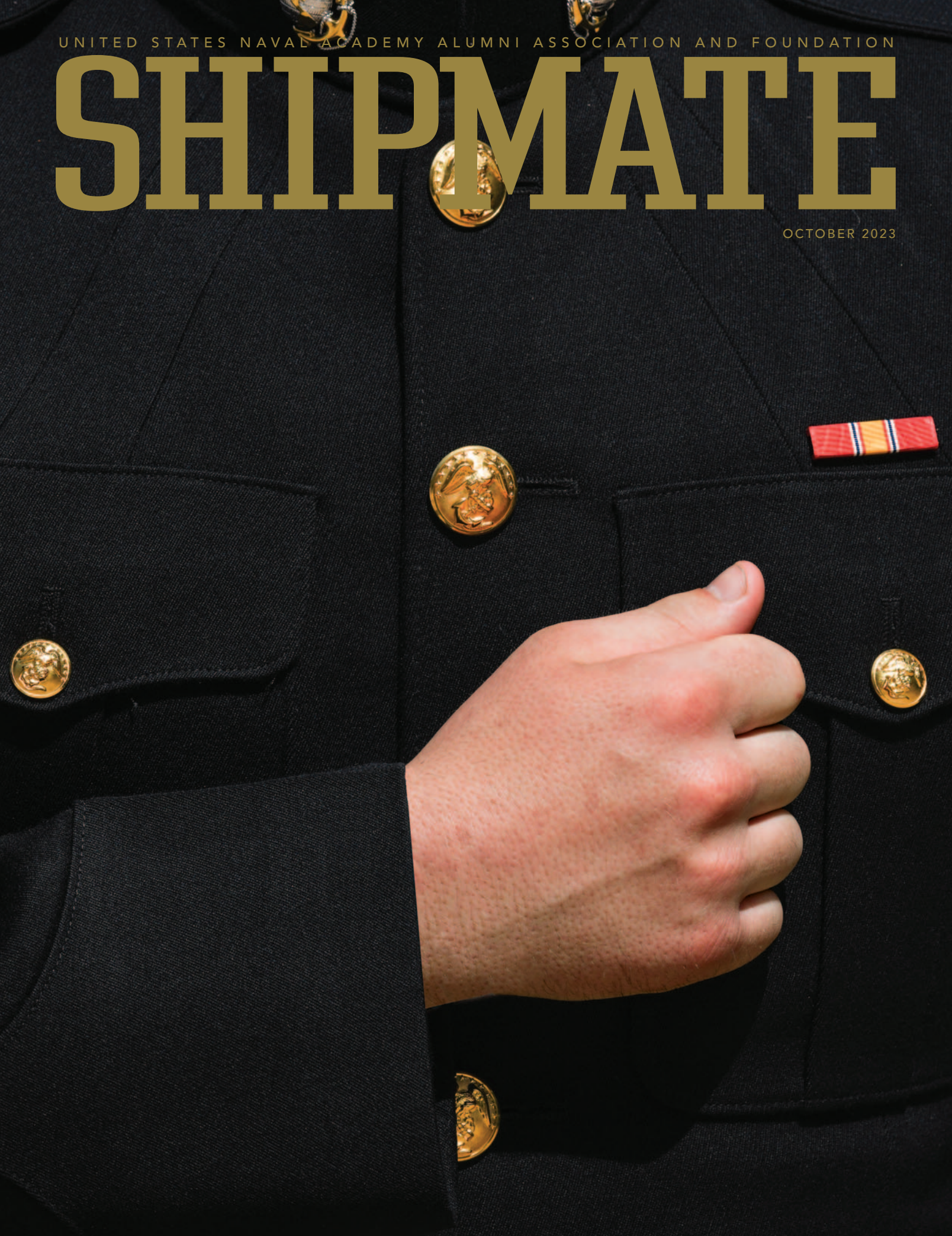


UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND FOUNDATION

SHIPMATE

OCTOBER 2023





The U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation's President and CEO, Jeff Webb '95, co-founded the **Shared Interest Group Run to Honor** because he, like many other alumni, was inspired to venerate those alumni killed in action or in military operations in service to our nation, and to support Naval Academy Gold Star families.

VIRTUAL MEMORIAL HALL provides another avenue to honor the more than 2,700 alumni whose names grace the granite walls of Memorial Hall. Visit and ensure that those who have made the ultimate sacrifice will never be forgotten.



Visit *Virtual Memorial Hall* and share your memories of fallen classmates and shipmates at www.usnamemorialhall.org



1,000
WORDS

PHOTO BY MIDN COOPER FLOWERS '24

Two For Seven

MIDN Yohan R. Afewerki '25 signs his two for seven documents, signifying his intent to complete his time at the Academy and serve for a minimum of five years.



**1,000
WORDS**



RADM Kacher '90 Takes Reins as Acting Supe

RADM Fred Kacher '90, USN, officially became acting Superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy on 28 August. VADM Sean S. Buck '83, USN (Ret.), retired on 1 September after 40 years of service.

Kacher will serve as acting Superintendent until the U.S. Senate confirms the Naval Academy's next Superintendent. RADM Yvette Davids '89, USN, has been nominated for the position, but is awaiting confirmation.

"I could not be more grateful for this opportunity to lead the Naval Academy in the interim," said Kacher. "Every member of our team is deeply dedicated to the mission, and I look forward to working with every teammate here as we develop the Brigade into our nation's next generation of Navy and Marine Corps leaders."

Kacher most recently served as vice director for operations on the Joint Staff. Kacher has been nominated for promotion to vice admiral and assignment as commander of Seventh Fleet.

ENDURING CONNECTIONS

By Jeff Webb '95

The wave of Blue & Gold washing over Dublin said it all.

The passion and devotion of the Naval Academy community was on full display on a massive international sporting stage at the Navy-Notre Dame football game. The Irish government and people could not have been more welcoming as alumni, their families and friends flooded Ireland during the week of 21 August leading up to the 26 August game at the spectacular Aviva Stadium. With 7,500 committed Navy fans in Dublin for the game, spirits were high at gatherings large and small even if the result on the gridiron wasn't what we were all hoping for.

This historic occasion, following the 2020 game's postponement during the COVID-19 pandemic, was truly a special experience and reinforced to me the strength of our alumni bonds. We will fly across an ocean to cheer on our team and spend time with our Naval Academy brothers and sisters.

The 96-year-old rivalry drew 40,354 international fans to Ireland for the 2023 game. We are told that the event set a record for the largest number of Americans traveling internationally for a single sporting event.

American football was not the only game in town while we were in Dublin. The defending national champion Navy men's rugby team claimed a 78-0 victory over Notre Dame the day before the football game. It was great to witness the expanding link between two great institutions who share many of the same values and traditions.

This incredible feat could not have been accomplished without the planning and hard work of many team members at the Alumni Association and Foundation. Our events drew thousands of attendees across several days and multiple venues in the days leading up to the game. I would also like to commend our

partners at the Naval Academy Athletic Association who ensured a special fan experience for all of us.

The Dublin trip marked the last official duty of Vice Admiral Sean Buck '83, USN (Ret.), as Superintendent of the Naval Academy. As always, he spent a lot of time engaging with our alumni and watching our teams from the sidelines. His wife, Joanne, and his children, Jeff and Jenna, were at his side for his final days in uniform, 44 years and two months after he took the oath of office as a plebe. I know we will see the Buck family in the years ahead, but I wish them well during this transition and thank them for everything they have done for the Navy and Marine Corps, the Naval Academy and our alumni!

Before Dublin, I had the pleasure to make meaningful connections with the Class of 2027 during Plebe Summer.

Just before Plebe Parents Weekend, a first-class midshipman detailer invited me to speak with the Papa Company plebes about legacy and some of our more storied alumni who lay at rest in the Naval Academy Cemetery.

We discussed the unique paths of Captain John S. McCain III '58, USN (Ret.), Admiral Charles R. Larson '58, USN (Ret.), Vice Admiral James B. Stockdale '47, USN (Ret.), and Lieutenant Commander Erik S. Kristensen '95, USN, how they came to be known by so many of us and the role that character played in their respective journeys. I emphasized to them that their own journey in this special community has begun, and that their story will be written by others based on how they perform, by what kind of teammate they are and how they treat people.

Welcome Home

On 8 September, the USNA AA&F held a milestone event with a ceremony dedicating the Fluegel Alumni Center. That weekend we welcomed members of the Classes of 1998 and 2003 who were in Annapolis for their class reunions. The Class of 2003 provided the funding for the Electric Vehicle charging stations in front of the new center.

We are eager for everyone in the alumni community to take advantage of this world-class facility. It is your home.

We also look forward to hosting the first Honor our Fallen Heroes event in the Fluegel Alumni Center on 11 November. We expect to have about 200 family members of fallen alumni in Annapolis for a service in Memorial Hall at the Naval Academy, followed by a luncheon in the Fluegel Alumni Center.

It is our privilege, as well as our obligation, to keep the memory of our fallen shipmates alive and we are excited to welcome their family members back to Annapolis. ⚓



PHOTO BY SPENCER JONES

U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation President and CEO Jeff Webb '95 addresses the crowd at a pre-game tailgate party prior to the 26 August Navy-Notre Dame game in Dublin. The game drew thousands of alumni, parents and friends to Aviva Stadium and provided a unique setting to strengthen bonds with the alumni community.

SHIPMATE

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Get the Goat

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

Bill was studying in Nimitz Library in the middle image on page 26 of the September 2023 issue of Shipmate.

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Our Mission

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

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



On the Cover
The Marine Corps turn 228 on 10 November. In this issue, *Shipmate* examines what drives midshipmen to the Corps and what makes junior officers remain in uniform. The cover photo is from the Class of 2020's graduation ceremony.

ALL HANDS

Carter '81 Named The Ohio State University's President



Vice Admiral Walter "Ted" Carter '81, USN, was named The Ohio State University's president on 22 August after serving in the same capacity for the University of Nebraska since the fall of 2019.

As president at Nebraska, he helped guide the university's system through the COVID-19 pandemic. Carter retired from the Navy following his five-year term as the 62nd Superintendent of the Naval Academy (2014-2019).

In a busy time for the former naval aviator, on 8 September the gym at Burrillville High School in Rhode Island will become the Vice Admiral Walter "Ted" Carter '81 Gymnasium during ceremonies at the school. Carter is a 1977 graduate of the school.

Carter is the first graduate of Burrillville High School to attend the Naval Academy. At Burrillville, he played soccer, track and basketball, and added to his athletic record at the Naval Academy, captaining the 1981 hockey team.

After commissioning, Carter was designated a naval flight officer and graduated from the Navy Fighter Weapons School, Top Gun, in 1985. In 2001, he completed the Navy's Nuclear Power Program on his way to commanding CARL VINSON. His career as an aviator features extensive time at sea, deploying around the globe in the F-4 Phantom II and F-14 Tomcat. In 2012, he was commander of Carrier Strike Group 12 during ENTERPRISE's final deployment after its 51 years as a combat vessel.

Carter served as the 54th president of the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, RI, where he established the Naval Ethics and Leadership Center. He is a 2022 Naval Academy Distinguished Graduate honoree. □

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CLASS OF 1983



The Class of 1983 began its cross-country bicycle ride on 23 August from Whidbey Island, WA. Members of the class are using the ride to raise awareness and funds for a variety of veteran support nonprofit organizations. The ride is schedule to end on 5 October at the Naval Academy Columbarium.

Class of '83 Riding Across America to Support Veteran Organizations

Members of the Class of 1983 are commemorating their 40th reunion by cycling across the country. The 44-day event started on 23 August in Whidbey Island, WA, and is scheduled to conclude on 5 October in Annapolis, MD. Navy '83 Ride Across America is designed to raise awareness and funds for a variety of veteran support nonprofit organizations including Challenged Athletes Foundation/Operation Rebound, EOD Warrior Foundation and Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society.

Visit www.navy-cycling.com to track the class' progress, to learn more about their journey and their efforts to raise \$1,983,000 for veterans. The trip will be 3,423 miles with 44 city stops along the way.

The Class of 1973 has also embarked on a cross-country bicycle ride which began on 4 August atop Navy Heights in Astoria, OR. Each day of the ride is dedicated to one or more of the class' fallen classmates and each day they will post social media updates of tributes and progress. The Class of 1973 is also scheduled to arrive in Annapolis on 5 October. That day will begin at Arlington National Cemetery in conjunction with the Class of 1983. They plan to conclude the trek at the Naval Academy Columbarium. □

ADVERTISE IN SHIPMATE AND WAVETOPS

PRINT ADVERTISING

EIGHT ISSUES A YEAR
55,000+ MEMBERS

The flagship publication for the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association & Foundation, *Shipmate* magazine, is ranked by alumni as the best way to keep informed and stay connected with classmates and is the most useful resource to keep informed about the Naval Academy.



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The U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association & Foundation e-newsletter, WaveTops, features news and updates on the Academy, its worldwide alumni community and the trends and issues shaping the world of national defense.



Scan here to learn more:

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2024 Distinguished Graduate Award Nomination Period Ending



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. □

Song '19 Returns to Red Sox Organization



Former Navy standout pitcher Noah Song '19 is back with the Boston Red Sox organization after losing him to the Philadelphia Phillies for eight months. The pitching prospect began his professional baseball career with Boston in 2019, but his progress was stalled when his application to have his service contract with the Navy waived was rejected.

The Phillies banked on Song's service commitment coming to an end and claimed him in the December 2022 Rule 5 Draft. He

had pitched in only seven career minor league games, all in 2019, according to a MLB.com article. When the Phillies reinstated Song from the 60-day injured list on 29 July, they designated him for assignment. By rule, players who get selected in the major league phase of the Rule 5 Draft must be on the team's 26-man roster unless injured, the MLB.com story said.

Once Song went unclaimed on waivers, the Phillies had to offer him back to the Red Sox for \$50,000. The Red Sox accepted the offer. Boston assigned the 26-year-old Song to High-A Greenville, MLB.com reported.

In 2019, Song pitched 17 innings with Class A Short-Season Lowell where he had a 1.06.

Song was stationed early this year with the Fleet Replacement Squadron in Jacksonville, FL, where he trained on the P-8 Poseidon aircraft as a naval flight officer. He had his service transferred from active duty to selected reserve in February, allowing him to resume his baseball career.

During his senior season with the Midshipmen, Song recorded 161 strikeouts with a 1.44 earned run average and an 11-1 record. He was taken by the Red Sox in the fourth round of the 2019 draft. □



Three Chapters Chosen for Board of Trustee Seats

Congratulations to the Cape Fear, Las Vegas and Quantico chapters for being selected for seats on the Board of Trustees for the 2024-2027 Board term. These chapters were competitively selected by a Board committee based on the five characteristics that distinguish them as engaged chapters (from Appendix A of the Alumni Association Operating Manual):

1. Effective leadership team
2. Effective communications
3. Promoting USNA messaging
4. Coordinating local events
5. Membership growth

Trustees elected from these chapters to the Board of Trustees will govern during a transformational era for the community, including the implementation of Strategic Plan 2030 and the debut of the Fluegel Alumni Center as the new home for our community. □

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

(Act of Oct. 23, 1962; Section 4369, Title 39, U.S. Code)

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Total	53995	54250

HONOR, COURAGE, COMMITMENT



Marines don't compromise their values. Marine Corps officers lead with integrity and build trust by taking care of their people.

A quarter of each commissioning class from the Naval Academy enters the Marine Corps as second lieutenants. The values and ideals of Honor, Courage and Commitment are engrained in midshipmen during their time at the Academy through Marine Yard leadership, company officers and mentors.

The Marine Corps' rich history is packed with Naval Academy alumni. In preparation for the Corps' 228th birthday on 10 November, *Shipmate* asked alumni to share their perspectives and offer advice to the next generation of Marines. Here are the responses from:

General Carlton W. Fulford Jr. '66, USMC (Ret.)
Major General Charles F. Bolden '68, USMC (Ret.)
Major General Leo V. Williams III '70, USMCR (Ret.)
Lieutenant General John E. Wissler '78, USMC (Ret.)
Steve L. McGaugh '84, USMC
Major General Austin E. Renforth '88, USMC
Major General Scott F. Benedict '90, USMC

Colonel Anthony Ché Bolden '93, USMC (Ret.)
Colonel Maria "MJ" Pallotta '94, USMCR
Colonel Nicole A. Mann '99, USMC
Major Katie A. Cook '08, USMCR
Captain Katrina A. Herrera '15, USMC
Captain Christopher J. Goodale '17, USMC

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO COMMISSION INTO THE MARINE CORPS?

Fulford: The summer programs offered by the Academy provided a good exposure of the various career options available at graduation. Littoral Combat Ship Training Center Atlantic in Norfolk was a two-week introduction into the Marine Corps and amphibious warfare.

After that summer, I had pretty much made up my mind that I wanted to fly in the Marine Corps. For the remaining two years, I spent my time making sure I was qualified to do both. I credit the Academy for providing exposure to the options available.

I think the major reason I chose the Marine Corps was the influence of the Marine Officers I met who were serving in various capacities at the Academy. We had a Marine company officer, a Marine battalion officer and my faculty adviser was a Marine. They all impressed me as professional and good role models. Their influence was very important in my decision.

Charles Bolden: As one who entered the Naval Academy straight out of high school with very little knowledge of the naval service, there were two things I knew I would not do: accept a commission in

the U.S. Marine Corps and fly airplanes. Fortuitously, my plebe year company officer was the incredibly impressive Marine Corps Major, John Riley Love '51, who reminded me of my dad. He was tough but imminently fair and he exuded strong leadership and character.

When I reached my first class year and arrived at service selection, I looked back on my four years at the Academy and the one thing that stood out above all else was the example of Major Love. I decided that I wanted to be like him and, in spite of my belief that I'd never be a Marine, went down to Smoke Hall on Service Selection Night and walked straight over to the Marine Corps desk and made my commitment to the Corps.

Wissler: I chose to commission in the Marine Corps because of the example of the Marines that were stationed at the Naval Academy. They exemplified everything that I thought Naval Officers should be. Their professionalism, accountability to maintaining standards and most of all their commitment to those they led made me want to be on their team. As a rugby player, I felt the Marine Corps culture was very much the same as the culture of Navy rugby. Marine Corps culture was committed to trust, resilience, selfless sacrifice, accountability to your teammates and never accepting less than complete commitment to pursuing excellence. I decided that I wanted to be a part of that culture.

Benedict: It was never a choice for me at Annapolis. I had considered joining the Marine Corps out of high school, alternating between that and a college in my home state of California. A chance encounter with a federal service academy questionnaire at a western regional soccer tournament, along with my father's encouragement and that of a friend he knew to be an alumnus, led me to understand you could become a Marine out of Annapolis.

I was ultimately recruited by the Navy soccer team—which helped me meet the entrance requirements! I was fortunate the year I graduated it was a requirement to attend Marine Officer Candidate School to be commissioned as a Marine and as a result many 'hard chargers' didn't go Marines that year (only 90 versus normal ~160 in a graduating class at that time). That low USMC commissioning number allowed 'Marine aviator' to dip low enough in the class standings for me to grab it off the board in the Rotunda.

Ché Bolden: It was a combination of legacy and aspiration. Growing up, I was fortunate to be surrounded by exceptional examples of humans and leaders. Being the son of a Marine afforded me the opportunity to see, firsthand, the value of values and standards. As I looked around, all the positive examples I found had one thing in common—they were United States Marines (... and sailors). My father and his contemporaries exemplified all the things I saw as prerequisites for positive contributors to society.

Mann: There were a lot of people who influenced me early on in Annapolis—company officers and other midshipmen who were becoming Marines. I had the opportunity to do Leatherneck and training during the summer with the Marine Corps. That's when I really knew that's where I belonged. It was a different sense of honor and tradition that pulled me to the Marine Corps. The summer before firstie year, I went to a squadron in Miramar and got to ride in an F/A-18. It was all those experiences, meeting different Marines and understanding the mission our role in the military that I knew I wanted to be a Marine.

Cook: My father is Class of 1981 and was in the Navy for 26 years. While I am so proud of his service, I did not want to just be "Bill's kid" for my entire career. I was searching for a community that allowed me to have my own identity.



During summer training, I was exposed to enlisted Marines for the first time. They were some of the most professional, dedicated and intelligent people I had ever met. I wanted to lead people of that caliber because I knew they would expect more of me, and I would have to rise to that challenge. I was also blessed to have Captain Shane Groah as my company officer when I was a midshipman. His example solidified my decision that the USMC was the path for me.

Pallotta: I chose to become a Marine because it was the most challenging thing I saw that I could actually do if I worked really hard at it. I love the emphasis on leading people, maintaining high physical fitness standards, being outdoors, deploying to where the action is—and getting to wear the best damned uniforms on the planet! The officers I admired most on the Yard were Marines, and I wanted to be like them.

Herrera: I chose to commission into the Marine Corps after being introduced through reading a Tom Clancy novel in early high school and watching some close friends enlist. I entered the Naval Academy knowing that I wanted to commission into the Marine Corps. The mentorship of the Marine staff on the Yard stood out to me as a midshipman and it was incredible running into some of my favorite senior enlisted leaders in the fleet. While I was finishing high school, I remember watching the Marines push into Maarjah, Afghanistan, on the news and knew that I wanted to “get in the fight” and contribute in any way I could. I ended up flying the MV-22 and the highest honor of my life was being able to fly our most precious cargo and lethal weapon: my fellow Marines.

Goodale: PROTRAMID during my second class summer planted within me an initial interest in the Marine Corps. I had never really considered it seriously before that, as I was hindered by preconceived notions about what Marines were like. I was struck by my exposure

to the young, confident junior Marines who were in charge of us midshipmen during Marine week.

I was attracted to the idea that these would be the men and women that I would work with—that I would lead—as a Marine officer. It certainly didn't hurt that one of the sergeants pulled me aside to ask me if I was looking into the Marine Corps because, according to her, I seemed to maybe “have what it takes.” Seed planted.

Upon my return to Annapolis at the end of the summer, I began developing my personal network of mentors from the Marine officers on staff (including Major Audrey Callanan '08, USMC) who further encouraged me to consider a Marine Corps commission. My decision to commission as a Marine was a direct result of their mentorship, advice, encouragement and, at times, starkly honest feedback, all of which I continue to receive and value to this day. They saw potential in me that I, at the time, did not know existed. I ultimately decided to put Marine ground as my top service preference. That choice has made all the difference for me.

WHAT KEPT YOU IN THE CORPS?

Fulford: After graduation, I went to Airborne School with several of my classmates and then to The Basic School at Quantico. I still intended to go to flight school after Quantico but changed my mind while there and chose the infantry MOS. One reason was the example provided by the instructors at The Basic School, and the other was a perceived urgency to get to Vietnam and take part in the conflict before it was over.

After The Basic School, I had a short stint at language school in Monterey, then on to Vietnam. Combat provided many life-changing lessons, but the overwhelming reward was serving with the great young men who were magnificent in their courage



WISSLER



McGAUGH



RENFORTH

and loyalty. After returning home, I looked around at a few other civilian options—but finally came to the realization that I liked what I was doing in the Corps, I really liked the people I worked with and I committed myself to a career as long as the Corps wanted me.

I never regretted that decision. The Marine Corps provided great role models as well as dedicated young men to work with as I progressed through commands at various levels. In short, the people I served with, and the ethos of the Corps kept me in the Corps.

Williams: Continually having the opportunity to be led by and to lead THE BEST kept me in the Corps. The missions were challenging and important, the training was demanding and it continued to be FUN!

Doing just enough was never good enough. And the camaraderie—the Esprit de Corps—was palpable! “Once A Marine, Always A Marine” is real!

The expectations of fellow Marines kept me in the Corps. Marines expect:

1. To be pushed to the limit of their endurance
2. To have exceptional leaders and brothers/sisters in arms
3. To prove to themselves and others that they have high worth
4. To make a difference with the achievement of their missions
5. To be respected because they are U.S. Marines

Charles Bolden: Although my original plan was to stay in the Marine Corps for my five-year commitment out of the Academy and then get out and go back to grad school to get a master’s degree in electrical engineering, I made a major decision at the end of The Basic School to defy the second certainty out of high school to not fly airplanes and opted for Marine Corps Aviation and headed off with my young bride, Jackie.

I fell in love with flying as soon as I lifted off on my first flight in aviation basic and never looked

back. The primary reason for staying was the joy and pride of working with some of the most dedicated and loyal people I met who were fellow Marines. Having the opportunity to lead Marines in my latter years and to watch them overcome any obstacle to accomplish the mission was incredibly inspiring and rewarding and made me want to stay around them for as long as possible.

Renforth: I stayed in the Marine Corps when it stopped being about me and I realized that I could make a difference in other people’s lives. The higher I got in rank the more people I could help. Helping Marines was my favorite part of serving.

Cook: In October 2019, I made the tough decision to transition to the USMC Reserve. I had two children 15 months apart while in company command and felt the best way to support both my family and the Corps was in the Reserve. I could have just walked away completely, but the people and my love for the institution kept me wearing the uniform. Throughout my life, I had always been searching for “my people”—those that had my back through thick and thin. I found that in the Marines.

Ché Bolden: Simply put—the Marines. While all young women and men who raise their right hand and swear to support and defend the Constitution are exceptional, Marines hold a singular position atop that esteemed group. There is no more stubborn and irreverent bunch of highly intelligent, creative and adventurous collection of overachievers anywhere else in the world. It was an honor of a lifetime to be given the opportunity to work alongside, and lead, them.

Mann: There are certainly crossroads in every career. As you grow, maybe you get married, maybe you have children, your life changes quite a bit. The Marine Corps was always the greatest route for me. There



were lots of opportunities. I didn't feel like I was streamlined into one career path. The Marine Corps supported me throughout all of that. When I was ready to have my son, the Marine Corps supported me. The Marine Corps is not just a job, you're a Marine—that's your life. It's important that your life encompasses your personal life as well as your work life. I felt the Marine Corps gave me a great balance.

Pallotta: The Corps has meant more to me than I could ever have imagined. I have never had so much fun, been so fulfilled, made such incredible lifetime friends and been challenged as much as I have as a Marine (and first as a midshipman). I was also lucky in that I worked for the best leaders of my career early on—this made me love the Corps right from my first tour in Okinawa and kept me going through the tougher years. In short, I thought I would get the Corps "out of my system" in a few years, but those years just kept going on and never stopped for an entire career. The time has flown by, and I'm sorry to see it end.

Herrera: I commissioned in 2015 and after completing flight school I had a six-year contract which I am currently serving out. The Marines in my former fleet squadron and my Academy classmates were there for me during some of the most difficult times in my life following a devastating crash *in my squadron*. The hundreds of Marines we didn't know that lined up at 2 a.m. in the freezing Arctic circle to support us is something I will never forget. Seeing the absolute dedication and professionalism of my junior Marines in the fleet working 14-hour days on the sweltering flightline and now Marines I get to meet throughout Africa in the Marine Security Guard program and their dedication to protect U.S. interests overseas is incredibly motivating to me.

The fact that any one of them are eager and willing to step up should they be called makes me so

proud to call myself a Marine. Watching my friends from afar while they assisted in the evacuation at HKIA and then watching my Marines perform honorably as they stayed up for days as the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum, Sudan was evacuated inspires me every day and makes me honored to be able to call myself a Marine.

Finally, knowing and learning about the legacy of Marines before me who gave the ultimate sacrifice like Captain Jennifer Harris '00, USMC, and Captain Ford Shaw '06, USMC, inspires me because of how much they cared about their Marines and how they pursued excellence in their respective careers. After completing this tour, I hope to continue my service with a commission in the Reserve.

WHAT VALUES MAKE A SUCCESSFUL LEADER?

Fulford: Certainly, the time-honored values of honor, courage and commitment are vital for leaders at every level of command. Beyond those, I would place integrity as key, along with genuine humility. If you are a platoon commander of 30 Marines, or a commander of thousands, you must build trust from those you lead. You do this by exhibiting absolute integrity, a willingness to share any hardship and recognition that any success you have is the result of the hard work and sacrifice of those young men and women who carry the load.

Once Marines believe that you have their well-being and safety as your guiding light, they will follow you anywhere, in combat or peacetime—and perform magnificently.

Charles Bolden: Without question, one of, if not the most important value of a successful leader is integrity and a sense of never asking your Marines to do something you wouldn't do yourself. A value taught to me by my parents and reemphasized at the Naval



MANN



COOK



HERRERA

Academy, in The Basic School, and at every step along my Marine Corps career is compassion teamed with empathy for everyone with whom you associate.

Renforth: I think the biggest leadership quality that makes you successful is humility. Arrogance is the body armor of a shallow person but humility is the foundation of excellence. I always say it is amazing what you can accomplish if you sincerely don't care who gets the credit.

Cook: Before I reported to my first squadron, my father gave me a great piece of advice: "You don't put Naval aviator on your taxes, you put Marine officer ... Your people should always be your first priority." I have lived my entire career by this mantra. It could be very easy for a junior officer to get focused on their individual qualification, their achievements, their career goals. This selfish mindset will be glaringly clear to those you lead and their performance (and your unit's performance) will reflect.

If you show up at a unit and prioritize your people, work the long hours aside them, take the face shots from higher headquarters when required, advocate for their opportunities to grow and excel, there is nothing, including giving their life, these enlisted men and women won't do. As an officer, you are entrusted with our country's most precious resource—its sons and daughters. You need to show up every day with humility and appreciation for this responsibility.

Benedict: There has been so much written on this subject it's a bit daunting to capture in a few sentences. The Marines' embrace of the core values of honor, courage, commitment comes to mind. Those values embody many different nuances and layers throughout a career but have stood the test of time.

Without honor and integrity, it is impossible to lead at any level while maintaining the respect of seniors, peers or subordinates. Doing the right thing

for the right reasons is bedrock for leaders. Courage tends to wax and wane between physical and moral throughout a career but is integral to leading by example. We cannot be seen to avoid the physical risks of our charges nor be unwilling to stand up for them or the unit/institution in public or private despite the risks that might also entail.

Finally, commitment. Military service is a tough life with many sacrifices for your family and yourself, regardless of your rank. If you lack commitment to the mission, the Marines and the defense of our country, it will show through. I also believe the more senior I have gotten the aspect of personal and institutional will, another element of commitment, has become more important to move large organizations forward against the tide of inertia.

Ché Bolden: My faith in those who are doing the real work. As my father taught me early in my career, "Take care of the Marines and they'll take care of you." Leading by example was just one component of my approach to leadership.

The preponderance of my abilities as a leader, and any characterization of me as a good leader, all stem from my unwavering faith in the simple fact that, as long as I focused on clearing the path for them to excel and providing them the tools with which to do their jobs, they'd succeed. I was never proven wrong in that context.

Pallotta: Successful leaders set the example every single day. They are relentless and committed to the mission and their people. The best Marines earn their uniform and their Eagle, Globe and Anchor each day and constantly strive to be better. They are men and women of action, and they tell the truth. They are servant leaders who sacrifice for each other, the mission and their country.

WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR MIDSHIPMEN CONTEMPLATING COMMISSIONING INTO THE MARINE CORPS?

Williams: Search for a mentor who is a model for what you want to be!

Charles Bolden: While I try to shy away from giving advice, I do share principles to live by taught to me by my parents growing up in segregated Columbia, SC: Take care of your people (and they'll take care of you); never be afraid to say "I don't know!" (You'll seldom be the smartest person in the room); listen to the gunny (or listen to the chief)—they bring wisdom beyond your years that will serve you well and make you a stronger leader; and never be afraid of failure—



don't let anyone else tell you what you can and cannot do—be a smart risk taker!

Wissler: A midshipman contemplating service as a Marine should dedicate themselves to simply being a Marine and all that entails. They must dedicate themselves to the Marine Corps culture and they must not focus on anything else. They can't decide they want to be an infantry officer, an intelligence officer, an aviator, a Marine Corps special operations officer or any other "job" in the Marine Corps. They must understand that they are Marines that perform a variety of individual functions in the Marine Corps. They are Marines first and foremost, everything else is merely how they contribute to the success of their fellow Marines on the battlefield.

They must also commit themselves to excellence, trust and accountability; to being a selfless servant warrior leader. Holding themselves and others accountable to these ideals is what makes Marines. Commitment to doing what is right, not what is easy is the hallmark of the culture they will be joining.

They must practice those habits daily while midshipmen, so it is a part of their DNA when commissioned. That is not to say that other service assignment opportunities and the entire Brigade shouldn't demand the same commitment, but to be selected for assignment as Marine, they must exemplify that commitment throughout their entire time as midshipmen. Being selected as a Marine is exceptionally competitive, and the commitment to trust, excellence and accountability as a selfless servant leader across the entirety of their midshipmen experience will separate them from those that will not receive their opportunity to be Marines.

McGaugh: Make sure you understand what options the Marine Corps can truly offer you versus the Navy. Many programs are either not offered or are more competitive to gain entrance once you transition from the Navy to the Marine Corps. If your passion is to be a U.S. Marine then by all means do it! Semper Paratus!

Benedict: Work hard and be sincere about joining our team. The quality of USNA graduates has never been

better, but it takes a special individual to thrive in the Marines. Without a hard work ethic and a sincere passion for your country and our Corps, it would be hard to live this lifestyle and earnestly lead Marines.

Ché Bolden: Dedicate yourself to being a lifelong learner ... you will never know all that you think you should. However, as long as you remain open to new—and different—opportunities, and empower your Marines, sailors, soldiers, airmen, guardians and/or coast guardsmen to do their job, your potential can be realized and your growth as both a leader and a human, is limitless.

Pallotta: I always tell midshipmen that the Corps is not for everyone. If you think it is for you, then do Leatherneck before first-class year and you will know if the fit is right and we are your tribe. It is important that you make this decision for yourself—not what you think others want you to do (parents, friends, significant others, the Marines on the Yard, etc.). Being a Marine is not easy or comfortable, and you have to really want it—for the right reasons. If you want to join our tribe, then go for it.

Goodale: The Marine Corps is by no means the path of least resistance. Marine officers are constantly tested in all sorts of ways—physically, mentally, emotionally.

You have to really love the idea of working hard and being uncomfortable. If this sounds like you, then look into it in earnest. Meet with Marines on the Yard and ask them about their experiences, and sign up for Leatherneck or other USMC summer trainings.

My particular advice to midshipmen who are LGBTQ+ like me, if you want to commission into the Marine Corps, then go for it. There is a place for you in the Corps. Marines are a group of good-hearted people who really care about three things: Are you competent at your profession? Are you a trustworthy teammate that they can rely on? And do you have the best interest of the Marines you lead in mind? If the answer to these questions is "yes," then you have what you need to be a respected leader in the Corps. ⚓

MARINES ON THE YARD



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF USNA EXCEPT WHERE NOTED

HOW LEADERSHIP INFLUENCES THE FEW, THE PROUD

By Spencer Jones



Marines share a moment of reflection during a celebration of the Marine Corps birthday in November 2022.

It's all about the people for Lieutenant Colonel Tracy Maese '02, USMC. After 21 years serving in the Marine Corps, the mission brought her back to the U.S. Naval Academy. Maese serves as chief of staff for the Marine Corps Detachment. In this capacity, she helps instill the uncompromising values the next generation of officers will take with them into the Corps.

"It's the people who make you stay—period. It's the people who teach you how to lead and it's the people who impact you," Maese said. "When I look upon all of my role models—whether it was here at the Academy or throughout my entire career—it's those leaders who really cared about people, who took the time to invest by sitting kneecap to kneecap to have those hard conversations who were the most impactful in my life. They were willing to tell you what was wrong, what needed to be fixed and, to take their level of care a step further, they spent time to help set you on a path to success."

In 1882, midshipmen at the Naval Academy were authorized to enter the U.S. Marine Corps. Today, the Corps' representatives on the Yard continue to uphold the intrinsic values that have guided generations of Marines and prepared midshipmen for the future of combat. Each graduating class includes at least 25 percent of midshipmen commissioning into the Marine Corps.

The duty to uphold these standards of the Corps at the Academy is held by the Marine Corps Detachment Leadership. Their role is to inspire the next generation of leaders as they commission as second lieutenants. This is done through a variety of resources for midshipmen interested in joining the service that are found throughout the Yard.

Resources Necessary and Accessible

Midshipmen are exposed to the character and leadership expectations of Marine Corps officers starting on I-Day, continuing through their time at the Academy and commissioning, and as the foundation for a life of service. The Naval Academy's Marine Corps Detachment Leadership support system aims to assist midshipmen as they navigate their future career paths.

These resources include:

- Marines are assigned to every company in Bancroft Hall as mentors. They are a resource to help midshipmen gain insights on what it's like to be a Marine Corps officer. Bonds form between officers and midshipmen throughout their journey from midshipmen to their Marine Corps careers and beyond.

- Tactical tools such as capability exercises are conducted throughout the Yard where Marine aircraft, ground vehicles and brand-new gear are available for midshipmen to explore. This includes Marine Corps Static Display days when midshipmen receive information about equipment, aircraft and weapons used by the Marine Corps from Marines stationed in the region.
- During summer training, the Marine Corps dedicates assets in the fleet for midshipmen to join in-depth training programs to experience different communities within the Marine Corps such as Mountain Warfare Training School, Marine Corps martial arts school and their marquee training program, Leatherneck. This is the primary Marine Corps training for midshipmen to evaluate leadership capabilities, military skills and overall dedication to go beyond one's limits. Once complete, the backend of Leatherneck is focused on informing midshipmen the importance of long-term attributes such as accountability and teamwork.

The Warrior Ethos

The warrior ethos, forged in integrity and commitment, is shared with the entire Brigade of Midshipmen. By the time they complete their first-class year, they have acquired the skills to carry with them beyond the Academy and to serve as junior officers ready to lead.

Those values are ingrained in Maese and are especially relevant in her role for the Marine Corps Detachment as she continues to build bonds through the Corps.

“Those relationships, those mentors, those role models ... if I look at Colonel (Nicole) Aunapu Mann '99, USMC, if I look at Colonel Michelle Melendez '00, USMC ... they were my upperclassmen here who planted seeds for what right looked like,” Maese said. “If I look at the themes of their leadership and their mentorship of me at that time, I see that is their authentic leadership approach in their lives today. They love what they do professionally, they love their spouse, they love their children—just as they loved their midshipmen when they were at the Academy.”

There are several leaders throughout Maese's life who made a significant impact on her Marine Corps experience, especially while at the Academy.

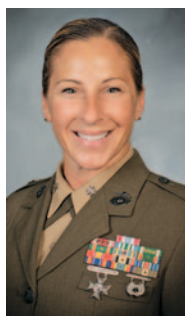
“Captain Mark Clemente '79, USMC (Ret.), my sponsor father and director of Leadership, Ethics and Law (LEL) at the Academy while I was a midshipman; ajor Kevin M. Shea, USMC (USAFA '89),



my electrical engineering instructor; Captain Dave Richardson, my company officer; and Carin Gabarra, Navy's women's soccer coach during my time on the team. Each of these leaders proved to be a part of my extended military family, as well as my personal and professional growth.”

Today, Maese carries the aspects of the Marine Corps ethos that she found in each of these leaders. In particular, the core Academy value of honor, to serve others selflessly and with integrity, exemplified by her instructor, Shea, who cross-commissioned as a Marine from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1989.

“Major Shea began each class with a short, motivational Marine Corps video,



“Whatever your role is here, the significant impact that you can have on any midshipman that you encounter ... it's an enormous responsibility and a humbling one, at that. Leading is a fundamental privilege and should be treated as such.”

—Lieutenant Colonel Tracy Maese '02, USMC



A Marine aviator interacts with midshipmen on Hospital Point during spring combat displays.

which may sound cliché, but the videos showcased not only the warfighting capabilities the Marine Corps has, but really displayed Marines’ mental fortitude and teamwork in a unit,” Maese said.

“After the conclusion of each video, he would tie the video into the lesson being taught that day. In essence, our minds were in a good space—we were excited about the lesson before us, knowing full well that it would be easy for some and challenging for others. Collectively, we left the classroom with a sense of reward after our hard work in a rigorous subject, supported because our instructor instilled a sense of camaraderie within the group, and eager to come back to a

classroom in which the instructor was equally as passionate about his origins (Air Force Academy), his profession (USMC) and his assignment (electrical engineering). I was inspired—his energy was infectious.”

While a professor at the Academy, Shea was also the assistant rugby coach. In 2004, Shea deployed to Fallujah as part of the 1st Marine Regiment where he served for seven months. Shortly after completing his tour before heading back home, Shea was tragically killed in action after a rocket slammed into his base of operations.

Shea’s legacy of leadership and inspiration lives on at both the Air Force Academy and the Naval Academy. Shea is an honorary graduate of the Naval Academy and was posthumously promoted to lieutenant colonel. Today, the rugby match between Air Force and Navy is played in his honor and the winner of the match is awarded the LtCol Kevin M. Shea (USMC) Memorial Rugby Cup. He represented the leadership examples and core values of both service academies. For the Naval Academy, it was honor, courage and commitment. For the Air Force Academy, it was integrity first, service before self and excellence in all he did.

Legacy at the Ready

Marine Corps leaders at the Academy embrace the importance of leadership and understand the impact their mission, educational structure, formal training and legacy have on young leaders.

“Those were the foundations that were set here,” Maese said. “How to prioritize by understanding what’s truly important; to take a step back and recognize success will only come if you lead with the mindset of mission first, people always. That’s been very impactful on me as an officer, shaped how I lead and what I have found the Marines expect and deserve of their leaders.



“The midshipmen give us energy; they are the future. One of these midshipmen at graduation is going to possibly be a future commandant of the Marine Corps or chief of naval operations. We are preparing these young men and women to lead our services for the next 20 years.”

—Colonel Michael Styskal

“Whatever your role is here, the significant impact that you can have on any midshipman that you encounter ... it’s an enormous responsibility and a humbling one, at that. Leading is a fundamental privilege and should be treated as such.”

Remembering these values as a midshipman and having the ability to emphasize strengths and improve weaknesses are central lessons to making the next step to become a Marine Corps officer, Maese said.

One Team—Defined and Connected

Discovering the bond between the Marine Corps and the Navy is a key part of a midshipman’s journey. The Senior Marine at the Naval Academy Marine Corps Detachment, Colonel Michael Styskal, encourages midshipmen to be open-minded when it comes to their service selection. Styskal pushes that an integrated Naval Force, working together, is the key to the Navy and Marine Corps success in the future.

“We are all on one team here,” Styskal said. “We all fight for the same talent and we’re all

Midshipmen wait to board an MV-22 Osprey during squad-level attacks as part of Leatherneck, held at Marine Corps Base Quantico.



Every spring and fall, representatives from the Marine Corps display combat tools for midshipmen to gain a better understanding for what they may use in the field.

going to work together because the Navy and Marine Corps must integrate and work together when we are out in the fleet doing our jobs.

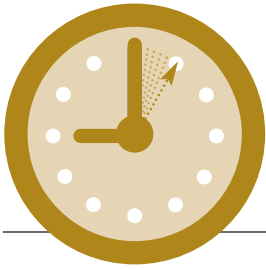
“The midshipmen need to see that team. The Navy and Marine Corps do not exist exclusively. As we look at our adversaries, that is a Navy and Marine Corps fight. It takes all of us to row together.”

Styskal has been a strong advocate and educator of the goals of the Academy and the Marine Corps.

“I enjoy the mission,” Styskal said. “The midshipmen give us energy; they are the future. One of these midshipmen at graduation is going to possibly be a future commandant of the Marine Corps or Chief of naval operations. We are preparing these young men and women to lead our services for the next 20 years.”

The future of the Marine Corps is rooted in the past but continues to grow in the present. Development of midshipmen into Marine Corps officers is essential for the next fight and Marine Corps officers at the Academy look forward to what is to come.

“The nature of warfare isn’t changing, but the conduct of it is, and what is going to happen in the future is important,” Styskal said. “The things that we learn at the Academy in academics, in Bancroft Hall, and on the sports field are still as relevant as they were back in the 1940s. We are preparing young men and women to be leaders of our nation when they have to go into combat. It’s about the Marines and the sailors and how we can lead them the best.” ⚓



FIVE MINUTES WITH...

DAN BALLISTER '86

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

Dan Ballister '86 turned a challenge into a tasty business.

Ballister was tailgating with fellow veterans during the 2012 Army-Navy football game when the genesis of a profitable idea was sparked. A general walked through the pregame conversation with a tray of buffalo wings and someone shouted, "that guy deserves his own hot sauce." Ballister accepted the challenge. It took a year—mostly spent procrastinating—but by the 2013 Army-Navy game (the 12th consecutive Navy win), Ballister was serving up his own pepper creation.

He caught lightning in a BBQ sauce bottle. General's' Hot Sauce officially launched as a business in 2016. Ballister, the co-founder and CEO of Smoke Hall Foods L3C, said the firm started with the intention of donating most of its profits to military and veteran families. General's sauces are packaged in glass grenades and include: Dead Red, Grunt Green, Danger Close, Shock & Awe, Hooah Jalapeno and Maple Mayhem.

Ballister served five years as a surface warfare officer in the U.S. Navy, completing two deployments to the Western Pacific before moving into the private sector. After his military service, he worked in the consumer-packaged goods business for five years.

He then spent more than 20 years in the digital media and internet advertising technology industries, where he advanced to executive leadership positions gaining business acumen as an operator, then an executive, then as an investor and lastly as a consultant. He has held executive positions with Over The Wall Ventures, TRAFFIQ and the National Basketball Association, among others.

Shipmate: What motivated you to launch a company after that pledge to create a sauce for the 2013 Army-Navy game?

Ballister: We wanted to help military and veteran families, and we wanted a side project to work on together as we all got older, so it seemed like a pretty good combo. It's since developed into something a lot bigger and a lot more fun than we could've imagined. Plus, nobody wants to be the guy thought of as all talk and no action so it was an easy decision.

Shipmate: What's been the most rewarding part of owning and operating a hot sauce company?

Ballister: Seeing the idea come to life and the opportunity to help and work with veterans and watch them develop in the civilian world. We have three Marines that each run a branch of the company split up between finance, business development, and of course, operations. Watching them go from the military, to college students, to business professionals has been really cool to watch and have a hand in.

On 4 July, I had a stroke and was out of commission for a couple of weeks, and they immediately stepped up and continued to run and grow the business. After wishing me the best for my recovery, the next thing out of their mouths was "Next man up," and we as a company never missed a beat. Besides writing donation checks, that's definitely been the most rewarding part because it's such a personal experience and I get to live it every day.



Shipmate: The company's four principles include supporting American farmers and helping veterans. Why is that important and how are you accomplishing those goals?

Ballister: It's important to us because we can never do enough to support returning veterans and their families and every bit matters. Since we formed the business, we've enabled the gifting of well over half a million dollars to help veterans. We were even writing some smaller donation checks before we were even profitable just based on principle. Thankfully we have great investors, most of them Naval Academy alumni, and the more we grow, the more our ability to donate will grow with it.

At The General's Hot Sauce, we believe very deeply in the capabilities of the American farmer. We don't trust importers and we think American produce is superior and grown in better conditions. Additionally, we want to support not only the American economy, but our local economy as well, which is why we partnered with our farmers right down the road from us in South Carolina. Our ongoing commitment to the American farmer will always be a core value of our company.

Shipmate: How did the Naval Academy prepare you for success beyond your time in uniform?

Ballister: The Naval Academy convinces you that you can do anything if you set your mind to it, and they also teach you to stay true to your word, so don't say something and then not do it. Startups are hard and definitely not for the faint of heart. A lot of days are like the Herndon Climb, so getting up early doesn't hurt either.

Shipmate: Which of the sauces is your favorite and why?

Ballister: My favorite is our first sauce, Dead Red. It's sort of the godfather of all our other sauces. It's the flavor we used to perfect the recipe, its heat level is manageable for almost everyone, and not to mention it's one of our best-selling sauces. It belongs on every kitchen table in America—we're still working on that, but we'll get there! ☐

SERVANT LEADERSHIP

'DANT EMPHASIZES SKILLS, TRAITS TO SHAPE MIDSHIPMEN INTO SUCCESSFUL OFFICERS

Colonel James P. McDonough III '94, USMC, always knew he wanted to serve and it took just one trip to the Naval Academy to cement his desire to be a midshipman.

McDonough, the Naval Academy's 89th Commandant, visited Annapolis while in high school and instantly knew he found his new home. Then a St. Louis, MO, resident, McDonough arrived at the Academy as an aspiring pilot.

Ultimately, he would commission into the Marine Corps and serve as an artillery officer. He served in support of Operations Swift and Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. His command assignments include Kilo Battery Commander, 3rd Battalion, 10th Marines in support of Operations Swift and Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan; battalion operations officer, 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment; officer in charge, Embedded Training Team 6-5, Afghan National Army in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan; commanding officer of 1st Battalion, 11th Marines; and most recently as commander, 10th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division.

In June 2021, he became the third Marine to serve as Commandant of Midshipmen. The traditional two-year tour at the Academy was extended one year to provide some continuity within Yard leadership as commandants and superintendents won't rotate off the same year in the future.

While McDonough had multiple opportunities to leave the Corps, he said the call of servant leadership and his fellow

Marines kept him in uniform. He recently shared part of his journey as a Marine with *Shipmate*.

Shipmate: Why did you choose to attend the Academy?

McDonough: My father was in the Air Force, my grandfather was in the Army Air Corps then the Air Force and I have an aunt who was in the Army. I wanted to fly. *Top Gun* influenced almost all of us at some point. Medically, I wasn't sure if I was going to be able to fly. The Naval Academy offered me the most options, to include the Marine Corps along with surface Navy and submarines. I knew I wanted to be in the military, and this gave me the best opportunities.

Shipmate: Do you remember when and why you chose to commission into the Marine Corps?

McDonough: At Leatherneck, I was pretty sure I was going to go Marine Corps. When I went to Mountain Warfare Training Center, I was with 1st Battalion, 4th Marines and got to hang out with lieutenants. I was with a weapons platoon and interacted with the Marines. We were doing some really physically challenging stuff, and hiking through the mountains. The fact that I was able to hang and carry a machine gun, I realized I could do this. I liked the validation.

Shipmate: Who were some of your mentors and how did they influence your leadership style?

McDonough: I went to U.S. Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center as a midshipman. The opportunity to train with Marines really sealed the deal. Larry Nicholson, USMC (Ret.), was one of the battalion officers here who went on to become a three-star general. He was just a motivator. When you see Marines on the Yard, they're always sharp and they're always professional. They held people to standards. I quickly realized those were the people I wanted to surround myself with. I was inspired.

We had a company officer, Chris Peet, who was a traditional recon Marine. He took us to climb Mount Washington over Christmas Break one year. It was a small group of my classmates, and I did something I never thought was possible. That challenge—and always pushing yourself—really drew me to want to be a Marine. When I got a chance to go see enlisted Marines, I realized that's what I wanted to do.

When I was an instructor at The Basic School, then Colonel John Allen '76, USMC, was CO of the Basic School and then went



Col James P. McDonough III '94, USMC, is the third Marine Corps officer to serve as Commandant of Midshipmen at the Naval Academy.

on to become the first Marine Corps Commandant at the Naval Academy and retired a general officer. He really helped shape me through his example and the way he led. His professionalism, his intellect and his intellectual curiosity was very inspirational. I was going to get out and go into the FBI. I went with a run with him and the next thing you know, I'm staying in the Marine Corps.

He was the type of leader who took personal interest in me to guide and mentor. He demonstrated servant leadership and showed that taking care of your people makes a difference in their lives.

Shipmate: What lessons did you learn as an artillery officer that stuck with you and the way you lead?

McDonough: Artillery officers pride ourselves in having attention to detail. It's a detail-oriented job where the data you put on the guns matters. If your round falls short, it can kill the wrong people and you have aircraft you're coordinating with, so, timing is important and attention to detail is important. That attention to detail was really burned into me early as a lieutenant.

The nature of an artillery officer is to move jobs every six months or every year. It's constantly continuing to learn and gain experience. Knowing your craft and being professional is something I've tried to instill here with my staff and the midshipmen. Those small things matter. Attention to detail on the small things makes the big things better.

Shipmate: What leadership traits do you hope midshipmen take with them into the fleet or Marine Corps?

McDonough: Attention to detail is certainly one of them. I don't care what you do in the Navy or Marine Corps. You're not going to be successful if you don't pay attention to detail. Know your people. The idea of servant leadership is absolutely critical. The people we lead rely on us to know them, to take care of them, to train them and to hold them accountable.

I hope when midshipmen leave here as ensigns and second lieutenants they have the expectation that they are there to serve their sailors or Marines. They can do some pretty amazing things when you take care of them.

Shipmate: What does your time in the Corps mean to you and what keeps you in uniform?

McDonough: I've had opportunities to get out numerous times. It's the opportunity to serve. I've had some unique opportunities to command, but I've got two master's degrees out of it. The Marine Corps has done a good job of not putting me in just one place and expecting me to do something for 30 years. It's given me a wide variety of opportunities. You don't always get the job you want or the place you want to go but if you do bloom where you're planted, I've found success will come your way.

I gain energy being around midshipmen and seeing them excel. The opportunity to work with Marines and sailors is the reason I've continued to stay in. ⚓

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NAVY SISTERS

A&SP STUDENTS SHARE IMPROBABLE JOURNEY TO THE ACADEMY

Ariella Clarino '27 and Eva Ottenbreit '27 couldn't believe what they were telling each other.

The odds were infinitesimal. But there were just enough coincidences for it to be true.

They traced their paths back to the same Chinese orphanage.

They shared a pre-adopted last name (Dong Fang).

They attended the same prep school.

They share a deep commitment to serve.

They aspired to attend the Naval Academy.



On 27 June, Clarino and Ottenbreit reported to the Naval Academy for I-Day minus one. While their journeys began more than 7,000 miles away in the Jiangxi province of China, Ottenbreit and Clarino started their plebe year together. Although they met less than a year ago, they expect to be forever linked.

"It's like we're sisters," Clarino said. "At prep school, she was my Navy sister. Even though we only met a few months ago, she really feels like a sister to me. I'm blessed to go through this experience with her."

Clarino and Ottenbreit are Athletic & Scholarship Program (A&SP) students who attended Northwestern Preparatory School in Crestline, CA. They were placed in the same dorm upon entrance at Northwestern and in adjoining bunk beds.

Once they started talking, they began to unravel the extraordinary coincidences of their parallel lives. Ottenbreit and Clarino peeled back the layers once they revealed to one another they each were adopted. Then, they learned they came from the same orphanage and were there at the same time.

It seems inconceivable that out of all the orphanages in China, all of the potential universities to apply to and the 16 Naval Academy affiliated preparatory schools, Ottenbreit and Clarino followed the same path.

"It was crazy," Ottenbreit said. "I was shocked. Who would have thought that on an itty-bitty mountaintop in California, that we would have chosen the same prep school and the same service academy?"

Ottenbreit was 10 months old when her parents, Kari and Mark, traveled to China to bring her home in February 2005. There was no way to predict she and Clarino (who was

Far left: Ariella Clarino '27 (left) and Eva Ottenbreit '27 (right) met at Northwestern Preparatory School in the mountain town of Crestline, CA, where they learned they were both adopted from the same Chinese orphanage.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KARI OTTENBREIT

also a baby at the Taihe Orphanage) would someday cross paths again.

Clarino's parents, Lorrena and Richard, adopted her when she was 10 months old. Born on 20 October 2004, Clarino was left outside a fire station in TaiHe province in December 2004. An accompanying note included her birthday.

Ottenbreit is from Grosse Ile, MI, while Clarino hails from Chino Hills, CA. Their parents became friends during their time at Northwestern Prep. They also learned that each of their mothers are twins.

Kari Ottenbreit said it's been surreal watching her daughter realize her dream of attending the Naval Academy. The Ottenbreit family knows she will make the most of this opportunity.

"She was born with an inspiring drive and a commitment to everything she puts her mind to," Kari Ottenbreit said. "She has a genuine desire to give back to the country where she was afforded opportunities not available in China.

"Eva appreciates life and embraces all things new and challenging. Having Eva attend the Academy is a blessing we never dreamed of when she was placed in our arms 18 years ago."

'Honor and a Blessing'

Hearing her father's sea stories, watching movies about the Navy and the TV series *JAG* sparked Clarino's interest in the Navy. Her father served in the U.S. Navy for 20 years. Clarino's intent to attend the Naval Academy was among the goals written on a whiteboard in her home on 9 May 2016.

The Clarino family visited the Academy in August 2018 as part of her high school tour. She returned home determined to earn her way into the Academy. Clarino



Ariella Clarino '27 at the Taihe Orphanage in China where she was adopted by Richard and Lorrena Clarino on 22 August 2005.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RICHARD CLARINO

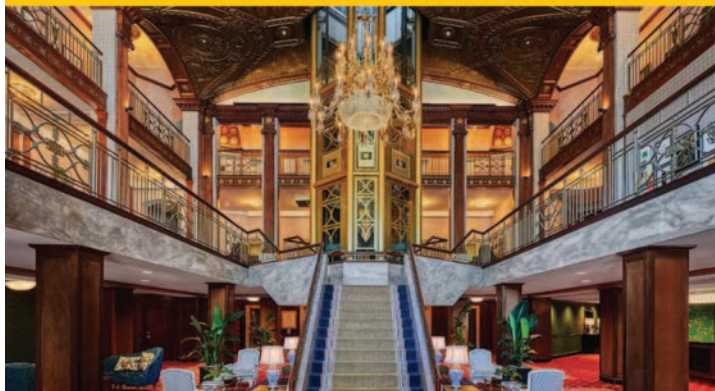


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Eva Ottenbreit '27 with her brother on her adoption day in China.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KARI OTTENBREIT



attended the virtual summer seminar during the pandemic in 2021. She was accepted to several universities that she applied for in California, including the University of California-Berkeley. While in high school, Clarino completed three associate degrees as a dual enrollee.

Her parents are immigrants from the Philippines. Those influences, and an innate desire to serve, ultimately led her to the Naval Academy.

“I grew up in a military family,” she said. “I was always instilled with the idea to give back to the country. It’s about giving back to the country that has done so much for my family.”

“(To be at the Naval Academy is) an honor and a blessing.”

Ottenbreit visited the Academy as part of her eighth-grade field trip to Washington, DC. Her mother said she came home from that trip and announced to the family the Naval Academy was where she was going to go to college. She attended summer STEM as a rising sophomore in June 2019 and the Academy’s summer seminar (virtually) in June 2021.

From left to right: Eva Ottenbreit '27 and Ariella Clarino '27 during I-Day.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF KARI OTTENBREIT AND RICHARD CLARINO

Ottenbreit said she was impressed with the Academy’s structure. She wanted to be a part of the Brigade of Midshipmen who unite around a common cause.

“Everyone is here for the same reason,” Ottenbreit said. “We want to serve. We want to give back.”

Kari Ottenbreit said her daughter attended the Coast Guard Academy’s AIM summer program virtually in 2021 and was offered an appointment there as well. Nothing could sway her from coming to Annapolis, Kari Ottenbreit said.

“Her heart stayed with USNA,” Kari said.

The Naval Academy was a natural fit for Ottenbreit who sails, rows and swims.

Richard Clarino said the family feels blessed to share this journey. He said timing was critical for his future daughter to join their family. When the Clarinos were going through with the adoption application process, it was delayed for several months because paperwork required Richard’s signature. He was unable to sign because he was at sea.

“If we were on time with our paperwork, we would have been matched with a different child,” he said. “But because of the delay, we were matched with Ariella.”

Clarino is grateful for all that America has provided, her father said.

“Going to the Academy is my daughter’s way of giving back to a country that gave her boundless opportunities,” he said.

Clarino and Ottenbreit expect to support each other throughout their time on the Yard and into their professional lives of service. Their Naval Academy journey began with a bond strengthened by shared experiences.

“Now that we have each other, it’s like a friend for life,” Ottenbreit said. “We’re going to be with each other forever. If I ever need anything, I know I can go to her.” 🚢



NAVAL SONS and DAUGHTERS

By Rear Admiral Fred Kacher '90, USN



PHOTO COURTESY OF HELEN MODESETT

Change of Command for CDR Doug Robb '05, USN, with his family and godparents in April with a background view of the Coronado Bay Bridge from the deck of MIDWAY in San Diego, CA.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CDR SAMANTHA O'NEIL '05, USN

CDR Samantha A. O'Neil '05, USN, and her husband LtCol Keiran O'Neil '05, USMC.

The concept of family has long been central to our Navy. Families support us, cheer us on and sacrifice along the way in every navy career. In the best run ships, crews also become their own family of sorts, sailing, operating and serving together far away from home. Over a career, this “family” of those we serve alongside extends across ships, homeports and even decades as we continue our own naval journeys.

If you are fortunate to serve as long as I have, soon enough you will have the privilege to witness ensigns become lieutenants, seamen become chief petty officers, and most special of all, see those you've led command at sea. On a personal note, my wife, Pam, and I have seen junior officers get married, welcome their first child and, on a few occasions, we were the first adults other than mom or dad to hold their newborn overseas.

In fact, observing naval “sons” and “daughters” move onward and upward remains one of the great pleasures of this profession. This year, two members of my naval family, both proud members of the

Class of 2005, achieved milestones that make me awfully proud to have served with them.

Commander Doug Robb '05, USN, completed a remarkable run as commanding officer of SPRUANCE. From a sterling WestPac deployment, to winning awards in Tactical and Undersea Warfare excellence to being recognized as the best prepared Tomahawk shooter in the Pacific, Doug's ship excelled on all fronts, to include earning the Battle Efficiency Award from Destroyer Squadron 21. A co-author of *The Naval Officer's Guide to the Pentagon*, Doug, his incredibly accomplished wife, Kate, and their two kids, Lincoln and Genevieve, are off to England as Doug commences a year-long Navy Hudson Fellowship at Oxford.

Commander Samantha “Sam” O'Neil '05, USN, who served with me at Surface Forces Pacific following two superb chief engineer tours on PREBLE and COWPENS, was recently selected as the lead author of the U.S. Naval Institute's *Newly Commissioned Naval Officer's Guide*. Sam, who co-wrote two previous books

dedicated to junior officer and department head leadership, now serves as a commander in the United States Navy Reserve, is a great mom to Kiera, and is married to a terrific Marine, Lieutenant Colonel Kieran O'Neil '05, USMC, who currently commands III Marine Expeditionary Force Support Battalion in Okinawa.

As Doug and Sam open new professional chapters across the Atlantic and Pacific respectively, Pam and I are honored to return to the Naval Academy for a period of time. As we do so, I feel honored to play a role in developing the Brigade of Midshipmen, America's sons and daughters from across the United States, as they prepare to do great things for our Nation. 🙏

Rear Admiral Fred Kacher '90, USN, currently serves as the Acting Superintendent of the United States Naval Academy and previously commanded STOCKDALE, Destroyer Squadron 7 and Expeditionary Strike Group 7, forward deployed to the Western Pacific.





ANCHORS AWEIGH

ALUMNI TRAVEL IN RECORD NUMBERS TO SUPPORT MIDSHIPMEN, MAKE LIFELONG MEMORIES ON THE EMERALD ISLE

The Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation's (USNA AA&F) travel program delivered exclusive excursions in Dublin during the days leading up to the Navy-Notre Dame game at Aviva Field on 26 August. These included private visits to the Book of Kells Exhibition and Old Library at Trinity College and a private guided tour of Dublin Zoo.

Dublin was teeming with Blue & Gold as Naval Academy alumni, family and friends descended on the Emerald Isle. Although the football game was the week's marquee event, Navy travelers reveled in the exquisite culture, history and attractions Dublin and Ireland offer.

Through USNA AA&F, members of the Naval Academy community were offered opportunities to attend a Jameson Black Barrell Blending Class in which participants could create and take their own blend home or join a Dublin Castle Tour.

Navy travel program participants also were invited to the Dublin Hooley (an Irish party with music) at EPIC Museum on 24 August and a private welcome reception at Guinness Storehouse on 25 August which drew 1,200 attendees. The USNA AA&F pre-game tailgate sold out with 1,350 in attendance.

The game at Aviva Stadium was a sellout and the event was projected to have a \$187 million economic impact.

Here are some highlights of a week packed with events that showcased the best of Dublin.



BUCKET LIST—Among the 43,000 American football fans traveling to Dublin for the game was Philip Taylor '58. His four children made the trip possible as a 90th birthday present. Taking in the game were: Taylor's daughter Kathryn Brink, his son Timothy Taylor, Taylor, Timothy's partner Leah Parisian, and Kathryn's husband Duane Brink. The game at Aviva Stadium was a sellout.

"Without them, this wouldn't have been possible," Taylor said. "At my age, you don't get too many more things like this."

FEATURE



NAVY RUGBY—Navy's rugby team defeated Notre Dame 78-0 on 25 August at Trinity College. The defending national champions were supported by a throng of alumni, parents and friends that circled the pitch. Coach Gavin Hickie, a Dublin native, was grateful for the turnout to see his team play. "It was phenomenal," he said. "It was three or four deep all around the pitch. The atmosphere was amazing, the crowd was amazing. It makes me feel very, very proud as an Irish person."



IRISH HOMECOMING—Maj Andrew Cody '09, USMC, returned to his homeland to watch the Navy-Notre Dame game in Dublin with his mother, Heather, and sister, Jade. Cody went to the Naval Academy as an international exchange student. He became a U.S. citizen and currently flies F-35Cs in VMFA-311 Miramar, San Diego.

Cody shares his hometown of Wexford with Commodore John Barry, the Father of the American Navy, who served as commander of the entire United States fleet during the Revolutionary War. Cody thanked his mother for supporting him throughout his journey to the Academy and beyond.

"My mother helped to get me to this point," Cody said.



DUBLIN HOOLEY—

Above: The Welcome to Dublin Hooley on 24 August at EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum attracted more than 1,200 attendees. This included (from left to right) Meghan Latcovich '99, Ambassador Cindy H. McCain, Simon Latcovich '98 and Beth Regoli '99. McCain, the wife of the late CAPT John S. McCain '58, USN (Ret.), was approved as ambassador to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture in October 2021. She currently serves as executive director of the World Food Programme.

Right: Elice and CDR Douglas Little '68, USN (Ret.), made their sixth visit to Ireland for the Navy-Notre Dame game. They attended the Welcome to Dublin Hooley on 24 August at EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum and posed with the Rip Miller trophy which is awarded to the winner of the Navy-Notre Dame game. The experienced Emerald Isle travelers encouraged future visitors to book enough time in Ireland to explore the entire country.

Far right: Rick Lowell '78 with the Rip Miller trophy which is awarded to the winner of the Navy-Notre Dame game. He attended the 2012 game against Notre Dame in Dublin and used this year's trip to begin a month-long tour of Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales.





NAVY ALUMNI FLOOD DUBLIN—The Winkle family returned to Dublin for the 2023 Navy-Notre Dame game after attending the 2012 game.

At that time, Jeremy Winkle '03, his wife LCDR Stacey Winkle, USN, brought along newborn Emery. This year, the family—which now includes 8 year old Ellowyn—participated in a Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation trivia contest in front of Temple Bar on 23 August. Thanks to the input from their daughters, the Winkle family aced the test and earned prizes including Bill the Goat key chains and Ireland-themed challenge coins.



CONNECTING AT THE ZOO—Members of the Class of 1976 enjoyed a visit to the Dublin Zoo, which was an exclusive excursion offered through the Alumni Association and Foundation's travel program. Frequent travel partners Dee and Col John Kruse '76, USMC (Ret.), and Mary and LCDR Wayne Walters '76, USN (Ret.), were part of a guided tour of the zoo on 25 August. Their ties to the Naval Academy run deep. The Walters family, of Calvert County, MD, includes son CDR Matt Walters '02, USN, and son-in-law CDR-select Evan Scott '07, USN. The Kruse family, who resides in Arnold, MD, includes sons Patrick Kruse '06 and CAPT-select Jack Kruse '01, USN.



PRIDE SIG—Members of the USNA Pride Shared Interest Group (SIG) hosted a pre-game gathering with their Notre Dame counterparts at The George night club in Dublin on 25 August. Among those in attendance were (left to right), back row: Capt Gabe Sganga, USMC (Ret.); LT Jonathan Wabeke '17, USN; USNA Pride SIG President CAPT Christopher Goodale '17, USMC, and Jerry Callanan. Front row: Judy Callanan and Maj Audry Callanan '08, USMC.



GUINNESS WELCOME—More than 1,200 members of the alumni community joined the Alumni Association and Foundation at the Guinness Storehouse on 25 August to tour, hear a U2 tribute band, learn how to pour the perfect Guinness and take in the sweeping views from the Gravity Bar on the rooftop of the seven-story building.

2024 ALUMNI TRAVEL

VIETNAM BY SEA

Admiral Robert Natter '67, USN (Ret.), will serve as guest lecturer during a 22 February-6 March Vietnam by Sea tour. The cruise includes visits to Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi. Kim Phuc, who became known as the Napalm Girl, based on the 1972 photograph by Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer Nick Ut is scheduled to be on the cruise. TV news correspondent Jim Laurie will also be on the trip.

WORLD WAR II

In March, a VIP World War II trip to the Philippines is being offered. Author and historian James Scott will reveal the stories behind the war including a one-kilometer walk of the Bataan Death March and the remains of the prisoner of war camp at Cabanatuan. The excursion also includes a trip to the Manila and the ancient walled city of Intramuros.

Between 26 April and 4 May, a tour will be offered to learn about the devastating invasion of Normandy and the heroic actions of the U.S. military on Omaha and Utah beaches. The trip also includes a visit to the Normandy American Cemetery. An 80th Anniversary of D-Day trip on Seabourn Cruises is also available through the alumni travel program (29 May-8 June) as well as two tours with AHI (26 April-4 May and 3-11 May) of Normandy. A 6-9 June excursion to the National WWII Museum in New Orleans offers a chance to explore, remember and reflect on the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 101st Airborne through exclusive access to the museum's campus. During a 13-day experience (25 June-7 July), you can learn about Easy Company's gripping movement from England to the hedgerows of Normandy through the foxholes surrounding Bastogne. This trip is also exclusive to Navy and Notre Dame. ⚓

BRAVO ZULU

1980s

'85: CAPT Ed Pierson, USNR (Ret.), is featured in the Prime video "Flight/Risk" an Emmy-nominated investigative documentary streaming on Amazon. He is a safety advocate, keynote speaker and executive director for The Foundation for Aviation Safety.

'89: CDR Shawn P. Hendricks, USN (Ret.), has been named Orbit Fab's first COO, where he will oversee streamlining production and testing of the Rapidly Attachable Fluid Transfer Interface (RAFTI) refueling port and other systems that play a pivotal role in Orbit Fab's in-space fuel delivery service infrastructure.

1990s

'92: Chris Rivera has been appointed president of Tampa-based SCP & CO, a private investment and fund management firm focused on emerging technology platforms. He will lead the company's future investments in the artificial intelligence and Web3 spaces.

'98: Roger Ashworth has joined Goldman Sachs as managing director (MD). He was at Citi for ten years before joining Goldman, working in the non-agency MBS (mortgage-backed securities) research team, most recently as an MD. At Goldman, he will work in the securitized products research team.

2000s

'10: Michael McLaughlin has joined Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney in its Washington, DC, office. McLaughlin joins the firm as a principal in its government relations section and will co-lead its cybersecurity and data privacy practice group.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE U.S. NAVY
From right to left, RADM Tom Williams, USN, commander, Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG) 2; CAPT Eric Kellum '96, USN, assigned to ESG 2; and CAPT Ian Scaliatine '00, USN, commanding officer of the San Antonio-class amphibious transport dock ship ARLINGTON, bow their heads during the benediction at ARLINGTON's change of command ceremony in Norfolk, VA, in August. Scaliatine became ARLINGTON's ninth commanding officer since the ship's commissioning on 6 April 2013.

Scaliatine '00 Relieves Kellum '96 as CO of ARLINGTON

CAPT Ian J. Scaliatine '00, USN, took command of San Antonio-class amphibious transport dock ship ARLINGTON from **CAPT Eric S. Kellum '96, USN**, during a change of command ceremony in August in Norfolk, VA.

Under Kellum's leadership, ARLINGTON successfully completed a humanitarian aid/disaster relief mission to Haiti in response to the nation's 7.2 magnitude earthquake that affected nearly 10,000 people; completed a seven-month deployment to U.S. 6th Fleet with the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU); and received the 2022 Navy Battle "E" award for obtaining the highest overall readiness level to carry out assigned wartime tasks.

Kellum's next assignment will be chief of staff at Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG) 2. Scaliatine is the ninth commanding officer of ARLINGTON.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE U.S. NAVY
CDR David Crescitelli '02, USN, left, and CDR Vance Scott '04, USN, salute during a change of command ceremony for the OHIO-class ballistic missile submarine NEBRASKA at Naval Base Kitsap in Bangor, WA, in July. Scott relieved Crescitelli as commanding officer of NEBRASKA.

Crescitelli '02 Hands NEBRASKA Reins to Scott '04

CDR David M. Crescitelli '02, USN, the commanding officer of OHIO-class ballistic missile submarine NEBRASKA, passed command to **CDR Vance D. Scott '04, USN**, during a change of command ceremony at the Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor Chapel at Silverdale, WA, in July.

Pastor Bill McKinney '90, a mentor to Crescitelli, served as the guest speaker for the ceremony. Crescitelli assumed command of NEBRASKA (Blue) on 21 January 2021. Scott has master's degrees in leadership from the University of Maryland; National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College; and Engineering Management from Old Dominion University.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE U.S. NAVY
CDR Scott Bresnahan '03, USN, left, shakes hands with CDR Kyle McVay '04, USN, after being relieved as commanding officer of INDIANA during a change of command ceremony in Groton, CT, in June. CAPT Thomas O'Donnell, USN, center, commander of Submarine Squadron 12, presided over the ceremony.

Bresnahan '03 Hands Command of INDIANA to McVay '04

CDR Scott Bresnahan '03, USN, turned command of VIRGINIA-class fast-attack submarine INDIANA to **CDR Kyle McVay '04, USN**, in June at Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton, CT. Bresnahan took command of INDIANA in April 2021. His previous submarine tours include LA JOLLA, TEXAS and NORTH CAROLINA. Following his INDIANA command tour, Bresnahan will continue to serve on the staff of the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Undersea Warfare Division (OPNAV) 97 in Washington, DC. McVay's previous submarine tours include GEORGIA, CHARLOTTE and MISSISSIPPI.

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

FAMILY TIES

THE SERVICE OF FIVE GENERATIONS OF McNAIRS BEGAN AT THE ACADEMY

By Kim Catley

From the 16th Commandant and then the 16th Superintendent to a Medal of Honor recipient, to a lieutenant submariner and now a midshipman in his youngster year, the McNair family history parallels that of the U.S. Naval Academy. Testaments of the family’s storied naval history include McNair Road within the Yard, McNAIR, a decorated World War II Fletcher-class destroyer and a bust built into the foundation of Number One Observatory Circle at the U.S. Naval Observatory, which now serves as the U.S. vice president’s residence.

What has driven the McNairs, for five generations, to serve their country in the United States Navy?

Here, we look at the defining McNair family traits, past and present, which forever link them to the Naval Academy values of duty, honor and loyalty.



RADM Frederick Vallette McNair, USN, Class of 1857

THE FIRST GENERATION

Rear Admiral Frederick Vallette McNair, USN (Ret.), Class of 1857

Inspired by the stories of the Scottish American naval captain John Paul Jones, Frederick V. McNair enrolled in the Naval Academy as a plebe in 1853.

He graduated in 1857, shortly before the start of the American Civil War. During the war, he was assigned to “Farragut’s Fleet,” where he assisted in the Atlantic blockade stations and Mississippi River patrols under Admiral David Farragut. After serving in the Union Navy, he returned to the Naval Academy as Executive Officer of the Seamanship Department, where he served in that billet from 1871-1875. Frederick then returned to the Naval Academy from 1878 to 1883, where he served as the 16th Commandant of Midshipmen.

From 1890 to 1894, Frederick served as superintendent of the Naval Observatory. He was the first resident of the observatory’s facility north of Georgetown. Then, during the Spanish-American War, he served as commander of the Asiatic Squadron on board OLYMPIA from 1895 to 1898. Frederick is credited with training the squadron in precise bombardment and adept navigational wartime maneuvers, which laid the groundwork for Admiral George Dewey’s victory in Manila Bay five months after his departure.

After leaving the Asiatic Squadron, Frederick again returned to the Naval Academy, this time as Superintendent (1898-1900), being one of five alumni to serve as Commandant of Midshipmen and Superintendent. During his tenure, he lobbied

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE McNAIR FAMILY

for and secured funding from Congress to transform the Naval Academy from a 10-acre post at Fort Severn in Annapolis to the “New Naval Academy.”

While Superintendent, his only son, Frederick V. McNair Jr., entered the Naval Academy as a plebe with the Class of 1903. Passing in 1901, Admiral McNair is buried atop Arlington National Cemetery, in front of General Robert E. Lee’s mansion.

THE SECOND GENERATION Captain Frederick V. McNair Jr., USN (Ret.), Class of 1903

Frederick McNair Jr. was born at the Academy in 1882 during his father’s tenure as Commandant. But by age 2, he was on board OLYMPIA, watching as his father Frederick Sr., commanded the Asiatic Squadron.

At age 16, he was appointed a midshipman and returned to the Academy while his father was Superintendent.

Frederick Jr. was a quarterback for the football team, played baseball and ran track, holding the record for the fastest mile time for 30 years. Upon graduation, he was awarded the Naval Academy Athletic Association Sword as the best four-year athlete in his class. Subsequently, he was selected by Robert M. Thompson, Class of 1868, president of the U.S. Olympic Association, to run the one-mile in the Fifth Olympiad in Stockholm, Sweden, in 1912. He is in the Naval Academy Athletic Association Hall of Fame.



MIDN Frederick McNair Jr., Class of 1903



The baby is Frederick Jr. held by MIDN Lewis Nixon, Class of 1882. Frederick Sr. was Commandant at the time.

During Frederick Jr.’s youngster year, his father developed emphysema and died shortly after leaving his post as Superintendent. The younger McNair was committed to continuing his father’s legacy in the Navy.

Frederick Jr. was a lieutenant when he deployed to Mexico during the Veracruz Expedition as part of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet. On 21 April 1914, the Atlantic Fleet seized the Veracruz waterfront, but the following day, Rear Admiral Frank Friday Fletcher, USN, Class of 1875, expanded the operation to take control of the entire city. As the Mexican Naval Academy bombarded their ships in the harbor, Frederick Jr. took his men ashore and ran across the Academy’s parade field to take out their cannons.

Frederick Jr. was awarded the Medal of Honor for his distinguished conduct during the battle, citing his “eminent and conspicuous” command of his battalion and his “courage and skill in leading his men ... in the final occupation of the city.”

After 28 years of service, Frederick Jr. retired from the Navy in 1931. In 1942, his desire to support the war effort led him to captain SS SAMUEL HUNTINGTON, which ferried supplies unescorted from Nova Scotia to the port of Murmansk, Russia. After the war, he returned to the home his father built in Annapolis, outside Gate 3 at 221 King George Street and continued to support the Brigade of Midshipmen until his death in 1962. He lays at rest at the Academy cemetery on Hospital Point.

THE THIRD GENERATION Frederick Vallette McNair III

After two generations, the McNair family was deeply entrenched in the Naval Academy. From his room on King George Street, Frederick V. McNair III could see the Naval Academy Chapel. The Yard was his playground. Often, he would walk through the Academy, watching the drum and bugle corps practicing on Worden Field or midshipmen jogging along the Severn. Witnessing the midshipmen competing vigorously in various sports motivated him from an early age. On one occasion, while walking by the tennis courts, Fred III met the Navy tennis coach, who introduced him to the sport he loved and in which he later excelled.



Frederick McNair III received an appointment to the Naval Academy, for the Class of 1944, but red-green colorblindness denied him entry. He would attend Officer Candidate School at Dartmouth College and served as an aviation ordnance officer on KALININ BAY during World War II.

Graduating from Annapolis High School in 1939, Fred III received his appointment to the Academy. Prior to reporting to the Naval Academy, a medical exam eye test revealed that he was red-green colorblind, and therefore medically disqualified from attending the Academy.

Instead, Fred III enrolled at Cornell University, where he attended at the onset of World War II. With the war effort in full swing, Frederick III was granted a medical waiver to attend Officer Candidate School, commissioning as an ensign in the United States Navy in 1943. After receiving his commission, he served as an aviation ordnance officer onboard KALININ BAY in some of the war's most significant battles, including Saipan, Tinian and Guam. He celebrated his 22nd birthday aboard the ship the day before the Battle of Leyte Gulf.

When he returned home after the war, he joined his father in the life insurance business. But by his desk, he kept a photo of ST. LO—a sister of KALININ BAY—engulfed in flames just a few hundred yards from his own.

“She was hit by a kamikaze that hit the ammunition storage area and exploded the entire astern portion of the ship,” James McNair, Fred III's son said. “It was a reminder to him about the price of liberty and the ultimate sacrifice of his shipmates.”

THE FOURTH GENERATION

Fred III rarely talked about his experiences in the war, but his children—Frederick IV, Lailee, John, Bruce, David and James—were steeped in the history and tradition of the Academy. Every weekend, they traveled from their home in Chevy Chase, MD, to Annapolis to watch whichever sport was in season. Their father's home office was decorated with Navy memorabilia including ship's photos, naval portraits, swords and medals.

“The core values and mission of the Naval Academy were ingrained in all his children,” said James. “We learned the ‘Pledge of Allegiance,’ to love our faith and our country. We lived the motto of ‘God, country, family, shipmates, ship.’”

James' path through the Academy had more twists and turns than his predecessors. Initially, he enlisted in the Navy's nuclear power program to support President Ronald Reagan's fight against the Soviet Union. After two years of service, his father encouraged him to pursue earning a commission through the Naval Academy. James spent a year at the Naval Academy Preparatory School before receiving a presidential appointment, entering with the Class of 1986. While at the Academy, James competed in varsity tennis and squash.

At the end of his youngster year, he watched as President Reagan announced the largest reduction in the naval forces since World War II, downsizing the Navy from 800 ships to 500. James then transferred to the University of Maryland to complete his undergraduate education and compete in tennis.

Fred IV followed his grandfather and father to the tennis court, including all three competing in the U.S. Open Championships. He played for the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he was a four-time All-American and an NCAA doubles finalist. As a professional tennis player, he achieved the world No. 1 doubles ranking in 1976 after winning the French Open in Paris and the year-end Masters Grand Prix. He was then selected to represent the United States in the Davis Cup in 1978 as they went on to become Davis Cup champions. He teamed up with his father, Fred III, winning six U.S. national father-son doubles championships. In his retirement from tennis, Fred IV continues to serve as president and CEO of McNair & Company, the family life and health insurance business, founded in 1931 by his grandfather.

While life took them in different directions, the fourth-generation McNairs still have a deep connection to the Academy. James followed Fred III into leadership roles and was a trustee of the Naval Academy Foundation's Athletic and Scholarship Program. He served as a volunteer on the Naval Academy Chapel council and continues to support the Academy in various capacities. Living in Annapolis for the last 20 years, James has served as a sponsor parent for midshipmen and as a supporter of Navy tennis, squash and football.

“I want to support the Brigade of Midshipmen and Naval Academy in any way I can, for as long as I can,” James said.

THE FIFTH GENERATION Lieutenant Seth McNair '19, USN, and Midshipman Matthew McNair '26

Today, the McNairs have two new threads tying the family to the Academy: Fred IV's son Lieutenant Seth McNair '19, USN, and David's son Midshipman Matthew McNair '26.

Seth has vivid memories of rooting for the Midshipmen at Navy football games and tennis matches throughout his early childhood. It was attending the Naval Academy Summer Seminar that solidified his decision to follow in his family's footsteps of naval service.

“I was able to experience a week in the life of a midshipman,” Seth said. “And my squad leader embodied the ideals and mentality that I aspired to develop.”

In his second-class year at the Academy, Seth was part of the first group of midshipmen to participate in a semester exchange with the Israeli Naval Academy



MIDN Matthew McNair '26 at the corner of McNair and Decatur Roads on the Yard.

ANOTHER FAMILY LEGACY

When Fred McNair III was 8 years old, the Navy tennis coach invited him onto the court to hit a few balls. And thus, another family legacy was born.

Since then, the McNairs have seen several notable achievements in the sport:

- Fred Jr. competed in the U.S. Championships, now known as the U.S. Open.
- Fred III won seven father-son doubles tournaments with three of his sons, and was the mid-Atlantic men's singles champion in 1958. He also appeared in the U.S. Championships.
- Fred IV won the 1976 doubles championships in the French Open and played in the U.S. Open and the Masters. He was also a member of the U.S. team that won the Davis Cup in 1978.
- Matthew was named the *USA Today* Maryland State high school player of the year in 2022 after winning the MIAA "A" conference individual title. He now plays for the Academy's men's tennis team, which won its fifth straight Patriot League Tournament in spring 2023.
- Seth McNair played for three years on the Academy's varsity tennis team.



MIDN Matthew McNair '26 at Patriot League championship spring 2023.

in Haifa in one of his “top experiences.” Seth played tennis at Navy, where he learned valuable lessons for the sport but also for life from his teammates and Coach Chris Garner. After graduation and commissioning in May of 2019, he completed nuclear officer training at Naval Nuclear Power Training Unit in Charleston, SC.

“I wasn't a trailblazer with respect to attending the Naval Academy in my family,” he said. “But I'm the first McNair to be part of the submarine service, allowing me to pursue my own path.”

After training, he reported to CHEYENNE in January of 2021, home-ported at the time in Pearl Harbor, HI. Seth's shore tour will be in the Washington, DC, area, allowing him to be close to family and the Naval Academy, where he feels most at home cheering on the Midshipmen at Navy football games.

Seth was ready with advice when his cousin Midshipman Matthew McNair '26 approached him about his own decision to attend the Academy. He talked about the strong relationships, the sense of pride, the ability to give back to his country and of course, the family legacy.

“Seth told me it would be the best decision I ever made,” Matthew said.

With four generations of naval services in his family, Matthew said he thought he knew what to expect about life as a midshipman but was struck by the transition from civilian to military life in his first week of Plebe Summer. At the end of his plebe year, however, he's hit his stride. Like Seth, he's majoring in quantitative economics. He has excelled in the classroom and volunteers as a tutor to his company mates. As a member of the men's tennis team, Matthew's high energy motivated his teammates as the team defeated Army and won its fifth straight Patriot League Tournament this past spring.

Seth and Matthew said attending the Academy makes them feel more connected to their family and its commitment to country and service.

“I'm a small link in the chain of the McNair tradition,” Seth said. “To continue that legacy and be one of the McNairs who chose to serve in the Navy—I'll always be thankful that I made that decision.”

122 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS NAVAL SERVICE

By Captain Michael J. Burks '98, USN

As the parent of two teenagers, with the eldest a high school senior, dead set on pursuing a career in the naval service, I find myself reflecting on my own journey. Both what compelled me to join the Navy, and why I've stayed the course.

Although not a prominent historical name like Mustin or McCain, my family has a long legacy of naval service. 122 years of continuous service, to be exact. I'm a fourth generation Naval Academy graduate, with my great-grandfather, Rear Admiral John Smeallie, USN (Ret.), Class of 1905, leading the charge. Both my grandfathers attended, Captain Jesse Burks '33, USN (Ret.) who married Anne (Smeallie), daughter of Rear Admiral Smeallie, and my maternal grandfather—Commander Lucius Steere '45, USN (Ret.).

My father, Lieutenant Colonel John Burks '68, USAF (Ret.), and his brother, Commander Donald Burks '75, USN (Ret.), carried the torch. My sister, Kris (Burks) Edwards '94, beat me to the distinction of the family's first fourth-generation graduate, and she married her classmate, Captain Matt Edwards '94, USN (Ret.).



CAPT Michael J. Burks '98, USN; LtCol John Burks '68, USAF (Ret.); and CAPT Jesse Burks '33, USN (Ret.), gather before Michael's I-Day in 1994.

I graduated with the Class of 1998, as did my wife, Sara (Minogue) Burks '98. I was aware of my family's legacy as a teenager, but it really had little to do with my desire to serve at the time. I was in fifth grade when *Top Gun* came out, and like many young teens, I became hooked on the idea of becoming a fighter pilot. Having a dad as a Naval aviator (although a helicopter pilot) and an Academy grad, I had a great mentor to help guide me.

Now, just over 29 years since I-Day, I've been blessed with the most amazing career. Yes, I became the fighter pilot I so desperately wanted to be, but I've also had so many other great opportunities I never fathomed. I spent 19 years in the cockpit flying F-14s, F/A-18s and F-35s. But more importantly, I've served with amazing people from all over the world.

I've been mentored by incredible leaders, some now serving in senior roles within our government. I've had the opportunity and responsibility of command, and to mentor and guide young aviators and sailors.

I've come to a fork in the road many times during my career, deciding if staying in the Navy was the right choice. There have been tough decisions, balancing career opportunities with family, separation, dual careers and financial considerations. Working through these tough decisions illuminated my increasing desire, passion and understanding about what it means to "serve."

As I matured through my career, my "awareness" of my family's history of service evolved into something of great importance and value to me. With my own personal growth and learning of what it means to "serve," I felt more connected to the family stories I heard growing up. Like my paternal grandfather's long quest to become a naval aviator.

First, he endured two years at VMI before gaining acceptance to the Naval Academy. Then, after completing his plebe year with the



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CAPT MICHAEL J. BURKS '98, USN

RADM John Smeallie '05, USN (Ret.), salutes President Roosevelt aboard INDIANAPOLIS.

Class of 1932, he had to repeat plebe year due to academic shortcomings and finally graduated with the Class of 1933 only to be denied a commission along with the bottom half of his class due to interwar downsizing. So, instead he joined the Army Air Corps and earned his Army wings. Finally, he accepted an opportunity to transfer back to the Navy and earned his Wings of Gold at Pensacola. He later commanded two squadrons, two Naval Air Stations and a seaplane tender.

On the other side, my maternal grandfather's Class of 1945 graduated a year early in 1944 to rush to the Pacific at the height of World War II. My grandfather joined DENVER at the battle of Leyte Gulf. He later served as executive officer of a submarine and captain of a destroyer.

Family stories like these, and even my own history, like how my father and I are the first multi-generational duo to major in aerospace engineering at the Academy and graduate from Naval Test Pilot School, gave me a connection, sense of purpose, belonging, and ultimately, immense pride in my own continued service.

I rarely mentioned my family's history of service in my early career, because I was unsure how a mention of legacy would be perceived. Only in the last few years have I begun to share more openly. I recently served as executive assistant to a three-star flag officer, which meant I was "privileged" to spend incredibly long hours and lots of travel time with him. He also happened to be a history buff. Eventually, my family history came up, and I shared with him one of the cool facts I knew about my great-grandfather—that he was classmates with Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, USN (Ret.), Class of 1905, and also served on the same ship at one point.

The obvious next question from my boss—what ship was it? I didn't know, but I remembered once seeing a picture with then-Ensign Nimitz, Ensign Smeallie and rest of their crew. This probing question made me realize I knew embarrassingly little about my great-grandfather's history and led me to do some research.



CDR Lucius Steere '45, USN (Ret.), following the I-Day swearing in of Kris (Burks) Edwards '94.

What I found was amazing! The ship they served together on was DECATUR. The same ship Nimitz famously ran aground on 7 July 1908 and was subsequently relieved of command and court marshaled. The only other officer on the ship at the time, the engineer, Ensign Smeallie, then assumed command, and served as commanding officer from 28 July 1908 to 18 February 1909. An incredible story of "right place, right time," which I think might be a great metaphor for our family's naval service.

I wish I could go back in time, with my current perspective and interest in history, ask questions, and listen to the first-hand accounts of all their stories, but that opportunity has sailed. My lesson from this story is that everyone in my family who served, holds their own unique little piece of Naval history. Whether it's documented in history books, or just passed down through stories and old photos, it's all important to me. It's a part of who I am, and why I'm still serving.

CAPT Michael J. Burks '98, USN, is currently serving as the F/A-18 and EA-18G program manager, stationed at NAS Patuxent River, MD.



The Burks family following the commissioning of CAPT Michael J. Burks '98, USN. The family members are, from left to right, CDR Lucius Steere '45, USN (Ret.); CAPT Victor Vieweg '57, USN (Ret.); LtCol John Burks '68, USAF (Ret.); CAPT Michael J. Burks '98, USN; Kris (Burks) Edwards '94; CAPT Matt Edwards '94, USN (Ret.); and CDR Donald Burks '75, USN (Ret.).

HAWTHORNE FAMILY LINKED TO ACADEMY BY FOUR GENERATIONS

By Captain Robert E. Hawthorne III '95, USN (Ret.)



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE HAWTHORNE FAMILY

Col William G. Hawthorne, USMC (Ret.), Class of 1916, USMC; CAPT Robert E. Hawthorne '43, USN (Ret.); and then-MIDN Robert E. Hawthorne Jr. '67.

What do Naval Academy Classes of 1916, 1939, 1943, 1967 and 1995, and United States Air Force Academy Class of 2026 have in common? Each contains a link in the Hawthorne family history.

The story of the Hawthorne family Naval Academy legacy began circa 1912 when William G. Hawthorne wanted to be an Army officer. A native of La Salle, IL, he contacted his congressman for a nomination and was told “My West Point nominations are full. How would you like to go to Annapolis?”

So, he did.

After graduation in the Class of 1916, he rose to the rank of colonel and served in a wide variety of assignments spanning both World Wars. His service included shore stations in the United States, Philippines and China and sea duty in HELENA, MINNESOTA, COLORADO and WEST VIRGINIA. He was XO of Fourth Marines in Shanghai, China, and commanded the Marine detachment at Tientsin, China.

He retired from the Marine Corps in 1946 and moved to Colorado Springs, CO. He had two sons, both of whom would go on to graduate from the Naval Academy as well.

William’s eldest son, Lieutenant William G. Hawthorne Jr., graduated with the Class of 1939. He served as the regimental commander during his first-class year, and eventually became a naval aviator. He died during a combat training flight near New Smyrna Beach, FL, in 1944.

William’s youngest son, Captain Robert E Hawthorne, USN (Ret.), graduated with the Class of 1943 in June of 1942 due to World War II. He served in BALTIMORE until the end of World War II in the South Pacific. His career included command of HALSEY POWELL, ROBERTS, NICHOLAS and SPIEGEL GROVE.

He also had an intelligence sub-specialty and served as assistant naval attaché in Oslo, Norway, and as naval attaché in Stockholm, Sweden, and senior defense and naval attaché in Rabat, Morocco. He retired in 1972 and returned to the family home in Colorado Springs. His only son, Captain Robert E. Hawthorne Jr., USN (Ret.), would also attend the Naval Academy, and graduated with the Class of 1967.

Bob, a third-generation Naval Academy graduate, served exclusively in nuclear submarines and nuclear-related assignments during his 27-year career. He completed Navy nuclear power training in 1969 and went to sea in HENRY CLAY and MARIANO G. VALLEJO. He was XO of BLUEFISH and commanded CINCINNATI and HENRY M. JACKSON before retiring in 1994 to Knoxville, TN, where he worked for 14 years at the Y-12 Nuclear Security Complex in Oak Ridge, TN.

His eldest son, Captain Robert E. Hawthorne III, USN (Ret.), attended the Naval Academy and graduated with the Class of 1995. Rob, a fourth-generation Naval Academy graduate, served for 26

years as a Naval aviator. He served in several squadrons and staffs, and enjoyed a wide variety of duty stations including Jacksonville, San Diego, Pearl Harbor, Norfolk, Washington, DC, and Japan.

He commanded HSC-14 and eventually retired to Coronado, CA, where he works as a flight simulator instructor at NAS North Island. Rob's son, Grant W. Hawthorne, felt the call to service as well, but would branch out and attend the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. He is currently a cadet in the Air Force Academy Class of 2026.

For Bob, Rob and Grant, the family history in the profession of arms set an example that was natural to follow. Growing up around military culture, having close relationships with family friends who also served and being instilled with the sense of responsibility to do one's part through service to the nation ultimately led to a desire to seek a service academy education and pursue military careers. ⚓



CAPT Robert E. Hawthorne Jr '67, USN (Ret.), performs a ceremonial swearing in on I-Day of his son, Robert E Hawthorne III '95, who retired as a captain.

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CLASS NEWS

*“But still when two or three shall meet,
and old tales be retold...”*

'38

Life Membership: 0%
Donor Participation: 0%

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'39

Life Membership: 50%
Donor Participation: 0%

Vice Pres: **CAPT Chip Seymour, USN (Ret.)**
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Daughter of Jack and June Fidel
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Editor's Note: This October '39 column was written by Alix Kriloff Bradfield, from Melbourne, Australia:

As you know, 581 young men graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1939 and within a short time were spread worldwide in the seas of a world war. Little could they have known what awaited them and how their motto 'What about '39' would be tested in the years following the jubilation of June Week. One in 9 gave their lives fighting for America.

Two classmates, **Calvin George** and **Herb Kriloff**, were unaware of the ways their life stories would come together in the future. These photos are both from Herb's *Lucky Bag* where you'll see he made a sad notation that Calvin was Missing in Action in 1943. The two classmates were to share service in the Pacific War.

This event brought together two classmates forever, in a most unlikely story. Having spent four years at USNA together, Calvin George and Herb Kriloff both found themselves in the Philippines by 1941 and were among the first to be involved in the Pacific War. Herb relates in his book *OFFICER OF THE DECK*, that he was woken around 3am on USS WILLIAM B. PRESTON with the news from the Commander in Chief,

U.S. Asiatic Fleet, Thomas Hart, saying "Japan has commenced hostilities. Govern yourselves accordingly." Calvin would have received the same announcement on his ship. Having received the news, those serving had very little time before Japan attacked.

Herb admitted "Among life's experiences, none is so traumatic as being in action for the first time. One doesn't know what to expect. It's a jumble of events threaded by confusion, fear, uncertainty; an episode one does not wish to repeat."

USS WILLIAM B. PRESTON, known colloquially as "WILLY B", had been reconverted to seaplane tender. Nearby Catalinas suffered casualties but Herb's ship survived that day.

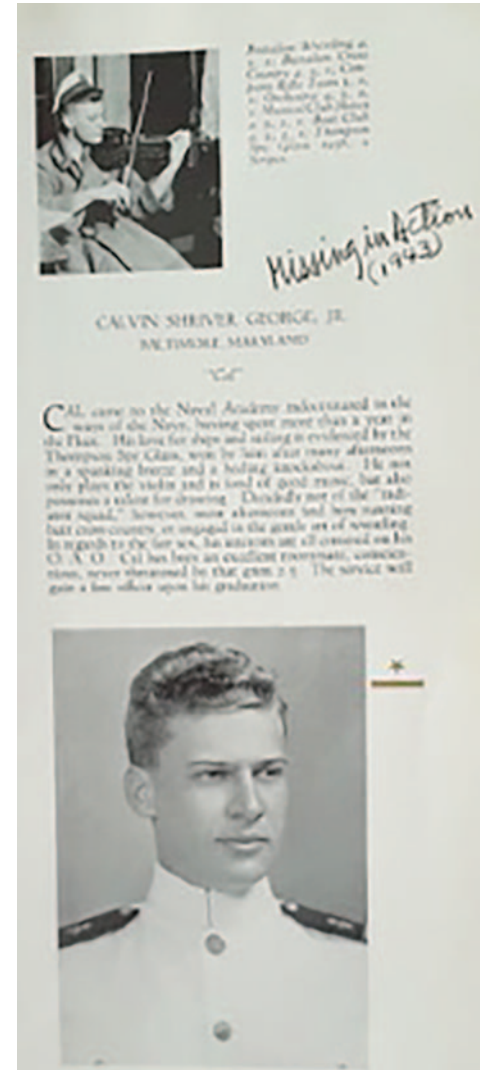
Meanwhile, Calvin George was assigned to USS PEARY as Gunnery Officer, and was not as lucky as Herb when the Japanese attacked the Philippines soon after the U.S. declared war.

The Cavite Navy Yard which was at that time the operational home of the U.S. Asiatic Fleet and the Navy's largest base in the Pacific was devastated by bombs and fire, resulting in hundreds of deaths. Calvin was wounded when PEARY was caught broadside on 10 December and was taken ashore to hospital. When Manila was captured by the Japanese, who then occupied the Philippines until the end of the war, Calvin was captured, enduring unimaginable years as a P.O.W. until 14 August 1945, when he was liberated at Jin Sen, Korea, his last POW camp. He survived four brutal years of captivity in Japanese prison camps, as well as aboard three Japanese 'Hell Ships' (transporting P.O.W.s from one camp to another - many of these were sunk by Allied forces, as they showed no designation as POW transports). His wartime service can be read in *ANSWERING THEIR COUNTRY'S CALL: MARYLANDERS IN WORLD WAR II*, Michael Rodgers Editor, Johns Hopkins University Press, 2002.

So USS PEARY sailed on to Australia without Calvin. So did USS WILLIAM B. PRESTON with Herb aboard. Both ships were in Darwin harbor on the morning of 19 February 1942 and both were hit by Japanese bombs by the same Japanese fighter crew remembered for that 'day of infamy' in Hawaii, when they surprised a totally unsuspecting and unready Darwin with a blitz of 188 aircraft from four aircraft carriers.

PEARY was unable to manoeuvre quickly as a target, whereas the badly damaged PRESTON managed to escape additional attack. Herb watched, and never forgot, the sight of PEARY, so close by, when "in seconds, PEARY was enveloped in a ball of flame. She continued detonating until disappearing from view. The explosion was blindingly bright, and when you opened your eyes, it took time to adjust so you could see again".

USS PEARY on the left . USS WILLIAM B. PRESTON on the right. 19 February 1942, Darwin.



Lucky Bag column with handwritten Missing in Action 1943



PEARY and PRESTON



'39: USS PEARY plaque in Darwin, Australia

At this point, Calvin and Herb's lives diverged. While Calvin endured those terrible years as POW, Herb saw those who had died on board PRESTON buried at sea in northern Australia at a place he described as a 'remote stretch which shall forever be America.' The PRESTON desperately needed to be repaired and the ship made its slow voyage around the west and south of Australia looking for help which none could provide. Eventually, having been turned away at Fremantle, Adelaide and Melbourne, the ship was accepted in Sydney and it was during the many weeks of repairing his crippled ship, that Herb met Dagmar, his wife of 72 years.

A curious part of this narrative is that the communication of the day, unaware of Calvin's having left PEARY in the Philippines, considered he had died among the 88 lost when PEARY sank in Darwin harbor. A plaque lists his name.

Fifty years after graduating from the USNA, Calvin and Herb appeared in the book published to commemorate this anniversary. Coincidentally, they were the last two surviving classmates until 2018, when they both died aged 103.



Reunion Book and Lucky Bag



'40

Life Membership: 0%
Donor Participation: 0%

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Widow of **Dr. Joseph Weber**
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Only '40 is 4.0!

'41

Life Membership: 0%
Donor Participation: 0%

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'42

Life Membership: 33%
Donor Participation: 0%

Pres: **CAPT Dale C. Reed USN (Ret.)**

Vice Pres/Sec'y: **Joan Curtis**
Wife of the late **CDR Richard E. Curtis, USN (Ret.)**
14518 Faraday Dr., Rockville, MD 20853
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Hello Class of '42 Classmates, Family and Friends,
HAPPY FALL AND NAVY FOOTBALL SEASON EVERYONE!!!!

IN MEMORIUM
RENE HONEY GRIFFITH (September 24, 1924 – May 23, 2023). Beloved wife of the late Ward W. Griffith, III, USN (Ret.). Mother of Faye H. Griffith, Ward W. Griffith, IV and the late Ronald W. Griffith. Mrs. Griffith is survived by her six grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren. Services were held at St. John's Norwood Parish, Chevy Chase, MD on June 7th, 2023. Interment will take place at Arlington National Cemetery, at a later date.

May God bless of the Class of '42 and their families.

GO NAVY!!!!!! BEAT ARMY!!!!
All the best,
Joan Curtis
Vice President/Secretary '42

'43

Life Membership: 0%
Donor Participation: 0%

Send News directly to Shipmate at: classnews@usna.com

'44

Life Membership: 45%
Donor Participation: 0%

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'45

Life Membership: 67%
Donor Participation: 0%

Acting Pres: **CAPT Edward L. "Ted" Cochrane Jr., USN (Ret.)**

Corr Sec'y: **Bonnie Boyd**
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 Website: www.usna.com/classes/1945



Classmates Enjoy Lunch Together, 24 Jul '23

Ted Cochrane (Left) and **Bob Sherman** (right) went to Outback Steakhouse for lunch to talk about their first tours of duty and the families that they were both blessed to have had. The waitstaff could not believe that they were serving two 101-year-olds.



Ted Cochrane celebrates his 101st birthday!

Mike Taylor, who was formerly a neighbor and good friend of **Bill Geiger** before he passed, has baked birthday cakes for each of the members of our weekly Zoom session who live here in the Washington, DC area. The photo above is of Ted Cochrane about to enjoy a slice of one of Mike's famously delicious Rum Cakes. Not only is Mike a fantastic baker but he also assists leading a Sea Scout unit in this Washington area. Thank you, Mike, for all you do for the Class of '45 and for being such an interesting and gracious Zoom host!

Your '45 classmates and their widows still meet weekly by Zoom and they would love to have you join them. Every Wednesday they connect at noon EST for about an hour discussion. Please contact your class scribe listed above to obtain the internet link and connecting instructions. It could be that a Rum Cake might come your way. As always...

Look Alive with '45!

'46

Life Membership: 43%
Donor Participation: 28.57%

Vice Pres: **Larry Baldwin**
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DEFENDI RESPUBLICAM ADOLESCENS, NON DESERAM SENEX

'47

Life Membership: 75%
Donor Participation: 33.33%

Pres: **CAPT Jack M. Stevens, USN (Ret.)**
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Tres: **Priscilla Myerson**
 Wife of Ed Myerson

Howdy Forty-Seven!! It's Navy football season 2023. Get your Spirit gear ready to wear. I hope you are all enjoying the Fall foliage! OX I got a nice note from Joe Flanagan's daughter Maureen and a wonderful photo of the 2 of them. They toured the Morris Arboretum and Gardens in Chestnut Hill, PA this Summer. Joe has been a big supporter for years and enjoyed seeing the great old trees and the newer flower beds. It was a great outing for the daughter and Dad team.



Wonderful photo of the Stevens lovebirds at their regular Friday night haunt "Criders"!



I have the sad duty of notifying you of the passing of your Classmate's wife Dorothea O'Shea (Bob). May she Rest in Peace.

That's all for now Team '47! Look to the next Shipmate for more updates. I love receiving your notes in my mailbox, so please don't stop sending them! Yours loyally for '47. "FoBotS" (Fan of Best on the Severn) OX, Eileen

'48

Life Membership: 37%
Donor Participation: 6.06%

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'49

Life Membership: 58%
Donor Participation: 19.30%

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Exec Vice Pres and Treas: **CAPT Richard A. "Al" Frost, USN (Ret.)**
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Paul Laric, Honorary Secretary of the Class of 1949

Sec'y: **Ursula Vosseler**
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Webmaster: **CAPT Richard A. "Rick" Claytor, USN (Ret.)**
 Website: www.usna-class49.org

Letter from the President

Several months ago, I included in this class column an anecdote on the sea trials of the nuclear submarine Seawolf as one instance of the drama I experienced working for the legendary Father of the Nuclear Navy, Admiral Hyman Rickover. Following is another example.

✉ Having just climbed into my bed at home in Washington for a needed night's sleep before facing another day in the Admiral's hectic headquarters environment, I was awakened by a telephone call from Karl Swenson, my former first boss in the Naval Reactors program, who on this occasion was the NR representative at Key West, Florida where the nuclear submarine

SKATE, was undergoing shock tests to measure the integrity and operability of the ship and its equipment under battle conditions. Shock tests involve the detonation underwater of explosives, such as TNT, to simulate depth charges that might be experienced by a submarine under attack; in this instance the explosive charge was a timed detonation several hundred feet distant from the submarine as the latter passed through a marked range at periscope depth.

The tone of Swenson's voice in his middle-of-the-night call revealed his obvious concern. Earlier that day SKATE had completed one of a series of shock tests and had returned to port at Key West in preparation for another more severe test on the following day. Half-awake I listened as Swenson said, "We have a strain gage reading on the main coolant pipe which appears to indicate that the pipe has undergone deformation as a result of the previous shock test. The on-board Bettis Laboratory representative recommends that we do not go to sea tomorrow for the next test and that instead we evaluate this reading and determine its significance before doing any more tests." Among measuring devices were strain gages affixed to the main coolant pipes to register any stretching of the pipe walls; these pipes contained the pressurized radioactive water which took the heat from the nuclear reactor and transmitted it to steam generators where steam was extracted to drive the ship's turbines. Thus, there were legitimate technical questions involving a vital system that required resolution. I was now fully awake and told him I agreed with his recommendation that the shock test scheduled for the following day should be cancelled.

Having now returned to bed (it was about 2:00 AM) with my mind churning, I found it hard to get back to sleep. After a bit of this fitful attempt at sleep, it suddenly occurred to me that I ought to advise the Admiral of Swenson's report and the decision we had made. I thereupon called the Atomic Energy Commission switchboard (the only way to reach the Admiral when he was at home) and asked to speak to the Admiral. He came on the line and asked me how much was the reported deformation of the pipe. I advised him that it was several thousandths of an inch, but that nonetheless in the view of our reactor plant designer (Bettis Laboratory) it was considered significant and needed to be evaluated before we undertook another shock test. With that the Admiral began to scream, thus guaranteeing no further sleep for me that night. He yelled, "You have absolutely NO authority to keep a Navy ship from going to sea! Who the hell do you think you are? Now you call Swenson back right away and tell him that the SKATE is to get underway tomorrow and to go ahead with the next shock test. Tell him you were totally wrong to authorize the ship to remain in port!" "But, Admiral", I protested, "the Bettis representative said..." The Admiral immediately interrupted with an even higher decibel level than before, "Do what the hell I

tell you!" With that he hung up. I dutifully called Swenson and gave him the Admiral's instructions despite his pleas "Does the Admiral understand?" The next day Rickover called me into his office for what I thought would be a further chastisement. He simply said quite calmly, "Claytor, you did the right thing by calling me. The ship will be OK." And it was.

The SKATE shock tests continued, but that is not the end of the story involving Rickover in these tests. For the last and most severe test, the Admiral decided that he himself would be the NR representative on board. There had been a recurring problem during these tests with some of the circuit breakers in the propulsion plant. When the shock wave hit the ship, some of the circuit breakers had tripped thus shutting off electric power to affected equipment and at least in one case causing the nuclear reactor to "scram" or shut itself down. For the final test Rickover decided that too much information was being lost by the tripped circuit breakers and thereupon made the decision to block out the breakers. I understood that this was against the advice of his top electrical engineer because of the danger of overheating and fire, but he clearly believed with his long electrical engineering experience (he headed the Bureau of Ships electrical desk during World War II) that it was safe to proceed in this manner. The test was accordingly run with blocked circuit breakers with satisfactory results and no incidents.

Rick Claytor

In Memoriam

Anne May Bajus, widow of CDR **John C. Bajus**, USN (Ret.) died 14 May 2023 in Annapolis, MD.
CDR USN (Ret.) **Thomas J. "Tom" Walters** died 3 July 2023 in Newport News, VA.

'50

Life Membership: 68%
Donor Participation: 10.94%

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to update your profile.

'51

Life Membership: 63%
Donor Participation: 14.29%

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Director of Class Gifts and Funds Legacy: **Mr. David Ghysels**
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Other Board Members: **CAPT Robert E. Adler**
and **Herbert A. Zoehrer**

Communications: **VADM Robert F. Dunn, USN (Ret.)**
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As reported in our Newsletter Number 27, mailed out on 15 July, our president and vice president have now finalized arrangements with the Alumni Association with regard to the monies we have remaining in our class treasury. Those funds will be divided, half made available to the Chapel Fund and half to the Naval Academy Museum for use in the Class of '51 Ship Gallery. Those arrangements now serve to wrap up our treasury except for a small bank account reserved for any pop-up costs not known at this time. Simultaneously, as you might note in the letterhead above, **Dave Ghysels** has been moved from his job as Class Fundraiser to "Director of Class Gifts and Funds Legacy." In essence, he will stay tuned to how the gifts we have made over the years are managed and make whatever progress reports he or the class leadership deem appropriate. More specifically, he will work with **Bob Small** in the administration of the funds the class has donated to the Naval Academy Museum.

None of this precludes individual donations to the Alumni or Athletic Associations, of course, and **all classmates are encouraged** to continue to donate to those organizations to whatever extent you consider appropriate.

As for other class news, as reported in Newsletter 27 back in July, **Max Hill, Bob Adler** and **John Kemble** (Kemble's book was NOT mentioned in Newsletter 27: your correspondent's error) have recently published personal histories of their careers and their lives before and after the Naval Academy. These are in addition to at least two classmates who have more formal oral histories on file at the Naval Academy Library. If any of the rest of you have put together personal histories, we and our wives and our progeny would be most interested in hearing about them.

Max, as many of you will recall was the editor of our Lucky Bag and his experience and ability in such matters shows through in his book. "**Stories From Max Hill, from the 1920s to the 2020s**", is a 576 page, professionally bound tome with lots of pictures that takes one

from his birth in Illinois through USNA, into the Air Force as a bomber pilot and then an outstanding career in Charleston real estate.



Bob Adler

Bob's literary effort, also professionally printed and bound, is a bit more modest, only 53 pages; but describes a full and outstanding Navy career. He takes us from Chicago where he was inoculated with Cubs fever at an early age, through USNA but, unlike Max, he went into the active Navy as a Surface Warfare

Officer. Early on he qualified as OOD aboard an aircraft carrier then soon became a member of the Class of '51 "Minesweeper Mafia," commanding a sweep out of Charleston and Yorktown. That was followed by lots of other shipboard duty and assignment to the Naval Research Laboratory office in London. A high point was command of the destroyer Taussig, conducting shore bombardment off Vietnam. After a tour in NavSea he retired from the Navy and at first spent some time in Texas, eventually returning to the Washington area to take up a job with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. After that he and Elsie moved to Richmond to be closer to family but from where he continues to serve the class as a member of our Board of Directors and still roots for the Cubs...and Navy, of course.

John Kemble's book is a slick forty-one page effort entitled, "Duty Stations: An Adventure in the U.S. Navy."

His story begins with his father having served in the Navy in WWI, saving for his son a copy of the Bluejacket's Manual. John devoured that book leading to his enlistment in the Navy on graduation from high school in 1946. Then it was from boot camp to NAPS to USNA in 1947.

After graduation John served in HELENA, a heavy cruiser operating off Korea, at least one time under fire from the shore.

He applied for flight training but before there was any response to his application he was ordered to the First Marine Division via training in San Diego to become a Naval Gunfire Liaison Officer. He then served as such in Korea just at the end of the war.

After that he got orders to Pensacola, completed the basic course in the SNJ and then to Corpus Christi where he trained in the AD Skyraider and got his wings.

Marriage in Pensacola followed then a first squadron tour flying the AD-6 out of Miramar then a WestPac cruise. On return from that cruise the squadron transitioned to jets, the FJ-4B. One more WestPac cruise and then back to Whiting Field near Pensacola for duty as an instructor.

In May of 1962 John and his family moved to Norfolk where he took up assignment in the Air Department in the carrier INTREPID.

Following that he moved to Composite Squadron Four (VC-4) at Oceana where he flew a variety of aircraft, props and jets, and eventually floated up to be commanding officer.

Next it was back to the Pacific, this time in USS KITTY HAWK as Air Officer. After two years in KITTY HAWK which included a combat cruise to the Gulf of Tonkin, John was transferred to the AirPac staff as Ships' Training Officer.

After twenty-two months there he retired and now lives in Geneva, Illinois. How he wound up in Geneva, his book doesn't say.

Should others of you have autobiographies or personal vignettes to share they would be much appreciated. Please send them to Bob Dunn.

On the subject of sharing one might wonder how many of our USNA textbooks are still on shelves around the country. Could we take a survey? Send your lists to Bob Dunn and we'll see how fare those old tomes. After many years of incrementally cleaning out, your correspondent's personal collection is down to, "A Diplomatic History of the American People," used in Third Class EH&G and "Manual of Mathematics and Mechanics," by Clements and Wilson used I'm not sure where, but long since overtaken by the internet and Google. Anyone need a book?

'52

Life Membership: 67%
Donor Participation: 15.60%

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Website: www.toughshoes52.org

Recognition of Chaplain Kimberly Moses, CAPT USN (Ret.), Honorary Member of the



Chaplain Kimberly Moses, CAPT USN (Ret.)

Class of 1952 and our Chaplain.

As she has so many times,

Kimberly Moses gave the homily at the funeral of **CAPT Jim Wilson, Jr., USN (Ret.)** at Arlington National Cemetery on July 20, 2023.

The homily was a marvelous testament



to the Class and to Jim and his family. At my request, Kimberly has created a precis of her Homily to share here. Kimberly has served and inspired the Class for many years, and she continues to do so. It is an honor

to present her remarks, which follow.

Best, Jack Young

United States Naval Academy Class of '52 - Tough Shoes to Fill "Shipmates,

Of late, I have been attending and conducting several funerals of Classmates from the Great Class of '52. It's that time of life, isn't it? I thought I would put something together, drawn from the last several reunions to remind you of some important ideas. These can serve as memories to ponder and relish, but more importantly, I hope that they will serve as memory milestones and anchor points for you for the days ahead.

First, you arrived in Annapolis in 1948, a bunch of pretty hopeless Plebes. Some of you had some college education, two of you already had degrees, but together you suffered through the indignities of being Plebes. The Great Class of 1952 took as its motto, Tough Shoes to Fill, and indeed you set the standard for all the classes that followed.

You still hold the distinction of being the Class with the most Golden Eagles, the most astronauts, the experts of submarine warfare, and the most senior officers. So confident were you of your future that you left your shoes on the parade deck after the final parade incurring the wrath of the Academy and the threat of not graduating. But you were that good, and you graduated!

You graduated to war - first the Korean war, then Vietnam, and finally the Cold War - on Submarine patrol deep under the water, in the skies above, shot down and taken prisoner, on board ship, with the Marines, at home, around the world and around the moon. You stood the watch. And while you stood the watch over us, God stood the watch over you. We have read from Psalm 121 at each reunion, here are a few verses.

I lift up my eyes to the hills, where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. The Lord watches over you, The Lord will keep you from all harm, He will watch over your life; The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forever more.

God's very character is to watch over you and He will watch over you until you are safely home.

Second, we make much of your shoes! We just do. It's fun! At the 65th Reunion in 2017 we talked about the shoes, and the importance of

what was done in the shoes. A pair of shoes doesn't get you anywhere, it's what you do in the shoes that counts, according to Michael Jordan. Living with courage, growing from adversity, raising the standard, working hard, believing in the impossible, and most importantly, being who you were born to be.

In Psalm 139, we are reminded that God knows us, and knows who He created us to be – in fact, He knows us so well that He knows our every move, even what we will say before we say it. He has a blueprint for our lives, and He thinks about us continually and all those thoughts are precious, they are good. God knows us. He created us. He knows what we were born to be and He is with us every step of the way. Finally, just last year, we reminded ourselves of the importance of knowing Who is holding us. Just as a football is worthless in my hands, but in the hands of Zug Zastrow it was worth a win over Army, it is important to know Who is holding us. Who is in charge of our lives, Who can make a difference in our lives.

II Corinthians 4:16 says: "We do not give up hope. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day."

Isn't that amazing? I feel the effects every-day of a failing body, and while God gives me and you grace to deal with age and illness, He is at the same time renewing our spirit every day, giving us inner strength to face each challenge as it comes.

For someone with Alzheimer's who can no longer talk, God still renews them inwardly every day. When the eyes no longer see so well, when hearing can't be helped, when the hip, the back, the knees, or the heart all grow faint, God is still at work, renewing the spirit of those who trust in Him.

Shipmates, I celebrate your excellent lives, I celebrate the Great Class of '52. I trust that as you complete your journey, that your shoes will bring you amazing memories and sure footing, that you will finish the work you were born to do, and that God will hold you gently in His hands."

— Kimberly Moses, Capt, CHC, USN (Ret.)

We continue to receive word of the passing of Classmates, wives, and widows.

Received recently:

Ordell Smith, May 11, 2023

Ada Miller Smith, wife of Ordell Smith, February 4, 2023

Still Tough Shoes to Fill!

DONATE ONLINE

Support the Annual Fund, visit usna.com and click **Give Online**.

'53

Life Membership: 65%

Donor Participation: 17.50%

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It's summer and things are quiet. Since the reunion in April and the Legacy gathering in May there is not a lot to report. There is some discussion of another Legacy gathering in 2024 and a Class of '53 reunion in 2025. More on those topics as plans unfold.

At this writing (24 July) I am sad to report the passing of **Art Bivens**. Art was the Class of '53 Corresponding Secretary and Scribe for many years. He authored and edited the '53 *Shipmate* submissions until September of 2022. At that point, after talking with Art and Marcy's daughter, Chris, I learned Art was not feeling up to continuing in that role so I offered to help out as best I could. I did so out of deep respect for the class of '53 but also a special respect for CAPT Bivens. Art authored two books. In his first book, *Of Nukes and Nose Cones*, he offers some great advice not just for officers in command but for anyone in their dealings with others. When I first read the book some years ago I marked that page and copied down some of his key points: "*adhere to the fundamental tenants like the Golden Rule, The Ten Commandments and the Boy Scout Oath and Law; never use sarcasm with subordinates, keep relations with subordinates business like and formal ... so that your authority is not questioned; be purposeful, explain "the why"; have self-control, talk to your men, be forthright and candid, let your people know what is on your mind; and use good judgement and insist on moral integrity.* Probably standard Navy stuff but seeing it written down gets you thinking.

Thinking back, the Class of '53 played a big part in my life growing up. I met Art Bivens in 1968. We (Nell and **Art Gilmore**) were stationed at SUBBASE New London and, like the Bivens, we lived in Gales Ferry, CT. My dad and then CDR Bivens were in their command tours, both families attended the same church and we kids attended the same schools. The Bivens were transferred to Holy Loch in the fall of 1970 and then to Virginia two years later. I remember seeing them again at a Navy football game in November of 1972. I have maintained a special friendship with their oldest daughter, Chris, since we first met some 55 years ago.

That time spent in Gales Ferry was special. In June of 1968 Barbara and **Don Kniss** moved in next door to us. Don Jr. and I were in classes together until we moved to Virginia in late 1971. In fact, Barbara Kniss was my English teacher in 9th grade. Imagine living next door to one of your teachers who was also a good friend of your mother's. Other classmates of mine at that time were Jon Hebbard, son of Bev and **Lee Hebbard** and Jamie Fellows, son of Alix and **Chuck Fellows** and Matt Hukill, son of Ginny and **Hank Hukill**, was a year ahead of me.

Eventually most of us ended up at the tailgates in the parking lot of Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium. If I started mentioning the names of the classmates and kids I met at those tailgates the column would exceed the *Shipmate* submission word limit. Those tailgates were a lot of fun. I miss them.

I welcome any sea stories or updates on classmates or kids so feel free to send any items of interest on to me at the email address above. I'm sure they will be of interest to others as well. —Mike

'54

Life Membership: 56%

Donor Participation: 17.06%

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'55

Life Membership: 64%

Donor Participation: 13.44%

Pres: **RADM R. R. Fountain Jr., USN (Ret.)**

Treas: **CDR Robert P. Pirie Jr., USN (Ret.)**

Sec'y: **CAPT Thomas F. Stallman, USN (Ret.)**

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Website: <http://1955.usnaclasses.com/>

Kenneth Lee Highfill (3) passed away 4 June 2023 in San Antonio, TX.

This article appeared in the "Virginia Gazette" and included our Class Poet **Ed Lull** (11) in the writeup.

✉ Local author Edward Lull (center) with co-editor Sofia M. Starne (left) and Poetry Society of Virginia President Terry Cox-Joseph (right) recently donated a copy of "The Centennial Anthology of The Poetry Society of Virginia" to the Williamsburg Regional Library. Library Development Officer Benjamin Goldberg accepted the title. The Anthology features the poetry of 110 contemporary poets, poems by 36 poets from six previous anthologies and four appendices. In the book, the Society highlights the beauty, talent and creativity of its poets. The book includes brief bios of each contemporary poet. This title will be added to the Local Authors Project collection at the library.



Fred & Nora Schoenberger (11) spent a lovely afternoon cruising Indian River Bay, DE, and dined in a waterfront restaurant called Paradise.

'56

Life Membership: 74%
Donor Participation: 26.56%

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Class Co-Chairman: **CAPT Jim Van Metre, USN (Ret.) (4)**
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"Deo Fidelis et Patria"

Hi Everyone! This is a reminder of what's coming up next year. Please mark your 2024 calendar for our Class "Mini-Reunion" from Thursday 2 May to Sunday, 5 May. This (added) reunion will give us the chance to be with classmates at the Academy and Annapolis before the official "5-year Reunion", our 70th, in 2026. It's different because you will choose the events and we will schedule them. Here is just a sampling of possible events:

- Tour and meal at the new Alumni Center
- Trolley tour of Annapolis
- Severn River boat ride
- Visit to USNA with stop at the

Midshipmen's Store

And many more...

(Those are a few from Jim VanMetre's Class Spring letter letter).

Announcements are made about the recent passing of classmates and classmate wives. Full obituaries for classmates will be presented in the "Last Call" section of this or a future issue of *Shipmate*.

There will be a committal Service at the Columbarium at USNA on Wednesday, 14 October 2023 at 1130 for Marine **Capt Ronald Gerard Beagle USMC (16)**, Class of 1956. Inducted into the College Hall of Fame in 1986, he was one of the oldest living members until his death. He was voted All-American in 1954 and 1955 for his football prowess and received the Maxwell Trophy in 1954 for outstanding college player of the year. He was also voted All-American in lacrosse twice. He received the Naval Academy Association's sword for excellence in athletics. He played in the Navy vs Ole Miss 21st Annual Sugar Bowl, which Navy won, and he was 7th in Heisman voting in 1955.

CAPT Donald L. Brown (2) U S Navy (Ret.) passed away 1 Jul 2023. He was 89.



Don Brown



Henry Maines

Travis Monroe Tinsley

Henry Lynn Maines (3) passed away 17 Jun 2023. He was 91.

Travis Monroe Tinsley (Non-grad) Passed away 19 Jun 2023. He was 93.



Elizabeth Dyer

Elizabeth Ann Davies ("Ann") Dyer, widow of **Skip Dyer (5)** passed away peacefully 30 May 2023 in Lake Park, GA. She was 90.

Jo Ann Beagle, widow of **Ron Beagle (16)** also passed away peacefully on 6 June 2023 in Lake Park, GA. She was 90. Jo Ann was born to James Addison Percy Jones and Beatrice Voncile (Grell) Jones on 20 Feb 1933 in Lake Park, GA. She graduated from Nahunta High School in Nahunta, GA at the age of 16. She went on to Barnett School of Nursing, University Hospital in August,



JoAnn Beagle

GA, and graduated as a Registered Nurse in 1953 (at 20 years of age). After graduation she joined the Navy Nurse Corps and was stationed at Camp Lejeune as an Operating Room Nurse. It was there that she met Ron Beagle who was a Marine Corps junior officer. Ron was in the hospital with a football injury and Jo Ann was assigned as his nurse. They were married at the chapel in Camp Lejeune on 20 Feb 1960. Jo Ann resigned her commission in 1960 before the birth of her first child (that was Navy policy in those days), and she continued to work as a nurse until the family moved to Sacramento in 1969. She lived in her home for nearly 55 years before moving to Boerne, TX. Jo Ann was a forty-year member of the John A. Sutter chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She was a member of the Navy Nurse Corps Association. She is survived by her brother Joe Bill Jones; her children, Lisa Morrison, Ronda Syring (Jim), Joseph Beagle (Lisa); her grandchildren, Glynnis and Archie Morrison, Tyler Syring; and several other family members. Jo Ann was scheduled to be inurned at USNA with her husband on 10 August.

'57

Life Membership: 71%**Donor Participation: 20.07%**Pres: **VADM Daniel L. Cooper, USN (Ret.)**
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'58

Life Membership: 61%**Donor Participation: 23.31%**Pres: **Lt Col Gordon M. Gerson, USAF (Ret.)**
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e: avictor@erols.comWebsite: www.usna.com/Classes/1958**SUMMER CRUISE 1955**

Part IV (On USS Iowa, at sea enroute to Spain)
15 June 1955 – Beautiful Day. Went out on the deck this morning and found the old lion of an ocean quiet as a lamb. Hardly a ripple as far as the eye could see. We were supposed to have gun firing today, but there wasn't enough wind to get the planes aloft. It was like that all day. This is tourist crossing weather I guess, but what am I but a tourist? On U.S. Government expense no less. Been typing liberty cards for the troops, 586 of them all together. It is a pleasant thought to know that we will be using them soon. Looked at cameras and watches today. I don't need a camera, but they sure are fascinating things to look at. I might get a watch before I go home. They look nice too. Will check with the home front. Today was payday. \$59.00. But then we shelled out \$37.10 for the Madrid tour. I have money. I might have a couple hundred back home. But I'm going to enjoy myself first. It's still hard to believe I'll be in Madrid Spain in a few days. It's a beautiful night, oodles of stars. Tom and I might sleep out on the fantail.

16 June 1955 – Another belle jour. Did sleep out. Reminded me of home and what I used to do. Same sky and hard to believe I am 3000 miles from home. The stars are all the same and the big dipper still points north. We are going out again tonight. It looks like a nice night, a little warmer as a matter of fact. We finally got off the gun firing. They secured the 5 inchers. What a racket the 40 mms make.

No one hit the poor little red drone that kept buzzing around. I could have sworn it was laughing at us. Well, it was an interesting and noisy afternoon. I would like to try it soon. Probably will a week after we leave England. Hit the movie again tonight. Quite a movie goer now. I only stayed for the cartoon. Mack Sennett's, old cars and all. I couldn't see watching the "Beast from 20,000 Fathoms". Well to bed under the stars again. It looks like rain later on.

17 June 1955 – What a day! Yes it rained about 0500. I woke up soaked. Spent the rest of the "night" under the Admiral's gig. It cleared up soon enough though and turned into a beautiful day. Field day for all hands except Tom and me. I did work though. Typed steadily on watch bills. We are preparing for next phase. Tom and I have hopes of staying on. I'll even do my cruise journal if I have to. I saw Steve Soitez on the Glennon during a high line this morning. He looks sick. I sympathize with him wholeheartedly. Tomorrow is inspection day. We expect to go by the Rock of Gibraltar at about 1000 too. Hope I can get some pictures. Went to see Marlon in "Waterfront" tonight. The 3rd time. I still enjoyed it though. He is really great. It's later tonight than it usually is. We are closing up our first phase and also preparing for inspection. Looks like tomorrow will be a good day. Land for the first time in 14 days.

A LIFE WELL LIVED

Adrienne McCullough, the wife of Marty McCullough 12th Company, died on 18 May 2023. She was born in Chandannagar, India in February 1936. Her parents were David Scott and Phyllis Scott. At this time India was a colony of the United Kingdom and her father was a businessman assigned to a post in Calcutta

and Adrienne's early years were in Calcutta. A very exciting and colorful place to grow up. When World War II started her father joined the Royal Indian Army Service Corps and the family moved to places like Deolali, Jhansi and Rawalpindi. Her father was killed in action while working on the Burma Road, one of the most remarkable engineering achievements of all time. After his death the family returned to Calcutta and Adrienne attended boarding school in Darjeeling, India in the foothills of the Himalayans. With the end of the war Adrienne's mother married an American executive working in India and the family relocated to Shanghai, China where Adrienne attended the Shanghai American School. All this and she was only about 10. With the fall of Shanghai to the Communists the family moved back to India where she attended the Woodstock School in Mussoorie, India. The next move for

**ADRIENNE MCCULLOUGH**

this proper young English lady was to England where, although she was English, she had never lived. There she attended Gateway Girls School before her stepfather moved the family to the Arlington, VA in the United States. She finished High School in 1954 and then attended George Washington University. Worked in a D.C. law firm and then joined American Airlines as a flight attendant. In 1960 she and Marty were married and this young lady, who had already seen a lot of the world, set off for more adventure as a Navy wife. During Marty's career in the Navy they lived in Norfolk, VA, Princeton, NJ, Monterey CA, Pax River, MD, Manila, Philippines, Ankara, Turkey and Coronado CA, which is where they settled down after Marty's retirement from the Navy. She was a gifted and active watercolorist and a Member of the Coronado Art Association for over 30 years. Also, an active member of the Coronado Historical Association. She was a founder of the Coronado Armchair Travel program which was adopted by the Coronado Recreation Department and also active in the Church. Before retiring she worked as a realtor and for a Coronado travel agency (a position she was well prepared for) and as a volunteer for Navy Relief and with the PTA. And I would be remiss if I failed to mention her proudest achievements as a devoted wife to Marty and loving mother to their 3 daughters.

An active life, a rewarding life, an exciting life, and a life well lived.

CLOSING RANKS

Richard Brinegar, 8th Company, died on 19 July 2023

Adrienne McCullough, wife of **Marty McCullough** 12th Company, passed away on 18 May 2023

'59

Life Membership: 65%**Donor Participation: 16.94%**Chairman Exec. Committee: **Gerald G. Garbacz**Shipmate Editor: **Ed Hill**
p: 301-943-4185; e: hilled@aol.comWebmasters: **Pete and Elaine Stout**Website: www.USNA1959.com**Vince Obsitnik** sent an update:

✉ On 7 July, I was scheduled to run in the 10K Road Race of the National Senior Games. Annemarie and I decided to drive up from Atlanta and stopped in Ebensburg, PA to visit my hometown of Nanty-Glo and some relatives. On the morning of 4 July in preparation for my Road Race, I went for a run on the Ghost Town Trail which runs 41 miles from Ebensburg westward. Along the way, are a number of coal mining towns that have expired over the years, thus the name Ghost Town Trail. On my return run, I realized that I had passed my parked car and, checking GPS, found I had to backtrack about a half mile.

As I was standing there, a young runner was coming towards me and I asked him for help in getting back to my car. He very generously offered to walk back with me to my car. As we talked, things really got interesting. He was **Mike Bradley, USNA Class of 2001!!** Not only that, he was a submariner as I was. Mike had served in the SSBNs. As we walked, he pulled out his phone to call someone. Further down trail, a pickup truck pulled into a nearby parking lot and a young man got out. Mike had called him to meet us. The young man was **Will Westrick, USNA Class of 2026!!** Will had just finished plebe year and was home for summer leave.

What an event!! Three USNA guys meet on a remote trail in Western Pennsylvania on the Fourth of July!!! What are the odds of that happening and how patriotic is that?? Here is a pic of the three of us.



The next day we left for Pittsburgh where I registered for my 10K Road Race. There were three of us running in the 85-89 age group. It was a hard race with some undulating hills. I got the Silver with a time of 1h 27m. My son, Jim, ran in the 50-54 age group with a time of 53m. Helps to be young. Here is a pic of my son and I with also the third place winner.



SHOP. CONNECT. ENJOY!

Shop through our
Amazon Partnership portal.
usna.com/amazon

CAPT Pete Stout - 10th Co Honored at home town game (Salisbury, MD)



'60

Life Membership: 71%

Donor Participation: 17.42%

Pres: **CAPT Douglas M. Johnston Jr., USNR (Ret.)**

p: 202-203-8360; e: dmjj60@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **CAPT Bob Osmon., USN (Ret.)**

Treas: **CAPT Geoege W. Dowell III, USN (Ret.)**

Sec'y: **Bill Lewis**

1300 S Hwy. A1A Unit 508, Jupiter, FL 33477

p: 804-334-6353; e: bilewis@comcast.net

Webmaster: **Richard Harper**

p: 805-583-1640; e: Richard.Harper@1960.USNA.com

Website: <http://www.1960.usnaclases.net>

Classmates: In future columns we will have a new section, "President's Corner," from our Class President. This issue will kick off that process.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Classmates, It is my sad duty to inform you that **Pete Chabot (14)** has been forced to step down as our Class President because of a pressing medical condition. The several years of his tenure have been the hallmark of excellence, and his leadership will be sorely missed. Although he will be a tough act to follow, follow it we will.

Pursuant to item # 2 of Article III of our Class Charter, I will serve out the remainder of Pete's term, after which we will initiate our customary nominating process to determine who comes next.

As a first order of business and pursuant to item # 3 of Article III, I am pleased to report that **Bob Osmon (17)** has agreed to serve as our new Class Vice President. Oz is as good as they come, so we are fortunate indeed to have his support. As you will recall, he provided invaluable leadership in our Link-in-the Chain activities back in 2010 and was instrumental in initiating our more recent celebration of those classmates who had been married to the same wife for at least 60 years.

At **Randy McHenry's (7)** invitation and with Pete's endorsement, Oz has also agreed to once again work with Randy in mounting another mini-reunion at Randy's hotel in New Smyrna Beach, FL scheduled for February of 2024.

At the same time, **Jack Paepke (11), Don Delude (12), Willie Taylor (7), Tug Knorr (20)**, and I will be overseeing the preparations for our 65th reunion the weekend of August 30, 2025. For the time being, that is all we currently have on the schedule; but I would encourage as many of you as possible to attend the 65th, since it will probably be our last big one for the foreseeable future.

I will apprise you of any new initiatives as future opportunities arise. Meanwhile, please know I consider it a privilege to serve as your new President and look forward to working on your behalf in the months ahead. Toward that end, please use the following email address for any class-related communications : dmjj60@gmail.com

Best to all, —**Doug Johnston (5)**



Chabot and Bob Osmon



Al Ablowich & Bert Johnson

HONOR CHAIRS

Remember or Honor a loved one
in Alumni Hall. Call **410-295-4100**
for more information.



Al Whitaker & Ed Clextion enjoying a good laugh

From Rod Friedmann (5):



Hamon, Schlicht, Osmon, Suddath and Friedmann



Antonio and Lewis



Bill & Linda Lewis with Bob Osmon



Paula Friedmann with Jack Greenhalgh

✉ Along the James River in Hampton, VA a bunch of old and weathered Canoe Club warriors made the trek to The Crabshack-on-the-James on Jul 14th. Fourteen classmates, plus a guest, arrived to share the tranquility of the James River & partake in some quality seafood, cold beer & to recall some old sea stories. The luncheon was hosted by Al Whitaker from W'burg.

Attending were: **Ed Clextion (10)** and his son, **Eric, Pete Chabot (14), Wick Parcels (12), Rod Friedmann (5), Bob Ianucci (16), Bob Powers (8), Bob Antonio (14), Bill Kee (9), Jack Greenhalgh (9), Al Ablowich (16), Al Whitaker (16), Bob Osmon (17), Jim Eilertsen (21) & Bert Johnson (10).**

Bill Kee (9) gave a pitch for his Annual Oyster Feast and identified how many organizations benefited from the event.

Jack Greenhalgh (9) announced that there will be an additional Veteran's Memorial Trip to Washington to see the War Memorials. It is a very solemn and not-to-be-missed event. —Rod

A group of us gathered in Williamsburg in the spring to celebrate the life and passing of **Joel Febel (5)**. A number of pictures are in the column of some of the attendees. —Bill

From **Richard Harper (7)**

✉ Classmates! I like to add a few sentences to this *Shipmate* news article to solicit help for my Class Webmaster duties. The need for a web design co-editor or backup has been apparent for some time, but **Pete Chabot's (14)** recent sudden and unexpected stepping down as Class President has made this need even more apparent.

I originally volunteered to serve as Class Webmaster in 2007. Since then, website design had become much less complex and more "What You See Is What You Get". I now use the software Wordpress for all my design work. The Alumni Association supports the change, providing the basic theme or design layout, the domain name, website hosting, and backup. Wordpress software is free and very well documented online and in many 3rd party textbooks.

I think the ideal arrangement would be to have 3 or 4 of us working together as a web design team. Interested classmates can contact me at richardtharer@gmail.com.

'61

Life Membership: 73%

Donor Participation: 23.04%

Pres: **RADM Jerome F. Smith Jr., USN (Ret.)**

Corr Sec'y: **CAPT Bob Sherer, USN (Ret.)**

2301 River Crescent Dr., Annapolis MD 21401

p: 410-266-1334 voice and text

e: enavant1305@icloud.com; sherer@1961.usna.com

Webmaster: **Howard Winfree**

e: winfree@1961.usna.com

Website: www.1961.myUSNA.com

Dear Classmates,

In a June 29 email **Don Coullahan (6)** observed of **Joe Matalavage (21)**, "Not much can get Joe out of the house these days, but a grandkid in town will do it."

The below photos show Joe and grandson **Ben '26**. Ben's older brother, **Nathan '22** has started nuclear power school at Goose Creek, SC after completing a master's degree at Navy Post-Graduate School.



The Annapolis group added some variety to



Ben Matalavage, taken by Don at the USO reception June 29 when the Mids came to San Diego for summer training.

our first Tuesday luncheon routine for July. President **Jerry Smith** hosted a combined men's and women's luncheon at his Mill Creek villa. We enjoyed the view and a scrumptious menu from the air conditioned comfort of Jerry's waterfront living/dining area. We also managed to squeeze in a session of the

Executive Committee for a couple of pending business items (reported in the minutes on



'61 ladies from left seated Kathy Rosenberger, Sue Glover, Gloria Stem, Judy Onorati, Jill Smith, Debbie Lang. Standing from left Donna Ralston-Latham, Barbara Bower, Chris Umberger, Ellie Nichols, Liz Zaic, friend of Gloria Stem



'61 at Smiths' from left: Tim Dugan (12), Bob Giuffreda (2), Ed Straw (7), (bottom to top) Jay Bower (14) Bob Glover (8), Jerry Smith (8), Bob Sherer (4); (Bottom to top): Paul Lang (19), Warren Hoppe (21), Bill Ciesla (18), Jim Connell (2).



'61 Tidewater group at Rib City

1961.MyUSNA.com).



Your Executive Committee

Mike and Marguerite Welch had to leave before the group pic due to an appointment but not before the camera caught them.



From Ned Kuhns:

✉ "The Tidewater '61 group held its July luncheon on the 13th with good attendance as usual. The Rib City restaurant owners had planned to begin their summer vacation that week but stayed open just to accommodate us which was very thoughtful of them. Believe we are their favorite customers. Everyone was in good spirits and health (as you can see from the photo) as we discussed a wide variety of topics including the sad recent loss of classmates and Tim Dugan's e-mails regarding our upcoming 65th reunion in 2026. In attendance around the table from left: Charlie Stewart (6), Dick Hixson (19), Ned Kuhns (7), Ken Craig (7), Tom McNicholas (9), Fred Lowack (7), JP Decker (8), Bob Graham (18), Kurt Rohdenburg (20), Joe Kuhn (3-Honorary), Buzz Needham (12) and Jim Noonan (23)."

Your correspondent had the privilege of attending the graduation of '61 legacy Midshipmen Erik Reimann and Nick Sherer which brought back memories of June 7, 1961. Breeze Stewart thoughtfully supplied a copy of our graduation program, so here it is (cover and table of contents) to compare to the corresponding pages for 2023. Not that much different except for the absence of Army and Air Force commissionings and the venue—Navy Marine Corps Memorial Stadium v. Halsey Field House. (See images on following page.)

'62

Life Membership: 75%

Donor Participation: 23.62%

Pres: **RADM William C. Miller, USN (Ret.)**

Sec'y: **Robert Giles**

1749 Baldwin Dr., Millersville, MD 21108

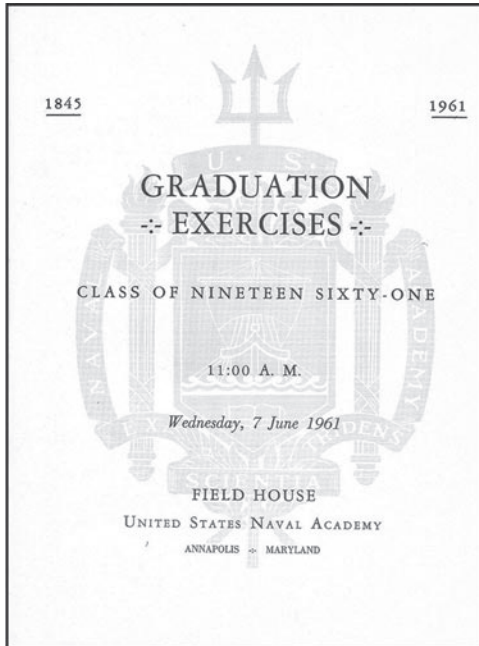
p: 301-395-4379; e: robert.giles@gmail.com

Greetings Classmates. I must apologize for the tardiness of Valerie's obit. I generally don't put obit's in my column, so I kept pushing this article back to *Shipmate's* Last Call section. Today I learned that *Shipmate* doesn't publish spouses' obits in this section, so when Ron called them, they told me they had no problem with me publishing it in my column. (It appears on page 57.)

So, since I get to make the decision, and since a lot of our Classmates wouldn't be the Men they are without their wife's support, I claim all wives as Classmates in my column and here it is folks. Let's celebrate her life and all her accomplishments with our own

Ron Bell. We love you Brother.

Bob Giles, '62



'61: Graduation Program

Program
★

Invocation	Captain James W. Kelly, Chaplain Corps, U. S. Navy, Chaplain, U. S. Naval Academy.
Remarks and Introduction of Speaker	Rear Admiral John F. Davidson, U. S. Navy, Superintendent, U. S. Naval Academy.
Graduation Address	The Honorable John F. Kennedy, The President of the United States.
Presentation of Diplomas	The Honorable John F. Kennedy, The President of the United States.
Conferring of Degree of Bachelor of Science	The Superintendent.
"Navy Blue and Gold"	The Graduating Class.
Administering of Oath of Office to those to be commissioned:	
U. S. Army	Lieutenant General Arthur G. Trudeau, U. S. Army, Chief of Research and Development, U. S. Army.
U. S. Marine Corps	General David M. Shoup, U. S. Marine Corps, Commandant, U. S. Marine Corps.
U. S. Air Force	General Curtis E. LeMay, U. S. Air Force, Vice Chief of Staff, U. S. Air Force.
U. S. Navy	Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, U. S. Navy, Chief of Naval Operations.
"Star-Spangled Banner"	U. S. Naval Academy Band.
Chorus "For those about to leave us"	Second and Fourth Classes.
Chorus "For those we leave behind us"	The Graduating Class.

[The order of administering the Oath of Office is in accordance with the authority of the Service involved, except that, as here, the Navy is last]

'63

Life Membership: 62%
Donor Participation: 18.38%

Pres: **CAPT W. Spencer Johnson IV, USN (Ret.)**

Sec'y: **Michael H. Shelley**
27 Cambridge Dr., Brevard, NC 28712
p: 828-506-2201; e: nstar@citcom.net

Website: www.USNA63.org

Regretfully, we begin this report with news of the deaths of three members of the Class of 1963 family. Please take a few minutes to read their obituaries in the Last Call section of our web site.

David J. Ebert died on 30 June. His widow, Lynn, can be contacted at 626 Edwards Road, Annapolis, MD 21401.

Frank C. Holmes died on 9 July. We do not have contact information for his next of kin.

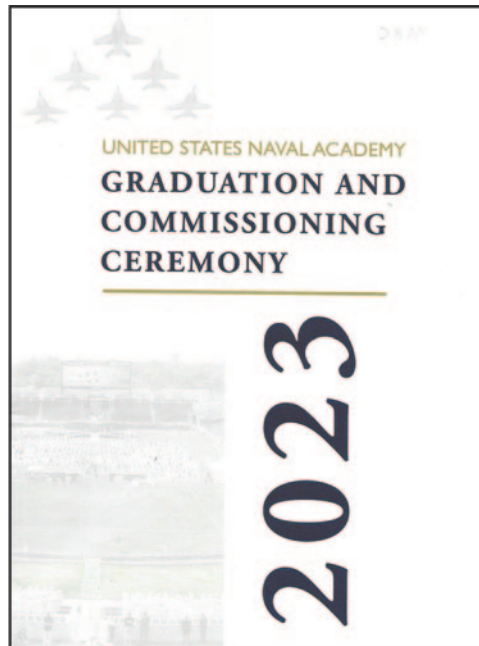
Karl Kozak's wife, Marirose, passed away on 13 June. Her obituary is posted with Karl's entry in the Current Biographies section of our web site. Karl can be contacted at 850 Beech St. #1001, San Diego, CA 92101.

Phillip Marsden sent the photo below on the next page, taken after the 15 July service celebrating Marirose's life. Pictured surrounding Karl are Lee and Sue Cargill, Grant Telfer, Betty Ray Wilson, Lew Blackwell, Dave and Patti Meyers, Phillip Marsden, Jerry and Rowena Harken, Vern and Gail Von Sydow.

Our much anticipated 60th reunion will be held in Annapolis 19 - 22 October. It's a good idea to check the reunion page on our web site from time to time for the latest information as the reunion approaches. Among the resources there are a link to register to attend, an up-to-date list of classmates already registered, and a link to order '63 merchandise. Be sure to note the deadline for ordering.

Jim Ring wrote with news about the continuing search for his USNA roommate, Jim Patterson.

✉ On 1 July, I hosted a lunch at Army Navy Country Club in Arlington to discuss the continued search for the status of my roommate, **Kelly (Jim) Patterson**. His A-6 was shot down on 19 May 1967, over North Vietnam. Contact was made with him on the ground, and he indicated he had broken his leg. After a few days, there was no contact. His pilot, Red McDaniel, was captured and endured vicious beatings. Among many other medals awarded to him was the Navy Cross.



'61: Graduation Program

PROGRAM

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

CALL TO HONORS
Colonel James P. McDonough, USMC, Commandant of Midshipmen, United States Naval Academy

NATIONAL ANTHEM
United States Naval Academy Band and Midshipman First Class Annabel Powers

INVOCATION
Captain Maurice A. Buford, CHC, USN, Command Chaplain, United States Naval Academy

REMARKS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY
Vice Admiral Sean S. Buck, USN

REMARKS BY THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
The Honorable Carlos Del Toro

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS BY THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
The Honorable Lloyd James Austin III

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES
Vice Admiral Sean S. Buck, USN, Superintendent, United States Naval Academy
and
Dr. Andrew T. Phillips, Academic Dean and Provost, United States Naval Academy

OATH OF OFFICE
General David Berger, USMC, Commandant of the Marine Corps
and
Admiral Michael Glatoy, USN, Chief of Naval Operations

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS

PRESENTATION OF CLASS GIFTS
Second Lieutenant Grant Bookler, USMC, President of the Class of 2023

NAVY BLUE AND GOLD

CHEERS FOR THOSE ABOUT TO LEAVE US
Midshipman Second Class Mack Daniels

CHEERS FOR THOSE WE LEAVE BEHIND
Second Lieutenant Grant Bookler, USMC, President of the Class of 2023

HAT TOSS AND CANNON SALUTE

Freedom Party



March 2023 was the 50th anniversary of **Mike McGrath's** release from 6+ years of "JAIL" as a POW guest of NVN.

Mike celebrated with a Freedom Party at a country club in Monument, CO. Pictured are 3 USNA alums, Mike and **Joe Procopio** '62, who have been friends since 30 June 1958, and Mike's son Rick, USNA '87. Rick's son is also a '87 grad.



At the Army-Navy Country Club



Valerie (Broscombe) Bell, age 82 of Dover, NH (formerly of Chelmsford, MA) died peacefully and surrounded by family on Friday, June 30, 2023, after a lengthy battle with Alzheimer's. She was the only child of the late Thomas and Ruth Broscombe of North Chelmsford, MA.

Valerie was a 1958 graduate of Chelmsford High School where she was an accomplished student and cheerleader, and first met her husband of over 60 years, Ronald I. Bell, now a retired Navy Captain and attorney. She was a 1962 graduate of Boston University, School of Education and held her MA realtor's license.

A Navy Air wife for decades, Valerie loved the Naval Academy and the Navy life. She and Ron traveled the world during those years, living in 15 different places and enjoying every minute.

Valerie worked as a substitute teacher in Florida and Hawaii and, while living in Chelmsford and Westford, she worked as a medical secretary/transcriber and an administrator at a laser company.

Valerie is survived by her husband Ron and was the love of his life and his best friend; a son Scott Bell and his wife Christina and their two sons Chase and Ty; two daughters Susan Bell and Nicole Morrison and her husband Matthew and their daughter Maisie. She is also survived by her sister-in-law and close friend, Norma Bell and her niece Darlene Boyd and her husband Scott Boyd and their children Kaitlyn and Colby. Valerie was predeceased by her first child Vicki Bell.

In lieu of calling hours and funeral services, there will be a private celebration of life at a later date. In remembrance of Valerie, please consider making a donation to the Alzheimer's Association or to our military men and women via one of the many organizations which support them, such as the Wounded Warrior Project, Disabled American Veterans Paralyzed Veterans of America, and Tunnels to Towers.

'62: Valerie (Broscombe) Bell



'63: After the service for Marirose Kozak

At the lunch, from left to right are Red McDaniel, Luck Patterson — Jim's brother, Kenton Van Lue — a member of Jim and Red's squadron, **Mike McDaniel '80** — son of Red, Forrest Siburt, and Kent Maxfield.

Luck told us about his lifelong search to find out what happened to Jim and the runaround he has been receiving for his search. Red and Luck also told us about their belief that not all POW's in Vietnam were returned at the end of the war. It is a very sad story.

✉ Fourteen members of the Fourth Company and three guests reunited via Zoom on 11 July for lively conversations about matters current and past. Here is a screenshot showing the participants. Left to right, top to bottom, are Doug Tozour, Mike Shelley, Tom Meyer, Mario Fiori (12), Ken Sanger, Jim Metcalfe (1), Dick Wyttenbach-Santos, Mike Blackledge, Felix DeGolian (19), Craig Barton, Steve Duncan, Lou Simpleman, Ron Saqui, Bill Graham, Pat Wright, Jim Koehn, and Harry Salmon (with a camera problem). (Photo is on a following page.)

There is less news than usual from our classmates to share with you this month, so I hope you'll enjoy some photos from past *Shipmate* columns. From the fall of 1993 is this picture of **Spencer Johnson** in his distinctive fur coat and unique Navy pennant at a home game tailgate.



Ultimate Navy fan Spencer Johnson

From the September 1993 version of June Week West, a large Navy spirit event in San Diego, came this picture of our classmates **J.J. Hogan, Mike Rubel, Vern Von Sydow** and **Craig Barton**.

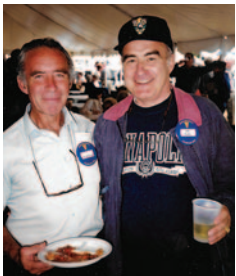


'63: Fourth Company reunites via Zoom on 11 July.



Celebrating in San Diego, 1993

Here are three photos from the tailgate party at our 35th reunion in Annapolis in October 1998.



Adriasola and Barbe

The first shows two of our foreign national classmates, **Luis Adriasola** (Chile) and **Gil Barbe** (Belgium.) In the next picture are **Phil Rooney** and **Rob Newton**, and in the third are **Ben Redd** and **Hoot Gibson**.



Rooney and Newton



Redd and Gibson

This picture of **Sonny Glassner**, **Chet White** and **Chuck Stone** was taken at a well-attended '63 dinner during the weekend of the December 2005 Poinsettia Bowl in San Diego.



Celebrating Navy's Poinsettia Bowl victory

I expect to have many pictures from our 60th reunion to share with our readers. Will you be among those whose happy faces are shown? I hope so. See you in Annapolis!

QUALITY - '63

'64

Life Membership: 65%

Donor Participation: 21.27%

Pres: **CAPT Micheal Farmer, USN (Ret.)**
e: farmer.mike@comcast.net

Corr Sec'y: **Roland Marquis**
333 Valverde Ln., St. Augustine, FL 32086
p: 847-970-7562; e: bigroland1@comcast.net

Website: www.usna64.org

Continuing our series honoring our classmates listed on the Vietnam Memorial Wall, the January 2024 issue will feature Silver Star Awardee **Tom Holden**. Since the *Shipmate* column submittal deadline for the January issue is 27 November 2023, anyone desiring to submit remembrances, anecdotes, etc. must submit them **prior to that date**. Your humble correspondent responds to each received message. Accordingly, any unacknowledged one over 24 hours should be resent to bigroland1@comcast.net.

And so, this month's column opens with two inputs from CinC "64 Cares" **Jim Craven**. The first is a photo of Connie and **Jack Costello** taken when Jim visited them recently at the Great Falls, VA Memory Care Facility.



The Costellos' looking spry

Jim also submitted the following SITREP: "While my wife Sara and I were at Sunset Beach, NC for two weeks in early August, we took a short trip to Wilmington and had a wonderful gathering with Joyce and Bernie Maguire at the Trinity Grove Nursing Home. Parkinson's is a very progressive illness, and is it ever progressing with Bernie. I had spoken to him on the phone maybe 60 days ago, and he is now far more difficult to understand. The cognition is still very much there though. He recognized me and everything he said made sense. His hands really no longer work, and Joyce had to feed him his lunch. I was in the 8th Company, and Bernie laughed when I told him I always got lost and could have used GPS on the other side of the rotunda. He remembered the 2022 Army game, and we talked of my visiting Jack Costello. Anyway, Bernie would love to see and hear from classmates. Joyce's phone # is (703)395-4820. Address: Trinity Grove - Room 603, 631 Junction Creek Drive - Wilmington, NC 28412,

phone (910) 442-3000. As we left, Bernie said "I love you Jim," and there were tears all around.

On a more pleasant note, **Mike Pemberton** submitted a few Plebe Year remanences. Mike writes: Having travelled across country from California to Kansas by auto, on to Wash. D.C. by train, then by bus to Annapolis, I arrived in town about 10:00 PM Sunday 3 July 60. I tried to check in to one of the hotels on the main drag, but was told every place in town had been booked for days on account of all the arriving prospective mids and their families. Due to the late hour and my lack of options, the clerk offered to put me up that night in a janitorial closet on a cot he had available. I gratefully took him up on the offer for a meager charge of about \$5!

The next morning (Monday the 4th) I checked in a day early at the Academy, and was allowed to stay overnight in the field house with other early arrivers, mostly of whom seemed to be incoming jocks. The next day, of course, was a whirlwind of activity beginning with the swearing in ceremony, plebe summer room assignments, and issuance of uniforms and misc. supplies. Did we also get shots and haircuts that day? Certainly, a day none of us will ever forget!!

My kids and grandkids have all enjoyed reading about my experiences, good and bad, during my ensuing four years at Canoe U - especially the numerous harassments and hijinks we endured (and enjoyed) over plebe year.

One particular episode stands out from all the rest, both in terms of hilarity and the associated danger. I was selected (during a cold winter period in early 1961) by a Segundo to be part of a team of about eight 20th company plebes (the rest of you will certainly recall this incident) who were ordered to carry out an outlandish caper involving his classmate, **Hugh Rawls '62**.

Hugh was known to be an extremely sound sleeper, or the order would have been impossible to carry out.

We were to quietly enter Hugh's room well before reveille, gather 'round his bed (not a top bunk), slowly and carefully remove the mattress and occupant off the bedframe, even more carefully transport our cargo down three (or four?) flights of stairs to ground level, and soundlessly traverse the area leading to the reflection pool to execute our assigned mission. That mission was to heave poor Hugh out onto the ice-covered pool. The temperature must have been in the twenties. I don't believe any of us really gave much thought to the potential danger to the victim's cardio system reacting to such a shock.

"Anyway, heave him well out onto the ice we did. As he broke the surface and became submerged in the freezing water, he let out a ghastly bellow of terrified surprise. He then stood up and commenced to ice-break toward

the edge of the pool, issuing the most alarming threats against his cadre of tormentors. In the dim light, I actually perceived his exposed flesh to be a shade of blue! Of course, after witnessing his most unpleasant immersion and recovery, we bagged it back to Mother B at warp speed! After some reflection on the incident, I began to feel a bit guilty for laughing so hard at another's misfortune; perhaps other "work party" members did as well. The instigating group of Segundo's (including Hugh's roommates) gave us all a hearty "BZ" on our return."

After many entreaties to **Tom Hawk**, one of your humble correspondent's Plebe Year roommates, he finally succumbed and submitted the following Bio.

I am eight years into "retirement" but it is only from a W-2. I stay as busy as I was when I was teaching full-time and stirring up things in the College of Business at Frostburg State University.

I continue to research and write in the areas of teaching, learning, ethics, and philosophy. I had a paper published in the Journal of Management Education in October and I have several more that are close to being ready to submit to journals for review. I still attend three academic conferences and regularly present at two of them. My reviewing of journal manuscripts continues at full steam. I am Associate Editor for the *Journal of Management Education*, a member of the Board of Reviewers for the Academy of Management Learning and Education, and a regular reviewer for *Management Learning*. I received three awards for the quality of my reviewing in 2017.

My consulting is primarily with 501.c.3, non-profit organizations, mostly on a financial and strategy basis. I am the Financial VP for the Allegany High School Band Boosters, the Cowtown Opry in Fort Worth, TX, and the National Day of the Cowboy organization, devoted to establishing in each state the recognition of the Fourth Saturday in July as the National Day of the Cowboy. I also serve as President of the congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Greater Cumberland.

My music activities are the other half of my life. There is the Allegany High School Marching Band which continues to be one the best high school marching bands on the east coast. That is primarily a fall activity. But the main part of my musical activities remains my own performing of cowboy and western music. My repertoire has grown considerably. I am performing at more venues. And my second CD, "Earning My Spurs," is now released. I have also decided to do a third CD, with a theme already chosen and a few of the songs learned.

My son and daughter are still single, as I am, so there are no grandchildren. They both have well-paying jobs and like what they do. Noah lives in Frederick, MD, and Katherine in Harrisonburg, VA. I am healthy and continue to

exercise on a regular basis. I travel a lot, mostly in the USA, about a quarter to a third of the year. I have finished all of the upgrades to my new home of three years, 778 MacDonald Terrace, Cumberland, MD 21502. It is a



wonderfully light, sunny, and comfortable place that I am enjoying immensely. The mountains of western Maryland are quite beautiful. There is lots of hiking here. Fair winds and a quartering sea, classmates.

CLASS SECRETARY COLUMN DEADLINES

Send to: classnews@usna.com

2023

ISSUE:	DUE DATE:
November-December '23	25 Sept '23
January-February '24	20 Nov '23
March-April '24	23 Jan '24

We will be posting the remaining 2024 deadlines soon!

2023 NAVY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Follow Navy Football at: navysports.com

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

1-800-US4-NAVY

'65

Life Membership: 64%

Donor Participation: 51.72%

Pres: **CAPT Jim Minderlein, USN (Ret.)**
e: jim65@verizon.net

Corr Sec'y: **CDR Dave Anderson, USN (Ret.)**
1600 Ala Moana Blvd. #2208, Honolulu, HI 96815
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Class of 1965 Home Page:
<https://usna1965.groups.io/g/Wardroom>

Alas, reports are in and we lost **Mike Reed** since submitting the September *Shipmate* column.

✉ **Jim Minderlein**, on 07 Jul, Informed us of the death of our classmate, **Michael Pierce Reed**. Mike graduated from the 22nd Company and is the 5th deceased classmate of 22 graduates. And **Stew Caldwell**, reported he'd heard from **Bill Hunt** that Mike Reed just passed. Mike's widow, **Judie**, is in a facility, so classmates have not been able to speak to her. Please keep her and family in your prayers.

My many memories of Mike are so clear. His great smile and good humor in all situations were prominent. Stew added that Mike and Judie had a big part in God's plan and were used powerfully for His good purposes. Mike is also survived by three daughters, a son and numerous grandkids. Please see Last Call for details on Mike's life and career.

Tom Nastro '69, reported that the Brunswick Naval Aviation Museum in Brunswick, ME has a Memorial Garden honoring lost Brunswick NAS airman and includes plaques in memory of the VP 26 crews. One plaque there tells the story of our classmate **Mike Travis**, lost while piloting a VP 26 aircraft off Vietnam in 1968. If you're ever in the Brunswick, ME area, it would be worthwhile to check out the museum and Mike's plaque. The museum's website is <https://bnamuseum.org>

From **Pete Lumianski**, 02 May

✉ Up close and personal with the Warthog! Camp Lumi-Goomie Tucson, 2023 - a visit to Davis-Monthan AFB. Leave it to the USAF Zoombags to have a single A-10 parked in the middle of a pristine hanger, and nice sun covers for each plane parked on the ramp. Remind you of the Navy?? Pete. Here's a photo of the Lumianski clan on this annual frolic.



Also from **Ted Nanz**, 25 Jun

✉ Here's a recent photo of the **Nanz** family boating to Keewaydin Island Beach off of Marco Island near Naples, FL. Visited there with sons and their families. Photo: **Meliza** and me; with grandson at the helm and granddaughter by his side.



From **Dave Schlesinger**, 22 May

✉ That's great that you and **Judy** are signed up for the Columbia River cruise in Aug 24! We have 40 folks already and will certainly have more as time passes on. The next time you are in SD please let me know so we can get some classmates together. I have so many happy memories of Hawaii. My folks were there from 1958 - 1961. Dad was USMC stationed at FMFPAC (Camp Smith). I graduated from SLHS in 1961. After my 3rd Viet Nam tour with Seabee Battalions I was fortunate to get sent to Hawaii in 1970. My daughter was born at Tripler Hospital in 1971. My older son went to Hale Kekei School. We lived in a 2-bed room duplex at Navy Housing in Moanalua Terrace. Marion learned to play golf at Navy-Marine GC. My wife still says the 4 years in HI were the best of all our duty stations. We have a lot of HI stories to share with you. Stay in touch. Take care. Dave

From **Phil Ferrara**, 08 Jun

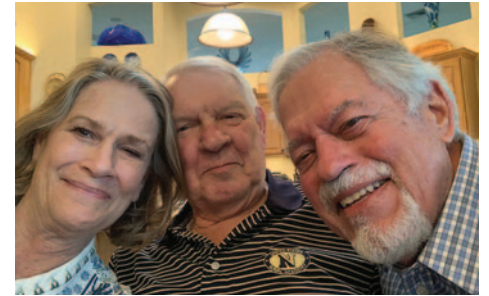
✉ Thirty-three members of the '65 family gathered for lunch at McGarvey's Saloon on 7 June, and we filled the oyster bar to capacity. It was a raucous group that took over the Saloon.

Prior to the lunch eighteen of the '65ers attended an hour and a half tour of the beautiful Georgian mansion, the PACA HOUSE, in downtown Annapolis. At the tour were **Sted** and **Robin Garber**, **Phil** and **Linda Ferrara**, **Bob** and **Peggy Sullivan**, **Moke** and **Michele DeMatta**, **Mike** and **Maggie Luecke**, **Bob** and **Betty Andretta**, **Larry** and **Pat Eggert**, **Sonny** and **Judy Harrison**, and **Skip** and **Merry Orr**. All adjourned to McGarvey's, and were joined for lunch by **Jim** and **Diann Minderlein**, **Fred Vogel**, **Frank Peterson**, **Charlie Morrison**, **Ed Linz**, **Dan** and **Fonny Flanagan**, **Frog** and **Sam Kristensen**, **Wyman** and **Susy Howard**, **Chip Seymour**, **Pat Philbin**, and **John Collins**.

From **John and Carolyn Odom**, 08 Jun

✉ This is John Odom's wife, **Carolyn**. We met at a dinner in Houston I believe, some years ago. We have since moved to St Louis in 2019

to be closer to family and the grandkids. The Odoms visited **Jim Rohrbach** at The Villages on 09 May on our way back to St. Louis after a week of R&R on the beach. Jim was the perfect host as you can see from the greeting outside his front door.



John O'Dwyer, checked in on 12 Jun, highlighting his life as a self-admitted "Health Nut" - since 1971 - doing lots of things regularly that most classmates are not familiar with. He takes no medication and doesn't go to doctors but does play pickleball many times a week and is usually free from all aches and pains. He's been researching health (as a hobby), has read about 500 health books, and may be able to share some of his health knowledge with classmates. In 2016, he wrote his own book on health, on Energy Healing, and, last year, created a new "**Opt for Oxygen**" Website (www.Opt4O2.com) to try to simplify health, based on his 50+ years of health research. Contact John at healthnut01@gmail.com for more info.

From **GG Marshall**, 18 Jun

✉ **Paul** had several tests done last week. they were ordered by his neurologist. New EEG, MRI and a battery of test that lasted over 4 hrs. We do not have the results. He is continuing to improve, still uses a cane or walker, does not drive yet. We are planning a trip with our church choir to Canada at the end of the month. We did hear from the DA's office yesterday that the woman that attacked him is still in jail in Harris County . The next hearing date is 28 July.

Thanks for the prayers, GG Marshall

From **Rick Rickard**, 16 Jun

✉ As you know, **Wayne Goodroe** was my roomie for our last three years at USNA. Recently, Barb, his wife, threw a big surprise birthday bash for him at a local country club. Here are a couple of photos from that event. In the following

photo from L to R: friend Carolyn, **Allyson Rickard**, **Rick**, **Jeanne Allen**, **Chip Allen**, **Sue Wecht**, **Ron Wecht**.



The previous photo is, obviously, me and Wayne. —Rick

Congrats to **Pete Lumianski**! Due to his hard work as the prime mover behind the USS PHOENIX (SSN-702) Project to erect in Phoenix a monument to this sub and all USN subs active during the Cold War, the City of Phoenix has \$3 Million in its 2024 budget for the project! Lumi needs stories of subs and their Cold War experiences from c'mates who skippered them. Contact Lumi at prom65@cox.net for details. More on this next month.

Ed Linz' book, "A Filthy Way to Die", is out and getting rave reviews from the classmates who have ordered it and read it. Available on Amazon. Go get it - great stories of Vietnam experiences from a whole raft (61!) of courageous '65 classmates! Here's this from Ed on 10 Jul.

✉ My "love letter to the Class of 1965," my new book, *A Filthy Way to Die, Collected Memories of the Vietnam War*, was recently published. It is over 450 pages in length and consists of interviews with 61 of our classmates (and one widow) who had experiences in the Vietnam War from 1965 to the end of the war. The stories cover nearly all aspects of the Navy and Marine Corps involvement in Vietnam from those who arrived not long after our graduation until minesweeping Haiphong Harbor to enable our POWs to be released. There are stories involving Marines in fierce battles throughout I Corps, Navy and Marine aviators on missions over both North and South Vietnam, Brown Water Navy sailors in the Mekong Delta and Cambodia, Swift boat skippers in the rivers and canals, Surface ships conducting SAR and shore bombardment, advisors to Vietnamese Navy and Marine units, secret ops inside the North at night, and CEC and Supply Corps challenges. The book is dedicated to our nine classmates who lost their lives in this terrible war. Email me at edlinz@edlinz.com for signed copies or simply visit Amazon or your local bookstore.

Over the last few months, I've been working to update the spreadsheet Class Directory that **Bull Durham**, bless his heart, created and maintained for decades, up until 2017. I've included updates on a whole bunch of c'mates who chimed in to fix their data. It's on our Wardroom site and I'll be happy to send anyone who wants this Excel version, that's been sync'd with the info for us on the

USNAAA site, if you just send me an email and request it.

Our 1965 *Lucky Bag* is now available online as a PDF file. If interested, you can view it or download it. Email me and I'll send you the long, ugly URL link.

Also, "Ring of Valor", a TV program, filmed at USNA and broadcast in 1965, narrated by actor Robert Taylor, is out on YouTube. You can search for it there or email me and I'll send you the long, ugly URL link.

Thazzit, Guys! Aloha, Dave

'66

Life Membership: 66%
Donor Participation: 22.92%

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

As I write this in July, with rain and heat, it's difficult to imagine the cool of October, but one can dream. There hasn't been a great deal of news, but here's what I've received.

First off, **Jerry Maher** provided the following update.

✉ On 22 June 2023, **Jerry Maher** celebrated his 80th Birthday. In attendance (in picture) were his wife of 57 years (Louise - center), daughter (Susan Thoele - right), daughter (Margaret Sullivan - left) and their husbands Brian and Chris, respectively. Who really surprised me by showing up were my two grandsons: Noah Sullivan (Holy Cross - Junior) and Aaron Sullivan (Sacred Heart University - Freshman). Our outdoor BBQ was rained out, but we were able to BBQ and enjoy our ribs and chicken. We ended the day as we always do with "BEAT ARMY." Thanks Jerry. I joined you in the octogenarian club in September. Great picture.



JERRY CELEBRATES HIS 80TH WITH FAMILY

In closing, thanks to all who have contributed to this issue. I again remind you to visit and use the Class web site, usna66.org. Thanks to our very capable Web Master, Therese Long-Fish, it continues to be an excellent source of information for Classmates and surviving spouses on what's happening in the Class, health and wellness, and personal support. Plan to visit it often.

Until December...All the best, Mike!!!

'67

Life Membership: 77%
Donor Participation: 34.93%

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

Sec'y: **LtCol Jim McNeese, USMC (Ret.)**
1603 John Worthington Way, Crownsville, MD 21032
p: 410-849-3423; e: scribe67@gmail.com

Michael Cathey notified us of the 25 June 2023 death of **Andy Hudak** after a four-year struggle with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. Doris, Andy's wife, told Michael that Andy's quick wit kept his family laughing until the end. He and Doris met at a high school student council camp when they were 17. They celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary the day before he passed away.

Having grown up in Middlesex, NJ, Andy went Surface Line after graduation and spent most of his time on ALBANY (CG-10). He received a professional degree in Architecture from Harvard's Graduate School of Design in 1975. He began his career as a solo entrepreneur so he could help raise his two daughters, Neva and Jean. Later, he served as Deputy Director of the City of Boston's Public Facilities Department for 13 years, retiring in 2008. He was committed to excellence in public buildings. He was described as "a loving husband, father, and grandfather; caring brother and uncle; and a dear friend to many." Andy especially enjoyed walking in Harvard's Arnold Arboretum, and donations there in his memory will be welcome. Go to <http://arboretum.harvard.edu/support/make-a-gift/> for their printable donation form.

I have pictures from a couple of 60 year l-day remembrances. Fifteen Classmates and wives from the DE-PA-MD-DC-VA area gathered on 24 June 2023 at what is becoming a favorite gathering spot for us: *Glory Days Grill* near Annapolis in Edgewater. Thanks to **Tom Pritchett** for these photos on the next page.

Bob Lang sent a couple more from the San Diego commemoration, hosted by **Jim Gilbert**. They even had a cake! In the photo you'll see (L-R): Jack Feehan, Gordon Pettus, Curt Dose, Warren Millard, Steve Andres, Norm Hapke, Steve Fisk, Terry Brown, Pete Phelps, Paul Ward, Jim Gilbert, Budd Goodwin, Pete Burggren, and Bob Lang.

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60 year cake, sword and ring

I'm writing this in July and from the paucity of material I have on hand (exactly nothing else) I can only conclude that everybody is out of town either having fun someplace or trying to get away from (a) heat or (b) floods. That means when you read this in October, you will not have had time to forget what you were up to three months ago and can fire me a note

about it. I'm resorting to the old "what I did last summer" play. Looking forward to seeing what you produce.

(By the way, my next deadline after you get this will be for our January-February 2024 column. You can be at the top of the stack for the New Year!)

OK...I'll ramble no more. Let me hear from you!...That's it...Goodnight!...Jim

'68

Life Membership: 62%
Donor Participation: 17.76%

Pres: **CAPT Gary A. Storm, USN (Ret.)**
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Corr Sec'y: **CAPT Gordon I. Peterson, USN (Ret.)**
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Website: www.usna68.com

Congratulations to the Solder family! In July, Peri and **Ed Solder's** son, Nate, was named for induction into the University of Colorado's 2023 Athletic Hall of Fame in November.

An offensive lineman after moving from tight end early in his CU career, Nate played in 146 NFL games and won a pair of Super Bowl rings with the New England Patriots. "Playing at CU, a prestigious university in my mind, then getting to start as a member of a Big 12 team, earning All-America and National Football Foundation Scholar-Athlete honors was beyond a dream come true," he said. Eight other inductees were also selected, including 2016 Olympic steeplechase bronze medalist Emma Coburn. "We are very proud of all Nate's accomplishments," Ed said, "and have had a great time following his career. Now we follow our grandchildren!" (A tip of the hat to **Jeff Dumas** for alerting me to this story!)



Ed and Peri Solder with their son, Nate.



'67: Classmates at Glory Days



'67: And their ladies



'67: West Coasters 60 years along

I received a welcomed update from the 28th Company's **Bob deHoll**—drum roll—his first contribution to our class news column! He reports that three years ago he and company mate **Pete Diefendorf** initiated monthly on-line meetings with their 28th Company shipmates. "We tell tall sea stories and other lies," Bob said, "and enjoy catching up with one another regularly. We started out using Zoom and are now using Microsoft Teams. I think that most people have learned information that they never knew about their shipmates during these sessions!" Bob related that a good number of company mates attend fairly regularly, with others joining less frequently. "It's a good way to stay connected," he said, "without having to wait for a class reunion every five years."

Numbered among Bob's assignments after graduation were sea duty on ARGONAUT (SS 475), Nuclear Power School, submarine school, and assignments on SCAMP (SSN 588) and SEAWOLF (SSN 475). After resigning his commission in 1973, he worked at the home offices of Bechtel Power Corporation in San Francisco as a nuclear mechanical engineer. "I was involved with the design, construction, and licensing of commercial nuclear power plants in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Washington," he said. Concurrently, he earned his law degree at the University of San Francisco.

Bob subsequently practiced both construction and admiralty law with the largest law firm in San Francisco. He and his wife, Cheryl, relocated to Greenville, SC, in 1980 where he

continued to practice primarily construction and environmental law. "In 2020 I joined a small construction law firm," Bob said. "One of these days I will retire, but I still enjoy what I'm doing now." He and Cheryl also enjoy spending time with their two sons' families and grandchildren, as well as outings with company mates who visit Charleston.



Ted and Bonnie Naydan (left) and Bob and Cheryl deHoll (right) at a waterfront restaurant overlooking Charleston Harbor, SC.

The 13th Company's **Terry Lofrano**, a non-graduating member of our class, also continues to enjoy his one-man architectural practice at his home in San Rafael, CA. Terry departed our ranks youngster year, but he maintains ties with his company mates. His memories of the Academy remain strong. "When I left Annapolis, I was determined to pursue my right-brained passion for architecture," he said. "From 12 years old it was where I thought my career would find its groove. Then came the offer of attending the Academy! I hold my time there in a special place in my heart. In a reoccurring dream I am offered the opportunity to return to the Academy and complete my attendance—to which I immediately say, 'Yes, let's go.' What is that about? As I have moved through my career, I realize how my experience became a part of who I am and how I have approached the many challenges presented to me."

After departing the Academy Terry enrolled at the University of California School of Architecture. "Two years into my enrollment I married my sweetheart of six years, Cathy O'Leary, known by many during plebe year as the 'green flash' for her attempts to film the entire parade on Parents Weekend. We soon moved to London for my exchange student year at University College Bartlett School of Architecture. Midway through the term we were blessed with the news that we were going to have a baby! We wanted to share the birth of the first grandchild with both our families, so we returned to San Francisco. I returned to UC soon after the birth of our daughter." Prior to graduating, Terry started his office of architecture, Neeley/Lofrano, in 1971. Soon another daughter and a son joined the Lofrano

family. "Good fortune allowed me to have my first practice last 27 years," Terry said, "then a merger with MBH Architects, then a new firm AXIS Architecture, and finally for the last 12 years a one-man practice in my home. We have been blessed by our three married children with five grandchildren who we have consistently enjoyed. The first graduated UC Santa Barbara this spring. We celebrated our 53-year wedding anniversary last June. I truly enjoyed the two reunions I attended and am sorry to have missed our 55th. I look forward to our 60th! We have lived in San Rafael for the past 43 years and would welcome raising a glass with any classmates who may be passing through. Go Navy!"



Terry and Cathy Lofrano.

Mike Metcalf reported he and Debbie returned home in June from an Alumni Travel sponsored trip to Quito, Ecuador, and the Galápagos. "It was a fabulous trip to another world," Mike said. "There was the wonder of parity and respect achieved between man and fauna if you can imagine that. Debbie and I also celebrated our 50th anniversary on board the Isabela II with our good friend Dr. Victoria Graf and eight other USNA graduates and spouses. Just as great was the camaraderie amongst our alumni and those from UNC-Chapel Hill, Ohio State, Notre Dame, and others."



Debbie and Mike Metcalf on Isle Genovesa with Bahia Darwin in the background. This isle in the Galapagos is just north of the equator.

Heads up members of the Association of Naval Aviation: This autumn, *Wings of Gold* magazine will publish **Jim Kiffer's** two-part article titled, "All Alone Over North Vietnam—A Pilot's Story." Jim vividly describes the "fight of his life" flying a bomb damage assessment mission in his RA-5C Vigilante while assigned to Reconnaissance Attack (Heavy) Squadron 1 (RVAH-1) during a combat deployment on USS SARATOGA (CV 60) in 1972. Jim and his RIO were subsequently awarded the Silver Star for their heroism completing the mission successfully. It is action-packed—don't miss it!

In closing, I have enjoyed getting together with **Chris Glutting** since Diana and I moved to St. Petersburg. He lives a short drive away from our condo. Naturally, sea stories abound—as you would expect from our Salty Sam. During a recent visit I was intrigued to learn how, over a seven-year period, "The Legend" was a member of four USNA classes: **1965, 1966, 1969** (for 20 minutes), and **1968!** And yes, that order is correct. It is a safe bet that Chris is the lone midshipman in Naval Academy history with a "four-class" affiliation!

Chris aspired to follow in the footsteps of his father, **RADM Paul R. Glutting '16**. He achieved his appointment and was inducted into the **Class of 1965** in June 1961. A year later, following a brief meeting with the Academic Board, he turned back into the **Class of 1966**. Chris repeated his fourth-class year and completed his third-class year with '66—and was twice elected class president. Unfortunately, in June 1964 Chris again ran afoul of the Academic Board and was discharged. His participation in 17 extra-curricular activities at the expense of study time was a major contributing factor!

Chris returned to Massachusetts, hired a tutor, scored first in his state's Civil Service Exam, and decided to finish what he started out to do—graduate from the Naval Academy. He wrote our superintendent, **RADM Charles S. Minter '37**, in January 1965 to describe his goal and was informed he must secure a nomination. He did—from Senator Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts. His appointment followed, with instructions to report to the Academy in June. Upon reporting, he was briefly registered with the incoming **Class of 1969** for administrative reasons before being reassigned to the **Class of 1968**. Chris returned to the Academy in late August to join our class as a third classman. The rest is history. Let the record show he was again very active with extracurricular activities—but he learned his lesson. Chris was named twice to the Superintendent's List.

After Navy retirement in 1994 following an impressive SWO career, Chris worked in Massachusetts before moving to St. Petersburg in 1997. He worked for a company in Tampa until retiring in 2020. He stays in close touch with 7th Company mates **Jack Rose** and **Ken Kolarcik**. Unfortunately, Chris experienced several serious health challenges in recent

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years, including two bad falls earlier this year. Fortunately, he is recovering well. His dynamic personality has not changed. "I'm getting stronger and heading in the right direction," he said. You can't keep a good person down. Keep charging, Chris!



Chris Glutting with his pooches Rufus and Woof. Chris reports they are low maintenance—they don't eat or require walking!

All the best, **Gordo**

'69

Life Membership: 59%

Donor Participation: 21.19%

Pres: **MAJ Steve Comiskey, USMCR (Ret.)**
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Corr Sec'y: **Pat Stroop**
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Sec'y: **Dr. Steve Hudock**
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Treas: **Ron Gumbert**
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Website: www.usna69.org

Welcome to October, '69!!

Let me open with the story of one of our classmates, **David D. Peppin, Jr.**, a non-graduate from McLean, Virginia who left us in November 1965 after he contracted double pneumonia. As soon as David recovered from his illness, he completed his associate degree and he felt compelled to serve his country again, this time as an enlisted Marine. Although David was recognized as officer material again by the Marine Corps, he wanted to continue as an enlisted Marine and stay with the men with whom he trained. David deployed to Vietnam in May 1969 and was killed in ground combat on 10 July 1969 in Quang Nam, South Vietnam – just five weeks after most of the rest of the class graduated. David's remains were returned to the United States, and his name is found on Panel 21W, Line 94 of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery and was interred with full Military Honors. Years went by before David's story became known to us, but once that information was discovered, your class leadership made it known to the Alumni Association that David was killed in action, and David's name was

added to both the USNA Killed in Action Plaque in Memorial Hall and the Class of 1969 Operational Loss Plaque. Each year at a home football game at Navy Marine Corps Memorial Stadium a tribute is paid to family members of the fallen as they come out onto the field between the third and fourth quarters. David's sister, Kip, came to Annapolis for the Naval Academy Alumni Association's Honor Our Fallen Heroes weekend in 2016. That clip is at the following link: https://usnamemorialhall.org/index.php/DAVID_D._PEPPIN,_JR.,_PFC,_USMC

Congratulations to **Tito Rincon** and his wife Alicia, who celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in a special way 24 June in Bristow, Virginia. Their sons, César and Miguel, plus many family and friends (including 28th Company classmate **Rich Robbins** and his wife Vicky), made it very meaningful and certainly festive! It came as no surprise to his '69 classmate friends that Tito rose to the heights of leadership in his native Venezuela, including Inspector General of the Venezuelan Armed Forces and Chief of the General Staff of the Navy. His official contributions to his homeland culminated in his service as the Venezuelan Minister of Defense during Dr. Rafael Caldera's Presidency. Due to an unwavering commitment to principle, Tito stepped down from this position and retired as a Vice Admiral the day Chavez assumed the presidency. Tito and Alicia ultimately moved to the United States where they have been permanent legal residents since September 2018. He and Alicia are looking forward to the 55th!



Tito and Alicia

And speaking of milestones, **Pat and Mary Stroop** were feted by their boys and their families at a small family gathering in July in

Annapolis to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary which was actually 12 May.



Pat and Mary with sons David, Brian, and Kevin '00



Pat and Mary with their 7 grandchildren Braeden, Connor, Owen, Ethan, Tom, Parker, and Max (in chronological order!)

Rusty Jones writes that he was honored for his 50 years' service at the American Legion Missouri Boys State sessions last week. He writes that it's quite a program and he would encourage any/all classmates to donate to their state's Boys and/or Girls State programs.

Doug Bishop writes: Just before my trek back to God's Country (northern Michigan), full time south Florida residents **Tom Daley** and **Tom LaForce** and I had the opportunity to spend a memorable five days with classmate (the Honorable) **Bert Conlon**, recently retired, with considerable distinction, from the bench in Lynn, MA. Some great golf, libations and only slightly enhanced story telling! Photo taken after our round at Babcock Ranch, Punta Gorda.



Bert, Bish, Tom and Skunk

Todd Creekman writes: Yesterday (3 July) I had the opportunity to do something else Navy and patriotic; I attended the SecNav official US announcement (he did a similar one in Paris a few days back) at Mount Vernon that the Navy

will name the next Constellation-class frigate, FFG-65, the LAFAYETTE! See attached photo, where George Washington and Marquis de Lafayette reenactors regaled the crowd with the history of the nearly father-son relationship between the two patriots. Ran into classmate **Tim Oliver** and his wife Ginger there as well!



During the celebration of the 54th Anniversary of our graduation at Jim & Marja Sandberg's home on 4 June, **Dick Campbell** brought a disc of our 50th Reunion Slideshow which was running in the background. Interest was high in obtaining a copy of the computer files, so Dick went home to Hewitt, Texas and created a video file and uploaded it to YouTube where it will be available for all classmates whenever you want to show it.

<https://youtu.be/vYG2b-enDMs>
 "USNA 69 50th Reunion Slideshow"

The video is public and you may freely share the link with classmates and family.

On 6 June the Class of 1969 Foundation held the Annual General Meeting (AGM) as required by our bylaws. The minutes (and minutes from previous Board meetings) can be found at www.USNA69.org which is the class website. The detailed minutes are found under the Foundation tab. The meeting was run by Class President **Steve Comiskey** and most of the Board Members and Committee Chairmen were on the Zoom meeting. Classmates could ask questions of any of the Board Members or Committee Chairmen. Three items worthy of note:

1. The Class Foundation is solvent and in good standing with the IRS
2. Class elections will be held this Fall - **John Ohlinger** johlinger@att.net is chairing the Nomination Committee and should be contacted if you or anyone you know is interested in running for a position on the Board
3. The Class of 1969 will hold its 55th Reunion at the Westin Hotel in Annapolis 29 August through 1 September 2024. The entire hotel has been reserved for our Class and has been taking reservations since 13 September 2023. The detailed minutes of the AGM can be found on the class website.

That's all for this month...hot and sticky in Crabtown...hope the Plebes are enjoying the summer!

Non sibi.

'70

Life Membership: 63%
Donor Participation: 22.65%

Pres: **CDR Edmund E. Moore, USN (Ret.)**
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Sec'y: **CDR Royal Connell, USN (Ret.)**
 7230 Meir Henry Rd., Pensacola, FL 32506
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Webmaster: **Ed Moore**
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Website: <http://1970.usnaclasses.com>

Greetings all, and welcome to the Fall of the year, and the true beginning of the Beltway's silly season. May we all survive the onslaught. Welcome also to a new round of leadership at USNA, and good luck to them as well. Not too much to report this month, but part of that is that there aren't as many obits to recite, thankfully. Stay safe and well out there!

Sound the Last Post:

Charles D. Morgan, passed away in June at the Columbus Hospice in Columbus, Georgia. Charlie was the son of a WWII Navy Veteran. He graduated from Georgia Southern University with a bachelor's degree in mathematics. While balancing work at ITT Grinnell in Statesboro and raising his first child, Charlie and relatives built the house he and his family of five would eventually grow up in. In 1988 Charlie joined Rotary Corp in Glennville as a talented systems analyst and continued to work there for 35 years retiring as the Chief Information Officer. Charlie also spent 35 years in the US Navy Reserve, commanding several reserve units and retiring in 2004 at the rank of Captain. He was a diehard Navy fan and could often be spotted in his "scrambled eggs" Navy hat cruising the hardware aisles of Lowes or Home Depot. He also volunteered his precious time as a Blue and Gold Officer for the US Naval Academy mentoring prospective midshipman candidates. Charles always enjoyed a mental challenge and solving complex problems. He would do the hardest levels of Sudoku and crossword puzzles for fun in his spare time. Relaxing on his dock, boating, or doing home improvement projects were some of his favorite hobbies. He was buried in the Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Glennville, Georgia, in July.

Bits and Pieces:

Grant Thorpe sent me a note that he, **Dave Martin**, **Gino Marchetti** and their brides visited France in July by river boat including Paris and the Normandy beaches.



At the Omaha Beach WW II Memorial in July 2023. Lest we forget.

Finally, some of you may be following the saga of Hank Pilger's Ring's journey back to his daughter. She posted the following update as a teaser to the upcoming documentary due out this month. https://issuu.com/printandmail-experts/docs/escondido_edition_june_2023_24_4_ (pages 6-7), There is also a memorial in Norway: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OtlaaP6n1pA>

Ring-A-Ding-Ding!

'71

Life Membership: 62%

Donor Participation: 20.81%

Pres: **CAPT Perry Martini, USN (Ret.)**
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Sec'y: **CAPT Mike Longworth, USN (Ret.)**
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Website: <http://1971.usnaclass.net/>

I absolutely love the fall colors in the Yard in October! The mids are fully into the football season, the days are cooler, and classes are approaching half over for the semester. Busy times in the Yard. I plan to take a stroll down Stribling Walk to see the familiar sites when I am in Crabtown for a game. By the way, BEAT AIR FORCE! I plan to be there!

Here's an excellent story from **Steve Ayers**:

✉ "Hey Duke, Shortly after we graduated (it was 1975 I think), my class ring somehow went missing under mysterious circumstances. I was living in Lorton, VA at the time. A search far and wide aided by our classmate and friend Rog Young and others turned up nothing. So, I forgot about it, and later on my folks were kind enough to gift me with a replacement. (My dad **Bill Ayers '48** was a grad). Fast forward to last Wednesday, 5 July (48 years hence), I got a call from the Alumni Association telling me that someone living in Ashburn, VA had contacted them, saying that they had my ring! My Company mate **Paul Timmins** just happened to be visiting when the call came...weird.

"Somehow it had languished in the wilds of Northern Virginia all that time and ended up in this person's jewelry case. I was given the name and phone number of a very nice lady who had contacted the USNA Alumni Association. I called her, had a lovely chat...she couldn't remember how long she had it because her now deceased husband had it and it wasn't until her granddaughter happened to see it and suggested they get it cleaned so they might be able to see the inscription inside, which they did. She sent it to me, and I received it in the mail yesterday. The best part is that it fits! I hope to make it to the Board of Trustees meeting in October. Best, Steve." WOW! I'm glad you have your original ring! So interesting how the ring possessor took so long to return it! Regardless, now you have the original! I look forward to seeing you and the ring in October!



Steve's cleaned up ring



Steve's ring back where it belong!

Perry Martini sent this note:

✉ "Classmates, Widows, Remarried, I come to you today with a heavy heart and some very sad news as our dear friend and classmate, **Brian Horais**, passed away on Thursday, 6 July. He was 73 years old.

"Brian was an active member of the 8th company as company representative and went beyond the call of service to our class. Elected as our Class Secretary in 1990, an office he assumed until 2001 with great dedication in his eleven years with never missing a class *Shipmate* column. During that time frame he also chaired our 20th class reunion and demonstrated one of his many creative talents as an artist by presenting us all with a portrait of our Class Crest at the reunion. He was a founding member of our Board of Trustees and after stepping down as Class Secretary remained on the board until 2010 serving in many capacities in assisting our class webmasters set up our class website as well as archiving much of our class history online.

"A proud Naval Aviator, Brian flew A-6E's during his active-duty days and eventually retired as a Commander in the US Naval Reserves. He was an ardent supporter of the Aerodynamics Department Programs at the Naval Academy and a consistent member of the President's Circle with his heartfelt contributions to the Brigade of Midshipmen.

"It was an honor for me to know Brian personally as a friend, classmate, Class Officer, and Executive Board member of our class. He epitomized true servant leadership and was always someone who provided wise counsel for class leadership for over the past 35 years. I am a better person for having known him and I am certain that many members of our class have been touched in a special way by Brian J. Horais.

"Brian will be missed by many of us but especially his wife, Cathy, and his daughters Beth and Becky. Perry Martini."

Brian's full obituary is in the September *Shipmate* under the Last Call section.

Secretary's note: Brian and I rowed light-weight crew together and we were student pilots together at VT-4. I may have flown with Brian when I was an instructor there. too. I'm sure I flew a couple times with him. Brian gave

me an outstanding pass down when I assumed the duties of Class Secretary. May he rest in peace.

Sadly, I note that **Roy West**, a non-grad who was in 3rd CO passed away 19 November 2008. The obituary researcher found this information in early July this year. I have no further information.

Too soon, it is time to close. Please keep our classmates and their families in your prayers for good health, healing when needed, safety in travels, and strength to meet every challenge. **Today** is a gift - life is precious and too short! Love passionately, give and share your time and blessings generously with others - as we are richly blessed so may we richly bless others. Our leadership at home, in our social circles, and in daily routines is vital to maintaining our nation's constitutional republic. Now is the time to shape the future of our great nation as we strive for a more perfect union. There is plenty of work remaining as we increase our wisdom! Time, tide, and column due dates wait for no man!

Duke Longworth

'72

Life Membership: 59%

Donor Participation: 17.42%

Pres: **CAPT Rick Rubel, USN (Ret.)**
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Sec'y: **CDR Rich Robison, USN (Ret.)**
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Facebook: [USNA Class of 1972](https://www.facebook.com/USNA-Class-of-1972)

It's a bit of a down month when the scribe has to lead-in with the loss of a couple of Classmates.

Chris Castle (18th Company) passed away while in St. Jude Hospital in Yorba Linda, CA on the morning of 15 July. Chris had been struggling with lung cancer since his diagnosis in December of last year. Following graduation, he had served as a Supply Officer, received an MBA from the University of Michigan, and had retired from Raytheon. He coached soccer for years, taught business classes at Fullerton College, and he loved sports, target shooting, and fly fishing. He is survived by his wife Nancy, his three children, and five grandchildren. The Class extends its sincerest condolences to Nancy and their family.

Richard Cline of Port Charlotte, FL, passed away on 26 June after a brief illness. Rich was a member of 30th Company and departed USNA in 1970 when he returned home to Madison, IN and married his high school sweetheart. He was a mechanical engineer at the D. C. Cook Nuclear Plant in Bridgman, MI, and subsequently worked with various companies including Fishbach and Moore, Power Systems, Bechtel,

AGI, and Absolute Consulting. His occupation allowed him to live and work in seven states across the country helping to build and maintain various power plants, prisons, and water treatment plants. He also worked in 5 other countries, Iraq being the most meaningful and rewarding of his assignments. He enjoyed traveling for work and experiencing new cultures and cuisines. Rich is survived by his wife, Cindy Cline, three children, and four grandchildren. The Class extends its sympathy to Cindy and their family.

I previously mentioned that, through the efforts of **Mike Lundblad** and **Mike Stocks**, we have instituted the Class of 1972 Health Support Program on our new Class website (<http://1972.myusna.com>). It affords a means to share health care information and questions in an open forum between Classmates, spouses and Classmate care and support providers. It includes a *discussion forum* to post health care topics for discussion, questions and information; *messaging* to connect with Classmates who have medical expertise or personal experience; and a *Classmate list of health advisors* with medical knowledge and/or personal experience with medical issues. (Besides Mike Stocks, that list also currently includes **Chuck Davis**, **Skip Kohler**, **Frank Kuczler** and **Tom Sizemore**.)

To paraphrase a saying many of you will recall going into exams...*You can't put down what you don't have*. Drop me an e-mail when you get a chance!

More to come. D. O.

Tried and True with '72

'73

Life Membership: 66%

Donor Participation: 31.74%

Pres: **Mr. Dirk P. D. Mosis III**

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Sec'y: **CAPT James H. Chapman, USN (Ret.)**

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Hello all, the big day has finally arrived. I know many of us 50 years ago were saying "I can't wait for my 50th Reunion. Well, the waiting is over, the big event is here and the Happiness Factor is approaching infinity! Maybe I exaggerate just a little and I have a lot of news to pass on so let's get to it.

As you might expect we have a fair amount of items with our "Another Link in the Chain" Class of 2023. My first item is from **Joe Stewart** who sent an excellent input. Joe wrote;

✉ "As you might be aware, the Macedonian Monument (at the end of Stribling) was refurbished in 2014 thanks to the generosity of Classmates. In the same general location is the Class of 1973 bench dedicated to Command at Sea, Command Ashore, and Command of Marines. In front of the bench is our time capsule. For lack of a better term, we have been referring to this area at the end of

Stribling as "our real estate" for obvious reasons. On 27 April, ten Classmates to include Class Officers **Dirk Mosis** (President) and **Tom Storch** (Vice President) gathered at our spot with the Class Officers of 2023, led by their Class President **Grant Booker**. The purpose of our meeting was to conduct an unofficial, ceremonial turnover of our "real estate" to our ALITC Class, with particular emphasis on the time capsule to be opened in 2073, when the Class of 2023 will celebrate their 50th Year Reunion. Thanks to our Classmates who attended this turnover: **Tom Storch**, **Dirk Mosis**, **Cal Lassetter**, **Jim Murphy** (16th Co), **Ken Reightler**, **Rick Elliott**, **Kevin Callahan**, **Tim McClay** and **Tom Kilcline**. To all of our Classmate who made possible a refurbished Macedonian Monument, the Class Bench, and the time capsule - thank you for creating a legacy to be carried forward into the next half century."

As you may recall, ten of our Classmates donated their swords which were awarded to Squad Leaders who excelled in leadership, professional, and moral development of the Midshipmen in their squad. This recognition took place during the Commandant's Awards Ceremony and was held in Mahan Hall. In addition to the sword, each recipient received information about the Classmate donor as well as a personal note from the donor. With great appreciation, we recognize the following Classmates and Classmate spouse who created an extraordinary link between '73 and '23 with the gift of their sword:

Harvey Anderson (16th Co), Frank Coleman (36th Co), Bob Conn (6th Co), Steve Ingram (29th Co), Ken Jacobsen (18th Co), Ken "K.A." Johnson (14th), Jack Kirwan (36th), Pete Reinhardt (29th), Gail Sudkamp in honor of her husband Steve Sudkamp (17th Co), George Watt (28th Co)



Gail Sudkamp and Commandant, Colonel J.P. McDonough presenting "Suds'" sword to Midshipmen Nathaniel Erickson of 23rd Company

In addition, awards were given to deserving Marine Corps candidates to recognize their excellence and achievements in various areas. The Marine Corps Heritage Award is given to the Marine-selectee who has shown the greatest commitment to military history education and demonstrates leadership potential. Leif Hendrickson presented a Mameluke to Marine Corps-selectee Peter Hillen. Leif has been front and center for so many of our ALITC engagements these past four years.



'73: Top row: Tom Storch, Dirk Mosis, Cal Lassetter, Jim Murphy, Ken Reightler, Rick Elliott, Kevin Callahan, Tim McClay, Tom Kilcline. Kneeling: Class Officers of '23, with Joe Stewart next to Class President Grant Booker



'73: Presenters at 2023 Graduation. Tom Kilcline, George Watt, Dirk Mosis, Tom Gallagher, Leif Hendrickson, VADM Sean Buck, Rick Elliott, Bill Short, Joe Stewart, Paul Ryan and Jim Campbell



Leif Hendrickson with Marine Corps Heritage Award recipient now 2nd Lieutenant Peter Hillen

Most of you probably know The Class presented Ensign and Second Lieutenant bars, over a thousand, to the Class of 2023 at Graduation. The bars were embossed on the underside with 73-23. (Pretty cool). Thanks to all the presenters **Jim Campbell, Rick Elliott, Tom Gallagher, Leif Hendrickson, Tom Kilcline, Dirk Mosis, Bill Short, Paul Ryan and George Watt.** And a special Thank you to Joe Stewart for all his efforts with the ALITC.

I received the following input and great picture from **Leif Hendrickson.**

✉ **"Faith Southwick (Class of 2023** and our Link in the Chain) is off to Pensacola after graduation. Faith was introduced to powered flight and solo'd last summer (2021). In April 2022, I arranged a surprise for her first unpowered flight in a glider at Front Royal, Virginia. Faith was an original 9th Company Alum until they shuffled the Brigade. She was the

Company Commander for 23rd Company during her second set. I have included a photo of Faith in the glider. A very special lady. Karen and I have enjoyed spending time with her while at USNA."



Leif and now Ensign Faith Southwick '23 preparing for Flight Ops

On to other news. **Conrad Donahue** sent the following;

✉ "Those of you who know **Tom Brillat** are aware that he possesses an extraordinary 'gift of gab' and is known wide and far as a master story-teller. In his old age he has proven that he can translate that gift to the written word and has published a novel based on the amazing life of his great-grandmother as she escaped from Russia to China after the Bolshevik Revolution and moved on through the Philippines to escape the Japanese conquests, ultimately meeting a GI on MacArthur's staff who she wed and moved to New Jersey. I can't recommend this great read more! **Mike O'Sullivan** and I were honored to attend a book-signing event for our classmate and golf coach. Tom's novel, entitled "Ekaterina" is available at Amazon books."

Thanks CJ and for all, it's never too early to think about that Holiday gift for your ex-roomie. Just saying JJ!



Mike O'Sullivan, Tom Brillat and CJ Donahue at Tom Brillat's book signing OR the President, Secretary and Treasurer of the USNAAA Alumni Association Rhode Island Chapter

Dirk sends the following;

✉ Jim, Classmates, this is my final note as '73 Class President. It has been an honor and a privilege. I have been blessed so many times over throughout my life by the Academy, and all that USNA encompasses, first and foremost, my Classmates. I continue to respect more Classmates more deeply when I see the selfless service of so many '73ers provided to Classmates, Shipmates, Communities. Leading by example. Certainly, most of us had good parenting-I did-and the Academy, and then experiences in the Fleet and FMF, honed us spiritually, mentally, morally, physically. Thanks to each of you for making me a better person. Non sibi, Dirk.

On behalf of the Great Class of 1973, I want to thank Dirk for his outstanding leadership and many contributions to our class over the years. Dirk has served admirably as a Class Officer for 25 years, Class Secretary for 20 years and finally Class President for 5 years. BZ! Thank you, Dirk!

That's it for this edition. Susie and I look forward to seeing you at the 50th. I am excited to get your stories and photos. Please remember to use a camera or phone that takes good quality photos. As always, non sibi. General

'74

Life Membership: 59%

Donor Participation: 31.56%

Pres: **John Yaeger**

Corr Sec'y: **Roger McEvoy**

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*Those friends thou hast, and their adoption tried,
Grapple them unto thy soul with hoops of steel*

It's October.

We're four games into the Navy football season, leave watching is going to start in New England in two weeks, and yet, we had a heat index of 110 here in The Villages, Florida yesterday. Oh yeah, it's still July. I keep getting these things confused.

We've finally gotten caught up with all the news for this column, and in fact, there is little

to tell this month. Which is a good thing, because I want to share a couple of inputs that I think you will all find informative, interesting, and perhaps inspirational. And this month we have the room for both. And as a side note, these contributions come from two guys [Shawn Smith (26th Co.) and Steve Smith (36th Co.)] who are side-by-side in the index in *The Lucky Bag*. Quite a coincidence, I think.

Steve shared his story about getting into flight school. It's a little different, and the point of the story is perseverance. Even now, at the end of our careers, when our goals and dreams turn more to leisure than productivity, there is a great reminder to us all in Steve's story. I've been holding this, waiting for a month when we had room to get it in. I'll let Steve tell it himself:

✉ I went to USNA because I wanted to be a pilot. I selected aviation and following graduation, I chose to go to an A-6 squadron (VA-176) at NAS Oceana for six months to see if I liked squadron life before fully committing to flight school. I loved it and reported to the Naval Aviation Schools Command at NAS Pensacola in January 1975.

During my entrance flight physical, the Flight Surgeon felt my neck and discovered I had nodules (bumps) on my thyroid gland. He held me back from my class and put me on a medical hold until it could be determined whether the nodules were benign or malignant.

He ordered me to take a thyroid hormone pill every morning for three months. He said that if the nodules were benign, they would shrink or go away. If they were malignant, they would not.

I thought the whole thing was ridiculous! I was only 22 and had no symptoms of an overactive or under-active thyroid. There was no way I had thyroid cancer!

I had scored extremely well on the algebra, trig, vectors, and physics tests we had taken the first week of ground school. So, for the duration of my medical hold, the Schools Command ordered me to tutor entering students who failed one or more of those tests. Week after week, I saw new classes arrive and move on down the road toward getting their wings while I was stuck in a classroom.

After three months, I had a follow-up appointment with the Flight Surgeon. Finally, I could get this nonsense over with and move on to a training squadron. He felt my neck and to my shock, said the nodules were still there. They had not shrunk or gone away and therefore were probably malignant.

I was devastated. And alarmed! I most likely had cancer!

The Flight Surgeon recommended surgery to remove the thyroid. I asked him what that would do to my flight status, and he said I would be NPQ - Not Physically Qualified for aviation. He admitted I could take a hormone pill every day and be perfectly normal, but if I was flying a combat aircraft and got shot down and taken prisoner, I would not have access to my medication. I would die without it.

Eventually, after much back and forth (long story) I had my thyroid removed in two separate operations to remove the left and right lobes. The cancer turned out to be a very slow-growing type that probably would never have affected me or spread. On July 7, 1975, I appeared before a medical board, which concluded I was fit for full duty without conditions. The Flight Surgeon, however, declared me NPQ for aviation. My aviation dream was dead.

Most people would give up at this point and move on to the next-best opportunity. Not me. I thought about the Flight Surgeon's reasoning for why I was NPQ. What were the chances that I would be flying in combat, get shot down, survive that, be captured alive, and be held long enough without my medication to die because of it? Practically zero!

So, I decided to appeal the Flight Surgeon's decision to ground me.

No one at the Schools Command knew how to do it. So, I went back to the man himself, the Flight Surgeon, and asked how to appeal. He stared at me in disbelief for several seconds and then said he didn't know - no one had ever appealed his decision before. He added that the regulations were quite clear that hypothyroidism as well as cancer were both grounds for disqualification and he thought I was wasting my time.

I didn't flinch. So, he said he would find out the process and let me know.

The next day, there was a note from the Flight Surgeon in my mail slot at the Schools Command. The note said I should write a letter explaining my reasons for appeal and send the letter to the Chief of Naval Personnel via the Commanding Officer of the Naval Aviation Schools Command, the Commanding Officer of the Naval Aviation Medical Institute, and the Chief of the Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

I wrote my letter and forwarded it up the chain of command on July 10, 1975. In my letter, I said I did not think the Flight Surgeon's reason was a realistic reason for disqualification. I noted the very low probability of his hypothetical scenario ever happening. I said, "The risk is extremely small. It is a risk that I think I should be allowed to take if I am willing, and I am willing." I also laid out my personal qualifications and requested that I be allowed to continue in the flight program, and, if necessary, be granted a medical waiver.

Then I waited... and waited... and waited. Finally, in early September, I received a letter from the office of the Chief of Naval Personnel. The subject line read, "Waiver of Physical Standards for flight training." Reference (a) was my letter of July 10, 1975, with endorsements. I still have their letter. It was two sentences long. Here's what it said:

"You are aeronautically adapted but not physically qualified for all aviation due to status post thyroidectomy secondary to mixed follicular and papillary cell carcinoma of the thyroid.

In view of reference (a), a waiver for this physical standard is granted for duty involving actual control of aircraft as a student naval aviator."

Miracle of miracles! They granted a waiver for not one, but two disqualifying conditions. I was going to fly after all!

I went on to finish first in my basic flight training class at NAS Saufley Field, first in my jet training class at NAS Kingsville, and first in my A-7 training class at NAS Cecil Field. When I finished my A-7 training in April 1977, there was an immediate need for a replacement pilot in VA-66, which had deployed to the Mediterranean in March on the USS INDEPENDENCE (CV-62). I went directly to the Med and began flying operationally for the U.S. Navy - the leading edge of the sword of freedom. Anchors away!

Thanx for sharing, Steve. And thanx for your patience.

Although I-Day was more than 3 months ago, for me, as I write this, it was just a few weeks ago. I'm sure that many of us are inspired every year when we look back at our confusing, bewildering and scary beginning at the Boat School. This year, Shawn (better known as *Flea* in aviation circles) put his thoughts down on paper. He was gracious enough to allow me to reprint his thoughts here. Enjoy:

✉ Monday - 29 June, 1970

INDOC for the Class of 1974

So it began. Our individual journey through the Academy gauntlet.

We arrived solo after months and years of competitive achievements and accomplishments up to that point - just to be invited to try this new life in the military. We asked for this? Some did not make it.

Some came with their parents who were as anxious as their sons. I often wondered what my parents talked about on the drive home to Pittsburgh. Or did they sit in silence? Others flew cross-country alone - an even tougher challenge in my mind.

"Eyes in the Boat, Mister" - we didn't have the time to "see" one another. We were simply 'herded' like cattle. We were too busy just trying to breathe! I recall having to wave my arms to pick myself out of the lineup reflection in the long mirror as we stood side-by-side after getting our heads shaved. Guess we were not much of an 'individual' anymore.

We saw each other as competition, as competitors in this world of achievers. We had worked hard to set ourselves apart from others up to this point. After all, we are all 'big men on campus' in high school. Just to have gotten this far was hard to comprehend. We had unknowingly become something 'different' from our peers we left behind in our hometowns just by showing up on that sunny Monday in June.

We were about to start a \$100,000 education given to us - a nickel at a time! We were more similar than different - we just

74/75 CLASS NEWS

didn't know it. We were focused on ourselves - just survive - everyone on their own. We were all capable of facing challenges or we would not have gotten this far. But this was all new to all of us. The question was - now what?

We raised our right hands in T-Court and took the oath of our Navy and Nation. Then 10 minutes to say goodbye to family and friends. We took the oath we all still honor to this day - and will do so till our last breath. The years of service only strengthen our dedication to the Nation and one another. A bond that others cannot comprehend.

I later realized that it wasn't "I" who took the oath that day in T-Court - it was "we" who took the oath. The man to my left and right were no longer my competition - But now my assets. Not just for the next four years - but for life.

We were not really aware of this fact - but we soon learned it. We had joined a band of brothers like so many had done before. We had instantaneously become part of something much bigger than our individual selves.

We were taught that we would not survive, nor succeed, here at Boat School on our own. We would need, no, depend on each other. Regardless of the color of our uniform after graduation, we were proud to wear the cloth of this Nation - and were willing to pay the ultimate sacrifice if need be. Something no one can take from us.

Here on this 53rd anniversary, June 29, 2023 - we gathered as brothers and sisters once again, to celebrate that special day so long ago. To give hugs and back-slaps and to remember those who are no longer with us. To reinforce the fact that we are still not alone. Whether the loss of a loved one, and personal illness or some other challenge faced - we have support and someone to share the burden - and the joys of achievements and grandchildren as well.

Are we really that old? Certainly not in spirit. We HAD a Plebe year - we know how to rig a tuck, use a spiffy and remember the etiquette we learned from Mrs. Marshal.

Regardless - we still share with one another - brothers for life.

We have all gotten this far for the Love of country - and one another.

God bless and thanks for nice send off on my future endeavors in Texas.

"Yawl" come down for visit, you hear?
Shawn

Go Navy. *Beat Notre Dame!*
Rog

USNA CANDIDATES

*Start the youngster you know
on the road to USNA.*

*To request info or apply online,
visit usna.edu/Admissions.*

'75

Life Membership: 60%
Donor Participation: 24.42%

Pres: **Chris Cikanovich**
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Sec'y: **CAPT Larry Warrenfeltz, USN (Ret.)**
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Website: <http://1975.usnaclases.net/>

Dear 'mates,

As even the youngest of us move into our 70s, our column often includes a note marking the passing of a classmate. This summer we lost one of our stalwarts. **JJ Cuff** was a tremendously respected member of '75. As one of the "old, seasoned" guys—community college, university, and then MAPS (not NAPS) before he came to Navy—we looked to him for guidance from the very first days in Bancroft Hall. As 12th Company's representative, he kept his company and his class informed about everything that affected us. [Scribe's note: I always looked forward to an incoming from JJ.] JJ's Memorial Service, Inurnment, and Reception will be held at USNA on 13 October.

The next time you visit the Yard, take a moment to walk around the four planes displayed on the grassy area across from the boat house (Hubbard Hall). There's an A-4, an F-4, an F-14, and an EA6B Prowler. The Prowler dates to JJ's command tour of VMAQ-3. A great tribute!



EA6B Prowler



A great Marine and a great Skipper

Now, as I've promised for several months, here's a story from our intrepid world explorer, **Peter Damisch**.

✉ "I worked in the Antarctic for a few months earlier this year, then voyaged up the East coast of South America. As I write this, our ship is 1,000 nautical miles from the ocean

inside the middle of a Continent. No, we are not aground but operating in the Amazon, which is larger than the next six largest rivers in the world — combined. The scale is stupendous, ranging from a river mouth 60 nautical miles wide to millions of species and hundreds of billions of trees. Here is the story of one recent day.

It's 0430 call time and we will operate for a 20-hour day. Our zodiacs (Combat Rubber Raiding Craft for you Seal Team members) are launched in pitch darkness with an overcast and no moon. The ship is mostly blacked out due to insect issues, so we do the work by experience and a few, small emergency lights. This process is quite difficult, as the ship is anchored and we must also deal with a 5-7 knot river current. This is a significant challenge as we jump from zodiac to zodiac while unhooking, docking, or maneuvering zodiacs near our vessel. The huge water flow is also filled with large floating "islands" of grass along with frequent encounters with barely visible floating tree trunks that can be over 50' long. Obviously, a serious risk of collisions!

Sunrise quickly bursts out through heavy clouds, which is quickly followed by a huge deluge of tropical rain. It lasts for an hour and severely reduces visibility. As soon as the weather clears, we head inshore to explore a long series of branching tributary waterways which narrow to less than 100 feet. I'm focused on discovering wildlife while also evaluating the local rainforest ecology. We quickly have some fantastic encounters with more than 50 species of birds as well as sloths, monkeys, and pink river dolphins. In parallel, I'm also maintaining our navigational position in this maize of unmarked channels running through a wide expanse of remote rainforest. Most of these locations are ½ nautical mile or more away from their charted position! Plus, we continue to encounter intermittent showers.

After a few hours, we reposition to make a landing at a small indigenous village with a population of just under 200 people. We are warmly welcomed to a series of wooden huts on stilts to avoid flooding. There is a church and small 'magnet school' which teaches 100 children from the village plus 35 other kids from nearby but even smaller settlements. These people survive on fishing as well banana and other fruit trees that are available nearby (but not in any organized farm). They also grow small plots of manioc along the edge of the rainforest. This staple food must be carefully processed by hand to remove potentially lethal cyanide. We had the privilege of visiting the 10'x10' location where this important work is done.

Our team goes back to the ship for a quick but late lunch, followed by my 1.5 hour overview presentation regarding the first explorers in this region. As a result, I had to skip dinner since I was back into a zodiac just before sunset for the start of our nighttime exercises. Now the environment is again totally dark and



completely different from this morning. For safety there are now two expedition team members on board and my partner is from Peru. We go back out to explore over the next 5.5 hours. This time we find a broad spectrum of night herons, bats, frogs, and glow worms as well as almost having a few caimans and tree boa constrictors in our small boat!

All in all it was a tough but very worthwhile day. The ship headed out of the Amazon in May and I flew "across the pond" to start work on another lengthy voyage up the rarely visited west coast of Africa. We have planned operations in such great locations as Togo, Benin, Gambia and Senegal while I celebrate more than 7,850 days at sea."

Thanks Peter. We look forward to the story of your next expedition.



Peter of the jungle

In the next issue I hope to have some great stories and photos of the 2023 invasion of Dublin that kicked off the college football season and the Brian Newberry era of Navy football.

75 Sir! Larry

2023 NAVY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Follow Navy Football online at:
navysports.com

1-800-US4-NAVY

'76

Life Membership: 59%
Donor Participation: 23.00%

Pres: **Kevin Stone**
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Sec'y: **Mark Hubbard**
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Website: <http://usna76.wordpress.com/>

To start this column, **Gary Greenfield** (36th Co.) has an invitation for those of you who will be in Massachusetts for the Army-Navy Game this fall:

✉ As you know, Army-Navy is being hosted in Boston this year - part of the celebration commemorating the 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea Party, which took place on December 16th, 1773. I'm especially excited as Boston was home to me, and it's a great

chance to share the traditions of Army-Navy with our local friends - and of course one of those traditions wouldn't be complete without showing them the Spirit of '76!

To kick off the weekend, my daughter, Brittany, and I will be hosting a casual dinner at our house in Beacon Hill, Friday December, 8th and we'd love anybody making the trip in for AN or living nearby to join. For those not familiar with Boston, Beacon Hill is downtown and the original neighborhood of Boston rife with history from the Revolutionary War and throughout America's history and Brittany does know how to throw a good party (she may be writing portions of this email). We'll be sending out details as we get closer, but as you finalize your Army-Navy plans please just respond drop an email to gary@zagent.com (keep Brittany cc'ed - brittany@zagent.com) and let us know if you even think you might join us. And, of course, guests are welcome.

Looking forward to seeing many of you in December. GO NAVY! BEAT ARMY!



'76: Scenes from the Moore's and Stone's European vacation in July



'76: Pete Varsanyi, Greg Jenkins, Chuck Cole, Ed Gilmore, John Sparks, Ernie Halton, Gene Ford, Jerry Liscomb, Al Clark, Norm Davis at Ed Gilmore's 70th birthday and theme party

76/76 CLASS NEWS

Phew! This has been one hot and humid summer. A few of our classmates and their wives managed to escape to cooler climates for a short time:

Kevin Stone (34th Co.) and **Mark Moore** (12th Co.), along with their wives Barbara and Sally, made a trip to London and Ireland in July. While they were there, they checked out possible venues for future reunions. As shown in the photos they toured the Windsor family's home in London (Buckingham Palace) as well as Highclere Castle, a.k.a. 'Downton Abbey'. While each had their merits, they decided that Annapolis is still the best location. They had a wonderful time and even managed to see some of the swag for the Navy-Notre Dame game in production in the Waterford factory. Anyone want a crystal football helmet with the Navy and Notre Dame logos on it?

Becky and **Scott Pugh** (33rd Co.) decided to escape the oppressive Annapolis heat and humidity by traveling to Iceland in July. They received some great tips about what to see in Iceland from Inger and **Hugh Neighbour** (2nd Co.). Scott mentioned that Iceland was "maybe the most amazing country I have ever seen. Massive waterfalls, huge glaciers, erupting geyser, and active volcano". Scott and Becky traveled the entire 820-mile Ring Road in just four days in an RV! An interesting fact that Scott learned while on their journey is that in Iceland, they add CO₂ to their greenhouses to make everything grow stronger and faster!

Peter Varsanyi (31st Co.) attended one of our classmate's birthday parties:

✉ Had a wonderful time with a few '76ers that showed up for **Ed Gilmore's** 70th Birthday party on 16 June at the Joint Base Bolling Air Base Officer Club here in DC. Ed's wife, Bri, put on a great event attended by many dear friends, a few shipmates and Ed's father, sister and two younger brothers. It was a real 70's blast!

Steve Barilich (35th Co.) recently celebrated two milestones:

✉ My lovely wife of 47 years, Julie, and my three children threw a surprise birthday/retirement party for me this past 4th of July weekend at our home in Holly Ridge, NC. I was honored by the presence of my roommate **John "Smoke" Rader** and fellow great combat engineer **George Wheeler** (30th Co.) along with their spouses Patty and Mary respectively to share in the festivities.



John Rader and George Wheeler pose with Steve Barilich at his birthday/retirement party.

Kate and **Dave Papak** (6th Co.) organized an event 'Warriors Rock', that took place on Sunday, July 23rd, at the Monongahela (PA) Aquatorium to honor Mon Valley Veterans and first responders. The event included a concert featuring Gary Racan and the Studio-E Band (Gary was a former member of The Vogues). Dave is hoping this inspirational event becomes an annual tradition to show the community, especially kids and young adults, how military Veterans and first responders have served their country. **Mark Thorpe** (33rd Co.) rode his new Harley trike from Annapolis to be present for the event. Dave reports that Mark has been doing well despite his battle with health issues.

Back on April 3rd, Barb and I were joined by Barb and **Tom Kennedy** as well as Renee and **Dale Dykhuizen** at the Bluewater Waterfront Grill in Wrightsville Beach, NC, for a 26th Company mini reunion.



The Kennedys, Hubbards, and Dykhuizens meet for lunch in Wrightsville Beach, NC

Tim Farrell (27th Co.) writes:

✉ My son, Ryan, his fiancée, Stephanie Katzen, and I went to the 2023 New Jersey Battleship Brewers Festival on USS NEW JERSEY (BB-62) on Saturday, June 24, 2023. NEW JERSEY was built in Philadelphia. After the last time she was retired the people of New Jersey raised money to have her towed to Camden, NJ, where she's open to visitors. I even paid extra for NJ battleship license plates for my car when I lived there. The other three IOWA class battleships are also open to visitors: IOWA in Los Angeles, MISSOURI in Pearl Harbor, and WISCONSIN in Norfolk.



Tim Farrell with son Ryan and his fiancée Stephanie at the Brewers Festival in Camden, NJ

Until next time...



'76: Mark Thorpe with Dave and Kate Papak in Pennsylvania



'76: Mark Thorpe with Dave and Kate Papak in Pennsylvania



'77

Life Membership: 75%
Donor Participation: 15.39%

Pres: **David G. Paddock**

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Sec'y: **Thom McKee**

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*"When I lost my rifle,
the Army charged me 85 dollars.
That is why in the Navy the
Captain goes down with the ship."*

- Dick Gregory

Which brings to mind the question how much those responsible for the loss of the BONHOMME RICHARD would have to fork over if they were truly held accountable for their negligence and ineptitude. But we digress. Now, attention to brief!

First up, in the course of trying to find his email for **Jim Gould (18th Co.)**, **Skip Wagner (31st Co.)** forwarded this photo of himself in the midst of a 2-1/2-hour fight with a blue marlin on his boat down in the Bahamas:



Skip, if you landed the fish, congrats; We'd appreciate a follow-up photo. If not, tough luck.

Since we're on the subject of 18th Company, **Bill Venohr (18th Co.)** and **Dave Schubert (14th Co.)** were together on July 21st for a bittersweet moment at the decommissioning of U.S.S. CHICAGO (SSN-721), bittersweet because Bill and Dave were plank owners, having served as Navigator and Engineer respectively on Chicago's construction crew and attended her commissioning in 1986:



Dave later commanded CHICAGO, making the moment even more poignant. CHICAGO served her country for 37 years, and Bill observed it was good to see the two shipmates haven't aged in that period:



Yeah,...uh,...Bill, maybe it's time for a thicker pair of glasses.

Lastly, in response to a request from **Pierre Thout (11th Co.)** to write a brief history of the Class of 1927 for Another Link in the Chain activities, ('27 would have been our ALITC class had the program existed in 1973), **Andy Wilson (12th Co.)** provided the following, both for our edification and to draw upon in interactions with Class 2027 and their families:

Remembering the Class of 1927

The Class of 1977 has stood on the shoulders of giants in the Long Blue Chain of alumni. Although the 50-year partnership program didn't exist while we were at USNA, we acknowledge our debt to the first Class of '27 — 1927.

This great class entered the Academy less than five years after the end of "the war to end all wars," served through the Depression, fought in World War II, and commanded at high levels through the Korea and Vietnam conflicts as well as the Cold War.

Our class is honored to have a special bond with our 50-year class. Our classmate CAPT **Fred Litty** is the son of **Frederick L. Litty Jr.** of the Class of 1927 — so we are forever connected with those who went before us.

Bonding by the Bay

The Class of 1927 entered a Navy in transition from World War I. Almost 900 young men

entered the Naval Academy in the summer of 1923, the second-largest class at the time. They helped form the 2,000-man strong Regiment of Midshipmen, comprising four battalions and eight companies. The Regiment lived in the four wings of Bancroft Hall (today's Third and Fourth Wings, completed in 1906, and Fifth and Sixth Wings, added in 1917 for World War I expansion).

A midshipman's life was highly regimented. The student officers could not ride in a car, much less own one. Academics were the primary focus, with all midshipmen taking the same courses with the exception of choice of foreign language (French or Spanish). Midshipmen marched to class-by-class year and company.

Sports also had a high emphasis. Two of the greatest football games in USNA history occurred during '27's tenure. In Navy's first bowl game, the 1924 Rose Bowl, the Mids battled the University of Washington to a 14-14 tie. The 1926 Army-Navy game is regarded as the greatest college football game prior to World War II. Played at the dedication of Chicago's Soldier Field with 110,000 in attendance, the game resulted in a 21-21 tie, giving Navy a share of the national championship.

Changes at the Academy while '27 was aboard included the implementation of the Ring Dance in 1925; dedication of what is now the Scott Natatorium; formation of the Drum and Bugle Corps; and the establishment of second class summer aviation training. "Navy Blue and Gold" was sung in public for the first time in 1926.

Summer cruises to Europe, the East Coast and West Coast (via the Panama Canal) opened class members' eyes to the world. The class was among the last to participate in the Youngster Cruise rite of passage of coaling ship, a thoroughly filthy procedure thankfully rendered obsolete by the navy's transition to fuel oil.

In June 1927, 579 classmates received their diplomas—the largest graduating class until 1939. Graduating classes would not receive bachelor's degrees until 1933, but '27 and other prior graduates received Bachelor of Science degrees retroactively in 1938.

The class yearbook summarized their four year-transition as "from baggy plebes and coal-dusty youngsters to carefree second classmen and ring-heavy first class."

Forging in the Fire

With the peacetime Navy of the '30s suddenly transformed by U.S. support of our British ally and the attack on Pearl Harbor, '27 grads were in command of ships and squadrons. LT (later RADM) William Outerbridge's destroyer USS WARD (DD-139) fired the first shots of the Pacific war, sinking a Japanese midget submarine at the mouth of Pearl Harbor 70 minutes before the air attack on U.S. forces.

In the air LCDR (later ADM) Jimmy Thach revolutionized fighter tactics with his

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innovative Thach Weave and became an ace himself. CAPT (later RADM) Tom Hamilton, -4 the legendary aircraft carrier ENTERPRISE (CV-6). He also served two stints as head Navy football coach. Sub skippers such as CDRs Burt Klakring and Creed Burlingame (both later RADM) and Bob Rice (later VADM) were among the top-scoring captains of the Silent Service.

The war took its toll on the Class of '27. The class suffered 43 operational losses over their decades of service, with 13 killed in action in World War II. At least eight ships were named in honor of class members.

Leading the Fleet

The class culminated their service by leading at the highest levels. ADM George Anderson served as chief of naval operations from 1961-1963, including the Cuban Missile Crisis. Other four-star admirals included U.S. Grant Sharp, Charles Griffin and Jimmy Thach. Additionally, RADM (later VADM) Charles Melson served as Naval Academy superintendent from 1958-1960, bringing the USNA experience full circle.

Inspiring Future Generations

The Class of 1927 left its mark on the service, not only of its time but on generations going forward. The class entered in a time of coal-fired ships and saw its last active duty members retire in 1968, just a year before the first lunar landing. In 45 years they contributed powerfully to their country and their alma mater.

Their lasting legacy on the Yard can be found in the Chapel. The magnificent "Invisible Commission" Tiffany-stained glass window, given shortly after their graduation, honors alumni "who in war and in peace have recognized [the Academy's] ideals of honor, courage, loyalty and duty, in the service of God and country..."



As it inspired the Class of 1977 during our time on the Severn, may this powerful depiction of service help guide the Class of 2027 as you join the Long Blue Chain.

BZ, Mr. Wilson. Andy offered a couple other notes of interest, the first being the Class of 1927 sponsored the 27th Company wardroom

during our stay in Mother B, along with the fact the father of our classmate Fred Litty (24th Co.), shown below with Fred and his mother at graduation...



...was a member of '27.

1927...1977...2027: Time does indeed fly when you're having fun!

Mago

'78

Life Membership: 81%

Donor Participation: 41.76%

Pres: **Glen Woods**

Sec'y: **Vince Balderrama**

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It's October - a very special month for '78.

As this edition of *Shipmate* arrives at your mailboxes, we are just about to celebrate our 45th Reunion. There'll be plenty of sea stories and catching-up being done over that Air Force game weekend so I (or whomever else you voted to be Class Secretary) should have lot of news coming in from you through the end of the year.

In June, Marla and **Al Baker** (10th) took a cruise & bicycle tour on the Rhone River in France. While in France they linked up with classmate **David Bruce** (13th Co) in Viviers. Viviers is a famed village known for its medieval cathedral and views over the Rhone River.

There were two other USNA couples on their cruise whose names, Blues didn't provide ('70 and '72) as well as the Captain of the vessel who wore a Navy N* lapel pin awarded to him by a prior guest.



Dave Bruce with Marla and Al Baker

Jim Fiorelli (2nd Co) brings us up to speed on the Fiorelli Family. Jim retired in September from the Office of the Attorney General/Virginia Commonwealth University. He wrote that after two years in Princeton, Jan and he "moved in June to West Point, deep in the heart of enemy territory, to be close and available to our son Matt and his wife Andrea — OK, let's be honest — to be close and available to their four kids [Emmy, Beau and twins Rosie and James] ages 5 and under." (Soon that will be five children under five and under as Andrea is due around Christmastime.) Matt has a three-year assignment teaching American Government to Woops. Jan and Jim have a house within walking distance to the West Point main gate and within 10 minutes to Matt's Post housing. Jim is standing by to assist in any '78 Army-Navy spirit missions. By the way, they all survived the Big Flood that hit West Point and the north-east. As for the rest of the family, Mike ('13) is enjoying his shore duty tour as an instructor pilot and RAG LSO in the F-18 RAG at Oceana. Leathernecks, son John ('19) and his wife Liza ('18) are at Naval Post Graduate school in Monterey for the next two years.



'78: Two Fiorelli Dads on Father's Day

As this is submitted for printing, Ann and **Ralph Scaffidi** (36th Co) were coming to Annapolis at the beginning of August. They were attending the Annual Convention of the Military Order of World Wars (MOWW). MOWW predates the American Legion and is a patriotic, nonpartisan, Veterans Service Organization (VSO) dedicated to promoting patriotism, civic responsibility, public service, and leadership in our nation's communities. Ralph and Ann are both engaged with their local MOWW Chapter's Annual Youth Leadership Conference, helping with staffing, and involved in their week-long programs. Youths are offered at no cost, a comprehensive program that provides a combination of guest speakers, interactive seminars, an Awards Banquet, outdoor and indoor team-building Leadership Challenges, and other events to ensure students are motivated, educated, and inspired. The conference's capstone event is a guided tour of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library with students taking part in the Situation Room Experience. MOWW Chapters across the nation have similar programs. One thing Ralph and I have been talking about has been identifying guest speakers to engage with those youth involved in the Conferences convey stories or lessons about leadership and their own patriotic experiences and service to our nation and communities. With only 18% of adults in the U.S. aged 18-34 saying they are "extremely proud to be an American" it's vital to our nation to educate youth about what is truly good about this "grand experiment" our forefathers started and shown examples of service and devotion to make it better. If you are interested, drop me a line.

Well, that's it for now. See you at the Reunion!

*"But still when two or three shall meet, and old tales be retold,
From low to highest in the Fleet, we'll pledge the Blue & Gold"*

Launchin', Spot Four

P.S. I got more than a few jabs for my screw up in the July-Aug edition of *Shipmate*. I accidentally referred to my classmate, **John Gardiner** in the July-Aug column as my Marine buddy, "**Corky [Gardner] '77**" While I have already sent apologies to John and our 4th Company brothers, as well as Corky and those who read our Class Facebook page, I make this *official Shipmate* apology to all of you in '78 and '78-1. (Yes, I am on bended knee, with egg all over my face, and truly embarrassed.) I am not sure if I was on prescription drugs at the time I committed (submitted?) the error or was thinking about my Leatherneck pal, Corky, when I typed the words. Regardless, I screwed up. You know what they say, one "oh s**t" replaces a thousand "Atta-boys". So, since August I have restarted the journey back to the thousand "Atta-boys", one step at a time. Once more, mea culpa, mea culpa, etc. For 78-1, I braced up for a week. For my classmates, I'll

see you at the Reunion where I will take my medicine or make my penance to John and 4th Company.

Best and Semper Fi,
Vance...I mean, Vince

'79

Life Membership: 91%
Donor Participation: 17.02%

Pres: **CAPT Dave Jackson, USN (Ret.)**
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Sec'y: **LCDR John "Wiz" Withers, USN (Ret.)**
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Social Network Links:
<http://www.linkedin.com/in/wizwithers>

Facebook Group: **USNA Class of 1979**

Website: www.usna79.com

Greetings 79ers!

Now that summer is "officially" over and we've established our fall routines, the '79 inbox is starting to see some action. First up is this update from Jill and **Butler Newman**:

✉ We are the proud grandparents of two beautiful little girls, daughters of our son Zach and his wife, Sarah who live in Maine. Zach was just promoted to 1st Engineer on a roll-on roll-off cargo ship. Our younger son, LT Dereck Newman, is back in the USA finally after a 2-plus year tour of duty in Bahrain. He got married this past March to Madison Wood, and they are now stationed in San Diego, CA.

Dereck and Madison were married in St. Augustine, FL, and lots of family and friends made the trek to attend. They included Dereck's godfather, **Rob Wray** (and his lovely bride Mary Ellen), Peggy and Chuck Doty, and Lyn and **Greg Long '78**.

We are now settled in our new home on the banks of the Chincoteague Bay. We love the slow pace of the Eastern Shore of Virginia and of course, being on the water!

Jill & Butler Newman



Jill & Butler Newman's son Zach holding their granddaughters

That's terrific news, guys. Congrats to the new grandparents!

We shift now from the mid-Atlantic to the Midwest. Up next is this 10th Co. update from **Tony Konecny**:

✉ Seven members of the Tenth Company (Good X 10) met in the Coal Regions of eastern Pennsylvania for a "Glamping" event May 9-11. **Tony Konecny, Warren McAuliffe, Dave Rogers, Kevin O'Sullivan, Frank Scholley, Paul Van Cleve, and Ted Williamson** occupied two luxury cabins at the Lakewood Park Campground near Barnesville, PA (hereafter known as the Barnesville Beer Summit '23). There was campfire cooking, beer drinking, and sea-story-telling in addition to a visit to the Number 9 Coal Mine in Lansford, PA and the Yuengling Brewery in Pottsville.

Seamanship and ship driving skills were put to use in paddle boating to an island in the campground lake for a picture session. Once on the island, a "Go Ricardo" sign was displayed to wish **Pedro Leon-Guerrero's** son well during an upcoming surgery. Pedro, **Scott Whitney**, and **Bob Sorge** had planned on attending, but life got in the way on short notice.



10th Co.: Paul Van Cleve, Tony Konecny, Ted Williamson, Kevin O'Sullivan, Dave Rogers, Frank Scholley, and Warren McAuliffe



Good wishes for Pedro Leon-Guerrero's son

Thanks, Tony, for the update. Sounds like all those hours on the YPs are still paying off!

Now we head down I-95 to the Sunshine State, and this update from **Grant Thornton**:

✉ I retired for a second and final time at the end of February from the US Special Operations Command in Tampa and wanted to share a couple photos. My plebe year roommate **John Kaiser** participated by delivering the invocation and we were joined by **Diggs Vann** to reflect on 48 years of paychecks!

I retired early from the Navy in 1995 and worked for a time as a contractor before joining the Civil Service for the balance of my career. My last active duty assignment in the SEAWOLF program office introduced me to the business of delivering Navy SEALs from

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submarines which continued in a variety of roles including a lead role in the Ohio Class SSGN conversion and my last assignment as the Deputy PEO for Maritime acquisition at USSOCOM.

More importantly I want to recognize my amazing companion on this journey, Daryl, who has stood by me for nearly 43 years. We seem to be busier in retirement, maybe it's all those "Honey-Dos" I have avoided, but we plan to hang out in Tampa in the near term, travel, and spoil our grandkids. Grant



Thornton Retirement: Diggs Vann, Grant Thornton and John Kaiser



Grant and Daryl Thornton

Huge congratulations, Grant. Wrapping up a long-term career is always a significant accomplishment, and I'm glad you were able to share it with classmates. But even more important is having your spouse through it all. I don't know the actual date, but I still want to congratulate you both on your upcoming 43rd anniversary.

Finally, it is my sad duty to inform you of the passing on 28 June of a 29th company classmate, **Daniel Hammill**. Dan had been ill over the past couple years with pancreatic cancer. At USNA Dan was an EE major and avid jazz musician, playing both the trumpet and flugelhorn. For all four years Dan was a key member of both the Trident Brass and Drum and Bugle Corps. He was also an amateur radio enthusiast and at some point operated a station out of his room in Bancroft Hall. Upon graduation, Dan went surface warfare and served in the Navy for 7 years.

Dan put his EE and software engineer skills to use when he got out of the Navy. He worked in a variety of jobs in the San Diego area, including RF design and test at Nokia Mobile Phone, Engineering Lab Group Leader at

Peregrine Semiconductor, and finally Staff Engineer at Qualcomm. He retired in February 2022.

Dan is survived by his wife Cecilia (CeCe) and two stepsons, Alejandro and Ricardo. He was buried at Miramar National Cemetery, San Diego, CA.

It is also my sad duty to inform you of the passing of classmate **Rusty Mirick's** daughter, Meredith, to colon cancer. It is always a tragedy when a parent loses a child. With Rusty's permission, I would like to share this link to the Colon Cancer Coalition's article that Meredith posted in 2019 so that maybe someone can learn a lesson from this tragedy: <https://rb.gy/su6zg>. In words and pictures the article shows Meredith's grace, strength and beauty as she was coping with cancer. It drives home the importance of her message to listen to your body - that cancer can strike anyone regardless of age or family history.

Well, classmates, that's all for now. As you enjoy the fall, please remember to check in with your friendly neighborhood class secretary and let us all know what's going on. Safe travels and great adventures. See you next month!

Wiz...

'80

Life Membership: 96%
Donor Participation: 20.50%

Pres: **LtCol Tony Verducci USMC (Ret.)**
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Sec'y: **CAPT Joseph A. Grace Jr., USN (Ret.)**
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Website: <http://1980.usnaclasses.net>

Greetings Classmates,

This past week I joined the ranks of being a new Grandfather to a new baby boy. Ok - now we've hit a whole new level of feeling old - with an incredible new role! For those of you who have lots of Grandkids - you're right - it's great. For those of you who are not yet Grandparents - it's still great! My son and his wife are living in Hartford, CT, where he is an ER Doctor. Haven't really been back to Hartford (Windsor Locks) since I was at S1-C for Prototype back in 1982. Hard to believe!

Speaking of being old...or feeling old...being back in Hartford reminded me of one of my first - "I've become my father..." stories. We were three quarters of the way through Prototype, working extremely long days on shift work, having completed Nuke School in Orlando - fully into the brutal pipeline of Submarines. We took over the apartment that had been occupied by **Ed Dempsey**, called Jet Port Executives; right on the flight line for the airport...when my roommate came up to me and said...we must get out of here and go do something other than training and nuclear \$%@t. I asked what he had in mind. He said he

had purchased two tickets to go to a concert in Hartford. When I asked him who was playing, he said, "I don't know either of the bands, but between them they have 6 top ten hits...so we probably ought to go!" We went, and it was the Police and the GoGo's. Everyone was singing along and we were completely out of the loop, didn't know a single song...Such began the transition....and so it continues...On to the mailbag.

I received a great photo from our Past President, **Tim Kobosko**, who sent in a great photo of his family from his son Kevin's Graduation from Navy. Congratulations!



Left to right is Kate, Kevin, Carolyn and Proud Dad.

Our current Class President, **Tony Verducci**, was out in California speaking at the NPS and got together with **Greg Mislick**:



This month I also received a great photo from Griffin and **John Fry**, along with **Bert Nelson**. They were gathered for the Winging Ceremony for John's son William, USMC, who will now be transitioning to fly the F-35 in Beaufort, SC. Congratulations! This should bring back memories for all of our Winged Classmates.



Bert Nelson, William Fry and John Fry.

Alan "Dad" Wellesley alan.wellesley@gmail.com sent in a note that had been simmering for a long time.

✉ Joe,
Talk about delinquent! I started this letter in late September, set it aside and promptly forgot about it. A lot has happened during the past nine months, so let me share some of the highlights.

I started this note after I received a nice message from **Jay Hickey**, who was on a 21-day driving trip from North Kingston to Pensacola (& points in between). While in Pensacola Jay got together with Susannah and **Rick Atwood** during a visit to the Pensacola area. While there they were joined for dinner by Vicki and **Tim Garrold** ('80+1). During the late '21 to early '22-time frame Jay decided not to continue as the Provost at the War College and would begin a phased offramp to full retirement. Accordingly, Jay returned to the faculty on 1 August '22 after 12 years in leadership positions and is really enjoying it.



(L-R) Garrolds, Atwoods, and Hickey

With Robin and I having 2 sons and 3 grandkids in SOCAL, we find ourselves making several trips out there every year, and I do my best to touch base with Susan Anderson. Back in November we were able to have lunch with Susan, and in April we had a nice visit followed by dropping her off at San Diego Airport. I want to report that Susan is doing fine, and has a great support network that consists of the **Andreasen's**, **Gosnell's**, and **Wood's**, as well as other friends and family. On the Anderson family front, Susan and Skip's son, Nick, is engaged and their daughter Kate is expecting their first grandchild in late July.

As usual, this past year I have been able to hangout often with **Lee Futch** and **Mike Ferguson**. Back in October, after Luther and I wrapped-up a west Texas dove hunt we spent the night with Keelie and Ferg. The original plan was to attend the Navy-SMU game, but, at the last minute, Ferg convinced the rest of us that by staying home and watching the game on TV we could avoid traffic and enjoy better conversation all while consuming more adult beverages. Then in early December Luther and I were unable to convince Ferg to join us in the Arkansas Veterans and Youth Duck Hunt, which turned out to be a blast!

The next **Ferguson, Futch, Wellesley** reunion happened in early May, when Keelie and Ferg's middle son, Capt. Thomas Ferguson, USMC, married the lovely Morgan Wessling. The wedding party included brother's

Capt. John Ferguson ('17) and 2nd Lt. Ben Ferguson (USMA '21), and cousin **Ens. Henry Futch** ('21). The wedding was a beautiful event and the reception was a LOT of fun. Ferg even treated us to an example of his excellent dancing skills by a rendition of the "pathetic," which he choreographed back during our days along the Severn!



L-R: Chas Krug ('80+2), Mike Ferguson, Thomas Ferguson (SMU '18), Lee Futch, AK Wellesley

The morning after the wedding Lee and I headed to west Texas on what was to be a wild turkey hunt, but which turned into the "Great West Texas Feral Hog Slaughter"! Yes, the wild turkeys were scarce, but the feral hogs were plentiful, so we did our part to assist the local ranchers in reducing the feral hog population. Talk about fun!

In mid-December we enjoyed a short visit from fellow 23rd Company Wildman **Pete Shaner** during his Midwest swing conducting interviews in support of his PhD dissertation / documentary about our Class. It was great spending a little time with Pete again.



L-R: Shaner and Wellesley

In recent years I have been blessed to be able to get together often with Linda and **Mark Lethbridge**, and that continues. In March, during a trip back home to VA from a Texas wedding, Bridge and Linda made a short stop to visit Diane and **Lee Futch**, and then they stopped in to Lake Balboa to visit Robin and I. In May we drove to Lake Anna, VA and spent three nights with the Lethbridge's at their lovely new lake home. While there we enjoyed tours of Lake Anna and the surrounding area (historical, breweries, cideries, etc.) and were treated to Linda's good cooking and Bridges bourbon bar! Great hosts!



L-R: Al, Robin, Linda, Mark during a trek up Chicken Mountain, Montpelier, VA.

That's all the news that is fit to print. Go Navy!
—AK Wellesley

Rex Alexander rhalex09@gmail.com, who has done a great job supporting the Class in a CACO role, wrote in with an update:

✉ Joe,
As you know, 28th Co has nearly 30 attendees looking forward to our annual reunion in the Smoky Mountains this September. However, when we learned Gayle and **Ron "Legs" Mauldin** couldn't travel, we quickly decided to bring reunion to them! On the anniversary of I-day this year, 28ers (plus spouses) joined the Mauldins in Rhode Island to show their support in Leg's fight against a particularly virulent prostate cancer which had been under control but is now spreading anew. Several of us hadn't seen Ron since graduation 43 years ago! It was especially meaningful to have **Mike "Mal" Maliniak**, who has also been fighting prostate cancer, attending. Over a couple days we laughed, cried, talked openly about cancer, enjoyed a traditional



'80:(L to R): Doug Biesel, Mike Maliniak; Don Roberts; Kevin Karton; Rick Campbell; Ron Mauldin (front center); Mark Riddle; Dave Stahl; Rex Alexander and Ray Altenburger

80/81 CLASS NEWS

New England clam boil, shared a lot of great memories, and made many more. Everything was captured and uploaded to Collect, an APP that has become the 28th Co family album where we share photos and videos, whether it be the birth of a grandchild, retirement travel or Company gathering.

Even though we were there to support Legs, the reunion meant a lot to everyone. In closing I know both Legs and Mal would want me to encourage all classmates to be healthy and get a regular PSA test. Be There! Rex

The circle of life continues. New grandchildren, winged sons, graduating children, celebrations, cancer, and memories. It makes these words even more relevant. In closing, I hope that this note finds each of you healthy, happy, and wiser today than yesterday. Please take a few moments to renew a friendship, call / teams / zoom / text / visit a Classmate (or their family) and take care of each other. You never know what a difference you can make.

As always, BEAT ARMY,
Joe

'81

Life Membership: 95%

Donor Participation: 21.79%

Pres: **Kevin Haney**
e: kjhaney2@me.com

Vice Pres: **George Basil**
e: gbasil99@yahoo.com

Treas: **Gene Juba**
e: genejuba@yahoo.com

Co-Sec'y's: **Frank Moreman** and **Bubba Turman**
e: Classof81Secretary@gmail.com

Webmaster: **Patty Crandlemire Whitney**

Website: www.usna1981.org

Classwide messages: usna1981@yahoogroups.com

We had a rare full mailbox this month. Let's start off with a nice email from the old corpsman, **Guy Snyder (30)**. Take it away Guy.

✉ "I am on summer break from teaching at Zama Middle High School (DODEA) at Camp Zama in Japan. Since being hired by DODEA six years ago, my assignments for teaching have varied each year from Pre-calculus and Physics to middle school Math. I will be teaching 6th grade Science this coming year. My wife Emiko passed away in 2016 from cancer. I remarried in 2022 to a wonderful woman (her Chinese name is Guilan but she goes by Mimi). I met her here in Japan. She is Chinese but has been living in Japan for about 7 years. My children are doing fine and are well into their careers in the US. Jason is an engineer for Ford Motor Company in Dearborn, MI and Lisa works as an architect for a company in Columbus, OH. I was lucky enough to have had a visit by none other than my youngster year roommate **Tim Daniels (30)** this past March during cherry blossom season. We spent 3 days reminiscing and catching up on the last

45 years. I have attached a couple of pictures, one of Tim and me in a nearby park in Zama, the other is Mimi and my step-daughter, Lisa, with me at Haneda airport last December. As you can see I am older and fatter. I am hoping to see **Mori Nixon (30)** sometime soon as well. Best wishes to each of you, stay healthy."

Thanks Guy and I almost took out the fat shaming part of your closing sentence because I disagree - you look great! However, you do look a bit older than the last time I saw you.



Tim Daniels and Guy Snyder



Guy and Mimi Snyder with daughter Lisa

Staying with 30th company, **Vic Cole (30)** provided a quick update.

✉ "We sold our house in Las Vegas last summer and rented for six months while evaluating our next move. In February we decided on Marietta, Georgia, and we moved to our new home at the end of March. In May Becky and I drove to Maxwell AFB where I had the privilege of administering the oath of office to our former pastor from Las Vegas, Father Milan Kasperek as a Captain in the U.S. Air Force Chaplain Corps. His is quite a story - born in Slovakia under communism, Byzantine Catholic Priest, became a citizen last fall, applied to the Air Force in December, and began OCS in February. He and his wife and son are now at Altus AFB in Oklahoma. When I met Father Milan 5 years ago, he had a long beard and weighed over 300 lbs. As you can see from the pictures, he has undergone quite a transformation, and he notified me this week that he just scored 94% on his first annual PFT, one of only 26 at Altus AFB to do so. On 28 May, Becky and I celebrated our 42nd wedding anniversary. We now have 7 grandchildren - Marie, Annette, Franz, Frederick, Hugh, Adelaide, and Rupert, with number 8 due in late October."

Thank you, Vic. Quite a few Dirty Thirty company mates congratulated Vic on his ability to still fit into his chokers. Big deal, I could fit into mine if I wanted to, I just choose not to.



Father Milan and Vic Cole (30)

Shifting from Fifth Battalion to First, we got the following updates from **Rick Martin** from Second Company. (Loose Duce)

Rick Martin (2) and Meredith are currently living in Surf City, NC. Rick retired from DoD Civilian service in 2020 after 40 years and is now a Financial Literacy Advocate and Financial Coach. When he is not coaching, he keeps himself busy by volunteering at church on multiple councils and works for the local food bank driving the truck. Meredith is still working for the Navy on the CNIC Management Assist Team certifying the multiple Navy Fleet and Family Service Centers and travels frequently for her job. They love the beach and boating life and welcome visitors. They have 3 kids and 6.5 grandkids.



Meredith and Richard Martin

Tim Griffith (2) is still in Buffalo, NY...and at our Canadian beach house across the border during the summer months. He has slightly less than 7 months left with FedEx prior to his mandatory retirement (after 36 years) at age 65. The past 27 years as a captain on the Boeing 727, Boeing 757 and Boeing 767. He says it has been long but exciting. A lot of all-night flying and international operations. Tim and Merrilee had their first grandchild in July. He thinks he is behind the power curve in this area it seems! Three of their four children (ages 29-36) are no longer in Buffalo. Daughters are in Boston (lawyer) and Chicago (advertising). Sons are in Buffalo (collections) and Providence (food sciences).

Bill Cone (2) retired in 2020 and he and Claire moved to San Antonio. They keep busy traveling and playing golf. Bill is also on the Board of First Tee San Antonio, and he helps run an after-school STEM program for middle schoolers. Claire is working part time as a nurse in a corporate wellness center, mainly to keep her nursing license active. Bill also hopes to make it to a football game this fall.

Jeff Styron (2) and Wendy are living in Orange Park, Florida. Jeff retired from the Navy in 2001. He took a buyout and retired from CSX in 2017 and currently serves as the Executive Pastor of the church he helped start over 16 years ago. Their children are scattered around Florida.

Chris Kuran (2) and Darcy are still working full time and having fun in between in Southern California. Chris' company, Waterstone Faucets, continues to grow and three of his kids (Zach, Kirk & Jackson) are now working with him full time. Zach and wife Ally have a son, Kade (1). His daughter, Mackenzie and her husband Clint live in Minnesota with their daughter, Strider (2). Clint, an Air Force Academy Grad, is finishing his master's degree in divinity. Chris has a Fleming 55 yacht in Mission Bay San Diego, and he tries to use her as much as possible – it's their happy place. They travel all over the world for their business while injecting time for the two of them to just enjoy life. Life is great.

A year and a half ago **Debbie (Bauersfeld) Kenney (2)** and Glenn ordered a new Passport Vista 545 sailboat home which is finally nearing completion in Annapolis. When complete they plan to resume living aboard and hope to make it up to New England this summer before heading south to the Bahamas for the winter. In the meantime, they have been practicing patience and playing pickleball.

Jeff Trumbore (2) retired from SOCOM in 2010, and then did unexploded ordnance remediation work for a few years before becoming a contractor in support of the Navy's expeditionary forces. He is part time now and planning full retirement by the end of the year. Jeff and Heidi moved to Oak Harbor, WA after military retirement, and in 2019 relocated to Montclair, VA to be close to 4 of their 5 grandchildren. Jeff's retirement project is preserving an 1860s log cabin on their property in WV, and trying to stay busy.

Mike McKinnon (2) continues to churn and burn as the Operations Director at Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc., a subsidiary of the publicly traded company BWXT. As we watch our Old Goat classmate Admiral **Frank Caldwell (8)** retire from naval service as the Director of the Naval Reactors Nuclear Program later this summer, Mike will still be serving Admiral Rickover for another two years. Who would have thought that Mike would be the longest lasting nuke serving the NR program from the USNA class of 1981. Mike loves what he does and is honored to still be connected to the defense of our nation. Mike and Rhonda love to

travel and chase their children and grandchildren. They recently came back from Singapore and Bali as they celebrated their granddaughter graduating from the Singapore American School. Their granddaughter now heads to the University of Tennessee (Go Big Orange!), right down the highway from Johnson City. Brandon, Mike's oldest son, is moving to Hawaii as the NCIS Deputy Director for the Pacific Fleet. Their middle son just earned his Doctorate in Education and their youngest continues to love life in Golden, Colorado. Life has been good!



Mike and Rhonda McKinnon with granddaughter Savanna.

Tom Fricke (2) retired as CEO of a major restaurant/bar chain about a year ago and has been enjoying the change of pace tremendously. As you can imagine, working in restaurants/bars the last 4 years was a real grind. Tom and Jackie live in Dallas with the kids scattered about the East Coast. They will be downsizing at some point but are still working through where/when that will be.



Tom Fricke with his family in Australia.

Ted Studwell (2) has been fully retired since 2022 and continues to live in the Denver suburbs. He enjoys exercising 7 days a week, working on his big list of books to read, and traveling. He and his wife Barbro recently spent two weeks in French Polynesia in the South Pacific and have two other trips booked for Japan and the Bahamas. Barbro is still working and will probably retire when she turns 60.

Since 2019, **Mary (Andrews) Gunther (2)** serves as Chief Influence Officer at a global student leadership development nonprofit. Mary gets to mentor, coach, and train adult volunteers and student leaders. Mary is also back at school for a certificate in spiritual direction. A spiritual director prayerfully encourages and supports another person to attend and respond to God.

'82

Life Membership: 97%

Donor Participation: 22.06%

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/USNA82

Greetings to the great class of '82!

You should be receiving this issue of *Shipmate* at some point in October, personally my favorite month of the year. I am writing it, however, in the sizzling month of July. As I write, the class of 2027 was recently inducted and is currently experiencing all of the sights, sounds, smells, and sweating associated with plebe summer. But didn't we also lack a/c in Bancroft Hall?? And weren't we the LAST class to have a REAL Plebe summer?? I apologize in advance for the short length of this column. I am assuming that the reason why my mailbag has been near empty lately is due to everyone's brain being fried from the record July heat waves. Or could it be the haze and smoke from Canadian wildfires? Here's what I've got:

Our illustrious class Prez **Jane Conley (7)** sent in the following:

✉ "Hi Mark, here are pictures of **Ray Velez (9)** aboard the USS LASSEN, DDG-82, presenting the USNA Class of 1982 Leadership awards (Cutlass/Sword and financial gifts) to Chief Harris and LTJG Yurso!



Ray presenting to Chief Harris

UPDATE YOUR PROFILE

Log into [Online Community at usna.com](http://OnlineCommunity.usna.com)
to update your profile.

82/83 CLASS NEWS



'82: All hands assembled for the ceremony



'82: Crew of LASSEN sends greetings to '82!



Ray presenting to LTJG Yurso

Sorry to end on a sad note, but many of you likely learned recently of the passing of our classmate **Charley Kineke (20)**. Look for the full obituary in a future "Last Call" section. Well, also sorry to say that this is all that I have for this column. I do rely on your submissions, so please consider sending me an email. Enjoy the Fall. Go Navy, beat everyone!

As always, looking good '82!
Mark

'83

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 20.16%

Pres: **Steve Fischer**
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Vice Pres: **Ms. Geraldine W. Santos**

Treas: **Frank Vernet**
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Sec'y and Shipmate Contact: **CAPT Chris Pietras, USN (Ret.)**
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Facebook: **USNA 1983**

LinkedIn: <http://bit.ly/83>

Website: <http://1983.usnaclassmates.net>

24 July 2023 and writing the October column. This issue should be in your mailbox right before you leave for the reunion. Well except for the cross-country bikers who left weeks ago and are pedaling across our great nation to see us all in Annapolis. If you wish to donate to the cyclers and their fundraising efforts, please go to <https://www.navy-cycling.com/take-action>

It is difficult to believe that in a few short days we will be gathered once more. This time for our 40th reunion where we will talk story, reminisce, and recall the days when we had

smooth skin, muscles, sports cars, full heads of hair, and good eyesight. Let's make a pact and not become our parents where we gather and talk about skin cancer, colonoscopies, and diets. 44 years we've known each other (45 for the Napsters), over 70% of our lives. Truly amazing. While I have seen many of you in the 5 years since the last reunion (retirements, football games, DC area shindigs), I am looking forward to seeing old friends with smiling faces - all of you.

Da newz:

Our illustrious Class President for the past 5 years, **Steve Fischer**, has been selected as the next Executive Director for the Naval Submarine League. Steve will relieve **Tim Oliver '69**. Congratulations Steve!

Erica Ryder Wogaman sent a note and a couple of pics on July 4th: "Barb Bell and I are here at **Mike and Millie Gregorich Ott's** {Chesapeake, VA} for our nation's birthday; 40 years after "the day before the day before I-day" for the great Class of 1983! Semper Fi and Go Navy! - Erica"



Happy Fourth of July!

Sean Buck held his "retirement" ceremony on July 7th in Alumni Hall - 44 years and 1 day after Sean and all of us raised our right hands in T-Court. So where was Sean on his first day of retirement, well back in the Supes seat, where he will be until his relief is confirmed by the Senate or until Sean times out later this summer according to BUPERS Order 1983. Rumor has it Sean will attend the Navy beating of the fighting Irish in Dublin in late August and then take off his uniform and there will be an acting Supe. Again, rumor central only! I have absolutely no insider information. But Sean should be a civilian by the time you read this column.

The ceremony was phenomenal as expected. Our SECNAV, Classmate and friend **Carlos Del Toro** presided over the retirement ceremony and presented awards to Sean and Joanne.

There were standing O's for Sean and I think a bigger one for Joanne, and raucous cheers from the gathered '83 Classmates (egged on by Carlos).



'82: All hands assembled for the ceremony

A reception followed on the floor of Alumni Hall (albeit Sean and Joanne were up top for the lengthy receiving line) and then some picture taking with spouses and Classmates.

Farewell (almost) Sean and Joanne. 44 plus years of Service!



Friday 14 July 4 PMish I-95 headed North, Stafford area, I pull up behind a bigger vehicle in traffic that has an Alumni license plate holder (for the class store we need Class of '83 Alumni license place holder). I couldn't see the driver because he was ahem speeding, but a few minutes later the driver sticks his hand out the window and flashes some signs and then in the go part of the stop and go, waves me forward as he moves over to the right lane. I pull up beside him and **Mike Hull** sticks his head out the window to say hi! Good seeing Mike at 60ish ... MPH (well for a few minutes at least). No picture however ;)

My wife and I were coming back North because we had attended the COC for one of my Coast Guard kids. Whaat you say, Chris doesn't have a kid in the Coast Guard. Well, I actually have several other kids all in the Coast Guard. Like our sponsors from 44 years (shout out to mine - Tom and Christy Moheiser) back I sponsored kids at the Coast Guard Academy. I always say they prepared me for teenagers, marriages, and have prepared me for grandkids. Anyways Heidi Koski (USCGA '04), who I helped promote to Commander in the first year of Covid - boy that made me feel old - took command of Coast Guard Station Elizabeth

City. And I got a sponsor Dad shout out during her short remarks. One proud Dad here.



An update from **Steve Young**: Hey Chris, Thanks for being the class scribe for all this time. I am confident it was not an easy job, but you made it seem effortless. Your successor will have some big shoes to fill. Thanks again for all the years of great work!

At our 35th reunion, I saw a couple of classmates the last time I had seen them was at our 30th ... the sad fact is they really don't live that far from me. So, I made a vow to visit them before our 40th (so that less than 5 years would have passed between visits).

I am happy to announce I was able to do that. I was able to first meet up with **Mark Johnston** (17) for lunch. Mark went nuke subs after graduation. After he separated from active duty, he started working at a small airplane manufacturer in the Seattle area called the Boeing Company installing interiors. So, if you like the new overhead bins where the suitcases fit like books...you can thank Mark (well, I'm giving him credit for them anyway).

Earlier this year, I had dinner with **Bruce Dammeier** (05). Bruce became a Seabee for service selection. After leaving active duty, he worked for a company that printed user manuals for a small software company (Microsoft) in Washington. He then transitioned into politics. First on his local school board followed by stints in the state legislature in both the House and Senate. He is currently serving in his second term as the Pierce County Executive.

I asked him if he was going to run for Governor next year and got a positive 'no'. Hopefully, he changes his mind and wins.

Of course, I see **John Croce** (02) quite frequently when in Hawaii, but in the "it's a small world" category, John asked me if I knew his then-new boss, **Steve McShane '80**. Of course, I did, Steve "Chuckles" McShane was one of my firsties! Steve recently took on the role as the Executive Director of the Submarine Force...top civilian. Had a chance to say "hi" to Chuckles. It is a small world.

As an aside, when I am in Hawaii, I continue to volunteer at the Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum at Pearl Harbor as a docent. I noticed that the Class of 1983+5 donated to the Memorial and is recognized on the donor wall. A Class of 1983 donation would put our class on the map as well...just saying... Looking forward to the 40th reunion. Steve



Steve and Bruce



Steve and Mark



Steve, Chuckles & John

Our 83 Bell Monument (aka Herndon Bell Monument) is complete! The time capsule permanent granite and stone cap was installed in early July, not to be opened until we are long gone from the scene (unless someone discovers the fountain of youth). **Tom "Katz" McKavitt** was the key person who put together the time capsule and ensured the contents would be protected long into the future.

The election cycle is over - whaaa? No not that election. Class Officer elections. The results will be made public at the reunion (at the class meeting). The Nomination and Election Committee was led by **Paul Becker** (Chair), with **Dixon Smith, Dennis Yeatman,** and **Brian Antonio**. While we are all waiting on results, I'm looking forward to finding out who my relief will be, that will write our class column and bring us da newz (or whatever they call it) among other things for the next 5 years.

Give if you can and give what you can.

As of July 17th, we were at 90% of our 40th Reunion Class Gift. Contribute on the Association/Foundation website under Class Project: www.usna.com/give/1983 If you have questions please reach out to Neal Davidson or Turk Powell.

That's it for the mailbag this month. There is 1 (and only 1) column remaining in my tenure as your scribe (the 83Shipmate@gmail.com email address will remain the same for the new scribe)! The November-December 2023 column which is due before the reunion and before the new scribe is announced. The new scribe will take over after the reunion and will be writing the January 2024 column at the end of November - but s(he) will have lots of reunion photos to include.

With our reunion fast approaching I ask that each company find their missing Companymates, those we graduated with and those that left before graduation - if they were there on the 6th of July, they are Classmates. So find your roommates from Plebe Summer and re-connect them to the Class: have them update the [usna.com](http://www.usna.com) alumni contact info (<https://www.usna.com/login?bm=1517605031>) so they receive *Shipmate* and receive all classmail emails; connect with Steve Fischer (sif83usna@gmail.com) and get on his monthly e-mail list; activate their <https://>

myusna.com/profile; and join the class Facebook group page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/191501360861460>

Please reach out and touch your loved ones, reconnect with an old friend or roommate, whether in person or on the phone or just email or knock on a door - Life is fragile. **Just do it today, as we can never count on the opportunity to do so tomorrow.**

Got Newz? send to:
83shipmate@gmail.com
 Once a classmate, always a classmate.
1983 - A Class Act!

'84

Life Membership: 100%
Donor Participation: 52.66%

Pres: **Mr. Brian D. Goodrow**
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Treas: **Mr. Stephen J. Shepherd**
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Website: www.usna84.org

Happy Wedding Season '84. As many of you are planning and attending your own family weddings, we've had a few classmate weddings this Summer.

Dave Alber married Judy on their boat in San Diego.



Dave and Judy Alber, married At Sea

29th Company contingent **Kathleen and Dave Kriete, Chris Chun and Charlie Youngblood** (also of 29th, Class of '83) attended.

Dave Alber has been in Orange County CA for decades but has long since sold the Spring Break Vessel of Destiny Blue Torino, kept in top form with spare parts from Smitty's Junkyard, and his once upon a time roommate Chris Chun is with Global Impact Energy in Escondido.

The Kriete's moved to Fernandina Beach, FL in 2021 after Dave's Navy retirement and Dave is involved in a number of activities, both professional and personal. Admiral Kriete served most recently as Deputy Commander, U.S.

Fleet Forces Command, Deputy Commander U.S. Strategic Command and Commander Submarine Group NINE.



Chris Chun, Dave Kriete, Charlie Youngblood and Dave Alber aboard The Aztec Princess

Jonathan Harber (33) and Sandra (Sandy) Mary DeSanto Bates were married July 4th during a break in rolling thunderstorms on Loveland Pass, Colorado (Elev. 11,990 ft.) on a rare no wind day. Jon's son, Connor, and grandchildren Draven and Gwenny climbed the pass to celebrate.

Jon is Co-Chief Technology Officer, Senior Vice President Technology Systems & Chief Information Systems Officer at HemaSource, Inc, logistics and supply chain specialists for healthcare in Arvada CO. Sandy is in The Executive MBA Program at University of Colorado in Boulder. They live in Golden, minutes from Coors Headquarters and a short drive to Colorado skiing.



John and Sandy at The Continental Divide with grandchildren Draven and Gwenny

Adrian Vagnoni received a surprise visit from 35th Co 2/C Year roommate **Len and Peggy Hamilton** in Arlington Heights, near Chicago on the July 4th weekend. The Hamilton's were driving through Illinois and Wisconsin on their way to Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Of course, they had a great time catching up and of course their wives sat in stunned silence as the conversation drifted inevitably to Tales of Second Class Year.

Adrian is in project management for the Bosch Tool Corporation and Len is molding the leaders of tomorrow as Mechanical Engineering Prof and Rocket Reed Fellow at The Naval Academy.



Len Hamilton and Adrian Vagnoni

27th Company Powerhouse **Tim Daseler** retired from the Civil Service in April after five years as Director of the Navy's Junior ROTC program at Great Lakes. Tool retired from The Navy in 2012 as Nuclear Programs Coordinator at Naval Service Training Center and was Commanding Officer of USS PENNSYLVANIA SSBN 735. Retired Squared writes "It was such an honor to work with the program's wonderful staff and over 1250 dedicated retiree Navy, Marine and Coast Guard hero instructors who make a difference every day at over 600 high schools worldwide mentoring youth to be better citizens!! Back to Pensacola where this old submariner is playing golf three days a week with a bunch of retiree naval aviators and other great friends." Pictured is Rear Admiral Jennifer Couture, Commander Naval Service Training Command presenting Tim with an autographed "Great Job, now go home." letter.



Tim Daseler on the receiving end of a Bravo Zulu from The Admiral

Not pictured is the hand written, notarized letter from Tim's 4 year Tool roommate and Drill Team dropout **Joe Arnos** with an apology for that horrendous Plebe Summer haircut, an incident which actually ushered in The Mullet era on Long Island as well as in the MidWest. For us in 27th Platoon, it was like being in CBGB the night the first punk band played.

Speaking of punk bands... I found a picture of myself caught up in indecipherable discussion with my fellow members of 1st Squad at Middleton's Tavern a few years ago in Annapolis. They were well behaved though as I recall at some point I just stopped trying...



'84: Midshipmen Taverna, Young, King, Bressler, Malloy, Lewis, and Grammer



With Tim Daseler, Joe Arnos and some regulation haircuts

We are now 1 year out from The 40th Reunion. Start working on your A Game. Your Company Representatives will reach out to you throughout the year and **Brian Goodrow** will launch a few all-encompassing emails as well. I may even post some nuggets if they fit this column's monthly theme.

So, who wants to help **33rd Herd** to set the tone? Ah, volunteers? Joan Pinaire, Liz Young, Kelly Henry, Ginger Rice, Karen Halverson, Becky Vautier, and Laurie Grammer.

**Be there.
Aloha.**

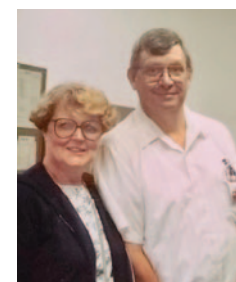
'85

Life Membership: 95%
Donor Participation: 16.55%

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Vice Pres: **Stephen J. Pimpo**
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Corr Sec'y: **Vic Otero**



I have this tribute to Moxie the USNA Postmaster

MOXIE Tribute
I received this tribute from **Tim Hanson, Steve Pimpo** and **Dennis Bartham**.

☒ Many of us remember all too

2023 NAVY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Follow Navy Football online at:
navysports.com

1-800-US4-NAVY

85/87 CLASS NEWS

well the days before the internet and social media became the normal forms of communication in our society. Back then we depended on the United States Postal Service (USPS) to send and receive information and goodies from family and friends. If you attended the Academy during the 1980s and 1990s, that meant that you depended on one man, *Conrad "Moxie" Henry Heibel*.



Moxie was born on 24 October 1941 in Washington D.C. the son of John L. and Naomi Sarah (Bench) Heibel. He graduated from St. Mary's High School in Annapolis, Maryland in 1960. Upon graduation he joined the Navy and served as a Navy Corpsman until May 1965. During his service he performed his duties assigned to various Marine Corps units. After leaving active duty, he married his pen-pal sweetheart of 18 months, Diane Fay Evanson on 19 June 1965 in Annapolis, MD. He initially went to work for the Annapolis Police, but after six months, he decided to work for the USPS. Moxie started working for the Annapolis Post Office in 1966 and was transferred to the USNA Post Office in 1978.

While this provides a snapshot of Moxie's life, it doesn't come close to conveying what an amazing person he was. His life was dedicated to service to the country and other people. Sure he took care of our mail, but if you ever spent time with him you knew that he was a man of exceptional character that loved this country and loved helping people, especially midshipmen. For almost all of his time at the USNA Post Office, Moxie worked by himself ensuring a smooth flow of packages both in and out for the 4,000+ brigade and staff. Moxie possessed such a positive demeanor that he established wonderful friendships with all of the other people that provided services in the Yard. This made him a cache of information to enable anyone to be successful in any

endeavor around the Yard. He could always hook you up with the right person to accomplish what you needed done. As a midshipman sponsor, Moxie, Diane, and their two sons could not have provided a warmer, more loving home to decompress from the daily stresses of the academy.

When Moxie wasn't working, he could be found spending time with one of his numerous hobbies. He was a gifted woodworker who decorated the homes and yards of loved ones with bright, beautiful bird houses and other wood crafts. Moxie was a meticulous gardener, ensuring that his friends and family enjoyed fresh produce at the table every year. When he was able to find time to break out his metal detector, no metal relic was safe from his grasp.

Moxie retired from the USNA Post Office in 1997. Upon retirement, Moxie and Diane moved to Thornton, Iowa. In Thornton, Moxie was able to spend more time with his hobbies as well as endear himself to the wonderful people in small town Iowa (Thornton population is about 400).

Moxie was 81 years old when he passed on Saturday, 4 February 2023 at MercyOne North Iowa Hospice in Mason City, Iowa. He was more than family to many and will be sorely missed.

Moxie is survived by his wife, Diane, of 57 years; two sons, Conrad Jr. and his wife Katie, and Timothy and his wife Lorraine all of Annapolis; four grandchildren Jane, Peter, Griffin and Cooper Heibel, and two brothers Joe Heibel and Richard "Dick" Heibel and his wife Mary, both of Pennsylvania.

Go Navy
Beat Army
VO

'86

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 14.50%

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'87

Life Membership: 100%
Donor Participation: 38.05%

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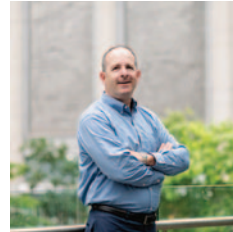
Website: www.usna87.org

Hello Classmates,

Welcome to fall and Navy football!

I hope all of you are well and enjoying the cool weather.

Mike Cantwell



Mike Cantwell

has much to celebrate these days. His daughter, Maeve, graduated from high school in May and will be attending Villanova University in the fall. Mike recently retired from the National

Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), where he served for over 20 years as a contractor and government employee. Classmates, Charlie Schilling and Greg Contaoi, and several other USNA alumni, attended his retirement ceremony. Mike decided after retiring to pursue his lifelong dream of starting his own consulting company. Check out LinkedIn for more information. Mike is active with various political reform organizations including FairVote Virginia, New Politics, and Veterans for Political Innovation.

In that vein, Mike has launched a podcast called, "Independents for America." Mike recently became more engaged with the USNAAA Greater Washington Chapter. He frequently participates in networking events, bike rides, and golf tournaments. Mike also hosts a monthly Trivia Night at his local VFW. See the Arlington VFW Post 3150 Facebook page for more information. DC area classmates are encouraged to attend. Go Navy! Beat Army!

Please send your news to
rpinataro87@gmail.com with "Shipmate" in the subject line.

EXPLORE & LISTEN

To Compelling Topics Online
www.usna.com/podcasts

'88

Life Membership: 100%
Donor Participation: 13.73%

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Website: www.usna.com "find my class"

'88 "**Resolute, Committed, Successful**",
 USS CARNEY (DDG-64). Please send *Shipmate*
 submissions to swickard99@gmail.com
 r/ Sara

George Palmer:

✉ **George Palmer** checking in. I did the sub pipeline and a couple of 637's in San Diego and Mare Island. My first boat had the worst nuclear incident record in the fleet, to which I contributed a proportional share. Got out at 5 years.

Did a couple years as a plumbing engineer in San Diego. Then chemistry grad school at Northwestern. Then McKinsey Consulting (as a generalist). Which makes zero sense for a career, but I'm still trying to figure out what I'll do when I grow up.

After three years at McKinsey, I left, and did winter ski-instructing at Breckenridge. Was something different spending a whole season outdoors, on my feet, working for low wages. But then I went to work for DuPont as a middle manager.

I'm much more of a "gig" type person than a corporate promotable, so left DD in 2010 and have been doing independent management consulting since 2010. I still have adventures occasionally (spent 2020 Covidfest in a remote part of Turkey at a gold mine). **Brett Price** says he doesn't think I have a job, which is half true.

I was in Richmond until 2015, but moved back to Reston, then. I see **Bob Strong**, who is within running distance, a lot. Did a couple of triathlons with him recently. (I just did relays; Bob did entire races). **Pat Brown** is in town also and we keep talking about getting together—he went to my high school and was a great cornerback and runner.

Had a great time at the 25th year reunion (my first one). Talked for a long time with **Steve Alexander** and **Fred Farzanegan**. Remember looking at classmates in Riordan's or Gryphons or wherever we were and thinking we still carried ourselves like firsties—older sure, but still lounging in comfort. **Ted Peck** and **Richie Kondo** hung out in NoVa for a few hours before they had flights out of Dulles.

My mom passed away last summer and was buried in Arlington—same plot my dad went in during Christmas break, youngster year. Picture attached of Bob and I at the small ceremony. I wore uniform since I knew she and my dad would have wanted that.



"Bob and I zipped out ad hoc to see a Navy football game last fall—**Ted Alexander's** mom gave us her tickets! Ran into several classmates I knew but wasn't in touch with. Remember **Dion Cornett**, **Bill Miller**, **Pete Shumway**. They had also come on the spur of the moment."

Zoom Wardroom schedule

'89

Life Membership: 100%
Donor Participation: 22.41%

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Listserv: usna89@yahoogroups.org

Listserv Subscription: send a blank email to usna89-subscribe@yahoogroups.com from the address you wish listserv traffic to be sent

To Post a Message: write your message and send it to usna89@yahoogroups.com

Unsubscribe: send a blank message to usna89-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

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Happy Halloween classmates! It's coming up on the end of July as I write this. Is it just me or has this summer flown by? By the time you read this I should be done with my ultra (6 person team) Ragnar race in Kentucky.

Let's get going with a report from Class President, **Denise (Shorey) Willert**:

Happy fall, classmates!

Who doesn't love a good love story ... or two? **Ed Toppi** and **Doug Brandeen** (see Doug's story below) both tied their respective knots this summer with their lovely brides, congratulations to both couples! Following their nuptials, Ed and LK headed off to Europe in July to celebrate in grand French style, to include spectating at the Tour De France, while Doug and Laura had a beautiful wedding in the USNA Chapel and celebrated their union with classmates at the Navy-Notre Dame game in Dublin in August.

In more news from "the field" over the summer: **Matt Cox**, **Rob Duguay**, **Gary Burger**, **Buck Blum** and their spouses joined together in July for an Alaska cruise — it appears from their smiling faces that a great time was had by all. **Clint Carroll** enjoyed a lovely visit with Honorary Classmate Mrs. Kim Hill at her home in Pennsylvania, and Mrs. Hill was very kind to share photos of their visit on our class Facebook page. **Thad Smith**, **Dave Dowling** and **Rob Stauder** were all smiles at a Chicago Dogs minor league baseball game hosted by the Chicago Alumni Chapter. On an awesomely proud parent note, **Roger Galbraith** dropped his daughter off this summer to be a West Point class of 2027 cadet and had the fun opportunity to run into **Brian Wetzler**, who works for the West Point Association of Graduates. From his photos, **Al Kinney** had a fantastic trip to Banff in Canada — send us the details, Al! And lastly, it's been great fun to follow **Paul Tortora's** travels around the globe with his Cyber midshipmen. I'm sure Paul is the perfect guide, encouraging these future leaders with his significant knowledge and insight.

I was fortunate to spend a long weekend in St. Petersburg, FL during my family's visit to Florida in July. My best friend (and our upcoming reunion coordinator), **Karen Somsel Quilty**, along with husband **Chris Quilty**, put out the red carpet for me, **Ed Drew** and his girlfriend Lisa. The best cook I know, Karen made us delicious meals and her daughter, Emerson, and boyfriend, Pat, graciously took us out for the day on his fishing boat to swim and relax. It was a fantastic weekend and I can't wait to do it again next summer.

On a somber note, I'm so very sorry to report that we lost our dear classmate **Jerry Boster** this summer. Jerry had been active as the volunteer President of the Hawaii Parkinson's Association and had dealt since 2013 with the disease himself. His wife Janice shared this update in June with us on our Facebook page and offered to keep us informed as a class in regard to his memorial information. Jerry made such an impact on his local community that the Honolulu Star-Advertiser wrote a beautiful tribute to him on his passing. Rest in peace, classmate, we have the watch.

89/91 CLASS NEWS

You've hopefully seen our Reunion survey by now, which will encourage you to provide your input as to the details of our upcoming 35th next fall. The date will be picked when the 2024 football season schedule comes out in January, at which point we'll let everyone know. It's never too late to lend a helping hand...if you have some time to spare, please give a shout. All are welcome!

Until we chat again,
Now's the Time, 89!
Fondly, Denise

Now, the exciting news from **Doug Brandeen**:

✉ Hello 89,

I and my lovely new bride Laura Couvillion, daughter of Retired Naval Commander Al Couvillion, were married at the USNA Chapel on 8 July 2023. Many '89 Grads were in attendance and '90 grad **Steve Williams**. Thank you everyone from afar and locally posting for our wedding! One of the hottest days in Naptown with extremely high humidity didn't spoil the USNA Chapel Wedding and reception at the Navy Stadium Flag Bridge and N* Room. What a great venue and food was catered by same group from our last Reunion. See everyone at the Fall tailgators and on our Honeymoon in Dublin! Skol!



Mr. and Mrs. Doug and Laura Brandeen



Williams (90), Joe Fagan, John Coney, Todd Nichols, Brian Greeley, David Brandeen, Joe Vitelli and Doug Brandeen in front of '89 N* Letter Winners.



Joe Fagan & John Coney's idea



Singing Navy Blue & Gold

Until next time...Beat Army! **Scott**

'90

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 9.18%

Pres: **Frank Bendik**
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Facebook: **USNA Class of 1990**

'91

Life Membership: 98%
Donor Participation: 9.26%

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"Time and tide wait for no man," as the saying goes... While it was something we learned at the Naval Academy, it has continued to take on more meaning so many years after its initial introduction to me. I had the distinct honor of attending **Robb Chadwick's** retirement ceremony in Memorial Hall on 21 July, along with



Robb Chadwick at his retirement ceremony.



Vice Admiral (Ret.) Ron Boxall.

at least 30 of our classmates and many, many other guests, and I found myself in uncharted waters... As I watched Gib Armstrong MC the event (and he did a great job, by the way), I realized almost immediately I was unfamiliar with the ceremony itself, and the history, tradition, and pageantry it entailed... I found myself laughing, crying, listening, and singing, all along the way...

I laughed many times, especially while listening to the color commentary by Vice Admiral (Ret.) Ron Boxall, the guest speaker. He regaled us with stories about Robb and his exceptional leadership throughout an exceptional career with many "firsts..." I sang our national anthem in the beginning, and Navy Blue and Gold near the end of the ceremony. I cried many times - the ceremony was so moving. I think the emotion it drew out of me was most surprising of all... I heard the vast and positive impact one of our classmates had on so many people, and realized that hearing the stories was having an impact on me as well... I was inspired by so many examples of Robb's leadership, and the man who embodied such a humble and unassuming nature. I cried when he and his family were piped ashore for the final time, into retirement..

During the ceremony I also realized one truth - I had never attended a retirement ceremony for any of our classmates, until now... Nonetheless, starting several years ago, I have tried to participate in more class activities, to connect with classmates known and unknown, and give back in any way I could. I just hope I can live up to the standard - our class is very special... A great group of people who I continue to be humbled and honored to be a part. While I cannot change the past, I can certainly continue to take the inspiration from our classmates and incorporate them into my future. Better late than never! "Time and

tide wait for no (wo)man..." Sue

I am also pleased to share a note we received from **David Olson**, USNA 1991, 22nd Company...

1991 Classmate Change of Command

Our classmate, Major General **Michael J. Borgschulte** took

command of the 3rd Marine Air Wing at MCAS Miramar, San



Changing command with the passing of the flag.

Diego, CA on 30 June 2023. The change-of-command ceremony was impressive and included all the pageantry you would expect for a 2-star general, with a parade amidst a backdrop of marine aircraft on the flight-line. After assuming command, Mike gave remarks and addressed: the readiness of the marines, sailors, and aircraft under his command; his excitement and commitment to be leading 3rd MAW; and of course, thanked his family and friends for their support.



Borg's speech...

There was a reception in the O-club following the event, and it was great to catch up with old friends and classmates, drink beer, and tell stories. "But still when two or three shall meet, and old tales be retold ..."



1991 classmates in attendance (L to R): RDML Randy Peck (ESG-3), Greg Price, Chris Janke, Rob McGregor, Maj Gen Mike Borgschulte, Diamond Dave Olson, and Mike Dowling.



'91: Parade on the flight line.



The Borgschulte family: Ryker, Gitte, Torben and Mike.

The Mother "B" Front Step Mystery...



AJ and Gib pointing to a hole in steps of Mother B, which allegedly happened at the hands of unknown perpetrators, circa 1991...

This next story is a "blast" (or a "ping") from the past, courtesy of our very own hoodigan (and president) **Gibson Armstrong**... As the fable goes... "It was a mess night unlike any other. All of 36th Co. sat at one table. It ran the length of Mahan's majestic large upper room. Our guest speaker, CAPT **Ed Davis '62**, USN (Ret.), spoke

more candidly than usual about his seven and a half years in hell, otherwise known as the Hanoi Hilton. We laughed, we cried. It was a most memorable evening. Mr. Vice, AJ Monaco, somehow had a mineral hammer for a gavel, perfectly designed to make big rocks into small ones.

"Returning to Mother B, I ascended the steps with our guest of honor, Co. Officer LDCR "Smokin' Joe" Gattuso '78, Mike Lagow, AJ and Kevin O'Connor. Halfway up I remarked, Before we graduate, I want to get a piece of Bancroft. Barely had I spoken the words when I heard a "ping!" AJ's hammer had found its intended purpose. 'You mean like this?' He handed me a granite fragment of a Bancroft Hall front step.

"Years later, I rediscovered it, ran it through a tumbler, and gave AJ half. When Robb Chadwick became Commandant, we confessed our crime to assuage our decades of guilt. He considered frying us, but fortunately, the statute of limitations had expired." And here they are, decades later, at the scene of the "crime," reliving the moment!

A Note from Robb Chadwick

Classmates... Thanks so much for the incredible show of support at my retirement ceremony yesterday. I was told it was one of, if not the largest classmate groups at any ceremony in recent memory. During my time as Commandant, I interacted with many, many classes, so I can say with authority that we have a very special Class. Thanks '91!

91/91 CLASS NEWS



'91 in the house!



Jeffrey Boschert and Tiffany Monaco

Todd Bahlau and Becky.



Col. James P. McDonough, Gib Armstrong, and Robb Chadwick, immediately following the Plebe Parade.



Jeff Woodbury, Jude Burke and Juan Orozco.



36th Company in the house!



'91 at the parade: Gib, Robb, Mike Rapp and Sue Macaluso.



Dan Morio, Gib Armstrong and Sean Magee.



Marty Shue Broerman, Jim Bell and Paul Fallace.



Grainne Krasovic, Brent Andberg, Paul Diedrich and Dawn.



'91 at Dinner, after Retirement Reception.



Dan Murphy, Evan Barnett and Pam.

And Last, But Certainly Not Least...

I have a photo on my desk at work of the USS RANGER (CV-61) and USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64) steaming side by side. Each crew is in Summer Whites, with one ship spelling out GO NAVY, while the other says BEAT ARMY. It reminds me of my time aboard RANGER for Youngster Cruise. The ship was on pre-deployment work-ups with the Air Wing on board, so we did a lot of drills and DLQs. I know such things became "old hat" pretty quickly in our careers, but the first time exposure was pretty interesting and exciting. **Harry Ward** was onboard with me, so maybe he concurs... During our time on RANGER R, the San Diego sister ship, USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64) suffered a major fire while underway. We supported by supplying AFFF and DCA personnel. Many years later when he was my 1/C roommate, **Andy McMarlin** relayed the story to me. He was there and participated in damage control, along with **Joel Gutierrez, Jeff Heiges** and **John Lucas**. The point I want to make with this anecdote is how rewarding it is when a group of us gets together and shares stories. Andy and I participated in the same event before we had ever met, and we didn't realize we were both there until a few years later. Harry and I met on that Youngster Cruise, then went our separate ways. Nearly five years later ended up in the same squadron together and deployed on the same detachment. Now that most of us are no longer on active duty, it's a great time in our lives to discover previously unknown connections and shared experiences that may have occurred over the last 35 years. You might be surprised at what you learn.

Keeping with the theme of Youngster Cruise, three of the Mids that Lisa and I sponsor are in the midst of it now. As each one made a turn back through home plate en route to the next event, we had them over for dinner to discuss their experiences. As I have said before, the more things change, the more they remain the same - or, at least, remain easily recognizable. The biggest change is our experiences of Youngster Cruise and Second Class PROTRAMID have switched. The Mids that we sponsor are driving YPs and taking

summer school classes. We did, of course, get the not-wholly-unexpected desperate phone call on a Sunday at 1830 that went basically like this: "Sir, I just got back to the Hall and realized all the uniforms and stuff I need for the next phase of summer training (which starts tomorrow) are in your house." What did we do before smart phones? Also, I remember having the exact same experience, and MY sponsor at the time had to make a special trip to the Yard.

Finally, I have just returned from the Memorial Hall retirement ceremony of my Plebe year company mate, Robb Chadwick. Congratulations, Shipmate! As I departed the Rotunda into T-Court following the ceremony, the cacophony of the Class of 2027 running through their Plebe Summer paces greeted me.



Mike Rapp

The more things change, the more they stay the same. The word "endings" has a negative connotation, so I'll w-rapp up by saying beginnings and new beginnings are occurring at the same time all the time. // Mike Rapp, Class Executive V.P.

'92

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 14.95%

Pres: **Donnie Kennedy**

Vice Pres: **Glenn Viado**

Treasurer: **Joe Zurzolo**

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'92,

Hopefully this finds you enjoying the early days of fall with some Navy football victories and some '92 class fellowship.

We begin this month with a useful object lesson in the value of being on the class social media pages on Facebook and on LinkedIn. As we were preparing this update, we received a very kind offer from a member of '92+1, offering a copy of the best *Lucky Bag* in USNA history (that is, ours) to anyone from our class who would like it. In the interests of speedy execution, your class co-secretaries posted this immediately to our social pages, and by now that *Lucky Bag* is likely residing with a classmate, bringing all the fond memories and delightful entertainment you'd expect. If you're not already in at least one of these groups, please consider signing-on, as this is our best vehicle for getting timely info out to the class. Note that your co-secretaries make a practice of

cross-posting all key class announcements and business, so if you use only one of Facebook or LinkedIn and join the class community there, you should be covered for getting the gouge.

...and while you're focused on getting into the loop of class information, please consider banging out a quick update on your latest feats of '92 excellence and sharing it with the class via usna1992classupdate@gmail.com!

Clearly in the last month there was more focus on performing these feats of excellence than on documenting same, as we have a very light section of ordinary business for this update:

A big congratulations and BZ goes out to **Chris Rivera**, recently appointed president of Tampa-based SCP & CO, a private investment and fund management firm focused on emerging technology platforms. Chris will lead the company's future investments in the artificial intelligence and Web3 spaces.

Get those updates in, '92!

'93

Life Membership: 98%
Donor Participation: 11.06%

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I'm not completely sure when this issue will hit mailboxes, but this is the month of our reunion. Hoping to see many of you there and looking forward to an amazing weekend. We have a couple of updates this month, first is quick update from **Ernie Williams**:

✉ Not sure if this is newsworthy, but I've now left the Fortune 500 workforce and taken my side business (in PV Solar design, engineering, consulting and installation for 14 years) full time, after spending 24 years combined with P&G and Kellogg since getting out in '98. Ernie Williams, Mainstream Green Solutions LLC, www.mainstreamgreensolutions.com

Congrats Ernie on making the move - sounds like the perfect time to ramping up an solar energy business. Our next update is from **Colleen Solonga**:

✉ I attended **John "Buss" Barranto's**, retirement in Memorial Hall after a storied 30-year career that included 12 years and six combat tours in OEF and OIF. He deployed on the PELELIU with the Fifteenth Marine Expeditionary Unit when the September 11,

93/93 CLASS NEWS



'93: (L to R) Sean Phinney, Todd Rampey, Joel Moss, Greg Futch, Boogie Lianez, Max Shuman, Chip Merrill, Glen Reid and Rob Schroder



'93: (L TO R) Chip Merrill, Kevin Austin, Max Shuman, Greg Futch, Sean Phinney, Jeff Register, Colleen Salonga, John, Joel Moss, Charlie Sites, Derek Nisco, Glen Reid, Boogie Lianez and Brian Proctor.

2001 attacks occurred and conducted the initial Marine action in support of OEF. Following that, he reported to Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One for duty as a Super Cobra instructor pilot. During that tour, he deployed to Iraq for OIF as an augment member of Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 269. Afterwards, he was assigned to Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 369 and completed two more tours in OIF. He reported

to HQ Marine Corps for Aviation and served as the H-1 Transition Task Force lead. He then assumed command of The Watchdogs of the Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron 1. Other tours include Homeland Defense Division Joint Operations/Theater Security branch chief, executive officer to the commander of US Southern Command, reassignment to Headquarters Marine Corps Aviation, Aviation Expeditionary Enablers branch head and

Aviation Programs and Weapons Requirements branch head. He commanded the Expeditionary Warfare Training Group, Atlantic and subsequently served as Aviation Plans, Policies, Programs and Budget branch head at the Headquarters Marine Corps for Aviation. Most recently he was the 2021-22 senior USMC fellow at the Atlantic Council's Scowcroft Center for Strategy and Security.

The ceremony was attended by his family including his wife, Lara, and his son, Jack, who was dressed in a sharp Navy-themed outfit and would have won the blue carpet award. Also present were his parents, sister and brother-in-law and nephew and niece, and his in-laws. The ceremony was also attended by an esteemed cast of characters from '93, friends, and others from his previous tours.

Attending from '93: Sean Phinney, Todd Rampey, Joel Moss, Greg Futch, Boogie Lianez, Max Shuman, Chip Merrill, Glen Reid, Rob Schroder, Kevin Austin, Jeff Register, Colleen Salonga, Charlie Sites, Derek Nisco, Roe Howell, and Brian Proctor. From other classes: Pat Stroop '69, Mike Davis '92, Tim "Toolman" Fetsch '92, Jack Downes '94, Chris Shaw '94, Adam "T-Bone" Musoff '94, JP McDonough '94, John Costello '96, Bat O'Brien '98, Will Millett '98, Devin Smiley '00, Tim "Otto" Collins '02, BJ Mahal '03, Jordan Levine '03, Ben Fehr '08, and James Masterson '08.

Afterwards, we went to McGarvey's, where John promoted a colleague to O6. The day was a good way to mark the end of a long career and wish "fair winds" for someone who has served with honor and courage, and has loved, lived, and breathed USMC for most of his life. Congratulations to John and looking forward to seeing everyone again at the reunion.



John Barranco with wife Lara and son Jack

Thanks for the update Colleen and congrats John on an impressive career! Semper Fi!
— Shogo

CLASSES OF 1998-2022

U.S. 7TH FLEET

MAKIN ISLAND Naval Academy Graduates

Navy and Marine Corps graduates of the United States Naval Academy posed for a photo on the flight deck aboard amphibious assault ship MAKIN ISLAND, on 22 May 2023 in the Pacific Ocean. The U.S. Naval Academy graduates currently aboard MAKIN ISLAND range from the Class of 1998 to the Class of 2022. The Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group, comprised of MAKIN ISLAND, amphibious transport dock ANCHORAGE and JOHN P. MURTHA, is operating in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations with the embarked 13th MEU to enhance interoperability with Allies and partners and serve as a ready-response force to defend peace and maintain stability in the Indo-Pacific region. □



Naval Academy graduates onboard MAKIN ISLAND flight deck in May 2023.

Shipmate editor's note: We are re-running the above profile that appeared in the September '23 issue on page109 - this time without the unfortunate typos!

'94

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 9.29%

Pres: **Jim Keck**
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Vice Pres: **Julie Spencer**
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Corr Sec'y: **Margaret (Dotolo) Aden**
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'95

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 18.97%

Pres: **CDR Andre Coleman, CEC, USN (Ret.)**
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Vice Pres: **Robert "Butch" Klemeyer**
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Tres: **James "Jimmy" Loreto**
p: 240-505-6466; e: Jloretojr@gmail.com
Comms Dir: **LCDR Heidi (Huerter) Lenzini, USN (Ret.)**
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Sec'y: **CDR Brian Schultz, SC, USN (Ret.)**
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'96

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 13.91%

Pres: **Bill Pennington**
Vice Pres: **Ghislaine (Williams) Stonaker**
Sec'y: **Cara Albright**
e: caramalbright@1996.usna.com
Treas: **Nikki Battaglia**

'97

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 5.72%

Pres: **Tom Wagner**
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1148 Via Jose, San Jose, CA 95120
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'98

Life Membership: 100%
Donor Participation: 7.24%

Pres: **David Forman**
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Corr Sec'y: **Mark Symmes**
529 W. 29th St., Baltimore, MD 21211
e: shipmate98@yahoo.com
Temp Corr Sec'y: **Alex Savage**
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'99

Life Membership: 93%
Donor Participation: 8.00%

Pres: **CDR Jason Birch**
 e: jlb1999@me.com

Vice Pres: **Dr. Joy Zelinski-Marquez**
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Sec'y and Shipmate Contact: **Darlene Delk**
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Treas: **Stacie M. Gibson**
 e: staciegibson22@gmail.com

Communications Director: **CDR Jose Pehovaz-Diez, USN (Ret.)**
 e: jose.pehovazdiez@gmail.com

Website: www.usna99.com

'00

Life Membership: 97%
Donor Participation: 5.59%

Pres: **J.V. "Murph" McCarthy**

Vice Pres: **Art Terry**

Treas: **Nick Lalota**

Sec'y: **Tim O'Connor**
 e: Shipmate00@yahoo.com

'01

Life Membership: 96%
Donor Participation: 11.56%

Pres: **Jen (Bohr) Tyll**
 p: 302-528-9306; e: jenbohrtyll@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Amy (Baxter) Laczek**
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Treas: **Adam Borcz**
 e: adamhenryborcz@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Jen McCullough**
 e: jennifer.mccollough@gmail.com

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

**CLASS SECRETARY
 COLUMN DEADLINES**
 Send to: classnews@usna.com

2023 - 2024	
ISSUE:	DUE DATE:
November-December '23	25 Sept '23
January-February '24	20 Nov '23
March-April '24	23 Jan '24

'02

Life Membership: 98%
Donor Participation: 6.36%

Pres: **Kate (Kranz) Jordan**
 e: katherine.kranz@2002.usna.com

Vice Pres: **Elizabeth (Kreft) Brienza**

Treas: **Danielle Thomasson**

Sec'y: **Mike Johnson**
 e: johnson.michael.a@gmail.com

At-Large Directors: **Rob Ballard, Lauren Coia Friedman**
 and **David Gravseth**

Send Submissions to: johnson.michael.a@gmail.com

Website: www.usna2002.org

LinkedIn: **USNA Class of 2002**

LinkedIn Class Website: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/3900492>

Facebook: To join the **USNA '02** group, please reach out to Mike or Kate.

myUSNA: Visit "myUSNA" in the Apple App Store (also accessible at myusna.com). To access the '02 Group, go to Groups and then Class of 2022.

Shipmates!

Another *Shipmate* deadline, another day-before effort to get the submission in on time. :) At least it's only about 5pm now (update: 6:30pm when I'm finishing up - what the heck happened? Oh yeah, my kids came home from summer camp and I went into a time warp), as opposed to almost midnight like last month. Progress! Much like my grades after switching from Comp Sci to English during Youngster year. Speaking of which, I'd love to hear from **Comp Sci majors!** Or **English majors** - but since the 7 of us have become lifelong pen pals, using quill pens and inkwells on scrolls leftover from the **HONOR SCROLL** - it would be a great to hear from some **non-English majors**. Remember signing the Honor Scroll? I think I remember signing that in Smoke Hall, but I'd love to hear from anyone who has a good Honor Scroll story! C'mon **Will Carr!**

On a serious note, I'm very sad that one of my (28th to 2nd) company-mates - **Brian Walsh**, who I know many of us know (spoiler alert, Brian is fine!) - has moved away from Annapolis. Although I live in Arlington, VA, and I didn't get to see Brian all that often in Annapolis, I was so happy knowing that Brian lived in the general area, along with another company-mate (and fellow South Arlingtonian), **Lucas Adin**. Well, Brian picked up and moved with his family to the woods of New Hampshire, and while selfishly I am very sad to no longer have a company-mate like Brian live nearby (and there is only one Brian Walsh, as anyone who knows him understands), I am so happy for Brian and his family to live in their new, beautiful home.

Before Brian pulled chocks, I was fortunate to spend some time with him and his incredible son, Charles Tecumseh. Brian and Charlie

picked me up so that I could complete a very important mission on the Yard: a trip to T-Court, dressed in my finest Kansas City Chief's garb, to pay homage to the ultimate Chief's fan. Go Chiefs! In the course of posting this to the '02 Facebook Group a while back, I also got acquainted with some of our classmates who are Eagles fans, including one of my sponsor brothers, **Mike Liguori!** Mike, hopefully we can catch up during one of your next trips to Northern Virginia. I will even wear my Patrick Mahomes socks to show you in-person, as I wore in this picture with Brian and Charles Tecumseh.



Brian, Charles Tecumseh and Mike



With the Ultimate Chiefs Fan

After my pilgrimage to T Court, I was walking through Arlington one morning, when I came across a familiar face -my long-ago shipmate **Eric Johnson!** (no relation... or is there?) Eric and I got to know each other on 1/C aboard USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64), and it was so random and awesome to see him mere blocks from where I lived. I learned that Eric had been geo-bach'ing in Arlington while he worked at the Pentagon, heading home very weekend to his wife and daughters in Virginia Beach. By the time this is published, Eric will have also moved out of Arlington, and I was so glad to spend time with him while I could.



Johnson Bros

Also, in Arlington (it's blowing up here!), I was so happy to learn that another classmate, **John Nilles**, lives only a few blocks away from me. I first recall seeing him running up a hill in our neighborhood, and I was tempted to lower my window as I drove by and yell, "'02, Sir!" But I held back, and then thankfully not long after that, we learned that our kids both attended the same elementary school, Oakridge Elementary. Shout-out to **Sarah (Bartek) Davy** - housemates from SWOS in Newport, Rhode Island - along with **Jason Hickle** and **John Van Meter** - who (Sarah, that is) attended Oakridge Elementary back in the day. Newport in the summer - that was a great time! Here is a picture of me and John at our kids' school's Month of the Military Child Fun-Run - it was awesome!



John and Mike - Leading PT!

Well, that's all for this issue - I'd love to hear from you! If you don't want to write about yourself, I get it - feel free brag about something awesome that another classmate is up to!

Until next time,

Mike Johnson

28th — > 2nd Company, "Club Deuce"
johnson.michael.a@gmail.com
'02 Detachment Arlington, Virginia

'03

Life Membership: 97%

Donor Participation: 4.11%

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Vice Pres: **CDR Fernando R. Reyes, USN**
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Treas: **CDR Megan Barnett, USN**
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Sec'y: **Heather M. (Garland) Selig**
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Class Website: <http://2003.usnaclasses.net/>

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Shipmate Submissions: **Kenneth Michel**
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'04

Life Membership: 95%

Donor Participation: 5.06%

Pres: **Jeff McLean**
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Vice Pres: **Shannon Webb**

Treas: **Jarrett Berke**

Sec'y: **Deni Baykan**

Comms Officer: **Leigh Ross**

Philanthropic and Inclusion Officer: **Kristen Murdock**

Operations Officer: **Alexa Hunter**

Send Submissions to: classof2004usna@gmail.com

2004,

We're going strong on our commitment to having *Shipmate* updates every month, so thanks to those of you that have submitted stories and photos. We got a great update this month from Hoop Hoopengardner below as well as a couple of updates from class VP Shannon Webb and myself. As we gear up for the 20 year reunion next fall, I know the class would love to hear from more of you out there, so send a quick update and photo to us at:

Classof2004USNA@gmail.com

Update from **Hoop Hoopengardner**:

✉ "On 11 and 12 July, Air Boss (Commander, Naval Air Forces/Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (CNAP)) VADM Kenneth Whitesell hosted a Commanding Officer Training Symposium (COTS) 2023. This event had the Aviation Commanding Officers and Executive Officers from CNAP, CNATRA, CNAF-R, CNIC, and CNSP all meeting together to get trained and aligned by the Air Boss and his staff. It was quickly realized there were a lot of 2004 Grads in attendance, 12 in fact, some who never knew each other, some who hadn't seen each other since graduation, and even some former roommates were in attendance. In attendance, but not all included in the photo were: **CDR Mason "Dingle" Berry, CDR Neil "Bus" Toohey, CDR Kevin "Snape" Jones, CDR Tim "TIOM" Scheidler, CDR David "(Hula) Hoop" Hoopengardner, CDR Bradley "Pancake" Thompson VT-7, CDR Sean "Noapy" Dougherty VT-27, CDR Rob "MERman" Blackwood VFC-13, CDR Nick "Snowflake" Ryan HSC-85, CDR Matt "SULLE" Bigson VFC-111, CDR Mitch "Waldo" Newton VFC-204, CDR Nicholas "Nick" Rueda VP-30 SAU.** Good times had by all, and we hope that we can all meet again for the 20 year next year."

We have another update from Class of 2004 VP, Shannon Webb:

✉ Hey 2004,

Shannon Webb here (aka Revell). I hope everyone had a great summer. The Webb



Class of 2004 CNAP COs sporting some great mustaches

04/10 CLASS NEWS

family did! My kids: Ashtyn (19), Erik (7), Eva (6) and Ethan (4) just got back from their first trip without either parent- 10 days with the grandparents, which meant Jeff and I had 10 days of quiet! Next trip is to Scotland and then Ireland for the Navy Notre Dame game! Now going back a little further. I got out of the Navy in 2010, married a grad - **Jeff Webb '95**, and moved back to Annapolis last summer. I love living in Annapolis! If you're ever in town, look me up!

I work for a solar developer, New Energy Equity, HQed in Annapolis. If you have any questions or connections in solar- I'd love to talk!

I still love running and will be running the 10k in DC at the MCM on Oct 29. Run To Honor will be having a reception the Friday night before and will be at the Travis Manion tent on Sunday if anyone is on town.

Maybe it is because the 20-year mark is magical, but I'm really enjoying being so involved with the Academy again and connecting with 2004!

As for my update, seeing the photo of our aviation skippers reminded me of all the great classmates I had the pleasure to serve with over the course of my time in the Navy, including the time I got to pull 10 G's flying with Mitch Newton in an F-16.



Mitch Newton and Jeff McLean in Fallon, NV 2012

✉ After flight school, I was in VFA-103, The Jolly Rogers, with classmates **Cam Douglas**, **Aaron Ochalek**, **Matt Holladay**, then I did a test pilot tour at VX-23 with **Jack Hathaway**, and I had the good fortune to serve as a DH with **Cassidi Reese** in VFA-11, The Red Rippers. Over three deployments and many other trainings and tours, I was lucky to serve in air wings and on carriers with many of our classmates. There's nothing like being in a bar in port at 2 a.m. and running into someone from the class of 2004 - which happened multiple times.

My wife, Christine, was an Air Force KC-135 pilot, so after many years of being stationed in different parts of the world, we decided to transition into the reserves after my DH tour. We're living back in my hometown of Mequon,

WI, where I lead a management consulting firm called ghSMART and coach hockey and lacrosse for my kids' teams. We've got a 9 year old daughter, and sons ages 6 and 3, so it's pretty much chaos around our house.

I'm looking forward to connecting with everyone at our 20-year reunion next fall!

Send in some updates!

Beat Army!
Jeff

'05

Life Membership: 98%
Donor Participation: 3.02%

Pres: **LtCol Thomas A. Kulisz, USMC**
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Vice Pres: **CDR Matthew J. Bernhardt, USN**
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p: 619-889-1968; e: mjbernhardt@gmail.com

Treas: **Allen J. Murphy**
hometown: Severna Park, MD
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Sec'y: **CDR Reed A. Kitchen, USN**
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Website: 2005.usnaclases.net

'06

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 6.42%

Pres: **LCDR Adrienne A. Maeser, USN**

Vice Pres: **CDR Joshua M. Angichiodo, USN**

Treas: **CDR Joshua J. Larson, USNR**

Sec'y: **Ms. Ashley E. Pelzek**
e: usnaclassef2006@gmail.com

Hi Classmates!

In the spirit of connecting more of our classmates and keeping everyone informed of upcoming class events, your faithful class officers are putting together a 2006 contact list. We'd like to enlist a volunteer POC from each company to help us build out the contact info for each company, so if you're interested in volunteering for that role, please reach out to our email, usnaclassef2006@gmail.com!
Beat Army!

'07

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 4.62%

Pres: **Brady Beauchamp**

Vice Pres: **Major Benjamin Tuck**
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Treas: **LCDR Patrick Sullivan**
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Sec'y: **LCDR Dan Bellomo, USNR**
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Send Articles to: classofficersUSNA2007@gmail.com

'08

Life Membership: 97%
Donor Participation: 26.62%

Pres: **Donald H. Horner III**

Vice Pres: **LCDR Gerald Brooks, USN**

Treas: **LCDR Daniel E. Foose, USN**

Sec'y: **LCDR Dianna Dietrich Bunt, USN**
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'09

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 27.33%

Pres: **LCDR Andrew Poulin, USN**
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Vice Pres: **LCDR Art Griffin, USN**

Treas: **LCDR Cody Forsythe, USN**

Sec'y: **Micky Matus, USN**
e: michaelmatus09@gmail.com

Shipmate Submissions: e: Shipmate09@gmail.com

'09,

Planning for our 15th Reunion is underway and already shaping up to be our best one yet! (See image on next page.)

Over the next year, please continue to check our "U.S. Naval Academy Class of 2009" Facebook group for a listing of our Reunion Committee members and any updates they may have.

If you have any questions or looking for ways to volunteer, please contact:

Reunion Chairman - **Owen Brook-**
e: oebrooksiii@gmail.com

Reunion Vice-Chairwoman - **Tenley Warhurst-** e: tenleywarhurst@keysclaims.com

A big part of the reunion effort is also ensuring the Alumni Association has your best contact information so you receive our updates. If you need to update your information, including your e-mail address, please do so at usna.com. If you have any issues, you can e-mail: membership@usna.com or call 410-295-4000.

Until next time, please keep the stories, life updates, and pictures coming our way via our USNA '09 facebook page or our Class Slack channel: usna09.slack.com

GO NAVY!

- '09 Class Officers

'10

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 21.20%

Pres: **LT Robert Battle, USN**
e: rhbattle@2010.usna.com

Vice Pres: **LT Garth Thomas, USN**

Sec'y: **LT Margaret Boyle, USN**
e: mcboyle@2010.usna.com

Send Articles to: Shipmate2010@gmail.com

'11

Life Membership: 97%
Donor Participation: 13.08%

Pres: **Michael E. Orzetti, CIV**
 Vice Pres: **LT Ricky Dobbs, USN**
 Treas: **LT Matthew Pierson, USN**
 Sec'y: **LT Natalie Woodward, USN**
 e: NNWoodward@2011.usna.com

'12

Life Membership: 98%
Donor Participation: 22.51%

Pres: **Capt Ian Cameron, USMC**
 Vice Pres: **LT Nicholas DeMasters, USN**
 Treas: **LT Nicolas Woods, USN**
 Sec'y: **LT Jane M. Baird, USN**
 Send Articles to: shipmate2012@gmail.com

Bobby Dixon sends in a nice update:



✉ After a decade+1, 2012 classmates reunite in Europe. This past August, the McGuire Family hosted the Dixon Family at their home in Prague, Czech Republic. **Sarah** and **Riley McGuire** and **Bobby Dixon** graduated from the



'12 Families reunite in Europe



'09: Reunion - Save the Date

Naval Academy in 2012 and hadn't seen each other since graduation day. With their families, they explored the incredible history of the city, ate amazing food, and enjoyed playing board games with the kids.

Sarah McGuire is finishing her time in the Olmsted Scholars Program, Riley recently finished his time in the Navy on active duty and reserves and is now a full-time dad, and Bobby just reported to US Africa Command in Stuttgart, Germany as Deputy Plans Chief for the Public Affairs Office.

'13

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 31.71%

Pres: **LT John-Rex Spivey, USN**
 e: johnrexpivey@gmail.com
 Vice Pres: **LT Daniel Murphy, USN**
 Treas: **1stLt Ted Baumgardner, USMC**
 Sec'y: **LT Hannah Yun, USN**

'14

Life Membership: 98%
Donor Participation: 32.65%
 Pres: **1stLt William R. Roberts, USMC**
 Vice Pres: **1stLt Conor J. Kearney, USMC**
 Treas: **LTJG Emily L. Kreyenhagen, USN**
 Sec'y: **LTJG Elizabeth J. Powers, USN**
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'15

Life Membership: 97%
Donor Participation: 32.39%
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 Vice Pres: **LT Dylan Cawdery, USN**
 p: 801-638-0724; e: dcawdery@gmail.com
 Treas: **LT Joshua David Elliott**
 p: 772-643-4468; e: joshuaelliott2015@gmail.com
 Sec'y: **CAPT Madeline Zell, USMC**
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'16

Life Membership: 98%
Donor Participation: 33.01%
 Pres: **Capt Eric B. Kellogg, USMC**
 Vice Pres: **Capt Matthew L. Chavez, USMC**
 Treas: **LT Renata M. Kolinko, USN**
 Sec'y: **Capt Zachary L. Coffman, USMC**
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'17

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 27.50%
 Pres: **Capt Chosnel Raymond, USMC**
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 Vice Pres: **LT Robert Winning, USN**
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 Treas: **LT Theodore "Jelly Belly" Schopf, USN**
 e: tedschopfiii@gmail.com
 Sec'y: **LT Molly McGuckin, USN**
 e: mollykmcguckin@gmail.com

A long overdue Class of 2017 column. As another academic year starts at USNA, it is yet another reminder of how far we have grown since the summer of 2013 together. Ten years since joining together as the Class of 2017 and six years since graduating and commissioning. It seems like every year that passes, there are more and more of us embarking on new chapters of life, creating our own business, having families, continuing to serve our country, etc. It is important to highlight and recognize our individual achievements both in and out of the military and that is what our class would like to do in our future columns. If you have any reason to celebrate a life event, have a new business you would like to share, or anything you would like to be share with our class in the next '17 *Shipmate* column, please share with via email/social media to our Class Secretary: **LT Molly "Dlsh" McGuckin.**

The Class of 2017 would like to wish "Junior" - Joe Abraham Alvarez Jr. a very special belated Happy Birthday! Junior was 15 months old in September.



Joe Abraham Alvarez Jr. born 14 June 2022; 7lb 6oz; 20 inches; and 2nd child of Joe Alvarez '17 and Taylor Mooers Alvarez '17.

'18

Life Membership: 100%
Donor Participation: 34.13%
 Pres: **LTJG Dan Stitt, USN**
 Vice Pres: **LTJG Michael Pahissa, USN**
 Treas: **LTJG Gio Hernandez, USN**
 Sec'y: **LTJG Rachel LaBuda, USN**
 Send Articles to: 2018usna@gmail.com

'19

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 4.90%
 Pres: **2ndLt Isaac Phillips III, USMC**
 Vice Pres: **ENS Tate Schumacher, USN**
 Treas: **ENS Leor Golan, USN**
 Sec'y: **ENS Gil Wright, USN**

'20

Life Membership: 98%
Donor Participation: 4.02%
 Pres: **2ndLt Mike Smith, USMC**
 Vice Pres: **2ndLt John Finnegan, USMC**
 Treas: **ENS Grayson Gossett, USN**
 Sec'y: **ENS Nolan Kreipe, USN**

'21

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 1.72%
 Pres: **ENS Cameron R. Kinley, USN**
 Vice Pres: **N/A**
 Treas: **ENS Lakayla D. Deshields, USN**
 Sec'y: **Ann M. Jackson**

'22

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 8.28%
 Pres: **ENS Andre C. Rascoe, USN**
 Vice Pres: **ENS Jonathan D. Miranda, USN**
 Treas: **ENS Hampton B. Boyd, USN**
 Sec'y: **ENS Rory S. Cox, USN**

'23

Life Membership: 98%
Donor Participation: 29.68%
 Pres: **MIDN Grant A. Booker, USN**
 Vice Pres: **MIDN Julius W. Aebly III, USN**
 Treas: **MIDN Zion A. Armstrong, USN**
 Sec'y: **MIDN Jason Santiago, USN**

2023 NAVY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Follow Navy Football at: navysports.com

- 26 AUG vs Univ. of Notre Dame (Dublin, Ireland)
 - 9 SEPT vs Wagner College
 - 14 SEPT @ Univ. of Memphis (Memphis, TN)
 - 30 SEPT vs Univ. of South Florida
 - 7 OCT vs Univ. of North Texas
 - 14 OCT @ Charlotte (Charlotte, NC)
 - 21 OCT vs Air Force
 - 4 NOV @ Temple University (Philadelphia, PA)
 - 11 NOV vs UAB
 - 18 NOV vs East Carolina Univ.
 - 25 NOV @ Southern Methodist Univ. (Dallas, TX)
 - 9 DEC vs Army (Foxborough, MA)
- 1-800-US4-NAVY**

CHAPTER NEWS

Alabama

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Sec'y: **Steven W. Ranes '02**
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Southern Arizona Chapter

Pres: **Thom Rossa '63**
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Website: <http://southernarizona.usnachapters.com>

Arkansas

BGO Area Coordinator: **David Chucoski**
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Arkansas Chapter

Pres: **Steve Colley '08**
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Sec'y Treas: **Jason Coyle '09**
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We would like to congratulate Ensign **Annie Quo '23** on receiving our annual ADM John S. Thach Memorial Sword. This award recognizes the graduating USNA Midshipman from Arkansas with the strongest record of performance. This award is in honor of Arkansas native and legendary Naval Officer - Admiral John S. Thach, USN, Class of 1927 from Pine Bluff, Arkansas. We wish Ensign Quo the best as she joins the fleet!



Left to right: John Wade '85, Geoff Quo, Greg Stimis '68, Annie Quo '23, Maury Quo, and Ian Hadden '91

Asia

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Guam Chapter

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Los Angeles Chapter

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Vice Pres: **Paris Scott '12**
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National Trustee: **Brian DeJarnett**
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Hello All!

I hope you're excited for this year's upcoming Army Navy game. It's the one game I look forward to all year (Sorry Air Force), and this year we will continue our tradition of hosting an Army/Navy watch party on the Battleship USS Iowa. More details will follow via email, but I can guarantee that this will be another fun event!

To obtain information on local events please be sure to have an active MyUSNA.com account. We will disseminate all club information via email to include upcoming events, board meetings, etc.

As always... Go Navy, Beat Army!

Please let me know if you have any questions.
Sincerely,
Paris Scott

Monterey Bay Chapter

Pres: **LT Vic Kanth '15**
e: usnaalumni montereybay@gmail.com
Corr Sec'y: **Steve Tackett '87**
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CHAPTER SECRETARY COLUMN DEADLINES

Send to: chapternews@usna.com

2024

ISSUE:	DUE DATE:
January-February '24	27 Nov '24
March-April '23	23 Jan '24

CHAPTER NEWS



Sacramento Chapter: In the lower left—Dick Bishop '62, at the table - Soo Lee Davis (West Point), Alan Abbs '91, Cheryl and Brian Grubbs '92, Tony Gates (West Point), and the next table— Paul Deveaux '96. Behind Brian is Lucy Kroettinger (West Point) and her husband Olaf (standing far right)—parents of Emily Kroettinger USNA '27.

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**
 e: alanabbs@gmail.com
 Treas: **Jack Everett '64**
 e: jeverett@quicknet.com
 Past President: **Dennis P. Joyce '61**
 p: 916-996-1333; e: djoyce1961@hotmail.com

In July, we moved our monthly Happy Hour to J. Wilds Burgers and BBQ in Folsom and had a nice turnout from all three academies. The 3rd Thursday Happy Hour is one of our three monthly events- very informal but getting a steady group that attend these for some food, drink, and storytelling.

The Sacramento Parents club is staying busy. In July, Yihwin Huang and Erin **Darke (Lilian '26)** hosted the annual parents club meeting and summer BBQ. Parents of the class of '27 attended and shared some positive updates from their plebes. They were all looking forward to Parents Weekend in August. Carol **Simmons (George '61** who passed away recently) carried on George's tradition of bringing "cannon balls with hard sauce", a USNA classic dessert which we understand is no longer on the menu. Alumni in attendance included **Denny Joyce '61**, Pat and **Jack Everett '64**, Margo and **John McKay '68**, **Lauro Aguila '81**, **Terri Maginnis '82**, and Cheryl and **Brian Grubbs '92**.

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 and location.

By this time, the Navy football season will be well underway. Last year we had good attendance for the Air Force and Army games. Look for updates on times and locations through emails and myusna.com.

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**
 e: treasurer@usnaaasd.com
 Sec'y: **Mark Powers '06**
 e: secretary@usnaaasd.com
 Corr Sec'y: **Charlie Carey '70**
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 Website: <http://usnaaasd.com>
 BGO Area Coordinator: **Mike Philbrook '83**
 e: michael.philbrook@1983.usna.com



San Diego weather finally caught up to the rest of the country and it has been hot, really hot. Despite the heat and usual lack of rain, all that

snow and rain we got last winter has proven to be really beneficial in that the reservoirs are near full and the fire outlook is normal.

That said the big interesting item since last month is the arrival of the Middies for PROTRAMID. We have sponsored a number of picnics in addition to meeting them at the airport USO with a BBQ and stuff while they wait for their buses.



Middies taking it easy at one of the picnics.

We have a lot of activities, social hours, lunches, and other opportunities for all Alumni either living here in San Diego or the greater San Diego Area. All Alumni including those just visiting are welcome. Please check out Home Page on MYUSNA for more information.

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

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 Sec'y: **Ray Fazzio '57**
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 Instagram: [@usnaaa_sfbaychapter](https://www.instagram.com/usnaaa_sfbaychapter)
 BGO Area Coordinator: **Frank Verducci**
 e: fverduccjr@yahoo.com

On a beautiful sunny day on 22 July, 12 Grads plus their guests enjoyed the usual comradery, good beer and excellent chow at Brewster's Beer Garden, Petaluma, CA. BZ to Cheriene Griffith '02 for setting it up. (See photo on the following page.)

Upcoming Events

21 October 2023, Air Force/Navy Watch Party, Marines Memorial Club, San Francisco, CA

9 December 2023, Army/Navy Watch Parties
 * NORTH BAY. The Bird, Santa Rosa, CA



2022 Distinguished Chapter



San Francisco Chapter: Grads from left to right: Joe Kurtenbach '11, Shawn Cullen '90, Michael Mieres '02, Mike Fazio '85, Sansarae Weishaar '06, Mac Tillman '86, David Masterson '02, David Moore '63, Cheriene Griffith '02, Steve Hall '75, John Siel '71 and John Paul '10

* SAN FRANCISCO: Marines Memorial Club, San Francisco, CA
 * EAST BAY: TBD

Santa Barbara Chapter

Pres: **Stephen L.A. Callahan '81**
 Treas: **CAPT Stephen H. Huber '80, USN (Ret.)**
 BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Greg McGiffney**
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 Web: <http://santabarbara.usnachapters.net/>
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Colorado

Colorado Chapter

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 BGO Area Coordinator (Denver): **CAPT Dick Eason '84, USN (Ret.)**
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Hello Colorado Alumni,
 Happy Fall! It has been nice to see many of you at our recently restarted alumni happy hours. Please keep an eye out for emails and check our website (www.usnacolorado.com) for more opportunities to meet up with fellow alumni at various locations across the Front Range.

Planning has already begun for our annual Navy-Army football viewing party in Denver on 9 December. Check out our website for more information as we get closer. Leaving you with another reminder 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.

Go Navy!!

Matt McLaurin '92

Colorado Springs Chapter

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Florida

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STAY CONNECTED

Find a Chapter.
usna.com/FindAChapter

CHAPTER NEWS

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PIN THE TAIL ON THE MULE PICNIC

We dialed it down in July, opting for a family picnic instead of the monthly chapter meeting – our third such outing. This July we featured a potluck cookout at the home of President **Jane Lochner '84**. Hosted in beautiful Belleair Beach, this event brought out some of our esteemed members from Pinellas County. The group enjoyed a smorgasbord of delicious treats and cold drinks, highlighted by homemade pizzas from the terrific outdoor oven. Chef **Mike Zabel** really went above and beyond on a blazing hot day. It reminded me of the worst of plebe summer – without the pizza! What was the WBGT that Saturday, anyway?

Enjoying the camaraderie were hosts Mike Zabel and Jane Lochner '84, **Steve Swift '87**, **Tracy Kuhns** and **Tish Wold '87**, **Connie and Miller Detrick '63**, **Karen and Mark Arnold '80**, **Matt Packard '06**, **Brian Tsai '16**, **Chris Heath '72**, **Cliff Vaught '80**, **Val and Gary Polansky '69** and **Gloria Drago and Tom Mercer '87**.



Matt Packard '06 and **Brian Tsai '16** cheer on overmaster **Mike Zabel** at the July picnic



Jane Lochner '84 and husband **Mike Zabel** hosted the chapter event. **Matt Packard '06** gets a hot pizza oven lesson!

FOUNDERS DAY DINNER

Time to make your reservation now for our flagship Founders Day Candidate Information Dinner, to be held on Wednesday, 11 October. This is one of our biggest events of the year, hosting over 100 local students and families to hear about the Naval Academy as a part of their future. Alumni participation is an important part of this gala evening. We will sell out, so don't wait!

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. Come on out to Tate's Italian Restaurant and Pizzeria on the first WED of each month at 1800.

Watch for information to sign up for these future events -

Future Events

- Monthly Meetings on first Wednesday of each month except July (no sign-up needed)
- Navy football watch parties at The Deck, St. Petersburg

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 – a Distinguished Chapter in 2020-2021-2022.

Everything's great in the Sunshine State!

Chris Heath '72
Chapter Secretary

Georgia

Atlanta Chapter

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Deborah Catrini

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Germany

Stuttgart Germany Chapter

Pres: **Thomas E. Elders**
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Guttag from Germany! The chapter is coming back to life following the COVID years. Right now, I'm serving as the President and one of the only members but looking to grow the chapter. We are surrounded by West Pointers and Zoomies but can surely build a strong Navy (and Marine Corps) Team in Germany. If interested in joining and sharing in the comradery, please email me (to either my personal or work email).

Currently, there are no dues, and the engagements are in planning. I look forward to us connecting with fellow alums in the Stuttgart Germany area!

Go Navy! Beat Army!

Thomas Elders '98

Hawaii

Hawaii Chapter

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UPDATE YOUR PROFILE

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

Idaho

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

Is it Fall yet? Greetings all. Chapter members gathered with both USMA AOG and USAFA AOG alumni for the June social at Lucky 13 Pizza and Pub in Boise.



Care for a couple of rounds of hoops, Paul?

Thanks to our hosts, AFA AOG. A good time was had by all as a few pints were hoisted and old tales retold. A couple of "giant" former AFA B-Ball players managed to capture 6 ft+ Paul Campbell '98 for a neat photo.



John Hall '77 discusses USNA's "Another Link in the Chain" program with midshipmen-to-be Avery Charles and Kate LeBaron.

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>.



Chicago Chapter members at the Dogs game, along with one of the mascots, Ketchup.



Chicago Chapter: Chicago members at the Chicago Union League Club (L to R): Fred Weber '75, Len Wass '64, David Frey '79, Ed Cladek '64, Jack Mumaw '64, Mike Boehle '83, Mike Murray '64, RADM (Ret.) Lars Saunes (Royal Norwegian Navy) and Chris Gear '12

Illinois

Chicago Chapter

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BGO Area Coordinator (Northern IL)
LCDR Drew Thomas '04 USNR
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About 30 members of the Chicago chapter and their families attended a Chicago Dogs baseball game in Rosemont on 14 July. The Dogs are members of an independent baseball league and even though the Dogs lost the game, a great time was had by all. Special thanks to **David Frey '79** for organizing the event. Hopefully, this will be the first of many events at Chicago sporting venues.



Mike Isabelli '83, Jack Mumaw '64 and Rob Stauder '89 at the Dogs game.

Later that month, members of the chapter gathered with the 786 Club at the Union League Club of Chicago for a luncheon with retired Rear Admiral Lars Saunes of the Royal Norwegian Navy. Admiral Saunes is currently the CNO Distinguished International Fellow at the Naval War College. With China and Russia routinely operating north of the Arctic Circle, the Admiral gave a thought provoking presentation on the need for integrated deterrence with Allies in the High North.

Finally, the Chicago chapter will hold its semi-annual meeting on Tuesday, 17 October at 5 pm at the law offices of McAndrew, Held, & Malloy (hosted by **Alan Montera '05**), located next to 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 contact **Fred Weber '75** (Fred.weber@2comm.com). Nominations will also be accepted from the floor the evening of the meeting.

CHAPTER NEWS

Indiana

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Iowa

See Minnesota

Send *Shipmate* input to: **Nathan CW Smith '98**
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Louisville/Southern Indiana Chapter

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Maine

Maine Chapter

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

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

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Greater Southern Maryland Chapter

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Massachusetts

Boston Chapter

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Michigan

Michigan Chapter

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Since our last article, we again hosted a notable event that we plan to keep an annual tradition in the Michigan Chapter: **Mike Droogleever** captained one of his vessels, entrusting its crew with USNA alumni. He expected our immediate recollection of line-handling and standard commands. Thankfully, the drills were not as laborious as aboard the Navy 44 — our Annapolis summers in the Chesapeake Bay were not for naught!

In attendance was **Art Bryant '66, Michael Droogleever '05, Jeff Gorman '77, Michael and Marguerite Johnson '79, Noel and Shawn Johnson '93, Jack Udebrock '59, Ingrid Vernier, Rob Wilson '77, Brenden Plancon '14 (West Point), and Joseph Zane '07.** Keep on the lookout for us to repeat this event sometime every summer around the July time frame as long as Mike continues to put up with us! Fun times were had by all aboard!

The Chapter is gearing up for the football season! We have our next normal luncheon meeting occurring on 9 August, as well as preparing for Notre Dame (26 August) and Air Force (21 October) viewing gatherings, and obviously the big Army-Navy party. As a reminder, it's tradition among the Michigan alumni associations to take turns planning a joint party for Army-Navy (9 December), and it is our turn to shine this year! We are intending to reprise the event at the Detroit Yacht Club.

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.*



Michigan Chapter: Chapter Boating Event! Pictured: Art Bryant '66, Michael Drooglever '05, Jeff Gorman '77, Michael and Marguerite Johnson '79, Noel and Shawn Johnson '93, Jack Udebrock '59, Ingrid Vernier, Rob Wilson '77, Brenden Plancon (West Point) '14 and Joseph Zane '07

On a personal note, my wife **Jaclyn ('08)** and I both attended USNA Blue and Gold Officer (BGO) training over this summer. We can't say enough good things about the program! It's a great excuse to get an all-expenses-paid trip to USNA in the summertime, laugh at some Plebe Summer shenanigans, revisit the old

watering holes, and learn about the changes at USNA. The seminar lessons ranged from generic admission statistics, NCAA recruit rules and restrictions, presented mock BGO interviews and admissions boards, etc. My wife and I opted to stay in the Hall, because how many times in our lives would we be allowed to stay in the same room in "Mother B?" As another alumni stated to us, "[he] is pretty sure he had dreams about that when he was a Mid." Eating meals in King Hall certainly brought back intense nostalgia pangs, too! If you're interested in volunteering for the BGO program and helping find and mentor the next crop of potential Plebes, let us know and we will get you in touch with one the Area Coordinators for Michigan.

If you are reading this and want to join but haven't seen any emails recently, feel free to reach out to the President personally at joseph.zane.2007@gmail.com or me at Shawn.Hoch@gmail.com. Also, we're always open for suggestions as to events and locations, especially if you are willing to help plan the event. Keep your eye out on MyUSNA and your email for the latest on events and updates.

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

*Shawn "Swish" Hoch '08
Chapter Vice President*

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Missouri

Greater Kansas City Metro Chapter

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St Louis Chapter: Lowell Crow '84, Josh Rich '97, Dave Turnbaugh '89, Chris VanSickle '91, Bob Berger '70, Rick Cassetta '84, Mike Dunham '70, Alexa Akauhao '09, John Winkler '85, Raese Simpson '61, Mike Carnes '74, Kent Higginbotham '76 and Gary thompson '57

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July 8th was a great day for a picnic! Slightly overcast, low humidity with temperature in the low 80s! Shaw Park is a great venue and the south pavilion made for a short walk. **Josh Rich '97** again did a masterful job on the grill and brought the beer, water and soda. **David Turnbaugh '89** added a cooler + ice, and **Mike Dunham '70** helped lug it all to the pavilion. Two candidates (Class to '28) from Summer Seminar showed up: Reagan Turnbaugh and Kierson Wicks. Midshipman **William Schleper '24** and his family also joined us. His Dad, Tim, lent Josh a hand on the grill. Will is headed for summer cruise on a sub. Nothing new for Will, he was a nuke bubble-head before USNA. **Change of Command: Lowell Crow '84** will be the new Chapter President, relieving **Dave Turnbaugh '89** after 8 years of service. **John Winkler '85** will relieve (me) **Raese Simpson '61** as your Shipmate scribe.

Lowell was a SWO and retired as an O-6. He had 3 commands: USS OGDEN LPD-5, USS WASP LHD-1, Naval Weapons Station Yorktown. After retiring from the Navy, he was City Manager for Centralia, Freeport, and Mammoth, Ill. Now fully retired he volunteers as Asst. Dir. for Southern Ill. Veterans Golf Assoc., and is Blue and Gold Officer for Southern Ill. He and Gwen reside in O'Fallon, Ill., and have 2 sons, one w/Greater

CHAPTER NEWS

STL YMCA, the other a Civil Engineer for Ill. Dept of Transportation.

John has spent a lot of time in the sky. He retired as O-6, flew the E-2C, T-34C and UC-12B, and just for kicks now has 28 years w/Southwest Airlines. John and Kathleen have 2 sons, the oldest USNA Class of '21 who is in the Strike pipeline for NAS Meridian and the youngest, an aspiring submariner, a NROTC grad from Miami OH at nuke school NWS Charleston SC.

I tried to get everyone's photo but missed: **Raese Cassetta '84, Julie Golinghorst '97** w/Kevin (USMA '96), **Raese Simpson '61** w/Ann, **Gary Thompson '57** w/Scotty, Jon, Lydia & Jimma, and **Chris VanSickle '91**... Our picnic was a great success, and I'm excited for our chapter going forward. As I sign off for the last time, a special thanks to Dave Turnbaugh '89 for his many years of service, and to Sandy Spadaro at the Alumni Assoc. in Crabtown for her editing and getting all Chapter News ready for publication... I stand relieved...

Raese "Suitcase" Simpson '61



Lowell Crow '84, Dave Turnbaugh '89 and John Winkler '85



Lorien Schleper, Will Schleper '24 and Tim Schleper



Mike Dunham '70, Gloria Berger and Bob Berger '70



Alexa Akauhao '09, John Winkler '85 and Kathleen Winkler



Tame Wicks, Candidate Kierson Wicks '28 and Carlos Wicks



Brady Turnbaugh, Candidate Reagan Turnbaugh '28 and Dave Turnbaugh '89



Mike Carnes '74, Martha Carnes and Mike Dunham '70



Kent Higginbotham '76



Josh Rich '97 (BZ Josh)



Gwen and Lowell Crow '84

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Raese Simpson '61

Nebraska

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Las Vegas Chapter

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The Las Vegas Chapter has had a busy spring and summer, gearing up for a fun football and holiday season! Come join us!

Chapter President, **Corwin "Cor" Karaffa '77** hosted brunch on 2 June with the two local appointees joining the Class of 2027 (Kevin Kucik and Aaron Thrinthong, pictured) and the selectees going to NAPS to join the Class of 2028 (Natalie Vazquez and Kaleigh Kennedy). They were joined by chapter members **Sara Crawford ('95), Paul Crawford '96** and **Mike Wray '85**.

Good times were had by all and the parents enjoyed the opportunity to meet other parents who will be experiencing the rush of emotions as their kids leave for Annapolis and Newport. Fair winds and following seas and welcome to the family!



The Chapter will be hosting four football watch parties, one per month from August to December, starting with Navy-Notre Dame being hosted at local pizza hotspot, Crust & Roux, at 1100 on 26 August. We will also reprise our hosting efforts for Army-Navy at the MacKenzie River Pizza, Grill & Pub at City National Arena in Henderson on 9 December. Future dates and locations will be announced, along with the details for these two watch parties on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/851758039084714>.

We will also reprise our Navy Birthday Dining Out at Honey Salt, with details and sign ups available on our Facebook page! Our chapter continues to grow, along with our city, and even if you've never been to an alumni event, we'd LOVE to see you! Stop in and say hi and see what you've been missing!

Go Navy! Go Vegas!

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New Mexico

New Mexico Chapter

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Although headlines are about the Summer's unrelenting heat, knowledgeable Albuquerque citizens await the announcement of where and when the remains of the USS ALBUQUERQUE (SSN-706) are to be built into a monument for the ages. The submarine's conning tower and the two fairwater planes sit in secure storage at Kirtland Air Force Base ready to be set up somewhere in the City. As fate would have it, one of this author's high school classmates was deeply involved in its commissioning on May 21, 1983, in New London, CT. At that time, Marijo Rymer was working as Chief Assistant to Albuquerque's Mayor, Harry E. Kinney. Mayor Kinney had served in the Navy himself and was keenly aware of the importance of the upcoming commissioning ceremony. The Mayor assigned Marijo and her colleague Lindy Gold to take charge of coordinating with the Department of the Navy to ensure the City of Albuquerque was well-represented during the commissioning of its namesake submarine. Coincidentally, their shipboard contact was the Executive Officer, and my Naval Academy classmate **Bill Boykin '68**. Marijo received a "script" to follow, the most important part of which was to arrange for the City to provide commissioning gifts to both the ship and to the crew. For the ship's gift, a Pueblo-made original rug was crafted with an abstract map of New Mexico to hang in the Captain's quarters. For the crew, a custom-made silver belt buckle with a unique serial number was decided on for each of the ship's plank-owners. As to who would receive buckle #1, the Commanding Officer, or the Chief of the Boat (COB), the decision approved by the ex-Navy Mayor Kinney was for the COB to get buckle #1, causing some gasps among the Navy brass. As the commissioning ceremony drew near, the number of Navy protocols seemed to grow

daily. However, Marijo's and Lindy's marching orders from the Mayor were to take advantage of every opportunity to make Albuquerque's and New Mexico's presence known.

They arranged for colorful paper flowers and piñatas to be present and wanted all the guests to experience the delectable taste of authentic tamales. Bueno Foods donated 144 dozen handmade and frozen tamales to be shipped for the ceremony. One item that the ladies thought was a must was having a Mariachi Band attend, but the cost to transport a group from Albuquerque would be prohibitive. Fortunately, Senator Domenici's office was able to find a Mariachi band in the DC area that they paid to transport to CT. One of the VIP guests of the Mayor, world-renowned balloonist Maxie Anderson, had a friend in the CT area who agreed to have his balloon brought to New London to be inflated and tethered for the enjoyment of families of the crew. Solemn Navy protocol was followed to put the submarine into the fleet as sponsor Mrs. Nancy Domenici smashed the champagne bottle on her first try. At the after-party celebration, the Mariachis struck up "Anchors Away" at the door of the club to lure the crowd outside to enjoy the hot air balloon being inflated. Unfortunately, the centerpiece of the post-commissioning celebration, the authentic tamales were not able to be enjoyed as they should be. Although Marijo had gone to extraordinary lengths to brief the kitchen staff how to properly prepare the delectable dish, she was unaware that her efforts would not be conveyed to the different kitchen staff on duty for the event. When that crew was faced with the unfamiliar entree, their reaction was to "shuck" them, cut them into sections, and cover them with grated cheese! Although a culinary sin to anyone from the Land of Enchantment, by the time they were heated and served, they were delicious, and no one questioned their mishandling. One final backstory began as a staff meeting joke in Mayor Kinney's office. The question was asked, wouldn't it be amusing to offer a grand prize to the first Captain to bring the USS ALBUQUERQUE up the Rio Grande (usually only knee deep) for a port call to its namesake city? At the commissioning ceremony, part of Mayor Kinney's speech was to take a Rolls Royce key from his pocket to transfer to the Captain, saying the vehicle the key operates would be waiting for him when he arrived in Albuquerque with the submarine. That Rolls Royce key exchange was a part of every change of command ceremony until its decommissioning on February 27, 2017.

Joe McGuire '68

New York

New York Capital District Chapter

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Central New York Chapter

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BGO Area Coordinator: **Tom Ravener**
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Alumni, and Navy family and friends are encouraged to attend the weekly Wednesday lunch at 1200 at Clear Path for Veterans in Chittenango, NY. You can call (315-687-3300) to 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 us know if you plan to attend a function.

Future Chapter activities will be addressed as they are planned.

The following is an evaluation of the State of the CNY Chapter. It was previously emailed to those alumni for whom we have an email address and is included herewith for those who have not received it.

State of the Central New York Chapter of Naval Academy Alumni

The Welcome Aboard Picnic held on a recent Sunday may well be an indicator of the State of the Chapter.

Thirteen individuals were able to attend the picnic. Of these five are alumni, three are spouses of alumni (one of whom is also an alumna), two are parents of a local graduate in the Class of 2023, a candidate for the Class of 2027, his mother and his sister, and the local representative of the USAA.

By last count from the Alumni Association in Annapolis, there are at least 118 alumni in our area (the 13XXX ZIP codes). It is a big area and it is recognized that travel of 80 or more miles may be involved to attend a Chapter event. Cazenovia and Syracuse are central to our area and just happen to be where the current Chapter organizers and leaders live.

The Chapter currently has 28 alumni who have paid dues in the past and of these 28, 16 are Life Members of the Chapter. Payment of dues is the only means we use to raise funds for the Chapter. To date the Chapter has financially supported the Central New York Parents Club by augmenting any funds provided by USAA to offset the cost of the Welcome Aboard Picnics. This is in addition to the commemorative clocks presented each year to the parents of the local USNA graduates.

CHAPTER NEWS

Recently the Chapter was assigned an Employer Identification Number (EIN) which we need so that USAA will continue to fund the Welcome Aboard Picnics. USAA will donate \$200 to \$250 each year with a payment to the Chapter and the Chapter will then pay for the picnic. Heretofore USAA did not need us to have an EIN but the IRS has made some changes that now require the Chapter to have an EIN.

The Chapter's bank account had a balance of \$1810.21 which will be reduced to \$745.21 once funds were transferred to cover the cost of the commemorative clocks presented to the parents of the five graduates in the Class of 2023 from our area. Next year there are only two members of the Class of 2024 from our area so funding for that is covered.

The Chapter currently has two events per year: the Welcome Aboard Picnic and the Army-Navy Game Get-together. These events are excellent opportunities for USNA alumni and classmates to get together and swap sea stories. USNA alumni are welcome at both events regardless of their status with the Chapter. The same is true for any Navy family and friends.

Regardless of the Chapter's financial status we will continue as an active Chapter though we may have to discontinue the presentation of the commemorative clocks. With the support we receive from USAA, we should be able to continue to cover the cost of the Welcome Aboard Picnics.

Any questions or comments or suggestions regarding the above, Chapter dues or Chapter events, do not hesitate to contact the Chapter's Secretary/Treasurer (bobfegan64@gmail.com) (315-663-7490)

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BGO Area Coordinator: **Doug Peters '73**
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USNA WNY Chapter Hosts 5 Service Academy Appointees

The Western New York Chapter held its annual dinner recognizing local appointees to the service academies and ROTC scholarship recipients on 3 June 2023, at the Rochester Yacht Club. This year five young men and women, including two entering the USNA Class of 2027, were honored for their accomplishments and provided a warm send-off by local alumni, family, and friends.



Cape Fear Chapter: BYCM Social

Captain **Julie M. Alfieri '96**, USN, (Ret.) addressed the attendees. Captain Alfieri congratulated the appointees and discussed the privilege of leading the young men and women entrusted to naval officers.



Sara Petter '27, Jeff Birmingham '27 and Doug Peters '73, Blue and Gold Area Coordinator for Western New York.

Our chapter has partnered with the Notre Dame Club of Rochester for a game viewing in Rochester on Saturday, 26 August. All alumni and friends of the Naval Academy are welcome.

We've also organized a Navy - Air Force Game viewing at Flaherty's Three Flags Inn — Macedon on 21 October. Kickoff is at noon. All fans of Navy and Air Force football are welcome. Please RSVP to Pete Owen '86 at pfowen0302@gmail.com or at <https://myusna.com/networks/events/50802> by 19 October so we can give the pub an accurate head count.

North Carolina

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Cape Fear Chapter

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Sec'y/Treas: **Steve Yandle '75**
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With most of the country in a heat wave, Wilmington isn't being excluded! However, the Cape Fear Chapter decided to cool off on 12 July with a trademark "Bring Your Company Mug" (BYCM) social at the Flying Machine Brewing Company. A thirsty crew of shipmates and spouses enjoyed a Happy Hour of craft beers and lots of fellowship and camaraderie.



On the quarterdeck: **Alan Smith '64**, **Dave Scheu '67**, Muffy Boylan and **Ray Decker '72**, **Gregg Hamelin '72**, Michelle, son Chris, and **Rick Haley '72**, Julie and **Tom Wolfe '72**, **Hugh McWilliams '72**, Marylou and **Steve Martin '77**, Kem and **Armando Gonzalez '79**, **Rich Fanney '81**, Kathy and **Steve Stuck '88**, Kevin, Lanie, and **Eve Krause '06**, and **Andrew Blank '15**.

The Chapter's Wednesday 13 September meeting led by **Rick Haley '72**, our Chapter Treasurer, at the St. James Plantation Country Club was another success! With a number of the Chapter members residing south of Wilmington, this alternate venue for a Chapter meeting is always well received. Bravo Zulu Rick for another great program!

The 2nd Biennial Interservice Academy Golf Tournament will be held this fall. **Gregg Hamelin '72** and **Hugh McWilliams '72**, are the Chapter POCs and coordinating with the other Service Academy reps. Another victory is being planned by these Class of 1972 tacticians!

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

Charlotte Chapter

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Event Recap: 20 Jul 2023 – joined with local Charlotte Group, Veterans of Wall Street (VOWs) for a meet & greet happy hour at Brewers at Yancey. Great conversations and time had by all! See picture below.

Reminder! Navy football in Charlotte vs UNCC 49ers, 14-October 2023. Mark your calendars and keep eyes out for email communications. The Charlotte Chapter will host a tailgate before the game. You can buy tailgate tickets at <https://myusna.com/events/49650>

Eastern North Carolina Chapter

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North Carolina Triangle Chapter

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USN (Ret.)

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Sec'y: **CAPT Bill Coleman '95**

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North Carolina Triangle Chapter

Website: www.usnatriangle.com



Greetings and salutations to all! The North Carolina Triangle Chapter has been enjoying the summer weather, but not the humidity that accompanies it.

Welcome to new chapter members: **Hayden Edwards '15** and **Doug Ott '16**, and **Pat Jones '10**.

CDR (Ret) Larry Kistler '92 shared a picture of the Kistler family in Memorial Hall following Larry swearing in his daughter, **Maria Celeste '27**, on the Class of 2027 Induction Day. Congratulations to the Kistler family, and all the other proud alumni parents of members of the Class of 2027!

Our Golf Squad mustered on a sunny morning for its July event at the Umstead Pines golf course in Durham, North Carolina. Grads in attendance included: **Tom Clemons '82**, **Jim Kinney '60**, **Jack Moody '71**, **Eric Benson '71**, **Chris Perrien '74**, **Steve Moran '81**, **Dave Joseforsky '97**, **Phil Scholes '03**, **Guy Guidry (Beaux '11)**, **Morgan Whitmore '12**.



Best Wishes to the crew of our state's submarine the **USS North Carolina (SSN 777)**, as she is underway on a six-month deployment. The Triangle Chapter is a proud supporter of the 777 Club, led by executive director, **Gray Tompson '07** (Gear313@gmail.com). If any readers have affiliation with the submarine and wish to contribute their support to the 777 Club, reach out directly to Gray.

The Triangle Chapter has an excellent relationship with, and actively supports, the three NROTC units (North Carolina State University, UNC-Chapel Hill, and Duke University) that comprise the Piedmont Consortium. The Consortium is led by a Navy Captain, and many



Charlotte Chapter

CHAPTER NEWS

USNA graduates and Triangle Chapter members have served on these staffs.

On Friday, 21 July, the NROTC Piedmont Consortium held a change of command and retirement ceremony. Captain Brian Tanaka relieved Captain Andy Hertel in the Duke University Chapel. Captain Hertel was the first Executive Officer of the **USS North Carolina**. The Triangle Chapter presented an ensign flown-over both the Battleship **NORTH CAROLINA** BB-55 and the **USS NORTH CAROLINA** to Captain Hertel. Accompanying the presentation of the ensign were notes of congratulations from Mrs. Linda Bowman (wife of ADM Skip Bowman USN (Ret)), SSN 777 Sponsor, and **CDR Gray Tompson '07**, the Executive Director of the USS NORTH CAROLINA SSN 777 Club.

Upcoming Chapter Events:

-Navy Football at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte on Saturday, 14 October. Thanks to our sister alumni chapter in Charlotte and the North Carolina Parents Club for hosting the tailgate. Visit the Chapter's myUSNA events page for information and links to register.

-Annual Marine Corps Birthday lunch: Date and location TBD. Check myUSNA for details.

-Beat Army! Gathering and watch party on 9 December, at the Compass Rose Brewery in North Raleigh.

Piedmont Triad Chapter

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

Sec'y: **Josh Fogle '03**
e: foglejw@gmail.com

North Dakota

Upper Midwest Chapter

See Minnesota

Send *Shipmate* input to: **Nathan CW Smith '88**
e: nathancwsmith@outlook.com

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

Ohio

Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Chapter

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

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

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

Chapter Sec'y and *Shipmate* Submissions:
Jon-Michael Pollock '10
e: jonmichaelpollock@gmail.com

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

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

Cleveland Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Fred W. Bergman '75, USNR (Ret.)**



Columbus Chapter: Chapter Family Night at the Columbus Clippers

p: 440-570-3564; e: FWayBergman@aol.com

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **Doug Cabarle**
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Columbus

Pres: **Dave Goins '84**
e: dgoins84@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Kevin Johnson '83**
e: kljohnson.johnson@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Motisola Bowman '95**
e: bmotisola@gmail.com

Treas: **Jim Waddell '71**
e: jbwaddell@columbus.rr.com

Shipmate Contact: **Motisola Bowman '95**
e: bmotisola@gmail.com

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

Chapter email: USNAACbus@gmail.com

Website: https://columbus_usnachapter.net/

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

Twitter: @USNAACbus

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

Instagram: **USNAACbus**

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

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



was held Saturday, 15 July. The threat of storms caused our crowd to be a little smaller than planned. The rain held off, the game and seats were great, and we were treated to a full rainbow over downtown, without the rain. If you missed Family Night, plan on joining us next year. Our annual Founders Day Dinner and Annual Meeting will be held Thursday, 21 September at Worthington Hills Country Club. Reservation and other details will be broadcast via email, our Facebook page, and on myUSNA.com. Mark your calendars to join us.

A recurring Joint Service Academy Networking Breakfast initiative is being developed. **Justin Shineman '91** is spearheading the effort. Look for more information soon.

The Columbus Chapter continues to grow as more alumni move to our thriving area. If you are new to Central Ohio, contact one of the Chapter officers and we will be happy to familiarize you with our group."

Toledo Chapter

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **Gregory Zerr**
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Oklahoma

BGO Area Coordinator: **Mike Whaley**
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Chapter Family Night at the Columbus Clippers

Oklahoma City Chapter

Pres: **Jonathan Mason '07**
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Tulsa Chapter

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

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

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

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

Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/USNA-Alumni-Tulsa-Chapter-2202431113307009>



The Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame accepted our nominee, Adm J.J. "Jocko" Clark into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame. We jointly nominated him with the Cherokee Nation. The dinner will be on 28 October at Embassy Suites at Norman, OK. Please reach out to **Rocky** if you want to buy tickets.

We are having a Wine Tasting Event with Parkhill South (Bixby, OK). Seats are limited at \$50 per person, so please register with **Rocky**. This will be a neat way to toast Founder's Day. Our sister service academy alumni association chapters are invited.

We are looking for more volunteers for the Blue and Gold Officer Program to help applicants in their pursuit of a Naval Academy appointment. Please see **Harry Rouse** if you have an interest or have questions.

Go Navy! Beat Army!

Oregon

Oregon and Southwest Washington Chapter

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

Vice Pres: **CDR Mike Carmichael '69, USNR (Ret.)**
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Treas: **CDR Ted Scypinski '90, USNR (Ret.)**
e: ted.scypinski@flir.com

National Chapter Trustee:
LtCol Doug Ballard '74, USMCR (Ret.)
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Gillian Richards**
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Website: oregon.usnachapters.net

The Alumni Association had its monthly luncheon on 12 July 2023. Guest speakers were Stan and Nicole Woods (pictured below). Stan is a retired Army Col., Nicole a retired RN. Stan is a veterinarian and Nicole is a Veterinary Technician. They gave a presentation on the Ride for the Wall. The ride is a multiple route motorcycle ride from the west coast to the Viet Nam Memorial. Over 1000 riders participate annually. They talked to the logistical challenge getting all these motorcycles across the country over

3 different routes simultaneously. Just coordinating the refueling of the vehicles at one time takes intense planning, Stan and Nicole displayed impressive pictures of the trip and the people involved, the routes taken, and the stops made along the way. After the Ride for the Wall, they participated in a separate ride, the Sandbox Route, to the Mideast Conflict Wall in Marseilles IL. Overall, 1199 riders participated in the 4 routes. The presentation was an inspirational tribute to our comrades lost in battle. Present alumni were **Mike Carmichael '69, John Adams '69, Scott Fitzpatrick '80, Doug Ballard '74, Lee Hall '80, Jack Kohl '65, Don Haslett '66, Hod Wells '59, Frank Swientek '66, Tim Myers '64.** Greg Swanson '66 USAFA, and Tony Lash '58 VMI. Also attending was Jann Dalla Mura. wife of recently deceased member **Bard Dalla Mura '54.**



Pennsylvania

Philadelphia Chapter

Pres: **Rob Bender '73**
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Website: <http://philadelphia.usnachapters.net>

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

Pres: **Conor McKenzie '06**
e: cmckenzie@janney.com
Website: Pittsburgh.usnachapters.com
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/usnaaa_pittsburgh/

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT David Gates '77, USN (Ret.)**
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Thanks to all the alums and families who joined us at the Latrobe Air Show! Great view, great friends, and great memories. Mark your calendars for our monthly Happy Hour that takes place the 3rd Thursday of every month at the Penn Brewery. We also have watch parties for the Air Force football game (21 Oct 2023) and the Army Navy football game (9 Dec 2023). Set up your myUSNA account to make sure you track all our upcoming events!



MYUSNA.COM

Stay Connected and Informed.

CHAPTER NEWS



Susquehanna Valley Chapter

Pres: **Tim Farrell '76**
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VP: **Rob Gundlach '84**
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Treas: **Jim Nolan '70**
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Website: <http://www.usnascv.com>

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Matt Chabal '77**
e: chabal@1977.usna.com

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



July monthly gathering with (L to R) Dave Teply '74, Rob Gundlach '84, Dave Lawrence '76 and Tim Farrell '76

Beat Army!

Tim Farrell '76

*Commander, United States Navy, Retired
President*

Recreational Vehicle

American Chapter

Pres: **Tom Wolfe '70**
e: tsrjw71@gmail.com

Treas: **Dale Gange '70**
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Shipmate sec'y: **Jennifer Stone**
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Website: www.rv.usnachapters.net

Facebook: **USNA RV CHAPTER**

Rhode Island

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

Pres: **Mike O'Sullivan '73**
p: 401-742-7091; e: michael.osullivan1973@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Col Paul Muller '88, USMC (Ret.)**
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South Carolina

BGO Area Coordinator: **Robert Guy**
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Central Savannah River Area

(Aiken, SC; Augusta, GA; and surrounding areas)
Pres: **LtCol Dave Smith '73, USMC (Ret.)**

e: dsmith708@atlanticbb.net

Sec'y: **Brian Goldschmidt '94**
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Website: <http://csra.usnachapters.com>

Charleston Chapter

Pres: **CDR Rick Stein '82, USNR (Ret.)**
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e: USNA_AA_Charleston@Comcast.net

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.

On Monday 21 August the Charleston Chapter held its Monthly Meeting. Our speaker was RADM **Jim Flatley '56**, who gave a wonderful presentation on the History of the Flatley Family and Naval Aviation. In Attendance were: Max Hill '51; Fuzzy Knight '53; Jim Flatley '56; Bernie Magdelain '67; Roger Paradis '67; Chuck Meyer '68; Greg Wood '68; Tom Gillespie '69; Gary Maxwell '69; Charlie Young '70; Alan Ptak '71; Robert Stuart '71; Al Olsen '72; George Voelker '72; Steve Weise '72; Jim Lyons '74; Bill Konrad '75; Dave Fischer '76; Dave Shimp '76; Rick Self '77; Denny Simon '77; Barb Geraghty '80; Rick Stein '82; Jeff Gordon '83; Greg Shore '84; Tom Malick '85; Wes Smith '90; Kai Yeh '90; David Kern '92; and Billy Hall '05.

The Chapter mourns the passing of **Jim Blandford '55**. The Charleston Chapter meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 12 Noon in Mount Pleasant. No reservation required.

Low Country Chapter

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VP: **Dave Igyarto '74**
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Sec'y: **Tim Johnson '02**
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Treas: **John Scanlan '83**
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Palmetto Chapter

Pres: **Jerry Pilewski '97**
e: palmettousna@usna.com

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

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South Dakota

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Spain

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

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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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Knoxville-Oak Ridge Chapter

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Sec'y-Treas: **Jim Ward '85**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **CDR Richard Cataldi '69, USN (Ret.)**
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Memphis Chapter

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

Pres: **CDR John F. Ohlinger '69, USN (Ret.)**
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 e: john.ohlinger@usna.1969.com
 BGO Area Coordinator: **Thomas Forsythe '79**
 e: tom_forsythe@kyzen.com

Texas

Alamo Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Ron A. Sandoval '81, USN**
 18010 Keystone Blf., San Antonio, TX 78258-3436
 Please send *Shipmate* Submissions and all correspondences to:
 Sec'y: **Dave Driskell '63**
 P.O. Box 461564, San Antonio, TX 78246-1564
 e: info@alamogoats.org
 Website: <http://www.alamo.usnachapters.com>
 Facebook: **Alamo Chapter NAAA**
 BGO Area Coordinator: **Eric Montgomery**
 e: eric.montgomery@2004.usna.com

Austin Chapter

Pres: **Brad Holbrook '06**
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 Treas: **Kevin Windbigler '86**
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Shipmate Contact: **CDR Don McAlister '63, USNR (Ret.)**
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 Website: **Austin.usnachapters.com**
 BGO Area Coordinator: **Eric Montgomery**
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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**
 p: 972 740 4060; e: eschenbrenner@gmail.com



Greetings from North Texas! April and May were exciting times in the Metroplex. In early April, as a result of VP Carrie Murdoch's hardy coordination, nearly two dozen of the chapter members were treated to a tour of the F-35 production line at Lockheed Martin in Fort Worth. The members came away with a great appreciation for this impressive next generation aircraft.

On 24 April, the Alumni Association and Foundation leadership from Annapolis with the generous support of American Airlines and the Isom family hosted an evening that honored the 50th Anniversary of the homecoming of the Vietnam Prisoners of War. Robert and Amy Isom, parents of Midshipman **Isom '24**, hosted

alumni and distinguished Vietnam veterans at the American Airlines headquarters. Dr. Joe Thomas, of the Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership, facilitated a discussion with Commander Porter Halyburton, USN (Ret.), a prisoner of the Hanoi Hilton from 1965 to 1973. The program began with a viewing of **P.O.W.: Passing on Wisdom**, an inspirational story previously aired on PBS that demonstrates how the values leveraged for survival as POWs provides enduring lessons to this generation of Midshipmen. You can find the hour long movie at this PBS site: <https://www.pbs.org/video/pow-passing-on-wisdom-e7azym/>

Last, in May, the chapter hosted the 70th Secretary of the Navy, **John Dalton '64** and his lovely wife Margaret. Secretary Dalton provided candid insights to the lessons that comprised his new book, *At the Helm: My Journey with Family, Faith, and Friends to Calm the Storms of Life*. The discussion was facilitated by Dale Petroskey of the Dallas Chamber of Commerce. Attendees were able to grab a copy of the Secretary's inspirational book which he happily autographed. Proceeds from the book benefit the U.S. Naval Academy Foundation, the Washington National Cathedral, and Community Renewal International.

We have the Chapter elections coming up in October - we are always looking for few good volunteers that want to serve as part of the team! Also, don't forget, the SMU tailgate in November! Be on the lookout for emails and be sure to visit the website for the latest details!



Secretary of the Navy John Dalton '64 talks about his new book with the chapter.



CDR Porter Halyburton, USN (Ret.) discusses his POW experience with Dr. Joe Thomas

Texas Gulf Coast Chapter

Pres: **Evan Williams '11**
 e: Evan@AmericanSemper.com
 Vice Pres and Sec'y: **Daniel Hanley '10**
 e: DHanley@2010.usna.com
 Treas: **Rich Bulger '69**
 e: ribulger69@gmail.com
 Website: txgulfoast.usnachapters.net
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/USNAATxGC/>
 Email: txgulfoast.usnachapters@gmail.com
 BGO Area Coordinator: **Don Link**
 e: cdr.dlink@gmail.com

6 June - The Blue & Gold Officers (BGOs) held its annual Welcome Aboard Reception for incoming Plebes and USNA Prep School students.

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:

Bill Pritchett '01 has started as General Counsel of CAM Industrial Solutions LLC.

Future Events

11 August - Special presentation, game to game, Navy football preview and predictions by **Mike Yeager '76**, played QB and slot back on the '73,'74,'75 Navy football teams that won three Commander-In-Chief's Trophies beating



North Texas Chapter: Chapter members tour the F-35 production line

CHAPTER NEWS



Texas Gulf Coast Chapter: Matt Guyto '07, Evan Williams '11, Nelson Jones III '72, Mike Foreman '79, Mike Yeager '76, Jim Davis '71, Ed Klein '72, Mark Wrzyszczyński '96 and Steph Drake '05.

Army 3 times by a combined score of 100-6. Upon graduation, he served in USMC Artillery for 5 1/2 years. After leaving the service, he began a career as a petroleum engineer with ExxonMobil for 26 years and served as the CEO of BHP Petroleum for 8 years. He now serves as a Trustee on the Athletic and Scholarship Program committee at USNA providing needed funds for all 33 Navy Sports teams and is active with local Houston Marine Corps League Detachment #324 providing funeral honors for deceased Marines and assisting local Marines in need. Mike was named a 2022 Distinguished Graduate, USNA. He was one of 5 graduates to receive the Distinguished Graduate Award (DGA) in 2022 and was honored during halftime at the Navy vs Temple game on 29 October 2022.

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

Our January meeting will be our annual Smith-McCool Sword Presentation, presenting a sword to the highest ranked first class from the Houston area by a USNA astronaut.

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 txgulfoast.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: txgulfoast.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**
e: bgoarea501coordinator@gmail.com

United Kingdom Chapter

Pres: **Tim Fox '97**
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Vice Pres: **Cody Nissen '11**
e: cnissen.mba2018@london.edu

Sec'y: **Lisa Aszklar (Wife, Henry '81)**
e: lisa.aszklar@gmail.com

Board of Directors: **Tony Cox '89**
e: tony.cox@gboutdoorfires.co.uk

Chris Robinson '98
email: naples98@gmail.com

Summer is on the wane here in the UK as this column goes to press, and thoughts are inevitably turning toward the chapter's annual Army-Navy Game Watch. Details will be announced in a future column, but save the date: Saturday, 9 December. We'll gather at a yet-to-be-determined location in London and party like we're mids (or dating mids) again!

Until then, Go Navy, Beat Army!



Central Virginia Chapter

Utah

Intermountain Alumni Chapter

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

Central Virginia Chapter

Pre: **Bill Murray '83**
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Vice Pres: **Ty Schieber '87**
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Sec'y: **Ed Borger '80**
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Treas: **Steve Hill '74**
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Don Aldridge**
e: n774pk@gmail.com

The Central VA Chapter joined with the Charlottesville Aviation Luncheon Club (CALCLUB) on Wednesday, 17 May 2023 at the Blue Ridge Café in Ruckersville to hear LT Kenny Fields, call sign Streetcar 304, recount his experience of survival, evasion and rescue after being catapulted off the USS AMERICA in his A-7 Corsair II on 31 May 1968. Fields and the strike planners did not know that he was enroute to a massive concentration of AAA sites amidst an entire North Vietnamese division. He flew to Laos, was the first to roll in, and destroyed his target with a direct hit. AAA guns began to fire, and, following his wingman's run, he rolled in again for a second run. This time many more AAA guns opened up and he was shot down.

Kenny shared with us the harrowing details of the 40 hours that followed (as he does in his book, *The Rescue of Streetcar 304*) - one of the largest and most spine-tingling air rescues of the Vietnam War. He mixed humor and drama recounting close encounters with Pathet Lao

guerillas, and nearly being killed time and again by friendly bombs. He described the radio chatter between participants, and coping with fear, sleep deprivation, wild animals, and the relentless AAA. By the time it was over, the U.S. Air Force had flown 189 sorties to rescue him, and in the process four pilots ejected, seven planes were lost or heavily damaged, and one pilot became a POW for five years.

Navy participants in the debrief are shown on the previous page in the photo, including: Alex "Rattler" Rucker VT '65, **Alan Swinger '66**, **John Post '69**, **Tom Shields '70**, **Mark Metcalf '76**, Steve Trotta FU '80, and **Bill Murray '83**.

Hampton Roads Chapter

Pres: **Renee Reedy '81**

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h: 757-312-8969; w: 757-328-0030

Website: www.usnahamptonroads.com

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

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

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Much like the rest of the country (world??) booming summer thunderstorms, some torrential rain, and the oppressive heat and humidity set upon the Hampton Roads area. Considering various other summer plans by Chapter members, a lull in USNA-related events, and the less-than-ideal weather, our Chapter activities slowed down considerably in August. Then again, a case could be made that what we were really been doing was recharging our batteries to be fully energized for Navy football!



Mids and alumni meet and greet in Hampton Roads



More Mid-alumni Happy Hour interaction

That said, on 27 July we were proud and pleased to host this summer's final Happy Hour for a third group of Midshipmen here for summer training at NAVIFOR. Over 30 Mids along with at least an equal number of alumni gathered in the Blue Moon Taphouse at Norfolk's Waterside location for pizza and tacos....and air conditioning! To be sure, alumni sea stories and embellished tales of adventures in and out of the hallowed halls of Bancroft abounded;

but far more important has been the unique opportunity to meet, greet, impart at least some wisdom, and answer questions posed by these very bright and enthusiastic young men and women as they prepare to enter their final year at USNA!

By the time this issue of *Shipmate* arrives in mailboxes and inboxes, the 2023 Navy football season will be off and running!

As has been the case for nearly a decade, Shorebreak Pizza on Shore Drive in Virginia Beach is the "place to be" to watch Navy football! For those new to our neck of the woods or not familiar with the venue, the good folks at Shorebreak reserve a large area for us for EVERY game, and for the Army-Navy game in December we plan to fill the place to capacity once again! If you live in the Hampton Roads area, or if you are just passing through, we urge you to consider coming out to join us for some great service, food, and liquid libations, and of course spirited camaraderie!



The place to be to watch all Navy football games!

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

Quantico Area Chapter

Pres: **George Williams '87**

e: bucketokinawa@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Ryan Steenberge '10**

e: ryan.steenberge@gmail.com

Treas: **Ron Diefenbach '00**

QACUSNAAtreasurer@yahoo.com

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

nancy.a.springer.nancy@aol.com

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

e: james.m.ripley@gmail.com

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



Quantico Area Chapter (QAC) takes a mid-summer break in July. However, upon return, QAC plans to host a Youngster, Midshipman 3/C **Alex Dachos '26** (and son of **Jon '88**), at our August Breakfast Speaker Series event. The Chapter is looking forward to getting first hand "gouge" about life as a Midshipman in the 2020s. We are always on the look-out for guest speakers. If you are interested in speaking to the Chapter, please contact our Vice-President, **Ryan Steenberge '10** through our web page. Every year, we host a diverse group of speakers

including Navy and Marine Corps officers, business people, entrepreneurs, non-profit leaders, government officials, and now Midshipmen. Also, in keeping with the Chapter's traditions, our October and November breakfasts include Navy and Marine Corps birthday celebrations.

We're also looking forward to hosting our annual QAC sports watch parties, beginning with the unusual opportunity to watch Navy battle Notre Dame in Ireland. Looking ahead, we will soon plan the Chapter's 7th Annual Army-Navy watch party at The Basic School for the lieutenant students, staff, QAC members and guests. All are welcome to join us and watch a Navy victory while enjoying some camaraderie with the Marine Corps' newest officers. This event has developed quite a following over the years, and we expect another crowd of approximately 100 guests. Offering a bunch of lieutenants an afternoon of food, drink and football likely encourages this attendance, but we truly enjoy re-telling our old tales to these new listeners!

As noted in last month's article, QAC participated in the annual Women Can Fly (WCF) event at the Warrenton-Fauquier (VA) airport. WCF brings together a diverse group of aviation professionals to promote aviation careers for women and girls. Despite low ceilings and a bit of adverse afternoon weather, approximately 150 girls and women experienced flying first-hand, some for the first time! Additionally, Women Can Build partnered with WCF and staffed an aviation-themed hands-on booth. Visitors could get some practical experience drilling and learning how to rivet, essential skills in the building and maintenance areas of the aviation industry. Here are a few photos from this very successful day:



CAPT Jilene Bushnell, USN '98 enthalls some WCF participants



Pre-Flight Checks

CHAPTER NEWS



Hands-On at the Women Can Build booth

All area and visiting alumni are welcome at QAC events. Please consult our website calendar for the schedule and other details. Additional information is on the Chapter Facebook page.

Richmond Chapter

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

Sec'y: **Matt Laser '97**
e: lasermatthew@gmail.com

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR David Lannetti '81, USN (Ret.)**
p: 757-423-8602; e: dlannetti81@gmail.com

Shenandoah Valley Chapter

Pres: **David McLellan '73**
p: 540-722-2060; e: dcmclmd@earthlink.net
Sec'y: **LCDR Grayson Redford '63, USN (Ret.)**
p: 540-662-6142

BGO Area Coordinator: **Jim Ripley '74**
e: james.m.ripley@gmail.com

Virginia Peninsula Chapter

(formerly the Williamsburg Chapter)

Pres: **Kathleen Jabs '88**
e: kjabs@aol.com; vapeninsulachapterusna@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Rick Yasky '78**
e: rickyasky@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR David Lannetti '81, USN (Ret.)**
p: 757-423-8602; e: dlannetti81@gmail.com

Website: www.myusna.com

Group: **Virginia Peninsula Chapter**

Washington

BGO Area Coordinator: **Darin Perrine**
e: dperrine@mailbox.org

Hanford/Tri-Cities Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Edward Schwier '69, USN (Ret.)**
1196 Brentwood Ave., Richland, WA 99352-8540
h: 509-627-7288; w: 509-372-0176
e: Edward_G_Ed_Schwier@rl.gov; eschwier@charter.net;
egschwier@aol.com

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

Puget Sound Chapter

Pres: **Linda Postenrieder '82**
e: usnaaa.psc@gmail.com

Corr Sec'y: **George Windsor '75**
e: gbwindsor@icloud.com

Website: <https://myusna.com/topics/9554>

Washington, DC Area

Greater Washington Chapter

Pres: **Luis Martinez '01**
e: president@usnagwc.org

Vice Pres: **Anthony Calandra '88**
e: vicepresident@usnagwc.org

Sec'y: **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**
e: diversity@usnagwc.org

Trustee: **Fred Latrash '87**
e: trustee@usnagwc.org

Website: www.usnagwc.org

BGO Area Coordinator: **Pat Seals**
e: pseals@ymail.com

Wisconsin

BGO Area Coordinator: **Mark Germano**
e: mark.germano@bgo.usna.com

Wisconsin Chapter

Pres: **Timothy Mahoney '10**
e: mahoney@2010.usna.com

At Large: **Chris Adams '75**
p: 414-553-0982

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

WISNAPA Co Presidents: **Andy and Laura Kittleson**
e: kittleson5@yahoo.com

Website: <http://wisconsin.usnaparents.net/>

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



MyUSNA

MyUSNA is where your chapter can grow and where your events can get to the next level. Scan the QR code to amplify your USNA alumni experience as we strengthen bonds and form new ones.

SHARED INTEREST GROUPS

NAMA

Pres: **RADM Julius S. Caesar '77, USN (Ret.)**
e: executive-director@usnama.com

Vice Pres: **LCDR Valerie Mansfield '92, USN (Ret.)**
e: deputy-director@usnama.com

CoS: **CDR Calvin Bumphus '97, USN (Ret.)**
e: chief-of-staff@usnama.com

Treas: **C.J. Willis '75**
e: treasurer@usnama.com

BGO Coordinator: **Nikki Betz '05**
e: bgo@usnama.com

Shipmate Contact: **LCDR Jessica Anderson '08, USN**
e: communications@usnama.com

Website: www.usnama.com

EVENTS

Upcoming Events:

Be on the lookout for our upcoming events! We have a brewery event lined up, Homecoming tailgate, and Giving Tuesday to name a few! 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:

Great to see so many parents supporting the Class of 2027 at I-Day! Our second strategic executive leader offsite in July to look ahead at 2024 was a success. We have excellent events and opportunities lined up for next year! Lastly, we had a great watch party at an alumni-owned winery in August. Thanks to those that joined us!

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

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

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**
e: johnrexpivey@gmail.com

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

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

NAMA Liaison: **CAPT Timi Lindsay '92, USN (Ret.)**
e: timi.lindsay@gmail.com

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. - October 27-29

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

To kick off the festivities, all are welcome to join the much-anticipated Honor Shindig. The Honor Shindig will take place on Friday, October 27, 7:00 -10:00 PM at The Board Room on 1737 Connecticut Avenue NW. This event promises an evening of camaraderie and celebration.

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

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

On November 11, 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 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.

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!



myUSNA

Stay connected with your Classmates and the rest of our USNA Alumni Community.

Many group leaders have onboarded on **myUSNA** and are adopting the Alumni connection management platform.

On **myUSNA**, you can manage membership, create events, post group news, send group emails and/or accept donations all within your Group platform. Please contact Isaac Phillips III '19 to find out your next step to onboarding and future Group Lead onboarding sessions.

SHARED INTEREST GROUPS

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**

Established in 2022, the USNA Pride SIG is a community of proud LGBTQ+ and allied alumni. Together, we strive to create inclusive friendships, serve as a platform of representation, and build a network of mentorship among our members.

*The USNA Pride SIG operates under a threefold purpose:

i. Create a bond of **community** among USNA LGBTQ+ alumni and allies based on shared experiences while at USNA and within the fleet, enabling the development of inclusive friendships which span USNA classes, geographies, and services.

ii. Serve as a platform for LGBTQ+ **representation** within the broader USNA alumni network, through which the contributions that LGBTQ+ alumni have made to the Naval Academy, the military service, their communities, and their nation may be recognized.

iii. Establish a **network of mentorship** and support for LGBTQ+ alumni who currently serve in the operating forces, and for current LGBTQ+ midshipmen as they prepare to commission.

Our core values demonstrate our organization's priorities and objectives. The USNA Pride SIG embraces the following core values and definitions within our membership:

1. **Inclusivity** - Members of the USNA Pride SIG are committed to providing support, recognition, and acceptance to all, regardless of their personal identity.

2. **Positivity** - The USNA Pride SIG will strive to create a positive atmosphere of camaraderie, in which participating members will feel uplifted and inspired to connect with others and share their stories.

3. **Character** - Members of the USNA Pride SIG are role models. We will represent the LGBTQ+ and Allies community in a positive

manner and will set the standard for behavior through our words, actions, and relationships. We are professional, respectful, and honest.

4. **Community** - Members of the USNA Pride SIG possess a wealth of experiences and diverse points of view in all aspects of life. Our main commonality is USNA, however we all bring individual strengths that contribute to the group. Our community is inclusive of all members, positive in nature, and strong in character.

Join us at one of our upcoming events!

2-3 October: 2023 Diversity Conference at USNA - Featuring LT Andrea Howard '15

15 October: Distinguished Graduate Award Nominations Due

21-22 October: Homecoming & Navy-Air Force Game

9 December: Army-Navy Game - Knights Out Tailgate

For alumni interested in joining the SIG or getting involved in our event planning, please email our leadership team at usnapride@gmail.com. Follow us on Instagram at [@usnapride](https://www.instagram.com/usnapride).

USNA Women

Pres: **Linda "Postie" Postenrieder '82**

p: 415-235-9413

e: post82@whidbey.com

Vice Pres: **Kendra Chappell '94**

e: kendrachappell94@gmail.com

Outreach: **Gillian Richards '94**

e: jillusnawsig@gmail.com

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



Valerie and Linda

The Women's SIG (WSIG) has had several reasons to celebrate in summer of 2023. On July 6th, our President and VP, **Linda Postenrieder '82** and **Kendra Chappell '94** participated in a joint SIG Leadership meeting with **TJ Grady '96**, Exec VP of Engagement, and members of the Alumni Association Staff. It was exciting to see the future vision of the SIG program. The WSIG is a key player in helping shape the SIG future. After the meeting, the various SIG leaders got a tour of the new Fluegel Alumni Center (FAC). WSIG members **Valerie Mansfield '92** and Postie '82 pose in front of the impressive "Don't Give Up the Ship" staircase. The FAC has so many amazing features and venues. We look forward to holding our WSIG 2024 Annual Gathering there next spring!

We encourage all WSIG members to submit pictures of your gathers (where 2 or 3 shall meet and old tales be retold) to us for inclusion in *Shipmate*. Kendra Chappell '94 and Postie '82 connected with Joyce McCallister '82 in Alexandria, VA.

The WSIG dedicated our "**Alumni in the News**" screen in the entryway of the Fluegel Alumni Center during the Grand Opening in September. We will also have a gathering of WSIG plankowners during the President's Circle Weekend 19-21 Oct. Watch the WSIG myUSNA events page for details.

The Survivor Advocacy Network (SAN) has it's final quarterly SAN Webinar for 2023 on Tuesday, 28 November 2023. Again, see the WSIG myUSNA events page for the registration link.

Go Navy!

Linda Postenrieder

Become a Shared Interest Group

Want to start a Shared Interest Group (SIG)? As a SIG, you will be a recognized USNA AA&F Group in our Alumni community, be provided with no cost Volunteer management tools on **myUSNA**, have a place to post in *Shipmate*, and receive one on one Alumni Staff support. Please reach out to Isaac Phillips III '19 for more information.

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

Walter Stowe Rose '45 *
5 July 2023

Adrian Griffith Back Jr. '46
28 July 2023

William Eugene Simpson '46
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
3 August 2023

Robert Russell Dickey III '48
Col, USMC (Ret.)
10 August 2023

James Edgar Foley '51
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
16 July 2023

Robert Holderman Small '51
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
23 August 2023

Walter Salyer Anderson '54
27 May 2023

Irvin Leroy Coleman Jr. '54
18 August 2020

Robert Gail Conaughton '54
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
23 July 2023

Ralph Collins Elder '54
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
14 July 2023

James Robert Blandford '55
CDR, USN (Ret.)
13 August 2023

John Philip Monahan '55
MajGen, USMC (Ret.)
20 July 2023

Paul Rowe Souder '55
17 August 2023

Jon Dale Hollabaugh '57 *
Col, USMCR (Ret.)
3 August 2023

George Burgess Greer Jr. '58
CDR, USN (Ret.)
12 August 2023

Jerold Joseph Larson '58 *
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
8 August 2023

Richard Clare Lawe '58
Maj, USMC (Ret.)
15 March 2023

Miles Edward Mixson '58 *
LtCol, USMC (Ret.)
4 August 2023

Jack David Osborn '58 *
12 August 2023

John Ellingwood Lovejoy '59
28 February 2022

John Virgil Dirksen '60
CAPT, USNR (Ret.)
13 August 2023

Walter Ray Land '60
12 August 2023

Edwin Francis Parsons Jr. '60
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
2 August 2023

John Christian Eller '62
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
7 May 2023

Myron Thomas Fleming Jr. '62 *
CAPT, USNR (Ret.)
16 July 2023

John Wesley Overstreet Jr. '62
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
14 January 2022

Charles Henry Thomas Springer '62
10 July 2023

Harold David Wilson '62
15 July 2023

Raymond Lee Pekary '63
21 August 2023

Jerud Wayne Ryker '63
24 July 2023

Norman Law MacIntyre '64
4 August 2023

Eric Leonard Westberg '64
3 December 2019

Jimmy George DePoy '66 *
14 August 2023

Patrick Joseph McKenna '66
26 July 2023

Neal Albert Quinn Jr. '66
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
8 July 2023

John St. Clair Craighill '67
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
20 August 2023

Donald Allen Downing '67
1 August 2023

John Charles Macidull '67
CDR, USNR (Ret.)
12 August 2023

Daniel John O'Sullivan '68
27 July 2023

Sherman E. Wright Jr. '68
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
10 August 2023

Charles Baxter Fitchet '70
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
19 August 2023

Robert Bennett Thompson Jr. '70
1 June 2023

Gerald Wayne Pickett '71
Maj, USMC (Ret.)
30 July 2023

Vincent Novela Zabala Jr. '71 *
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
28 July 2023

Christopher Holland Castle '72 *
15 July 2023

Mark Charles Schickner '72
10 August 2023

Tarry Michael LaLonde '74
1 August 2023

Craig Alan Smith '74
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
13 August 2023

John Stephen Moore '76
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
24 July 2023

Carlton Leslie Prince '76
11 August 2023

Stephen Allen Sterner '78
10 August 2023

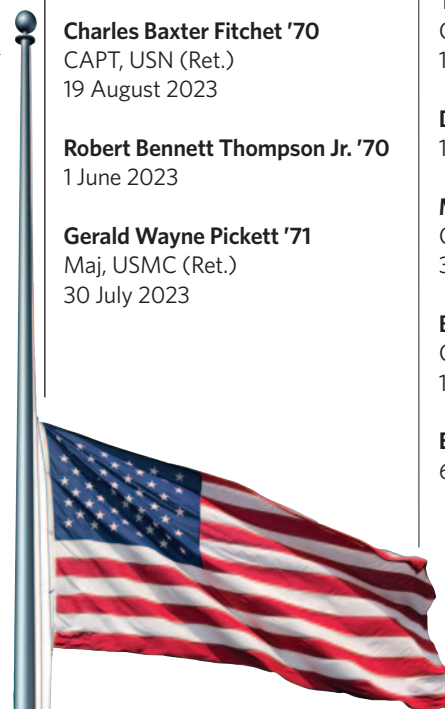
Timothy William Quinn '88 *
CDR, USN (Ret.)
14 July 2023

David Edward Brandeen '89
14 August 2023

Michael James Gravitt '93
CDR, USNR (Ret.)
3 August 2023

Blake James Roper '14
Capt, Jamaican Defence Force
10 June 2023

Enrique Julian Castellon-Davis '22
6 August 2023



■ *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.



WALTER STOWE ROSE '45

Walter Rose passed away on 5 July 2023 at 101 years old.

"Walt" was born on 1 June 1922 to James Thomas and Stella Stowe Rose of Milford, CT. Growing up along the Long Island Sound fostered a love of sailing and racing. He graduated from Milford High School (1939) and attended Milford Prep School while waiting for his appointment to the Naval Academy. While at Annapolis, Walt was an active member of the

varsity swimming and sailing teams. He enjoyed competitive and pleasure sailing. He was always ready with his camera, capturing moments and logging numerous hours in the darkroom. Walt graduated with a degree in electrical engineering in June 1944 with the wartime-accelerated Class of 1945, as a member of the 15th Company.

Walt completed Sub School in New London, CT, and served on two successful World War II patrols in the Pacific aboard POGY (SS-266). On one patrol, POGY rescued ten aviators when the Queen Bee B29 bomber was shot down, keeping the survivors on board until they could be safely transferred. Walt also served on ARGONAUT (SS-475), BURRFISH (SSR-312) and SEA POACHER (SS-406); and was a NROTC instructor at Princeton (1951-1953).

His plan was to be career Navy, but the death of his first wife, Polly Ann (Warner), forced him to resign his service at 13 years to care for his young family. Walt remarried in 1955 to Elizabeth "Betty" Wright.

Walt worked 33 years as a sales promotion manager for US Baird Corporation in Stratford, CT. In 1963, the family moved to the Chicago area and expanded the business, including foreign sales.

Walt was always involved in church and Men's Club activities. He never missed an opportunity to attend USNA Class of '45 and sub vet reunions and continued friendships over the years. Walt and Betty retired to Naples, FL, where he enjoyed golfing and earned 10 holes-in-one! He traded in his typewriter for a laptop and embraced learning the computer to actively correspond via email. He had a humorous, positive approach to life...and could he tell stories!

In 2013, they moved to Texas to be near family. Walt lived a long and wonderful life. He is survived by his loving wife of 68 years, Betty; their children, Andrew, James, Lee Ellen, Cynthia, Patricia, Sharon and Russell (and their spouses); 15 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren. Walt was predeceased by his parents and brother, James.

Walt was interred in Milford Cemetery. ★



JON DALE HOLLABAUGH '57

Colonel "Dale" Hollabaugh, USMCR (Ret.), died on 3 August 2023 in Salt Lake City, UT. He was 87 years old.

Dale was born on 6 August 1935 in St. Louis, MO, the middle son of Emmy O'Fallon Young of Statesville, TN, and Wilbur Eugene Hollabaugh of Marshall, AR. He attended Busch Elementary and Southwest High School in St. Louis, where he met his future wife. His scholastic and athletic (All-City Football circa 1951) achievements

enabled him to compete for one of Congressman Thomas B. Curtis' (R-MO) service academy appointments. Entering the Naval Academy on 29 June 1953, he graduated "With Distinction" on 7 June 1957. On the same day, he married Nada Alleen May of St. Louis, MO, at the Naval Security Station's chapel in Washington, DC. Soon after, he was selected

to attend the Naval Postgraduate School at Monterey, CA, graduating with an MSEE "With Distinction" in June 1960.

Colonel Hollabaugh was successful in several careers, comprised of more than 34 years in the U.S. Marine Corps, holding command in every rank, including two units in the Vietnam conflict. For over 25 years, some concurrently with the USMC/USMCR, he was in the Competitive Civil Service, where his duties included an assistant professorship at the Naval Academy, and research and development as a GS-15 at the Naval Electronics Lab in San Diego, CA. He also served as senior Marine liaison at the Naval War College in Newport, RI. Later, he had his own business as a senior program manager in their home and away, which took him on several trips to Turkey, Greece and other countries. The Hollabaughs retired in 1998 and have been active in church and community affairs over the years while enjoying time with family.

Dale is survived by his wife of 66 years, Nada Alleen Hollabaugh of South Jordan, UT; son, John Bret Hollabaugh of Las Vegas, NV; daughter, Linda May Hill of South Jordan, UT; eight grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his father (1987); mother (1989); and brothers, David (1949) and Alan (1994).

Please direct memorials to the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association Annual Fund, Annapolis, MD 21402-5068, credit to the Class of 1957; (www.usna.com/give).

A private bedside service with military honors was performed upon his passing and inurnment will take place at Arlington National Cemetery on a date yet to be determined.

JDH '57 ★



JEROLD JOSEPH LARSON '58

Captain J.J. Larson, USN (Ret.), passed away on 8 August 2023 in Virginia Beach, VA.

"Jerry" was born in Milwaukee, WI, on 24 June 1935. He joined Naval Reserve Unit 9-11 at Marshfield, WI, in 1953 and graduated from Marshfield Senior High School in 1954. On 28 June 1954, he reported to the United States Naval Academy in response to a Naval Reserve appointment.

He served in various destroyers and amphibious ships, most notably: as XO/navigator of CHARLES BERRY (DE-1035); XO of MACDONOUGH (DLG-8); CO of GRANT COUNTY (LST-1174); and CO of PLYMOUTH ROCK (LSD-29). Shore duty included tours with BuPers; Naval Forces/Naval Advisory Group, Vietnam; U.S. Naval Forces, Europe; Service Schools Command, Great Lakes; and Headquarters, U.S. Military Entrance Processing Command.

In addition to a BS degree from the Naval Academy and graduate studies at The George Washington University, he earned an MS from the Naval Postgraduate School. His medals, citations and awards include the Bronze Star and the Legion of Merit.

Following retirement from the Navy in 1983, he was employed as an engineer and program manager by East Coast defense contractors until 1994. Since then, he had enjoyed hobbies and traveling in this country and abroad.

Jerry is survived by his wife, Marilyn; their children (and spouses), Jerry (Tracy), John (Michele) and Ann (Scott); and 13 grandchildren.

A memorial Mass and inurnment will be conducted at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

JJL '58 ★



MILES EDWARD MIXSON '58

Lieutenant Colonel Miles E. Mixson, USMC (Ret.), beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother and uncle, passed to Glory on 4 August 2023 at his home in Topsham, ME, with his family by his side.

Miles was born on 2 June 1935 in Williston, FL, to A.J. and Mary S. Mixson and grew up on the family farm. He graduated from Williston High School, The Bullis School in Silver Spring, MD, and the United States Naval Academy. He

also achieved an MS in Operation Analysis while attending the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA, and an MBA from the University of Florida. Upon graduation from the Naval Academy with the Fourth Company, he was commissioned into the U.S. Marine Corps.

Just 14 days after graduation, he married Meta "Mimi" Devine in Cherryville, NC. Together they raised two daughters, Kathi and Laura. They were a true military family and moved 18 times in his 26 years, serving in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, California, Texas, Florida and Japan.

One of his proudest moments was when he fulfilled his life ambition to receive his aviator's Wings of Gold. He loved the Corps and flying the A4 Skyhawk. Among his numerous awards is the Distinguished Flying Cross (2) for combat missions in Vietnam. After returning to the States, he was a flight instructor in Pensacola, FL, before returning to Vietnam for a second combat tour. His priorities were God, Country, the Corps and Family, during those service years.

Miles is survived by his wife of 65 years, Mimi; daughter, Kathi Pawlowski (Jack); grandsons, Brooks Edward Schandelmeier (Chelsea) and Lucas Miles Schandelmeier (Christina); brother, Joseph J. Mixson (Mary); and sister-in-law, Jan Mixson. He also leaves behind many nieces and nephews whom he loved deeply.

He was predeceased by his daughter, Laura Frances Mixson; brothers, Charles, Herman and James Mixson; and sisters, Frances Morton, Marjorie Whitehurst and Doris Barker.

Services took place on 14 August 2023 at the First Baptist Church in Williston, FL. ★



JACK DAVID OSBORN '58

Jack D. Osborn of Cincinnati, OH, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on 12 August 2023. He was 86 years old.

Jack grew up in Mt. Pleasant, MI, and went on to graduate from the Naval Academy with the Class of 1958. He attended Submarine School in New London, CT, and served on TALLADEGA (APA-208), GROUPEL (AGSS-214) and NATHAN HALE (SSBN-623), one of the first LAFAYETTE-class nuclear submarines.

After six years of service in the Navy, attaining the rank of lieutenant, he resigned his commission and moved to Cincinnati in 1964 with his first wife, Virginia. Jack attended Xavier University, earning an MBA in 1967. He had a successful business career and owned Valley Industries, a manufacturer of condensers and specialty products used by major appliance companies.

Jack was always on the go, and during his 46-year marriage to his wife, Marilyn, traveled to over 44 countries. Jack loved Cincinnati, especially the Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park and the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. He served on the Playhouse board for 22 years, including two years as board president and chairperson for numerous other committees. One of his biggest thrills was accepting a Tony Award

for Best Regional Theater on behalf of the Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park in 2004. Jack was an avid golfer, shooting his age in his early 80s and getting his first hole-in-one when he was 83.

Jack was adored by his family and friends. He always looked forward to meeting with his golf, lunch and book groups, as well as Chaîne wine society dinners and reunions with Naval Academy alumni. His kindness, sense of humor and remarkable storytelling skills will be greatly missed by all.

Jack was the beloved husband of the late Marilyn Osborn; loving father of David Osborn (Sara), Peter Osborn (Monika), Brad McKean (Selena) and the late Steven McKean; devoted grandfather of Lucy Verhave (Dan), Ellie Ouellette (Jeff), Eric Osborn (Erica), Stefanie Osborn and Megan Blanton (Marcus); great-grandfather to Tommy Verhave; cherished son of the late Arlie and Catherine Osborn; and adored brother of Carolyn Bowers (Dick).

Services were held at the Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park in Cincinnati, OH, on 26 August 2023.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Jack's honor may be made to the Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park (www.cincyplay.com/support) or the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra (www.cincinnati-symphony.org).

Online condolences may be made at (www.springgrove.org). ★



PETER STEVAN RODER '58

Captain Peter S. Roder, USN (Ret.), 86, passed away on 4 June 2023.

Born in Madison, WI, on 5 August 1936, he was the son of Eugene and Cleophas Roder. He graduated from Muskegon Heights High School (1954) and from the Naval Academy (1958).

He served aboard LEXINGTON (CV-16) in the weapons and engineering departments; AGERHOLM (DD-826) as damage control assistant and engineer; COOK (APD-130) as executive officer and navigator; O'CALLAHAN (FF-1051) as executive officer and navigator; and SOUTHERLAND (DD-743) as commanding officer. Aboard AGERHOLM, he participated in Operation Swordfish, the operational testing in the Pacific of ASROC, the nuclear anti-submarine weapon system.

Peter earned a master's degree in physics at the Naval Postgraduate School and a master's degree in communication engineering while attending the Naval War College.

Captain Roder served ashore at the Naval Communications Station, Cam Ranh Bay, Republic of Vietnam; Naval Air Station North Island, on the staff of the 7th Fleet (as fleet communications officer); in the office of the Chief of Naval Operations; as commander of the Naval Communication Station Harold E. Holt, as Commander of Naval Station Treasure Island; and as chief staff officer of the Military Sealift Command Pacific.

He was on active duty for 34 years, stationed across the globe (Vietnam, Japan and Australia) and the United States (Monterey, CA; Newport, RI; Washington, DC; San Diego, CA).

Pete's decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (2), Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Combat Action Ribbon and Meritorious Unit Commendation.

Peter settled in Montague, MI, with his wife, Patricia, and built a large house overlooking White Lake. He worked for the U.S. Census Bureau for several years. Pete and Patricia were longtime members of St. James Catholic Church, where he volunteered and mowed the grass fields there. He taught his grandchildren how to fish and the Roders hosted many family reunions at McFall Circle. He drove his Cadillac to San Diego,

LAST CALL

where four of his five children live, and back a dozen times to visit family and friends.

Pete is survived by his wife of 62 years, Patricia Lyons Roder; their five children, Patricia Anne Roder, Peter Stevan Roder Jr., Susan Lyons Roder, William Joseph Roder and Barbara Joan Byron (Chris); six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and his sister, Mary Ann Andersen (Wally).

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on 19 June 2023. His ashes were placed at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Montague, MI, with military honors. ★



MARK MELVYN GOLDEN '60

Captain Mark M. Golden, USN (Ret.), of Bloomsburg, PA, died on 11 June 2023 of heart failure, due to complications from a cancer treatment, with his wife by his side.

Mark was born on 1 June 1937 in Chicago, IL, to Colonel William C. Golden, USA, and Sarah Lieberman. He graduated from Valley Forge Military Academy and attended Tufts University for a year before his appointment to the Naval Academy, where he graduated in the top

quarter of the Class of 1960.

Selected by Admiral Hyman Rickover for the nuclear Navy, he reported to his first submarine, *SCORPION*, then to *JAMES MONROE* and as engineer of *NATHAN HALE*. The next two years were spent in Madrid, Spain, as an Olmsted Scholar attending the University of Madrid. On his return, he reported as navigator aboard *ROBERT E. LEE* and *THEODORE ROOSEVELT*. He was then the executive officer of *HAMMERHEAD* and commanding officer of *TECUMSEH* for four years. Between these two tours, he was ComSubLant maintenance officer and deep submergence rescue officer. After his command tour, Mark was Assistant Chief of Staff for Tactical Weapons Readiness.

Mutual friends told him about someone he should meet. He met Jeanie Barringer Loucks, and they were married in 1983. Jeanie's family became Mark's family, and he was "Grandpa Mark" to numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren, providing magic and card tricks to a delighted audience.

Mark retired in May 1984 after serving as chief staff officer of ComSubRon 18. He then worked for PPL Susquehanna Nuclear Plant in Berwick, PA, for 18 years, retiring as manager of security.

He enjoyed his nearly 20 years spent as the Northeastern Pennsylvania Blue & Gold officer, covering 24 high schools. He was an elder in his church and was on the board of Valley Forge Military Academy, as well as the Bloomsburg Theater Ensemble. Mark and Jeanie spent many years cruising extensively around the world, visiting over 80 countries.

Mark is survived by his beloved wife of 40 years, Jeanie; two sons, Steven Golden of Singapore and Michael Golden of Shanghai; as well as two stepchildren, Brian Loucks and Deborah Moon of Cherry Valley, NY; 12 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

A funeral service was held on 24 June 2023 at the First Presbyterian Church of Bloomsburg. Interment will take place at Arlington National Cemetery at a date yet to be determined. ★



MYRON THOMAS FLEMING JR. '62

Captain Myron T. Fleming Jr., USNR (Ret.), died on 16 July 2023, from Parkinson's disease.

Myron was born in Philadelphia in 1938 and graduated from Cheltenham High School, where he played varsity football and baseball. He attended Wyoming Seminary, followed by Tufts University, before entering the Naval Academy (Second Company). At Annapolis, he played varsity football and was a member of the 1961 Orange Bowl team. His team BEAT ARMY each of his four years, a life-long source of pride.

Following graduation, his first assignment was coaching Plebe football for a year at USNA, followed by tours on *BENNER* (DD-807) and *PICKING* (DD-685), the first ship to respond at the start of the Vietnam War. Myron departed after four days of marriage without either of them knowing he would be gone for nearly three years on continuous deployments.

In 1967, Myron transferred to the Naval Reserve, where he held increasingly responsible positions in Chicago, London and San Diego, before retiring in 1992.

Immediately after leaving active duty, he was hired by ALCOA in Los Angeles. Intending a career change, he earned an MA in Finance from Northwestern University in Chicago (1971), and was hired by Southern California First Bank in San Diego (later becoming Union Bank and US Bank). He then moved to London, where he worked for Bank of Tokyo International for five years while the family lived in Wimbledon. They eventually returned to San Diego, where he worked for several banks before opening his own financial consulting firm. Simultaneously, he worked in various civic organizations and served on boards, and youth sports.

For 40 years, Myron led the Naval Academy Blue & Gold program as an area coordinator and steering committee chairman. After retirement, he continued to serve on service selection committees for several senators and representatives and remained active in his local alumni chapter. Credited with the admission of over 1,000 candidates, he was awarded the Navy Superior Service Award by the Secretary of the Navy for his dedication to the school he loved and the country he served.

Myron is survived by his wife of 58 years, Susan; their children, Tracy Fleming and Captain Adam Fleming '98 (Sarah); grandchildren, Jacob, Darci and Adam Jr.; and his brother, Alan.

Inurnment took place at Miramar National Cemetery in San Diego, CA.

Donations may be directed to the Naval Academy Foundation (www.usna.com/give) "Fund for Athletic Excellence" in memory of Myron T. Fleming Jr. '62. ★



KENNETH MICHAEL CASTELANO '65

Captain Kenneth M. Castelano, USN (Ret.), of Brentwood, CA, passed away on 10 May 2023. He was 79 years old.

"Ken" was born in 1943 in Cheyenne, WY, to Michael and Eileen Castelano. At the Naval Academy, he was in the Ninth Company during First Class Year and was a coxswain on the Navy crew team. He later received a master's degree from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA.

Ken served in the Navy for 31 years. He served in Vietnam; was executive officer aboard *BRADLEY* (DE/FF-1011); was commanding officer of *TALBOT* (FFG-4); and received numerous awards and medals. As reflected recently by a friend and colleague, Ken epitomized the principle that "the greatest leaders serve those who they lead." His tours

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offered him and his family the opportunity to travel throughout the United States, as well as the world, and they finally settled in the Washington, DC, area when he retired.

While stationed in San Diego, CA, Ken was introduced to a schoolteacher from Mississippi, Joanne Putnam, who was the love of his life. They were married in 1972 in Newport, RI, and embarked on a lifetime of adventures, travels and making new friends at every duty station.

After retiring from the Navy, Ken continued to serve our nation's defense with a second career at Raytheon. Upon retirement from Raytheon, Joanne and Ken lived in Florida, Mississippi and North Carolina, before moving to Brentwood, CA, to especially be with their grandchildren.

Ken was predeceased by his parents, Michael and Eileen Castelano; and his siblings, Karen Kelsch and Kevin Castelano. He is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Joanne Castelano; daughter, Amy Tamburro (Alex) and grandchildren, Max and Sofia Tamburro of San Francisco, CA.

A memorial service for Ken was held at the Naval Academy Chapel on 24 July 2023, followed by inurnment at the Naval Academy Columbarium.

Gifts in Captain Castelano's memory may be made to the Naval Academy Foundation, 274 Wood Road, Annapolis, MD 21402, for the Navy Crew Excellence Fund (www.usna.com/give); or to the Alzheimer's Association (act.alz.org/donate).

Joanne Castelano & Bill Zuna '65 ★

and many nieces and nephews. He is fondly remembered for his love and devotion to family, sharp wit and clever poetry.

Funeral services were held at Downs Methodist Church in Downs, KS, on 25 August 2023. He will be laid to rest at the Prairie Grove Cemetery in Cawker City, KS.

Memorials may be made to Cary American Legion Post 67, c/o Schoen Funeral Home, 302 N. Hersey Avenue, Beloit, KS 67420. ★



VINCENT NOVELA ZABALA JR. '71

Lieutenant Commander Vincent N. Zabala Jr., USNR (Ret.), of Bonita, CA, suddenly died of cardiac arrest on the morning of 28 July 2023. He was 76 years old.

Vince, a native of Salinas, CA, went to college for a year then received a presidential appointment from Louisiana to both West Point and USNA. His Plebe Year at Annapolis was tough and rigorous, but somehow it was his dad's U.S. Air Force toughness and stick-to-it-attitude

that Vince inherited. As a midshipman, his hobby was photography, his lifetime passion. As such, he helped photograph life at the Naval Academy as a member of the *Lucky Bag* and *Trident* calendar staffs, providing Christmas gifts for classmates, friends and relatives. Vince graduated from the First Company in 1971 with a BS in Analytical Management. The epitome of good nature and ubiquitous cheer, Vince was always supportive of his Classmates and friends.

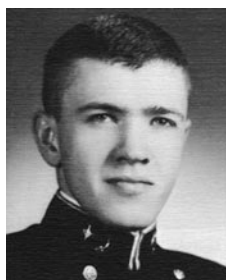
Upon graduation, he was stationed on TRUXTUN (CGN-35), homeported in Long Beach, CA, as a Surface Warfare Officer. Deploying to WestPac and Subic Bay, he was on station during the Vietnam War while on his five years of active service. His last duty station was the Inshore Undersea Warfare Group One in Coronado, CA. He spent the next 15 years in the Naval Reserve, retiring in 1991.

Vince was busy following his active-duty time and was the owner of Zabala Holdings for 46 years; eight years working for Coldwell Banking Realtor; and was executive vice-president of Integrated Sports Media West Coast for five years.

Vince was especially proud of his two sons, who graduated from West Point and the Air Force Academy and was forever grateful they followed in his footsteps. He always said that he won the Commander-in-Chief Trophy every year! He was also an active member of the USNA Alumni Association's San Diego Chapter for a number of years.

He is survived by his sons, Lieutenant Colonel Vincent Zabala III (USFA '98) (Angelina) and John Zabala (USMA '05) (Neiki); three grandchildren, Elysia (17), Celina (14) and Isaac (5); and two brothers, Morton Zabala (a Catholic deacon) and Max Zabala (a former Air Force nurse).

Funeral services were held at Miramar National Cemetery in San Diego, CA, on 9 August 2023. ★



JIMMY GEORGE DEPOY '66

Jimmy G. DePoy died on 14 August 2023 in Altamonte Springs, FL, surrounded by his loving family.

Born on 8 July 1943 in Downs, KS, to Harry and Josephine (Verhage) DePoy, he was the fifth of seven children. He graduated as salutatorian of his class at Downs High School (1961), where he had excelled in academics and athletics, particularly math, basketball and track and field. He completed

a year at Fort Hays State University prior to his appointment to the Naval Academy by Kansas Senator Robert Dole.

He graduated from USNA with an electrical engineering degree in June 1966, and was assigned to Naval Air Station, Pensacola, FL. He married his hometown sweetheart, Sandra Kay Murrow, in December 1966, in Downs, KS.

During his Navy career, Jim became a naval aviator and navigator. He flew multiple types of aircraft across the globe, including over the North Pole and his duty stations took the family all over the United States. He was awarded the Air Medal for his Vietnam service.

He left the Navy in 1976, settling in Cary, NC, and began a 30-year career as a telecommunication engineer.

Jim's interests included ham radio, computers, TV, astronomy and genealogy, particularly for his extended family. He coached his children's basketball, baseball and football teams, as well as their Boy and Girl Scout troops. He served in the American Legion and ran for mayor of Cary, NC. He retired to become a full-time grandfather in 2006, traveling to Virginia and Florida. In 2020, Jim and Sandra moved to Altamonte Springs, FL, near their daughter, Melissa. He was diagnosed with cancer in 2021, which ultimately took his life.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Sandra; children, Brian DePoy (Cindy), Melissa Young and Elizabeth DePoy; and four grandchildren, David, Addison, Hudson and Bryson. He is deeply missed by his siblings, Julian DePoy (Cecelia), Helen Luckey, Perry DePoy (Ardis), Joyce Duskie, Marilyn Straley (John) and Donna Storie (Martin); Sandra's siblings, Joyce Davies (Greg), Genice Fouts (Larry) and Philip Murrow (Shelly);

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.

If you have any questions regarding the submission of obituaries to Shipmate, please contact Timothy Elizabeth Woodbury (410-295-4064 or obits@usna.com).



CHRISTOPHER HOLLAND CASTLE '72

Christopher H. Castle passed away on 15 July 2023.

"Chris" was born into a proud Navy family on 23 July 1950, in Bethesda, MD. His father, Captain Hal Castle '44, and oldest brother, Lieutenant Junior Grade Hal Castle Jr. '67 (who lost his life in 1969 while flying a mission in Vietnam), were USNA alumni, and his brother, Bill, graduated NROTC, University of Virginia,

1969. Chris attended high school at Norfolk Academy in Norfolk, VA, where he excelled in athletics, being nominated to all-conference teams in football, basketball and baseball. Chris entered the U.S. Naval Academy, receiving his commission upon graduation in 1972. He married his high school sweetheart, Nancy Weller, and they eventually settled in Fullerton, CA, where they raised their family.

After serving five years in the Navy, Chris joined Ford Motor Company in Dearborn, MI, where he earned an MBA at the University of Michigan. He eventually left Ford to join Hughes Aircraft in southern California and later, Raytheon Technologies, where he worked until retiring in 2016. Chris found fulfillment as a professor in the Department of Business at Fullerton College, where he taught for 20 years, retiring in 2020.

Chris and Nancy loved frequent international travel. Chris also enjoyed cross-country motorcycling trips with his oldest son, Nash, and brother, Bill, as well as desert trips to practice marksmanship and countless fly-fishing excursions, always accompanied by his dear Navy pal, Charlie, (with whom he solved many of the world's political problems). Occasional trips to a casino with Joe (another Navy buddy), Charlie and Chris's son-in-law, Wayde, were among his many beloved outings and escapades. But the centerpiece of Chris's outings was the two-week vacation at a home in Sandbridge (Virginia Beach) with family and invited friends, an annual tradition spanning well over 20 years.

In retirement, nothing gave Chris greater pleasure than time with his five amazing grandchildren, all of whom resided within close proximity. Chris's love of spending time with his grandchildren was matched only by the love his grandchildren had for spending time with him. Chris's big and imposing stature was most befitting a man with such a big and imposing love of life. He will be sorely missed by all who knew and loved him.

Chris is survived by his wife, Nancy; sons, Nash (Tiffany) and Alex; daughter, Alison Castle Masuko (Wayde); grandchildren, Christopher, Julian, Florence, Dean and Reagan; his brother, Bill; and sister, Katherine Castle Swann. ★



MICHAEL LYNN SEAWARD '80

Michael L. Seaward passed away on 1 January 2021 at home in hospice care after a very difficult year and a half of health issues related to liver and kidney disease.

Born on 11 September 1956, "Mike" was the youngest of three brothers. He grew up in Columbia, SC, and graduated from A.C. Flora High School, where he was active in sports, school journalism and served as the yearbook editor. After a year at NAPS, he entered the

Naval Academy in 1976 as a member of 8th Company. A giant of a man both in stature and in heart, Mike (or "Z" as he was known to Companymates) was active on the crew team and the *Lucky Bag* staff. Mike had a keen wit and loved to laugh. (Prior to one final exam he gave his instructor a Bible with the verse, "Blessed are the merciful" underlined.)

After many adventures, trials and tribulations, and the making of many friends, Mike graduated and embarked on a seven-year naval career on submarines as a strategic missile officer. After the Navy, Mike worked for various defense contractors in Washington, DC, and San Diego, CA, including Booz Allen Hamilton and Litton Ingalls.

Mike's height (6' 8") posed some issues. As his best friend at USNA, Rich Springman, shared about their time together at NAPS: *"My memories of that year are of him sitting in the front seat of my Chevy Vega with the seat all the way back and his head tilted almost to the dashboard - so that he could fit inside! He was also tall enough to punch out a streetlight..."* When Mike was attached to a boomer, the shipyard workers modified his bunk so that he could stretch out to his full height while sleeping!

Mike met his first husband, Dave Steward, while working in Washington, DC. Dave passed away from AIDS in 1989 and Mike and their friends made a panel for Dave for the National AIDS quilt. Mike worked extensively both with his church, the Metropolitan Community Church of DC and Project Angel Heart. Mike met his current husband, Greg Ramsey, in 2002. They enjoyed many adventures together and travelled extensively. Mike loved travelling and loved experiencing different cultures. His spirit of adventure never flagged, even as his body became more uncooperative.

He is survived by Greg; and his brothers, Wayne and Randall '75. ★



TIMOTHY WILLIAM QUINN '88

Commander Timothy W. Quinn, USN (Ret.), originally from East Rochester, NY, died on Friday, 14 July 2023, at the VA Medical Center Hospital in Houston, TX, after a 16-month battle with cancer. He was 57 years old.

"Tim" graduated from East Rochester High School as a standout three sport athlete in 1984. He was commissioned at the U.S. Naval Academy in 1988, where he wrestled collegiately, and then went on to receive his MA from the

U.S. Naval War College. Tim served in the United States Navy for 22 years as a P-3 pilot, holding various leadership and management roles.

He was recently employed by MetOx Technologies as a senior manager. He previously worked at Honeywell Aerospace, NRG Energy and HCLTech, specializing in Continuous Process Improvement and Process Automation. He was a gifted leader and mentor.

Predeceased by his mother, Susan Quinn, survivors include his daughter, Harley Quinn (Blake Willoughby); son, Ryan Quinn; his father, Donald Quinn (Jacqui); siblings, Don Quinn '79 (Jean), Diane Moulton (John), Linda Michele (Mark), Mike Quinn (Dawn) and Pat Quinn (Dee); and his devoted girlfriend, Suzanne M. Davies, who was by his side every step of the way for the last 16 months.

Family was instrumental in Tim's life, as fondly documented for review on his Instagram account (tqirish12).

The Quinn family celebrated Tim's life where he began his flight training, "The Cradle of Naval Aviation," in Pensacola, FL, on 3 August 2023 at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, followed by committal at Barrancas National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial donations be directed to Disabled American Veterans (www.dav.org).

The Quinn Family ★

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