

UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND FOUNDATION

SHIPMATE

SEPTEMBER 2023



FULL SPEED AHEAD

By Jeff Webb '95



The Fluegel Alumni Center—the new home of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation.

With football season upon us, the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation is excited to welcome the alumni community back to Annapolis for tailgating, reunions and special events. This fall, we are excited to celebrate the long-anticipated opening of the Fluegel Alumni Center.

The enterprise moved into the Fluegel Alumni Center the week of 17 July. For the first time in our history, all colleagues across the Alumni Association, Foundation and Athletic and Scholarship Programs are operating in the same workspace. The positive effect on our ability to collaborate for the benefit of the Brigade and our alumni community has been welcomed and immediate.

My colleagues and I want to thank Donna and Rick Fluegel '61 for their generous gift to help make this world-class facility a reality. The entire alumni community stepped up to ensure alumni have a fitting home when they return to Annapolis.

More than 3,500 alumni contributed to the new facility, including more than 1,200 plank owners and 37 classes, raising more than \$36 million to build, equip and operate the facility. The Fluegel Alumni Center offers a spectacular view of College Creek, magnificent decks and outdoor event spaces, large and small

conference rooms and about 100 on-site parking spaces.

An official opening event for the Fluegel Alumni Center is scheduled for 8 September. After that date, we invite you to drop in, walk the grounds, see the building and relax in the Ronald '75 and Liane Nicol Alumni Lounge.

POSITIVE IMPACT

In the spirit of giving back and being a force for positive change in their community, the Texas Gulf Coast Alumni Association Chapter rallied support to fill a void in the Houston area. The chapter discovered that there were Houston area congressional districts that did not always nominate candidates to the Naval Academy and undertook multiple initiatives to increase USNA's exposure among candidates and to help those candidates prepare for the rigors of the Naval Academy.

The chapter gathered resources from its membership, local Blue and Gold Officers (BGOs) and the parent community to help students develop their skills in science, technology, engineering and math, skills that are a necessity to be competitive as a candidate and successful as a midshipman.

The Texas Gulf Coast Chapter Foundation helped fund participation in the Texas Super Regional SeaPerch competition on 1 April which attracted

45 teams with 217 students, with most drawn from minority communities. The chapter also used this event to provide information about the Naval Academy. Astronaut Captain Sunita Williams '87, USN (Ret.), attended this year's event and addressed the attendees.

Finally, the chapter sponsored six high school students to attend the Naval Academy's Summer Seminar and Summer STEM programs. See full story on page 18.

All of these touch points are critical to ensuring the Academy continues to field high-caliber applicants and maintains its No. 1 ranking among the nation's public liberal arts colleges.

This is just one story of the incredible impact Alumni Association Chapters, BGOs and Parent Clubs can have on their local communities. It's inspirational and a powerful reminder of the Naval Academy's mission to "graduate leaders who are dedicated to a career of naval service and have potential for future development in mind and character to assume the highest responsibilities of command, citizenship and government."

I look forward to visiting with more alumni this year to learn about the great things they are doing for their community, their fellow alumni and the Naval Academy. This fall, our away football calendar will afford me and other colleagues the opportunity to visit with our alumni community in Pennsylvania, Tennessee, North Carolina, Florida, Texas and Massachusetts.

I'm eager to continue connecting with our community and welcome suggestions on how we can better support you. It's important for me to meet alumni where you are and communicate our mission and goals as we implement Strategic Plan 2030. My teammates and I always welcome your feedback, which helps us focus our resources and attention on the programs and support areas that can have the greatest impact on our alumni community and Brigade.

Go Navy! Beat Army! ⚓

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
Navy has had a live goat as a mascot dating back to the 1893 Army-Navy game. Bill the Goat embodies the spirit of the Midshipmen. This Bill from 1925 personifies that spirit.

Photo courtesy of USNA



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 joining in on a Zoom call with the Class of 1975 on page 76 of the July-August 2023 issue of Shipmate.

ALL HANDS

myUSNA



Future updates to the exclusive alumni network, myUSNA, are on their way.

This is where you can directly speak with your Class, Shared Interest Groups (SIGs), Chapter and Parent Clubs, and register for events in your area and back in Annapolis—all in one place.

MyUSNA is *your* way to get the most out of your experience and membership as part of the alumni community. Create and register for events, participate in professional network opportunities and receive daily updates on all things related to the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation and the brand new Fluegel Alumni Center.

POTENTIAL UNLOCKED

The Class of '98 conducted their 25th reunion registration through myUSNA and registered more than \$100,000 in 15 days by using the event registration feature on the platform.

The Class of '83 is cycling across the country for their 40th reunion and is updating the alumni community through the live feed feature.

Classes across three decades use myUSNA as a resource to share health support resources with classmates including a Parkinson's toolkit initiated by the Class of 1965.

We want to make sure the platform is not only efficient, but easy to use to create continued success for you. Join your classmates and fellow midshipmen parents today to personalize your alumni experience on myUSNA.com.

Please submit any feedback, suggestions or desired updates to myusnafeedback@usna.com.



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Scan here to learn more:

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2024 Distinguished Graduate Award Nomination Period Closing



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.

O'Donnell '15 Selected for The Blue Angels



Lieutenant Connor O'Donnell '15, USN, has been chosen to join the U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, also known as the Blue Angels, for the 2024 air show season team. O'Donnell is currently assigned to Training Squadron Eight Six (VT-86). He is one of three F/A-18E/F Super Hornet pilots selected along with a C-130J Super Hercules pilot, an aviation maintenance officer, a supply officer and a public affairs officer to replace outgoing team members.

New team members will report to the squadron in September for a two-month turnover period. Upon completion of the 2023 show season, which concludes in November with the Blue Angels Homecoming Air Show at Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL, the team will embark on a five-month training program at Naval Air Station Pensacola and Naval Air Facility El Centro, CA.

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USNA AA&F Moves Into The Fluegel Alumni Center

The U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation moved into the Fluegel Alumni Center the week of 17 July. For the first time, the entire enterprise is under one roof at 301 King George Street, which is across from Terwilliger Brothers Field at Max Bishop Stadium.

The Fluegel Alumni Center will provide a centralized home for alumni when they return to Annapolis for reunions, special events, activities on the Yard and sporting events. It includes outdoor event spaces alongside and overlooking College Creek. The center also has meeting and lounge spaces for alumni.

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

An official opening event for the Fluegel Alumni Center is scheduled for 8 September. □



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The skies were dry. The tides weren't surging around Annapolis.

Yet, Ramsay Road flooded ... again. For Annapolis and the Naval Academy, 3 June 2023 was just another day. Nuisance flooding returned to the road fronting the Naval Academy Columbarium as well as McNair Road on the opposite side of College Creek.

These “nuisance” incidents are becoming more frequent and no less disruptive. They're a regular reminder that the Academy is built on reclaimed land at or near sea level.

While the 3 June episode was noticeable, it didn't hamper Naval Academy operations. Nuisance flooding, however, has forced the cancelation or relocation of memorial services over the past few years. The Columbarium and Ramsay Road, along its front edge, are among the Academy's most vulnerable assets.

NAVAL ACADEMY AIMS TO TURN THE TIDE ON SEA LEVEL RISE



On 3 June, Ramsay Road flooded in front of the Naval Academy Columbarium. It was just one example of nuisance flooding on the Yard minus heavy rains or surging tides.

In April, the Academy in partnership with the Naval Support Activity Annapolis (NSAA) released its Installation Resilience Plan. This document, completed in 2022, details the threats of sea level rise and subsidence and outlines the actions needed to curb the impact. The plan “provides an integrated adaptation framework, project portfolio and year-to-year execution strategy that will mitigate the combined effects of land subsidence, sea level rise, ground-water change, coastal flooding/storm surge and inadequate stormwater management at the Naval Academy to the year 2100,” according to a news release.

While the Resilience Plan won’t prevent flooding in the event of a 100-year storm, even when fully implemented by 2065, it is designed to deliver significant improvements to minimize disruptions to operational and educational endeavors at the Academy. Fortunately, Annapolis hasn’t seen a storm with the magnitude of Hurricane Isabel since the massive storm hit the city in 2003. Isabel and its confluence of winds, sea surge and rain left several Academy buildings uninhabitable and forced leadership to make quick decisions and craft creative solutions for keeping the Brigade of Midshipmen on track (For more information, see a column by Rear Admiral William Miller ’62, USN (Ret.), on page 10.)

The Academy has already begun making mitigation measures including a near-term project to fortify the Farragut Field bulkhead near the Robert Crown Sailing Center. Time is not on the Academy’s side with nuisance incidents happening more frequently each year. Since 1929, the relative sea level in Annapolis has risen slightly more than

one foot, according to the Resilience Plan. That has led to nuisance flooding incidents ramping up from two or three times per year to more than 40. These events force the closures of roads, sidewalks and building entry points, which hampers daily operations at the Academy.

“Sea level rise and land subsidence are increasingly impacting operations at the Naval Academy,” said Vice Admiral Sean S. Buck ’83, USN, the Naval Academy’s 63rd Superintendent. “The bottom line is that we are dealing with increasing amounts of water on the Yard every year and the projections show that the effects of climate change are an existential threat to the Naval Academy.”

PRIORITIZED PLANNING

This month marks the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Isabel, which hit Annapolis on 18 September 2003. Isabel left over 22 buildings flooded with varying levels of damage, including Michelson Hall and Chauvenet Hall lab spaces. A barracks barge was moored adjacent to the Dewey Field seawall and served as temporary classrooms. While only one day of classes was canceled, Isabel’s impact demonstrated

The view onto Brownson Road from Ricketts Hall in October 2021 when a storm and high tides converged to flood parts of the Naval Academy.



PHOTO COURTESY OF USNA

FEATURE

the need to bolster the Academy's defenses. In October 2021, a much more mundane storm brought heavy rains and flooded many of the roads on the Yard, but thanks to a variety of protective measures like door dams and sand bags, most of the buildings had little to no water on the interior.

Sandbags were deployed to protect building entrances. While midshipmen, faculty and Academy leadership have become adept to adjusting to these types of flooding, steps to mitigate the effects of storm surges have been employed. Door dams are utilized on many buildings on the lower yard to protect low lying entrances from flooding.

Naval Academy Deputy for Facilities and Construction Sara Phillips said proactive mitigation measures—including door dams—have protected the Academy's buildings from high tides and storm water since shortly after Isabel and demonstrates that Yard leadership is “actively working every avenue to keep things going.”

The Resilience Plan aims to systematically bolster the Yard's defenses through infrastructure upgrades over the next 40 years. The first major project started in November 2022 with the groundbreaking for a new sea wall along Farragut Field. The \$37.5 million upgrade will repair and raise the height of the seawall to address daily high tides and minor storms through 2100. Future plans include adding earthen berms or other storm surge barriers to protect against higher water levels that will occur in large storms.

The Resilience Plan established short-, mid- and long-term project execution parameters (see graphic on this page). The portfolio of sea-level rise mitigation measures includes a combination of adaptation approaches: engineered defenses (seawalls, stormwater retrofits); adapted structures (building and infrastructure retrofits); green infrastructure (earthen berms, stormwater retention, living shorelines); and temporary solutions (deployable floodwalls or barriers) to issues where long-term permanent protection may take years to implement.

The Resilience Plan's project completion targets are based on when water will threaten the Yard's current level of protection. They don't account

for current facility conditions or the Academy's operational requirements to train and educate midshipmen.

“We must now balance the information from the study with conditions of the existing infrastructure to create a program of projects that balances the mission of the Academy, funding availability and the risks associated with rising seas,” said Captain Tom McLemore '97, USN, Naval Support Activity Annapolis public works officer.

Prioritizing the areas that will generate the most bang for the buck, Academy leadership is using the Resilience Plan to help craft the facilities master plan.

“We are looking at the plan holistically to better assign dates for operational requirements or when current facilities fail,” Phillips said.

Phillips noted the soil under the pavement along the Farragut sea wall was washing out under the wall. With the sea wall failing, that project was elevated in priority to tackle all the problems at once. The wall is being raised to protect the Academy for current and future sea levels. The wall is being constructed so it can be raised later if needed.

“That's what becomes the facilities master plan,” Phillips said. “The Resilience Plan informs the master plan, but it is only the climate driver for that plan.”

A new sea wall is being constructed along Farragut Field. The \$37.5 million upgrade will repair and raise the height of the seawall to address daily high tides and minor storms through 2100.

RESILIENCE PLAN

The Naval Academy's Resilience Plan includes an execution plan with short-term (for the years 2023-27), mid-term (2028-37) and long-term (2038-48; 2049-59; and 2060-65) objectives. Here is list of some of the projects included in the plan:

SHORT-TERM (2023-27)

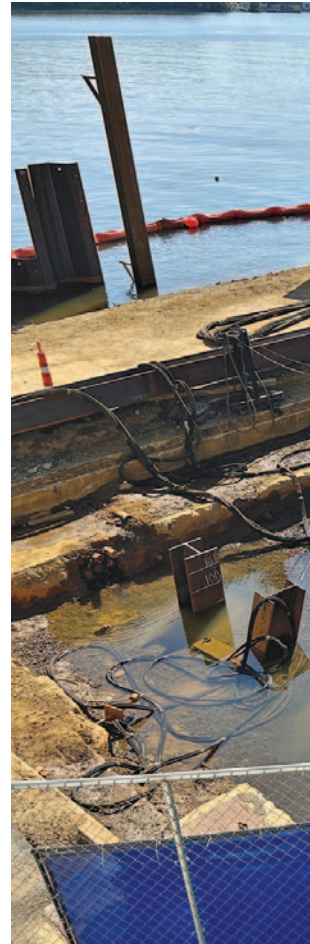
- PROTECTION OF RAMSAY ROAD IN FRONT OF THE COLUMBARIUM
- PROTECTION OF FIRST-FLOOR ASSETS IN RICKOVER, MICHELSON AND CHAUVENET HALLS

MID-TERM (2028-37)

- SHERMAN FIELD FLOOD BARRIER
- DEWEY FIELD BULKHEAD

LONG-TERM (2038-48; 2049-59; 2060-65)

- COLLEGE CREEK LIVING SHORELINE AND PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE
- PROTECTION OF BUILDINGS ON SHERMAN FIELD



Hurricane Isabel left many parts of the Naval Academy inaccessible including the bridge over College Creek.

Phillips said the Academy has funding programed for Fiscal Year 2024 to repair Ramsay Road which entails raising the adjoining sea wall. The road will be excavated, backfilled and stabilized.

As evidenced by frequent flooding, the Columbarium is currently threatened by sea level rise and sits in a floodplain. Relocation of the Columbarium is proposed in the 2038-48 time period in the Resilience Plan but for practical purposes, that is likely to occur much sooner, Phillips said. In addition to natural hazards, the Columbarium is running out of niches for inurnments.

ON THE HORIZON

Academy leadership is crafting a strategy to prioritize areas where sea level rise will likely cause the greatest disruption for training and educating midshipmen. Projects are requirements-based and phased in over time. The Academy is



PHOTO COURTESY OF USNA



prioritizing fortification of the lower Yard (the facilities and land east of College Creek) to sustain the most critical infrastructure where berthing, academic and training spaces are located.

“We’re trying to be cost sensitive and identify where we get the most bang for the buck and how to protect the most critical infrastructure,” Phillips said. “Those get protected at the highest level.”

Naval Academy Athletics Director Chet Gladchuk said the physical mission impacts the entire Brigade of Midshipmen. The Academy needs athletic facilities and training sites that are protected and reliably available for use to develop midshipmen, he said.

“I have seen a foot of water on the athletic fields adjacent to Santee Basin,” Gladchuk said. “It has shut down significant opportunities to participate in athletics and has taken weeks in some cases for the water to diffuse. Interruptions as a result of sea level rise are a very real detriment in our ability to utilize all of the resources that we have to ensure continuity of physical training and competition.

“The Resilience Plan is a critical step forward to ensure that the limited field space that we have is available without interruption leading to our effectiveness



Door dams are utilized outside Rickover Hall to protect the low-lying entrance.

in meeting the requirements of our physical mission.”

Actual execution of the plan will depend on available funding. Phillips said funding for projects is not allocated beyond Fiscal Year 2024. Each year, Yard leadership will work with the Academy’s board of visitors to socialize the need for funding, demonstrate the requirements and demonstrate the Academy is ready to progress on these questions, she said.

WATER TO THE DOORKNOBS IN

Ample warning was available as powerful Hurricane Isabel formed in the Atlantic and intensified to peak winds of 165 mph.

It came ashore in the Outer Banks of North Carolina as a Category 1 (105 mph) hurricane; the storm’s energy didn’t all dissipate, it spread out over a wider area. Isabel’s center drifted inland and passed well west of Annapolis.

Winds had reduced in intensity to tropical storm strength by the time it neared Annapolis with wind speeds of 60 mph, but it also brought significant storm surge. Unfortunately, such a storm is the most dangerous for the Academy.

As this powerful storm moved up the U.S. southeast coast, its counterclockwise rotation blew water from the Atlantic into the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. Later, when the storm moved west of the Bay, its winds blew those waters up the bay and the water had no place to go but ashore, flooding the Chesapeake Bay shoreline.

The Academy and surrounding local governments prepared to fend off the anticipated high tides. The highest storm surge on record in Annapolis had been 3.5 feet above mean high tide. Isabel came ashore more than 5 feet above mean high tide, inundating all of downtown Annapolis and much of the Naval Academy.

I recall standing on Rickover Terrace at the height of the storm and seeing all of Hospital Point underwater and the river a few feet deep adjacent to Rickover and Nimitz halls. Looking in the windows at the lab level, I could see water to the doorknobs in all the labs below Michelson, Chauvenet and Nimitz. I did not realize at the time that all the utility systems located in subbasement spaces below the labs were flooded to their ceilings.

Immediate Challenges

Essentially, all the labs for teaching engineering, chemistry, physics and oceanography had been inundated; lab equipment, machine shops and support systems to support them had been destroyed. I recall the labels soaked off all the chemical bottles in the chemistry labs creating a massive hazardous waste problem, that a brand new \$100,000 laser we had recently purchased for the physics department and had just been delivered was still on

its delivery pallet on the deck, now under water, and many other similarly sad tales.

Power and HVAC service was unavailable in nearly all classrooms.

Flood waters that had come ashore in Annapolis washed over several dozen sewage treatment plants as intense southerly winds pushed the waters north, so everything that the water had touched—equipment, walls, desks—had to be considered sewage contaminated.

The Naval Academy is a four-year institution. We had more than 1,000 midshipmen scheduled to graduate in just eight months, 3,000 more right behind them. We could not just suspend the program.

Immediate Response

Isabel rolled ashore in Annapolis on Thursday night, 18 September 2003. On Friday, the waters had not yet receded; classes were cancelled; damage assessment began; and planning to resume operations the following Monday was begun.

On 19 September, midshipmen were put in gym gear (shorts and T-shirts) and assigned to help clean up debris around the Yard.

Action teams were provided government credit cards and sent out in vans to buy every white board they could find, together with all the dry-erase materials, to teach all the classes outside normal classrooms. Other teams were armed similarly and sent out in search of every electric floor fan they could find.

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Fred Davis (one of the real heroes of the Academy’s recovery) met on the Academic Dean’s Porter Road porch all weekend with the schedule coordinators for every course taught, and they completely replanned and rescheduled the remainder of the fall semester.

After only one day’s cancellation, classes restarted on Monday, 22 September. Midshipmen were told to wear gym gear to class because of inadequate ventilation and sections were taught in squash courts, other athletic facilities, anywhere that had escaped flooding and still had power for lighting. Several sections even met in Alumni Hall, spread around the seating areas as much as

“The expertise of our faculty and staff on the Sea Level Rise Advisory Council has been a key factor in our ability to build a plan that is consistent with data-driven science in this field as well as with our daily operations and mission requirements,” Phillips said. “There are many opportunities to create resilience at the Academy and we are invested in finding the most efficient and effective ways to do that as we move into the

realities of climate change and its impacts here in Annapolis.”

The Academy has worked in conjunction with the City of Annapolis, Anne Arundel County and the state of Maryland to ensure efforts to combat sea level rise by each entity are complementary to the others. Phillips said even when all the mitigation measures are in place, another 100-year event similar to Hurricane Isabel would likely leave the

Academy flooded in spots. However, by proactively addressing the issue, the Academy will be poised to remain the nation’s top accession source for Navy and Marine Corps officers.

“We believe the Naval Academy can be protected with the right amount of investment and the right timing,” Phillips said. ⚓

THE LABORATORIES

By RADM William C. Miller '62, USN (Ret.)



possible to reduce interference. It wasn’t ideal; it was analogous to shipboard damage control while continuing to fight after the ship had taken a hit.

There were lots of reimagined lesson plans across the entire curriculum.

One particularly significant challenge, overcome by the heroic and innovative response of the faculty, was how to teach laboratory sections of the science and engineering courses. They relied primarily on demonstrations rather than the usual student hands-on approaches, and used commercially available analogs in place of the supplies they normally would use in the classroom.

All this dedication proceeded even though many faculty members had suffered damage to their own homes during the storm.

Longer Term Response

While the Navy contributed additional funding to the Naval Academy from its Operations and Maintenance account, costs for rebuilding the Academy after Isabel’s impact approached \$100 million. Consequently, the Maryland congressional delegation, led by Sen. Barbara McCluskey, who was then the chair of the Senate Appropriation committee, assisted by Sen.

Paul Sarbanes, ensured that sufficient resources were added to the Navy’s appropriation to recover and rebuild the Academy for the future.

Rather than rebuilding the academic facilities as they had been, an Academy committee helped coordinate faculty reconsideration of how courses should be taught in the future. For example, many additional hands-on learning experiences were conceived for the midshipmen and project-based learning was emphasized.

Another example was that chemistry department offices were moved to the lab deck and interspersed among the laboratories, so faculty were more readily available to assist students outside of regularly scheduled classes. The lab deck was gutted wall-to-wall and electrical distribution systems moved to the roof to avoid future flooding.

While a significant challenge to Academy leadership, faculty and staff, one should also recognize the real opportunity the storm provided us to rethink the future of the Naval Academy and how we wanted to carry out its mission to “... prepare midshipmen morally, mentally and physically.”

While classroom buildings were being gutted and rebuilt, a barracks barge was located in Norfolk; it had just completed support of a carrier overhaul in Newport News. An imposing facility, the barge could sleep hundreds of sailors and even had a galley and food service facilities. We weren’t interested in those capabilities; the barge had 12 classrooms and a chapel that could be used as a classroom. After some haggling, we had the barge towed to Annapolis and moored adjacent to Dewey Field seawall to serve as temporary classrooms.

Subsequently, as money became available, the Academy contracted for a temporary modular classroom village to be erected in the parking lot that formerly was between Rickover and Nimitz Halls (where Hopper Hall now stands). That complex significantly relieved the pressure on classroom space. ⚓

RADM William C. Miller '62, USN (Ret.), served as Dean and Provost at the Naval Academy for 12 years. He is a 2014 U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association Distinguished Graduate Honoree.



Chauvenet Hall’s Laboratory Deck was flooded during Hurricane Isabel. That storm caused nearly \$100 million in damages to the Yard.

PHOTO COURTESY OF USNA

ISABEL RECOLLECTIONS FROM THE YARD

On 18 September 2003, Hurricane Isabel had weakened but still brought 60 mph winds and a storm surge that flooded large portions of the Naval Academy. Members of the Naval Academy community who were on the Yard during the time Hurricane Isabel hit Annapolis shared their memories with *Shipmate*.

Scott Strasemeier, Senior Associate A.D./Sports Information

Strasemeier joined the Navy athletic department as an intern in 1991 and started full-time in 1992. He said the sports information team moved their equipment to Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium on the Friday after Isabel battered Annapolis. The football team defeated Eastern Michigan that weekend and although the bottom floor of Ricketts Hall was flooded ankle deep, the team forged on.

“Seeing the fish on the tennis courts and watching boats drive by Riordan’s Saloon are two things I’ll never forget. It was incredible, seeing boats driving the roads around City Dock ... We were back to business on Monday.”

Commander Dan Sweatman '03, USNR; Lieutenant Colonel Charlie Nash '03, USMC; Lieutenant Colonel Kip Rainey '03, Rhode Island Army National Guard

At the time, we were stashed ensigns/second lieutenants coaching sprint football and waiting to go to flight school and TBS. What is better than being stashed in the athletic department, living in West Annapolis with your best friends and trying to adult for the first time in your life?

Our boss and head coach at the time was Major Jerry Rizzo. I can’t recall Coach Rizzo’s reaction to hearing that we kayaked the storm surge, but I imagine it was a look that conveyed that he thought we were being idiots and we needed to get our act together if we wanted to be successful junior officers.



Left to right: LtCol Charlie Nash '03, USMC, LtCol Kip Rainey '03, Rhode Island Army National Guard and CDR Dan Sweatman '03, USNR, cruise down City Dock during the aftermath of Hurricane Isabel. At the time, they were coaching the sprint football team at the Naval Academy.



Hubbard Hall, looking south.

PHOTO COURTESY OF USNA

Roger Calisch '07

I recall, after the water receded, going on company runs for weeks and still seeing boats stuck on the rock walls beyond Gate 1. I remember having to go to plebe chemistry in the barges along the seawall across from Chauvenet and Michelson for the fall semester. It was a great experience to see how the entire Academy rallied around, not just each other, but the city of Annapolis as well.

Commander C. Ryan “Red” Miller '05, USN

I was in 26th Company, so we lived in 8th Wing which overlooks Rip Miller Field and Brownson Road. The storm surge inundated the lower part of the Yard, especially the whole of Rip Miller and Farragut Field.

During my time at the Academy, I was a big swimmer. I was very active with triathlon and swam 1-2 miles each day. Since Brownson Road was flooded, the pool was closed and me being an indestructible 21-year-old mid, I decided that my swimming workout would be outdoors for that day. Particularly, I put on my goggles and swam laps up and down Brownson Road. Smart? Definitely not, but it was a helluva workout. Plus, how many people can say they swam laps on Brownson Road?

The best part, some senior enlisted adviser saw me and came out of 7th Wing to yell at me while I was swimming. I just swam away across Rip Miller Field and then back to 8th Wing.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CDR DAN SWEATMAN '03, USNR

John Semcken '78

I was in town for our class reunion. I was staying at the Waterfront Hotel at the harbor in downtown Annapolis. There was this slamming noise followed by a scratching noise through the night and we couldn't figure out what it was. We had to get out of the hotel the following morning.

The lobby was flooded so we had to climb out windows to the roof of the parking lot. That's when we realized that the slamming and scratching noise was a section of the pier that had broken away and was slamming into the hotel then scratching down the side of the hotel when the wave retreated then back again. In the morning we were stranded because the hotel was surrounded by water like a moat. Kids from town gave us a lift across on small row boats. They got great tips that day.



PHOTO COURTESY OF USNA

A powerful storm surge from Hurricane Isabel pushed water several feet deep around the Yard including in front of Dahlgren Hall and the tennis courts.



PHOTO COURTESY OF USNA

Ricketts Hall, looking south.

Mindy Smith

former English department staff member

I remember being one of a few civilians putting the classrooms back together for class on Monday even though the drywall was cut out about 18-24 inches all around. Things were chaotic upon everyone's return. The phones had a party line effect and were not reliable for communication. There was no A/C as we were operating off generators.

Professors from other flooded buildings were teaching in various spots in Mahan and asking me for the most basic supplies. Meanwhile, my department had the opportunity to teach on the barge, which was brought in to help with the situation.

The interfaith chapel was destroyed. We had to bury all the Jewish books in the cemetery as they were ruined. I think that weekend was supposed to be the groundbreaking for the Jewish Chapel, but Isabel had other plans.

Lieutenant Commander Kurtis Wong '04, USN

I was on 2nd Batt staff and I was the Batt duty officer that night. Tons of issues:

- some middies swam out to the close buoy to 'experience the storm up close,'
- King Hall staff stranded.

We got almost no sleep that night as we were responding to everything. Went out to meet my parents the next day and their entire hotel lobby was flooded. Only way to reach them in the hotel was to wade through chest deep water, so I had to keep my sea bag with my whites in it on my head as I waded in.

For the barges, a lot of complaining and disbelief that we'd come to this. But I was a systems engineer so our labs were flooded and I never actually had classes on the barges ... It did force flexibility for a few weeks as we had to get King Hall cleaned and then sanitized and cleared for food service again. I think the Brigade adapted pretty well since we could see the circumstances.

One other thing I distinctly remember is how odd it was to see the Severn River flowing the other direction. Never seen that before, don't know if we'll ever see it again.

Commander Gray Tompson '07, USN

I was a plebe in 30th Company, giving me a front row seat from my west-facing room on 8-4 ... including the sight of a wayward inflatable tender getting lodged in the fountain between Bancroft and Lejeune Hall.

From my perspective, the King Hall staff were unsung heroes. I will admit the quality of midshipman fare suffered in the immediate aftermath of the storm due to the galley facilities being completely swamped (blueberry bagels and sausage gravy, anyone?), but the fact of the matter is they kept the Brigade fed after the storerooms were contaminated and "rebuilt" King Hall in Dahlgren and the 6th Wing parking lot! Bravo Zulu.



Lieutenant Commander John R. O'Neill '07, USN

I was a plebe in 18th Company the year Isabel hit. I remember the upperclassmen running up and down the hallways yelling to come out for a hurricane party. All four classes hung out together in the P Ways while the storm hit.

It was a rather unexpected experience as we were barely into our first-ever academic year and everyone was suddenly being real nice to us. The next morning, we were all blown away to see how high the water got, especially on the 1st Regiment side. The party ended abruptly when we were all put into working parties to clean the Yard and specifically the parade fields of all the debris that had blown around everywhere. The hurricane symbol was put into our 2007 class crest because of that storm. ⚓



CANOES ON THE YARD, SWIMMING ON FARRAGUT

MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2006 SHARE THEIR HURRICANE ISABEL FRONT-ROW MEMORIES

From devising ways to pass the time without power to finding creative recreational activities to sustain the physical mission, the Brigade of Midshipmen persevered despite the havoc brought on by Hurricane Isabel. The Class of 2006 recounted some of their experiences during that time.

Commander Josh Angichiodo '06, USN

25th Company, Class of 2006 Vice President

As the storm approached, we were informed that the Brigade was going to tough it out in Mother B. She was wrapped in sandstone and protected by Poseidon (I was told), so this seemed like a reasonable decision. I'd been through a hurricane when I was enlisted and did the 18-hour evacuation drive only to return and find a few leaves along the sidewalk, so I was excited to just sit back and listen to the wind.

Hurricane Isabel didn't seem overly powerful. There was wind and noise, but it was nothing special. What I was not prepared for was the storm surge that absolutely wrecked the Academy and surrounding areas. The English poet John Donne may have said "no man is an island," but John never said anything about USNA. When the sun came up, we could see Bancroft was surrounded by water on three sides, with Stribling as the singular escape route—only to be met by the risen waters of College Creek creeping towards Alumni Hall and the Worden Field residences.

Always a sleep thief, then-Commandant of Midshipmen Colonel J.R. Allen '76, USMC, who retired as a four-star general, impressed the values of duty upon us (probably with a Kipling quote), and ushered several midshipmen towards their first Navy working party, picking up sticks in the flooded street behind Captain's Row, and scouring the sidewalks of Stribling for out of place vegetation. Annapolis was a mess, but USNA would be tidy.

Shortly after the hurricane, a Rickover physics mannequin was either put out for garbage or perhaps just to dry, and somehow (via fireman carry by plebe Ryan Kimmel '07), the mannequin made it back to the 25th Company wardroom, adorned in then-Midshipman (and now Lieutenant Commander) Nick Goddard '07's E-5 bus driver uniform, and christened "T.E.D." He was prominently featured in the world famous "USNA Cribs" spirit spot, but was sadly taken from us during spring break 2004.

To this day, when touring family through the Yard, I am required to say, "That fountain was completely covered! People were kayaking in the streets! Allen made us clean up the Yard!"



T.E.D., shortly before he was stolen from the 25th Company wardroom during spring break, 2004.



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE CLASS OF 2006

Hurricane Isabel flooded much of the Naval Academy in 2003. However, the Brigade of Midshipmen only lost one day of instruction.

“18th Company set up a game of Risk. We were eating Uncrustables and conquering the world for three days! We also had classes in the berthing barge!”

—Travis Klempan '06



A boat was caught on the Naval Academy's sea wall following Hurricane Isabel's landing in 2003.

“Trying to stay awake in a DiffEQ class in a wardroom with epic leather couches.”

—Sam Fromille '06

Gordon McDonald '06

Kayaking in the 7th Wing horseshoe. Wrecked sailboats on the sea wall. Relaxing the tie requirement for WWB during classes because the boilers broke or something causing the heat in classrooms to remain fixed at 85 degrees. That rule stayed even after the temperature issue was fixed and we only wore ties for formations.

“I remember several mids canoeing around the Yard.”

—Lieutenant Commander Jonathan Allmond '06, USN

“Swimming on Farragut.”

**—Lieutenant Commander
LaDoux Coleman '06, USN**

Nick Hamm '06

We gathered in my room and we had no internet and no smart phones and the only thing we had was a vintage electronic baseball game where you only had two buttons and we'd play and pass it around and all you could really hear was the 1980s game sounds clicking through our room and it was so stagnant and hot and boring. Nobody told us anything and we could see all of the crazy flooding but we knew nothing so we sat and sweated and listened to the game click.

Once we restarted classes they told us we could go in our white works and the legendary Captain Ford Shaw '06, USMC, wasn't going to miss the chance to be awesome. He put all of his books into his pillowcase, somehow found his canteen and clipped it on his bayonet belt, and donned his plebe cover and went to class as Nimitz himself intended, as a Plebe Summer pleber.

“Playing board games in the wardroom when there was no power because the administration told us we couldn't leave. We had to play by candlelight at night since there was no power!”

—Lieutenant Commander Justin Kirkpatrick '06, USN



View from Chauvenet stairs adjacent to the Mid Store. ⚓

Mike Matson '06

Back in 2003, professors still clung to their paper journal archives, a wealth of knowledge lost forever to the merciless floodwaters. It was truly gut-wrenching to witness these brilliant minds grappling with the sudden loss of years of research, learnings and cherished memories. The heartache was palpable.

In the aftermath of the flood, the chemistry labs found refuge in temporary shacks, affectionately dubbed T-shacks, near Dewey Field. It was a sight to behold, witnessing the resilience of our academic pursuits amidst such unconventional surroundings. Who needs fancy laboratories when you have a few humble shacks to conduct your experiments, right?

At the end of the second semester of our sophomore year, we faced a perplexing puzzle to unravel the enigmatic composition of a mysterious clear liquid. For me, it was the highlight of our chemistry experiments on the Yard.

Those box window AC units and the ventilation ducting in the fume hoods put up a valiant, yet futile, fight against the relentless Annapolis heat. After hours of tedious ether extractions in that sweltering environment, the fumes had clearly gotten to a few of our classmates. Giggles and laughter filled the air as the ether-induced giddiness took hold.

Ether fumes and stifling temperatures, a potent combination indeed. I'm sure our professors had quite the chuckle witnessing the antics and exuberance that ensued that day. I hope that memories like these slowly replaced the pages that were lost.

In true Academy fashion, we found humor and resilience. The Severn may rise and fall, but the spirit of camaraderie and laughter will always endure, leaving us with cherished memories of those tumultuous days in the T-shacks.



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF LCDR ANDY HOWARD '75, USN (RET.)

CAPT Sunita L. Williams '87, USN (Ret.), attended the Texas Super Regional SeaPerch competition and met with participants.

SEAPERCH

TEXAS GULF COAST CHAPTER RALLIES TO SUPPORT UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

By Ellen Ternes

In most congressional districts, competition for an appointment to the Naval Academy is stiff. There are a lot more qualified applicants than openings. In three districts in the Houston area, where the Texas Gulf Coast Alumni Association Chapter is located, it's a different story. With a large percentage of low-income minority neighborhoods that struggle with education inequity, the three districts combined might not have even one candidate in a year.

"People don't know about the Naval Academy," said Chris Black '07, former chapter president, now the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter

Foundation president. The Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization separate from the chapter that facilitates philanthropic efforts that are closely aligned with the ideals of the Naval Academy Alumni Association Foundation, veterans, and the Houston community. "There's no naval base. Local schools, especially minority schools, don't know about the opportunity at the Academy. Students who are interested in military service, but don't have any knowledge of the academies, often choose to enlist or join a ROTC program."

In addition, in some of those schools, especially in the districts' underprivileged

communities, STEM programs lack funding, leaving students with limited technical skills.

“The congressional districts are eager to supply candidates, but the vast majority do not have the academic record to gain acceptance,” Black said.

The chapter is working hard to change that.

“We want to increase awareness about the Academy, to reach out to highly motivated students in the area, to create a pipeline for talent,” said Black, who heads up the chapter’s outreach efforts. “We target middle school students, to make an impression early so that they are aware and motivated before high school. Early intervention is key so they can avoid common pitfalls that could derail a chance at higher education.”

To give those students a real shot at getting into and succeeding at the Academy, the chapter is working to increase students’ exposure to STEM topics with a robotics competition called SeaPerch, an international program used by the Navy Recruiting Command to interest students in STEM and the Navy.

SeaPerch

The International SeaPerch Challenge is a worldwide competition for students from third through 12th grades. Teams of three to eight students, with help from teachers and parents, build an ROV (remotely operated vehicle), in this case an underwater drone, from a kit they are given.

At the SeaPerch competition, each team puts the drone through a timed obstacle course and an underwater task, makes a project presentation and is interviewed by judges. Regional winners go on to the international competition. More than 250,000 students across the world took part in this year’s SeaPerch events.

The Texas Gulf Coast Chapter learned about SeaPerch several years ago, when a chapter member ran into a retired senior chief who was working as a Navy Junior ROTC instructor and developing the local competition. It was about the same time that some younger chapter members were taking on the outreach roles. SeaPerch looked like a great way to introduce students to the Naval Academy and give them STEM experience.

The chapter’s first SeaPerch participation was in 2019. Then COVID-19 hit, and, like the rest of the world, SeaPerch came to a halt. When it came back in 2023, the chapter was ready, getting involved in SeaPerch from start to finish. They provided SeaPerch kits for teams from underprivileged schools to compete, a total of \$30,000 for the 2019 and 2023 competitions. Company matches and major donor gifts provided the bulk of the funding for the initiative.

The chapter’s efforts this year culminated with the Texas Super Regional SeaPerch competition, where more than 200 students gathered at an area high school swimming pool for the underwater drone competition.

“This year we had 45 teams with 217 students, 80-90 percent of them minority students,” Black said.

Prizes for the winners were a combination of STEM and Naval Academy experiences. Three teams got a trip to the international SeaPerch competition at the University of Maryland. The chapter then sponsored six of the rising ninth to 11th grade

students from their region to go to Annapolis for the Academy’s Summer Seminar program and Summer STEM programs. Travel and tuition were paid by the chapter’s foundation.

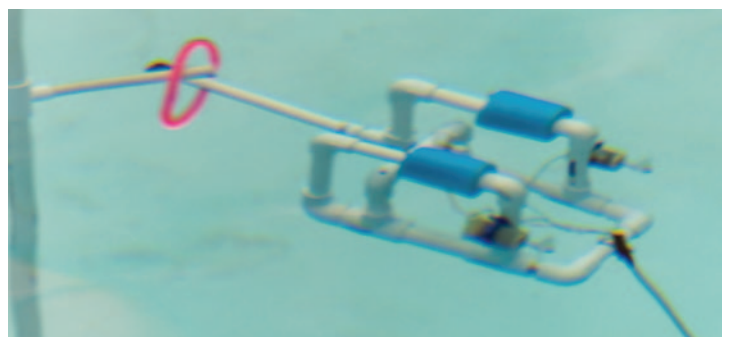
Leading up to the competition, chapter members, Parent Club members and Blue and Gold Officers (BGOs) connected with local schools to promote SeaPerch and recruit inspirational teachers to work with the teams.

“This also ties in with our Naval Academy Minority Association efforts to facilitate connections with key teachers who can guide talented students to us,” Black said. “It makes you feel so good to see the process. The students, the teachers, the parents, they plan, they build, they test and they make changes to their ROV. They learn teamwork. This is like a sport for them.”

At the competition, alumni, Parent Club members and BGOs took part by talking to students and serving on the interview boards. Students who stopped at the chapter information table were encouraged to sign up for Naval Academy information and summer programs on the spot with QR codes.

Top: The Texas Gulf Coast Chapter supports students from underprivileged communities to participate in the International SeaPerch Challenge. The chapter first participated in 2019.

Bottom: Students between third and 12th grades build an ROV, an underwater drone in the 2023 International SeaPerch Challenge competition, from a kit they are given. The Texas Super Regional SeaPerch competition drew more than 200 students.



The chapter also brought in some Academy alumni and STEM superstars as keynote speakers. In 2019, it was astronaut Captain Chris Cassidy '93, USN. This year astronaut Captain Suni Williams '87, USN (Ret.), who formerly held the records for most spacewalks by a woman and most spacewalk time for a woman, was the guest speaker.

"Suni Williams did a fantastic job. She really connected with them," Black said. "She talked to the kids, saw their presentations and asked them questions. This leaves an incredible impression on the students and their families."

Long-Term Goal

For another chapter member, former Marine Captain Nelson Jones '72, a retired attorney, this was his first SeaPerch.

"It was an exciting day for me to see all those kids," Jones said. "They were all revved up for the competition. They had all worked pretty hard. Some of the alumni asked me to sit in on the judging, and it was rewarding. I was impressed with the kids. And there were a lot of Naval Academy grads there, alums working with the judges and working with the actual mechanics of running the program."

Jones can connect with many of the chapter-sponsored students in another way. A native of Galena Park, TX, Jones was the first Black midshipman from Texas to graduate from the Naval Academy. He was one of only 27 Black midshipmen in the Brigade when he started his plebe year.

Members of the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter support participation of local youth at the Texas Super Regional SeaPerch competition. They use SeaPerch as a way to spotlight opportunities at the Naval Academy.



"I talked with a number of the kids. One of them said, 'Oh you're a historic figure,'" Jones laughed. "Texas was segregated when I was growing up. I graduated from a segregated school. I didn't have the benefit of STEM outreach, like the Alumni Association is doing today. That just didn't exist."

The opportunities SeaPerch offers to connect students in minority schools to the Academy and STEM are important, he said.

"We had the Link in the Chain for my class, and the Class of 2022," Jones said. "That class looked like America. What is the Navy, the armed forces, going to look like in 2050? It's got to be representative of what the country looks like, so that's the real big challenge. How do you do that?"

"Science and engineering are the way of the future for the Navy. The Navy is highly dependent on people with engineering and science backgrounds. In terms of the payoff from the STEM outreach now, it's going to mean a whole lot in 20 or 30 years, but it's a long-term process."

Ariana Castanon, a student at Stephen F. Austin High School in the Fort Bend Independent School District, participated in the SeaPerch competition. She attended the Naval Academy Summer Seminar and said it was an eye-opening experience "that changed how I approached aspects of my life mentally and pushed me physically."

She said Summer Seminar pushed her out of her comfort zone. She was impressed with the camaraderie between her fellow participants and how they quickly adopted a team mentality, in which if one fell, the rest followed. They supported one another and cheered each other on.

"The way the seminar was structured, I didn't even have time to think about failure or giving up," Castanon said. "It made me run my fastest mile. It made me do the most situps or pushups I have ever done. It made me survive what I thought I could never do."

"This experience trains you to work under stress and pressure, pushing through barriers that you put in place, while also looking out for your teammates. However, its emphasis on completing as a unit and giving up as a last resort have made the challenges easier to overcome and laugh at adversity. Going in, I thought I could never do it. Coming out, I can say I would do it again with no regrets."

Chris Black tells a story about the impact of face-to-face connection with students. The chapter had a booth at a robotics conference that astronaut and test pilot Colonel Nicole A. Mann '99, USMC, was attending.

"Some of the young girls had a photo of her, then saw her. Some of them cried, they were so excited, like they'd seen a superhero," Black said. "You see the impact when they meet people like Nicole, Chris and Suni. The kids say 'I want to be like that.'"

Jones said SeaPerch is a great program.

"The future of the Academy, of the country, are in good hands because Chris and these young guys are working really, really hard to carry the message and get the kids interested," he said.

SeaPerch and the chapter's outreach have helped increase awareness of and applications to the Academy among SeaPerch

The Texas Gulf Coast Alumni Association Chapter supported the 2023 Texas Super Regional SeaPerch. Among the alumni on-site were, Chris Black '07; Bart Jealous '65; Capt Nelson Jones III '72, USMC; CAPT Sunita L. Williams '87, USN (Ret.); Blue and Gold Officer Jeff White, father of CAPT Brian White '15, USMC; Matt Guyton '07; LCDR Dan Hanley '10, USNR; and LCDR Andy Howard '75, USN (Ret.).



attendees, Black said, but there's still work to be done to get nominations in target areas.

Black and the Texas Gulf Coast Alumni Association Chapter and Foundation plan to be there for the long haul.

"When you come out of the Academy, the Navy, you're deeply dedicated to the service of others. We do this so others might have the privilege we did," Black said. ⚓

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KEEPERS OF THE GOAT

IT TAKES A UNITED ALUMNI EFFORT TO KEEP TEAM BILL RUNNING

By Spencer Jones

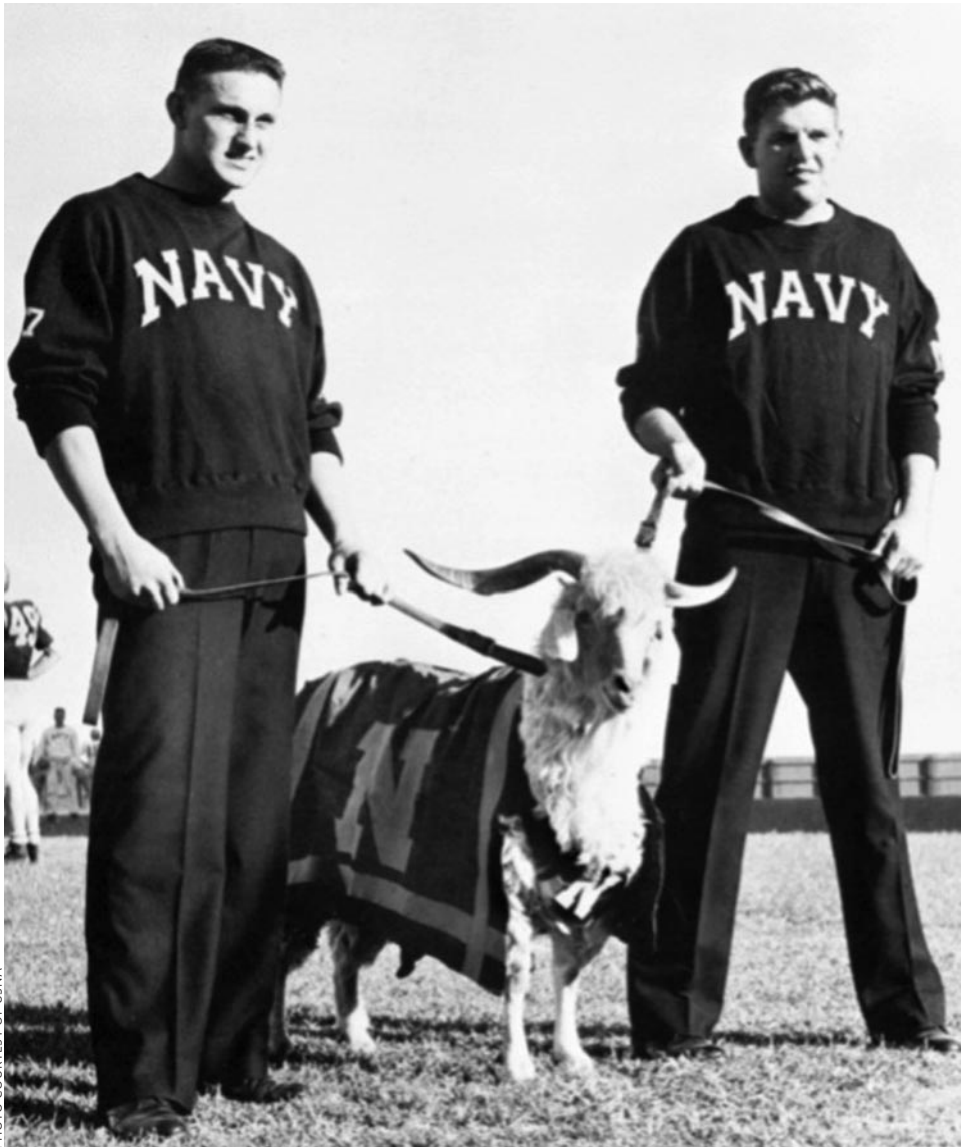


PHOTO COURTESY OF USNA

Midshipmen "Goat Keepers" during the 1960s, they remain by Bill's side at all times.

He isn't a midshipman.

He's never slept in Bancroft Hall.

He's never studied in Nimitz Library or participated in morning PEP.

Chances are he has not had a meal in King Hall. He certainly has never climbed the Herndon Monument.

Yet, this beloved Naval Academy icon has been a constant presence at the Academy for more than 100 years.

This legend only stands about two and a half feet tall, has white curly hair and wears a blue and gold blanket on his back sporting the N* on each side. He's been called old, gnarly and some say he can, "take the bacon from the worn-out Army mule" on occasion.

Bill the Goat is the undisputed beloved icon the Naval Academy community recognizes on sight and whose legacy can be traced back to 1893. It takes a team of talented, committed and passionate midshipmen to ensure Bill has everything needed to inspire the Midshipmen to glory.

TEAM BILL

For several decades, Eighth Company has been tasked with maintaining, supporting and even protecting Bill the Goat. Members of the company are interviewed and selected to earn their spot on Team Bill.

Team Bill member now-ENS Jake Smith '23, USN, (far left) introducing Bill XXXVII before the 123rd Army-Navy game.



ALL REMAINING PHOTO COURTESY OF USNA&F ARCHIVES

“On game day, we’ll give him a bath, clean him, make sure he’s brushed and ready to go, wrap his horns, put on his blanket and then walk him around and let everyone see him,” said Midshipman Ethan Proctor ’24.

Bill, an Angora goat, is also fed his favorite snacks—banana chips, peanuts and animal crackers. However, even an over 100-year-old legend sometimes gets a little impatient when he is hungry.

“He likes his snacks, and you can tell,” said now Ensign Jake Smith ’23, USN. “He’ll look you right in the eyes whenever he is hungry. It’s kind of intimidating sometimes.”

Along with prepping Bill for game day, Team Bill members field questions about Bill XXXVII and coordinate photo opportunities with Navy fans.

Being a member of Team Bill is a learning process. From understanding the daily routine to facts about Bill, members of the team say they are constantly absorbing new things about the furry mascot.

“You will see we have two leashes on him, and you may ask, why?” said Proctor. “Last year, we dropped a leash for a second and Bill took off and the only thing I could do to stop him was sit down and have him drag me. After that, I said ‘Yeah okay, this thing can pull.’”

With their abundant goat knowledge and elevated level of responsibility, there are many rewarding aspects of the role that come along with the hard work.

“We get to meet a lot of different officers, important figures of different organizations and, obviously, all the kids who have a blast petting and feeding the goat,” said Midshipman Dante Carrasco ’24. “Everybody gets super excited when they see him.”

With GOAT status, some competitors want to topple Bill’s throne and as a result, unsuccessful kidnapping attempts have been made on Bill on several occasions by ill-intentioned West Point cadets. Bill now resides at a top-secret location

undisclosed to those outside of Naval Academy leadership and, of course, Eighth Company midshipmen.

Eighth Company and the Class of 1965 share a bond through their common interest in representing Bill and ensuring his welfare. The Class of 1965 invites Eighth Company to their class tailgates before Navy football games to share stories and interact with Bill. Through additional support, the Class of 1965 has also funded the remodeling of Team Bill’s trailer to transport Bill to games.

The tradition, responsibility and fun have been passed down through the years and all 37 Bills.

“I’ve met alumni who were in Eighth Company, and it really means a lot to them,” Proctor said. “We’ll talk about the new goat, what number we’re on and they’ll say, ‘Oh I was on with Bill XXX or Bill XXVIII’ and it’s cool to see that it has been around for a while.”

MAINTAINING THE LEGACY

Bill XXXVII is just one in a long line of cloven-hooved heroes in the Academy’s history. As a result, there are several locations in Annapolis where alumni, midshipmen and visitors can gain appreciation for who Bill is and what he represents. Among these are two bronze statues of a charging Bill sporting the N* blanket, with stars representing each time Bill was present when Navy defeated Army in football.



Bill XXXVII’s horns are wrapped by Eighth Company before every outing to accompany his blue and gold N* blanket.

“On game day, we’ll give him a bath, clean him, make sure he’s brushed and ready to go, wrap his horns, put on his blanket and then walk him around and let everyone see him.”

—MIDN Ethan Proctor ’24



From top to bottom: The Bill the Goat statue overlooking Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium. The Class of 1915 statue inside of gate one on the Yard with recently refurbished bronze courtesy of the Class of 1965. CAPT James "Jim" Minderlein '65, USN (Ret.), during the preconstruction stage of the Class of '65's Bill the Goat statue.

The first statue, donated by the Class of 1915, is across from the visitor's center inside Gate 1 on the Yard. There are four Bills buried behind the statue at Gate 1 in honor of their service to the Academy and to the morale of midshipmen. One, Bill XXXIII, had eight stars on his blanket (representing eight wins over Army), the most of any Bill in Academy history.

As part of *Another Link in the Chain* (ALITC), each class at the Academy's 50-year class bond, the Class of 1965 has taken over maintaining the statue and has even refurbished the bronze. This class continues to maintain the statue as part of their responsibility as "Keepers of the Goat." The title represents the Class of '65's dedication to their ALITC counterparts as well as Bill himself. The class is determined the legacy will continue.

The second statue now overlooks Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium (NMCMS) and was inspired by the statue at Gate 1, but the original statue needed work before the new statue could be built.

The process to refurbish the Gate 1 statue and build the NMCMS statue took time, effort, philanthropy and teamwork among the members of Class of 1965. This began with a brass conservator assessing the needs for both statues. After designs were finalized and the bronze melted, plans were instituted to make sure both statues maintained the same level of quality. This includes regular cleaning, bronze maintenance recommended by the conservator and generating funding for the continued maintenance.

"When I found out that 1915 had donated the statue, it just clicked that we needed to get involved with this," said Captain James "Jim" Minderlein '65, USN (Ret.). "It's a great connection with the Naval Academy and the 50-year relationship with '15 was a no brainer to me."

The second statue overlooking NMCMS was completed 50 years to the day of the Class of 1965's commissioning ceremony. Encapsulated underneath this statue is a collection of items from the Class of 2015 and the Class of 1965 ranging from belt buckles and medals to ensign bars, and many more talismans representing both classes. Several of these items were melted down and included in the bronze pour of

the statue and what could not be melted down for the structure is now under its base.

The Class of 1965 also created a desk model of the statue for alumni and Yard leadership honoring Bill's legacy. The desk model lives in the Superintendent's house, the Commandant's office and in the homes of members of the Class of 1965. The Athletic and Scholarship Programs (A&SP) and Naval Academy Athletic Association (NAAA) also administer the desk models to supporters of the physical mission of the Academy.

In 2025, as a result of their connection through ALITC, the Class of 1965 will inaugurate the Class of 2015 as Keepers of the Goat.

"We are very goat-conscious," said Minderlein "It's been a lot of fun."

SINCE THE DAWN OF "BILL"

For the U.S. Navy, goats have been a supporter of sailors dating back to the early 19th century. Goats were versatile shipmates on board Naval vessels. They provided nourishment as well as companionship, helped maintain cleanliness by eating scraps from sailors and they can swim.

For the Naval Academy, there are competing stories as to how the goat became the official representative for all things Navy. Some say a goat was picked up by midshipmen on his way to the first Army-Navy game in 1890. He was seen as a good luck charm after Navy won 24-0.

Others claim the official induction of the goat as a mascot was much more unusual.

During one of the early Army-Navy matchups, a midshipman reportedly wrapped himself in goat skin and ran along Navy's sideline in an attempt to muster a Navy win over Army. After Navy won the game, the symbolic goat was again seen as good luck and enthusiasm for the four-legged mammal to become the Academy's mascot grew.

After the goat was selected as the Academy's mascot, midshipmen decided it needed a name that would carry on for generations. After the 1900 Army-Navy game (another win for Navy), the goat was named "Bill" after the name of a pet goat kept by Commander Colby M. Chester,

Class of 1864, Commandant of Midshipmen from 1891-1894. Chester was also the first president of the Naval Academy Athletic Association.

Even though he may not say much, Bill represents many of the ideals that the Academy instills in its midshipmen—such as it’s okay to be a little gnarly sometimes. In this case, Bill’s legacy has withstood the test of time.

The dedication plaque below Bill’s statue at NMCMS reads, “Dedicated to all United States Naval Academy Alumni who have served and continue to serve Our Country in times of peace and at war—Class of 1965.” ⚓



Meeting of Rivals: Bill the Goat and the Army Mule meet at midfield during the 1924 Army-Navy game.

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NIMITZ AT 50

THE NAVAL ACADEMY'S LIBRARY HAS EVOLVED TO MEET MIDSHIPMEN NEEDS

By Naval Academy Dean for Information Services and Director of Nimitz Library Larry Clemens and Assistant Archivist Adam Minakowski



This month marks the 50th anniversary of the dedication of Nimitz Library. Since 1973, the library and its staff have proven to be adaptable and flexible in meeting the needs of the Naval Academy community—specifically the changing needs of 20th- and 21st-century midshipmen. Today, Nimitz plays a core role in meeting the Academy’s mission, providing services, collections and spaces that support the mental development of midshipmen. Here are some reminders of how Nimitz Library used to be and how it is now. Some things have changed a lot. Other things, not so much.

At the time of its opening, Nimitz was a showcase academic library flooded with natural light thanks to floor-to-ceiling windows and sporting mid-century modern furniture and modern artworks. State-of-the-art technology included study carrels equipped with either video cassette players and machines, headphone jacks for listening to preprogrammed music channels or noise-reduction panels and an electrical outlet where midshipmen could use their typewriters. With all of this technology now obsolete, these specialty workstations are gone, but a lot of the original furniture remains.

Alumni from the 1970s and 1980s probably remember the first deck of Nimitz dominated by a card catalog and shelves of print indexes that they used to find books and journal articles in the library on their research topics. With this information now stored in a computerized database accessible through any laptop, phone or tablet and a lack of student union on the Yard, the card catalog has given way to a cafe and open, flexible space where today’s midshipmen can gather to socialize, grab a snack or coffee or work on their laptops.

Rows upon rows of bookshelves dominated the other floors of Nimitz Library. This was deliberate as Nimitz was built for the express purpose of bringing all library collections and activities under one roof. As the Academy revised its curriculum in the 1950s and 1960s to offer majors and bring it in line with other colleges and universities, various committees studying the process noted the lack of a centralized library for the midshipmen. Prior to Nimitz, library collections were distributed among several buildings including Mitscher, Mahan, Griffin and Isherwood halls. The 500,000 books in these locations all moved into Nimitz Library, which was built to hold 650,000 books. At 120,000 square feet, it was the DoD’s largest library space.

Despite all this space, those who attended the academy in the 1990s may have felt a little cramped in Nimitz Library.



The shelves were full with almost 700,000 books. The other academic buildings were full too, which led to some of Nimitz’s 12 group study rooms and two seminar rooms being converted to classrooms.

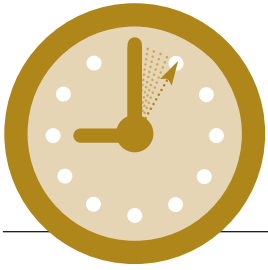
Fortunately, these space trends reversed course in recent years. The opening of Hopper Hall in 2020 alleviated the classroom crunch, and wider availability and use of online journals, ebooks and other digital media has allowed the library to reduce the size of its physical collections. Naval topics remain a strength of both print and electronic collections, and midshipmen once again have a variety of spaces—from group and individual study rooms to open areas with portable whiteboards—in Nimitz to study, read, write and collaborate on academic and professional endeavors.

In the past, midshipmen would use this available space as a place to grab a quick nap between classes. This led to a humorous cover of *The Log* featuring a photo of sleeping midshipmen and the headline “Welcome Back to Hotel Nimitz.” One could walk into Nimitz Library tomorrow and snap a similar picture.

One aspect of Nimitz Library that has changed a lot over the years is the instruction that librarians provide to midshipmen on how to use resources and services available to them. Even before Nimitz was built, librarians delivered instruction through innovative means such as live presentation through closed circuit TV to midshipmen in Mahan Hall’s theater or recorded videos that mostly demonstrated the complexity of the pre-Nimitz libraries. Videos continued to suffice in showing midshipmen how to find material in the library during the early years of Nimitz Library, but as computers became increasingly important, a dedicated instruction room equipped with desktops was added to the first deck. There, librarians provided in-person lessons to classes of midshipmen.

Today’s technology-savvy midshipmen don’t need as much assistance using Nimitz’s systems, but with the wealth of information available on the internet, identifying the best resources for academic work is a challenge. When Nimitz’s first deck was partially renovated in 2020, it included a new, flexible instruction space equipped with multiple screens, projectors and modular furniture to allow for a variety of instruction formats. Called the Nautilus Room, the space has become a popular space on the Yard for its use as an event venue. Not even five years old, it’s hosted faculty research talks, history lectures, Naval Academy Band performances and even World Cup watch parties. ⚓

Do you have memories of Nimitz to share? Throughout the fall 2023 semester Nimitz Library will be celebrating its 50th anniversary with a series of events, and would like to share what alumni remember about the library throughout its existence. Send your memories in by email to askref@usna.edu.



FIVE MINUTES WITH...

BILLY HURLEY III '04

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.

Billy Hurley III '04 is putting gratitude into action. The Billy Hurley III Foundation identifies and rewards exceptional junior sailors with opportunities to relax and recharge.

Hurley's intent is to ensure military families know they are valued and their communities are grateful for their service. On 8 May, at the Naval Academy Golf Course, Hurley hosted the sixth edition of the Brave Tournament which featured 18 active-duty service members who were the celebrity guests for each group.

The tournament is the primary fundraiser for Hurley's foundation. Hurley said more than 200 families will receive support by the end of 2023. That includes \$550,000 in direct support for military families and vacations in Hawaii, and starting this year, Mayport, FL.

The Foundation's Koa Kai Award recognizes Navy enlisted sailors (E-6 and junior) on the Pearl Harbor waterfront who have demonstrated exceptional professional competence. Selection for this award is based on the ideals and qualities that were important to Billy and his shipmates on sea duty. These include watch team back up, leading from the front, proactive problem solving and investment in the training of peers and subordinates. Hurley and his team named the award "Koa Kai" because it is Hawaiian for Sea Warrior. The Billy Hurley III Foundation Golfer of the Year Award recognizes active duty service members who, in addition to loving the game of golf, exemplify the ideals and qualities that were important to Hurley and his shipmates on sea duty.

Hurley is also a board member of the Service Academies Golf Foundation, which launched the Commander-in-Chief's Cup in April 2023. He recently shared part of his journey with *Shipmate*.

Shipmate: What attracted you to the Naval Academy?

Hurley: The Naval Academy is the only college that I applied to (good thing I was accepted!). It's the only school that I wanted to go to. When I was in eighth grade, I told my mom that I was going to the Naval Academy. I set my sights on that and I did what needed to be done to get there. I was attracted to the ideals the Academy stands for: honor, courage, commitment; but also, discipline, service, others before self. Everything the Naval Academy embodies is what I was drawn to and wanted to be a part of.

Shipmate: How did the Academy influence you as a leader and as an athlete?

Hurley: Playing golf at the Academy provided me the ability to make an impact on the team from day one. I "started" in every tournament from plebe to firstie year and thus, I gained 30-50 percent more competitive



experience than if had I "road the bench" for a few years at another Division 1 school. I credit this competitive experience with my accelerated growth and performance as a golfer, especially during my firstie year when I, individually, won six of the 12 tournaments we entered.

As a leader, the Academy could not have developed me any more fully. Certainly many lessons to be learned upon graduation and even to this day, but the Academy is a "Leadership University." I like to tell people that my degree is in

leadership with a minor in general engineering, a minor in math and a minor in econ (as a quantitative economics major; now called mathematics with economics). And much of my leadership development was done through the golf team and through intercollegiate competition.

Athletics is a huge leadership opportunity and at a school like Navy, it's amplified. I used my training from the golf team to make an impact in Bancroft Hall as a firstie and ultimately in the fleet and now in my life as a professional golfer and inside our foundation.

Shipmate: Why was it important for you to create a foundation to support and honor military families?

Hurley: My wife, Heather, and I created the Billy Hurley III Foundation in 2017 and sought to do something that was not currently being done in the military foundation space. Families are the backbone that allow our service men and women to go "down range" but very rarely receive the recognition for the sacrifices they make.

We landed on active-duty families for two reasons: 1. We recognized from our own time on active duty that the entire family unit is affected by military service; not just the service member, and 2. My kids have been able to do some extraordinary things and receive over-the-top experiences through the PGA Tour. So, we decided to figure out how to do some of those things for active duty families. Now we have the Koa Kai Award for exceptional sailors in Pearl Harbor (expanding to Mayport later this year, covering the two duty stations where I served) and we have a secondary-education scholarships for dependents of GETTYSBURG and CHUNG-HOON (the two ships I served aboard).

We have also been a part of restoring Lake Wonderwood, a nature walk, playground, gazebos and picnic areas on Mayport Naval Station. More information is available at www.billyhurley3.com/foundation and www.bh3.golf. At the Class of 2019 commencement, the secretary of the Navy said "Families are the true strength of our force." At the BH3 Foundation, we couldn't agree more and relish the opportunity to honor them for their sacrifices. □

YEAH, RIGHT

By Commander Doug Robb '05, USN

I do not remember much about my Plebe Summer in 2001, save for the buckets of sweat that dripped off the tip of my nose in the then-unairconditioned confines of Bancroft's third wing. But one event that remains vivid in my memory is a line from a speech delivered in Alumni Hall.

Grateful for the upholstered chairs and respite from the heat, I recall the Superintendent, Vice Admiral John R. Ryan '67, USN (Ret.), instructing my class: "Look to your left and look to your right. Someone you are looking at will go on to command and beyond."

Pfshh, I thought. Yeah, right.

Imagining a teenager "chopping" in White Works Echo would one day command, seemed incomprehensible. Yet while I could not dispute the mathematical odds that someone in our approximately 1,000-person class would ascend to that level, I knew for certain I would not be one of them. My plans were carved in stone: I would complete my minimum commitment—if I even finished Plebe Summer—and instead pursue the "citizenship and government" charter of the Academy's mission out of uniform. Nothing could change my mind.

Fast forward two decades: the Supe was, of course, right.

Three Plebe Summer Hotel Company, 15th Platoon-mates joined me concurrently in destroyer command: Commander Rick Slye '05, USN, in BULKELEY; Commander Antonia Shey '05, USN, in McFAUL; and Commander Jack Holthaus '05 USN, in MICHAEL MURPHY.

The simultaneity is striking considering the myriad commissioning sources and paths to command, and the fact that there are only 70 guided missile destroyers in the fleet. Other company mates and classmates are commanding in their communities and excelling in their fields, as well.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CDR DOUG ROBB '05, USN

Left to right: CDR Jack Holthaus '05, USN; CDR Rick Slye '05, USN; and CDR Doug Robb '05, USN, together in 2018 while stationed in Washington, DC.

Looking back as a plebe, I misjudged how much strength I would draw from my classmates' immense individual talents and from our shared experiences. And I underestimated how the connections we were building would propel us forward together through both the smooth and rough seas of a naval career.

It would be easy to attribute such happenstance to the admission department's randomly generated company assignments. However, other companies and classes share similar stories of cadres "growing up together" and relying on one another through life challenges and career milestones—first on the Yard and then in the fleet.

Indeed, chalking this up to coincidence belies the truth: that connections forged and values imbued—especially under difficult circumstances—contribute to our communal success; that the time spent side-by-side sweating in Bancroft Hall, or cheering at Navy-Marine Corps

Memorial Stadium, or marching on Worden Field are not just a means to an end, they are meaningful experiences in themselves.

Consequently, when alumni meet after the Academy—classmates who did not know each other at school, or even two graduates from different classes—their connection is often instant because it is rooted in a shared heritage. It can grow in short order to be deep, long-lasting and impactful.

At the time, I did not—could not—appreciate the reality the clairvoyant Supe was foreshadowing. But, having sailed a few nautical miles since Plebe Summer, I do now. ⚓

CDR Doug Robb '05, USN, is a former speechwriter for the Chief of Naval Operations and co-author of Naval Officer's Guide to the Pentagon (U.S. Naval Institute Press). He commanded SPRUANCE and is currently the Navy's Hudson Fellow to St. Antony's College, University of Oxford, England.

BRAVO ZULU

1980s

'82: **ADM Philip S. Davidson, USN (Ret.)**, joined AeroVironment Inc.'s board of directors, following his appointment as a Class II Director at their June meeting. Davidson retired from the Navy in 2021, following a military career which spanned nearly 39 years of service and culminated in his appointment as a four-star admiral and 25th Commander of United States Indo-Pacific Command.



From left to right: **CAPT Jeffrey Carty '94, USN (Ret.)**, and **CAPT Gabriel Hohner '02, USN**, with **DCMA's Director Army LTG David Bassett**, who officiated the change of command ceremony.



CAPT Aaron Bowman '83, USN (Ret.), with **Will Lahnen '03**.

'83 to '03 **Jacksonville City Council Turnover**
CAPT Aaron Bowman '83, USN (Ret.), completed his second four-year term on the Jacksonville City Council, including serving as council president, vice president and chair of numerous committees throughout his eight years of service to his community. Replacing Bowman is Jacksonville native **Will Lahnen '03**, who won election to the open seat as Bowman was term limited.

1990s

'97: **Elaine Luria**, former U.S. Representative and retired U.S. Navy commander, has been appointed to the board of directors of BAE Systems Inc. Luria completed a 20-year active-duty career in the Navy, serving as a nuclear-trained Surface Warfare Officer, with six deployments to the Middle East and Western Pacific. Her final tour was as commanding officer of Assault Craft Unit TWO. **CAPT Jonathan E. Spore '97, USN (Ret.)**, was relieved of command of the Patrol Squadron THIRTY (VP-30), "Pro's Nest," in June onboard Naval Air Station Jacksonville, FL, by **CAPT Derrick W. Eastman, USN**.

2000s

'03: **CDR Derek Jaskowiak, USN (Ret.)**, was replaced as commanding officer of Independence-variant littoral combat ship OAKLAND BLUE crew by **CDR John "Nick" Van Wagoner '05, USN**, during a ceremony pier side at Naval Base San Diego in May.

Carty '94 Hands AIMO Command to Hohner '02

On 2 March, **CAPT Jeffrey J. Carty '94, USN (Ret.)**, relinquished command of Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA) Aircraft Integrated Maintenance Operations (AIMO) to **CAPT Gabriel J. Hohner '02, USN**. Carty, who became AIMO's commander in March 2020, retired on 1 June after 29 years of service. During his time as a naval flight officer, Carty flew the S-3B Viking during four deployments and served as an instructor at the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School at Patuxent River, MD.

Hohner is a naval aviator with 20 years of aircraft operations experience and has served with DCMA for almost five years. His most recent assignment was commander of DCMA AIMO St. Augustine, FL, which he held since May 2020. Prior to that command position, he was St. Augustine's deputy technical director for two years.



Hal Gilreath '84, Alec Cutler '88, and Superintendent VADM Sean Buck '83, USN (Ret.).

Gilreath '84 Hands Fales Committee Chair Reins to Cutler '88

Hal Gilreath '84, was relieved by **Alec Cutler '88**, as the Naval Academy Sailing Program Fales Committee Chair. The Fales Committee is an advisory group helping support the sailing program's intercollegiate teams and professional development.

Navy Mutual Aid Association Honors Szemborski '71 and Thorp '81

The Navy Mutual Aid Association presented its annual Outstanding Service Award to **VADM Stanley Szemborski '71, USN (Ret.)**, and to **RADM Frank Thorp IV '81, USN (Ret.)**, as they each completed 12 years on the board of directors. For the past three years they have led the board as the chair and vice chair. **VADM John Terence Blake '75, USN (Ret.)**, has been elected as the new board chair.

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



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65/66 CLASS NEWS

"To keep me engaged with life, I am playing my trombone in five bands, two concert, and one each big band jazz, German polka, and New Orleans Dixieland Jazz. **Paula**, wife and double Grammy winner, recently retired after singing for thirty years in the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus.

"We had so much fun on the river that we're already booked for the 2024 '65 cruise on the Snake and Columbia rivers. We hope to see many of you there. Finally, kudos to **Mitch Henderson** for helping me wade through how to get connected to his Health website. A recent bout with Prostate Cancer has piqued my interest there. The picture is of us and the Starks just before the noted tour. Grace and peace, Bob"



Ed Linz' long-awaited book about the experiences of 61 of our classmates during the Vietnam War, "**A Filthy Way to Die, Collected Memories of the Vietnam War**," is out and available on Amazon, in paperback and on Kindle. Check it out. Some awesome stories by our guys in all kinds of roles in all the services! More on this in the next S'mate!

GG Marshall says that **Paul** continues to improve and the woman who attacked him months ago is still in jail! Another update on Paul coming next month.

Stay connected with your USNA 1965 classmates through Wardroom@1965.Groups.io. Subscribe now and never miss a beat!

Subscribe with an email to Wardroom+subscribe@USNA1965.groups.io

Thazzit, guys! Aloha, Dave

'66

Life Membership: 66%

Donor Participation: 22.41%

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

It's September and that means football!!! Hopefully, the Navy football team will have a good year. The new head coach, Brian Newberry, spoke at the May luncheon and was well received. More on that later in this column. Fall is the promise of cooler weather and most of

us are ready for it. I have received several items for this column, so let's go.

Larry Fish provided a brief news item and a picture of the graduation of 2ndLt **George Fish '23**, Therese and Larry's oldest grandson.

The Marine is 2ndLt George Fish who graduated from the Academy on 26 May. He starts USMC Basic School on 29 May. In the photo I'm on George's left and **Mike Haddon '69** is on George's right. Mike was a plebe in 31, my Company, our First Class Year. Small world. Thanks, Larry, and congratulations to George.



MIKE HADDON, GEORGE FISH and LARRY FISH"

Leah and I also attended our grandson's graduation in Clayton, MO on 14 May. Tanner Baird graduated Magnum Cum Laude from the Olin Business School of Washington University in St. Louis, MO. He will begin work for Guggenheim Investments in New York City in July. Congratulations to Tanner.



MIKE, TANNER and LEAH

Chuck Grutzius provided the following summary of the May Class luncheon held on 10 May.

✉ "Standing Room Only" was the Word of the Day on 10 May at the Annapolis Yacht Club. The Class held its annual May luncheon in a meeting room that seated 26 people, and we had 26 Classmates and spouses who enjoyed the Deli Sandwich Buffet and the comradery among Classmates and friends.

Class President, Scott Redd, briefly spoke on the Class's new initiative of developing a Class-wide support program of "Helping Our Classmates Help Themselves." You will hear more details on this program in coming months.

The guest speaker was the 40th Head Coach for Navy football - Brian Newberry - who spoke for 30 minutes on his vision of developing a cohesive football team based upon a "team culture" that embodies the highest attributes of individual character, a "Team" concept and not a "me" concept, and "teammates" that

truly love the game of football and have a love for the other members of the team!

Coach Newberry has 25 years of coaching experience, including the last four seasons as Navy's Defensive Coordinator. His words were right on target in that his desire to produce leaders and not just players rang true to the '66ers at the luncheon. His three objectives for Navy football this season are to win the Commander-in-Chief's trophy, Beat Army, and have a winning season to play in a Bowl game. Based upon his comments, Navy has a good shot at achieving all three of its objectives.

Classmates in attendance were Scott Redd, Betty and Tom Eubanks Dervilla and Scott Gordon, Tom Marfiak, Kathy Percival, Phil Bozzelli, Jim Long, Kacky and Rodger Carter, Don Jackson, Pete Hesser, John Posoli, Gail and John Sigler, Pete Wright, Bev Daly, Chuck Grutzius, Jim Maynard, Pat and John Scudi, Karen and Chuck Tebrich, and Ace Sarich. Thanks, Chuck. As I stated in my opening, I hope the coach's three goals are fulfilled this year.

Sadly, I report the death of two Classmates, **Bill Johnson** (1st Co) and **Bill Hancock** (14th Co). Bill Johnson died on 5 May; Bill Hancock on 14 May. Emails to the Class were sent on both. Please keep their families in your prayers.

Robert Johnson checked in from the West Coast and provided the following email.

✉ Hello Mike: On our Graduation Day 57 years ago, I sent you some info from Classmate **H. Keith Melton**, our stellar Class entrepreneur and International Spy Museum Historian.

He and Karen married 10 years ago, and he sent a nice family photo with an open invitation for any of our Classmates to visit his Museum in Wash D.C. He has quite a resume, and several noteworthy avocations that you might want to consider including in next month's issue. As you will see, he has had a most interesting career, and made a killing in the McDonald's Restaurant franchise business, which he started in 1976, about the same time Sam Lincoln attended Hamburger University with Ray Kroc's outfit in Chicago.

Sam had two franchises in Wyoming. At one time, Keith held the largest private collection of submarines in the world. I think he had somewhere around 6-7 of them. That was the impetus for him to get into espionage, which has always intrigued him. Subsequently, he built his International Spy Museum in D.C. to house his whole collection. It must be very interesting to see. The reference in his email to the book "Beat The Dealer" was during First Class Year, he and our late Classmate, **Pat Buckley**, would literally spend hours dealing blackjack to each other in their rooms in Bancroft. They got so good at counting cards they spent spring break in San Juan, Puerto Rico trying to beat the house at blackjack. They did so well, they each banked several thousand each, which was a giant score in those days. **Bo Wiley** and I would take turns dealing to them

so they could practice. We were to join them in San Juan, but we opted for Las Vegas, and did quite well at the poker tables. We never were as good as Keith and Pat at counting cards. Thought you'd like the story.

Spoke to **Bob Verratti** last month, just after Kentucky Derby Day. He's making another splash in Thoroughbred Horse Racing with his newest 3-year-old, Lord of the Navy, which he and Kathleen acquired early this spring. He broke his maiden in this second race out at Parx Racetrack in Philadelphia, as I sent you that info in May. Well, the horse is doing quite well, and won his next start at 2-5 in a 7 Furlong laugher, winning by over 12 lengths in a field of 9, on 24 May. I have the video of it on U-Tube, and I will send it to you. The horse is aptly named, as his sire is Lord Byron. Bob said the win only paid \$2.80, for a \$2.00 ticket, and he seemed disappointed. But I told him, don't fret, what is wrong with making 40% on your money for a 2-minute romp in the sun? lol. They are pointing him for a good race at Belmont Park in a few weeks. That is the latest from the Sport of Kings. Hope you are doing well, and all is good in Colorado. All the very best, Robert.

Thanks, Robert! Great report.

I hope to have more information on the Class Wellness topic in the October column. Meanwhile, please visit the Class web site, usna66.org. In addition to the Wellness tab there is a wealth of Class news and other information for you, your spouse, and widows. There is also a "Ships Store" feature where you can see what reunion leftovers are available for purchase or giveaway. Please plan to visit the site often as it is kept up to date by our Webmaster, Therese Long-Fish. Thanks again to those who contributed to this issue. Until October—All the best—Mike!!!

'67

Life Membership: 77%

Donor Participation: 34.48%

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

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

1603 John Worthington Way, Crownsville, MD 21032

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We received a note in early June from **Don Hefkin** relaying word of the death of **Tony Wayne**:

✉ I just got off the phone with Peggy Wayne. Peggy let me know that Tony passed away a week ago Wednesday (31 May 2023) in Providence Hospital in Waco, TX due to heart complications. Peg said there are no plans for a local service, and that Tony's ashes will be interred in the Naval Academy Columbarium at a later date yet.

Tony was a member of the 27th Company. After graduation he went to Pensacola for Flight Training and into the VP Community after he received his Wings. We were in our



'67: MOBILE BAY BMD Pathfinder award

first squadron together - VP-19 in Moffett Field - and we were roommates on deployments to Adak, Iwakuni (Japan), and Cubi Point (Republic of the Philippines). Classmates **Bill Hall** and **Denny Faulds** were also in VP-19. Tony left the active duty Navy in 1978 after tours in VT-29 (Corpus Christi), Guantanamo Bay and the Washington Navy Yard. Remaining in Government Service after he left the uniformed Navy, Tony held several GS positions in NAVAIRSYSCOM in Crystal City, Pax River and Cherry Point, NC. Tony also flew with the Navy Reserve Squadron (VR-48) based at Andrews. He retired as a Captain in the Naval Reserve in 1992. Tony last resided in Waco, TX with wife Peggy and their two daughters. Her address is 3111 Rockbridge Road, McGregor, TX 76657.

All our classmates will recall Tony's hard work and contributions to the Class's 50th Anniversary Book. He was quite a guy - he loved to have fun, and he loved the Naval Academy and time with his classmates.

Don is absolutely correct about the key role Tony played in the production of our 50th Anniversary book. He and I exchanged many emails when he was tracking down your photos and your writeups. He performed a great service for all of us.

Sid Mohsberg forwarded **Jim Witherspoon's** obituary to us. Jim passed away 14 June 2023. He is survived by his wife Erin and step-children William, Kathleen, Robert, Stephen, and James as well as 16 grandchildren. A Memorial Mass was offered at Immaculate Conception Church, 200 Ware Ave., Towson, MD 21204 on Wednesday, 21 June. Interment will be private. Memorials in his name may be made to St. Jude's Research Hospital (<https://rb.gy/ucpigj>).

Got a quick note and a photo from **Jack Parry** of the wedding of **Gary Brake** and Sue Marks on 4 June 2023 at the St John's Lutheran church in Winston-Salem, NC. Jack said he and Gary were both in 8th Company, and Gary was an usher/swordsman at Jack and Nita's wedding.



The Brakes and the Parrys

CHAPTER NEWS

Alabama

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Guam Chapter

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Los Angeles Chapter: L to R: Rosy Hom, Jonny Hom, Alexander Hom, Anthony Hom, Beverlee Kelly, Jim Kelly '66, Mitch Marich '71, Joe Koch '57 and Colin Mackenzie '77. Not in photo: Glenn Shindler '64

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Singapore Chapter

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Vice Pres: **Andy Harrell '12**
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Sec'y: **LTJG Nicole Uchida '12, USN**
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Republic of Korea Chapter

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Tokyo Bay Chapter

Pres: **Mori Nixon '81**
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California

Los Angeles Chapter

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Treas: **Michael Seaver '83**
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National Trustee: **Brian DeJarnett**
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Ahoy Shipmates!

With a new summer season comes the grand tradition of sending off future candidates to begin their journey at the Naval Academy. Members of the alumni chapter partnered with the Southern California Parents Club on 11 June to send off candidates to the Naval Academy where they will begin their journey of Plebe Summer. In attendance were multiple graduates (**Paris Scott '12, Adrian Montecinos '14, David Yaguchi '83, and Stephen Shatynski '83**) who attended this year's event sharing their knowledge on how best to avoid the eyes of one's summer detailer!

The Mimi's luncheon group met on 22 June 2023 and was pleased to again welcome Rosy Hom, mother of Anthony (Future Class of '28). Anthony brought his two brothers, Alexander Hom (10th grade and recent attendee at the USNA STEM program) and Jonny Hom (6th grade). Anthony reports to NAPS in July 2023 and to USNA in June 2024. Congratulations and Smooth Sailing wishes to him.

As we are the LA/OC chapter of the alumni association we are looking for opportunities to host more events in the greater LA area. We are seeking volunteers who would be willing to coordinate meet ups, watch parties, or Happy Hours for our alumni in the LA area. If there is any interest, please contact the club leadership.

As a reminder, we continue to promote all Alumni in the area to sign in to their MyUSNA.com account as this is the primary means the club will pass information on future events. Lastly, look out for information on this year's Army v. Navy watch party. The past two years have been a huge success and we look forward to carrying that tradition forward (especially with a win over Army!!).

Paris Scott

CHAPTER NEWS

Monterey Bay Chapter

Pres: **LT Vic Kanth '15**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Bob Garcia**
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Sacramento Chapter

Pres: **Terri (Riggs) Maginnis '82**
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Vice Pres: **Brian Grubbs '92**
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Sec'y: **Paul Deveaux '96**
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Treas: **Alan Abbs '91**
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Past President: **Dennis P. Joyce '61**
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Area BGO Coordinator: **Lauro Aguila '81**
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On Sunday, 4 June, the Sacramento Parents Club hosted a welcome luncheon for our Class of 2027 plebes at the Dante Club in Sacramento. The program included two speakers from the **Class of 1977, Mike Laviano and Henry Gonzales, Jr.** who shared information about the link in the chain program and their perspectives on the future for our class of 2027 plebes.

A special update from **Lilian Huang '25** on Academy Life was followed by recognition of each of the incoming plebes in attendance.



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.

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. For July, we moved to J. Wilds Burgers and BBQ, 614 Sutter St, Folsom. Check emails and myusna.com for monthly updates.



San Diego Chapter: Class of 2027 Welcome Luncheon- back row, left to right- Emily Kroettinger '27, Gavin Lippman '08, Justin Long '97, Philip Jaramillo '26, Brian Grubbs '92, Terri (Riggs) Maginnis '82, Lilian Huang '25, Jack Everett '64, <unknown>, Denny Joyce '61, Michael Laviano '77; Front row, left to right- Noah Ferguson '27, Joseph Aquino '27, Avion Ganse-Lira '27, Henry Gonzales Jr '77, John Rostomily '2 and Ray Luevano '77

By this time, the Navy football watch events will have started. We had good turnouts for the Air Force and Army games. Look for updates on times and locations through emails and myusna.com. We're also planning a Navy and/or Marine Corps birthday event in October. Be on the lookout for that event as well!

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**
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Vice Pres 1: **Debbie Balsley '93**
Vice Pres 2: **Michael Philbrook '83**
Treas: **Juan Rose III '04**
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Sec'y: **Mark Powers '06**
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Corr Sec'y: **Charlie Carey '70**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Mike Philbrook '83**
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Since our last report was just a month ago we don't have a lot to say. Our normal activities like happy hour happened as usual. We did hold our new plebe dinner and I hope to have a pic or two on that for the next column. We also held our annual USNA Diego Chapter at the Padres in June. Now, say what you will about the Padres but it's a blast going to the game, win or lose. Besides, we're just about at the halfway point for the season so plenty of time to recover and make the playoffs. We'll see. Here's a pic of two of our recent game attendees.



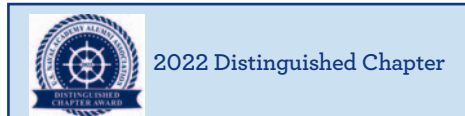
Don Lathen '66 (senior attendee) and Jessica McGill '17 (our junior attendee).

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

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Santa Barbara Chapter

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

Colorado Chapter

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Hello fellow Colorado Alumni,

Hope everyone is enjoying the Colorado summer, getting outdoors, and taking advantage of travel opportunities. It was great to see many Chapter members at our annual Arleigh Burke Dinner on April 28. Those in attendance were treated to a great evening of cocktails, dinner and wonderful insights from retired ADM **Harry Harris '78** about current events and focus in the Asia Pacific region based on his active duty time in the Pacific and his role post retirement as the US Ambassador to South Korea. If you missed out, please plan to join us for the next event in Spring 2024.



Retired ADM Harry Harris '78 Speaks at Annual Arleigh Burke Dinner

Your Colorado Chapter is registered with the King Soopers and City Market Community Rewards Program. Alumni who are registered with King Soopers/City Market/Kroger can designate the Chapter to receive cash rewards without any additional cost to the alumni. Please register your card using this link: <https://www.kingsoopers.com/i/community/community-rewards>.

Just a quick reminder to everyone to ensure your Alumni Association profile is up to date since that is the only way we can stay in touch and inform you of Chapter events. Upcoming events include happy hours and the annual Tri Service Academy Golf Tournament on 18 Aug. Check the Chapter website for details, <https://www.usnacolorado.com/>.

Matt McLaurin '92

Colorado Springs Chapter

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Connecticut

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

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Treas: **Tom Hogsten '85**

Sec'y: **Eric Irwin '86**
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Meeting Chairman: **Vacant**

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

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

Ahoy Shipmates!

Well when you receive this the Brigade should be gearing up for another exciting year! And part of the exciting part au USNA is most of the courses are in subjects that are new and unusual to the new students. And not only that, there is not yet enough experience in the fleet to have a rational expectation of how this new course will be used in a practical way rather than just the classroom next lecture. Determining what was important WAS a lecture's likelihood to be on an exam. Later... determining what IS important often varied with time, and certainly varied with service selection.

But what WAS Important to CT Alumni in the summer was items like the meeting of the USNA Command and Seamanship Sail Training Squadron, with five Navy 44s, 40 midshipmen and 10 coaches (each boat). These boats had a port visit at Mystic Seaport in mid-July.

Another enjoyable periodic activity is the Blue and Gold Happy Hour gatherings in various locations. For example in June we met in South Norwalk on Thursday, 15 June the American Craft Distillery (**Ted Dumbauld, USNA '81, owner**).

Another thing we can again be excited about is SPORTS. Football, of course, but don't forget to reach out and find other very competitive intercollegiate sports that may be playing in our region. At last count there were 34 such sports/teams. Football is probably the one that comes to mind most quickly, and that is, of course, because the USNA Ring is so often thought to be a winning Super Bowl ring by folks we meet in social settings.

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

Dave Candler '67

Costa Rica

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Costa Rica Chapter

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Delaware

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Delaware Chapter

Pres: **Chris Dierkes '85**
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Delaware Shipmates,

Greetings. Our Chapter has been silent for a little while initially due to COVID, and more recently due to my increased responsibilities at work that have been consuming the better part of my waking hours. Now that the pandemic is hopefully behind us and I am getting some reprieve in my workload, we are looking to focus more attention on energizing our Chapter. You'll be happy to know, there are several irons in the fire for us to meet up - stay tuned.

In the meantime, we posted "Summer Concert Series" musical events being sponsored by the state parks and/or local towns. Each band posted on our site is somehow in alignment with the Navy - even one promoting the USNA. So, check it out depending on what part of the state you're in over the next few months. All venues look like a good time and a way to enjoy the great outdoors! Maybe we'll see you there! Note: Most of these musical events are free if you don't include parking.



Jim Ring

Jim Ring - VP South informed us that he will be retiring out of state to enjoy more family time and travel. Jim has contributed a great deal of time over the past ten years keeping our lower slower USNAAA Delaware Chapter connected. With great determination, he created the Specialty License Plate option for USNA Delaware alumni - with much success. (Note: if interested in a plate going forward, please refer to Media on Chapter Website <or> contact

CHAPTER NEWS

Chris Dierkes). Jim not only promoted charismatic speakers throughout the years for our annual dinner / speaker series (held at the Roma Restaurant in Dover), but he also maintained monthly scheduled luncheons and let's not forget the annual Army-Navy game held at everyone's favorite sports bar - the Greene Turtle at Five Points!

Geez...we sure had some great gigs along the way! I think I speak for everyone, when I say thank you Jim for your dedication and perseverance in bringing our USNA folks together! You did an outstanding job! Oh, another bittersweet ending... like Jim Ring, the Greene Turtle in Lewes decided to leave the beach area to discover a new location of opportunity - taking on a new recipe of success! ...We think they closed because the monthly meetings stopped....

So with that said, we are looking for some help in both the upper and lower sectors of our state to plan and coordinate activities. We previously included the titles of Vice President North and Vice President South and are looking to re-fill these positions. I am actively seeking anyone that has unique ideas that will bring our alumni together to build camaraderie and increase USNA support. Please let me know if you are interested.

Go Delaware! Go Navy!

Chris Dierkes - President

Florida

Gainesville Chapter

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Jacksonville Chapter

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Treas and Chapter Trustee: **Enochia Anderson '94**

Sec'y: **Britney Brown '12**

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Orlando Chapter

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1415188042037372>

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Palm Beach Chapter

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Pensacola Chapter

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Co-Pres: **Joey Walker '02**
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Southwest Florida Chapter

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Sec'y: **VACANT**

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Despite the challenges presented by Hurricane IAN which decimated much of Fort Myers, FL 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.

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 met 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. See photo on next page.

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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Sec'y: **Vacant**

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Suncoast Chapter

Pres: **Alois (Al) Burda '68**
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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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Southwest Florida Chapter: This year's Navy squad for the annual 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. Team Navy made a strong push to claim the runner up spot. Event was held at The Plantation.

Tampa Bay Chapter

Pres: CDR Jane Lochner '84, USN (Ret.)
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Sec'y: CAPT Chris Heath '72, USN (Ret.)
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Communication Director: CAPT Steve Swift '87, USNR (Ret.)
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Website: <http://tampabay.usnachapters.net/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/USNA-Alumni-TampaSt-Petersburg/120095454740213?sk=wall>

BGO Area Coordinator: CAPT Steve Swift '87, USNR (Ret.)
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LET'S GO RAYS!

The chapter hosted our annual inter-Academy Tampa Bay Rays baseball game. We had over 70 in attendance and although the Rays let us down by dropping one to the Kansas City Royals, that didn't dampen the enthusiasm of lots of Zoomies, Woops, and us old Mids! Pictured enjoying the fun are John Goodenough '02, Marcia and Mark Krivonak '71, Sug and Bud Alexander '56, Mike Zabel and Jane Lochner '84, Tim Corcoran '67, Doug Kirkland '72, Mike Puffer '98, Duane LaFont '78, Chris Thompson '92, and others.



Proud Chris Thompson '92 pins gold bars on son Christian Thompson '23



Andrew Matthews '23 receives his first salute from brother Ryan Matthews '26

PLEBE SENDOFF PICNIC

Each year the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Naval Academy Parents Club hosts a picnic for incoming plebes and their families. Both the



Tampa Bay Chapter: Rays up! Tampa Bay Alumni enjoyed hosting other Service Academy grads at the Rays game

young folks and the parents get the real gouge on what's ahead at this special event. Chapter President **Jane Lochner '84** led the alumni delegation, presenting our new chapter coins to show support for the plebes-to-be.

Stanley Gray '77 offered remarks on behalf of Another Link in the Chain, and **Jonathan Shannon '02** offered a perspective from 25 years out. Good luck to the plebes and their families!

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Monthly chapter meetings provide a forum for catching up on USNA news, as well as spirited 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 June were **Jane Lochner '84**, **Jack Plunkett '70**, **Jon Connelly '05**, **Eric Kennington '88**, **Brian Tsai '16**, **Paul Matthews '85**, **Derrick Clarke '99**, **Warren Hahn '60**, **Rex and Joe Wendl '93**, **Peter Damisch '75**, **Miller Detrick '63**, **Joe Piganelli '06**, **Perry Dempsey '72**, **Chris Heath '72**, and first timer **John Goodenough '02**.

We were also proud to have with us Marine 2nd LT **Andrew Matthews '23**. Andrew has visited many times, but this was his first meeting as an alumnus!

CONGRATULATIONS, 2nd LT CHRISTIAN THOMPSON '23

Along with Andrew Matthews, we are proud to have been a part of the journey for Christian Thompson '23, son of Chris Thompson '02. Congrats to the Thompson family as well!

SUMMER EVENTS

We dial it down during the summer, 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:

CHAPTER NEWS

Future Events

- Monthly Meetings on first Wednesday of each month except July (no sign-up needed)
- Navy football watch parties

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.

Everything's great (and hot) in the Sunshine State!

*Chris Heath '72
Chapter Secretary*

Georgia

Atlanta Chapter

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Sec'y: **John "Wiz" Withers '79**
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Germany

Stuttgart Germany Chapter

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Hawaii

Hawaii Chapter

Pres: **Ted Peck '88**
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Comms: **Brian C. Smith '05**
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Treas: **Tom Marzec '87**
e: tamarzec@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator:
CDR Jason Afong '06, USN
e: Jason.afong@bgo.usna.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/USNA.AA.Honolulu>; <https://www.facebook.com/NavalAcademyHawaii/>

Idaho

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Todd Severance '92, USN (Ret.)**
p: 208-620-9436; e: tjseverance1992@gmail.com

Northwest Chapter

Pres: **Raymond Kutch '63**
e: rjkutch@comcast.net

Southern Idaho Chapter

Pres: **Paul Campbell '98**
e: Paul.Campbell@1998.usna.com

Vice Pres: **Rick Schellhaas '68**
e: rbschellhaas@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Rufus Taylor '66**
e: tincansailor980@gmail.com

Treas: **Andrea Hovey '03**
e: andrea.hovey@gmail.com

Idaho Parents' Club President: **Nicola McIntosh (Luke '24)**
e: idusnaparents@hotmail.com

Greetings all! As previously reported, our new slate of SIC officers is now in place. A very special "well done!" to our outgoing president, **Andrea Hovey '03**. She was the good shepherd that steered our chapter safely through several years of troubled waters related to the pandemic. Yea! Also thanks to our long serving treasurer, **Dennis Hanrahan '68**, for keeping the books up to snuff.

What a great turn out for our June event: The Class of 2027 Welcome Aboard Picnic. Thanks to our venue hosting family, Trasi & Brian Mullin. A super group of Idaho Parents Club members, USNA B&G officers, and USNA alumni SIC members were in attendance. BZ to Nicola McIntosh, Idaho Parents Club president, for organizing the event. The chapter also extends many thanks to Eric Page, representing USAA, and USAA for their continuing support of this event. A very special thanks to **John Hall '77** for his overview of USNA's "Another Link in the Chain" program. It was very well received, especially by the midshipmen to be. The yummy taco bar catered lunch from Costa Vida was much appreciated. The prospective Midshipmen from Idaho are **Avery Charles, Eagle**; **Avonlea Hotine, Post Falls**; **Kate LeBaron, Idaho Falls**; **Piper Lee, Boise**, **Gunnar Kimball, Hailey**; and **Shane Finkelstein (NAPS), Eagle**.

Chapter members and their spouses/SO's in attendance were **Mike Coyle '65, Rufus Taylor '66, John Kuechle '66, Rick Schellhaas '68, Tom Neville '68, Tom Simmonds '73, John Hall '77, Ken VanderHorst '79, Jeff Walker '85, Ed Brzezinski '85, Pete Butler '86, Roy Ledesma '87, Markus Gudmundsson '91, Paul Campbell '98, Ben Charles '99, and Andrea Hovey '03**.

TAMPA BAY CHAPTER

MEMORIAL DAY RUN TO HONOR

We held our second, even bigger local Run-to-Honor event at beautiful Ballast Point in Tampa. Steve Swift '87 coordinated the event which included the National Anthem, a stirring bugle rendition of "Taps," and remarks on individual honorees. Participants ran or walked up to 5K. Beverages/snacks were provided at the finish line, donated by Todd Barrett '00. Honoring veterans were Warren Hahn '60, Fr. Tim Corcoran '67, John Sarao '76 and guests, Daryl and Grant Thorton '79, Jane Lochner '84, Donna and James Hamm '84, Nancy and David Hahn '85, Kris and Steve Swift '87, Chris Jr. and Chris Thompson '92, Cori Brodsky and John Miles '93, Kevin Underwood '95, Todd Barrett '00 and son Owen (our bugler!), Lori, Adam, and John Goodenough '02, Robert Villanueva '03 and family, Austin Gullett '03, Austen Suqi '15, and Brian Laboy '17. In all we had about 50 in attendance—a terrific turnout!



Memorial Day was more meaningful through our Run To Honor event

SHARED INTEREST GROUPS

See the updates at p. 115

Naval Academy Minority Association
(NAMA)

Naval Engineers & STEM Advocates
(NESAs)

Women's Shared Interest Group
Run to Honor
USNA Pride

For more information on our SIGs,
visit www.usna.com/SIGS



SIC Chapter members have the backs of Avery Charles and Kate LeBaron.



Renee and Mike Coyle '65, Pete Butler '86, Naty Neville (Tom '68), Paul Campbell '98 celebrate Paul's election as SIC president.

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.

Illinois

Chicago Chapter

CDR Fredrick W. Weber '75, USNR (Ret.)
2134 Evert Ct., Northbrook, IL 60062-6612
h: 847-559-9381; w: 312-845-3444
e: Fred.Weber@2comm.com

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

BGO Area Coordinator (Southern, IL): **Gene Marquez**
e: gds_m_marquez@charter.net

The Chicago chapter will hold its semi annual meeting on Tuesday, 17 Oct at 5 pm at the law offices of McAndrews, Held & Malloy (hosted by **Alan Montera '05**), located near the Ogilvie Transportation Center in downtown Chicago (500 W Madison St, 35th floor). Among the agenda items will be the election of the Chapter's next Board of Directors. Any Chicagoland alumni interested in running for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer should submit their names to **Fred Weber '75** (Fred.weber@2comm.com). Nominations will also be accepted from the floor the evening of

the meeting. For those not able to attend the meeting in person, electronic instructions to join the meeting and vote remotely will be sent via email to chapter members in September. Several members of the Chapter met at the All Academy Social in Northbrook on 14 June for an evening of camaraderie with graduates from Army, Air Force, and the Merchant Marine Academy. Navy graduates from the classes of 1964 to 2016 were in attendance, led by the senior alum present, **Mike Murray '64**.



The Class of 1984 at the All Academy Social: Lindsay Kough, Gerry Pukach, and Pat Steele



Chicago Chapter: Navy contingent at the All Academy Social on Flag Day in Northbrook

Indiana

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR Drew Thomas '04, USNR**
p: 317 682 8441; e: drew.thomas@bgo.usna.com

Indianapolis Chapter

CDR Lynn Thomas '83
h: 317-329-1773; e: lynnntw@aol.com

Michiana Chapter

Pres: **John Ross '94**
e: johnwmross@me.com
Vice Pres/Sec'y: **CDR John (Chris) Haizlip '72, USN (Ret.)**
15246 Longford Dr., Granger, IN 46530
p: 574-273-2939; e: CHaizlip@aol.com
Treas: **John Strauss '69**
e: [ejstrauss3373@att.net](mailto:e:ejstrauss3373@att.net)

Iowa

See Minnesota

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **Ted Olt III '85**
p: 563-355-1709; e: toilt@l-wlaw.com

Kentucky

Louisville/Southern Indiana Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Gregory Reinhardt '79, USNR (Ret.)**
712 Talon Pl., Louisville, KY 40223
p: 502-244-7707; e: greinhardt@1979.usna.com

BGO Area Coordinator:
CAPT Gregory Reinhardt '79, USN (Ret.)
p: 502-244-7707; e: greinhardt@1979.usna.com

Louisiana

Louisiana Chapter

Pres: **Garrett Miller '95**
p: 985-590-2425, e: torrens.miller@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Bob Ferrante '90**
p: 985-237-2091; e: mbrlj5@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Wayne Morgan '98**
e: wayne.morgan@1998.usna.com

Treas: **Drew Dodenhoff '70**
e: drewdode@yahoo.com

Website: <http://www.USNALouisiana.org>

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR Jessica Thornhill '01**
e: jessica.mp.thornhill@gmail.com

CHAPTER NEWS

Maine

Maine Chapter

Pres: **Jen Bohr Tyll '01**
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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**
e: michaelrapp999@gmail.com

Sec'y-Shipmate Contact: **Liesel (Danjczek) Schopler '99**
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Treas: **Chuck Dixon '79**
e: CBDixon@firstcommand.com

Membership: **James McNeal '86**
e: jamesm@ispards.com

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

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

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/118214745191/> (or search for: Naval Academy Alumni Annapolis Chapter)

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR Charles Mello**
e: Charlesmello@gmail.com

Baltimore Chapter

Pres: **Jason Hardebeck '87**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR Charles Mello**
e: Charlesmello@gmail.com

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

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/118214745191/> (or search for: Naval Academy Alumni Annapolis Chapter)

Greater Southern Maryland Chapter

Pres: **Micheal W. Thumm '75**
e: thummer75@md.metrocast.net

Sec'y: **Katie Ellefson '13**
p: 661-992-9190; e: katieellefson13@gmail.com

Corr Sec'y: **Michael Dougherty '73**
p: 240-925-7518; e: doughertymj8@aol.com

Website: <http://www.navalumni.org>
BGO Area Coordinator: **Kevin Schaaff**
e: Kevin.Schaaff@bgo.usna.com

EVENTS

24 June Welcome Picnic at **Katie Benton's '13** for Members of the Class of 2027, Napsters, and Foundation sponsorees and their families. We had alumni from 1969 to 2017 to welcome our newest Mids. **Pierre Thuot '77** gave a great presentation on the Another Link in the Chain Program!

Please check your email, the GSMC website www.navalumni.org, and this column for updates and specific locations for future events

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS: TBD

COMING EVENTS: 8/20 Crab Fest, Solomons Rec Ctr. Pls check your email and the GSMC website www.navalumni.org



Greater Southern Maryland Chapter: Gathering to welcome 2027. From Left to Right: Paul Croisetiere '77, Teddy Schopf '17, Todd Cramer '87, Dan Jewett '09, Jason Denney '97, Jim Sandberg '69, Chris Drewello '88, Dan Peters '04, Marcela "Ivy" Somers '27, Tom Phelan '79, Chase Sax '17, Katie Benton '13, Greg Reuss '77, Brad Pennington '09, Pierre Thuot '77, and Sharon Barbins '96.



Greater Southern Maryland Chapter: Pierre Thuot '77 gives his presentation on the Another Link in the Chain Program.

Massachusetts

Boston Chapter

Pres: **James Kras '69**
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Shipmate contact: **CAPT Pete Seibert '65**
p: 781-235-5909; e: pkseibert@comcast.net

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

BGO Area Coordinator (Boston and SE Mass): **John Rinkacs**
e: rinkacs@comcast.net

BGO Area Coordinator (N Shore and Central Mass):
CDR David Grim
e: david.grim@1982.usna.com

BGO Area Coordinator (Western Mass): **Ken Walton**
e: ken.walton@bgo.usna.com

Michigan

Michigan Chapter

Pres: **Maj. Joe Zane '07 USMCR**
e: joseph.zane.2007@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Shawn Hoch '08**
e: shawn.hoch@2008.usna.com

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

Communications Sec'y: **Chris Bernard '88**
e: gcb117@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator (Eastern):
CAPT Michael Johnson '79, USNR
e: mj007mj@hotmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator (West & Upper):
Col. Benjamin Richmond '93, USMCR
e: brichmond97@earthlink.net

Minnesota

Upper Midwest Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Ashley Fischer '11, USMCR**
p: 240-778-8116; e: aefisch36@gmail.com

Shipmate Contact: **Nathan CW Smith '98**
e: nathancwsmith@outlook.com

Website: www.USNAUpperMidwest.org

Facebook: www.fb.com/USNAUpperMidwest

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Mark J. Salmen, USN (Ret.)**
NAIP Area Coordinator-Minnesota
15230 Afton Hills Dr. South; Afton, MN 55001-9670
p: 651-436-5842; c: 651-271-669
e: mark.salmen@1973.usna.com; e: mjsalmen@aol.com

Mississippi

BGO Area Coordinator: **David Price '78**
e: dep-78@sbcglobal.net

South Mississippi Chapter

Pres: **CDR E. Spencer Garrett IV '88, USNR**
P.O. Box 1792, Gautier, MS 39553
p: 228-497-5050; e: esgarrett44@aol.com

Sec'y: **CAPT Harry J. Rucker '73, USN (Ret.)**
e: navynomad50@caldeone.net

Missouri

Greater Kansas City Metro Chapter

Pres: **Bob Culler '74**
p: 913-488-6319; e: bculler@sbcglobal.net

Vice Pres: **Victor Hurlbert '10**
p: 816-665-1647; e: victorh@yahoo.com

Treas: **Eric Carlson '74**
p: 913 481-5436; e: j.eric.carlson@gmail.com

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **Lee Gilgour '01**
e: Gilgour42@gmail.com

St. Louis Chapter

Pres: **Dave Turnbaugh '89**

Website: <https://stlusna.com>

Shipmate contact: **Raese Simpson '61**
1138 Westmoor Pl., St. Louis, MO 63131-1320
c: 314-757-1221; e: raese1961@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator:
CAPT Kent Higginbotham '76, USN (Ret.)
e: kenth@hbistl.com

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**
e: jeremiah.binkley@yahoo.com

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



New Mexico Chapter Alums gather in Albuquerque for their annual family picnic

Nevada

BGO Area Coordinator: **Joe Holland '03**
e: joe.holland03@gmail.com

Las Vegas Chapter

Pres: **Corwin Karaffa '77**

e: cjkara@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Glenn Truitt '97**

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

New Jersey

Pres: **Patrick Hurley '87**

e: patrick.hurley@1987.usna.com

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

BGO Area Coordinator (South NJ): **Martha Christinziano**
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website: www.usnanj.org

New Mexico

New Mexico Chapter

Pres: **John Scott Kraus '73**

2304 Madre Dr. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112

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e: skraus@aquilargroup.com; or jkraus2304@aol.com

Sec'y: **Joseph McGuire '68**

p: 505-857-9679; e: sunnymack@msn.com

Vice Pres: **Dr. Doug Meints '77**

p: 505-888-6800; e: dmeintschiro@gmail.com

NM Parents' Club Pres: **Sheila Chapman**

p: 505-419-2633; e: usna.nm.parents@gmail.com

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **Charles Scott**

e: scottcharles08@gmail.com

On Sunday, 4 June, the New Mexico Chapter of the USNA Alumni Association held its annual family picnic at the Kiwanis Shelter inside the Elena Gallegos Open Space Area, 7100 Tramway Blvd N.E, Albuquerque, NM 87122. The Elena Gallegos Open Space is a 640-acre park located at an elevation of about 6,500 feet in the easternmost part of Albuquerque with stunning North and South views of the Rio Grande Valley. On a clear day, Mount Taylor

near Grants, NM stands visible 85 miles away. This year's attendees included **Robert Phillips '57** and wife HelenAnn, **G.J. (Hoppy) Hopkins '59**, **Mike Blackledge '63** and wife Bonnie, **Ron Walters '63** and wife Pam, **Joe McGuire '68**, **Tom Gutierrez '70** and wife Rebecca, **Lynden (Tolly) Toliver '71**, **Scott Kraus '73** and guest Ann Theresa, **Max Legg '74** and wife Loren, **Doug Meints '77**, **Ken Fladager '78** and guest Kathy, **Mark Schaefer '83** and wife Deborah, **Christine Hoaglund '97**, and newly commissioned graduate **Marcos Salazar '23**. By 1300, the shelter's picnic tables were festooned with patriotic table coverings and set up with baked barbecue and fried chicken. Each guest also contributed side dishes and desserts to round out the meal. The Chapter also provided a variety of cold drinks and the necessary tableware. Before sitting down to enjoy our picnic, Chapter President Scott Kraus called for a few moments of silence to remember two active Chapter members who had recently passed away: **Herbert Richter '59**, and Elaine Corbalis, wife of **Fred Corbalis '62**.

When the meal was nearly finished and most of our sea stories had been properly embellished, Past President **Christine Hoaglund '97** gave a spirited presentation of her attendance at the RADM Simpson Summit meeting (formerly known as the International Chapter Officers Forum) held this past 20 April in Annapolis. Several topics were briefed and changes to the USNA culture were noted by Mrs. Hoaglund. For example, this was the first annual Summit/Forum which combined the Chapter Officers, the Blue and Gold Officers, the Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and the Parents Club Officers for a broader perspective. Another cultural change was the addition of the "Midshipman Ethos" to the Reef Points manual, to be memorized by every plebe. The "Ethos" statement is available online to read, so alumni are also encouraged to read, study, and embrace its values.

Our new Blue and Gold Area Coordinator Charles Scott provided information on the seven

CHAPTER NEWS

New Mexico students selected to become members of the USNA Class of 2027. As this article is being prepared on 6/29/23, it is Induction Day, and these students are taking their Oaths of Office to begin their military careers. They are:

Diego X. Aragon from Mora High School in Mora;

Sean P. Avilucea from Las Cruces High School in Las Cruces;

Sebastian A. Chavez from Albuquerque High School in Albuquerque;

Ahava C. Goldfein from Moriarty High School in Moriarty;

William A. Lechman from Albuquerque Institute Of Math in Albuquerque;

Dylan T. Mamawal from Home School in Albuquerque; and

Nicolas J. Tenorio from Eldorado High School in Albuquerque.

An 8th NM candidate **Natalia E. Sabal** of Rehoboth Christian School in Gallup has been selected to attend the New Mexico Military Institute (NMMI) in Roswell, NM, a USNA-approved Prep School this year with a partial scholarship provided by the USNA Foundation, and work toward joining the USNA Class of 2028.

Joe McGuire '68

New York

New York Capital District Chapter

Pres: **David Mendez-Sankrith '11**

p: p: 518-866-7725; e: David.jv.mendez@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Scott McFadden**

p: 518-366-9918; e: scottmcfadden1989@gmail.com

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **Jessica Barr**

e: jessiebarr.usna99bgo@yahoo.com

The Capital District USNA Chapter would like to welcome aboard **David Mendez-Sankrith '11** as the new president of our chapter. We thank **Frank Hughes '80** for his years of dedicated service bringing together the USNA grads in our region to remember the shared experience of being mids and naval officers.

In June, the chapter members gathered with fellow brothers and sisters in arms from West Point and the Air Force Academy at MWR Saratoga Springs for the welcome aboard picnic to celebrate a new generation of midshipmen and cadets. Will Vartuli, Kaylin Schneider, Aiden Gormley and Evan Hochwald were preparing to head down to Annapolis for plebe summer as members of USNA's Class of 2027. West Point alums manned the grill, and we enjoyed hotdogs, hamburgers, salads, and cake as we shared wisdom from our own days at the academy decades ago.



New York Capital District Chapter: New midshipmen Will Vartuli '27 and Kaylin Schneider '27 with their parents and members of the Capital District Chapter.

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

The annual Welcome Aboard Picnic, sponsored by the Central New York Parents Club and supported by the Central New York Chapter of Naval Academy Alumni and USAA, was held again this year at the Bailiwick Market and Café in Eldridge, NY on Sunday, 11 June 2023. The Welcome Aboard Picnic is just that...to welcome aboard the prospective midshipmen and their families to the large Navy family as well as to congratulate the 2023 CNY USNA graduates and their parents. The picnic is also an opportunity for USNA alumni, and Navy family and friends to gather.

Alumni able to attend were **Bob Fegan '64** and his wife Marilyn, **Pat '86** and **Peg '86 Morocco**, **Tony Zallnick '66** and his wife Joan, and **Ed Yetsko '77** who gave an outstanding presentation regarding the Link in the Chain program. The Class of 1977 will be the mentors for the Class of 2027. No current midshipmen or members of the Class of 2023 were in attendance but the parents of **Aidan Longley '23**, **Dave** and Colleen Longley attended. Also attending was Karen McCoy, an USAA area representative.

Candidate for the Class of 2027 able to attend was Henry Callahan (Minoa) with his

mother Tracy and his sister Kate. Henry is following in the steps of his father, John USMA '86, his brothers Jack USNA '22 and Eric USMA '25, and his sister Claire USMA '20. Information was not available to identify other CNY candidates.

The following photograph shows (left to right) Henry Callahan and **Ed Yetsko '77**.



The 2023 CNY USNA graduates and their hometowns/service selections are:

Aidan Longley (Cicero/Surface Warfare)
Daniel Ruggerio (Cortland/Seabees)
Charlotte Ryan (Tully/Submarines after completing a Masters Program in England)
Megan Welsh (Adams Center/Marine Corp)
Paul Zimmer (Oneonta/Submarines)
Commemorative desk clock was presented by Bob Fegan to Dave and Colleen Longley in recognition of their son Aidan's recent graduation.

The following photograph shows (left to right) Dave and Colleen Longley, and Bob Fegan '64 for the commemorative clock presentation.



Commemorative clocks for the parents of this year's CNY USNA graduates not able to attend the Welcome Aboard Event have been mailed to the parents.

Alumni, and Navy family and friends are encouraged to attend the weekly Wednesday lunch at 1200 at Clear Path for Veterans in Chittenango, NY. Call (315-687-3300) to see if they are open and to let them know if you will be attending a lunch.

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 him know if you plan to attend a function. Future Chapter activities will be addressed as they are planned.

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**
 p: 949-702-2733; e: pfowen0302@gmail.com
 Website: <http://westernny.usnachapters.net/>
 BGO Area Coordinator: **Doug Peters '73**
 e: douglaspeters@gmail.com

North Carolina

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

Cape Fear Chapter

Pres: **Ray Decker '72**
 p: 703-939-0202; e: dax24@icloud.com
 Vice Pres: **Paul Normand '74**
 e: paulnormand@mac.com
 Sec'y/Treas: **Steve Yandle '75**
 e: sryusna75@gmail.com

The Cape Fear Chapter's 3rd Summer Cruise Social on 14 June in the Cape Fear Country Club ballroom was successfully executed with many members and spouses present. Our Association-Foundation CEO/President **Jeff Webb '95** and EVP Engagement and Comms **TJ Grady '96**



Cape Fear Chapter: Summer Social

were our special guests. They joined the Cape Fear Chapter's merry crew for the celebration of this special midshipman rite of passage – summer cruise. Before a tasty buffet, Jeff and TJ shared their vision and plans for the Association-Foundation moving forward. We salute these two inspirational leaders and wish them continued success!



Summer STEM Scholarship recipient Aynsley Tryon

Another important aspect of this gathering was to recognize the Chapter's first Summer STEM Scholarship recipient, Aynsley Tryon, a 9th grader from SE North Carolina. This was the first award of our merit-based scholarship to a high school student exhibiting keen math and science aptitude who was accepted by the Academy's Summer STEM program. The Chapter's POCs **Bill Caiazza '66** and **John Casey '78** are to be commended for their yeoman efforts throughout the past year culminating in this favorable outcome. Our 2024 goal is to award two Summer STEM scholarships!

Attending our annual summer social: Douglass and **Alan Smith '64**, **Bill Caiazza '66**, Celia and **Jim Strouse '66**, Debbie and **Dave Scheu '67**, Jane and **Michael Brown '70**, Cathy and **Paul Smith '71**, Muffy Boylan and **Ray Decker '72**, **Gregg Hamelin '72**, **Rick Haley '72**, Julie and **Tom Wolfe '72**, Susan and **Bart Whitman '74** and guest, Cindy Kleine, Jane and **Walt Flippin '75**, Peggy and **Steve Yandle '75**, **Martin Brittingham '76**, **John Casey '78**,

Russ Brune '92, **Anne Leanos '98**, **Andrew Blank '15**, and **Hughes Waren**, father of **Griffith Hughes '24**.

With summer roaring ahead, the Chapter enjoyed a July Bring Your Company Mug (BYCM) HH at the Flying Machine Brewing Company in Wilmington. August's monthly meeting at the Cape Fear Country Club featured another interesting speaker after a sandwich buffet. Details in next *Shipmate*.

Mark your calendar: the Chapter's Wednesday 13 September meeting will be led by **Rick Haley '72**, our Chapter Treasurer, at the St. James Plantation Country Club. Another superb program is planned!

Planning is underway for the 2d Biennial Interservice Academy Golf Tournament to be held this fall. Navy will defend the cup with hopes of repeating the performance! **Gregg Hamelin '72** and **Hugh McWilliams '72**, are the Chapter POCs and leading the charge!

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

Charlotte Chapter

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

After a summer with a Chapter Happy Hour and a Knights game watch party we're ready for some Navy football

Navy football in Charlotte vs UNCC 49ers, 14-October 2023. Mark your calendars and keep eyes out for email communications on event as well as posts on myusna site in our chapter page. The Charlotte Chapter will be hosting a tailgate before the game. You can buy tailgate tickets at <https://myusna.com/events/49650>

CHAPTER NEWS



NC Triangle Class of 2027 Welcome Picnic

Eastern North Carolina Chapter

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The meeting convened on Thursday, 22 June at the Officers Club on board MCB Camp Lejeune at 1145.

Six (6) members were present. **Rob Skrotsky '67**, President, presided.

He called upon the members present to have a silent prayer for those in Harm's Way and for families of deployed personnel who await their loved ones safe return.

Aaron Adams '95, the treasurer reported the bank balance.

Mr. Skrotsky noted there is no July meeting and the August meeting will be at Camp Lejeune on 24 August. The plans for the Founders Day celebration in October in New Bern at the Country Club have started.

The meeting adjourned at 1300 and reassembled at the Wounded Warrior Battalion - East at its building on the grounds of the Naval Hospital at Camp Lejeune.



Wounded Warrior



Battalion Crest



Alumni Visit

The guide for the group was Mr. Dallas Poole who greeted the group at the front door of the facility. Dallas is the Outreach Coordinator for the Battalion. We toured various facilities available to recovering military personnel. Physical therapy is a major part of the treatment.

The tour concluded at 1415.

Photos are: the sculpture of Vietnam Marines - no one left behind, at the Battalion grounds;

Battalion Insignia based on the sculpture; right to left, **Rick Kunkel '67**, Dallas Poole, **Kim Kimball '65**, **Aaron Adams '95**, and **Rob Skrotsky '67**.

Tim Marvin '59
 Secretary

North Carolina Triangle Chapter

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Greetings to all from the hot and humid home of the North Carolina Triangle Chapter. After fabulous spring and early summer weather, the heat can only mean that Navy Football is right around the corner. The chapter is excited the Midshipmen will be competing for the

second year in a row in the great state of North Carolina, playing the University of Charlotte on 14 October. The Triangle Chapter will participate in the game day festivities with other clubs and groups before the game, and voraciously cheer the Midshipman to victory. Check myUSNA events for information on the game and tailgate.

We are looking forward to our Annual Family Picnic at the Durham Bulls Ballpark on Friday, 15 September. **Tommy McNamara '11** is the OIC. This picnic is a great opportunity for comradery and baseball and is always a highlight for the chapter.

Our Golf Squad's June outing was at Keith Hills in Lillington, NC. Participants included **Jack Moody '70, Marty Carpenter '70, Warren Schultz '71, Chris Bishop (Shaun McAndrew's '93 spouse)** and Chris's guest: V. Golie. Also included were a few West Point grads led by Dave Milidonis USMA '74, who hosted the group.



June 2023 Golf Outing: L-R V. Golie (guest), Chris Bishop (Shaun McAndrew '93 spouse), Jose Picart USMA '75, Dave Milidonis '74, USMA, Bob Preston '72 USMA, Jack Moody '70 and Marty Carpenter '70

Class of 2027 members Joshua Cha, Daniel Stein and Maria Celeste Kistler (a legacy of dad **Larry Kistler '92**) joined chapter members and their families at our annual welcome picnic for the new class. More than 30 chapter members and families gathered to celebrate and congratulate the new midshipmen. The picnic was also our first official event following the election of a new slate of chapter officers. We took the opportunity to welcome our new President, **Shaun McAndrew '93**. **Chris Perrien '74** presented Shaun with the President's bath robe already embroidered with her name, joining the names of all the previous chapter Presidents.



Chris Perrien '74 presents with President's B-robe to new Chapter President, Shaun McAndrew '93.

Go Navy!

Bill Coleman

Piedmont Triad Chapter

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North Dakota

Upper Midwest Chapter

See Minnesota

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Ohio

Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Chapter

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Columbus

Pres: **Dave Goins '84**
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and Farewell (Class of 2024). There to help them celebrate were Columbus Chapter President **Dave Goins '84, Jim Cowardin '66 (BGO), Chuck Hoffman '69 (BGO), and Tony Konecny '79**. Midshipmen present were **Luke Nester** and **Will Holsinger**, both **Class of 2025** and **Nadia Liesen, Brayden Burris, and Aidan Eberhardt** of the **Class of 2027**. Chapter Challenge Coins were presented to the incoming Plebes by Goins.



The Blue Angels participated in the Columbus Air Show 16-18 June 2023. Although the Chapter was unable to arrange a presence for the Air Show at Rickenbacker International Airport due to a lack of schedule information and access difficulties, several members of the Chapter were able to attend a "Meet the Blue Angels" event at the National Veterans Memorial and Museum on Friday, June 16. Attending were Dave Goins '84, **Chuck '71** and Jeane **Janes, Dave '78** and Nancy **Guza, Tony Konecny '79, Chris Rosen '90, Matt '92** and Teresa **Edic** and daughter, Grace, **Will Hoslinger '25, Chuck & Patti Cooper** (associate member), and Brent & Russelle Hoslinger (parents).



Dave Goins '84, Tony Konecny '79, & BA XO CDR Jon Fay '00

Motisola Bowman '95

The Naval Academy Parent Club of Central Ohio gathered at Thompson Park in Upper Arlington for their annual Hail (Class of 2027)

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Blue Angels pilots, staff, and crew at the National Veterans Memorial & Museum

Toledo Chapter

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Oklahoma

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Oklahoma City Chapter

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Tulsa Chapter

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The Tulsa Chapter initiated a nomination For **Admiral Jocko Clark (1918)** to the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame, and we received the announcement that our nomination won. We reached out and recruited the Cherokee Nation to co-sign the nomination, as Admiral Clark was the first American Indian to graduate from the U.S. Naval Academy, and the first to become an Admiral. The Principal Chief and the Cherokees Veterans' Affairs Secretary both co-signed the nomination with our chapter. The Induction Event will be 28 October in Norman, OK. If you are interested in going, please contact a chapter officer.



Oregon

Oregon and Southwest Washington Chapter

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Shipmate Editor note: Apologies for overlooking the July-August report for the Chapter. Here is the report:



July-August Update

Our April luncheon featured as guest speaker Major General Chris Owens USMC (Ret.) who spoke to us on the tensions in Taiwan. General

Owens is currently an adjunct professor at Oregon State University teaching political science. His presentation was both highly appropriate given current world affairs and extremely insightful. Attending were **Mike Carmichael '69, Doug Ballard '74, Glen Weeks '65, Don Haslett '66, John Adams '69, Chris Owens Major General USMC (Ret.), Rita Owens, Jenny and Ky Nguyen Parents Club, Doug Bomarito '68, Butch Bewick '62, Tex Harkins '67, Chris Carlson '78, Scott Fitzpatrick '80, Mark Cooksey '71, Susan Cooksey Capt. USN (Ret.), Frank Swientek '66, Tim Myers '64 and Tony Lash '58 (VMI).**



May was a very active month. Our monthly luncheon featured **Pete Young '67** giving a presentation on the history and exploits of the first USS OREGON BB3. Present were **Mike Carmichael '69,**

Don Haslett '66, Ky Nguyen Parents Club, Doug Bomarito '68, John Adams '69, Scott Fitzpatrick '80, Tex Harkins '67, Jack Kohl '65, Pete Young '67 and his wife Darlene, John Plett '69 and his wife Kathryn, Tim Myers '64 and Tony Lash VMI.

Prior to COVID Vietnam era vets visited local high schools and talked to students about their experiences in both Vietnam and the cold war. We were able to restart that program this year. We visited four high schools and gave presentations in April and May. The effort is spearheaded by **Tim Myers '64.** Alumni participating included **Tim Myers '64, Mike Carmichael '69, John Adams '69, Doug Bomarito '68, Pete Young '67, Gil Hansen '60, Craig Realogle '02 and Doug Ballard '74.**



Lastly, **Captain Mark Springer '89, USN (Ret.)** memorial service was held at the Willamette National Cemetery. Representing the Alumni Association were **John Adams '69 and Mike Carmichael**

'69, although there were many classmates, alumni and vets who served with Mark. Mark was an active member of our council and will be missed.



September Update

Memorial Day is always special for the Chapter. **Doug Bomarito '68** was the guiding force behind the development of the Oregon Vietnam Veteran's Memorial

in Washington Park. The Memorial covers 8 acres and lists all the Oregonians killed and missing in action from the Vietnam conflict. Doug (pictured below) presides over a very moving ceremony which included the reading of all 806 Oregonians lost in the conflict. Present at the ceremony were **John Adams '69, Mike Carmichael '69, Doug Ballard '74, Todd Washburn '93, Lee Hall '80, and Don Haslett '66 and Butch Bewick '62.**



June saw several functions to welcome the incoming class of 2027 and NAPS. A traditional Parent Club picnic was run by Parent Club President Shelly Liscom. Alumni present were **John Adams '69**, **Mike Carmichael '69**, **Doug Ballard '74**, **Jim Eberle '77** (representing **Another Link In the Chain**), **Tim Myers '64** and **2nd Lt. Kirk Liscom '23** and his fiancée Carissa Cooley. Present from the class of 2027 were **Jordan Trantham '27**, **Narcizo Garza '27**, **Adriene Willis '27** and **Danial Olson '27**. The parents received valuable information on what to expect in the coming year and how to navigate the task of being a parent of a USNA midshipman.



The following week the Alumni Association had its monthly luncheon also welcoming the incoming class of 2027. Guest speaker was **Capt. Jill Richards '94, USNR**, BGO Area Coordinator. Capt. Richards gave a presentation to the selectees on what to expect. Present for the class of 2027 were **Jordan Trantham '27**, **Maxine Nasserziagle '27**, **Walker Godfrey '27** and **Natalie Jack '27** and their parents. Present alumni were **Mike Carmichael '69**, **John Adams '69**, **Scott Fitzpatrick '80**, **Doug Ballard '74**, **Tex Harkins '67**, **Todd Washburn '93**, **Jill Richards '94**, **Glen Weeks '65**, **Steve Somnitz '82** and his son **Shaw**, **Ken Fink '80**, **Don Haslett '66**, **Walt Higgins '66**, **John Frerich '50** and his daughter **Stacey**, **Lee Hall '80**, **Craig Replague '02** and his wife **Kari**, **Tim Myers '64**.

The Chapter was saddened by the loss of **Bard Dalla Mura '54**. Bart was an active member and will be missed.

Pennsylvania

Philadelphia Chapter

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Pittsburgh Chapter

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Susquehanna Valley Chapter

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Recreational Vehicle

American Chapter

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Editor's note: apologies that the following submission was not published, it was in a SPAM folder.

At the time of this writing, Spring is very slowly turning to Summer for many of us throughout the country - leaving us a bit nostalgic for the other transitional season, Fall. Where reminded of our annual Fall Come Around at **Watt's Barr, Tennessee**, held last September.

Hosted this year by Firsties **Tim ('72)** and Vanessa **Hallihan** at our favorite location, Hornsby Hollow Campground. As we enjoyed daily use of the campground pavilion and many

waterfront or water view campsites we were reminded why we choose this Watt's Bar location year after year.

Attending were **Don ('74)** and Sue Baldwin, **Jim ('74)** and Lynne Connors, **Kirk ('75)** and Wendy Daniels, **Mark ('70)** Farris and JJ, **Dale ('70)** and Su Gange, **Scott ('76)** and Sandy Goodson, **Tim ('72)** and Vanessa Hallihan, **Jim ('81)** and Catherine Heffernan, **John ('78)** and Eileen Madaio, **Jim ('59)** and Marie Roberts, **Tom ('70)** and Ellen Shields, **Ken ('69)** and Marion Tevebaugh, **George ('88)** and Julie Turner, **Hoot ('88)** and Janet Wade, **Andy ('72)** and Eva Wehrle, **Tom ('70)** and Rose Wolfe.

We kicked off this annual event with a Welcome Happy Hour and munchies, followed by a complete Tennessee BBQ dinner was provided by the firsties **Mark Farris ('70)** and JJ. As an official BBQ contest judge, **Mark ('70)** has all of the connections and snared a nearby BBQ contest participant to prepare it all. Following the BBQ feast, the group moved to the campfire and enjoyed Key Lime and Strawberry Chocolate "Tennessee moonshine" samples along with singing some patriotic songs led by the musically talented **Wehrle ('72)** family.



The next morning, we conducted a bit of Chapter Business chaired by President **Tom Wolfe ('70)**. The meeting included a briefing from USNA AA Central Region Trustee and Blue and Gold Officer **Rich Cataldi ('69)** (also a member of the Knoxville/Oak Ridge alumni chapter.) We held a White Elephant Sale fund raiser (a Chapter favorite) with **Jim Roberts ('59)** as auctioneer. And of course, Happy Hour and potluck dinner at the pavilion followed by Blackberry and Apple Pie Moonshine.

As we explored the area throughout the week, we sampled local cuisine, enjoyed a presentation of "Buddy" (The Buddy Holly Story) at the Cumberland Playhouse and even



RV Chapter

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toured a local working dairy farm. Others opted to tour the Brushy Mountain State Penitentiary (from which James Earl Ray escaped) and Brushy Mountain Distillery with lunch at the Warden's Table. Friday evening started with the RV Chapter's World-Famous Margarita Machine Happy Hour by **Tom ('70)** and Rose **Wolfe** and a Mexican Potluck Dinner and another campfire. This campfire was the setting for a solemn and proper flag retirement ceremony with appropriate music and narration provided by **John ('78)** and Eileen **Madaio**.

The morning of our final full day, the entire crew pitched in to prepare toast, scramble and cook eggs, fry bacon, pour juice, and prepare the main course for the **Jim ('59) Roberts Minced Beef/Hearty Campsite Breakfast**, which is a favorite tradition of our week at Watts Bar. Later in the morning, several joined in a local bike ride led by **Dale ('70) Gange** to burn off a few breakfast calories. Saturday evening, we were treated with "Soup and Slider Night" for an early dinner while we watched the Navy/ECU football game outside **Hallihan's ('72) RV** with satellite subscription provided by **Gange ('70)**. This game provided plenty of excitement with a double overtime victory for Navy. It was a pleasant outdoor venue with space for several grads in attendance to perform the requisite pushups after each Navy score. The following morning, bleary eyed travelers packed up and headed off to their next adventure.

Big Southfork Comearound May 3-7, 2023

Our Big Southfork Come Around was an unforgettable outdoor adventure. Nature has a way of captivating our spirits and bringing people together. From 3-7 May, a group of adventurous campers that included were **Jim '59** and Marie **Roberts**, **Adrian '67** and Debra **Gordon**, **Hoot '76** and Janet **Wade**, firsties **Jim '74** and Lynne **Connors**, and friends of the firsties Dan and Deb Smith and Pat and Barb Bisson, embarked on an unforgettable journey in the stunning surroundings of the Big Southfork National River and Recreation Area. With hiking, delicious meals, and campfire camaraderie, this gathering exemplified the joy of outdoor exploration and the bonds forged through shared experiences.



RV Chapter: 60th Wedding Celebration

The campers wasted no time immersing themselves in the wonders of the Big Southfork area. The expedition commenced with an evening of happy hour and a cozy campfire, setting the tone for the adventure to come. The following morning, the group embarked on the Oscar Blevins Trail, a challenging 4-mile hike that showcased the area's natural beauty. The trail offered picturesque views, invigorating fresh air, and a sense of accomplishment upon completion.

Amidst the breathtaking landscapes, a special celebration took place. Jim and Marie Roberts marked their remarkable 60th wedding anniversary, commemorated with a delectable

prime rib dinner at Freddie's, accompanied by champagne toasts. This heartwarming occasion served as a testament to enduring love and the joy of sharing life's milestones with cherished friends.

Campfire cuisine became a highlight of each day, thanks to the culinary skills of the campers. The firsties, Jim and Lynne Connors, impressed everyone with their chili cheese brats and nuclear stew, while Hoot Wade ensured an abundant supply of firewood and perfect s'mores every night. From catfish dinners with hushpuppies and coleslaw to a pancake and sausage breakfast, the meals were a delightful fusion of outdoor cooking and shared enjoyment.



RV Chapter: USS Margaritaville Change of Command

A unique tradition unfolded during the trip—the USS Margaritaville Change of Command ceremony (pictured on the previous page). Jim Roberts, the veteran commanding officer, passed the torch to Jim Connors in a momentous occasion. The Margaritaville machine whirred to life, serving refreshing frozen concoctions that added an extra layer of festivity to the event. With the change in leadership, a new chapter began for the USS Margaritaville, promising future gatherings filled with merriment and delightful margaritas.

Under the starry night sky, surrounded by the crackling campfire, the campers relished in the simple pleasure of one another's company. Stories were shared, laughter echoed, and new friendships formed. The sense of community and connection fostered during these moments exemplified the true spirit of camping—uniting individuals in appreciation of nature and shared experiences.

The Big Southfork Come Around proved to be an exceptional outdoor adventure, weaving together the beauty of nature, the warmth of friendship, and the joy of celebrating milestones. This gathering epitomized the essence of camping—a reminder to embrace the great outdoors, forge lasting connections, and create cherished memories. As the campers bid their final farewells, they carried with them a renewed appreciation for the wonders of nature and the power of shared experiences that will forever linger in their hearts.

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Rhode Island Chapter

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South Carolina

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

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

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Charleston Chapter

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On Thursday, 15 June The Charleston Chapter held its Monthly Meeting. Our guests were **Jeff Webb '95**, President and CEO, US Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation,

and **CAPT T.J. Grady '96**, USN (Ret.), EVP, Engagement and Communication. In Attendance were: Max Hill '51, Fuzzy Knight '53, Tom Mayberry '53, Jim Flatley '56, Jerry Cooper '60, Curt Holcomb '61, John Nuernberger '64, Bernie Magdelain '67, Jim Welsch '67, Gery Maxwell '69, Charlie Young '70, Steve Weise '72, Jim Beltz '73, George Watt '73, Bill Konrad '75, Joe Delpino '75, Dave Shimp '76, Bob Kennedy '77, Rick Stein '82, Seamus Flatley '83, Greg Shore '84, Alec Chalmers '92 and David Kern '92.



Left to Right: Jeff Webb '95, Fuzzy Knight '53, Max Hill '51, Jim Flatley '56, Tom Mayberry '53 and T.J. Grady '96



Left to Right: Rick Stein '82, Jeff Webb '95, George Watt '73 and T.J. Grady '96.

On Thursday, 17 July, the Charleston Chapter held its Monthly Meeting. Our Speaker was Dr. Kim Cliett Long, who gave a great presentation on African American Involvement in the Maritime History of the South. In Attendance were: Fuzzy Knight '53, Tom Mayberry '53, Jim Flatley '56, John Nuernberger '64, Ray Setser '65, Bernie Magdelain '67, Jim Welsch '67, Chuck Meyer '68, Greg Wood '68, Michael Bosse '74, Jim Lyons '74, Bill Konrad '75, Dave Fischer '75, Denny Simon '77, Rick Stein '82, Pat Hunkler '89 and Kara Flatley '90

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

Low Country Chapter

Pres: **Dave Igyarto '74**
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Happy Fall 2023 from the Low Country! This report will cover the first part of the summer and give a nod to our fall events. With the printing deadlines being what they are, the dates and locations for our fall/winter events haven't yet been set.

Please head over to myUSNA to get the latest news on our events. Join the SC Lowcountry Chapter Group if you haven't already. In addition to making these Shipmate submissions, your friendly neighborhood chapter secretary is also pushing all events notices and emails out via myUSNA for the chapter.

We held elections at the end of May. The 2023-24 Chapter Board is as follows: President - **Dave Igyarto '74**; Vice-President - **VACANT**; Secretary - **Tim Johnson '02**; Treasurer - **John Scanlan '83**; and Directors - **Tom Cavanaugh '69**, **George Stubbs '58**, **Harry Gardner '95**, and **Doug Ogden '67**.

On 22 June, we had a great tour and lunch at the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force. Chapter members and guests enjoyed a guided tour of the museum and lunch in the museum restaurant following. A big thank you to **Harry Gardner '95** for organizing the trip. Attendees included **Harry Gardner '95**, Halyee Foster, **Tom Cavanaugh '69**, **Dave Igyarto '74**, **Tim Johnson '02**, **Leah Johnson**, **Flynn Johnson**, **Sebastian De Angelis '83**, **Didi De Angelis**, **Lenny Mogan '76**, **Don Baldwin '74**, **Parv Shalov**, **Alex Dimitrew '78**, **Alan Mangan '83**, **Mike Wahl '74**, **Roger Mau '79** and **Doug Tozour '63**.

Our next luncheon is scheduled for 1130AM on Tuesday, 12 September 2023 at Frankie Bones in Bluffton, SC. Assuming this issue hits your mailbox in time, please RSVP to **Dave Igyarto** by 8 September at igyartodp@icloud.com so that an accurate headcount can be provided to the restaurant.



SC Low Country Chapter 8th Air Force Museum Lunch (L to R): (seated) Parv Shalov, Doug Tozour '63, and Don Baldwin '74; (standing) Dave Igyarto '74 and Harry Gardner '95.



SC Low Country Chapter 8th Air Force Museum Lunch (L to R): (seated) Alan Mangan '83, Sebastian De Angelis '83, Didi De Angelis; (standing) Tim Johnson '02, Flynn Johnson, Tom Cavanaugh '69, and Leah Johnson.

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SC Low Country Chapter 8th Air Force Museum Lunch (L to R): (seated) Lenny Mogan '76 and Roger Mau '79; (standing) Alex Dimitrew '78 and Mike Wahl '74.

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; 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.

More detailed information will be provided as we get closer to each event. If you are headed to the Low Country for vacation or thinking of moving to the area, don't hesitate to reach out to us so we can include you in events. 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. You can contact the chapter secretary via myUSNA or email at tim.w.johnson@outlook.com.

Palmetto Chapter

Pres: **Jerry Pilewski '97**
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Vice Pres: **Brian Treanor '89**
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Sec'y: **Suzanne Hopper**
(husband, John Hopper '95 and son, Selik Hopper '23)
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South Carolina Midlands Chapter

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2023 NAVY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Follow Navy Football online at:
navysports.com

1-800-US4-NAVY

South Dakota

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BGO Area Coordinator: **Sharon Holt '00**
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Spain

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

Pres: **Michael Carsley '88**
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Vice Pres: **Ryan Eilerman '15**

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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Knoxville-Oak Ridge Chapter

Pres: **Kristen Daniel '02**
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Sec'y-Treas: **CAPT Mark Kohring '73, USNR (Ret.)**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **CDR Richard Cataldi '69, USN (Ret.)**
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The Knoxville-Oak Ridge Chapter congratulates the Class of 2023 graduates from East Tennessee. This includes **ENS Dillon Pendley USN** (Bristol, Special Warfare); **ENS Zachary Tieng USN** (Knoxville, Navy Pilot); **ENS Elizabeth Treece USN** (Johnson City, Surface Warfare); and **2ndLt Grant Wilson USMC** (Knoxville, Marine Ground).

The Chapter held its annual Welcome Aboard Picnic for the East Tennessee appointees to the Class of 2027 and NAPS and their families on 3 June 2023 at Founders Park in Farragut. Note that Farragut, a suburb of Knoxville, is named after Admiral David Glasgow Farragut, who was born in the area. The event had a good turnout with 36 attendees total, including 12 alumni and their guests, five appointees and their guests, and two officers from the USNA Parents Club.

BGO Area Coordinator **Rich Cataldi '69** introduced the appointees present: Angela Davis, Cleveland HS (NAPS appointee); Sophia Huelskamp, Notre Dame HS Chattanooga; Isaac Katz, Central HS; Brysen Kraft, Seymour HS; Jack Osario, Farragut HS. Appointees not present: Gavin Noe, Anderson County HS; Curtis Spurling, Anderson County HS. **Steve Crowe '77** delivered the Another Link in the Chain (ALITC) presentation to the Class of 2027, joined by **Scott Harding '77**. **Rudy Escher '78** and **Shawn Tallant '78** represented their ALITC connection for the Class of 2028 entering NAPS. Paula Treece and Kendra Reczek represented the USNA Parents Club of East Tennessee. The alumni gave summaries of their military and civilian careers, enhanced with legendary sea stories from their experiences in the Yard and in the Fleet.

At the monthly luncheon on 7 June 2023, the Chapter welcomed **Dillon Pendley '23** as a fellow alumnus and presented him with the RADM Samuel P. Carter Award for his achievement as the graduate from East Tennessee with the highest order of merit. ENS Pendley completed a degree in Operations Research and will undergo additional training for his assignment as a Naval Special Warfare Officer.

If any alumni relocate to or visit East Tennessee, please join our monthly luncheon at Famous Dave's BBQ in Knoxville on the first Wednesday of each month at 1200.



Knoxville-Oak Ridge Chapter: Back row: Jim Ward '85, Gary Null '91, Mitch Eisenberg '99, Rich Cataldi '69, Otto Stutz '81, Ernie Gonzales '81, Craig Toney '00, Bruce Bevard '76, Steve Crowe '77, Shawn Tallant '78. Front row: Jack Osario '27, Brysen Kraft '27, Sophia Huelskamp '27, Isaac Katz '27 and Angela Davis '28.



Scott Harding '77, Jack Osario '27, Brysen Kraft '27, Sophia Huelskamp '27, Isaac Katz '27 and Steve Crowe '77



Rudy Escher '78, Angela Davis '28 and Shawn Tallant '78



On behalf of the Knoxville-Oak Ridge Chapter, Jim Ward '85 presented the 2023 RADM Samuel P. Carter Award to ENS Dillon Pendley '23.

Jim Ward '85

Memphis Chapter

Pres: Henry W. Papa Jr. '86
p: 907-244-7492; e: hankpapa@aol.com

BGO Area Coordinator: Drew Wyrick
e: wyrick03@gmail.com



Alamo Chapter: Central Texas class of '27 with Larry Carpenter, VADM Bird and Carlos Rosende all of class of '77 in the center.

Nashville Chapter

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BGO Area Coordinator: Thomas Forsythe '79
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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:
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P.O. Box 461564, San Antonio, TX 78246-1564
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Website: <http://www.alamo.usnachapters.com>

Facebook: Alamo Chapter NAAA

BGO Area Coordinator: Eric Montgomery '04
p: 410-507-2832; e: eric.montgomery@2004.usna.com

STNAPC held their annual welcome social for the class of 2027 on 17 June. It was a great turnout of about 40+ individuals including future midshipmen, parents, representatives of class of '77, BGOs and Alamo Chapter members. VADM John Bird '77 gave a presentation on A LINK IN THE CHAIN (ALIC) on behalf of the class of '77. Alamo Chapter President, CAPT Ron Sandoval '85 briefed the group on the activities of the Chapter and our plans going forward, specifically as they relate to our support of the Parents Club. Also, a special shout out to fellow shipmates Carlos Rosende, Larry Carpenter and of course VADM John Bird all of the class of 1977 for their participation in the event. Pictures tell the story, so I am submitting a number of pictures that illustrate the event better than words.



VADM Bird briefing STNAPC group on ALIC



Carlos Rosende '77 talking with class of '27 candidate.



BGO Roman Sanchez talking with '27 candidate.



VADM Bird talking with '27 candidate



STNAPC sponsored cake to celebrate new plebes.



Dave Driskell '63

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North Texas Chapter: Members of Class of '77 and new members of '27 - connected by the ALITC program

Austin Chapter

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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**
 e: pres@usnaaa-ntx.com
 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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 Website: **www.usnaaa-ntx.com**
 BGO Area Coordinator: **Tom Eschenbrenner**
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With the academic year upon us, we would like to recall this summer's welcome aboard picnic held in North Texas. The welcome was held back in June. Supported by the Parent's Club of North Texas and the North Texas Alumni chapter, the incoming members of the class of '27 and '28 were treated to a Texas BBQ lunch and graced with some pearls of wisdom from Mids and Alumni. On 10 June at the Frontiers of Flight Museum, these incoming Mids and NAPSters and their families got to some great "gouge" from Mids home on leave, welcomed to the USNA family by guest speaker **Lori Buresh '00** and NTX Alumni Chapter President **Jamey Cummings '93**. The culminating event was when **Dan Busch '77** introduced the class



Lori Buresh '00 provides insights and inspiration to the new joins.

of '27 candidates and their families to the Another Link in the Chain program and the special bond these two classes will share. Welcome to the USNA family '27 - now tell us how many days until we BEAT ARMY?!!



North Texas Chapter: Incoming Mids, NAPSters and their families enjoy BBQ and camaradery.



Texas Gulf Chapter: Class of '69 and Guests Table

Check our website for upcoming events!
 See you soon!

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**
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 Website: **txgulfc coast.usnachapters.net**
 Facebook: **https://www.facebook.com/USNAATxGC/**
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 BGO Area Coordinator: **Don Link**
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June 2 Chapter luncheon. Topic: the challenges and opportunities that face our nation as the result of ongoing developments in the fields of AI and LLMs, i.e. deep learning algorithms.

June 6 The Blue & Gold Officers (BGOs) held its annual Welcome Aboard Reception for incoming Plebes and USNA Prep School students. Alumni speakers included **Evan Williams '11**,

Matt Guyton '07, John Kendall '64, and LCDR Katie Medford-Davis '12.



Evan Williams '11 presented a Navy rugby ball to Eric Wrzyszczyński (incoming Plebe, recruited for rugby) and his parents, Jennifer & **Mark Wrzyszczyński '96**. The rugby ball was autographed by NAVY's Division I-A National Champion team.

June 16 The Chapter's North Houston suburb lunch was held at The Honor Café in Conroe TX.



The next North Houston suburb lunch will likely be in Spring TX, date TBD. If you have restaurant suggestions (12 - 20+ attendees with "separate checks") please contact Co-Chairs: **Brian Weaver '98** (bweaver@focalpointcoaching.com) & **Royce Engler '73** (raengler73@gmail.com).

Member News:

Andrew Woitena '17 is transitioning out of the Navy and attended our June 2 luncheon. Andrew lives in League City TX.

Evan Williams '11 is starting as an Engineering teacher at Friendswood High School. Evan and his family live in Friendswood TX.

Dan Hanley '10 has recently started a new position of Technical Sales Engineer with Larson Davis, an acoustic and vibration monitoring equipment manufacturer, following his USNA research in acoustics.

John Tunison '96 recently started as CFO of Verdant Specialty Solutions, an OpenGate Capital

investment firm. Verdant is a global provider of surfactants and specialty chemicals.

Aaron Kline '99 has started as Director of Subsea Solutions with Baker Marine Solutions LLC. Aaron and his family live in Cypress TX.

Future Events

Luncheons are tentatively set for 11 Aug, 1 Sep, 6 Oct, 3 Nov and 1 Dec. These luncheons are expected to be at El Tiempo Cantina, 2814 Navigation Blvd, Houston 77003.

Follow TxGC on myUSNA, Texas Gulf Coast Chapter (Group). Please submit any questions or suggestions related to TxGC, as well as inquiries about volunteer opportunities within the Chapter to txgulfcoast.usnachapters@gmail.com.

DO YOU LIVE IN HOUSTON? We have over 1,000 members & 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: txgulfcoast.usnachapters@gmail.com or current Chapter Vice President (DHanley@2010.usna.com) to learn about our latest events and visit with us!

United Kingdom

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

Pres: **Tim Fox '97**
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Vice Pres: **Cody Nissen '11**
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Sec'y: **Lisa Aszklar (Wife, Henry '81)**
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Board of Directors: **Tony Cox '89**
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Chris Robinson '98
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Greetings from London, crossroads of the world!

On 16 June, the UK Chapter's own **Terry Dudley '93** assisted South African-born,

UK-based artist Jason Askew in presenting two grand works at the American Embassy's first-ever Juneteenth Commemoration. Mr. Askew specializes in painting highly detailed, historically accurate works to capture and portray key moments in military history.

By way of background, several months ago, the artist proposed a series depicting American military history from the Revolutionary War through today. Initial research on that conflict uncovered an interesting statistic, validated by a number of credible sources from that time: as many as 25 percent of America's Continental Army are believed to have been Black soldiers, fighting for both America's independence and their own freedom.

"When we engaged the American Embassy about enlisting its support for this proposed series, the Embassy was particularly intrigued by this unexpected bit of information and asked if Mr. Askew would consider providing works as a centerpiece for a first-ever Juneteenth commemoration it was planning this year," Terry said. After some research on Juneteenth as a celebration of the liberation of the Confederacy's last slaves, the artist agreed, believing there to be significant room for a sub-series on Black Americans in American Military History that he now wishes to pursue.



"The Proclamation of General Order No 3 by Major General Granger and the 29th U.S. Colored Infantry, Galveston, Texas, June 19th, 1865." This was one of two paintings presented at the American Embassy's recent Juneteenth Commemoration.



United Kingdom Chapter: "A Black American Soldier of the Rhode Island Regiment, American Revolutionary War (1775-1783)." Netflix has expressed interest in using this painting in an upcoming episode of its series entitled "The Diplomat."

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Terry relates that the artist is now working on additional pieces, including "The Rhode Island Regiment at the Battle of Yorktown," which will be featured at the American Embassy's Independence Day celebration. Additionally, the State Department is now discussing the long-term lease or acquisition of these works for its rotating collection! Terry is actively assisting the artist in pursuing discussions with The Smithsonian and other potential entities to identify a possible permanent home for this newly planned series focusing on the significant contributions of Black Americans to our military history, as well as the original "250 Years of American Military History" concept series.

Terry would welcome a note from any grads who are interested in American military history and who may know of verifiable stories that could serve as the basis for future artwork, as well as thoughts about when and where such pieces might be displayed (for example, as temporary exhibits in the lobbies of companies in which USNA grads are working). Thoughts on longer-term or permanent placement of this artwork are also welcome. Terry's email address is (terrence.dudley01@gmail.com). More info about Jason Askew and his work are available here: www.yessy.com/jasonaskew or on a just-established Instagram page here: Jason Askew (@jasonaskewartist) • Instagram photos and videos

As always, GO NAVY BEAT ARMY!

Utah

Intermountain Alumni Chapter

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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

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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**

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BGO Area Coordinator: **Don Aldridge**

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On Sunday, 10 June, the Central Virginia Chapter had the opportunity to celebrate our Appointee to the Class of 2022 from our area:

Amber "Sage" Haney (Fluvanna High School, Palmyra, VA)

Sage and her parents, Rose Brogan and Brian Haney, were our guests at Burton's Grill in



Central Virginia Chapter: Sage Haney '22, Brittney Price '21 and entire Support Team.



Central Virginia Chapter: 2022 Appointee Amber "Sage" Haney with last year's appointee, Brittney Price - flanked by alumni L-R, Mark Ryan '12, CB Morgan '83, Mark Metcalf '76, Jeff Holloway '77, Steve Hill '74, Ed Borger '80, and Mike Cunningham '58.

The Shops at Stonefield in Charlottesville, as was our last year's appointee, **Brittney Price '21**.

Other guests were two of our BGOs, Don Aldridge (father of **Brent Aldridge '15**) and Rose Brogan (mom of **Jeremy Haney '12**, **Caleb Haney '14** and now **Sage Haney '22**) and her husband Brian Haney.

During the gathering, the soon-to-be-initiated Sage received guidance from all present, but the highlight of the afternoon was heartfelt advice in the form of a letter from **Patrick Riley '72**, who could not attend, as read by **Bill Murray '83**, Chapter President. Pat's letter reflected on his time at the Academy, his naval career, offering pearls of wisdom learned along the way and culminating in Bill presenting Pat's sword to Sage as part of the "Another Link In The Chain" legacy. (Note Sage with the sword in the photo).

Others participating were: **Mark Ryan '12** and family, **CB Morgan '83**, **Mark Metcalf '76**, **Jeff Holloway '77** with Debra, **Steve Hill '74** with Lin, **Ed Borger '80**, **Mike Cunningham '58** with Dottie, **Ty Schieber '87**, **Dillon Scherger '12** and **Bill Murray '83** with Royann

*Ed Borger '80
Secretary*

Hampton Roads Chapter

Pres: **Renee Reedy '81**

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR David Lannetti '81, USN (Ret.)**

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As the "dog days" of summer arrived, Hampton Roads focused on outdoor fun and some inspiring

and enjoyable experiences indoors with incoming Plebes of the Class of 2027 as well as 1/C Midshipmen here for Summer Training.

On 8 June we recognized 24 incoming local Plebes, NAPsters, Foundation scholars and many of their family members at our 30th annual Plebe Recognition Dinner. Event highlights included Area BGO Coordinator **Dave Lannetti '81** presenting **Dave Brown '72** with a well-earned Weirich Award as BGO of the Year; **Dave Paddock '77** welcoming the new Plebes via the Another Link in the Chain Program; an inspiring presentation by **LtGen Brian Cavanaugh '90**, Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic; and to close the evening, a spirited rendition of Navy Blue & Gold led by senior alum present, **Al Ablowich '60**.



COMNAVIFOR with Mids - COMNAVIFOR VADM Kelly Aeschbach, talks with visiting Mids at Hampton Roads meet and greet.

After what seemed like 40 days and 40 nights of local rain, on 24 June Mother Nature cut us a break with plenty of sunshine and very tolerable heat and humidity. About 80 alumni and family members gathered at Norfolk's CAPT Slade Cutter Park for a picnic organized by Events Chair



Hampton Roads Chapter: 2023 PRD Panorama - Members of '77 and '27 with LtGen Brian Cavanaugh '90 at the 30th annual Hampton Roads Plebe Recognition Dinner



Hampton Roads Chapter: Summertime fun for all classes at the Hampton Roads Summer Picnic

Al Ponessa '68 and his support team headed by **Dave Duffie '75**. The afternoon featured great chow catered by Mission BBQ; giant Jenga courtesy of **Vince Bowhars '85**; corn hole competition on boards provided by **Renee Reedy '81**; bottled H2O and other liquid refreshments delivered by **Rob Aeschbach '90**; and a challenging (but not too obscure) trivia contest crafted by **Dick Enderly '71**.

On 29 June and 27 July we were pleased and proud to host meet and greets at Norfolk's Blue Moon Tap House for two groups of Midshipmen here for Summer Training at NAVIFOR. We have hosted these groups for the last two summers, and we relish the opportunity to interact with the engaging young men and women who aspire to careers in the expanding world of Naval Information.

At our 21 June Networking Breakfast CAPT Andy Baan, USNR (Ret.), a student of China and world affairs, provided his take on the internal and external features of China's recent actions and why some of those initiatives should cause us concern. After a two-month summer hiatus, the next Breakfast is scheduled

for 20 September at which Mr. Gary Merryman will discuss his initiative to give the sail of the ex-USS NORFOLK (SSN-714) a permanent home in Hampton Roads.

And last, but not least, Shorebreak Pizza in Virginia Beach will again be the place to be to watch Navy football when the Mids open their 2023 season on 26 August in Dublin, Ireland against the Irish of Notre Dame.

For the latest news on future Chapter initiatives and events, as well as USNA news and updates, check out our website under the Hampton Roads Group at myUSNA.com. And don't forget our LinkedIn, Twitter, and Facebook pages!

Dick Enderly '71

BLUE & GOLD OFFICER

Would you like to mentor interested students about the opportunities at USNA? Become a Blue & Gold Officer and contact USNA Admissions at 410-293-1813.

Quantico Area Chapter

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Vice Pres: **Ryan Steenberge '10**

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Treas: **Ron Diefenbach '00**

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Sec'y: **Nancy Springer '87**

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BGO Area Coordinator: **Jim Ripley '74**

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



On 2 June, QAC gathered for the first 2023-2024 installment of the Chapter Breakfast Speaker Series and hosted CAPT **Rusty Yeiser '74**, USN (Ret.), Senior Advisor for USNAAA and Foundation Operations. CAPT Yeiser also teaches an ethical leadership class to 3/C midshipmen. In a break from the usual Chapter breakfast routine, he facilitated an interactive class, modeled on the lessons he teaches midshipmen, using actual case studies. He divided the session into three separate segments, each featuring a combat-oriented real-life moral dilemma. After presenting the scenario's known facts and showing a companion video clip, CAPT Yeiser led the Chapter members in a discussion about their opinions on each case's outcome, viewed through each participant's personal morality lens and contextualized by his/her military and personal experiences. The first case study featured a shoot/no shoot situation in Iraq that involved a civilian woman who persistently approached a Marine position despite repeated warnings to halt. The second scenario described a SEAL team in Afghanistan compromised by goat herders who inadvertently discovered the SEAL hide position. The third dilemma focused on a platoon engaged in clearing operations in Fallujah, Iraq. The platoon commander chose the most permissive tactical posture, from the perspective of the enemy, causing his Marines to doubt his motives and provoking friction between him and his fellow platoon commanders due, in part, to the unusually high numbers of Iraqi prisoners his approach yielded. The audience responded

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very well to this non-traditional breakfast meeting as the real-life scenarios sparked considerable discussion.



Pondering Moral Dilemmas with CAPT Rusty Yeiser '74, USN (Ret.)

In May, QAC conducted its annual elections with the following results for the 2023-2024 Chapter year:

- President: **George Williams '87**
- Vice President: **Ryan Steenberge '10**
- Treasurer: **Ron Diefenbach '00**
- Secretary: **Nancy Springer '87**
- 60s Decade Representative: **Walt Giraldi '69**
- 70s Decade Representative: **Steve Ritacco '73**
- 80s Decade Representative: **Don Schmieley '84**
- 90s Decade Representative: **Greg Lane '94**
- 00s Decade Representative: **Kevin Barnard '01**
- 10s Decade Representative: **Bob Taylor '74**

(Advisor-At-Large)

20s Decade Representative: **Bob Sonnenberg '70** (Advisor-At-Large)

On 24 June, QAC participated in its inaugural Women Can Fly day at the Warrenton-Faquier (VA) airport. This annual event promotes aviation careers for women and girls. A highlight is complimentary general aviation flights for girls and women; first flights for many participants! The QAC table included a diverse contingent of USNA and aviation enthusiasts: women Naval aviators, USNA BGO representatives, the local Civil Air Patrol, and women Marine Corps crew chiefs and pilot from the Quantico (VA)-based HMX-1. Everyone enjoyed engaging the girls and women about opportunities at USNA and in Naval aviation careers.

QAC welcomes all area and visiting alumni to join our activities! Check the Chapter web calendar and our Facebook page for additional information.



Quantico Area Chapter: QAC Contingent: Women Can Fly 2023



Incoming Plebes - Class of 2027

Richmond Chapter

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Shenandoah Valley Chapter

Pres: **David McLellan '73**
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Sec'y: **LCDR Grayson Redford '63, USN (Ret.)**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Jim Ripley '74**
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In Lexington there is a lunch group of nearly 20 alumni/ae, most of whom meet for lunch monthly on the first Friday at 12-noon at Devils Backbone, a large beer and ale brewery with a large, informal dining room. It is located on Route 11 about two miles north of town. The disorganized group was launched by Jerry Nay '55. There are no programs, just a time to swap old and young tales and news "when two or three shall meet." All grads or Navy/Marine officers are invited and welcome. For further information please contact Chip Honsinger '56, honsinger57@comcast.net or 540-463-3145.

Virginia Peninsula Chapter

(formerly the Williamsburg Chapter)

Pres: **Kathleen Jabs '88**
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Vice Pres: **Rick Yasky '78**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR David Lannetti '81, USN (Ret.)**
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Website: www.myusna.com

Group: **Virginia Peninsula Chapter**

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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e: Edward_G_Ed_Schwier@rl.gov; eschwie@charter.net;
egschwier@aol.com

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

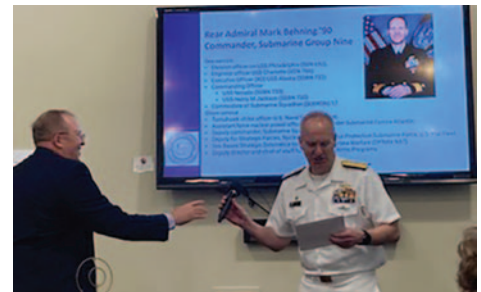
Puget Sound Chapter

Pres: **Alan Schrader '92**
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Corr Sec'y: **George Windsor '75**
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Website: <https://myusna.com/topics/9554>

(1) **3 June - Plebe Welcome Luncheon** - Class of 2027, 3 June, Blakely Hall, Issaquah, WA. Great turnout including 16 USNAAA-PSC Alumni, 19 incoming Plebes, 25 BGO - Plebe Family Members, 4 Active Duty Junior Officers and 1 current Midshipman.



Guest Speaker: RDAM Mark Behning '90



Puget Sound: Networking Social



BG&O Presentation: Matt Hill '91

(2) **21 June - Conducted Networking Social in Silverdale, WA.** Attached picture shows participants.

(3) **Continuation of WWII Naval Ops in the Pacific Speaker Series** - Bob Fishman presented: Part 2 of 5: The Battle of Midway, June 1942 on 13 May and Part 3 of 5: Guadalcanal and the Cactus Air Force, July 1942-April 1943 on 12 July.

(4) **Upcoming events at a glance:**
 (a) **6 September** - Speaker Series - Part 4 of 5: Across the Pacific and the Battle of the Philippine Sea, May 1943 - June 1944.

(b) **29 July** - Annual Summer Picnic Information, Naval Base Kitsap, MWR facility, Camp Mckean. Guest Speaker will be RDML Kristin Fabry '91, USN (Ret).

Editor's note: Apologies for overlooking the July-August report for the Chapter. Here is the report:

July-August Report

(1) Continuation of WWII Naval Ops in the Pacific Speaker Series - On 3 May, Bob Fishman presented Part 2 of 5: The Battle of Midway, June 1942.

(2) Upcoming events at a glance:
 (a) **12 July** - Speaker Series - Part 3 of 5: Guadalcanal and the Cactus Air Force, July 1942 - April 1943

(b) **3 June** - Plebe Welcome Luncheon - Class of 2027, June 3, Blakely Hall, Issaquah, WA.

(c) **29 July** - Annual Picnic Information, Camp Mckean, Kitsap County.

Washington, DC Area

Greater Washington Chapter

- Pres: **Luis Martinez '01**
e: president@usnagwc.org
- Vice Pres: **Anthony Calandra '88**
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- Sec'y: **Crysta Gonzalez '18**
e: secretary@usnagwc.org
- Treas: **Jennifer Shaar '92**
e: treasurer@usnagwc.org
- Outreach and Engagement: **Heidi Lenzini '95**
e: outreach@usnagwc.org
- Diversity and Inclusion: **Alberto Ramos '10**
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- Trustee: **Fred Latrash '87**
e: trustee@usnagwc.org
- Website: **www.usnagwc.org**
- BGO Area Coordinator: **Pat Seals**
e: pseals@gmail.com

Wisconsin

- BGO Area Coordinator: **Mr. Leonard Green**
e: leonard.green.a@gmail.com

Wisconsin Chapter

- Pres: **Timothy Mahoney '10**
e: mahoney@2010.usna.com
- At Large: **Chris Adams '75**
p: 414-553-0982
- Website: **http://wisconsin.usnachapters.net/**
- WISNAPA Co Presidents: **Andy and Laura Kittleson**
e: kittleson5@yahoo.com
- Website: **http://wisconsin.usnaparents.net/**
- BGO Area Coordinator: **Mr. Leonard Green**
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SHARED INTEREST GROUPS

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**
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- Shippmate Contact: **LCDR Jessica Anderson '08, USN**
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- Website: **www.usnama.com**

EVENTS

Upcoming Events:

Great to see the academic year up and running and Midshipmen back on the Yard! 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:

NAMA held its first summer membership picnic in June, hosting members, families, friends, and candidates in the DMV (see photo on next page). Thank you to everyone that joined us! We held our second strategic executive leader offsite in July to look ahead at 2024.

NAMA partnered with the Naval Academy Foundation to establish the Naval Academy Minority Affairs Fund (NAMAFA). Your support enables on-campus visits for students and Centers of Influence, scholarship funding for STEM and NASS, Gospel Choir travel, and Midshipman activities. (See the photo on the next page.)

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

UPDATE YOUR PROFILE

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

SHARED INTEREST GROUPS



NAMA Chapter

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.)**
 e: reedy81@usnahamptonroads.com

Treas: **LT John Rex Spivey '13, USN**
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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.)**
 e: timi.lindsay@gmail.com

The USNA NESA SIG has been active in supporting the USNA STEM Center for Education & Outreach, and USNA Chapter and Parents Club events this year.

The NESA SIG provided volunteers for the Maryland Regional Sea Perch Competition, held at USNA, 25 March 2023, local Sea Perch competitions at Maryland and Virginia schools, and the USNA STEM Flight Day (15 April 2023) held at the Naval Academy.

Additional events were the NESA SIG provided volunteer support include the "Women Can Fly" at the Warrenton-Fauquier Airport, 24 June 2023.

"Women Can Fly" is a volunteer organization whose mission is to promote women of all ages to fly. Volunteer pilots and aviation enthusiasts who know the exhilaration of flight, the joy of discovering new horizons, the friendships born of shared visions, provide opportunities for women to fulfill their dreams by participating in these "Women Can Fly" events. The inaugural flying event was co-sponsored by The Ninety-Nines (International Organization of Women Pilots), and participating airports.

Women and girls age 8 and up will have the opportunity to experience a flight in a private plane with a volunteer pilot.

FYI: Frequently asked question: "Will you fly my son?". Answer - of course, if time and space permits. Ladies first.

The next "Women Can Fly" event is 09 September 2023 at the Military Aviation Museum. Warbird Demonstration, Flight Simulators and Static Aircraft Display.

Visit the Military Aviation Museum and see their spectacular collection of aircraft, view a warbird demonstration, operate the controls of a flight simulator and have a close up look at many rare aircraft. Talk with women aviators, student pilots, and professionals who will be happy to discuss their experiences and answer

any questions, including how to get started with flight training or learning about career opportunities in aviation. Sign Up for a Flight.

NESA SIG volunteers, please support "Women Can Fly": <https://www.womencanfly.com/>

The NESA SIG is collaborating with the other USNA SIGs to host joint STEM events around the USA. Please join the NESA SIG as a member to receive the latest STEM engagement events to assist in inspiring the next generation!

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

Join us for two exciting upcoming events, where we come together to honor our fallen heroes.

1. 48th MCM, MCM10K, & MCM50K in Washington D.C. - 27-29 October

Mark your calendars for 27-29 October, as Washington D.C. becomes the hub of activities during the 48th Marine Corps Marathon (MCM), MCM10K, and MCM50K. Lace up your running shoes, gather your cheer gear, and get ready for a memorable experience!

To kick off the festivities, all are welcome to join the much-anticipated Shindig. The Shindig will take place on Friday, 27 October, at The Board Room on 1737 Connecticut Avenue NW. This event promises an evening of camaraderie and celebration.

Heading the committee for this event is **Steve Swift '87**. For any queries or to lend a helping hand, reach out to Steve at president@runtohonor.com.

2. Honor Our Fallen Heroes in Annapolis, MD - November 11

On 11 November, families of fallen USNA alumni are invited to the Yard, ensuring they feel a part of the extended USNA family. We will gather on the yard to Honor Our Fallen Heroes through a touching Memorial Hall service. This



NESA SIG volunteers supported the USNA STEM Center for Education & Outreach first inaugural "STEM Flight Day" with hundreds of high school students at USNA on 15 April 2023.

solemn ceremony will serve as a tribute, symbolizing our enduring gratitude for their sacrifice.

The days events continue with activities centered around a home football game, fostering a sense of camaraderie and unity among attendees. It is an opportunity to connect, share stories, and find solace in the presence of others who understand the profound loss experienced by these families.

Leading the committee for this event are **Shannon Webb '04** and **Alexa Hunter '04**. To get involved or for further information, please reach out to Shannon at secretary@runtohonor.com or Alexa at gear@runtohonor.com. Let us join hands to create a heartfelt and memorable experience for these deserving families.

These upcoming RTH events provide us with the opportunity to come together as a community, showing our gratitude to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice and demonstrating our unwavering support for our brave servicemen and women and the family and friends left behind.

Don't miss out on these incredible opportunities to honor and celebrate our heroes.



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**

Send updates to: usnapride@gmail.com

USNA Pride SIG's year in review

"Our Stories" are virtual "open-mic" style events that allow SIG members to connect and learn about the rich stories within our ranks. So far, six members have shared their stories with the SIG: **Linda Postenrieder '82**, **Joe Soto '83**, **Paula Neira '85**, **Ronnie Choe '02**, **Kenny Wise '17** and **Morgan Prigmore '23**.

On 13 April 2023, Navy Spectrum, the Academy's LGBTQ+ ECA, hosted ten USNA Pride members for an officer discussion panel. **Kim Martinez '03**, **Audrey Callanan '08**, **Timothy Fitzgerald '10**, **Lauren Riffle-Gonzalez '15**, **Jenna Westerberg '16**, **Gaby Riffle-Gonzalez '17**, **Chris Goodale '17**, **Isabel Krause '17**, **Andie Coutoulakis '17** and **Ally Annick '20** participated as panelists. The event allowed members to share their experiences with the midshipmen, and to answer their questions frankly and honestly.

On 16 April, USNA Pride members gathered at the residence of **Bill Hebert '82** to celebrate the impending commissioning of the Class of 2023. The SIG presented 18 Firsties with their first set of Ensign shoulder boards or Second Lieutenant bars. Our alumni shared their experiences with the graduating class and wished them well for the future.

In June the Alumni Association partnered with USNA Pride to recognize three outstanding USNA Pride members on their social media platforms during Pride Month 2023: **Greer Puckett '75**, **Wendy Lawrence '81** and **Paula Neira '85**. The SIG was honored to celebrate Pride by recognizing the contributions of these exemplary alumni.

On 5 June, USNA Pride members and Navy Spectrum midshipmen attended the Maryland Governor's first Pride event at Governor's mansion. Anthony Woods, the MD Secretary of Veterans Affairs and USMA '03 hosted the reception.

On 29 June, **Rob Beer '90** and 2ndLt **Morgan Prigmore '23** joined president **Chris Goodale '17** in representing USNA Pride at the Alumni Association I-Day picnic. Parents shared that knowing about the SIG gave them reassurance about the path their LGBTQ+ midshipmen in the Class of 2027 were embarking upon.

On 25 August, members of USNA Pride joined the Alumni Rainbow Community-Notre Dame (ARC-ND) for a joint pre-game happy hour at The George bar in Dublin. The gathering allowed for the two LGBTQ+ alumni organizations

to build camaraderie in spite of the fierce rivalry between our schools.

USNA Pride looks forward to creating future opportunities for community, representation, and mentorship. For information about joining or getting involved, email usnapride@gmail.com. Follow us on Instagram at [@usnapride](https://www.instagram.com/usnapride).

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>

SPECIAL ELECTION RESULTS

The Women's Shared Interest Group is proud to announce the results of the special election held in June to elect our Board of Directors.

The bylaws for the Women's SIG non profit corporation allow for 15 directors, serving 3-year terms, to lead the organization. The current officers hold 5 of those seats. Our newly elected directors will serve shortened, staggered terms to support organizational continuity. Annual director elections starting in 2024 and thereafter will be for the full term length.

Please extend hearty congratulations to the following women:

Stef Goebel '80 and **Sofi Loomis '99**, who will each serve 2.5 year terms

Peg Klein '81, **Morgan McCleve '12**, **Rhonda Scott '97**, and **Hollis Alspach '07**, who will each serve 1.5 year terms

Danica Middlebrook '05, **Mara Matthes '82**, **Elizabeth Vary '02**, and **Joanna Sptel Walters '94**, who will each serve 0.5 year terms

We want to thank all of the active members of Women's SIG who took the time to vote in the special election. If you would like to read more about these amazing women, visit the WSIG Group on WSIG.myUSNA.com and navigate to the WSIG Leadership under the Home tab.

REGIONAL CHAIRS AND AREA COORDINATORS NEEDED

No matter where you are, you can find engagement and belonging in the Women's SIG. Our Regional Chairs and Area Coordinators make this possible by sharing information and hosting events in their local areas. You can find a list of your Regional Chair or Area Coordinators on WSIG.myUSNA.com under the Home tab.

We're recruiting Regional Chairs for the Central and Eastern Regions and welcome new Area Coordinators. If you'd like to be an Area Coordinator, Regional Chair, or want to learn more, please reach out to Kendra Chappell at kendrachappell94@gmail.com.

SHARED INTEREST GROUP USNA PRIDE

Celebrating One Year Anniversary

September marks the one-year anniversary of the founding of the USNA Pride Shared Interest Group!

USNA Pride SIG's purpose is threefold:
* We create a bond of community among USNA LGBTQ+ alumni and allies.

* We serve as a platform for LGBTQ+ representation within the broader USNA alumni network.

* We establish a network of mentorship and support for LGBTQ+ alumni and midshipmen.

Over the past year we have held several events that have allowed us to live out this purpose among our membership. See our nearby column for the review.

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

Albert Emerson Willard '46
16 July 2023

Frederick Reid Lafferty Jr. '48
CDR, USN (Ret.)
7 July 2023

Thomas Joseph Walters '49
CDR, USNR (Ret.)
3 July 2023

Ordell Smith '52
CDR, USN (Ret.)
11 May 2023

Arthur Clark Bivens '53 ■
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
19 July 2023

Joe Mitchell James '53
CDR, USN (Ret.)
11 July 2023

Robert Courtney Martin '53
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
3 July 2023

Daniel William Rice '53 ■
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
22 June 2023

Cecil John Cartwright Jr. '54
17 June 2023

Walter Eugene Sampson '54
Capt, USAF (Ret.)
17 July 2023

Donald Louis Brown '56
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
1 July 2023

Henry Lynn Maines '56
17 June 2023

David Stuart Cooper '57
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
25 June 2023

Richard Lane Brinegar '58
Col, USMC (Ret.)
19 July 2023

Robert Leroy Bovey '59 ■
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
8 July 2023

Paul Hendren Darby Jr. '59
23 March 2023

Alfred Charles Holden Jr. '60
12 June 2023

Ted McClanahan '60
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
1 July 2023

George Edward Ruckersfeldt '60
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
28 June 2023

Robert Thatcher Derby '61
28 June 2023

Stanley Houston Jones '61
26 June 2023

John Peter McCain '61
16 July 2023

Robert Owen Pelott '61
10 July 2023

David James Ebert '63
30 June 2023

Frank Clayton Holmes '63 ■
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
9 July 2023

Larry Lee Robinson '64
22 June 2023

Albert Ryan Weigel '64
9 March 2023

Peter Dean Gness '65
18 June 2023

Michael Pierce Reed '65
3 July 2023

George James Hoffman III '66
30 June 2023

Andrew John Hudak '67
25 June 2023

Anthony Wayne '67
CAPT, USNR (Ret.)
31 May 2023

Edward Strock Kendig '69
13 June 2023

Charles David Morgan Sr. '70
CAPT, USNR (Ret.)
25 June 2023

Brian John Horais '71 ■
CDR, USNR (Ret.)
6 July 2023

Richard Allen Cline '72
26 June 2023

John Alvin Davis III '76
10 June 2023

Daniel Lynn Hammill '79
28 June 2023

Charles Robert Kineke '82
CDR, USNR
27 June 2023

Gregory Scott Beck '85
12 June 2023

John Davenport Stevens '93
CAPT, USN
12 July 2023

James Anthony Taylor '93
11 June 2023

David William Hart '96
1 July 2023

David Aaron Branton '12
4 July 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, 301 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).

■ 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.





ARTHUR CLARK BIVENS '53

Captain Arthur C. Bivens, USN (Ret.), departed on his eternal patrol on 19 July 2023 in Springfield, VA.

“Art” was born in 1929 in Tampa, FL. He was active in the Boy Scouts, attaining the rank of Eagle Scout in 1944. Art enlisted in the U.S. Navy after graduating from high school in 1947. After Boot Camp, he was sent to Electronics School and became a petty officer, ET 2/C. In 1949, he attended the Naval Academy Prep

School and won a fleet appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. His most valued sports accomplishment at Annapolis was winning the Holloway Sailing Trophy as the winning skipper in the 1953 Spring Series of yawl races in the Chesapeake Bay.

Upon graduation in 1953, Art served two years on the destroyer COWELL (DD-547). During this time, Art met and married Marcy Grimshaw and started their family of three children: Christina, Susanna and Jonathan. After two years of destroyer duty, he applied for submarines. Following Submarine School, he served on the diesel-powered QUILLBACK (SS-424) and was then selected for nuclear power training. From 1958 through 1970, he served on five nuclear powered submarines, participating in the infancy and development of nuclear submarine operations. These boats were PATRICK HENRY (SSBN-599) (plankowner), SCAMP (SSN-588), ROBERT E. LEE (SSBN-601), GEORGE BANCROFT (SSBN-643) (plankowner) and SAM HOUSTON (SSBN-609), in which he was commanding officer (Gold). For this and many Cold War patrols, he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal and then was assigned as the first training and readiness officer of the submarine squadron in Holy Loch, Scotland. He was promoted to captain in 1973 and served as deputy project manager for the Trident Submarine System.

Art retired from the Navy in 1978 and went to work in the civilian nuclear power industry as Manager, Reactor Construction and Operations, with the Atomic Industrial Forum. He served as a volunteer sailing coach with the Naval Academy sailing squadron and wrote two books: *Of Nukes and Nosecones, A Submarine Story* and *From Sailboats to Submarines*. He was administrative vice president and scribe for the USNA Class of 1953 from 2008 until 2022. His fellowship with his Naval Academy classmates remained vibrant for 70 years.

Survivors include his wife of 68 years, Marcy; daughters, Christina and Susanna (Warren); son, Jonathan (Lisa); eight grandchildren, Elizabeth, David, Mari, Andrew, Meg, Rebecca, Christopher and Alison; and four great-grandchildren, Jayden, Isaiah, Michael and Konrad.

Sailor, Rest your Oars. ★



DANIEL WILLIAM RICE '53

Captain Daniel W. Rice, USN (Ret.), passed away unexpectedly on 22 June 2023 in Falls Church, VA.

“Dan” was born in rural Pennsylvania in 1931 and attended a one room elementary school in Snyderstown. After graduating from Sunbury High School, Dan was admitted to the Naval Academy, graduating in 1953.

Following flight training in Pensacola, FL,

Dan served in a wide range of roles in the naval aviation community. Daniel married the love of his life, Henry Andrews of Fulton, AL, in November 1954. Dan and Henry were blessed with a 63-year marriage and three wonderful daughters.

Dan Rice received a BS in aeronautical engineering at the Naval Postgraduate School and a MS in aeronautical engineering at Princeton. He was also a graduate of the Naval Test Pilot School at Patuxent River,

MD. Dan’s flying career was concentrated in aircraft carrier operations. He was stationed aboard ESSEX (aircraft handling and flight deck officer), INTREPID, CORAL SEA, INDEPENDENCE and RANGER (air officer and XO). He also served two years as a test pilot at Pax River.

After his Navy retirement, Dan taught for 12 years as a mathematics and physics teacher in Fairfax County high schools in Virginia. He took great pleasure in the intellectual advancement of young people.

Dan and Henry enjoyed traveling the world. They visited the Panama Canal, cruised Russian rivers and explored the far reaches of the Canadian wilderness. They were also avid bird watchers and could often be found with cameras and binoculars in some Eastern woodland. Similarly, through their love of nature, they volunteered for many years as docents at DC’s National Zoo.

A highlight for Dan was an annual auto train trip to spend Christmas with their kids and grandchildren on the east coast of Florida. Until his final days, Dan walked a mile every morning, tended to his gardens, kept his bird feeders well-provisioned and was beloved by his neighbors.

Dan will be interred in a small-town cemetery in Central Pennsylvania, near the farms and fields where he “first learned to fly” as a young boy, running with arms outstretched. Dan was a wonderful husband, father, father-in-law, shipmate, wingman, teacher, mentor, neighbor and friend.

Dan was predeceased in 2018 by his wife, Henry, his love and confidant without whom his life would have been empty. Dan is survived by their daughters, Ellen Rice, Carol Miller and Amy Rice; five grandchildren, Michelle, Andrew, Danielle, Maxwell and Jacob; and two great-grandchildren. ★



F. DANIELS BUTTERFIELD '55

Lieutenant Commander F. Daniels Butterfield, USN (Ret.), 89, passed away on 11 January 2023 in Escondido, CA, surrounded by family members.

“Dan,” a native of La Jolla, CA, was born on 9 October 1933 to the late Ralph Elmer Butterfield '21 and Lula Mae “Marilu” Iseley Butterfield. After spending his younger years in Annapolis, Dan returned to California, where he graduated from high school in La Jolla. He then returned to Annapolis, where he was inducted

with the Naval Academy Class of 1955.

He married the late Carolyn Keyes in 1957 and they had four children, Marilu, Charles, Danny and Alisanne. They later divorced. He married Rita Janiak Brown in 1995 and together, they have seven children.

Upon graduation, he served on a destroyer, three submarines and a fleet school. After receiving his MSEE from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA, he was involved in fascinating high-level DOD and naval research, mostly involving underwater technology.

Upon retirement from the Navy, many ocean-related civilian industry engineering and management jobs followed. In one of the most challenging jobs, he managed development of the International Telecommunication Industry’s first deep-ocean robot work system for world-wide operations of ocean-bottom locating and repair of damaged transoceanic cables. NASA later used it to locate remnants of the space shuttle Challenger.

He then began a new chapter of his life as a professor and teacher for 20 years, using his life experience to captivate students and enrich their learning. He started with teaching international adult students, college students and mentoring programs, and then finally became a math/science teach at Granger Junior High School in National City, CA.

Dan and Rita really enjoyed traveling to Europe and visiting family around the world. Dan enjoyed finding ways to always instill a love of education and exploration in his grandchildren and encouraged those around him to always be their best selves.

LAST CALL

Dan is survived by his wife, Rita; children, Marilu Stearns (Gary), Charles, Danny (Nobuko), Alisanne Corbett (Tim), Bill Brown (Olga), Cyndy Wilt (Greg) and Michael Brown (Alexandrea); 15 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. Dan is also survived by his siblings, Ralph (Donna), David '57 (Barbara), Linda Sebastian and Chase Allen (Marlene).

A celebration of Dan's life will be held on 8 October 2023 at Ellen Browning Scripps Park in La Jolla, CA. Classmates and shipmates are invited. ★



RUDOLPH HALOUK DAUS '56

Captain Rudolph H. Daus, USN (Ret.), passed away on 3 June 2023 at Mt. Vernon Hospital in Alexandria, VA.

Born on 14 March 1933 in Paris, France, "Rudy" embarked on a life filled with adventure, service and unwavering dedication. He was a man of exceptional character, possessing an indomitable spirit that fueled his numerous achievements throughout his illustrious career.

Upon graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1956, he served in the Navy for 23 years. He was especially proud of his two command opportunities, McMORRIS (DE-1036) and PARSONS (DDG-33). He was known as the consummate ship handler and leading by example, passed his skills along to the junior officers under his command. His final tour of duty was as sponsor for the Guided Missile Frigate (FFG-7) Program in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations at the Pentagon. His tours of duty included ALBANY out of Boston, MA; ABBOTT in Newport, RI; SAN MARCUS in Norfolk, VA; aide to to Admiral Taylor, Second Fleet, Norfolk; BUCHANAN in San Diego, CA; McMORRIS in Hawaii; and the staff of Admiral William Martin, Sixth Fleet, Gaeta, Italy.

He retired from the Navy in 1979; started a second career as a law firm manager for four firms; and finally, a third career as an entrepreneur, where ventures took him to Turkey, Japan and countries east of Central Asia.

Rudy possessed a zest for life that was contagious. He approached each day with enthusiasm, curiosity and an insatiable thirst for knowledge. He was an avid reader, an author (*The Crescent Odyssey*) and gardener. His intellectual curiosity and keen insight inspired those around him, leaving an indelible impact on all those who crossed his path.

Captain Daus' legacy of honor, service and love will remain etched in the hearts and minds of family and friends and will continue to resonate through the lives he touched. May his memory serve as a constant reminder of the strength, resilience and compassion we can embody as individuals. He will be deeply missed, but forever remembered.

Beyond his military career, Captain Daus was a loving and devoted family man. He was a pillar of strength and support for his beloved wife, Albertina "Teena" Daus; their children, William, John and Daniel; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services for Captain Daus will be held at Arlington National Cemetery at a future date. ★



ROGER HELD LYLE '56

Lieutenant Colonel Roger H. Lyle, USAF (Ret.), of Hilton Head Island, SC, passed away at home on 17 March 2023 from mesothelioma. His beloved wife, Muriel, was at his side.

"Rog" was born in Detroit, MI, on 29 April 1931, to George Dewey and Myrtle Violet Lyle. After graduating from MacKenzie High School, he attended college for three and a half years before receiving his appointment to the Naval Academy.

Upon graduation, he opted to take his commission in the U.S. Air Force, where he served from 1956 to 1961 as special agent in the Offices of Special Investigations in Detroit, Saudi Arabia and MacDill AFB, followed by Commander of Special Investigations, Detroit and Orlando AFB. He was a recipient of the Olmsted Scholar Program in 1961, which sent him to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where he became fluent in Portuguese and received his master's degree in political science in 1963. From 1964 to 1966, Rog served as protocol officer for the Air Force Southern Command, Albrook AFB, Canal Zone; then 1966 to 1967, aide-de-camp to Director, Inter-American Defense College, Ft. McNair, Washington, DC. From 1967 to 1972, he was the budget officer and assistant executive officer in the Directorate of Budget, and finally executive to the Comptroller of the Air Force. In 1972, he was appointed as political advisor to Commander, U.S. Forces Azores, Lajes Field. Upon returning to the U.S. in 1973, he attended the Air War College, where he met his future wife, Muriel Joyner. They were married in 1976. From 1974 to 1976, he served as country director (Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia, Uruguay, Paraguay) for the Assistant Secretary of Defense, International Security Affairs. From 1976 until he retired in June 1978, he served as executive officer of the 1st Air Base Wing, Andrews AFB, MD.

Upon retiring, he took the position of Vice President, Far East Operations for Vought Corporation (LTV), where he and Muriel spent a year in Seoul, Korea. While in Korea, Rog began experiencing heart issues and returned to the U.S. In 1983, he underwent quadruple bypass surgery, settling in Fredericksburg, VA, where they lived until their final move to Hilton Head Island, SC, in 1994. On 16 February 2018, Roger's name was entered into the *Guinness Book of World Records* as "The Longest Surviving Quadruple Heart Bypass Patient."

Roger was devoted to God, his wife and his Country. Now he is at peace in his eternal home. ★



ROBERT LEROY BOVEY '59

Captain Robert L. Bovey, USN (Ret.), 85, died on 8 July 2023 in Winchester, VA.

"Bob" was born in Lewisburg, PA, but spent his formative years in Lincoln, NE. He graduated from the Naval Academy in 1959 with a BS in Marine Engineering and married his wife, Rosalind, in 1960. He received a PhD from Johns Hopkins University in 1964 and an MS from the U.S. Navy Nuclear Power Training Program in 1965.

During his 22 years in the Navy, Bob served on both fast attack (SSN) and ballistic missile (SSBN) submarines. His last sea duty assignment was as commanding officer of SAND LANCE (SSN-660). His last shore tours were as special assistant to the Director of Central Intelligence and military assistant to the Secretary of Defense. Bob's honors include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the National Distinguished Service Medal and the Legion of Merit.

After retiring from the Navy, Bob worked as an international business consultant, then spent 25 years with the Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) working on matters of national security, homeland defense and taking on jobs that leveraged his deep understanding of naval and nuclear warfare. His professional activities included IISS, INFORMS and ISE.

Bob was a member of Cotner Lodge #297 in Lincoln, NE (his father's Masonic lodge) for 60 years, and a member of the American Legion Post 199.

Bob was a loving husband, a kind father and a generous friend. His interests included Civil War history and his farm in Maurertown in the Shenandoah Valley. He and Rosalind resided in the North Ridge area of Alexandria and were intensively involved in civic affairs from 1969 until their move to the Shenandoah Valley Westminster Canterbury retirement community in 2018.

Bob is survived by his wife, Rosalind; their sons, Rob (Michelle) and Stuart; his sister, Mary Jean Blumenstock (Fran); sister-in-law, Ann McEndarfer (Ed); and many nephews and nieces. He was predeceased by his parents, Joseph and Ruby Bovey.

A memorial service was held in the chapel at Westminster Canterbury on 31 July 2023, followed by interment with a Masonic service, military honors and bagpipe at Mount Hebron Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Bob's memory to the SVWC Foundation Scholarship Fund (which supports healthcare scholarships), Shenandoah Valley Westminster Canterbury, 300 Westminster-Canterbury Drive, Winchester, VA 22603. ★



TERRENCE STEPHEN TODD '62

Captain "Steve" Todd, USN (Ret.), 82, passed away on 25 March 2023. He had been in home hospice care for Lewy body dementia and complications from a fall.

Steve was born on 20 August 1940 to Elmer and Catherine Todd in Seattle, WA, the oldest of four children. The son of a naval aviator, Steve set his sights on the Naval Academy, and graduated in the Class of 1962. On 6 December 1963, Steve completed flight training and

received his Wings of Gold.

Steve had an illustrious naval career, faithfully serving his country. He piloted S-2 and S-3 aircraft for four extended deployments during the Vietnam War. Shortly before the end of the war, Steve was selected to serve Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford, as the naval aide to the President. His duties included organizing the special White House celebrations when the POWs returned (50 years ago, this year). Shortly thereafter, he was back in San Diego, serving as and CO of the "Screwbirds" of VS-33, followed by XO of RANGER (CV-61). His ship command tours followed as CO of TRIPOLI (LPH-10) and a sequential command as Commander Amphibious Squadron Five.

When based ashore, Steve was First Company officer back at the Naval Academy and graduated from both the Armed Forces Staff College and the National War College, earning a master's degree in international relations. He developed a significant subspecialty in officer personnel management and served as the aviation community manager in OpNav and as force personnel officer on the Commander, Naval Air Pacific staff. During his shore duty tours in San Diego, Steve attended National University at night, earning his second master's degree in human resources, graduating in 1984 as valedictorian of his class.

Steve retired from the Navy in 1992 after 30 years of service. Not a person to "slow down," Steve earned his teaching credential and taught Social Studies for 6th and 7th graders at middle school. Then he embarked on a third career in the private sector as chief financial officer at Knox Attorney Services, a large San Diego legal firm. His final working retirement (for good) was in 2013.

Steve was predeceased by his parents, Elmer and Catherine Todd; youngest daughter, Jennifer Todd Andrew (Russ Gott); and grandson, Hadley Brown. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Barbara; daughters, Lisa and Laura (Ed); and grandchildren, Benjamin, Cameron, Justin, Nicholas, Maddie and Harry (Candice). ★



FRANK CLAYTON HOLMES '63

Captain Frank C. Holmes, USN (Ret.), passed away peacefully on 9 July 2023 of causes related to age at his home in Idaho Falls, ID.

Frank was born in 1941 in Port Chester, NY, graduating from Port Chester High School in 1959, before entering the Naval Academy that same year. Originally a member of the Fourth Company, the entire class was rotated, and he and his Companymates graduated from the 14th Company. Beyond the classroom, he

participated in battalion swimming and water polo for four years: a winning swimming team, but a subpar water polo team.

Serving initially as a surface line officer in MEREDITH (DD-890), he was transferred after this first tour to MIT, where three years later, he graduated with a MS in naval architecture and a naval engineer's degree. He was designated an engineering duty officer and reported to AMERICA (CVA-66) as boiler officer and MPA. Deployed to Vietnam, this was the beginning of a 23-year association with carrier engineering, interrupted



DONALD PRESCOTT GRINNELL '61

Commander Donald P. Grinnell, USN (Ret.), passed peacefully on 17 April 2023.

A native of Arlington, MA, "Don" was born on 20 June 1936 to Donald Curtis and Theresa Ann (Williams) Grinnell. He graduated from Arlington High School (1954), playing football and hockey, while obtaining his carpenter apprenticeship. Matriculating to Holy Cross College for a year, he entered the Naval Academy with the Class of 1959. A football

injury required him to endure a second plebe summer and year, ultimately graduating with the Class of 1961.

Upon graduation, he served on ABBOT (DD-619), then attended Destroyer School (1963) in Newport, RI, where he met fellow Navy officer, LTJG Margaret "Peggy" McMahon of Wauwatosa, WI. After their marriage, Don was on WOOD (DD-715) as engineering and repair officer and earned a Secretary of Navy Commendation for Achievement. After attending the Naval Postgraduate School, the family settled in San Diego.

Serving in Naval Research and Development establishment in Vietnam, Don pursued River Patrol qualifications "in his spare time." He was then a River Rat: Squadron 51, Section 512, earning the Presidential Unit Citation, Bronze Star with Combat V and a Purple Heart.

Don was on MOBILE (LCS-26), Operational Testing and Evaluation Task Force, and FRESNO (LST-1182) as a communication systems officer and obtained his MBA from Chapman College (1977). His last post was at Eniwetok Atoll as Officer-In-Charge, Boat Transport Team, earning a Joint Service Commendation Medal for meritorious service. He retired after over 20 years of naval service in 1982.

As a civilian, he served in multiple quality assurance and electrical engineering roles for a variety of companies at the forefront of digital and satellite communications. He also taught community college classes on business and technology. He ultimately fully retired to enjoy walks on the beach and happy hours overlooking the Pacific.

His final move brought him to Minnesota to be closer to his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Don was predeceased by his parents; former spouse and dearest friend, Peggy; beloved son, Joseph; cherished grandson, Tyler; brother, Charles "Larry"; and many dear friends.

He is survived by his children, Anthony Grinnell, Mary Frances Powers and Kathleen "Katie" Fisher (Ryan); grandchildren, Karissa, MacKenzie, Justin, Andrew, Thomas, Brady and Kylie; great-grandchildren, Maya, Lily, Henry and Gianna; and many dear friends and other loved family members.

Services were held in Minnesota on 22 April 2023. Inurnment will take place at the USNA Columbarium on 19 October 2023 at 2 p.m. ★

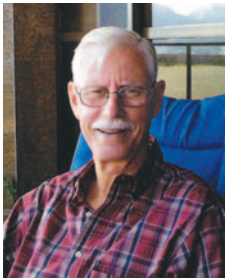
LAST CALL

by tours as engineer in BIDDLE (CG-34) and repair officer in VULCAN (AR-5). Carrier-related duty included service at SupShip, Newport News, overseeing construction activities for Nimitz and Eisenhower; and an assignment as staff engineer at AirLant and at OpNav (OP-05), coordinating activities related to the Carrier Service Life Extension Program (CV-SLEP). Back-to-back assignments followed at the Naval Sea Systems Command as APM, CV-SLEP and as program manager (PMS-392/312), responsible for carrier modernization, SLEP and the new construction activities at Newport News. In this command assignment, he delivered FORRESTAL and INDEPENDENCE from SLEP and THEODORE ROOSEVELT and ABRAHAM LINCOLN from new construction.

After a tour as the staff engineer in the Navy Program Planning Office, he started a second career with the Department of Energy in 1991 in the New Production Reactor Program and later, the Office of Environmental Management. Transfer to the DOE Idaho Operations Office followed in 1997, where he completed 46 years of government service, retiring in 2005. He returned to the Idaho National Laboratory in 2006 as a consultant to assist in the life extension of the Lab's Advanced Test Reactor (ATR). After seven years with the ATR Life Extension Program, he retired again to enjoy the quiet life in Idaho Falls.

Inurnment will take place at Arlington National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Naval Academy Foundation, attn. Class of 1963 Legacy Fund (www.usna.com/give). ★



ERIC LEONARD WESTBERG '64

Eric Westberg passed away on 3 December 2019 in Port St. Lucie, FL.

Born in New York to a Swedish father, Arthur Harold Westberg, and Polish American mother, Helen Gertrude (Kawecki) Westberg, Eric embraced his Scandinavian roots and led a life that traveled the world. His passion for the sea began as a child with his travel to Sweden on QUEEN ELIZABETH.

Upon graduation from the Naval Academy in 1964, Eric served a year on the Argentine sailing ship, LIBERTAD (Q-2). He then served on FORREST ROYAL (DDR-872) and HENRY CLAY (SSBN-625).

Eric obtained his master's degree in nuclear engineering at MIT (AEC Fellow) and then joined Westinghouse launching his international career, which spanned over 20 countries. He was responsible for the construction of Brazil's first nuclear power plant in Angra dos Reis, Rio de Janeiro. Eric also created one of the first marinas in Angra, enabling him to dock his boat, rather than swim to it.

In 1982, Eric directed the international construction subsidiary for Dravo Corporation based in Milan, Italy. In this capacity, Eric developed the buildout of the electricity systems in Yemen and Haiti.

In 1987, Eric returned to the United States and became president of Ultrapower, an independent power producer in California. Then, in 1996, Eric returned to Brazil to develop power projects with BHP, Marubeni and Blackstone Group's Sithe Energies. Eric was also the president of APINE, the national independent power association of Brazil. Through APINE, he focused his time influencing the Brazilian federal government to adopt a new regulatory framework enabling open competition.

Eric was sought after by nuclear power plants in Brazil, California and Finland as the growth for nuclear energy grew in the 2000s.

Eric took full advantage of wherever he lived, from skiing in the Alps, enjoying tennis on the clay courts of Italy and boating the islands of Brazil.

His greatest love was his wife, Lucia; followed by his children, Veronica and Kevin; and grandchildren, Anastasia and little Eric. Eric is also survived by relatives in the United States, Brazil, Poland and Sweden.

Eric was a man who spoke only when there was something to be said. The driving principle he learned from his father and lived by is that, "it's not about what you do, but how you do it."

Interment took place at Arlington National Cemetery on 16 May 2023.
The Westberg Family ★



MICHAEL PIERCE REED '65

"Mike" Reed of Snyder, TX, entered peacefully into the presence of Jesus on 3 July 2023 at his home in Fredericksburg, TX. He was 79 years old.

Born on 14 December 1943 to Harry and Mabel Reed, upon graduation from Snyder High School, Mike went to the Naval Academy.

He graduated with honors with the Class of 1965 and was selected to be one of the first members of the United States' nuclear

submarine program.

After serving his country with honors, Mike went to the University of North Carolina to receive his MBA. He then went on to work at NCNB (now Bank of America), but soon returned to his roots in Snyder to help run Southern Electric with his brothers, John and Herbert, and parents in Snyder. There, Mike served his community as the president of the SISD School Board. He and his wife, Judie, owned Sunnyside dress shop and he served on several local boards and organizations.

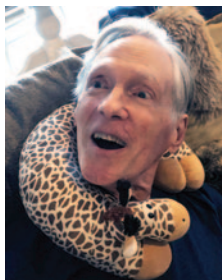
Mike then felt a calling to the law. He graduated from Texas Tech Law School and entered into practice in Lubbock, where he opened his own law firm. Mike then took law to the classroom and taught business law at Texas Tech for ten years.

Mike loved sports, music and his country. He was an amazing golfer (he'd been a member of the Snyder High School and Naval Academy golf teams). He never missed a North Carolina Tarheel basketball game. "Tarheel Forever," he said and would sometimes even be a bit grumpy after a loss. Mike loved making people laugh and viewed serving others as a responsibility and a blessing. It's been said that Mike accomplished more by accident than many men do on purpose. However, Mike viewed his accomplishments as insignificant compared to his love for Judie, his family, his friends and his faith in Jesus.

Mike is survived by his wife, Judie; their four children, Angela, Mindy, Lance and Meredith; ten grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Services were held in Snyder, TX, on 8 July 2023.

Condolences may be left for the family at (www.bellcypertseale.com). ★



RONALD FREDERICK HOLCOMBE '67

"Ron" Holcombe died on 6 May 2023 at his home in Maricopa, AZ, after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. His beloved wife, Terri, was at his side. He was 77 years old.

Ron was born on 29 November 1945 in Philadelphia, PA, to Richard and Rose Holcombe. He attended Abington High School, where he excelled at wrestling, cross country and track and field. His specialty was the pole vault. He reported to the Naval Academy in June 1963 as

a proud member of the Class of 1967 and his 28th Companymates became his brothers. Ron was inducted into the Naval Academy Athletic Association Hall of Fame for his pole-vaulting accomplishments. While on Youngster Cruise in Holland, he bought his first guitar, much to the chagrin of his roommates.

Following graduation, Ron reported to Port Hueneme for Seabee training. Ron served in the Vietnam War and then completed post-graduate training in civil engineering and soils and foundations at Georgia Tech.

Following his discharge from the Navy due to ankle arthritis, Ron worked in the civil engineering field and eventually became a self-taught computer software author and started his own business.

Ron continued to be very athletic, playing tennis and golf, surfing and sailing, and earning a black belt in Taekwondo. He also continued to play his guitar, write songs, and started The Blue Moose Band. The band became a community service project, playing in nursing homes, retirement and assisted living communities, as well as other venues, wherever they lived. Ron was a prolific songwriter, became a sound engineer and produced seven albums of his music.

Ron became 100% service-connected disabled due to Agent Orange exposure. He fought the good fight and worked hard to be able to do things that gave him joy, but as the disease progressed, he began losing the things he loved to do. He and Terri grieved those losses together and remained positive despite his illness.

Ron was predeceased by his parents; his twin brother, Rick; brother, Robert; and his first wife, Constance. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Terri; daughters, Kelly Palumbo and Bonnie Herring; grandchildren, Chase Palumbo and Allen Herring; and his sister, Robin.

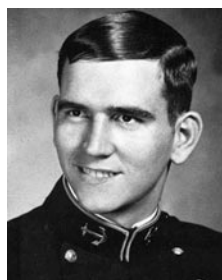
Ron will be buried at Miramar National Cemetery in San Diego, CA, on 18 September 2023.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Naval Academy Foundation (www.usna.com/give). ★

military honors will be held in the Fort Myer Old Post Chapel of Arlington National Cemetery on Monday, 25 September 2023, with interment immediately following.

Mike made an impression on all who met him and will be dearly missed by those who love him.

Fair Winds and Following Seas, Commander. ★



LYNN HARBOUR WIDENER '70

Captain Lynn H. Widener, USNR (Ret.), passed away peacefully at home on 20 March 2023, a day after his 75th birthday.

Born on 19 March 1948, Lynn was the eldest son of Mattie Katherine Roberson and Francis Pete Widener of Chattanooga, TN. As an accomplished Eagle Scout, Lynn graduated from Brainerd High School in 1966 and entered the Naval Academy, where he was a member of the 17th and 29th Companies. He played football as

a plebe and remained an enthusiastic supporter of Navy football throughout his life.

Following graduation, Lynn entered flight school before transiting to the Surface Warfare community. He served in Vietnam aboard MAHAN (DLG-11) and GRIDLEY (DLG-21). He completed active-duty service as an instructor at the Surface Warfare Officers School in Newport, RI, and entered the Naval Reserve in 1978. Lynn commanded the Convoy Commodore Norfolk/San Juan Reserve Unit and served as Commanding Officer, Naval Control of Shipping Office, Atlantic.

Lynn earned his MBA from the University of Maryland in 1982. In his civilian career, Lynn worked for various defense contractors. His final position was with OBXtek as a senior acquisition program analyst in support of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force. Lynn was an innovator, a true professional and deeply sensitive to the needs of his subordinates and colleagues.

As an avid supporter of the Naval Academy, Lynn served on the Board of Trustees and as president of the Class of 1970. As a member of the Navy football brotherhood, he made it to every Army-Navy game in the last decade. Lynn was the consummate Southern gentleman with an ever-present smile and easy-going disposition. He enjoyed golf, World War II documentaries, classic western movies and most importantly, beating Army!

Lynn is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Ann Mackie Widener; two sons, Christopher Widener (Deann) and Ryan Widener (Jorie); six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, Brody, Aubrey, Lilly, Avery, Madeline, Eloise, Cali and Tilly, who knew and loved him as "Pop Pop." Lynn is also survived by his brothers, Jack Widener (Karen) and Dan Widener (Susan).

A Celebration of Life was held at Calvary United Methodist Church in Annapolis, MD, on 3 April 2023. Burial will take place at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Please consider donating in Lynn's memory to Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York (www.mskcc.org); or Mercy Medical Center in Baltimore, MD (www.mdmercy.com/giving). ★



MICHAEL DALE MAY '70

Commander Michael D. May, USN (Ret.), passed away at his residence in Aiken, SC, on May 9, 2023, surrounded by his loving family. He was 75 years old.

Born on 9 January 1948 in Luverne, AL, "Mike" was the son of the late Willie Coston and Edna Ruth May. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1970. While at Annapolis, Mike was the keyboardist for "The Spiffies."

He proudly served his country for nearly 21 years in the United States Navy. Mike served as a Surface Warfare Officer before transitioning to Engineering Duty Officer upon completing the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA. During his EDO service, Mike completed a variety of assignments, including SupShips, InSurv Board, and his favorite, chairing the Department of Naval Systems Engineering back at USNA and working with midshipmen.

After retiring from the Navy in January 1991, Mike accepted a position within the Mathematics and Computer Science Department at the University of South Carolina, Aiken. He achieved the rank of associate professor and became department chair during his 23 years of university service, before retiring in 2014.

During his final retirement, Mike enjoyed time with family and friends and continued his musical prowess as a drummer, keyboardist and vocalist in several local bands. Mike was an avid Navy sports fan, especially when it came to wrestling, baseball and football.

Mike was a beloved father, grandfather, brother and professor. He is survived by three sons, Stewart May of Annapolis, MD, Michael May (Laura) of Richmond Hill, GA, and Alexander May of Charleston, SC; two sisters, Sandra Keadle (Steve) of Thomaston, GA, and Mary Daniels (Cole) of Richmond, VA; and four grandchildren, Sean, Shanley, Emma and Annie May

A Celebration of Life in honor of Commander May was held on 3 June 2023 in Aiken, SC. As his last request was to be buried at Arlington National Cemetery with his shipmates, a funeral service with Navy

MEMORIAL AFFAIRS RESOURCES
<https://www.usna.com/memorial-affairs>



BRIAN JOHN HORAIS '71

Commander Brian J. Horais, USNR (Ret.), passed away peacefully at the age of 73 on 6 July 2023 in Knoxville, TN.

Brian was born on 12 September 1949 in El Paso, TX, to the late Walter and Leona Horais. His father was a captain in the Marine Corps. Brian graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1971 in the Eighth Company with a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering. He went on to receive his Master of Science in

Aeronautical Engineering in 1972 from the Naval Postgraduate School and a Master of Business Administration in 1986 from the University of New Haven.

In 1973, he began flight training in Pensacola, FL, where he met a Navy nurse named Cathy. Once designated as a naval aviator in 1974, he flew the A6-E Intruders off JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV-67). He retired from the Naval Reserve as a commander in 1992 and served in various positions supporting aerospace research and development programs, culminating in a tour as a DARPA program manager before his retirement in 2008.

Brian remained involved with the USNA as class secretary for 11 years, and as an executive board member. As an artist, his contributions ranged from painting Tecumseh, to creating one-of-a-kind memorabilia to commemorate milestone anniversaries for the Class of 1971.

In 2010, his passion to never stop learning led to notable contributions to the woodworking community, turning non-round multi-axis works of art. He was president of the East Tennessee Woodworkers Guild and will be remembered as a strong leader with a unique point of view in woodworking. His creations were jury selected for many shows, he was a published writer for several magazines, and he also taught, demonstrated and had solo exhibits of his work.

Brian is survived by his wife of 48 years, Cathy; their daughters (and spouses), Beth (Chris) and Rebecca (Jeremy); grandchildren, Alva, Nora, Elliott and Oliver; and his brother, Alan.

Brian touched the lives of everyone he met during every chapter of his life. If you knew him at USNA, in the Navy, as a motorcycle enthusiast, a dedicated aerospace engineer, a musician, a skilled woodworking craftsman, a creative, fun, adventurous brother and dad, a gentle and caring grandpa and a loving husband, you know how lucky you are to have made memories with Brian Horais.

The Horais Family ★



WILLIAM DOUGLAS BLUE '84

Bill "Bluechow" Blue passed away on 23 May 2023, 39 years to the day after his USNA graduation, from complications of a heart attack. He was 60 years old.

Bill was born in New York as one of four sons of Douglas and Carolyn Blue and, as a member of a military family, moved across several states during his upbringing. Upon reporting to Annapolis, Bill was assigned to the

19th Company, where he excelled as the company guide-on and on the Color Guard team. During his First Class Year, he was a proud member of that Color Company and was also a member of their Brigade Championship Company fieldball team. Bill's attention to detail on cleaning rooms and squaring away uniforms made him a favorite amongst his roommates.

After graduation with the Class of 1984, Bill was commissioned as a second lieutenant and served as a Marine Corps infantry officer with an NBC defense specialty in a variety of units and staff positions. Bill completed his service obligation as a captain.

He then embarked on a long and successful industrial development career across the automotive, aerospace and energy sectors. He held numerous domestic and international positions with Ford Motor Company, Continental, Eaton, Gulf States Toyota and Baker Hughes. His oil production related position with Baker Hughes took him to assignments as diverse as Scotland and Azerbaijan, as well as Moscow, Russia, where he met his wife, Ilona. He eventually settled in the Houston, TX, area which he considered home. As he was at the Naval Academy and in the Marine Corps, Bill was known by his industry colleagues as always being on top of his game and as a compassionate team leader and mentor.

Bill is survived by his wife, Ilona; his mother, Carolyn Blue of McKinney, TX; brothers, Douglas Blue of Clear Lake, TX, and Scott Blue of Las Vegas, NV; children, Rachael Marciniak of Seguin, TX, and William Blue Jr. of Conroe, TX; stepdaughters, Anna-Mariya and Adelina Blue; and grandson, Damian Marciniak. He was preceded in death by his father, Douglas Blue, and brother, Donald Blue.

Funeral services were held on 6 June 2023 in Houston, TX, with his 19th Companymates, Bill Elliott, Stu McArthur and Mel Hamner (and his wife, Susie), as well as Classmate Mark Boulden (31st Company), in attendance. Bill was laid to rest at Houston National Cemetery with full military honors. ★



CURTIS JAY WALKINS '96

Lieutenant Commander Curtis J. Walkins, USN (Ret.), died on 9 December 2022 at the VA Medical Center in Sioux Falls, SD. He was 51 years old.

Curtis was born on 25 September 1971, the son of Marvin and Linda (Walkins) Westadt in Rockford, IL. He was raised in rural Sioux Falls, SD, and graduated from West Central High School in 1989. Curtis enlisted in the United States Navy in September 1989. He attended

and received an engineering degree, plus earned a commission from the United States Naval Academy in May 1996. Curtis served as an officer in the United States Navy, retiring in 2013 at the rank of lieutenant commander.

He returned to Sioux Falls, initially volunteering, and eventually dedicating his full-time work efforts at Habit for Humanity. Curtis continued to work for Habit for Humanity until his health began to fail in the spring of 2022. Curtis was a "do it yourself" type of guy. He had his pilot license, loved to read, enjoyed woodworking and was constantly learning.

Curtis is survived by his mother, Linda Hoff of Sioux Falls, SD; brother, Kelly Westadt of Sioux Falls, SD; nieces, Kristina Mathiason (Will) of Dell Rapids, SD, Kaylin Rademacher (David) of Spirit Lake, IA, LeeAnn Fjellanger of Sioux Falls, SD, and Kyle Westadt of Sioux Falls, SD; six great-nieces and nephews; and several aunts and uncles, along with many friends. Curtis was preceded in death by his grandparents; and sister, Kristi Fjellanger.

A memorial service took place on 16 December 2022, followed by interment at South Dakota Veterans Cemetery. ★

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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)
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2023 SHIPMATE Classified Information & Insertion Order

Black and White Classified Ad Rates
 SIZE

Non-LifeMember Rates	\$ 77.00	1"	\$ 60.00	25% LifeMember Discount Rates
	\$154.00	2"	\$120.00	
	\$230.00	3"	\$180.00	
	\$310.00	4"	\$240.00	
	\$385.00	5"	\$300.00	
	\$460.00	6"	\$360.00	
	\$540.00	7"	\$420.00	
	\$545.00	8"	\$485.00	



Color Classified Ad Rates
 SIZE

Non-LifeMember Rates	\$100.00	1"	\$ 70.00	25% LifeMember Discount Rates
	\$195.00	2"	\$145.00	
	\$300.00	3"	\$215.00	
	\$395.00	4"	\$285.00	
	\$495.00	5"	\$355.00	
	\$595.00	6"	\$430.00	
	\$695.00	7"	\$500.00	
	\$790.00	8"	\$580.00	

2023 SHIPMATE Classified Information & Insertion Order

Classified Advertising Policy

Classified ads are accepted on a space available basis as a service to **USNA Alumni** only. The Alum's name and class year **MUST** appear in the ad. Spouse ads are accepted only with the Alum's name and class year included in the ad. Ads are accepted camera-ready and electronically; jpg., tif. or PDF formats. (300 dpi) Any classified ad may occupy one column width (2.5 inches) by a maximum of up to 8 inches of column length.

1 Advertiser

Name _____
 Street _____
 City _____ State ____ Zip _____
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 Class Year _____

2 Advertisement

Classified ad rates are \$77 per inch for black and white and \$100 per inch for color. A \$50 set up fee is charged if ad is designed for advertiser. **Life Members** are eligible for a 25% discount—reducing the cost to \$60 per inch for black and white and \$70 for color. Please select the issue(s) in which you wish to run, or specify: RFN - "Run Until Further Notice."

Issue Insertion Order/Ad Due

<input type="checkbox"/> Jan-Feb 2023	11/21/22
<input type="checkbox"/> Mar-April 2023	01/17/23
<input type="checkbox"/> May 2023	02/14/23
<input type="checkbox"/> June 2023	03/20/23
<input type="checkbox"/> July-Aug 2023	05/18/23
<input type="checkbox"/> Sept 2023	06/19/23
<input type="checkbox"/> Oct 2023	07/17/23
<input type="checkbox"/> Nov-Dec 2023	09/18/23

3 Payment and Billing

Please charge my Discover/Visa/MasterCard/American Express

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Payment information must accompany order. Email Insertion Order and ad files to: **maria.oshea@usna.com**

USNA Alumni Association mailing address:
 Attn: Maria O'Shea
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 Annapolis, MD 21402

Call me with your questions: **410-295-4074**

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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