderie are what make college football so special. Despite a lopsided win-loss record, we are fortunate to be part of a rivalry that ranks as one of the most important in college sports.

Go Navy! Beat the Irish!

Rex Alexander '80



“I am convinced that my designation as a licensed **P.E. (professional engineer)** has directly contributed to my professional advancement and several technical promotions I have received by setting me apart technically from other candidates who were not similarly licensed.”

Robert M. Koch, Ph.D., P.E.
*Federal Chief Research Scientist
Adjunct Professor of Engineering*



LICENSURE

Professional licensure protects the public by enforcing standards that restrict practice to qualified individuals who have met specific qualifications in education, work experience, and exams.

Only a licensed P.E. or P.S. can include those initials behind their name and officially recognize themselves as a professional engineer or surveyor.

The credential immediately signifies that you have an acceptable engineering/surveying degree and verifiable work experience and that you've passed the exams to prove a level of minimum competence.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE 1961 LUCKY BAG

1961 Navy vs Notre Dame game.

NAVY AND NOTRE DAME FOREVER

By John F. Crowley '90

God. Country. Notre Dame.

Those three words are engraved in stone over the east door of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on the campus of the University of Notre Dame. They have been there since 1924 when they were dedicated by the university's then-President Father Matthew Walsh, CSC.

It was a tribute and honor paid to the more than 2,200 Notre Dame students who left school to fight in World War I. Forty-six of them made the ultimate sacrifice. Since then, Notre Dame has grown to be one of the nation's leading universities. But if it were not for the United States Navy, Notre Dame may well have shut its doors in 1942.

As was the case in World War I, Notre Dame men (and they were only men back then) answered the call to duty as World War II began. In less than a year, more than 80 percent of the enrolled students at Notre Dame left school to join the military, leaving only a few hundred students

(most all of whom were disqualified for service due to medical or other reasons) remaining in South Bend, IN. The university's finances were in shambles and there seemed to be no way to survive for this small, all-men's Catholic college.

Notre Dame's 13th President, Father Hugh O'Donnell, CSC, recognized the extraordinary needs of the nation during the war effort. He realized, too, Notre Dame's long-standing commitment to the service of the nation. That commitment went all the way back to the university's founding when a 28-year old French priest (yes, a French priest founded Notre Dame, not an Irish one ... hence the name) named Father Edward Sorin, CSC, decreed upon founding the school that "This college ... will be one of the most powerful means for good in this country." And that mission included a deep commitment to military service.

During the Civil War, future Notre Dame President Father William Corby, CSC, would offer prayers of absolution to the

famed "Irish Brigade" of the Union Army at Gettysburg. A statue capturing that poignant moment stands in front of the priest's residence hall on the Notre Dame campus today. An exact replica stands as well at Gettysburg on Cemetery Ridge.

By 1880, formal military training was instituted at Notre Dame for most all students—and many graduates would go on to serve in the armed forces. During the war, Father Walsh contacted Admiral Nimitz and offered the university campus, facilities, faculty and resources to train Navy officers needed for World War II. Well-trained Navy officers would be crucial for America's victory in the war. And it would prove critical to the survival of Notre Dame. Very quickly, Notre Dame became "Annapolis West."

From 1942 to 1946 at Notre Dame, more than 12,000 midshipmen would study, train and be commissioned as officers in the United States Navy. More than 300 Notre Dame graduates would give their lives during World War II, 19 of them current or former football players. Among the many Notre Dame men who left the university to serve abroad was legendary Irish head football coach Frank Leahy.

As Father Theodore Hesburgh, Notre Dame's longest-serving president (1952-1987), would later state: "We were out of business during World War II. The Navy came in and kept us afloat until the war was over."

Notre Dame's thanks, and its very existence today, is deeply owing to the United States Navy. That experience in World War II would forever shape, strengthen and expand upon the spiritual and patriotic roots at Notre Dame. Indeed, while many civilian universities booted their ROTC from campuses during the Vietnam War, Notre Dame refused.

"We said they're going to stay on campus," Father Hesburgh said. "This is their home, too. They're here, and they're going to stay here."

Today's Notre Dame is home to the largest NROTC training command in the nation. This year, Notre Dame commissioned more Navy and Marine Corps officers than any institution after the Naval Academy. That continues the very long tradition of Notre Dame being

the second-largest commissioning source of Navy and Marine officers after Annapolis in our nation's history.

Notre Dame graduates include Admiral Christopher Grady, the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Admiral (select) William Houston, nominated to serve as director of Naval Nuclear Propulsion; and General Bryan Fenton, commander, U.S. Special Operations Command.

There is so much more, though, than a shared history and football connection between these two great schools. There is a common and special sense of mission and purpose to each. There is a sense of honor that touches these two schools that few can equal.

There is a sense that each in its own distinct way is training a generation of "servant leaders" grounded in a moral base that sometimes seems so lacking today. I know this personally as I have had deep connections to each school and to the Naval service. Serving as a former member of the Naval Academy Class of 1990, as a naval intelligence officer and now on the Board of Directors of the Naval Academy Foundation, I marvel at the "honor, courage and commitment" of this generation of midshipmen. Likewise, as a graduate of the Notre Dame Law School and a Notre Dame dad (our daughter, Megan, was ND Class of 2019) I have witnessed and lived the "spirit of Notre Dame."

Perhaps nowhere in the Yard is a similar Navy spirit more evident than at the Stockdale Center for Leadership and Ethics. It was here, and the entire Naval Academy, that in November 2022 we hosted friends from Notre Dame who had never before visited the Academy. Among the many from South Bend coming on this recent visit included Notre Dame's Associate Provost; the director of the Office of Military and Veterans Affairs;

and the director of the University's International Security Center. The director of the Stockdale Center, Colonel Joe Thomas, USMC (Ret.), led the Navy welcome delegation and hosted the day with his Naval Academy colleagues. Thomas also has a deep connection to both institutions, having served as the Marine Officer instructor at Notre Dame's NROTC unit in the 1990s.

The purpose of that initial visit and meeting of Notre Dame and Naval Academy leadership was to lay the groundwork for a series of future programs, collaborations and joint education. That day, and in the months that have followed, we have together discussed ways to extend and enhance the relationship between the schools well beyond the gridiron.

We have discussed joint symposia and perhaps even advanced degree programs together. One key component of fostering collaboration is to leverage the experiential learning programs at the Naval Academy to include Notre Dame NROTC midshipmen, and to build upon the experience of both institutions and their prior programs in experienced based leadership abroad.

To advance this vision, my wife, Aileen, and I are honored to underwrite a pilot program in the summer of 2024 taking highly qualified midshipmen from both schools to Europe to study history, moral leadership and ethical decision making in World War II. We will visit Churchill's War Rooms, the Royal Naval College, Bletchley Park and the battlefields of Normandy, culminating at the American Cemetery.

Our hope is that these future Navy and Marine Corps officers will together learn in-depth the many hard-fought lessons about and from the "Greatest Generation." We hope, too, that this

program will further enable our Naval Academy mission to "graduate leaders dedicated to a career of naval service and ... assume the highest responsibilities of command, citizenship and government."

Leaders from Navy and Notre Dame will play a unique role in shaping our Naval Service, the United States and the world in the decades ahead. We believe that this experiential learning program and other areas of learning together will be a fitting tribute to the history of the special relationship between Notre Dame and Navy.

Perhaps all the more fitting, that this journey takes us together back to a time more than 80 years ago when we needed each other most. And most importantly, we hope it lays the foundation for many more areas of collaboration ahead, all with the sole purpose of strengthening our nation, which is so urgently in need of great leaders.

God. Country. Notre Dame. Navy. Forever. 🇺🇸

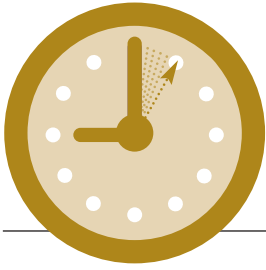


John F. Crowley '90 attended the Naval Academy from July 1986 to December 1987. He went on to earn a BSFS from The Georgetown School of Foreign Service, a JD from the University of Notre Dame and an MBA from The Harvard Business School. He is the executive chairman of Amicus Therapeutics, a global biotechnology company he founded to develop treatments and cures for people living with rare genetic diseases, including two of his children, Megan and Patrick.

The Crowley family journey is portrayed in the major motion picture Extraordinary Measures starring Harrison Ford, Brendan Fraser and Keri Russell. Crowley served as a Navy Reserve intelligence officer from 2005-2016. His assignments included service with the Joint Special Operations Command, the Naval Special Warfare Development Group and the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. In 2011, he served as the deputy J-2 for a joint special operations task force in Afghanistan. Crowley delivered the commencement address to the Notre Dame Class of 2020 and was awarded a doctor of law degree, honoris causa.

"We were out of business during World War II. The Navy came in and kept us afloat until the war was over."

—Theodore Hesburgh, Notre Dame's longest-serving president (1952-1987)



FIVE MINUTES WITH...

HALEY CARTER '06

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

Haley Carter '06 was named vice president of soccer operations and general manager for the Orlando Pride women's professional soccer team on 30 January 2023.

It was the culmination of years of preparation, work and dedication for the former Navy goalkeeper. Carter, who served two tours in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, positioned herself to realize a longtime goal by gaining experience as a professional soccer player, a coach, a business executive and earning a MBA and juris doctor degrees.

Carter served as an assistant coach at Huston-Tillotson University, Sam Houston State and the University of Houston. From 2016 to 2018, she served as an assistant coach for the Afghanistan Women's National Team. In 2019, she was a consultant for scouting and recruitment with the Houston Dash, another professional women's team in the National Women's Soccer League, and served as an assistant coach with the Antigua and Barbuda Women's National Team.

In 2021, she played a central role in helping evacuate members of the women's national team and their families out of Afghanistan as the Taliban was retaking control.

Carter recently shared her journey from the Naval Academy to the GM suite with *Shipmate*.

Shipmate: What drew you to the Naval Academy?

Carter: I decided I wanted to attend Navy in middle school. While in high school, I was recruited by other Division I universities to play college soccer, but my heart was set on Annapolis. The opportunity to attend such a prestigious school, to learn leadership and life skills like time management and navigating pressure in high-stress situations and to serve my country after graduation were all draws for me. The chance to play Division I college soccer was a definite bonus, but it was the curriculum, the focus on leadership and the opportunity to serve that sealed the deal for me.

Shipmate: What lessons learned from being a midshipman and on the Academy's soccer team have you leaned on during your post-commissioning career?

Carter: The most important lesson I learned as a midshipman and as a member of the Navy women's soccer team revolves around relationships and the importance of surrounding yourself with people who will both encourage and challenge you. I haven't accomplished a single thing in my life without someone else supporting me and without a close circle of confidantes offering guidance and constructive feedback. My roommates and a handful of teammates at Navy have been with me every step of my journey. No chance am I where I am today without fostering those relationships, being willing and open to receiving honest feedback about challenges I'm navigating or goals I've set and sharing the credit for my successes with my circle.

Shipmate: How did your time as a Marine Corps officer influence your leadership style? How were you tested while serving in Iraq?

Carter: My service and time in Iraq feel like a lifetime ago. I've lived so many experiences since then that it's hard to look back and draw on tests from that time and pinpoint how they've influenced my leadership style and who I am today. What does stand out from my time in the Marine Corps and overseas is how much it has influenced my perspective on hard conversations, what defines an "emergency" and the comfort of making decisions with only 80 percent of the information. Witnessing adversity of the highest order has also given me a perspective that very few industries or professions ever could, and it certainly makes one appreciate all one has in life.

Leading in a corporate setting, in a sports setting and in the Marine Corps has personally required I adopt a unique approach and skillset for each environment. What has remained consistent throughout is the ability to influence through servant leadership. I still eat last, I carry team bags and I take out my own trash. There's nothing I ask of our staff or our athletes that I'm not also willing and able to do. No one person in our organization is more important than the team or the club and that goes from our marquee athletes all the way to our ownership group. I am incredibly privileged and fortunate to be able to work in an environment where servant leadership imbues our entire culture and to work with the expert staff and elite athletes that I do, day in and day out.

Shipmate: Did you ever envision yourself as a general manager (GM) of a professional sports team?

Carter: Absolutely. Serving as a vice president of soccer operations and GM has been my dream for quite some time. I set the goal for myself to one day serve as a GM while I was still playing professionally and every decision that I've made over the last decade was to help prepare me for that and ensure I was well-equipped and qualified when the time came. Pursuing my MBA, attending law school and becoming a licensed attorney, and advancing my coaching career while also advancing my corporate career were all decisions that I made with the end goal being to land a GM role.

Ultimately, my goal has been to serve in an executive position whereby I could positively influence the professional women's game and truth be told, I'm still pinching myself that I finally get to do that every day.

Shipmate: What drives your life of service?

Carter: I grew up in an upper-middle class family in the suburbs of Houston, TX. I never wanted for anything, and my support structure was second to none. I recognize the extreme privilege that comes with an upbringing like that and how, by pure luck, I was born into a system where I was cared for, encouraged and supported along the way. That said, I have a moral obligation to serve my country, my community—local and global—and to fight for and give others access to the sort of opportunities I was given. It's an imperative for me to show up every day and work to serve and give back. I believe that when much has been given, much should be expected, and service to my country and to my community is the vehicle through which I deliver on those expectations. □



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ORLANDO PRIDE

THANK YOU

for a successful
Great Class Challenge!



\$2,356,721

TOP 5 ALUMNI DONORS

1984	472
1987:	358
1978:	341
1965:	269
1974:	202

TOP 5 CLASS PARTICIPATION

1984:	51.70%
1965:	48.29%
1978:	39.88%
1987:	37.88%
1967:	29.38%

Thank you for making this such an exciting year for the Great Class Challenge! Your efforts to support the Academy, spread the word and connect with your classmates have made a tremendous difference. Congratulations to all of the classes in the top five of each leaderboard and BZ to the Great Class of 1984 for taking both top spots this year! The Class of 1984 had a record breaking year with over 50% alumni participation—truly the GOAT!

We look forward to seeing what you all can accomplish in 2024.

6,314

6,314 IS A RECORD BREAKING
NUMBER OF ALUMNI DONORS

11.38

11.38% ALUMNI PARTICIPATION
DURING THE CHALLENGE

27

27 CLASSES MATCHED OR
SURPASSED THEIR TOTAL
ALUMNI COUNT FROM 2022

9

NINE CLASSES MORE THAN
DOUBLED PARTICIPATION:
**2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012,
2013, 1987, 1989, 1999**

14

14 CLASSES BEAT THEIR RECORD
FOR NUMBER OF DONORS DURING
A CHALLENGE

U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY FOUNDATION

GREAT CLASS CHALLENGE

75 Classes. 5 Days. 1 Mission.



PHOTO BY DEBBIE LATTI



MARCHING ON FAIR WINDS AND FOLLOWING SEAS TO THE CLASS OF 2023

The Naval Academy Class of 2023 graduated on 26 May. The 1,018 newly commissioned men and women include 744 Navy ensigns and 257 Marine Corps second lieutenants. While the graduation ceremony was the marquee event, Commissioning Week also included the Color Parade, Ring Dance and a performance by the Blue Angels. The Class of 2026 followed its Sea Trials with the Herndon Climb on 17 May and finished in two hours, 31 minutes and 51 seconds.

PHOTO COURTESY OF USNA



Above: The annual Color Parade was held on 25 May on Worden Field.

Left: The Class of 2023 celebrates its graduation with the traditional cover toss on 26 May. The class commissioned 744 Navy ensigns and 257 Marine Corps second lieutenants.

FEATURE



PHOTO BY DEBBIE LATTI
Joanne and VADM Sean S. Buck '83, USN, join members of the Class of 2025 at the Youngster Luau on 17 May.

THE BEAT GOES ON

On 18 May, the Class of 1961 handed sponsorship of the Naval Academy's Pipes and Drums to the Class of 1998. The Pipes and Drum band was formed in 1996 through an endowment from the Class of 1961. The initial and sustained strong support from the Class of 1961—including kilts/uniforms, logistics, instruments and lessons for novices—was instrumental in the rapid establishment of an Extra Curricular Activity. CB Johnson '98 and Commander Jason Fox '98, USN, served as the first pipe major and drum major, respectively. Early performances included a few members playing at events such as the Marine Corps Ball. The band's first public appearance outside the Academy was the 1998 Southern Maryland Celtic Festival as part of the Massed Bands. The band has grown to support the Brigade through noon meal formation, parades, football games and performs several concerts each year. They are one of the only three U.S. active-duty pipe bands in operation.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ELLIE NICHOLS
RADM Jerry Smith '61, USN (Ret.), hands over Pipes and Drums sponsorship to CAPT Dave Forman '98, USN, class president, as CDR Jason Fox '98, USN, original drum major; Coreyanne (Rickwalt) Armstrong '98; Ed Kitlowski, bagpipe instructor; and Pipes and Drums band members look on. At left rear: Charlie Glendenning, first pipe instructor, and Steve Porter, a current pipe instructor.



PHOTO BY KELLY ESKELSEN
HISTORIC LEGACY—CAPT Timika B. Lindsay '92, USN (Ret.), celebrated her daughter, ENS Elise M. Lindsay '23, USN, commissioning into the fleet on 26 May, marking the first Black mother and daughter graduates of the Naval Academy. CAPT Lindsay's son, MIDN Eric M. Lindsay '25, USN, will join his mother and sister as an Academy graduate in two years.

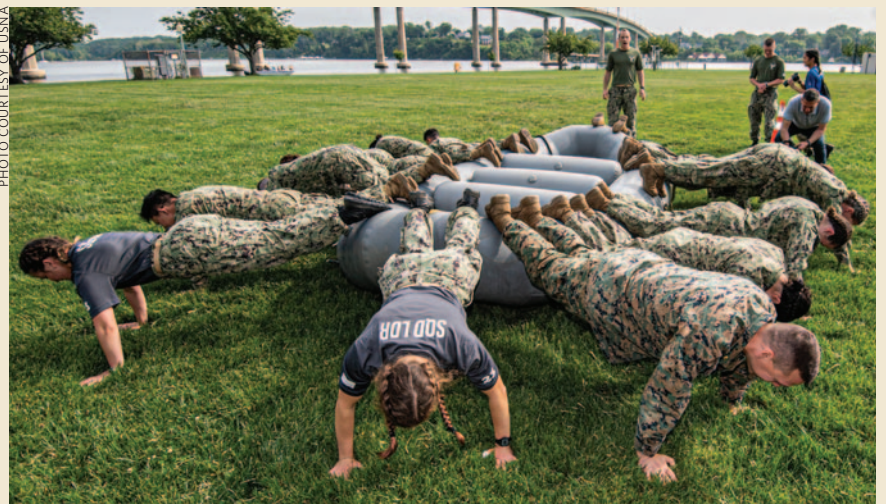


PHOTO COURTESY OF USNA
The Class of 2026 were put to the test on 15 and 16 May during Sea Trials. They persevered through 14 hours of physical and mental challenges to cap their plebe year and set the stage for climbing the Herndon Monument.

WATER POLO TEAMMATES 'SET A HIGH BAR' WITH CLASS OF 2023 RANKINGS



ENS Graham Lindner '23, USN, left, and 2ndLt Peter Hillen '23, USMC, were leaders in an out of the pool for Navy's water polo team. Hillen finished first among his class in overall order of merit, while Lindner finished third.

Second Lieutenant Peter Hillen '23, USMC, and Ensign Graham Lindner '23, USN, battled together as teammates on Navy's water polo team. As classmates, they had a friendly rivalry over who would finish atop the Class of 2023's merit rankings.

Hillen would take the crown with Lindner finishing third. While class rank was a conversation topic late in their firstie year, each said they were more focused on their post-commissioning assignments. They also credited their

fellow classmates on the water polo team for fostering a culture of success in and out of the pool.

"I think the best thing I can do is try to forget about (rankings) as soon as possible because for each of us, it's on to the next thing," Hillen said. "There's no time to rest on our laurels."

Lindner concurred.

"I have so much respect for everybody who graduates regardless of their class rank," Lindner said. "There are much harder things coming up for both of us. I'm excited to get after that."

Hillen, who service selected into the Marine Ground community, was a dual major (physics and history). He said being a water polo team member helped with time management.

"Our coaches do a pretty good job of prioritizing our lives as midshipmen," Hillen said. "It's at least as important for them for us to be good midshipmen as we are water polo players. It's been a good community to allow us to succeed."

As he closed out his Academy career, Hillen served as a company training officer. He worked with plebes to ensure they received what they needed and help set them on a good trajectory for the next three years. He said the eight first-class athletes on the water polo team helped set a standard for their successors to strive for.

"Our whole class of firsties on the team has this culture of excellence in and out of the pool," Hillen said. "Our greatest contribution has been that culture."

Lindner said the top three class finishes for him and Hillen reflect the standards set by the Class of 2023 and Coach Luis Nicolao '92.

"It shows what we're about and the kind of culture we're trying to build as a team," Lindner said. "We're really hard workers and that doesn't stop when we leave the pool."

Coach Nicolao said two of his athletes finishing in the top 3 of the merit rankings is a testament to their commitment to be the best in all aspects of midshipmen life. He understands the challenges presented by the Academy's academic requirements coupled with the responsibilities of being a varsity athlete.

"It's truly an honor for our program," Nicolao said. "These are two really special kids. I'm really proud of these guys. To have two athletes in the top 5 of their class, is really special for our program."

The Class of 2023 is leaving a lasting legacy, Nicolao said.

"Leadership is always by example," he said. "This group of guys has really set that example in and out of the classroom. That's what you need to build a program, for the underclassmen to see the upperclassmen perform in and out of the pool. These guys really set a high bar." 🏆

PHOTO BY DEBBIE LATTA



SUPPORT CHAIN—Members of the Class of 1973 congratulated their *Another Link in the Chain* 50-year counterparts during the graduation ceremony on 26 May and provided them their gold insignia bars.

PHOTO BY KELLY ESKELSEN



GOT IT COVERED—An enterprising young Naval Academy graduation attendee amassed a collection of covers nearly as large as himself.

ALUMNI SOAR AS BLUE ANGELS TEAMMATES

As the Blue Angels roared over the Class of 2011's graduation ceremony, Julius Bratton had modest aspirations.

Bratton knew he was heading to Pensacola, FL, to begin aviation indoctrination in June 2011. He dared to dream he'd one day pilot a fighter jet. Joining the exclusive Blue Angels team wasn't even a consideration.

During Commissioning Week for the Class of 2023, now-Lieutenant Commander Julius Bratton '11, USN, and five other Naval Academy alumni on the Blue Angels team served up another unforgettable performance. Bratton, who flies the No. 5 lead solo F-18 Super Hornet, savored the opportunity to return to Annapolis with the Blue Angels.

"There is no way to describe the out-of-body experience that is flying a fighter jet in a high-performance demonstration over your alma mater," Bratton said.

He advises the Class of 2023 and future generations of midshipmen not to place self-imposed caps on their potential.

"Never sell yourself short. You can and will accomplish great things by making intentional small actions every day," Bratton said. "The Naval Academy prepares everyone who walks through those halls to achieve excellence. It's truly an honor to support the Class of 2023 during their graduation."

Bratton was joined by Blue Angels teammates and fellow Naval Academy alumni:

- No. 1 Pilot Flight Leader/Commanding officer Commander Alexander P. Armatas '02, USN;

- No. 2 Pilot Right Wing Lieutenant Commander Christopher Kapuschansky '12, USN;
- No. 7 Narrator Lieutenant Commander Thomas Zimmerman '09, USN;
- Executive Officer Commander Jon Fay '00, USN; and
- Supply Officer Lieutenant Paul Kruger '17, USN.

Armatas said he was inspired watching the Blue Angels perform during Commissioning Week as a midshipman. He was particularly impressed with their teamwork and precision in action. He said the busy nature of fleet life has only allowed him a couple opportunities to get back to Annapolis. He was thrilled to get the chance to return this year to fly over the Severn River in front of the current Brigade of Midshipmen.

"I was a firstie 21 years ago, and it's very exciting to have a chance to go back to fly with the Blue Angels where it all started," Armatas said.

Fay said returning to the Yard with the Blue Angels, as frontline ambassadors for the fleet and to welcome the newest Navy and Marine Corps officers, is a moment he will always remember.

"There are so many iconic images and traditions at the United States Naval Academy, especially during Commissioning Week," Fay said. "To be a part of this rich heritage—to perform for the Naval Academy midshipmen, staff and their families during this pinnacle week and also support the graduation day flyover is electrifying and an absolute honor for us all."

From left to right: No. 1 Pilot Flight Leader/Commanding Officer Commander Alexander P. Armatas '02, USN; No. 2 Pilot Right Wing Lieutenant Commander Christopher Kapuschansky '12, USN; No. 5 Lead Solo Pilot Lieutenant Commander Julius Bratton '10, USN; No. 7 Narrator Lieutenant Commander Thomas Zimmerman '09, USN; Executive Officer Commander Jon Fay '00, USN; and Supply Officer Lieutenant Paul Kruger '17, USN.



Top: Six Naval Academy alumni are on this year's Blue Angels team No. 1 Pilot Flight Leader/Commanding Officer CDR Alexander P. Armatas '02, USN, and No. 2 Pilot Right Wing LCDR Christopher Kapuschansky '12, USN. They performed over the Academy during Commissioning Week in May.



Bottom: No. 5 Lead Solo Pilot LCDR Julius Bratton '10, USN, and Blue Angels teammate No. 6 Opposing Solo Pilot LCDR Griffin Stangel fly over the Severn River during Commissioning Week in May.



ANGEL ADVICE

It had been about nine years since Zimmerman was last in Annapolis. The Baltimore native said he was enamored by the Blue Angels when his parents brought him to see them perform over the Academy when he was 6 years old.

He said a setback during his third class year at the Naval Academy put service and teamwork in perspective. Zimmerman blew out his knee during fall lacrosse training and was sidelined the rest of the year. He said life had been relatively easy until that point but facing adversity forced him to recalibrate his thinking.

"I tried to find a new role with the team and still contribute and be an active member," he said. "Learning to pick yourself up and succeed after not doing well or getting hurt, you understand everyone is important."

The Blue Angels team's success hinges on that principle.

"Spectators see the Blue Angels perform in the air show, what we don't see is the maintenance and support team behind that," Zimmerman said. "Without them, those one through six jets would never go airborne."

Kruger said the lesson that has stuck with him is that words matter, especially when addressing your subordinates. He said as a leader, your team's mistakes are equally yours and you should own them with your people.

He said leaders can set the tone by listening, through their actions, and attitude.

"Enter every room humbly and with a relentlessly positive attitude no matter what," Kruger said. "A positive attitude is contagious. Never pass up a chance to recognize your people. Listen to your chiefs and your sailors.

Fay, whose father-in-law served as a Blue Angels crew chief in the early 1980s, said the Naval Academy taught him a lot about hard work and leadership. Those attributes figure prominently with the Blue Angels team.

"The team is more important than the individual," Fay said. "My teammates are counting on me so I cannot let them down because I am unprepared, tired or hurt. Ultimately, our team comes before any of us individuals. I believe the Naval Academy, most notably through its physical mission, impresses on all midshipmen priceless lessons in selflessness, persistence and time management, as well as grit, accountability and, most of all, teamwork."

Excitement awaits the Class of 2023 as junior officers in the Marine Corps and Navy, Armatas said. He said leaning on familiar lessons will help get them through the challenges of leading.

"You will get out what you put in so work hard, take care of the people around you and focus on the mission," he said. "As long as you put your command first, you'll support the mission, and ensure that our Navy and Marine Corps continue to be the preeminent naval force in the world.

"Also, it's possible to be really good and have fun. Try to do both and you'll have a great career no matter how long you choose to serve." ⚓





STRENGTHENING THE CHAIN OF OUR LINKS FOR LIFE

Dr. Natasha Sistrunk Robinson '02



RADM Arthur J. Johnson Jr. '79, USN (Ret.), is a mentor with Leadership LINKS. He said the intergenerational nature of the nonprofit allows for the transfer of knowledge between mentors and their mentees. He is joined, left to right, with Jenesis Bannarbie, MIDN Nilah Williamson '25, and Ashley Robinson.

“Hit a bulkhead!” I could hear her voice reverberating through the hallways of the Naval Academy Preparatory School. The year was 1998, and the voice belonged to Midshipman Second Class QuaWanna Reddick '99 (now Bannarbie). She was loud, confident and strong. A voice that could not be ignored, not by the prior-enlisted personnel or the football players who were twice her size. If command presence were a person, it was her.

She made it clear to us that we had not yet earned the right to be called midshipmen. I took that as a challenge. Standing there sharply dressed in her khaki uniform and sparkling polished shoes, she made a believer out of me. She was incomparable. Because I saw her and she looked like me, I believed that I could be just like her. When people in the culture say, “Representation matters,” this is what they mean.

Young people who do not have access or opportunity, knowledge of what is available to them, the ability to dream about a hopeful future or a community of people who intentionally invest in you—like those in my small rural town of Orangeburg, SC—may not discover what is possible or figure it out on their own. Someone in the community must put service before self. This is a lesson that I learned early, and it was only reinforced during the four years by the Bay.

Six Naval Academy alumni established a unified network of mentors for Leadership LINKS Inc.—programs and offerings that prepare Black girls and young women for service in their communities, in uniform and in the marketplace. The nonprofit provides opportunities and access for exposure to STEM, business and entrepreneurship, media and arts, and military and government. Over the span of eight years, the far-reaching leadership development and education opportunities given to many dozens of program participants have come full circle where a second-class midshipman at the Naval Academy reflects the nonprofit’s origin story of mentor development that began in Bancroft Hall.

When I became a plebe, Midshipman Reddick was leading and mentoring me as the president of the Naval Academy Gospel Choir. As a brigade striper and English major, she took time to pay attention, read through my essays to provide feedback and correct me when I was wrong. She told mentoring stories of others like Midshipman Tasya Young '97 (now Captain Lacy) who was for her, what she became to me. This is how mentoring crosses and impacts generations; we take what we receive, and we pass it on. During my time at the Naval Academy, my path crossed with Lieutenant Commander Tracey Nicole Hayes '92, USN (Ret.), who not only taught leadership but created a safe space for Black female midshipmen to gather, learn from and support each other.

The mentorship and partnership received at the Naval Academy were not exclusively from women. There were also men who took time to pay attention, ask questions, watch with an intent to learn and generously share their knowledge and support to fulfill the mission. Rear Admiral Arthur Johnson Jr. '79, USN (Ret.), was that manner of superlative leader. Our paths crossed when he was participating in a senior officer forum at the Academy in the early 2000s. I was among the midshipmen who offered strategies for helping the Academy move forward. He listened intently when I spoke.

“I was totally amazed from what I heard from her during discourse,” he said. “Her ability to talk truth to power was impressive.”

Here we are today—he, a man who was commissioned the year I was born—partnering together more than 20 years later to raise up the next generation of leaders of character. I graduated in the first class post-9/11 and was commissioned as an officer in the United States Marine Corps. I selected USMC service in large part because of the mentorship that I received from then-Captain Ahmed Williamson '94, USMC (now BGEN). He served as the officer representative of the gospel choir.

After completing my first tour at Camp Lejeune, NC, I returned to our beloved alma mater to work as a diversity admissions counselor in the Office of Admissions. Working in partnership with male leaders like Lieutenant Davede Alexander '01, USN,

FEATURE

we implemented strategies that recruited the most diverse class in the Naval Academy's history, laying the foundation for the diversity that we see represented and normalized in today's Brigade of Midshipmen.

'United Over Shared Commitment'

The Naval Academy produces leaders who link up, gather communities and do what is right. We learn and challenge each other to become better. As a collective, we are only as strong as our weakest link. This is true for any family, community, church, school or country.

After transitioning from the Marine Corps, I continued public service as a federal government employee at the Department of Homeland Security. In addition to the important work of our nation's security, I began writing, speaking, coaching and consulting on a national level. There were peers that I longed to connect with and people that I wanted to serve. In 2012, I started to dream and pray.

"God, please connect me with like-minded people who understand that we will have a greater impact collectively than anything either of us could ever do alone."

My initial thought was to grow a network: a community where we could encourage and support each other's efforts. The purpose was two-fold: To grow in our own knowledge and development; and to take everything that we have learned or experienced and commit to raising up the next generation of leaders.

Bannarbie '99, Hayes '92, Johnson '79, Alexander '01 and T. Lacy '97, all said, "Yes!" We are six Black Naval Academy graduates who united over our shared commitments to leadership, mentorship, education, public service and faith. We know the Naval Academy produces leaders who assume the highest level of responsibilities, whether in military command, government or as public servants and citizens, and we desired to share the lessons that continually shape us.

We incorporated Leadership LINKS Inc. as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit in August 2015, and will be celebrating our eighth anniversary with the third annual Green and Black Gala in Durham, NC, on



PHOTO COURTESY OF YURIVAYSANT OF VAYSANT VISUALS

26 August, at the Brier Creek Country Club. Find out more by visiting www.greenandblackgala.org. The purpose of our nonprofit is to *engage and equip servant leaders who are committed to using their skills and resources for the greater good of humanity*. Since we are forever bound together by the Naval Academy's mission to develop leaders morally, mentally and physically, together, we are now committed to growing a Leadership LINKS Network.

The Leadership LINKS Network is an international, multi-ethnic community of men and women who strategically partner together to advance our nonprofit's work. The Leadership LINKS Network includes businesses, churches and schools, as we are committed to making long-term investments to raise up the next generation of leaders.

Unlock the Leader Within

At the nexus of our planning, one of our founding directors, Alexander, said, "If you want to change a community, if you want to impact lives, start young and then raise up the leaders that are going to be the change-makers in their communities." We listened and committed to making intentional, strategic and long-term investments by providing mentorship, offering leadership education that includes character and spiritual development and creating access and opportunities for those who otherwise would not have them.

In 2015, we launched a pilot program in Maryland for what would become our "Walk in Purpose" Leadership Summer Program for Girls. Among the program attendees was sixth grader Nilah Williamson, daughter of Brigadier General Ahmed Williamson '94, USMC. Throughout the program, we offered Leadership Exploration Workshops (LEW) to introduce participants to career fields where women have traditionally been underrepresented in the highest echelons of leadership. We focus on four career clusters: STEM; Business and Entrepreneurship; Media and Arts; and Military and Government. During the STEM workshop, Admiral Johnson (a retired Naval aviator and small business owner of Destiny Aviation Services) introduced the girls to aviation and put them on flight stimulators. On that day, Williamson decided that she wanted to



Natasha Sistrunk Robinson '02 works with Leadership LINKS mentees at a "Walk in Purpose" Leadership Summer Pprogram for Girls.

become a Marine Corps pilot. She is now Midshipman Nilah Williamson '25.

"I had the characteristics to be a great leader when I was 11 years old and Leadership LINKS took what I had and formed that," she said in a Leadership LINKS video. "With inspiration, Leadership LINKS taught me to be confident."

Observing Williamson's growth from her first Leadership LINKS program, mentoring her through her private pilot license training and now seeing her as a midshipman, Admiral Johnson said, "I'm proud to see where she's come from, to where she is now. She's like Exhibit A for what is possible," he said. "Williamson epitomizes Leadership LINKS' mission. Our product is the big measure. Seeing transformation and results makes our work worthwhile to me."

The Leadership LINKS Network sponsored Williamson's pilot license, therefore, contributing to one female pilot's work to bridge the gender gap in the aviation industry.

To date, the organization has hosted five "Walk in Purpose" Leadership Summer Program for Girls in grades six through twelve, with a goal for expansion to an overnight program in summer 2024. Our mentoring program for girls is executed throughout the academic year. We have completed six seasons with more than 100 girls who have participated in our programs from seven different states and the District of Columbia (given the hybrid delivery model where participants choose either a face-to-face or virtual program). Since we have several LINKS Leaders (program participants) like Midshipman Williamson, who have graduated high school and our youth programming, we recently expanded and completed the first season of our mentoring program for young women (ages 18-30). We are raising up global leaders. To date, we have sponsored leadership, education or service opportunities for our Youth LINKS Leaders to learn in Japan, Nepal, Israel, Costa Rica and London.

Most of our program participants are Black girls and young women. As we reflect on our mission "to offer leadership education that facilitates impactful living, character and spiritual development," we always keep them in mind as our primary

stakeholders. "Impactful living" means that we are creating access and opportunities, mentorship and sponsorship, and healthy experiences for their learning and growth. History reveals that this targeted group can lead, as we have seen through our own alumni ranks. My desire is that Leadership LINKS becomes for them who Reddick was to me, and who Young was to her. My greatest hope is that when people see the light that is at work within the leaders we mentor, when people see them embody our core values of Love, Inspiration, Network, Knowledge and Service, and ask, "When did it all change for you?" they will confidently respond, 'When I connected to Leadership LINKS,' and God will be praised for answering a simple prayer offered in faith.

We are grateful when Black women alumni like Lieutenant Chanet Stewart '98, USN, agree to serve as a mentor in our program; when Professor Lieutenant Commander Yasmin Towns '06, USN, (my former mentee, now peer) who is a permanent military instructor in the Naval Academy's Cyber Science Department serves on our board of advisors, teaches a LEW or volunteers with the leadership summer program; or when Naval Academy Battalion officer, Captain (select) Ladonna

LCDR Yasmin (Sauls) Towns '06, USN, a permanent military instructor in the Naval Academy's Cyber Science Department, participates in a Leadership LINKS panel discussion.



PHOTO COURTESY OF YURI VANSYGANT OF VANSYGANT VISUALS



PHOTO COURTESY OF PAUL MCFALL OF CAPITAL FILMS DC

Above: Natasha Sistrunk Robinson '02 is a mentor to MIDN Nilah Williamson '25 who has participated in the Leadership LINKS program since its inception in 2015.

Below, right: Intergenerational mentoring is at the core of Leadership LINKS. The Leadership Experience Tour (LET) 2023 featured a Women of Color Mentoring Dinner at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, PA.

(Gordon) Simpson '01, USN, serves on our advisory board. Our program participants need to see them in the same ways that Black and female midshipmen need to see Towns and Simpson on the Yard. “There are not a lot of people who look like me on the Yard,” Towns said. “I realized that by being a permanent figure here, I can have a legacy. I know that I am here to pay it forward. In the same way, Leadership LINKS is producing fruit and I want to be a part of that legacy as well.”

Paying it forward is about continually expanding and strengthening the links in our chain. With this focus, we are committed to mentoring across generations. We believe that mentoring is our good and responsible service for all that we have received from God and this great institution.

LINK UP With Us

We did not set out to start a nonprofit, and we cannot do this work alone. Our desire for service has expanded beyond what we initially dreamed of and as we approach our eight-year anniversary, we continue to work toward the organization’s sustainability. The burgeoning nonprofit has demands for program expansion outside North Carolina, and in response to the researched need, we seek to first scale our programming in the southern region of the U.S. We need to hire quality staff to support the expanding programming and organize our growing list of volunteers.

We need dedicated personnel to provide legal and financial services, including grant writing and development work. We need those who can help secure facility spaces for our programming and assist with organizing our leadership tours like our first Global Leadership Experience Tour (Global LET)—designed to chart the Underground Railroad north to Canada. We initially planned the Global LET for summer 2020, but postponed it due to the COVID pandemic. We want to complete this tour in summer 2024. Finally, we need experts in marketing, communications and storytelling.

We are all formed by places and people. The Naval Academy has made me the person that I am today. Where else can a smart, ambitious and athletic Black girl with natural leadership skills from a small rural town in South Carolina—that most people ride through, but rarely stop to visit—go to eventually become a doctor, author or editor of multiple traditionally published books, or a small business owner and launch a nonprofit with her friends? The answer is the United States Naval Academy.

The founders of Leadership LINKS have all been tested and have borne the strain, and we did not break. The Leadership LINKS story is the Naval Academy’s story. It is an American story. Thank you for spreading this good news and for LINKing Up with us at our official website, www.LeadershipLINKSInc.org, on social media (LinkedIn, YouTube, Instagram and Facebook) or via email at admin@LeadershipLINKSInc.org. 📍



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAPT NATASHA SISTRUNK ROBINSON '02, USMC



STRATEGIC PLAN 2030

EVOLVING TO BETTER SERVE ALUMNI, FAMILY AND FRIENDS



PHOTO BY ANNE SHARPE

The U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation's Strategic Plan 2030 emphasizes greater engagement and support for our alumni community. It is designed to strengthen the ties that bind alumni, family and friends of the Academy. The enterprise aims to meet alumni where they are such as chapter events and tailgates like this one before the 2022 football game at Cincinnati, OH.



PHOTO COURTESY OF USNA AA&F

As part of Strategic Plan 2030, the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation aims to support individuals and groups to unlock their full potential. This includes the Naval Academy Minority Association, a Shared Interest Group, which unveiled a monument to James Henry Conyers, the Academy's first Black midshipman, in Charleston, SC, in November 2022.

To ensure the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation (USNA AA&F) continues to fulfill its mission, the enterprise periodically reviews its operations, programs and services. Based on the evolving needs of alumni, family and friends of the Academy, the USNA AA&F recalibrates as necessary.

Following a nine-month review of all programs and services, the USNA AA&F crafted Strategic Plan 2030. This blueprint for the next decade places greater emphasis on engagement and support for the alumni community. Enhanced programs designed to meet alumni, friends and family of the Naval Academy where they are will further strengthen the bonds that unite us.

The Alumni Association's Board of Trustees approved Strategic Plan 2030 in May. USNA AA&F President and CEO Jeff Webb '95 discussed the philosophy behind Strategic Plan 2030 with *Shipmate*.

Shipmate: How was Strategic Plan 2030 crafted?

Webb: We worked hard over the last year. We used survey input, interviews, conversations and our own observations to map the way forward for the alumni association.

The first thing we did was revisit the mission statement. We developed a more concise and relevant version.

We strengthen our MEMBERS' BONDS to the Academy and to each other, to help them THRIVE AS LEADERS in and out of uniform and reach their FULL POTENTIAL.

Shipmate: How will this mission statement influence the USNA AA&F's operations?

Webb: With this mission as a guide, we took all our ideas and initiatives and organized them into four key areas: Connect. Communicate. Support. Anchor.

The first three are about how you experience us, whether it's the way we're communicating with you, or the way we're supporting groups or you as an individual. The fourth, anchor, is about ensuring our financial health and stability so we can continue to deliver these services.

While we had a business-like approach to this process, I would say it was fun work and we view it as important work as well. It's fun because we're going to be coming to individuals, chapters and classes, Shared Interest Groups (SIGs) and parent clubs and engaging with the alumni community wherever they are.

Shipmate: How will the USNA AA&F's Strategic Plan 2030 impact delivery of services and programs to alumni?

Webb: We'll be enhancing our level of support to individuals—technically, with policies, ways and ideas to make your group better. We think there's a lot of power within all the different groups and we think there's a lot of potential to unlock across the groups as well.

We also want to help individuals as they navigate career transition and other life transitions. We've been doing that, but we think we can do even more over time. It's an exciting time for us as we transition into the Fluegel Alumni Center and we launch this plan. We are thrilled to be on this journey with the alumni community and excited about the days ahead of us. ⚓



PHOTO COURTESY OF USNA&AF

In April, a special screening of the documentary *P.O.W.: Passing on Wisdom* was held for alumni at the American Airlines Skyview Campus in Fort Worth, TX. The U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation is committed to honoring heroes and celebrating their legacies.

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The NetWork

By Lieutenant Andrea Howard '15, USN

What I love most about the word “network” is the fitting imagery it inspires. First, the “net” must be cast to gather the potential nodes, but that initial assembly of individuals is the easy part. Then the real “work” begins. It takes sustained effort to not only build connection, but continually strengthen the links of the cable. Through the last large-scale gender integration of a naval community, the Women in Submarines (WIS) movement perfectly embodies the ethos of the NetWork.

The above description does not diminish the considerable effort required to heave the net, and in fact, the survival and growth of the ecosystem depend upon its repeated casting and gathering of new people. Lieutenant Jenna Westerberg '16, USN, and Lieutenant Isabel Krause '17, USN, became the line-handling dream team over the past two years, representing WIS as the two female submariners in the United States Naval Academy's Wardroom. At least once each semester, they hosted gatherings of more than 100 midshipmen in the new SCIF in Hopper Hall, facilitating enthralling conversations for prospective submariners with community giants like Lieutenant Commander Kristin Shaw '10, USN, Lieutenant Commander Kayla Barron '10, USN, and Lieutenant Commander Emma McCarthy '11, USN—the second female executive officer, the astronaut and the CNO's aide, respectively. Each session, six or more women of follow-on classes augmented the panels and breakout rooms to share fresh stories of junior officer sea and shore experiences.

With the nodes in place, the Submarine Officer Women's Network (SOWN) stands poised to establish and bolster connections once newly commissioned ensigns depart the shores of the Severn. Just shy of 300 members, the group's founding administrators include Lieutenant Commander



PHOTO COURTESY OF LT ANDREA HOWARD '15, USN

The women of the 2021 Crew of OHIO (BLUE) with LT Andrea Howard '15, USN, and LCDR Emma McCarthy '11, USN.

Jacqueline Penichet '13, USN, and Lieutenant Chase Pixa '17, USN, as well as four department heads who commissioned through ROTC. The space exists for high-level engagements with the vice chief of naval operations and the N1 Department, but also candid, peer-to-peer conversations about mentorship, command culture, reproductive health care and celebration-worthy milestones among this sub-submarine community. Lieutenant Sabrina Reyes-Dods '14, USN, and Lieutenant Christina Lanier '16, USN, —two of the Navy's WIS Coordinators at COMSUBLANT—have leveraged this group for accurate, deckplate feedback for the WIS Plan of Record, which sets the timeline for integrating female officers and sailors into more crews. Women in the Silent Service have a valued voice.

The WIS NetWork burst forth amid the vibrant buzz surrounding 40 years of women at USNA and now the first female Superintendent, but I would be

remiss not to mention the critical male allies on the Yard and in the fleet, like Lieutenant Jimmy Catina '16, USN, and Captain Chris Goodale '17, USMC, who wholeheartedly seek out and mentor future representatives of the WIS movement. I recently learned that I won the Navy's 2023 CAPT Joy Bright Hancock Award, but I sincerely credit all the above people and especially my Submarine Officer Advanced Course sisters—Lieutenant Commander Katie Wilson '14, USN, Lieutenant Commander Elizabeth Corcoran '14, USN, Lieutenant Ryder Ashcraft '14, USN, and Lieutenant Megan Kinsley '16, USN—for establishing, testing and always verifying my NetWork connection. ⚓

LT Andrea Howard '15, USN, is the navigator and operations officer on NEW JERSEY (SSN 796). She graduated with a double major in political science and Arabic from the U.S. Naval Academy and was selected as a Marshall Scholar.

BRAVO ZULU

1950s

'53: CDR Robert H. "Fuzzy" Knight, USNR (Ret.), was elected Commander of the Charleston, SC, Commandery of the Naval Order of the United States.

1960s

'68: Mark C. Treanor was named the 2023 recipient of The James Webb Award for his novel *A Quiet Cadence* by the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation as part of its annual awards program. It is given for a distinguished work of fiction dealing with U.S. Marines or Marine Corps life. **ADM Michael G. Mullen, USN (Ret.)**, was awarded an honorary doctor of law degree by Harvard University at its commencement ceremony in May for his many distinctive achievements during a 43-year career in uniform, culminating in his service as the seventeenth chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

1970s

'72: Charles "Skip" Lee finished his third term as the mayor of Sterling, IL, in May. During his 18-year presence on the city council, he led initiatives including ones related to economic development, riverfront development and social issues.

'74: CAPT Dave Johnson, USN (Ret.), was inducted with the Class of 2023 into the Eastern Shore Baseball Hall of Fame in Salisbury, MD. After retiring, Johnson served as an assistant coach for numerous teams on the Eastern Shore, including Parkside High School, Wicomico American Legion, Perdue Chicks and currently the UMES Hawks. His work included compiling overall statistics for many of those teams, with some dating back more than 20 years. He also kept the Eastern Shore Baseball League's statistics and standings for nearly 20 years.

'76: Jordan Smith was selected as an Amazon Future Engineer Teacher of the Year Award recipient. Smith is a teacher at Mountain View High



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CLASS OF 1972
Dr. Ray Glennon '72, CAPT Rick Rubel '72, USN (Ret.), and CAPT Tal Manvel '72, USN (Ret.), presented the Class of '72 Leadership Award to then-Midshipman (and now Ensign) **Faith K. Brooks '23, USN**, in May.

Class of 1972 Leadership Award

The Class of 1972 presented its Leadership Award to then-Midshipman (and now Ensign) Faith K. Brooks '23, USN. Brooks graduated with a 4.0 and was among the top 5 percent of her class in the Military Order of Merit. She is going to MIT after graduation, then planning to head to the Naval Air community.

Dr. Gene "Skip" Kohler '72 initiated the Leadership Award project several years ago, and he recently turned the responsibility over to **Dr. Ray Glennon '72**. □

School in California and is one of ten winners who received a \$5,000 cash award and \$25,000 to support the computer science program at Mountain View.

'78: Dana Sales was recognized as the 2023 Man of the Year by the Pajaro Valley Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture. He served 35 years as a trustee on the local and county boards of education and was also instrumental in the creation of local nonprofits that benefit children and education.

1980s

'83: CAPT Joseph L. Spruill, SC, USN (Ret.), was appointed to serve a four-year term on the Secretary of the Navy's Navy and Marine Corps Retiree Council. The Council advises the Secretary on matters of importance to the retired military communities of the United States Navy and Marine Corps.

'86: RADM Tom Luscher, USN (Ret.), was named the new board of directors president of The ASCEND Collective in May. He has been an advisor with The ASCEND Collective for more than two years as part of the original advisory board for Veterans ASCEND.

'87: Mark Kozar was awarded the Calendar Year 2022 (SECNAV) Department of the Navy (DON) Financial Management Lifetime Achievement Award. Kozar exemplifies the core values of the DON and his outstanding performance, actions and

contributions have had a significant impact to the DON and financial management field. **Mike Spanos** has been named chief operating officer of Delta Airlines. Spanos most recently was president and CEO at Six Flags Entertainment and previously spent more than 25 years in a variety of leadership roles at PepsiCo and the Pepsi Bottling Group. **Willie Jett** was appointed by Minnesota Governor Tim Walz as the state's commissioner of education in December 2022, and is responsible for more than 2,200 educational facilities and 880,000 students. Jett has taught, served as a principal and as a superintendent in the state education system for more than two decades.

1990s

'91: Dan Forry was named chief financial officer of the Penn Manor School District in Millersville, PA.

'92: CDR David B. Lilleflore, USNR (Ret.), was appointed CEO at Sunraycer Renewables in May. He is responsible for overseeing and growing Sunraycer's renewable energy platform, including its efforts to acquire and develop solar and battery storage projects in the U.S.

'98: Stacey Moy was named Special Agent in Charge of the FBI's San Diego Field Office. He is the first Asian American to hold the post. He joined the FBI in 2004.

2000s

'09: William Prom was selected as the 2022 Naval History author of the year by the U.S. Naval Institute for his articles "The Brothers Brown" and "When the War Against the Slave Trade Picked Up Steam" in *Naval History* magazine.

2020s

'23: 2ndLt Adrian Johnson, USMC, a Dallas native, received the key to Dallas in May from Marcus Luttrell, a Navy SEAL who was the lone survivor from Operation Redwing in Afghanistan. Luttrell was an honorary graduate with the Class of 2023. Johnson is a three-time brigade boxing champion.

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

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'64: Rich's classmates and wives honoring Susan

the El Cajon Boulevard Church of Christ in San Diego, the church Rich and Susan attended for many years. Susan was laid to rest at Miramar National Cemetery in San Diego.

Among those present at the funeral were twelve USNA 64 classmates and six of their wives.

Rick Mahan sent in the following photo taken on 4 April 2023 when **Tom Swartz** invited classmates to dine with him for lunch at the Towers in San Francisco. Tom and Marilyn moved in just last year and are really enjoying the luxury and convenience of a very impressive place.



Ed Schoenberger, Tom, Bob Lawrence and Rick enjoying themselves in San Francisco

On 16 May 2023 **Eric Westberg's** family members as well as his classmates and their spouses gathered at Arlington National Cemetery for Eric's inurnment with full military honors in ANC's Niche Wall.

Eric's wife, Lucia, along with their son Kevin and daughter Veronica, and their families were there, as were Ninth Company mates and wives **Gordy Clow** with Bernadette, **Chuck**

Robertson with Punker, **Gale Treiber** with Georgia, **Bob Orlosky** and **Emil Morrow**. Eric's close friend **Fred Crawford** from the 16th Company also attended.



Lucia being presented with Eric's Flag

After the service Eric's family, along with Gordy, Bernadette, Georgia and Gail gathered at a local restaurant for dinner. All agreed that it was a nice day of remembrance for Eric.



The USNA Contingent, Fred, Chuck, Bob, Gale and Gordy

Unfortunately, Eric's passing is only one of the most recent among a growing list of departed classmates. Accordingly, it is fitting to close this month with select passages from one of **Ted Lyster's** more poignant poems.

*Sunset and evening star,
A humble sailor's crossed the bar;
So open wide The Pearly Gates,
Give him the welcome that he rates.
His life's been spent, it's fair to say,
In sailing straight into harm's way.
He's helped to keep our Freedom dear
That we not have to live in fear.
So please, God, see he's treated well;
In life, he's seen the sights of Hell.
For God and Country he did serve;
And through it all he kept his nerve.
So, Lord, with heavy hearts we pray:
"Have mercy on his soul this day."
No more the oceans will he roam;
Your humble sailor has come home.*



Fair winds
and a quartering sea,
classmates

'65

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<http://www.daveand65.com/USNA65/>
<https://daveand65.wixsite.com/usna65photos>

Gone to their Great Reward since the last column: **Roger Fasting, Bob Hennessy, Jim Hatfield, Burt Saft, and Ken Castelano.**

I wish I had the space below to cite in detail the accomplishments and family status of all these great classmates. I don't. But please check the Last Call section, in this or a future issue, where you'll see the entries edited by our own **Bill Zuna**, who has performed this outstanding service for our class for decades. Thank you, Bill!

Jim Minderlein informed us on 28 Mar of the death of our classmate, **Roger F. Fasting**. Rog graduated from the 13th Company and was on the Company Staff for the Winter Set when Skip Orr was the Company Commander. He is the 7th of 21 graduates of that company to pass away. Roger, 81, passed away on 22 Mar in Wilmington, NC from complications of Parkinson's Disease. Roger served five years in



65/65 CLASS NEWS

the Surface Navy and then had a long career with AT&T. Roger is survived by his wife of 50 years, Elizabeth.

Steve McDonald was the first to inform us on 07 Apr that Col. **Robert "Bob" Hennessy**, USAF (Ret.) passed away on 27 Jan in Universal City, TX. He served six tours in Vietnam and one tour in the Persian Gulf at the start of the Gulf War. He taught overseas and stateside after he retired. Bob is survived by his wife of the last 17 years, **Cynthia**, and several children and step-children.

Jim Minderlein again informed us on 22 Apr of the death of **James Earl Hatfield**. Jim graduated from the 28th Company and is now the 10th deceased member out of his 24 Company-mates. He is survived by his wife, **Nancy**, and family. Jim received this notification from **Mike Eprecht**.

Jim Minderlein also informed us on 24 Apr of the death of **Burton Manly Saft**. Jim received this notice from both **Steve Mladineo** and **Thel Hooks**. Burt graduated from the 31st Company and is the 7th deceased member of the 22 classmates from that company. Burt had an outstanding and interesting naval career, going from surface to submarines, with command of USS Guitaro (SSN-665). Burt's wife, **Carolyn**, provided an obit of Burt and Bill Zuna got that into Last Call, so please go there for more details on Burt's life and career.

Once again, **Jim Minderlein** informed us on 10 May of the death of **Kenneth M. Castellano**, on 09 May. Jim received the notice from **Cary Van Haaren**. Ken graduated from the 9th Company and is the 7th deceased member of 22 from that Company. Jim started his career in the Surface Navy and retired as a Captain after 31 years, moving eventually into a second career with Raytheon. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, **Joanne**, a daughter and two grandchildren. If you are reading this column in July, be advised that memorial services for Jim are planned for 24 Jul at USNA. Inurnment will be in the USNA Columbarium.

John Wroten and **Gordie Clarke** reported on 02 May about Fred Hufnagel's Celebration of Life. Fred's passing was reported in the June column. This event was held at the Fairfax VA Country Club. There was a very large TV screen that continuously showed photos of Fred's most interesting and fulfilling life. In the photo below you'll see **Skip Orr**, **Gordie Clarke**, **Anne Hufnagel**, **Sam Dutrow**, **Ted Nanz** and **Bill Candler**, a childhood friend of Fred's. **John** and **Leahray Wroten** and **Merry Orr** were also in attendance.

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Jim Minderlein on 21 May reported about **Arne Soderman's** funeral service. His passing was reported earlier. He passed away on 22 Dec, and Arlington National Cemetery has arrangements set up for burial and full military honors on Monday, 24 Jul at 1500. His family has already had a Celebration of Life for Arne, but would welcome any '65ers in the Annapolis area to join the family at the U.S. Naval Academy Club on Sunday, 23 Jul before the burial date. The gathering starts at 1530. If you can join, please email pmcg333@aol.com.

And also look for **Ace Welch's** entry in June's Last Call. His passing was reported in the June *Shipmate*.

Whew! On to happier news:
From **Charlie Morrison**, 02 Apr

✉ We're still in Annapolis. Looking to sell our condo in Savannah and we're looking at lifecare places in Annapolis. Truth is I would rather age in place, but Susan says the house is too big. I'm sort of biding my time. I was conceived about two weeks after Pearl Harbor but born in Bremerton while the USS TENNESSEE (BB-43) was in the yard.

... and more from **Charlie** on 10 May

✉ I was commissioned a Marine in 1965, assigned the Infantry MOS after The Basic School and served two tours in Vietnam with two years in between at MB, Annapolis as XO. I was discharged in 1975, attended Covenant Seminary in St Louis for six years, was ordained in 1981 and went on active duty with the Army in 1982 as a Chaplain, served in Panama and Germany, did DS/DS IN '90 - '91, retired from Ft Benning (now Ft Moore) in 1999 and settled 10 miles north of Annapolis. I interviewed this morning for the Agent Orange and Gulf War Exposure Registries. It looks like I was exposed to almost everything under the sun in my over 30 years of service.

From **Ray Setser**, 16 Apr

✉ Got to stay active! **Jack Johnston**, **Rick Adams** and I got back home from a golf outing to Myrtle Beach this past Thursday afternoon. SUBLANT golf group, over 25 years old. Teed off Monday PM for 18 holes, 27 on Tuesday and Wednesday, 18 on Thursday before heading home!! Slept well Thursday night! Ray

From **Mike Luecke**, 17 Apr

✉ Here's a photo of **Mike** and **Maggie Luecke**, **Don** and **Karen Brown** and **Tom** and **Norma Morgenfeld** at a Golden Eagles reunion in San Antonio, TX 13-16 Apr. Cheers, Mike



From **Jette Browne**, 18 Apr

✉ **Nancy** and I are still living in our home here on the ocean in Jax Beach. The photo shows our 2 youngest of 7 grandchildren getting ready to leave for home in Chicago. We plan to age gracefully right here, if we can. Mayo Clinic is 15 minutes away. Warmest regards, Jette



From **Pete Lumianski**, 19 Apr

✉ Just wanted to let you guys know we made a little recent progress in our efforts to build a Cold War Monument in Phoenix using 65 tons of salvaged parts from the USS PHOENIX (SSN-702). The second skipper of the 702 - from 1982 to 1985 - was our very own classmate **A.W. 'Bill' Bower**. We received a fair amount of attention in the last month with two public events: after many years of hiding and deterioration in my garage and elsewhere, we repaired the eight-foot model of the 702 belonging to the City of Phoenix and placed it in the lobby of the beautiful downtown Phoenix City Hall. (...and more) (Pete provided lots of other nifty details on this project. Please contact him at prom65@cox.net for the full story).



From **Bob Stanfield**, 24 Apr

✉ We had a delightful visit from **Skip Gunther** and his wife, **Nancy** last week. He and Nancy were on a tour of the US from Georgia with their large travel trailer. Skip was my roommate 2nd class year along with **Mark Muhsam**. Skip also visited Mark in Arizona a week before visiting family members in the Los Angeles area. The saying, "Whenever 2 or 3 are gathered and old tales retold..." certainly came true. We had lots of fun sharing our midshipman stories, active duty, Vietnam experiences, and our careers since leaving the Navy. Skip and Nancy spent several years aboard their sailboat touring the world about 25 years ago. They are currently on their way to Alaska, exploring the sights along the way. My wife, **Kris**, and I spend most of our time close to home in Los Altos, CA these days, with an occasional visit to family in Seattle and day trips to local events and eateries. We keep busy with volunteer work, home projects, gardening, music, exercising and reading. I am enclosing a photo of Skip and Nancy's visit. Left to right: Bob, Kris, Skip and Nancy. Bob



From **Mitch Henderson** 09 May

✉ We have a '65 ZOOM group with the following Mission: "As a bonding crew, Leaving No One Behind, we help each other navigate the treacherous waters of Parkinson's, Agent Orange and related neurological diseases to find safe harbor and be home again." We don't really care what your affliction is, just that you want to share related tough health ideas and hopes and can tell a good sea story! We have 27 in our group including a few caregiving women; about 12 folks are on the Zoom call at 1300 EST every Tuesday. Call if you have a question or think you might want to join. 401-871-2030; Dace222607@gmail.com

There's another class cruise scheduled for August 2024! As of late May, 41 c'mates and spouses had signed up. If interested contact Mike Epprecht ASAP at mike.epprecht65@gmail.com.

Thazzit, guys! Aloha, Dave

'66

Life Membership: 66%
Donor Participation: 21.75%

Pres: **VADM John "Scott" Redd, USN (Ret.)**

Sec'y: **CDR Mike Baird, USN (Ret.)**
10439 Rivington Ct., Lone Tree, CO 80124
e: mike.baird@1966.usna.com

Website: www.usna66.org

Summer is nearly over, and Fall is near, which means football season begins. There isn't a great deal to report, but here's what I've received.

Carl McCullough reports on his visit to **Joan and Al Sears**.

✉ Jan, Scott and I, along with **Terrye and Robin Bellas**, had a great visit with **Joan and Alan Sears** in San Mateo, CA. The two pictures were taken by Scott and Terrye. A lot of wonderful memories were shared and enjoyed, and Al, despite declining health, remains upbeat and tough as nails. Thanks, Carl.



MCCULLOUGH, BELLAS AND SEARS



MCCULLOUGH, BELLAS, SEARS WITH SCOTT

John Scudi sent the following news about his and Pat's visit to Texas.

✉ Pat and **John Scudi** enjoyed a great visit with **Cleta and John Fredericksen** at their home in Georgetown, TX. One of the highlights of the Georgetown tour was the Veterans War Memorial and lovely park. To capture the moment and the visit, we searched for someone to take our photo - and of course, in the middle of this park who comes to the rescue, but a 1971 USNA graduate! His shirt was the giveaway - and then the stories began. John and John are pictured here with **Roland Weibley '71**. Roland spent 6 years in submarines and then left for the private sector. We had a delightful chat with him and his wife, Rachel, who are recent newcomers to the community.



CLETA, FREDDY, JOHN AND PAT



FREDDY, ROLAND AND JOHN

Thanks, John. Great story.

Wayne Lynn provided the following news on the 2023 Florida Comearound.

✉ This year's Florida Comearound (11-13 April) was another in a long series of wonderful, memory-making gatherings of Classmates and their spouses/partners and the widows of Classmates who have crossed the bar. We had 60 attendees, including 30 Classmates, 23 spouses/partners, 6 widows, and 1 granddaughter. That number has been nearly constant for several years now, although the composition changes somewhat from year to year.

This Comearound was held (for the 2nd time) at Fernandina Beach on Amelia Island, which sits on the border between Florida and Georgia and is the northernmost point on Florida's east coast. The location fairly demanded that we take the 3-hour guided cruise up the East River, past historic Cumberland Island, historic playground of the Rockefellers and Carnegies and current home to feral horses and one very elegant hotel, and close to Kings Bay Submarine Base. About fourteen of us also enjoyed a guided walking tour of historic downtown Fernandina, which has been governed by eight different nations since the 16th century. Another group was scheduled to take the tour the following day, but it was, sadly, rained out.

Evening events included an opening night cocktail reception, a second night reception and dinner, and a third night reception and dinner - all at outstanding local restaurants. For the last dinner, we had reserved the entire second floor of the restaurant (Café Karibo), while other patrons occupied the ground floor. On our way out, the downstairs diners complimented us on our outstanding rendition of "The Navy Blue and Gold". A few of the many photos taken are provided below.

Of course, the best part of these mini reunions is reminiscing with old friends and getting to know new ones. Lynne and I are



'66: DINNER

already looking forward to the 2024 Comearound!



CRUISE PARTICIPANTS



WALKING TOUR

Thanks Wayne! Maybe Leah and I will make it next year.

Charlie Johnson sent the following summary of **Paul Cotter's** inurnment at the USNA Columbarium.

✉ 13 April 2023: A beautiful, warm spring day in the Yard; blue sky, puffy clouds, cherry trees blooming on Hospital Point, and sailboats on the Severn as back drop. Just like a spring P-Rade.

At 10:30 a.m., Paul Cotter (17/25 companies, 5th Batt) again reported to the Naval Academy, in 'waiting station', at the Columbarium. As well as extensive family, Classmates and friends, Paul specifically was accompanied by his wife Dina, two daughters Judy and Kristin, son **Steve Cotter '90**, and three granddaughters in uniform; 1stLt Rayelynn Brackett, USMC; Cadet Pvt. Erica Brackett, USMA '26; and MIDN 1/C **Mary Brackett '23**. Each is serving our nation and continuing Paul's military legacy. Each placed within Paul's vault a personal memento to accompany him until called 'alongside: 1st Lt Rayelynn's Marine

shoulder bar, Midn. 1/C Mary's service blue blouse anchor, and Cadet. Pvt. Erica's West Point shoulder board. Mary chose a commission as a Marine Officer and is headed for infantry training like her sister.

Our Classmate **Jim Persels**, Paul's company mate of both 17 & 25, delivered a moving, and at times humorous, remembrance of Paul's love of the Academy; his family; Classmates, especially company mates in utmost need; mentored Midshipmen graduates; and 'fun'.



CADET PVT ERICA BRACKETT USMA '26, 1STLT RAYELYNNE BRACKETT, USMC, and MIDN 1/C MARY BRACKETT '23

Paul will be missed by so many for his warmth, sincerity, caring and humorous ways. Nearby are Dina and Paul's granddaughters. Charlie - Thanks for providing this.

✉ Sadly, I report the deaths of Classmates **Rich Starostecki** (34th Co) and **Bill Johnson** (1st Co). **Bill Caiazza**, Co Rep for 34th Company reported Rich's death of 4 May. **Denny Zveare** reported Bill's death of 5 May. Though the Class has made a memorial donation for each Classmate, anyone wanting to make a similar donation can do so by donating to the USNA Foundation Alumni Center Class of 1966. If you submit via check, include "Alumni Center Class of 1966 in the remarks. Please keep both families in your prayers.

Robert Johnson sent the following item of news.

✉ Spoke to **Bob Verratti** on Derby Day Saturday. He and Kathleen were in LA this time catching it on TV. I told him there are only three places they could be found on the first Saturday in May each year: Philadelphia, Los

Angeles, or Louisville. They have a promising 3 year-old colt, aptly named "Lord of the Navy." His sire is Lord Nelson. So, he has great Navy lineage. He broke his maiden second time out, and runs again on May 24th at Parx in Philadelphia, site of his first win. That one will go off before press time next issue, but I'll get you the result. Apparently, they really like this thoroughbred, and his daddy had some real speed.

Thanks, Robert.

And that wraps up this issue. Many thanks to all who provided items of interest. I also remind you of the valuable sources of information available on our Class web site, usna66.org, where you'll find up-to-date Class news and, for events such as the Florida Comearound, many more pictures. In the coming months there will also be a section on getting assistance for issues involved in aging, as indicated in Class President Scott Redd's recent letter to the Class. **Phil Bozzelli** has taken the baton to lead this effort for us. Until September...All the best, Mike!!!

'67

Life Membership: 76%

Donor Participation: 33.63%

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

It looks like this will be another one of those columns almost wholly dedicated to those we've lost. Since our last column **Lowell Boaz, Jim Goebel, Rich Zino, and Ron Holcombe** have died as did Nancy Hawes, Pat's widow.

We heard from Dave Boaz, Lowell's son, that Lowell had passed away on 21 March 2023 in Fredericksburg, VA. He was born on 5 March 1945 in Los Angeles and after graduating with us in 1967 served as an NFO in the Navy for 20 years. He flew 116 combat missions in Vietnam. He held a Master's Degree in Aeronautical Engineering and an MBA. Upon retirement, he worked as a defense contractor. Lowell was active in several churches over his life, and especially enjoyed singing in the choir. He served as Boy Scout Troop leader and took great joy in flying his single engine Glastar aircraft that he built himself. He worked with the Young Eagles program to introduce youth to the magic of flight. He and Diana had been married for 54 years. In addition to her, he is survived by son David (Shannon), daughter-in-law Tricia Boaz, and four grandchildren. He was pre-deceased by his son Daniel. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to First Christian Church, 1501 Washington Ave., Fredericksburg, VA 22401.

Dennis Lister and **Rob Skrotsky** wrote that Lowell's memorial service in Fredericksburg on 5 April 2023 was well attended with six Classmates, including 4 from Lowell's 34th

CHAPTER NEWS

Alabama

BGO Area Coordinator: **Brian Campbell '94, USNR**
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USNA Alabama Alumni Chapter

Pres: **Greg Hess '85**
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Vice Pres, Central Alabama: **Eric Riddle '94**
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Vice Pres, Northern Alabama: **Michael McFarland '04**
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Treas: **Dennis Read '59**
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Exec. Assist: **Carolyn Freeman, son, Reid '24**
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South Alabama Chapter

Pres: **Brian Campbell '94, USNR**
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Sec'y: **Ruth Lichtenfeld**
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Arizona

BGO Area Coordinator: **Capt. Chris Palmenberg**
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Arizona Chapter

Pres: **Capt David M. English '86, USMCR**
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www.usna.com/Chapter/us/arizona

Sec'y: **Steven W. Ranes '02**
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Website: <http://arizona.usnachapters.com>

Southern Arizona Chapter

Pres: **Thom Rossa '63**
e: TRossa@hayes-soloway.com

Sec'y: **Jim Hillenmayer '73**
e: jhillenmayer73@msn.com

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

In April, the Southern Arizona Alumni Association Chapter hosted Dr. Sofi Loomis, the Senior Director, Alumni Regional Engagement & Outreach, at a luncheon in Green Valley, AZ. Dr. Loomis provided updates on the new Alumni Headquarters and programs of interest to Alumni Chapters.



Dr. Sofi Loomis with Chapter President Thom Rossa

Chapter Treasurer John McCarthy '76 traveled to Annapolis to attend the RADM Simpson leadership forum for the alumni chapters.



Southern Arizona Chapter Spring Dinner

For the first time since 2019, the Chapter held its annual spring dinner at a local country club in early May.

The spring dinner is the last Chapter event before the summer break. A full schedule of activities will resume in September.

Arkansas

BGO Area Coordinator: **David Chucoski**
e: david.chucoski@gmail.com

Arkansas Chapter

Pres: **Denny East '08**
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Vice Pres: **Doug Waller '02**
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Sec'y Treas: **Jason Coyle '09**
e: jason.coyle@gmail.com

Asia

BGO Area Coordinator: **Wes Trubeville**
e: bgoarea501coordinator@gmail.com

Guam Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Noel M. Enriquez '84, USNR**
P.O. Box 26849, GMF, Barrigada, GU 96921-6849
h: 671-472-9629; f: 671-472-1966
c: 671-777-9629; e: NME@1984.usna.com

Philippines Chapter

Pres: **COMMO Alberto B. Carlos '89, AFP**
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Sec'y: **Capt Carl Roy Catalan '08, PMC (PN)**
p: +63-917-706-8042; e: Roitime23@gmail.com

Website: www.groups.yahoo.com/communityusnaphi

Singapore Chapter

Pres: **Say Yong Tan '05**
e: say@2005.usna.com

Vice Pres: **Andy Harrell '12**
e: andyh125@gmail.com

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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Tokyo Bay Chapter

Pres: **Mori Nixon '81**
1-15-19-301 Minami-Aoyama
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California

Los Angeles Chapter

Pres: **Adrian Montecinos '14**
p: 562-587-3690; e: admont19@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Paris Scott '12**
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Treas: **Michael Seaver '83**
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BGO Area Coordinator (LA County/Orange County):
CDR Steve Shatynski '83, USN (Ret.)

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e: Stephan.shatynski@wellsfargoadvisors.com

BGO Area Coordinator (Riverside/San Bernardino):
CDR Bill Lauper, USN (Ret.)

p: 619-840-2846; e: lauperwm@gmail.com

Hello Shipmates!

A few months ago, we began the shift to MyUSNA.com website. During this transition period we want to reiterate that our chapter will no longer use Alumni Magnet and all information/communication from chapter leadership will disseminate via MyUSNA.com. Through MyUSNA, alumni will have access to activating/renewing membership, email updates from our chapter, and visibility to all events for this upcoming year. As always, please consider becoming a member as membership allows us to put on events uniting alumni in the LA/OC area.

If you're interested in joining the OC/LA Alumni chapter, or want to help in any way please contact our chapter leadership via MyUSNA.com. We look forward to meeting new Alumni and helping grow our local chapter!

In recent news, The San Gabriel Valley luncheon group was pleased to host Anthony Hom and his parents Rosa and Jay at Mimi's on



Los Angeles Chapter: L to R: Glenn Shindler '64, Jay Hom, Rosa Hom, Beverlee Kelly, Jim Kelly '66, Rob Bolster '62, Anthony Hom, Eric Krause '00 and Nancy Tamny. Not in photo: Pete Tamny '65 and Mitch Marich '71

26 May 2013. Anthony has been accepted for the USNA Class of 2028 starting in June 2024 after a year at NAPS in Newport RI, which begins this summer. Anthony was introduced to us by his B&G mentor **Eric Krause '00**.

Upcoming Events:

August 9: Board Meeting (Zoom); Open to all alumni

August 17: San Diego SACC 2023

August 26: Navy vs. Notre Dame Watch Party

September 9: Board Meeting (Zoom); Open to all alumni

Go Navy!!! Beat Army!!!

Paris Scott

years went by so quickly! Congratulations to these proud parents.

On the same day as our Firstie celebration, we were proud to watch Sacramento midshipman **Roanin Krieger '26** and Navy Rugby win their first ever Division 1-A National Championship over UC Berkeley. Roanin led the team in scoring with eight points and finished the game 4/4 on conversion kick attempts. He ended the season as Navy's second-best scorer with 113 points.

We continue to host monthly breakfast, lunch, and happy hour events and planning our first ever (or first in a while) "Founders Day" event in the fall as well as working with the Run to Honor SIG to host a running event in memory of local alumni who made the ultimate sacrifice.

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, 7:30-9:00 am.

Monterey Bay Chapter

Pres: **LT Vic Kanth '15**
e: usnaalumnimontereybay@gmail.com

Corr Sec'y: **Steve Tackett '87**
e: stackett99@yahoo.com

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

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

Sacramento Chapter

Pres: **Terri (Riggs) Maginnis '82**
p: 916-203-5115; e: tmaginnis@yahoo.com

Vice Pres: **Brian Grubbs '92**
p: 916-712-1747; e: bgrubbs1992@gmail.com

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**
p: 916-996-1333; e: djoyce1961@hotmail.com

Our Firstie Parent Recognition Celebration event was one of the highlights of the past few months. On a sunny afternoon in May, twelve of us gathered at the home of Erin Darke and Yihwin Yuang (**Lilian Yuang '25**) to recognize the parents of three Sacramento midshipmen from the class of '23. The parents are looking forward to Commissioning Week activities and the next chapter in their Naval adventures; they all can't believe that the four

2nd Wednesday: 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.

Our VP, **Brian Grubbs '92**, is sending monthly emails for reminders and updates to our calendar. You might see the subject changed from just Navy to 'All Academy' events as we are including Air Force and West Point. 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: **Keith Kitagawa '92**
e: President@usnaaasd.com

Vice Pres 1: **Debbie Balsley '93**

Vice Pres 2: **Michael Philbrook '83**

Treas: **Juan Rose III '04**
e: treasurer@usnaaasd.com

Sec'y: **Mark Powers '06**
e: secretary@usnaaasd.com

Corr Sec'y: **Charlie Carey '70**
p: 619-589-0945; e: cdcarey@1970.USNA.com

Website: <http://usnaaasd.com>

BGO Area Coordinator: **Mike Philbrook '83**
e: michael.philbrook@1983.usna.com



A few changes since our last report in March here at the San Diego Chapter. We have decided to go to quarterly lunches in the future or as the opportunity arises when we get speakers that have difficult schedules and we need to take advantage of their availability.

We have new officers in place including the following:

Keith Kitagawa '92 - President

Debbie Balsley '93 - VP 1

Mike Philbrook '83 - VP-2



Sacramento Chapter: Clockwise from left - George Taggart '82 (daughter Jillian '23), Terri (Riggs) Maginnis '82, Erin Darke (Lilian Yuang '25), Teri and John Villanueva (James '17), Jeff and Jennifer Garrett (Dylan '23), Yihwin Yuang (Lilian '25), Laurie and Robert Sinel (Samantha '23) and Brian Grubbs '92, and (not pictured) Darcie Garcia (Meredith '26).

CHAPTER NEWS



San Diego Chapter: Jeff Webb '95 - back row 4th from right - and the San Diego Chapter Board.

Dillon Taylor '21 - VP Membership
Dan Zastrow '06 - VP Communications
Juan Rose '04 - Treasurer
Mark Powers '06 - Secretary

Also, we hosted a luncheon in April along with the Women's SIG for Jara Tripiano '97 and currently the Chief Engineer NIWC Pacific who brought us up-to-date on what her job entails and what's going on at NIWC Pacific.



The April lunch with NIWC presentation. L-R Rufus Moore '53, Jara Tripiano '97, Keith Kitagawa '92, Cindy Wiese '12, and Christine Gatti '12.

Recently we were honored to host Jeff Webb '95, CEO of the USNA Alumni Association & Foundation at a San Diego Chapter Board meeting. Jeff talked and answered questions and was informative and clearly enjoying his new role as CEO. The new alumni center will be the first opportunity the organization has had to bring the Foundation and the Alumni Association together under one roof. We should see great improvements in the near future.



Jeff Webb '95 - center right - talking to board members.

Check our page on MyUSNA for events and happenings here in San Diego. If you live in the area contact us and join in. If you are visiting and looking for classmates you're more than welcome at any of our events.

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Pres: **Bobby Nefzger '14**
 e: bobbynefzger@gmail.com
 Vice Pres: **Mike Fazio '85**
 e: mikefaz85@gmail.com
 Sec'y: **Ray Fazio '57**
 e: rayfaz57@pacbell.net
 Treas: **Brian Frack '89**
 e: frackbrian@gmail.com
 Website: <http://sfbayarea.usnachapters.net>
 BGO Area Coordinator: **LT Paul Kepner '04, USN (Ret.)**
 e: paulmkepner@gmail.com
 Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/usnaasfbayarea>
 Instagram: @usnaaa_sfbaychapter
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SF Bay Area Chapter Networking at Patriot House Pub, San Francisco

The Chapter held a networking get together in downtown San Francisco on April 26th. Alumni met for social and business networking, swapping sea stories from USNA and the business world. **Matt Sturges '89**, gave a quick talk on the Moffett Field Museum and the importance on business networking. A nice time was had by all.

Santa Barbara Chapter

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 Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/usnaalumssantabarbara/>



San Francisco Chapter: Alumni in attendance were: Steve Hall '75, Martin Mason '75, James Gafford '78, Frank Moreman '81, Paul Monger '82, Mark Gorenflo '83, Jeffrey Hall '83, Tomoko Tanaka '83, Michael Fazio '85, Steve Taylor '87, Klaus Barboza '88, Brian Frack '89, Matt Sturges '89, Shawn Cullen '90, Michael Thiel '93, Rob McHenry '95, Ben Moglen '97, Christopher Curtiss '98, Douglas Seich '98, Dan Beck '99, Marie McHenry, Pete Stevenson '00, Anthony Perez '06, Mike Scanlon '08, Justin Rogers '11, Chester Heer '12, Morgan Oblinsky '13, Bobby Nefzger '14 and Zachary Speirs '15.

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Connecticut Chapter

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Ahoy Shipmates!

Well in past article I discussed the waters surrounding the Yard. But if you can get outside the gate and be restricted to within 7 miles of the Chapel Dome, one of the places you will come upon is, of course, Annapolis. Perhaps you knew of it as that town out there, and perhaps you lived on the east coast nearby and know something of its history... but perhaps I can add to that. In the Vietnam Era, the Capital of Maryland had the downtown state office buildings and supporting structures, but we did not interact

with the politicians all that often. And back then DOWNTOWN was the two-lane Main Street, which led to West Street... but there was little down THERE that got our attention or required a visit. The food was close to the Yard, and so were the Drag-houses.

But Annapolis was, and IS, famous: (this from Annapolis.gov)

The Many Names of Annapolis

The capital of Maryland was originally called "Providence" when settled by the Puritans. It was later called "Anne Arundel's Towne" after the wife of Lord Baltimore, who owned the proprietary colony. It wasn't until a Royal Governor, Sir Francis Nicholson, moved the capital here from St. Mary's City that the small seaport received its present name. Sir Francis chose to honor Princess Anne, heir to the throne. In 1708, as Queen, she chartered her colonial namesake as a city. Her royal badge, with a crown over the entwined thistle of Scotland and Tudor rose of England, is depicted on the Annapolis flag.

Unique Streets

Sir Francis designed a city worthy of a Queen. Instead of using a customary grid, he constructed a baroque plan similar to the magnificent capitals of Europe. He drew circles with radiating streets to create focal points and give importance to certain structures. In one circle is St Anne's, the Episcopal Church, regarded as the spiritual center of the city. As the Church of England, it was originally supported by taxpayers.

In the other circle, rising over the harbor, is the State House, the seat of government. This urban design was admired by frequent visitor George Washington, who later had Pierre L'Enfant incorporate it into the nation's capital.

Becoming Prosperous

A thriving shipping industry brought great wealth to Annapolis, reflected quality of life. Prosperous merchants and "planters" sought to duplicate the amenities of their homeland in the colonies and built mansions that would rival any in England. These homes, which entertained many of our Founding Fathers, had ballrooms and formal gardens where lavish social functions occurred.

Today, Annapolis has more of these original 18th century structures standing than any other city in the United States. Many are open to the public, where their beauty and architectural style is a major attraction. Historic Annapolis Foundation operates the William Paca house as a museum, and also has a wealth of information about many of the other historical treasures.

Horse Racing

The landed gentry also brought another passion from home to the colonies. Horse racing began here with the importation of several of the "foundation" breeders of today's thoroughbred champions. Race Week, and the festivities surrounding it, brought enthusiasts from all over the colonies to watch and wager. In one of



Southwest Florida Chapter: SW Florida Service Academy Challenge! Left to right: Ed Firth '75, Dick Mu '72, Rick Poole '67, Don Geismar '67, Karl Krumbholz '68, Bruce Needham '68 (Team Captain), Doug Bishop '69, Mike Mazurczak '67, Tom LaForce '69, Dave Tate '67, and Tom Daley '69.

his diaries, George Washington laments losing a few shillings at the Annapolis track.

And a little detail: Annapolis is the only State Capitol in the Lower 48 to not have a railroad today.

Annapolis and its close surroundings are places of rich heritage and amazing beauty. What a great place to have our school!!

Looking for information you have that I should share with Shipmates. Send to DavCandler@aol.com.

Dave Candler '67

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Costa Rica Chapter

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Florida

Gainesville Chapter

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Despite the challenges presented by Hurricane IAN which decimated much of Fort Myers, Florida which encompasses most of the northern area for this chapter, we were able to reconvene our meetings enabling about 55 graduates to attend the monthly meetings.

CHAPTER NEWS

In December 2022, we held a joint luncheon with our West Point counterparts to watch the Army-Navy game. While we were disappointed at the outcome, the spirit of the assembled, joint group (about 80 grads) was notable.

In January 2023, we meet for the usual monthly luncheon at the Wyndemere Country Club and were briefed on the latest China-U.S. relations by the Honorable Sandy Randt, a former U.S. Ambassador to China. The evolving Taiwan situation was discussed with several questions being raised. We were grateful that Ambassador Randt gave us the time to attend and to answer all questions.

For February, we had our usual Valentine's Day Luncheon. After champagne and roses for our significant others, we heard from Lindsey Sablan, morning anchor for WINK News, the local CBS affiliate and daughter of our Membership Coordinator, **Susie Sablan '81**. As well as being the WINK Anchor, she is also an Adjunct Professor at Florida Gulf Coast University. Her topic was fake news and she provided a stimulating account of how she and her colleagues review and present the news each day.

March saw a presentation by one of our members, RADM **Marc Palaez '68**, former Director of Navy Research, who discussed his own involvement with several projects. While not revealing any secrets, Marc presented great deal of food for thought on the Navy's direction. Interestingly, this position is on the same level as the CNO!

In April, we held a ZOOM call with ADM **Mike Mullen '68** during the luncheon at the Audobon Country Club. This activity proved to the chapter that we can engage speakers who, despite their distance from southwest Florida, can keep the Chapter informed on current issues without disrupting their schedules with travel to Naples! ADM Mullen handled a number of questions about the Navy's future direction. We will, no doubt, conduct more Zoom events at our meetings.

On 13 April, the annual Tri-Academies Golf Outing was held at the Plantation Golf and Country Club in Fort Myers, hosted by Air Force. We finished in 2nd place under the captaincy of Bruce "Chi-Chi" Needham with a good time had by all.

Monthly, we conduct leadership meetings via Zoom to assess our progress in adding new members and brainstorming ideas for the coming

events. Should anyone have any suggestions or comments, they are more than welcome.

Speaking of leadership our Secretary, **Lucas Rebertus**, has moved to a new position and is not available for Chapter Duties. We thank him for his efforts and wish him the best for this new position. If there is anyone who would like to assume the Secretary position, we would welcome their assistance.

While the leadership meetings will continue throughout the Summer, we expect to have full slate of activities ready for the October/November time frame.

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Second Vice Pres: **George "Bo" Hamrick '79**
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Treas: **Dick D'Anna '68**
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Sec'y: **Vacant**

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Steve Swift '87, USNR**
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By the time you receive this, Summer Training and Plebe Summer will be complete, the Brigade

will have returned, and classes and NAVY Football will have started. Watch for emails and our Chapter Facebook page for times and locations of NAVY football tailgates in the Sarasota area this Fall.

We've taken Summer off but here are activities we had earlier this Spring. Here's the gang who came to TT's Tiki Hut on Charlotte Harbor in Punta Gorda on Friday, 21 April 2023. A good time was had by all. Many thanks to **George Chamberlain '82** for organizing!

Then on Tuesday, 6 June 2022, at Sara Bay Country Club, the Florida Suncoast Chapter of the USNA Alumni Association held a joint meeting with the Sarasota Manatee Council of the Navy League to honor several of the local scholars who had earned appointments to the U.S. Sea Service Academies and Navy ROTC Scholarships.

The Naval Academy appointees for the incoming Class of 2026 who attended the luncheon are Gunner Williams from Clearwater Catholic HS, Michael Rossi and Thomas Canales from Sarasota Military Academy. Christian DeLarge from Sarasota Military Academy will attend the Naval Academy Preparatory School. The lone NROTC Scholarship recipient, Alexander Rivera from Braden River High School will be attending the University of Florida. Unfortunately, several appointees to the Naval Academy were unable to attend. They were Landon Shepard, Max Hale, and Brian O'Leary.

Also, local appointees to the US Coast Guard Academy, and the US Merchant Marine Academy were unable to attend.



Suncoast Chapter: Alums with Midn Bowditch and USNA Appointees



Suncoast Chapter: The Gang at TT's Tiki Hut

All honorees in attendance were accompanied by family members and friends.

Navy League Council President **Carl Cramb '81** and USNA Florida Suncoast Alumni Chapter President **Al Burda '68** welcomed and recognized the awardees and their parents.

The invited speaker, **CAPT J.R. Hill '95, USN**, Commanding Officer of the Jacksonville University NROTC spoke at length about the education and training provided through the NROTC Program and commissioning and career path opportunities. He encouraged the young aspirants to pursue their goals to become Navy and Marine Corps Officers.



CAPT JR Hill USN '95

Also speaking was Midshipman Cooper Bowditch 3/C, a previous honoree last year and

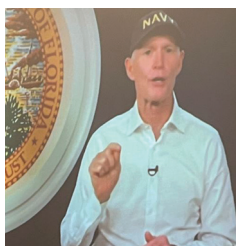


Midn Bowditch

who had just finished Plebe Year at USNA. Midshipman Bowditch gave the soon to be Plebes a realistic but uplifting glimpse of what to expect during Plebe Year and encouraged appointees to look beyond what they would be experiencing in the

moment and face the challenges of Plebe Year with a long look.

Although he was unable to attend, Florida Senator Rick Scott sent a video congratulating



Senator Scott

the appointees. Also, two of Congressman Greg Steube's staff were in attendance to congratulate awardees: Erica Gregory, District Director and Katherine Marks were present to congratulate them all.

Much thanks to **Carl Cramb '81**, **Dick Petrucci '61** and **Steve Bartek '74** who are our local USNA Blue and Gold Officers and **Joe Hayden '80** of the Navy League for the hard work planning the event.

GO NAVY!



Tampa Bay Chapter: Maria and Paul Rock (lower right) graciously hosted the chapter at their home

Tampa Bay Chapter

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BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Steve Swift '87, USNR (Ret.)**
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THE CHAPTER INTRODUCES A NEW COIN

With a process that began at our planning meeting in January, your Board proposed, designed, and approved a new challenge coin to symbolize the Tampa Bay Chapter. This handsome coin can become part of your collection or can be used as a gift by the chapter or an individual. See enclosed photos. Please note that we DO NOT deliver or mail. You must pick up your coins at a chapter meeting or other function. To purchase your coin(s) by credit card or PayPal account, copy and paste this link, or see our social media: <https://myusna.com/topics/9578/news/600039>



Back view - our new chapter coin



Front view - our new chapter coin

GOLF

The COVID pandemic has taken a toll on the size of our annual Army-Navy golf match. Thanks to our West Point friends for bringing it back. Despite all the N-Stars flying around these days, Army prevailed in this outing, winning 4-2 in scored matches. Bill Graham '72 and Don Aiken '78 led the way for our alumni.

SUNDAY SOCIAL WITH THE ROCKS

Time has flown as MajGEN **Paul Rock '88** is completing his two-year tour this summer as Commanding General, Marine Forces USCENTCOM, or MARCENT. Paul and Maria were very gracious in inviting the chapter for a Sunday Social at their beautiful flag quarters, overlooking Hillsborough Bay. Over twenty alumni and guests attended and shared cocktails and appetizers while showing appreciation for the Rocks' enthusiastic involvement during this tour. Paul has been assigned as the new Commandant of the National War College in DC - sadly, no fancy quarters with this assignment! Fair winds and following seas to the Rocks'.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Monthly chapter meetings provide a forum for catching up on USNA news, as well as spirited

CHAPTER NEWS

planning, networking, and socializing. If you are new to the area or have been around a while and just haven't gotten to a meeting, this is a great way to get to see new and old friends. Participants in May were **Jane Lochner '84, James Hamm '84, James Castano '91, John Miles '93, Duane Lafont '78, Brian Tsai '16, Jonathan Shannon '02, Austin Gullett '03, Chris Thompson '92, Paul Matthews '85, Matt Packard '06, Miller Detrick '63, Warren Hahn '60, Perry Dempsey '72, Chris Heath '72, Jon Connelly '05, Tom Draude '62, Fr. Tim Corcoran '67, Tom Hartline '81, Steve Swift '87, Don Aiken '78, Jonathan DeSimone '13, John Kamen '77, Dan O'Shea '91, Maria and Paul Rock '88, and first timer Joe Piganelli '06.** Welcome aboard!

SUMMER EVENTS

We stay active during the summer, hosting an all-Academy baseball game with the Tampa Bay Rays, and enjoying a family picnic in July. Look for details and photos in the next edition of SHIPMATE.

Watch for information to sign up for these future events -

FUTURE EVENTS

- Monthly Meetings on first Wednesday of each month except July

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.

Welcome aboard at USNA to the new Supe, VADM Davids '89. Come on down!

*Chris Heath '72
Chapter Secretary*

Georgia

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Greetings all! At long last we are into warmer weather. By the time we are reading this we will be wishing for cooler days. And now the news. A new slate of officers for the coming year is now in place for SIC effective 1 June 2023.

President: **Paul Campbell '98**, Vice President: **Rick Schellhaas '68**, Secretary: **Rufus Taylor '66**, Treasurer: **Andrea Hovey '03** and Idaho Parents' Club President: Nicola McIntosh.

Idaho Parents' Club President: Nicola McIntosh.

Our April social, hosted by the West Point AOG, was held at the Gowan Field Activities Club. SIC participants, and spouses, included **Rufus Taylor '66, Dennis Hanrahan '68, Rick Schellhaas '68, Ken VanderHorst '79, Tom Simmonds '73 and Pete Butler '86.**



Rick Schellhaas '68, Rufus Taylor '66 and Pete Butler '86 take a break from sharing sea stories.

Our May social, held at Bear Island Brewery, turned out a few hardy souls, namely **Bill Prevyty '65, Mike Coyle '65, "JV" DeThomas '65, Rick Schellhaas '68, Dennis Hanrahan '68, Paul Campbell '98 and Andrea Hovey '03.**



'65 mini-reunion: **Mike Coyle '65, Wanda Prevyty, "JV" DeThomas '65 and Bill Prevyty '65** grab the spot light.



Wedding Bells! Congratulations Tirezah & Cody Rome '12

USNA Class of 2027 Plebe Welcome Aboard and Send Off was held on 17 June 2023. More information will be in a future issue.

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>.

UPDATE YOUR PROFILE

Log into **Online Community at usna.com**
to update your profile.



Chicago Chapter: Members of the Chicago Chapter at the semi-annual meeting, Left to Right: Alan Montera '05, Len Wass '64, Mike Dennison '16, Jamie Nero '02, Bill Frost '77, Ed Cladek '64, John Killacky '93, John Stride '77, Michelle Lee '16, Dave Frey '79, Mark Rahmel '73, Jim Driscoll '81, Fred Weber '75, Jon Vanecko '01, Mike Isabelli '83, Kate Constantakis '15, and Jim Murphy '73. Not pictured: Charlie Jett '64, Jack Mumaw '64, Mike Murray '64, and Rick Salvatore '78

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The Chicago chapter held its semi annual meeting at the Chicago Union League Club in May. Alumni from the 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s, 00s, and 10s were in attendance. **John Killacky '93** presented his committee's report on how the chapter can revitalize itself. In addition to reworking the chapter's mission statement, the committee presented an updated set of By-laws which were approved by the chapter. **The chapter will hold elections in October for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.** Any Chicagoland alumni who are interested in running for these positions should submit their names to the chapter President, **Fred Weber '75** (Fred.weber@2comm.com) by 31 August. The date and location of the Fall meeting will be announced in July via email to chapter members.



Fred Weber '75, VADM Crandall, Len Wass '64, and Chris Bertucci '11

Additionally, members of the Chicago chapter attended a luncheon with the Navy's chief JAG officer, VADM Del Crandall. Admiral Crandall graduated from the University of Illinois NROTC program and became a Surface Warfare Officer before attending Georgetown Law School and switching over to the JAG Corps. The Admiral provided an overview of the Navy's operational tempo and an update on the submarine force. He also discussed the JAG Corps current role in our national defense.

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Iowa

See Minnesota

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Maine

Maine Chapter

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BGO Area Coordinator: **LT Jen Bohr Tyll '01, USNR**
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Maryland

Annapolis Chapter

Pres: **CDR Scott J. Shepard '91, USN (Ret.)**
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Vice Pres: **Michael Rapp '91**
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Sec'y-Shipmate Contact: **Liesel (Danjczek) Schopler '99**
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Treas: **Chuck Dixon '79**
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Membership: **James McNeal '86**
e: jamesm@ispards.com

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

Join the Chapter: https://www.signupnow.events/USNAAlumniChapter_Annapolis/

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR Charles Mello**
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Baltimore Chapter

Pres: **Jason Hardebeck '87**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR Charles Mello**
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Join the Chapter: https://www.signupnow.events/USNAAlumniChapter_Annapolis/

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

Greater Southern Maryland Chapter

Pres: **Micheal W. Thumm '75**
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Sec'y: **Katie Ellefson '13**
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Corr Sec'y: **Michael Dougherty '73**
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Website: <http://www.navalumni.org>

BGO Area Coordinator: **Kevin Schaaff**
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CHAPTER NEWS

Massachusetts

Boston Chapter

Pres: **James Kras '69**

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Shipmate contact: **CAPT Pete Seibert '65**
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BGO Area Coordinator (Boston and SE Mass): **John Rinkacs**
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BGO Area Coordinator (N Shore and Central Mass):
CDR David Grim
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BGO Area Coordinator (Western Mass): **Ken Walton**
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Michigan

Michigan Chapter

Pres: **Maj. Joe Zane '07 USMCR**

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Vice Pres: **Shawn Hoch '08**
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Website: <http://detroit.usnachapters.net>

Communications Sec'y: **Chris Bernard '88**
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BGO Area Coordinator (Eastern):
CAPT Michael Johnson '79, USNR
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BGO Area Coordinator (West & Upper):
Col. Benjamin Richmond '93, USMCR
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Minnesota

Upper Midwest Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Ashley Fischer '11, USMCR**
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Shipmate Contact: **Nathan CW Smith '98**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Mark J. Salmen, USN (Ret.)**
NAIP Area Coordinator-Minnesota
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Mississippi

BGO Area Coordinator: **David Price '78**
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South Mississippi Chapter

Pres: **CDR E. Spencer Garrett IV '88, USNR**
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Sec'y: **CAPT Harry J. Rucker '73, USN (Ret.)**
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2023 NAVY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Follow Navy Football online at:
navysports.com

1-800-US4-NAVY

Missouri

Greater Kansas City Metro Chapter

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Vice Pres: **Victor Hurlbert '10**
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Treas: **Eric Carlson '74**
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Website: <http://KansasCity.usnachapters.net>

BGO Area Coordinator: **Lee Gilgour '01**
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St. Louis Chapter

Pres: **Dave Turnbaugh '89**

Website: <https://stlusna.com>

Shipmate contact: **Raese Simpson '61**
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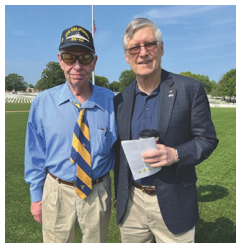
BGO Area Coordinator:
CAPT Kent Higginbotham '76, USN (Ret.)
e: kenth@hbistl.com



In remembrance: **Phillip Saunders '62, Cliff Shoep '56, Donald Hamilton '38 and George Brooke '21**

The All Academy Memorial Day remembrance took place on Saturday, 27 May at Jefferson Barrack National Cemetery. This year, the Air Force Academy hosted the event. Colonel Joseph, E. "GEO" Monaco '01 USAFA was the keynote speaker. This day was different from

past gatherings in that the temperature was in the low 80s with low humidity. You could even wear a coat and tie and be comfortable!! We welcomed to the Chapter **Cathy (Gaul) Salvato** and **Mike Salvato** both Class of 1983. They recently retired to the area to be near their daughter, who is a chemical engineer. Also present were: **David Turnbaugh '89** (Chapter



Mike Dunham '72 and Kent Higginbotham '76



Larry Hart '68



Cathy Salvato '83 & Mike Salvato '83 - Welcome!



David Turnbaugh '89 Chapter President

President), **Kent Higginbotham '76, Larry Hart '68, Mike Dunham '72 and Raese Simpson '61**. Kent was featured on Channel 5 Saturday evening highlighting this memorial service.

On a sad note this past year we lost two members of our chapter: **Cliff Shoep '56 and Phillip Saunders '62**. The latter two were active members of our chapter. Saunders was a founding member of our Chapter and past Chapter President.

Also remembered are two academy grads who died in 1945 as POW's. They are buried in the Hell Ships mass grave here at Jefferson Barracks: **George Brooke '21 and Donald Hamilton '38**



It is always great to have the Pipers participating!



Dave & Reagan

... And look at who I bumped into at the shooting range - **David Turnbaugh '89** and his daughter **Reagan '28**. At this moment Reagan is on her way to Summer Seminar in Annapolis. Wishing you every success Reagan.

Raese V Simpson

Montana

BGO Area Coordinator: **Andy Metroka**
e: METROKA@MT.NET

Nebraska

BGO Area Coordinator: **Eric Taylor**
e: etaylor@1994.usna.com

Omaha Chapter

Pres: **Jeremiah Binkley '00**
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Nevada

BGO Area Coordinator: **Joe Holland '03**
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Las Vegas Chapter

Pres: **Corwin Karaffa '77**
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Sec'y: **Glenn Truitt '97**
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New Jersey

Pres: **Patrick Hurley '87**
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BGO Area Coordinator (South NJ): **Martha Christinziano**
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website: www.usnanj.org

New Mexico

New Mexico Chapter

Pres: **John Scott Kraus '73**
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Sec'y: **Joseph McGuire '68**
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Vice Pres: **Dr. Doug Meints '77**
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NM Parents' Club Pres: **Sheila Chapman**
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Website: <http://newmexico.usnachapters.com>

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT David Swingle**
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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: ussllater@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

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 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 a quite a few Alumni in the CNY area who may not have



Charlotte Chapter

received the information, so it is being provided again herewith.

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

For those Alumni who choose not to pay the Life Membership Fee, the annual Chapter membership fee of \$20 will be continued. Additionally, the Chapter year is being changed from "1 June to 31 May" to "1 January to 31 December".

The Chapter year of "1 June to 31 May" was established in 2005 when the CNY Chapter was recognized by the USNA Alumni Association (AA) by a letter dated 11 May 2005. Changing the Chapter year to "1 January to 31 December" aligns with the traditional calendar.

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. Alumni are encouraged to check the AA database periodically to ensure that their profile information is up-to-date.

Metro New York Chapter (NAANY)

Pres: **William B Biles '08**
e: benbiles08@gmail.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**
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Website: <http://westernny.usnachapters.net/>

BGO Area Coordinator: **Doug Peters '73**
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North Carolina

BGO Area Coordinator: **Col. Kevin Hart '75, USMC (Ret.)**
p: 847-910-4502; e: kevinphart1@gmail.com

Cape Fear Chapter

Pres: **Ray Decker '72**
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Vice Pres: **Paul Normand '74**
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Sec'y/Treas: **Steve Yandle '75**
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Charlotte Chapter

Pres: **Christopher (Nix) M. Nickels '91**
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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>

5/18 joint event with local West Point Society at Fonta Flora. Great event and time had by all! Lots of connections and friendly banter about Army/Navy for the year! We look forward to having more joint events like this.

5/29 Chapter members with family participated in a Run to Honor Event at Veteran's Park followed by a toast to honor our fallen at Resident Culture. The mission of this amazing organization is to remember all Naval Academy Grads who have made the ultimate sacrifice - never forget.

CHAPTER NEWS

Navy Football to play UNCC in Charlotte 14-Oct! Mark calendars and keep an eye out for more communication on Chapter plans, tailgate, etc.

Mike Kubiniec '83, Charlotte Chapter board member and Iredell-Statesville Schools Board of Education Vice Chairman, attended the Lake Norman High School Senior Awards Ceremony on 25 May 2023, where Chase Dixon was honored for his appointment to the Naval Academy, class of 2027. Chase was recruited for rugby. He is also an accomplished jazz saxophonist and graduated Magna Cum Laude. Ironically enough, today was the 40th anniversary of Mike's graduation and commissioning. Well done, Chase. Now BRACE UP!



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
p: 252-631-3109; e: rbogle1968@gmail.com
Website: <http://myusna.com/topics/9508>
Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/14196247/>

April Meeting

The meeting convened at 1200, 27 April at MCB Camp Lejeune Officers Club. Fifteen (15) members and guests were present.

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

grieving. Rob announced a change in the treasurer's position. **Aaron W. Adams '95**, is in the process of relieving Mr. **Randy Bogle '68**.

It was also noted that a new Superintendent of USNA has been nominated.

Rick Kunkel, Vice-President of the chapter, introduced the speaker LCol Jane Oren, USMC. She is the Commanding Officer of the Wounded Warrior Battalion East. She began by giving an overview of her background and military experience, which until this assignment was in the field of Military Intelligence.

The members of the Wounded Warrior Battalion are the active duty Navy and Marine Corps personnel who have been hospitalized or been referred to the organization by their commands. Some are preparing to go back to full time positions in their units, or may eventually be discharged, based on medical reasons. The battalion is not a branch of the Naval Hospital but works closely with it and military hospitals in other parts of the US. She can move assigned personnel to detachments near facilities that have the best expertise in an individual's condition. She answered questions from the alumni, some of whom have known service members that had to transition through the Wound Warrior Battalion en-route to full recovery.

May Meeting

The May lunch was held Thursday, the 25th, 1145 at Sara's Big Apple in New Bern. It is always a good lunch and 17 of us attended in the back room.

Rob Skrotsky called the meeting to order, noting the bank balance and pausing for a moment of silence remembering those that gave all, those grieving and those suffering.

Rob gave a brief presentation of Navy deep submergence including the development of NR-1, the Navy's nuclear powered deep diving submersible, a pet project of ADM Rickover's. Rob then introduced Carol Lindtveit, our guest for lunch. Carol worked at the Sperry Corporation and was responsible for programming the navigation and control computer for NR-1. She talked about her personal experiences working with the technicians and crew building the small, classified research submarine, including being one of the very few women to actually go aboard at that time. Carol commented on the book, Dark Waters by one of the original crew members. NR-1 was not a commissioned ship but had a Navy crew, although it occasionally took engineers or scientists on some of the missions. NR-1 was retired in 2008, after nearly 40 years of deep ocean research and recovery operations. It was a pleasure for the group to get to know Carol and her experiences, then a pioneering

young woman supporting a complex computer for a significant Navy project.

The next lunch meeting is at Camp Lejeune on 22 June 22.

Tim Marvin '59
Secretary

North Carolina Triangle Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Shaun McAndrew '93**
USN (Ret.)

e: shaun.mcandrew.2020@gmail.com

Sec'y: **CAPT Bill Coleman '95, USN (Ret.)**

e: billcoleman95@gmail.com

Website: www.usnatriangle.com

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

Linked-in: **USNA Alumni Association-Triangle Chapter (USNAAA Triangle).**



Ahoy from the Research Triangle of North Carolina consisting of Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill and the surrounding areas.

Congratulations to the new board members elected at the annual meeting in May:

President, **Shaun McAndrew '93**;
Vice President, **Brad Osmun '08**; Treasurer, **George Lipscomb '87**; Secretary, **Bill Coleman '95**; Director, **Steve Gillespie '87**; Director, **Emory Miller '07**; and Director, **Tommy McNamara '11**

Standing relieved are **Bonny Podiak '89** (Director) and **Chris Perrien '74** (Secretary).

The board expresses its sincere thanks to President, **Steve Gillespie '87**, for his leadership through COVID and for leading the chapter to its sixth consecutive distinguished chapter award; and to **Chris Perrien '74**, who has served as VP, President, and Secretary over the past 15 years. Our current club is a reflection of Chris's dedication to USNA alumni in the area. We are especially grateful for his time and effort.

The chapter's proximity to the North Carolina Piedmont Consortium NROTC units at our three outstanding institutes of higher learning (North Carolina State University, University of North Carolina- Chapel Hill, and Duke University) allows us to support future Naval Leaders close to home. **Emory Miller '07** coordinates a Naval Officer sword presentation to each school's outstanding NROTC graduate. Congratulations to this year's recipients:

ENS Atlee Poole, North Carolina State University, awarded the **ENS Worth Bagley (USNA 1895)** award, endowed by **Ann and CDR Bill '95 Sena (Ret.)**.

ENS Andrew Thetford, Duke University, awarded the Admiral Skip Bowman award, endowed by the SSN 777 (USS NORTH CAROLINA) club.

ENS Parker Sylvia, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, awarded the **George Herbert (USNA 1945)** award.



ENS Parker Sylvia and Casey Herbert (son of George Herbert '45)

Bill Coleman '95, (in his first Blue and Gold Officer role) welcomed **Joshua Cha '27** to the class of 2027, presenting his letter of appointment at Lee County High School's Senior Award recognition banquet.



CAPT Bill Coleman '95 USN (Ret.) and Joshua Cha '27

Upcoming events:

The chapter is looking forward to its Annual Family Picnic at a Durham Bulls game on 15 September 2023. We are also anticipating Navy Football in North Carolina for the second year in a row when the Midshipmen return to play University of North Carolina-Charlotte on 14 October. Check myUSNA for registration details for both events. (Group- North Carolina Triangle Chapter)

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

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**
e: foglejw@gmail.com

**BLUE & GOLD OFFICER
Area Coordinators**

See a complete list at
www.usna.edu/Admissions/BGO.php



Columbus Chapter: A Midshipman's Journey exhibition at the National Veterans Memorial & Museum



Columbus Chapter: RTN event at East Granville Park, Worthington, OH

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

Ohio

Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Chapter

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Vice Pres: **Gaby Blocher '98**
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Vice Pres: **Jennifer Yuchasz '98**
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Chapter Sec'y and Shipmate Submissions:
Jon-Michael Pollock '10
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Bryan Grubert**
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Cleveland Chapter

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

Sec'y: **John Blackburn '82**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Doug Cabarle**
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Columbus

Pres: **Dave Goins '84**
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Vice Pres: **Kevin Johnson '83**
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Sec'y: **Motisola Bowman '95**
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Treas: **Jim Waddell '71**
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Shipmate Contact: **Motisola Bowman '95**
e: bmotisola@gmail.com

Parent Club President: **Russelle Hoslinger**
e: napccousna@gmail.com

Chapter email: USNAACbus@gmail.com

Website: https://columbus_usnachapter.net/

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

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

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

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

Parents' Club President: **Eric Forrest**
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BGO Area Coordinator:
Carla Dowling-Fitzpatrick
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Summer is here and the Chapter has been busy across several fronts.

Chapter elections were held in May. Your new Chapter officers for the two-year cycle commencing 1 June 2023 are:

- President - **Dave Goins '84**
- Vice-President - **Kevin Johnson '83**
- Secretary - **Motisola Bowman '95**
- Treasurer - **Jim Waddell '71**

The following members have volunteered to sit as Chapter Board Members:

CHAPTER NEWS

Jim Worthington '60
Tom Gomia '70
Todd Forney '86
Justin Shineman '91
Michel Plumley '09
Dean Zettler '13

We are happy to announce that, due to generous payment of dues and additional donations from members, scholarships to attend Naval Academy Summer Seminar were granted to two deserving students living within the Columbus Chapter area. Candidates for consideration are: (1) someone USNA admissions considers to be a viable candidate; and (2) vetted to ensure the financial need is real. Thank you to those who donated to this worthy cause!

The Chapter gathered at the National Veterans Memorial and Museum (NVMM) in Columbus on 14 April for a reception celebrating opening night for "A Midshipman's Journey", an outstanding exhibition of art by USNA graduate **Kristin Cronic '11**. Kristin's work will be on display at the museum until October. Anyone who has lived the USNA experience will have a deep appreciation for how her work connects on a personal level. It is well worth a visit to the museum.

The USNA Alumni Association has a Shared Interest Group (SIG) called "Run to Honor" (RTN), an all-volunteer charity that seeks to remember the over 2,700 men and women in the Naval Academy's Memorial Hall. One way the RTN recognizes shipmates that have fallen in combat or operations is to conduct an organized walk/run in the days leading up to Memorial Day. On the morning of Saturday, 27 May, the Chapter met at East Granville Road Park in Worthington and held a brief ceremony. The Gold Star family of **Seth Michaud '98** was represented by Seth's sister Sam Michaud and her fiancé, Jim Breunig. Sam discussed the RTN SIG and shared some memories of Seth's life. Following the ceremony, the group walked to the Worthington VFW where some final thoughts were shared. Attending the Columbus Chapter RTH were **Tony Konecny '79**, **Dave Goins '84**, Sam Michaud (fiancé Jim), Libby & **Tom Gomia '70**, Jeanie & **Chuck Janes '71**, **Wayne Hallenbeck '71**, Nancy & **Dave Guza '78**, **Richard Olson '86**, **Rene Cerda '88**, **Chris Rosen '90**, **Isaac England '18**, Chris & Maggie Zimmer Parents '24, and Dick Moore - Associate Member. Thanks to neighbor Samuel Hartman for his photography.

Upcoming Chapter events include Family Night at the Columbus Clippers in late July, Founder's Day Dinner in September, and the Military Academy Golf Outing also in September. Stay tuned for further information broadcast via email, the Chapter Facebook/LinkedIn pages, and MyUSNA.com.

Final message from President **Tony Konecny '79**. After being president of the Columbus Chapter since 2017, I have stepped aside as of 1 June 2023. It has been a wonderful, rewarding and enriching experience. Because of the active involvement of so many alumni and chapter friends, I was provided with the opportunity to meet and socialize with some of the nation's best citizens. I feel that the Chapter has grown and had a positive impact on our community and the lives of our members. As new leadership takes the helm, I am confident that we have only begun to make a positive difference for our local alumni, USNA, the Navy/Marine Corps team, and the nation. Although so many have played a large role in making the Columbus Chapter a Distinguished Alumni Chapter for the last three consecutive years, I would like to identify **Dave Goins '84** and **Jim Waddell '71** specifically for their selfless and significant influence on what has been accomplished. I look forward with enthusiasm to what the future holds for the Columbus Chapter and seeing many of you at future events.

Toledo Chapter

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **Gregory Zerr**
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Oklahoma

BGO Area Coordinator: **Mike Whaley**
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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>



USFA Alumni gathering with George '84 and Kasey '84 Carradini representing

Our chapter supported the new USAFA Alumni Tulsa Chapter's first gathering. Pictured here are **George '84** and **Kasey '84 Carradini** represented us well.

The Tulsa Chapter launched its Inaugural "Run to Honor" Race. Special thanks to Alyssa and Jim Farrell (Both '99) for organizing the race with the assistance and leadership of **Bob Sise '08** who connected them to Tulsa Running Club. Also attending were **Terry Heatherman '00**, **George and Kasey Carradini (Both of '84)**. Jim gave a moving honorarium for Lt. **Mike McGeevey '97**. Alyssa won her Women's age group, and their son won first place as well! The Carradini's honored fellow Tulsan, Lt(jg) **Aaron Fowler '18** who passed away during a Navy diving exercise. With the money raised, the chapter made a donation to the local VFW and to the "Run to Honor" national organization. Thank you for creating a new, special tradition for the chapter!



Bob Sise ('08), Jim ('99) and Alyssa Farrell ('99), Terry Heatherman ('00)



George Carradini ('84), Alyssa ('99) and Jim Farrell ('99), Kasey Carradini ('84)

Our researched Nomination Application for Admiral **J.J. Clark '18** to be sent to the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame was submitted to the Cherokee Nation for their review and approval. We hope to hear within a couple of weeks if they will co-sign our nomination.

Rocky

Oregon

STAY CONNECTED

Find a Chapter.
usna.com/FindAChapter

Oregon and Southwest Washington Chapter

Pres: **CDR John Adams '69, USNR (Ret.)**
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 Vice Pres: **CDR Mike Carmichael '69, USNR (Ret.)**
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 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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Pennsylvania Philadelphia Chapter

Pres: **Rob Bender '73**
 p: 267-625-3459; e: rbender@travismanion.com
 Website: <http://philadelphia.usnachapters.net>
 BGO Area Coordinator: **CDR Tim Farrell '76, USN (Ret.)**
 e: tim.farrell@1976.usna.com

Pittsburgh Chapter

Pres: **Conor McKenzie '06**
 e: cmckenzie@janney.com
 Website: Pittsburgh.usnachapters.com
 Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/usnaaa_pittsburgh/
 BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT David Gates '77, USN (Ret.)**
 p: 724-632-6621; e: LJreese357@aol.com

Greetings, Shipmates in Western PA! Beginning in February, the Pittsburgh Chapter has gathering at our monthly Thirsty Third Thursday Happy Hours at Penn Brewery in Troy Hill, Pittsburgh. Attendees so far this year have included **Robert Park '56, Steve Linder '69, Jim Bobenage '75, Kevin Reilly '82, JB Wilcox '84, Doug Hull '88, Matt Shipley '91 and his wife Christine, Craig Piechnick '91, Rodney Skirpan '92, Matt Wagle '93, Devin Winklosky '93, Ray Kuyler '95, Todd McKinney '02, Conor McKenzie '06, Evan Werner '08, Will Selby '09 and Mack Kelly '10.** Come and join us for sea stories and fellowship at Pittsburgh's oldest brewery at our upcoming happy hours from 5-7 pm on 17 August, and 21 September. We look forward to seeing more alums from the area and visitors who happen to be here in the 'burgh!



Pittsburgh Chapter



Pittsburgh Chapter



The chapter will also be holding a gathering at the Westmoreland Air show on June 17, and watch parties for Notre Dame on 26 August, Air Force on 21 October, and Army on 9 December. More details on our chapter activities and upcoming events are available on MyUSNA.com (Greater Pittsburgh Chapter page), Facebook (USNA Alumni - Greater Pittsburgh), and LinkedIn (USNA Alumni - Pittsburgh).

Susquehanna Valley Chapter

Pres: **Tim Farrell '76**
 e: im.farrell@1976.usna.com
 VP: **Rob Gundlach '84**
 e: rjgundlach@msn.com
 Treas: **Jim Nolan '70**
 e: jimnolan8470@gmail.com
 Website: <http://www.usnasvc.com>
 BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Matt Chabal '77**
 e: chabal@1977.usna.com

Our monthly gatherings are the third Thursday of every month 1630-1900 at Mad Chef Craft Brewing in East Petersburg. 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 gather with USNA Alumni who live nearer to you, please give our chapter officers a date, time, and location. We'll communicate it by all means available to us.

April monthly gathering



Left to right: Dave Teply '74, Dave Lawrence '76, Tim Farrell '76, Lee Erdman '76

May Monthly Gathering



(L to R) Dave Teply '74, Lee Erdman '76, Tim Farrell '76, Rob Gundlach '84, Dave Lawrence '76

Beat Army!
 CDR Tim Farrell '76, USN (Ret.)

CHAPTER NEWS



RV Chapter: Crab Fest



RV Chapter: TPS attendees

Recreational Vehicle

American Chapter

Pres: **Tom Wolfe '70**

e: tsrjw71@gmail.com

Treas: **Dale Gange '70**

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Shipmate sec'y: **Jennifer Stone**

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Website: www.rv.usnachapters.net

Facebook: **USNA RV CHAPTER**

The saying goes "April showers bring May flowers." May also brought the USNA RV Chapter to **Solomon's Island, Maryland!** We had a great turn-out for this ComeAround – our attendees included Frannie and **Dago Bostich '74**, **Katie Buckley '04** and **Mike Buckley '04** with Jack, Maddie and Sean, **Alex Dulude '07**, Firstie, with daughter, Dharma, Jean and **Dick Farver '67**, Lorraine and **Clay Henry '82**, Eileen and **John Madaio '77**, Robin and **Jim Miller '77**, 'Nita and **Jack Parry '67**, Firsties, Gail and **Dave Penman '75**, Ellen and **John Shields '70**, Jeanette and **Scott Stangle USMA '81**, Nancy and **Chris Williams '92**, Patti and **Jay Williams '67**, Rose and **Tom Wolfe '70**. Also joining in on the merriment were two prospective members, **Molly Boron '95** and **Heidi Fleming '89**.

Some of the early arrivals were treated to a tour of the Test Pilot School (TPS), guided by

Technical Director **John Hardison '82**. Attendees enjoyed learning about TPS and catching a glimpse of the hangars.

The official kick-off of this ComeAround was later that evening when we gathered for a social at Ruddy Duck Brewery and Grill. Welcome remarks by the Firsties, Jack Parry and Alex Dulude set forth the plans and information for the week-end. Almost half of the registered attendee couples were attending their very first ComeAround, with two alumni from the local area joining!

The following day's itinerary was a day to explore on our own, with multiple events in Solomons, MD, and Old St Mary's City to keep us busy.

Saturday evening was capped by a crab fest orchestrated by Firstie, Alex Dulude who was the chief crab and corn where we participated in the true Maryland tradition of cracking crabs. The event included members from over a 40-year span, '67 - '07.

Sunday was departure day for those who seemed to be involved in the phenomenon known as a work week. The lucky ones carried on to the PAX River Naval Air Museum. Everyone was impressed to see our two prospective chapter members, Molly and Heidi, in the exhibit of Women in Naval Air at Pax River. Rock stars among us. BZ, ladies!

The start of *OUR* "work week" left us with three couples to explore biking, hiking and the offerings which Solomons Island area holds for visitors before carrying on to our next adventure.

UPCOMING RV CHAPTER COMEAROUNDS:

June 2 – 6, 2023: Caravan from East Coast to Dodge City, KS

June 6 – 12, 2023: Cowboy Capital Come Around – Dodge City, KS

October 12 – 15, 2023: Navy v Charlott Football Game – Concord, NC

Interested in joining an upcoming Come Around? Check out the Recreational Vehicle Chapter on myUSNA.com

Rhode Island

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Stuart Craig '86, USN (Ret.)**
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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)

Pres: **LtCol. Dave Smith '73, USMC (Ret.)**

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Sec'y: **Brian Goldschmidt '94**

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

Charleston Chapter

Pres: **CDR Rick Stein '82, USNR (Ret.)**

784 Preservation Pl., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464

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April Meeting

On Monday, 17 April, The Charleston Chapter held its Monthly Meeting. Our Speakers were

RADM **George Voelker '72** and Lisa Quadrini (Widow of **Michael Clark '69**), who spoke about the Naval Academy Foundation, Athletic and Scholarship Program, and Women for Navy Sports., In Attendance were: **Fuzzy Knight '53, Jim Flatley '56, Gail Roddy (John) '59, John Common '64, Frank Bryant '66, Bernie Magdelain '67, Roger Paradis '67, Jim Welsch '67, Alan Burkhart '67, Chuck Meyer '68, Mike Malone '69, Charlie Young '70, Alan Ptak '71, Robert Stuart '71, Rik Dilgren '72, Mike Clawson '72, George Voelker '72, Steve Weise '72, Jim Lyons '74, Dave Shimp '76, Dennis Simon '77, Rick Stein '82, OP Honors '83, Seamus Flatley '83, Greg Shore '84, Pat Hunkler '89 and Brett Abbamonte '05.**

May Meeting

On Monday, 15 May, The Charleston Chapter held its Monthly Meeting. Our Speaker was **Rick Stein '82**, who reviewed his recent trip to USNA for Alumni Business. In Attendance were: **Max Hill '51, Fuzzy Knight '53, Jim Flatley '56, Curt Holcomb '61, Ray Setser '65, Jim Beltz '73, Bill Konrad '75, Joe Delpino '75, David Fischer '76, Dave Shimp '76, Chris Cechak '82, Rick Stein '82, Jeff Gordon '83 and Perry Ramicone '83.**



Golf Outing on 1 June 2023 at Wescott Plantation, Left to Right: **Curt Holcomb '61, Ray Setser '65, Derek Dryden '00, Rick Stein '82, and Dennis Simon '77.**

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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Sec'y: **Tim Johnson '02**
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Treas: **John Scanlan '83**
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Happy Summer 2023 from the Low Country. Summer has finally arrived in South Eastern South Carolina and North Eastern Georgia after a cool spring and the chapter has some new events on the horizon for the summer and fall. By the time this issue hits your mailbox we will have had both our summer Eighth Air Force Museum tour and chapter elections completed. More on those in the next issue/submission. To stay most up to date with what the chapter events in between Shipmate issues, please visit

our myUSNA page "SC Lowcountry Chapter".

In April, **Clinton Hallman '77** gave over 30 members and guests of the Low Country Chapter a tour of Burnt Church Distillery in Bluffton, SC. Burnt Church Distillery is an operating distillery with on-sight rickhouse that produces whiskeys, gin, vodka, flavored moonshines, and non-alcoholic Amethyst inspired by the local area. In doing so, the Distillery uses South Carolina sourced ingredients. Clinton has been with Burnt Church since 2021 and was a wonderful host and guide. The Chapter members enjoyed a guided tour, tasting of a flight of spirits, and lunch. All agreed it was a great event and that Clinton gave a much more interesting lecture on thermodynamics and chemistry than was ever received at USNA. Thank you Clinton for hosting the Chapter.



Clinton Hallman '77 leading a tour of fellow Low Country Chapter members and guests through Burnt Church Distillery in Bluffton, SC.

Alumni in attendance at Burnt Church included: **Harry Gardner '95, Rick Eckstein '64, Steve Woodall '67, Dave Woodward '60, John Clearwater '57, Dave Neal '65, Barry Wilbur '77, Brian Tyndall '76, Alex Dimitrew '78, Rich Weidman '63, Tom Anderson '60, Erik Arrington '94, Kathy Shanebrook '80, Terry Kremian '71, Peter Green '77, Roger Mau '79, Tim Johnson '02 and Tom Cavanaugh '69.**

Our next luncheon is scheduled for 1130AM on Tuesday, 12 September 2023 at Frankie Bones in Bluffton, SC. Please RSVP to **Dave Igyarto** by 8 September at igyartodp@icloud.com so that an accurate headcount can be provided to the restaurant. See myUSNA and chapter emails for further details.

On 21 September 2023, the Chapter will be touring Ft. Stewart in conjunction with their "Come Meet Your Army" Quarterly Tour. The tour will be from 0900 to 1400 and will include: the Engagement Skills Trainer; Lunch at Warrior DFAC; the Warriors Walk; and the 3rd Infantry Division Museum. **Don Baldwin '74** is arranging the tour. Additional information including potential cost will be communicated at a later date. Please indicate your plan to attend by contacting Don Baldwin at donb682@gmail.com or selecting Yes in myUSNA.

Check myUSNA for details and registration on our other upcoming events, including: a viewing party for the Air Force-Navy game; flag

placements at the graves of Academy graduates in Beaufort National Cemetery on Veteran's Day; and a viewing party for the Army-Navy game.

We encourage all members to stay up to date on our events by checking myUSNA regularly. We also welcome suggestions for future events and activities, so don't hesitate to get in touch with us with your ideas (contact our current President **Tom Cavanaugh**: tomcusna69@gmail.com).

More detailed information will be provided as we get closer to each event. If you are headed to the Low Country for vacation this summer or thinking of moving to the area, don't hesitate to reach out to us so we can include you in events.

(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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South Dakota

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Spain

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

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Treas: **Cassidy Masey '06**
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Sec'y: **Dustin Cunningham '06**

Tennessee

Chattanooga Chapter

Pres: **Casey Turner '01**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **CDR Richard Cataldi '69, USN (Ret.)**
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CHAPTER NEWS

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 Sec'y-Treas: **CAPT Mark Kohring '73, USNR (Ret.)**
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Memphis Chapter

Pres: **Henry W. Papa Jr. '86**
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Nashville Chapter

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Texas

Alamo Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Ron A. Sandoval '81, USN**
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 Please send *Shipmate* Submissions and all correspondences to:
 Sec'y: **Dave Driskell '63**
 P.O. Box 461564, San Antonio, TX 78246-1564
 e: info@alamogoats.org

Website: <http://www.alamo.usnachapters.com>

Facebook: **Alamo Chapter NAAA**

BGO Area Coordinator: **Dave Driskell '63**
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To continue with our last report, I am including some more support actions on the part of the Chapter and area BGOs. As you may know, Admissions posts a list of NASS and STEM applicants that are in need of financial support each year. Alamo chapter has participated in this program for many years. This year we have committed \$3,686 to three applicants from Cibolo, Allen and Hildago. These are your dues and donations at work. The board appreciates your continued support.

BGOs from across the area presented letters of appointment to candidates. I am including pictures of some of them.



BGO Dave Driskell '63 presents appointment to Jordan Erxleben '27.



BGO Laura Koerner '97 presents appointment to Barron Cohoon '27 along with TMI Commandant Maj Claburn.



BGO Scott Outlaw '86 presents appointment to Gavin Woods '27 (center). Females shown received awards to other academies.



BGO Cedric Edwards presents appointment to Aaron Alave '27.

Dave Driskell '63

Austin Chapter

Pres: **Brad Holbrook '06**
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Treas: **Kevin Windbigler '86**
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Shipmate Contact: **CDR Don McAlister '63, USNR (Ret.)**
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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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Texas Gulf Coast Chapter

Pres: **Evan Williams '11**
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 Vice Pres and Sec'y: **Daniel Hanley '10**
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Treas: **Rich Bulger '69**
 e: rlbulger69@gmail.com

Website: txgulfcoast.usnachapters.net

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

Email: txgulfcoast.usnachapters@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **Don Link**
 e: cdr.dlink@gmail.com

We continued "Suburb Luncheons" (No-Host) for alumni, spouses, and parents.

March 17 ... Clear Lake (Webster TX) luncheon, developed by **Evan Williams '11** and **John Augusto '02.**

March 24 and June 16 (planned) ... North Houston (Conroe TX) luncheons, developed by **Brian Weaver '98** and **Royce Engler '73.**

April 1 ... the Southeast Texas Regional SeaPerch Competition, promoting STEM, was held at the Ft Bend ISD Aquatic Training Center. The TxGC Foundation provided \$10,000 for SeaPerch kits and tool bags to 37 teams to participate in the underwater drone competition. Visit SeaPerch, remotely operated (underwater) vehicle (ROVs), <https://seaperch.org/about/>.

Astronaut **Suni Williams '87** encouraged the teams during the competition and the awards ceremony. Special thanks to Suni, BGOs, Parents Club, and alumni for making this an unforgettable experience for these students and their families.



Chris Black '07, Bart Jealous '65, Nelson Jones III '72, Suni Williams '87, Jeff White (Parent of '15), Matt Guyton '07, Daniel Hanley '10, and Andy Howard '75.

April 14 ... Our annual BGO (Blue and Gold Officer) appreciation luncheon. Mamie White (parent of '15), Deputy Area Coordinator for the Houston area, gave a year in review of BGOs and recruiting efforts. Additionally, **Kirk Michael '72**, spoke about the USNA Parachute Team.

May 6 ... The D1A National Collegiate Championship Match. The Chapter Tailgate tent was ready hours before the game, set up by **Rich Bulger '69** and family, **Clayton Sears '08**, and **Ed Klein '72.** (See more about Undeafated Navy on a nearby page.)



Central Virginia Chapter: Joint Ball Strike Force



NAVY Team presented a rugby ball to Nina and Edd Hendee ("Taste of Texas")



Member News:

Allen Cowherd '12 recently began terminal leave, transitioning to the Reserves (WmGr-234 in

Fort Worth) relocating with his family to The Woodlands in May, and actively looking for a civilian position.

Cray Pack '11 recently began terminal leave, planning to relocate to the Houston or Dallas area, and actively looking for a position in finance, business, or aerospace engineering.

Shaoli Breaux '06 joined Baker Hughes in May as a Senior Sales Manager after 2 years at Salesforce.

TEXAS GULF COAST CHAPTER

D1A National Collegiate Championship Men's Rugby Team undefeated!



NAVY fought back from an early 15 point deficit, to beat No. 5 California, 28-22, to win the National Championship, and finish an undefeated season! GO NAVY!



Stewart Morris, WWII Navy vet and NAVY Rugby Team

NAVY Men's Rugby Team was undefeated as it came to Houston on 5 May to play Cal in the D1A National Collegiate Championship Match. The Taste of Texas Restaurant, owned by Nina and Edd Hendee, parent of Edd K. Hendee '99 (deceased), hosted the Team for lunch. The Hendees invited honored guest, Stewart Morris, a 103 year old WWII Navy Veteran to speak to the Team.

CHAPTER NEWS

Zach Williams '96 joined us for his first chapter event, networking with dozens of local alumni at the May Luncheon.

Ron Toland '92 recently relocated to NW Houston (Montgomery TX) and cheered for Navy's comeback victory during the College D1A Rugby Championship Match. He looks forward to assisting and participating in future TxGC events.

VISITING the greater Houston area for any reason? Tell us when you'll be in town! We host monthly speaker luncheons (Houston), networking no-host lunches (suburbs), actively involved with our Parent's Club and BGO events, and are always planning special events around holidays and NAVY sports.

DO YOU LIVE IN HOUSTON? We have over 1,000 members and growing volunteer opportunities available in different locations throughout the year! Minimal commitment required to actively participate and enjoy the camaraderie of one of the largest Alumni Association Chapters! Email: txgulfcost.usnachapters@gmail.com or current Chapter President (Evan@AmericanSemper.com) to learn about our latest events and visit with us!

United Kingdom

BGO Area Coordinator: **Wes Turbeville '01**
e: bgoarea501coordinator@gmail.com

United Kingdom Chapter

Pres: **Tim Fox '97**
e: timfox97@hotmail.com

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
email: naples98@gmail.com

Greetings from the UK Chapter, where Navy spirit is alive and thriving!

The Class of 2023 has graduated and been commissioned, summer LRECs have provided opportunities to explore topics beyond the scope of classroom learning, the Class of 2027 (no, that's not a typo) is counting the days until the end of Plebe Summer, and the brigade will shortly return for another academic year.

One element of the Academy's Commissioning Week festivities has historically been an airshow by the Navy's precision flying team, the Blue Angels, followed by a flyover during the commissioning ceremony itself. Breathtaking maneuvers and daredevil acrobatics performed during the airshow by the six fighter pilots, sometimes only 18 inches apart, wow and amaze!



The Blue Angels on 24 May, seen from Santee Basin.

Some interesting facts about the Navy's elite flying team: On the current roster, three of the six F/A-18 pilots are USNA grads (#1 CDR **Alex Armatas '02**, #2 LCDR **Chris Kapuschansky '07**, and #5 LCDR **Julius Bratton '11**). Although women have served in the Blue Angels squadron since 1969 — there are currently 25 — the 2023 season is the first with a woman fighter pilot— LT Amanda Lee, flying the #3 position. Lee is not the first woman to serve as a team pilot, though. From 2014-2016, Capt **Katie Higgins '08 USMC**, piloted Fat Albert, the team's C-130T Hercules aircraft. Finally, the team wasn't always known as the Blue Angels — it was called the Navy Flight Exhibition Team until a member of the newly formed squadron saw an advert for a New York supper club called The Blue Angel. The name stuck, and the rest is history!



Wise words on the exit gate outside the USNA Visitor Center

In mid-May, LT **Justin Chock '14** once again brought a cohort of mids through London on a summer LREC. The group included the following members of the Class of 2024: **Anna-Grace Dumas, Charlotte D'Halluin, Max Bueno, Joe Reimann, Catherine Aitken, Claire Schnorr and Jada Williams**. High tea; a tour of the Alan Turing Institute (a think tank focusing on cyber studies, AI, and data science); a visit to Parliament; and the British version of an Army - Navy rugby championship game at Twickenham Stadium were just a few highlights. (The Royal Navy won for the first time since 2010; perhaps thanks to the enthusiasm of the USNA attendees?)

Tours of both the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge (near and dear to the heart of Henry Aszklar '81, who continues to work toward his PhD there) gave the mids a good picture of graduate student life at two of the world's top universities.

The 2023 gridiron match between Navy and Notre Dame on 26 August in Dublin is officially

sold out, according to the Navy Sports website, but attendees who find themselves passing through London prior to the game are encouraged to contact **Tim Fox '97**, UK Chapter president, at the email listed above. Tim will be attending the game, so be sure to check www.navysports.com for additional info on game day meet-ups in Dublin.

As always, GO NAVY, BEAT ARMY!

Utah

Intermountain Alumni Chapter

Pres: **Robert Allen '67**
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Vice Pres: **Ryan Merrell '00**
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Treas: **Mike Hester '69**
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Sec'y: **Tabeetha Moesinger '91**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Darrin Briggs '03**
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Virginia

Central Virginia Chapter

Pre: **Bill Murray '83**
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Vice Pres: **Ty Schieber '87**
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Sec'y: **Ed Borger '80**
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Treas: **Steve Hill '74**
e: swhill74@cstone.net

BGO Area Coordinator: **Don Aldridge**
e: n774pk@gmail.com

On Wednesday May the third, the Central Virginia Chapter joined the West Point Society of Monticello, Air Force Academy Alumni and other veterans for the Spring All-Services Golf Classic at Green Hills Golf Club in Stanardsville, VA. Two-man Captain's Choice Format ensured that the 27 participants pictured here quickly overcame any troublesome effort. It was a COOL and breezy morning that conjured memories of prior rounds at historic Scottish courses. Alas, the challenging weather kept typical glorious scoring at bay as we muddled our way through 18 holes. Regardless, the beauty of the course with views of the Blue Ridge Mountains along with the camaraderie and splendid course conditions made for a memorable day.

NAVY'S team consisted of **George Barton '77, Dale Crothers '82, CB Morgan '83, Bill Murray '83, Dan Newman '85**, Mike Middleton USN, and UVA ROTC team CDR Pat Funk USN, CDR Toy Andrews USN, LT Justin Ryan USN and GyStg Vern DiTaranto USMC.

The fall outing is planned for early October. Expected to repeat at Green Hills.

GO NAVY!

CB Morgan '83

Hampton Roads Chapter

Pres: **Renee Reedy '81**
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 h: 757-312-8969; w: 757-328-0030

Website: www.usnahamptonroads.com

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR David Lannetti '81, USN (Ret.)**
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Lots going on in Hampton Roads in 2023, and lots more to come!



Spring Golf



HAMPTON ROADS CHAPTER

Celebrating 100!
Dawson Taylor '46

Dick Enderly '71

Russell Dawson Taylor '46 has been many things in his life—"beach boy," deck seaman, midshipman, naval officer, World War II and Korean conflict veteran, entrepreneur, civic leader, devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. On 2 April 2023, the Hampton Roads Chapter's oldest member achieved perhaps his most significant milestone—he became a centenarian by celebrating birthday number 100!

Raised at the Virginia Beach oceanfront, Dawson was drawn to sun, the ocean, sailing and the family hardware business...more on that later! After joining the Naval Reserve (NR) he sailed on "an old four-stack destroyer" to the New York World's Fair, and in 1942 he was appointed to USNA where he formed a lifelong bond with roommates CAPT **Robbie Robeson '46, USN (Ret.)**, and **Eddie Lord '46**. And it is with a big smile he also tells the tale of his combo cap tossed in the air on 29 June 1945 being returned to him by a total stranger many years later!

Commissioned one year early in 1945, Dawson quickly found himself in the Pacific standing deck and generator watches onboard **HANCOCK (CV 19)**. A post-war Mediterranean deployment onboard **LEYTE (CV 32)** followed; and in 1947 he returned to Virginia Beach and the NR. Briefly recalled to active-duty onboard **MIDWAY (CVA 41)** during the Korean conflict, he later commanded the NR Harbor Defense Unit at Fort Story, VA, before retiring as an O5.

Dawson's father helped found the first Tidewater area Taylor's Do it Center hardware store (originally Fuel, Feed & Building Supplies); and as a boy he recalls helping deliver fuel oil and coal in a horse drawn cart! Dawson joined the business in 1947; and in 1965 he, and eventually his sons and daughter, began to expand the enterprise which now numbers 21 stores in Virginia Beach, Richmond and eastern North Carolina.

In 1993 Dawson sat on the founding board of Virginia Beach Vision, an organization advocating for a vibrant economy and quality of life in Virginia Beach and Hampton Roads. He was also a member of the Resort Area Advisory Committee and was instrumental in establishing the prestigious Westminster Canterbury beachfront retirement community.

Married to his beloved wife, Ann, for 70 wonderful years, together they raised four children and welcomed nine grandchildren and two great-granddaughters.



Dick Enderly '71 with Hampton Roads Chapter's centenarian Dawson Taylor '46



Dawson Taylor '46 with son Bob in Virginia Beach

Today he occasionally pops into a Taylor's, "just to keep an eye on things," but mostly he enjoys taking it easy, relishing his large family living nearby and attending a regular Friday luncheon with friends known as the **ROMEOS—Retired Old Men Eating Out!**

It was truly my honor and pleasure to meet and talk with Dawson and his son Bob, and I thank them for a most unique and rewarding opportunity!

CHAPTER NEWS

In the spirit of camaraderie and alumni interaction, we have resurrected our pre-COVID monthly happy hours! Following up our very successful Dark Ages Happy Hour in January at the Yard House in Virginia Beach, in February we gathered at Norfolk's Elation Brewing for some suds and pizza; and to encourage participation in other area cities, we targeted venues in Chesapeake, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach for March, April, and May, respectively.

Our monthly Networking Breakfasts have featured a variety of interesting speakers. In March **Vince Bowhers '85** organized a panel of several local Naval Academy grads who have started or joined non-profit organizations serving the military veteran community. **Eric Gardner '85** - Veterans Association of Real Estate Professionals, **Mike Zeiders '75** - Zeiders Enterprises, Inc, **Dan Lear '68** - Southeastern Virginia Habitat for Humanity, and **Kurt Muller '93** - Tribute Aviation, discussed how and why they got involved with their non-profit organizations, what services they provide, and what fellow alumni can do to support their efforts. In April representatives from the Virginia Symphony Orchestra provided a look inside that talented group; and in May **Charlie Pfeifer '66** will discuss the effect of water evaporation on climate change and global warming.

At our Annual Meeting on 18 April at the Sewells Point Golf Course Clubhouse, Chapter member VADM Kelly Aeschbach, Commander, Naval Information Forces in Suffolk, provided terrific insight into the latest developments in the Information Warfare Community, including recent changes regarding accessions from USNA. And on 20 April, Director of Golf (DoG) **Bob Perry '72** orchestrated our annual Spring golf outing at the Sewells Point Golf Course.

Coming up in May (date TBD) is our annual Chapter Night at Harbor Park; and bright and early on Memorial Day, **Dave Paddock '77** will again organize a sunrise Run to Honor at the Virginia Beach oceanfront. In early June (TBD the 1st or the 8th) our 30th annual Plebe Recognition Dinner will be held at the Sheraton

Norfolk Waterside Hotel; and the Guest Speaker at that signature event will be **LtGen Brian Cavanaugh '90**, Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic; Commander, Marine Forces Command; and Commander, Marine Forces Northern Command. And wrapping up the month of June is our annual Summer Beach Bash/ Picnic at Norfolk's Captain Slade Cutter Park!

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

Pres: **George Williams '87**
e: bucketokinawa@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Ryan Steenberge '10**
e: ryan.steenberge@gmail.com

Treas: **Ron Diefenbach '00**
QACUSNAAtreasurer@yahoo.com

Sec'y: **Nancy Springer '87**
nancy.a.springer.nancy@aol.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **Jim Ripley '74**
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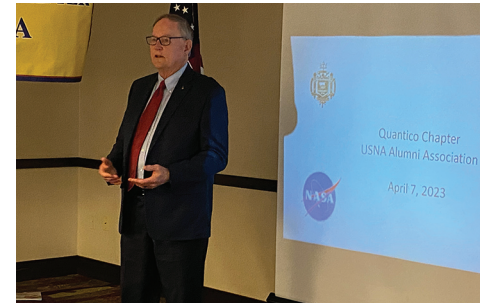
Website: <http://quantico.usnachapters.net>



On 3 February, 21 Chapter members and supporters gathered at The Hampton Inn, Dumfries for the latest installment in our breakfast speaker series. Our guest was **CAPT Joe McGettigan '80**, USN (Ret.), Director of the U. S. Naval Academy STEM Center for Education and Outreach who gave a very interesting talk on the Center's history and STEM outreach activities. This session was very relevant for QAC since STEM outreach is a specified Chapter goal, and we have searched for ways to get involved in the local community and schools. Interestingly, CAPT McGettigan informed the group that the country currently has 2.5 million unfilled STEM-oriented jobs, and the vacancies are projected to increase to 2.7 million by 2027. He attributed some of these vacancies to a lack of STEM awareness in young

people and a lack of STEM-focused education in the schools.

The Center employs teams, composed of Midshipmen and USNA professors, equipped with a variety of low-cost "modules," to teach students and their teachers about STEM. The fun, yet informative, teaching process emphasizes ample student practical application and experimentation. CAPT McGettigan also provided information about a variety of Center-sponsored or affiliated events in which QAC may participate, potentially providing a framework for greater Chapter involvement in STEM education.



QAC's guest, CAPT Joe McGettigan, USN (Ret.), Director, USNA STEM Center for Education & Outreach

The following week, our sports enthusiasts gathered at 6 Bears and A Goat in Fredericksburg to watch the latest Army-Navy Basketball contest. The group enjoyed the camaraderie and opportunity to tell tall tales, though we were disappointed that the Navy women came up a bit short in a hard-fought game. Fortunately, the men's result was more to our liking. Congratulations to them as they prevailed over the Army squad and best of luck, next time, to the Navy women!

The planning for the Chapter's 6th Annual Run To Honor Remembrance Run is now on the horizon. We are looking forward to returning to the National Museum of the Marine Corps on Memorial Day to honor our fallen alumni.

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: **Michael Metzger '89**
e: michael.metzger@1989.usna.com

Sec'y: **Matt Laser '97**
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Website: <http://richmond.usnachapters.net>

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Hampton Roads Chapter: The February Chapter Breakfast Club with Our Guest

Shenandoah Valley Chapter

Pres: **David McLellan '73**
 p: 540-722-2060; e: dcmlmd@earthlink.net
 Sec'y: **LCDR Grayson Redford '63, USN (Ret.)**
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 BGO Area Coordinator: **Jim Ripley '74**
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Virginia Peninsula Chapter

(formerly the Williamsburg Chapter)
 Pres: **Kathleen Jabs '88**
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 e: vapiensulachapterusna@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: www.myusna.com; Group: **Virginia Peninsula Chapter**

Activities

On 29 April, the Virginia Peninsula Chapter and family members met at Gauthier Vineyard for a lunch and social. Our guest speaker was U.S. Representative Rob Wittman who serves Virginia's 1st Congressional District, as a ranking member of the House Armed Services Committee and also a member of the USNA Board of Visitors. Rep Wittman presented an overview of the status of the Academy and also discussed budget and shipbuilding challenges.

Looking ahead, August is the start of football season, and the chapter gathers at Revolution Golf and Grille in Williamsburg for each game. We'll start with the Notre Dame game on 26 August. On 13 September we will have a luncheon at Patriots Colony with **Phillip Jones '12**, Newport News Mayor, as our guest speaker. 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 vapiensulachapterusna@gmail.com and we will notify you about upcoming luncheons and other events.



Congressman Rob Wittman

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. **Mike Ohlhaber '75** is the host of these meetings. 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 '88**, 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**
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Hanford/Tri-Cities Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Edward Schwier '69, USN (Ret.)**
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 Website: <http://hanford.usnachapters.com>

Puget Sound Chapter

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 Corr Sec'y: **George Windsor '75**
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Washington, DC Area

Greater Washington Chapter

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 Sec'y: **Crysta Gonzalez '18**
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 Outreach and Engagement: **Heidi Lenzini '95**
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 Diversity and Inclusion: **Alberto Ramos '10**
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 Trustee: **Fred Latrash '87**
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 BGO Area Coordinator: **Pat Seals**
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Wisconsin

BGO Area Coordinator: **Mr. Leonard Green**
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Wisconsin Chapter

Pres: **Timothy Mahoney '10**
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 At Large: **Chris Adams '75**
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 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

USNA Tribute Gifts
www.usna.com/tribute-gifts

2023 NAVY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE
 Follow Navy Football at: navysports.com

26 AUG	vs Univ. of Notre Dame (Dublin, Ireland)
9 SEPT	vs Wagner College
14 SEPT	@ Univ. of Memphis (Memphis, TN)
30 SEPT	vs Univ. of South Florida
7 OCT	vs Univ. of North Texas
14 OCT	@ Charlotte (Charlotte, NC)
21 OCT	vs Air Force
4 NOV	@ Temple University (Philadelphia, PA)
11 NOV	vs UAB
18 NOV	vs East Carolina Univ.
25 NOV	@ Southern Methodist Univ. (Dallas, TX)
9 DEC	vs Army (Foxborough, MA)

1-800-US4-NAVY

SHARED INTEREST GROUPS



Run to Honor: Tampa Bay USNA Chapter Memorial Day Run/Walk to Honor on 29 May 2023.

NAMA

Pres: **RADM Julius S. Caesar '77, USN (Ret.)**
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Vice Pres: **LCDR Valerie Mansfield '92, USN (Ret.)**
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CoS: **CDR Calvin Bumphus '97, USN (Ret.)**
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Treas: **C.J. Willis '75**
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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:

Welcome to the Class of 2027! They are the next generation of leaders. NAMA will encourage, mentor, and sponsor '27. Be on the lookout for mixers, tailgates, and more! We are looking for volunteers interested in helping with next year's alumni leadership forum with the Gala highlighting AAPI's achievement in the naval service. NAMA offers many 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:

Once again, thank you for making our second USNA Alumni Leadership Symposium and Gala a success! Attendees and participants are pictured above. Secretary of the Navy **Carlos del Toro '83** delivered inspirational remarks at the Gala, announcing the historical renaming of the Superintendent's residence to Farragut House. Admiral **Michael Mullen '68 (Ret.)** and Admiral **Lawrence Chambers '52 (Ret.)** were presented the NAMA Leadership Award for their lifetime of dynamic and inclusive leadership.

NAMA held its first summer membership picnic in June, hosting members, families, friends, and candidates in the DMV. We look forward to future events. In June, Dr. **Alisha Malloy '90**, NAPS Academic Dean, led a STEM event for middle school students in Brooklyn. Thank you to all who donated to the NAMA Fund during the Great Class Challenge!

NAMA partnered with the Naval Academy Foundation to establish the Naval Academy Minority Affairs Fund (NAMAFA). 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:

Visit usna.com/give or follow the directions on the NAMA website

Select the dollar amount you would like to contribute.

In the "I would like my money to go to" box, select "Other."

Type in Naval Academy Minority Affairs Fund.

Enter your donor information and click "Next."

Directions are on our website <https://www.usnama.com/donation-selection/>

NESA

Naval Engineers & STEM Advocates (NESA)

Pres: **Admiral John Richardson '82, USN (Ret.)**

Vice Pres: **CDR Sarah Rice '02, USN**
e: sarah.b.rice@gmail.com

Sec'y: **CDR Renee Reedy '81, USN (Ret.)**
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Treas: **LT John Rex Spivey '13, USN**
e: johnrexpivey@gmail.com

Outreach & Engagement: **Dr. Jill Rough '96, CAPT USNR**
e: jill.rough@comcast.net

CoS: **CAPT Dale Lumme '80, USN (Ret.)**
e: kid.lumme@1980.usna.com

NAMA Liaison: **CAPT Timi Lindsay '92, USN (Ret.)**
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Run to Honor

Pres: **Steve Swift '87**
p: 813-787-6098
e: president@runtohonor.com

Vice Pres: **Pat McConnell '02**
e: vp@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

This past Memorial Day, there was a live reading in Memorial Hall and over 13 RTH events across the country organized by Chapter and Local lead as well as several individuals who ran/walked/hiked/biked to honor and preserve the memory of our fallen USNA alumni.

A recording of the Memorial Hall reading may be viewed at: https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?ref=watch_permalink&v=257900196816832

We would like to share a special thanks to the Memorial Hall readers:

-**Sofi Loomis '99, Shannon Webb '04, Jeff Webb '95**, Jan Kennedy (Sister of **John Kennedy '79**), David Wayland (Father of **Patrick Wayland '10**), **Pat McConnell '02**, and **Alexa Hunter '04**.

We would also like to thank event leads who made the local Memorial Day events possible:

-**Linda Postenrieder '82** -Oak Harbor, WA;
-**Matt Hill '91** -Issaquah, WA;
-**Craig Smith '74**; San Diego, CA;
-**Sofi Loomis '99** -Annapolis, MD;
-**Alex Freeman '14** -Philadelphia, PA;
-David Wayland (Father of **Patrick Wayland '10**) -Midland, TX;
-**Steve Swift '87** -Tampa, FL;
-**Danielle Beier '10** -Fallon, NV;
-**Chris Nickels '91** -Charlotte, NC;
-**Jon Hurst '95 & Brian Peck '95**; Clemson, SC;
-**Tony Konecny '79** -Columbus, OH;
-**Lynne Malinowski '95** -Quantico, VA; and
-**Dave Paddock '77** -Virginia Beach, VA.

Upcoming RTH Events:

* Honor Our Fallen Heroes in Annapolis, MD
Nov 11 (Memorial Hall service, other activities around a home football game)

* Committee Leads: **Shannon Webb '04**, secretary@runtohonor.com, & Alexa Hunter '04, gear@runtohonor.com

* 48th MCM, MCM10K, & MCM50K in Washington D.C. **Oct 27-29** (Shindig, run, cheer)

Shindig is set to be held Friday, **27 Oct** at The Board Room; 1737 Connecticut Avenue NW Washington DC 20009

*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. Let us know if you plan on attending these or other events to honor our fallen Shipmates.

Follow and share with us at:
www.facebook.com/runtohonor.

Sign up for our email list at:
www.runtohonor.com/mailling-list/.

Get the stories behind the names in memorial hall at:
www.usnamemorialhall.org

Find RTH gear at:
http://runtohonor.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**

USNA Women

Pres: **RADM Alma Grocki '81, USN (Ret)**

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Vice Pres: **Col Maria Pallotta '94, USMC**

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Sec'y: **Dr. Rhonda Scott '97**

p: 240-462-0707; e: rhondabscott@gmail.com

Website: <https://women.usnagroups.net>

Women's Shared Interest Group Inaugural Annual Gathering

The USNA Women's Shared Interest Group (WSIG) celebrated its Inaugural Annual Gathering on 15 April 2023, in the Volgenau Conference Center in Hopper Hall. It was many participants' first time seeing Hopper Hall and Rear Admiral Grace Hopper's relevance to WSIG added meaning to the event. With trees in full bloom on Hospital Point and storm clouds on the horizon, it was a breathtaking view.

The meeting was a celebratory gathering, with 70 participants joining in-person and another 60 on Zoom. The newly elected leadership team, under the direction of **Linda "Postie" Postenrieder '82**, shared the vision and goals of the organization. The incorporation as a 501(c)(3) of Women's SIG was officially announced as well as the nomination and election of a Board of Directors. A fundraising campaign was initiated, calling for members to meet the \$26,000 in pledged matching donations.

The keynote speaker of the afternoon was **Allison Webster-Giddings '84** who gave perspective on the current Brigade of Midshipmen. She shared information about academics, athletics, summer training, professional development, and service selection—painting a picture of what life looks like for midshipmen today.

Stefanie Goebel '80 was presented the 2023 WSIG Member of the Year Award for her incredible leadership of the Survivor Advocacy Network, mentorship with the Naval Academy Women's Network, and as a Regional Representative for WSIG.

After the meeting, key stakeholders, committees, and programs held an Open House so participants could learn more, meet organizers, and sign up to get involved. A social

reception was held afterward, at McGarvey's for in-person attendees.

Feedback shared by participants of the gathering was very supportive of the outlined focus areas of WSIG. It was noted that members are enthusiastic about getting together in-person with hybrid-virtual opportunities for widest participation.

Women's Shared Interest Group and Naval Academy Women's Network

The following Sunday, **16 April**, representatives of the WSIG had an opportunity to meet with members of the Naval Academy Women's Network (NAWN). **Maegen Nix '97** hosted the gathering at her house as the WSIG Annapolis Area Representative and WSIG NAWN liaison. WSIG leaders **Linda "Postie" Postenrieder '92** and **Jill Richards '94** were joined by a number of members of the WSIG to celebrate the mid's upcoming graduation and welcome their arrival to the Fleet and Corps. WSIG plans to continue this tradition with NAWN to foster community and mentorship.

By the time you all read this, the WSIG will also have a number of new Directors joining the WSIG Board after a special election in June. Please pass along a welcome and congratulations to all of the new Board members and find out more about them and the WSIG on wsig.myUSNA.com!

Save the Date:

29 August 2023, 7-8:30pm EST, Virtual: Survivor Advocacy Network Series: How to get the most out of Talk Therapy with Ms. Beverly Rouse

**This event is open to any woman who attended a service academy and/or was commissioned as an officer in the armed forces, particularly those who identify as having had an adverse/unwanted sexual experience.

15 and 16 September 2023: SIG Exponential Change Conference, San Francisco Bay Area, details TBD.

Become a Shared Interest Group

Want to start a Shared Interest Group (SIG)? As a SIG, you will be a recognized USNA AA&F Group in our Alumni community, be provided with no cost Volunteer management tools on **myUSNA**, have a place to post in *Shipmate*, and receive one on one Alumni Staff support. Please reach out to Isaac Phillips III for more information.



USNA Women Shared Interest Group Inaugural Annual Gathering.

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

Anson Duane Geiger '45
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
22 April 2023

Arthur Joseph Morrow '46 ■
31 May 2023

Joseph William McGrath Jr. '47
12 May 2023

Robert Francis Roche '47
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
9 May 2023

Gene Richard Dreher '48
4 June 2023

Charles Joseph Kelly '48
1 April 2023

Robert Evans Fellowes '49 ■
CDR, USN (Ret.)
24 May 2023

Wallace Kessel '49
3 June 2023

Joseph Anthony Lonergan '49
29 April 2023

Edward Irwin McQuiston Jr. '49 ■
CDR, USN (Ret.)
15 April 2023

Peter Scott Swanson '49
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
10 March 2023

Charles Olaf Hirsch '50 ■
Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)
6 May 2023

John Jacob Hobson '50
Col, USAF (Ret.)
10 May 2023

Royce Edgar Pettit Jr. '50
CDR, USN (Ret.)
17 April 2023

David Jewell Space '50
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
15 June 2023

John Benjamin Carr Jr. '51 ■
LtCol, USMC (Ret.)
15 May 2023

Donald Michael Masse '52
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
29 August 2021

Thomas John Moody '52
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
13 March 2023

James Kenneth Nunneley '52
RADM, USN (Ret.)
23 May 2023

James Francis Welch '52
19 June 2023

David Edward Allen '53 ■
Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)
1 June 2023

Philip Morgan Jelley '53 ■
5 April 2023

Harry James Mott III '53
BG, USA (Ret.)
16 April 2023

Vaughn Edgar Wilson Jr. '53
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
17 April 2023

Bart Michael Dalla Mura '54 ■
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
14 May 2023

**Burnham
Clough McCaffree Jr. '54** ■
RADM, USN (Ret.)
13 May 2023

Arthur Scott Mobley '54
CDR, USN (Ret.)
22 April 2023

Robert Joseph Rennell '54
5 May 2023

Alexander Basile Aronis '55 ■
9 June 2023

Carl Thomas Braun '55
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
5 June 2023

Kent Richard Drummond '55 ■
23 April 2023

John Ezra Gauldin III '55
29 April 2023

Kenneth Lee Highfill '55 ■
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
4 June 2023

James Kirby McPherson '55
Col, USAF (Ret.)
18 May 2023

Rudolph Halouk Daus '56
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
3 June 2023

John Carleton Grant '56
LT, USN
29 December 2022

William Sherman Hull '56 ■
12 May 2023

Travis Monroe Tinsley '56
19 June 2023

Hugh McLean Walker Jr. '56
22 May 2023

Herbert Bauer '57
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
25 April 2023

James Hugh Bostick '57
CDR, USN (Ret.)
6 April 2023

Ejnar Sigred Christensen Jr. '57
15 June 2023

Richard John Hlava '57
30 December 2022

David Elliot Hooper '57
28 May 2023

Leo Gregory Hyatt '57
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
12 June 2023

Robert James McMahon '57
Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)
11 May 2023

John William O'Donnell '57 ■
LtCol, USMC (Ret.)
2 June 2023

Charles Thomas Popik '57
CDR, USN (Ret.)
22 April 2023

Eugene Clark Rook Jr. '57
CAPT, SC, USN (Ret.)
28 May 2023

Leyon Donald Sakey '57
21 April 2023

Ricky Reynolds Davidson '58 ■
Col, USAF (Ret.)
17 June 2023

Peter Stevan Roder '58
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
4 June 2023

Herbert Leslie Stiff '58
LCDR, USNR
3 August 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.

James Benson Van Hoose '58 ■
25 May 2023

John William Morrow Jr. '59
Capt, USAF
6 June 2023

Richard John Noreika '59 ■
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
5 April 2023

Herbert Bailey Richter '59
CDR, USN (Ret.)
13 May 2023

Albert Anthony Arcuni '60
CDR, USN (Ret.)
13 May 2022

Francis Schwerdt Clark '60
Capt, USMCR (Ret.)
1 May 2023

Robert Moore Eldridge '60
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
23 April 2023

Mark Melvyn Golden '60
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
11 June 2023

Michael James Lees '60 ■
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
6 June 2023

Albert Anthony Orzechowski '60
23 April 2023

Robert Calvin Sutliff Jr. '60
20 April 2023

Murry Albert Tedder '60
22 April 2023

Richard Alston Ardavany '61
22 April 2023

Donald Prescott Grinnell '61
CDR, USN (Ret.)
17 April 2023

Horace Hobson Miller Jr. '61
13 May 2023

George Robert Simmons '61
CW4, USA (Ret.)
17 April 2023

Walter Frederick Strobach '61
7 June 2023

Donald Edward Krehely '62
CAPT, SC, USN (Ret.)
5 June 2023

Phillip Gregory Saunders '62
18 May 2023

Patrick Woodruff Johnson Sr. '63
14 May 2023

Gerald Joe Stiles '63
Maj, USAF (Ret.)
11 June 2023

Phillip Howard David '64
31 May 2023

Francis David Gray '64 ■
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
9 May 2023

Kenneth Michael Castelano '65
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
10 May 2023

Thomas Robert Gatcliffe '65
CDR, USN (Ret.)
19 June 2023

James Earl Hatfield '65
LCDR, USNR
17 April 2023

Mark Light Kittredge '65 ■
31 May 2023

Burton Manly Saft '65
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
21 March 2023

William Charles Hancock '66 ■
CDR, USN (Ret.)
14 May 2023

William Franklin Johnson Jr. '66 ■
5 May 2023

Richard Waclaw Starostecki '66 ■
4 May 2023

Ronald Frederick Holcombe '67
6 May 2023

James Bradley Witherspoon Jr. '67
14 June 2023

Richard Charles Zino '67
5 April 2023

Patrick Neil Ellis '68 ■
10 June 2023

Ronald Ernest Fiandaca '68
LT, USN
27 October 2018

Richard Mark Kadlick '68 ■
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
29 April 2023

James Scott McRoberts '68
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
2 May 2023

Martin Joseph Nacrelli '68
28 November 2022

James Edward Snook '68
13 May 2023

Thomas Joseph Flaherty II '69
13 June 2023

Lyle Dean Countryman '70
20 May 2023

Jeffrey Bert Hawkins '70 ■
29 May 2023

Michael Dale May '70
CDR, USN (Ret.)
9 May 2023

James Lenus McClane '70
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
17 May 2023

Gary Anthony Nowlin '70
5 May 2020

Edward Daniel Stone III '70
4 March 2023

Stephan Robert Bruce '71
CAPT, USNR (Ret.)
22 April 2023

Richard Haley Ector '71
28 May 2023

Stephen Paul Axtell '72
5 May 2023

Rex Timothy Aaron '73
20 April 2023

James John Cuff Jr. '75 ■
LtCol, USMC (Ret.)
23 May 2023

Aaron Bruce Johnson '75
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
12 May 2023

John August Schumacher '76
CDR, USNR (Ret.)
1 May 2023

Nathaniel French Caldwell Jr. '77
CDR, USN (Ret.)
8 June 2023

Gregory Wayne Smith '78 ■
25 May 2023

William Douglas Blue '84
23 May 2023

Edgar Rafael Figueras-Mejias '84
16 May 2023

Thomas Soryang Kymn '84
LT, USNR
3 December 2022

Douglas Todd Rhodes '85
Maj, USMCR (Ret.)
19 April 2023

Fredric Wayne Huls '88
27 April 2019

Terrence Patrick Gordon '94 ■
28 April 2023

Ernest Joseph Longazel '97
15 April 2023

Daniel Edward Boncich '00 ■
17 April 2023

Ashleigh Rose Fairrow '19
1stLt, USMC
25 May 2023

OBITUARY GUIDELINES

Please note that we have a maximum word limit of 400 words. Obituaries may be submitted electronically (preferred) to obits@usna.com, or via U.S. Mail to: Shipmate obituaries, 247 King George Street, Annapolis, MD 21402-5068.

If you have any questions regarding the submission of obituaries to Shipmate, please contact Timothy Elizabeth Woodbury (410-295-4064 or obits@usna.com).

Burt was commanding officer of GUITARRO (SSN-665) from 1982 to 1986. Stationed in San Diego with an overhaul at Mare Island Naval Shipyard, those years were the highlight of his career, and he was exceedingly proud of his crew and their accomplishments.

After retiring from the Navy, Burt became a math teacher and taught at El Camino High School in Oceanside, CA. Even though he humorously "complained" that his students didn't laugh at his jokes like his submarine crews did, he nevertheless really enjoyed teaching.

Burt considered raising his two daughters to be his greatest accomplishment. They gave him great pleasure and he spent as much time with them as he could. Having three granddaughters made his life complete.

Burt leaves his wife, Carolyn; daughters, Amy Ciocan (Claude) and Emily Saft (Leroy); granddaughters, Elwyn, Parker and Kelcey; his brother, Lester (Maxine); and nieces and nephews who were very precious to him. He was very excited that his great-niece, Gabrielle, is expected to become an Eagle Scout this spring. He was also delighted and proud that his great-niece, Alexandra, joined the submarine service as a new Navy ensign.

Burt was preceded in death by his grandson, Dylan Riley Ciocan; his sister, Myra Ann Saft Stuart; and his parents, Gertrude and Ralph Saft.

Mrs. Carolyn Saft & Bill Zuna '65 ★



WILLIAM CHARLES HANCOCK '66

Commander William C Hancock, USN (Ret.), passed away at his home in Lewes, DE, on 14 May 2023. He was 79 years old.

Born on 24 April 1944, in Minneapolis, MN, he was the son of the late Paul Raymond and Muriel Virginia (Sampson) Hancock.

William graduated from Hopkins Senior High School, class of 1962. He continued his studies, graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy with the Class of 1966. He later obtained a

master's degree in communications at the Naval Postgraduate school in Monterey, CA. William enjoyed a lengthy career as a Surface Warfare Officer, retiring in 1987 after serving for 21 years.

He later worked as an IT program manager, consulting for the federal government until retiring from the workforce.

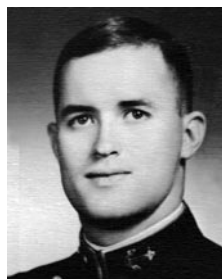
He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed sailing, camping and gardening. William was a devoted Eagle Scout and achieved the Order of the Arrow. What he cherished most however, was time spent with those he held most dear. Loved by all who knew him, he will be forever missed.

William is survived by his beloved wife, Patricia Hancock of Lewes, DE; his children, Derrick Hancock (Gretchen) of Newtown, CT, Anneliese Lohmeyer (Robert) of Ashburn, VA, and Nicole Reeves (Jason) of Ashburn, VA; granddaughters, Jordan and Abby Lohmeyer, Caroline Hancock and Lily and Emily Reeves; and his grandsons, Tyler Lohmeyer and Declan Reeves.

A funeral service was held on 25 May 2023 at St. John Neumann Church in Reston, VA.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations in William's memory to the Parkinson's Foundation (www.parkinson.org) or a charity of your choice.

Please visit William's Life Memorial web page and sign his virtual guestbook at (www.parsellfuneralhomes.com). ★



WILLIAM FRANKLIN JOHNSON JR. '66

William F. Johnson Jr. went home to be with the Lord at 12:43 a.m. on Friday, 5 May 2023. He passed peacefully in Oviedo, FL, surrounded by his loved ones. He was 79 years old.

In life, "Bill" was a husband, a father, a grandfather and a great-grandfather. He was a friend to many and served the Lord faithfully.

Bill was born in Wichita Falls, TX, on 28 February 1944 to William Franklin Johnson Sr. and Francis Hollingsworth Johnson (both

now deceased). He attended The Bolles School in Jacksonville, FL, where he was an all-state athlete in baseball, basketball and football. Bill then attended the United States Naval Academy. At Annapolis, he was a member of the First Company from Plebe Summer until graduation with the Class of 1966. He played both baseball and football for the Academy.

After graduation he served as a supply corps officer in the U.S. Navy, spending time on FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (CVA-42).

Bill married his beautiful bride, Mary Tullis, on 11 June 1966 in Jacksonville, FL. Sadly, she predeceased him in 2005.

He cherished the friendships he made at Florida Furniture Industries for over 30 years, as well as being a realtor in the Jacksonville area. He had an uncanny ability to reach people in a deep and positive way and couldn't go anywhere without making friends with a stranger.

Bill was a loving and devoted father to Lisa Dullum (Mark), Jennifer Howard (David) and Billy Johnson (Cari). He meant so much to his family and leaves behind a legacy that lives on forever through his grandchildren, Lauren (Alex), David (Chrissy), Ashley (Austin), Billy, Allison, Zach, Colton and Lea; and his great-grandson, Deacon.

He will be deeply missed by his family, friends and all who knew him.

A celebration of life was held at Oaklawn Cemetery in Jacksonville, FL.

Gifts in Bill's memory may be made to the Naval Academy Foundation, 274 Wood Road, Annapolis, MD 21402, or online at (www.usna.com/give). Please note: Alumni Center, Class of 1966. ★



RICHARD WACLAW STAROSTECKI '66

"Rich" Starostecki died peacefully on 4 May 2023, with his wife, Chris, beside him at their home in Sarasota, FL, after a long illness.

Rich was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, on 13 November 1944 to parents who were members of the Polish Army serving with the British Army in Great Britain. His father, Waclaw Piotrowski, an RAF pilot, died in the war. His mother married Julian Starostecki, and they moved to New Jersey in 1952, where Rich grew up.

Rich entered the United States Naval Academy with the Class of 1966 in June of 1962, from Essex Catholic High School in Newark, NJ. He was an outstanding student at USNA, excelling in math and nuclear engineering, which prepared him for his future career in the nuclear Navy and commercial nuclear energy.

Rich was selected for Admiral Rickover's Navy Nuclear Power Program and completed Nuclear Power School, Prototype Training and Submarine School, after which he was assigned to the Polaris submarine GEORGE WASHINGTON, stationed in New London, CT. After four patrols on WASHINGTON out of Holy Loch, Scotland, he was assigned to the staff of the Nuclear Power School at Bainbridge, MD. Leaving active duty in the Navy in 1972, he began a distinguished career in civilian nuclear energy.

His first assignment was with the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission as a project manager from 1972 to 1974, and when that organization was renamed the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), he continued

COLUMBARIUM

For more information, visit www.usna.edu/cemetery

LAST CALL

working on reactor and fuel cycle safety from 1974 until 1978. He left government service to become a senior manager at Scientific Applications, Inc. from 1978 to 1981. Returning to the NRC from 1981 until 1987, he became a division director. He then became Deputy Assistant Secretary for Safety at the United States Department of Energy, serving from 1987 until 1991. After retiring from government service, Rich consulted widely on nuclear safety and chemical weapons demilitarization.

Rich received many accolades and awards, including a Meritorious Service Award from the NRC and a Gold Medal and Superior Performance Award from the Secretary of Energy

Rich was predeceased by his wife, Carol, and son, Drew. He is survived by beloved wife of five years, Chris; his son, Richard Michael; and daughters, Renea and Hilary.

A memorial gathering and interment was held at the Naval Academy Columbarium on 18 July 2023 for his family, USNA family, mates and nuclear energy colleagues. ★



LOWELL DAVID BOAZ '67

Lieutenant Commander Lowell D. Boaz, USN (Ret.), of Fredericksburg, VA, passed away on 21 March 2023. He was 78 years old.

Lowell was born on 6 March 1945 in Los Angeles, CA. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1967.

Upon commissioning, he attended Flight School in Pensacola, FL. He served as a Naval Flight Officer for the U.S. Navy for 20 years, completing 116 combat missions in Vietnam. His naval career

led him to Virginia Beach, VA, Monterey, CA, Point Mugu, CA, and Whidbey Island, WA. While in the Navy, Lowell received a master's degree in Aeronautical Engineering and an MBA. Upon retirement, he worked as a defense contractor.

Lowell was active in several churches over his life, and especially enjoyed singing in the choir. He served as Boy Scout troop leader for several years and took great joy in flying his single engine Glastar that he built himself. He worked with the Young Eagles program to introduce youth to the magic of flight.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Diana Stratton Boaz; sister, Cheryl Boaz White (Luther); son, David Ryan Boaz (Shannon); his beloved daughter-in-law (Daniel's widow), Tricia Santa-Cruz Boaz; grandchildren, Kirsten Boaz, Faith Boaz, Natalie Boaz and Thomas Boaz; sisters-in-law, Judith Stratton Shay (Bob) and Flora Boaz; as well as several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his father, Gene Sherrill Boaz; mother, Lou Wickersham Boaz; brother, Roger William Boaz; and son, Daniel Lowell Boaz.

A memorial service was held on 5 April 2023 at First Christian Church in Fredericksburg, VA. Interment will take place at a later date in Arlington National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to First Christian Church, 1501 Washington Ave., Fredericksburg, VA 22401; (www.fccfredva.org). ★

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.

—Mahatma Gandhi



PATRICK NEIL ELLIS '68

"Pat" Ellis passed away on 10 June 2023, in Tucson, AZ, while at a family gathering.

Born on 7 June 1946 in Washington, DC, to Ernest William and Muriel Ellis, Pat graduated from Fayetteville (NC) Senior High School as salutatorian in 1964. He attended the U.S. Naval Academy, where he rose to become the Third Battalion Commander. He graduated third in the Class of 1968, earning a bachelor's degree in Naval Science. Upon graduation, he was

commissioned into the United States Marine Corps.

Pat served in Vietnam from October 1969 to October 1970 as a platoon commander, company executive officer and company commander in the 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines, 3rd Marine Division. Following his tour in Vietnam, he returned to the Marine Recruit Depot, San Diego, CA, as director of the Marine Sea School. After six years, Pat chose to resign and was honorably discharged from the Marine Corps on 30 June 1974.

Between 1974 and 2008, Pat lived in the greater San Diego, CA, area. Most of his civilian career was spent in the banking industry, as an executive in commercial and mortgage banking. Pat retired at the age of 62, and after a year in Atlanta, GA, with his brother and family, he moved to Borrego Springs, CA, where he lived until the time of his death. He was involved in the community, serving on the board of the Methodist church and with his golf club.

Pat leaves behind three siblings and a stepbrother, who were with him in Tucson; his nieces and nephews; his beloved cat, Misha; and many friends in San Diego, Borrego Springs and across the country.

He will be interred with military honors at Miramar National Cemetery at a date TBD.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to: the Semper Fi & America's Fund (www.thefund.org); the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation (www.marineheritage.org); or the Borrego Animal Rescue (please contact borregoanimalrescue@gmail.com for details). ★



RICHARD MARK KADLICK '68

Captain "Rick" Kadlick, USN (Ret.), passed away on 29 April 2023, in Jacksonville, FL. He was 76 years old.

Born in Baltimore, MD, he was the son of Frank and Estelle Kadlick. He graduated from Baltimore Polytechnic Institute. He reported to USNA in 1964. At Annapolis, Rick excelled academically and was active in intramural sports, especially on the battalion lacrosse and company soccer teams.

Upon graduation with the Class of 1968, he was commissioned as a Navy ensign and attended the Naval Postgraduate School, earning an MS in Physics, specializing in Underwater Acoustics. He then completed Nuclear Power School, Nuclear Prototype, and Submarine School in preparation for assignment as a submariner. His shipboard assignments included LAPON (SSN-661), CASIMIR PULASKI (SSBN-633), BATFISH (SSN-681), TULIBEE (SSN-597), and command of DACE (SSN-607) from 1985 to 1988. As submariners know, Rick's assignments on two PERMIT (SSN-594) class ships made him "594 Tough."

Following command, Rick was designated a Material Professional and attended the Program Management Course at the Defense Systems Management College. His Major Program Management assignments were at the Cruise Missile Project Office and PEO Submarines. He completed an MBA at Marymount University prior to retiring in October 1994.

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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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