

UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND FOUNDATION

# SHIPMATE

MAY 2023





1,000  
WORL



### **2023 Astronaut Convocation**

NASA astronaut LCDR Kayla Barron '10, USN, with future space explorer Kenzie Edwards, age 8, during the 2 March Astronaut Convocation in Mahan Hall. Former astronaut and commander of Axiom Mission 1 CAPT Michael Lopez-Alegria '80, USN (Ret.), joined Barron on a panel moderated by MajGen Charles F. Bolden '68, USMC (Ret.).



# SPRING BLOOMS IN ANNAPOLIS

By Jeff Webb '95



The Fluegel Alumni Center at 301 King George Street, Annapolis, MD 21402

At the end of March we were thrilled to announce Donna and Rick Fluegel '61 as the lead donors to our new home, the Fluegel Alumni Center. Their transformational gift at the outset of the fundraising led to a chain reaction of support that has fully funded the building. In September we will be pleased to welcome the Fluegels back to Annapolis as we christen the Fluegel Alumni Center and commence operations. We are eternally grateful for the Fluegels' vision and commitment. The Fluegel Alumni Center has been designed and constructed as a 100-year building and is truly a game changer for our organization!

The blooming of the Fluegel Alumni Center on the banks of College Creek is a fitting metaphor for the creative work happening inside the Enterprise. We are in the final stretch of our Alumni Association strategic planning process, which will culminate in a Board of Trustees review of Strategic Plan 2030 around publication time for this issue. I have been greatly inspired by our committee members and my colleagues who have taken on this project with real passion. Our process has been thoughtful, thorough and collaborative. We have experienced the truly iterative nature of this type of planning, and our group has had a willingness to reimagine what's possible all the way to the finish line.

At the core, we will build on our solid foundation and fundamentals and find ways to be more relevant and supportive to our alumni at all stages of life, in and out of uniform, so that they can lead and serve at their full potential.

We believe we can be more helpful to alumni during their military careers through more proactive support at key career

milestones. When alumni choose to continue their journeys of leadership and service beyond the Navy and Marine Corps, we can direct them to resources, provide networking opportunities, and introduce them to potential employers.

As many alumni have experienced, the Service Academy Career Conference (SACC) is already an excellent forum for our alumni to get exposed to high quality organizations from a wide array of industries. Where we know we can improve is by offering support at other career points beyond the transition from the military to civilian workforce, which is SACC's focus.

As part of our growth in this area, I am excited to announce that Morgan McCleve, Class of 2012, has joined us as the new director of Alumni Career Programs. Morgan has recently concluded her service as a Naval Aviator and joins us at the perfect time as we begin to put our plans into action. You can find her contact information, and that of all of my teammates, in the back of this issue if you wish to reach out to her for career assistance.

In March, we had the privilege of celebrating our five newest Distinguished Graduates. With their varied careers and experiences, each recipient had something unique to offer the Brigade. They shared their wisdom in remarks that were at various times humorous, serious and inspirational. By the conclusion of the ceremony, it was easy to understand why each of them had been recognized for such a tremendous honor.

Please take the time to learn more about the lives and careers of these remarkable graduates. You can read their stories beginning on page 8 and watch their speeches at the medal ceremony through the QR code you will find on this page, and at [www.USNA.com/DGA](http://www.USNA.com/DGA).



I would like to close this issue's letter by offering my sincere thanks to Rear Admiral Thomas C. Lynch '64, USN (Ret.), for his long service and leadership as chairman of the Athletic and Scholarship Programs (A&SP) Board of Trustees. For more than two decades, Rear Admiral Lynch has led A&SP and its 250 trustees in supporting the Naval Academy's physical mission and the dozens of young men and women who attend Foundation schools each year.

Through his personal example and leadership, Rear Admiral Lynch helped raise \$111 million for the physical mission in the *Called to Serve, Daring to Lead* Campaign. He has truly left his mark on the Naval Academy and our enterprise. In recognition of his service, the A&SP suite at the Fluegel Alumni Center will be appropriately named in his honor.

Rear Admiral Lynch has been relieved as A&SP chairman by Admiral Bill Moran '81, USN (Ret.). A career naval aviator and former Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Moran is stepping in with tremendous energy and enthusiasm to lead A&SP forward. Welcome aboard, sir! ⚓

# 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](mailto:getthegoat@usna.com) with the correct page number and you will be entered into a drawing for a prize from the Alumni Association. Good luck! The drawing is limited to the first 100 correct answers, so get reading.*

*Bill was hiding behind the Class of '13 header on page 106 of the March-April 2023 issue of Shipmate.*

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### Our Mission

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

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



**On the Cover**  
2023 U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association Distinguished Graduate Award recipients.

Photo by Mike Morgan



# ALL HANDS

## Exciting Opportunities Ahead



Greetings fellow alumni! My first two months leading the engagement and communications team at the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association & Foundation have been a complete whirlwind. I'd describe it as drinking from the proverbial "firehose," with lots to learn each day! That said, I'm blessed to be able to work with such great teammates all working toward the same mission ... to support and connect the Naval Academy and our alumni community.

Since graduation, staying connected to the Naval Academy has always been an important part of my life. Whether it was serving as a Blue and Gold Officer, as a Trustee within the Athletic & Scholarships Program or as the former Deputy Commandant of Midshipmen, giving back to the Naval Academy and our alumni has always felt like the right thing to do. Even with that experience, what I've witnessed in the past eight weeks has been enlightening and I've gained a much greater appreciation for the dedication and commitment of the overall Naval Academy community.

The number of alumni volunteering their time to ensure the next generation of midshipmen have the necessary resources to become effective junior officers upon commissioning is eye-watering. Their example sets the bar extremely high, and it inspires me each and every day to live up to their passion and dedication.

It's an exciting time at the Alumni Association, as our Board of Trustees is close to approving our Strategic Plan 2030. The "north star" for our Alumni Association, the plan will be a beacon for our staff to follow and guide how we deliver our programs to support the Naval Academy and our alumni community. In the meantime, we're conducting a full review of those programs to determine what we're doing right and what we need to improve on. As the talented author and poet Maya Angelou once said, "You can't really know where you are going until you know where you have been."

I'm particularly excited about our new career services division at the Alumni Association. We listened to your feedback and it's loud and clear ... develop more career service initiatives to proactively support alumni transitions at all career stages, both in and out of uniform. Our Service Academy Career Conferences (SACC) does an incredible job of connecting transitioning service members into the civilian workforce, but I believe we can be doing more during those "life" transition moments. For example:

How do you use your GI Bill effectively? How do you navigate the Department of Veteran Affairs? What's the roadmap to transition from active to reserves? What educational opportunities are available for veterans? What networks and lessons learned are available to entrepreneurs? We have some of the most diverse and experienced alumni in the world! We should be leveraging that experience to help and support one another ... with the Alumni Association helping to facilitate that connection!

In summary, there's lots to be done here at the Alumni Association and Foundation. Rather than be intimidated by our "to do" list, it's exciting to see the opportunities ahead! I look forward to working with each and every one of you to ensure our alumni have the resources to reach their fullest potential and the Naval Academy remains one of America's premier institutions.

Go Navy! Beat Army!

Captain Thomas J. "Catfish" Grady '96, USN (Ret.)



PHOTO BY SPENCER JONES

CDR Thomas P. McKavitt Jr. '83, USN (Ret.), delivered the Class of 1983's time capsule to the spot behind CENTRAL AMERICA's bell on 17 March 2023. The time capsule is scheduled to be opened by the Class of 2083 around the time of its Herndon Climb.

## Class of 1983 Time Capsule

The Class of 1983 buried a time capsule behind CENTRAL AMERICA's bell on 17 March 2023 to be opened by the Class of 2083 around the time of its Herndon Climb. The time capsule includes the Class of 1983's *Lucky Bag* and letters written to the Class of 2083 from Superintendent Vice Admiral Sean S. Buck '83, USN, and Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro '83.

Class representative Commander Thomas P. McKavitt Jr. '83, USN (Ret.), was on hand to deliver the time capsule and seal it. The time capsule also includes a "dixie cup" plebe cover, the 1979-80 version of *Reef Points* and a photo from the Class of 1983's Induction Day.

The Class of 1983 donated CENTRAL AMERICA's bell on 23 May 2022. The gift was made possible by a friend of Commander Stephan J. Shatynski '83, USN (Ret.), Dwight Manley, whose collection included the bell. The bell was used by Commander William Lewis Herndon to alert passing ships of CENTRAL AMERICA's distress in 1857. Herndon's actions at CENTRAL AMERICA's helm resulted in the saving of 152 passengers. Herndon himself went down with his ship.



## New Sub to be Named in Honor of Former SECNAV Dalton '64

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES



A future VIRGINIA-class nuclear-powered attack submarine will be named for the 70th Secretary of the Navy, John H. Dalton '64. Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro '83 made the announcement in February.

The future JOHN H. DALTON will honor Dalton, who served on submarines BLUEBACK and JOHN C. CALHOUN before leaving active duty to pursue graduate education and a career in the private sector.

"I couldn't be prouder to name this future submarine after John Dalton," said Secretary Del Toro. "He served as a proud submariner and as Secretary of the

Navy he took strong and principled stands against sexual assault and harassment and oversaw the integration of female sailors onto combat ships. The changes he drove almost 30 years ago are evident in all corners of our Navy today, with women serving on, above and below the sea. A ship bearing his name brings strength to the crew who will undoubtedly operate it with the courage and dignity of John H. Dalton."

After leaving the Navy in 1969, Dalton held positions at top private sector firms before President James E. Carter Jr. '47 nominated him in 1977 to lead the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Government National Mortgage Association. He then served (as a member and later as chairman) on the Federal Home Loan Bank board from late 1979 until mid-1981. He served as President Bill Clinton's Secretary of the Navy from 1993 until 1998. Dalton is a 2016 U.S. Naval Academy Distinguished Graduate. □

**"The changes he drove almost 30 years ago are evident in all corners of our Navy today, with women serving on, above and below the sea. A ship bearing his name brings strength to the crew who will undoubtedly operate it with the courage and dignity of John H. Dalton."**

*—Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro '83 on naming a future nuclear-powered attack submarine for the 70th Secretary of the Navy John H. Dalton '64.*

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## Former Academy Professor Symonds Receives Literature Award

PHOTO COURTESY OF DR. CRAIG L. SYMONDS



The Pritzker Military Museum & Library (PMML) awarded Dr. Craig L. Symonds with the 2023 PMML Literature Award in April.

Symonds is professor emeritus of history at the Naval Academy, where he taught for 30 years, including a four-year term as History Department chair. He was the first person to win both the Academy's Teacher of the Year award (1988) and its Researcher of the Year award (1998).

In 1994-95, he was Professor of Strategy at the Britannia Royal Naval College in Dartmouth, England. He returned to the

Naval Academy in 2012 as The Class of 1957 Distinguished Professor of Naval History. From 2017 to 2020 he was the Ernest J. King Distinguished Professor of Maritime History at the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, RI, for which he received his fourth Superior Civilian Service Medal (2020).

Symonds is the author of 17 books. They include biographies of Civil War figures Joseph E. Johnston, Patrick Cleburne and Franklin Buchanan. His 2005 book, *Decision at Sea: Five Naval Battles that Shaped American History*, won the Theodore and Franklin D. Roosevelt Prize for Naval History. His newest book is a wartime biography of Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz, USN (Ret.), Class of 1905, entitled *Nimitz at War*, was released in 2022. □

## Midshipmen Gain Leadership Training During Spring Break

Over spring break, a group of midshipmen set out for a five-day Outward Bound hike along the Appalachian Trail with the Center for Experiential Leadership Development (ELD). Midshipmen were paired with military veterans for some quality outdoor time and mentoring.

The U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association & Foundation funds spring and summer training sessions for midshipmen with the Chesapeake Bay Outward Bound School. These Experiential Leadership Development



PHOTO BY MIDNI KOBE NGUYEN '24

programs offer a field-based leadership practicum that challenges midshipmen through living as a group in a wilderness setting. Participants realize what they are truly capable of and develop leadership skills through small-unit experiences. □



## Mullen Honored With AACC Scholarship



A new scholarship to aid underrepresented students in the field of homeland security at Anne Arundel Community College (AACC) in Arnold, MD, will honor Admiral Mike Mullen '68, USN (Ret.).

The Admiral Mike Mullen Scholarship for National Security Leadership is supported by the Pallas Foundation and honors the 17th Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff. Mullen was also the 28th Chief of Naval Operations from 2005 to 2007.

The Mullen Scholarship will directly support the development of emerging leaders in global and national security, particularly those from underrepresented backgrounds. Under the program, each year, two students will receive a scholarship from the Pallas Foundation to study at AACC beginning with the 2023-24 academic year.

As part of the scholarship, recipients will receive up to \$5,000 for tuition, fees, books and supplies for study pursuing a degree in homeland security management, homeland security management-transportation and border security or homeland security management-intelligence analytics. They will also receive direct mentoring from Mullen.

Applicants must be current full- or part-time AACC students and have completed a minimum of nine credits at the community college pursuing a degree in Homeland Security Management, have earned a GPA of 2.5 or better and be a U.S. citizen and Maryland resident.

The Pallas Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Pallas Advisors, the strategic advisory firm specializing in navigating complex national and international security dynamics, founded by Sally Donnelly, who was the special assistant to Admiral Mullen as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. □

PHOTO COURTESY OF USNA&F



PHOTO COURTESY OF NAVY ATHLETICS

1stLt Stephanie Murphy '18, USMC, was the 2018 collegiate national triathlon individual champion and captain of Navy's 2018 national championship triathlon team. This fall, Navy women's triathlon will become the 36th varsity sport at the Naval Academy.

## Navy Promotes Women's Triathlon to Varsity Status

Navy women's triathlon will become the 36th varsity sport at the Naval Academy starting this fall, Director of Athletics Chet Gladchuk announced in March. The move pulls the Naval Academy into a tie with Ohio State University and Stanford University for the most varsity programs in the country among schools that sponsor FBS football.

Current club head coach Billy Edwards will lead the program.

"As an NCAA nationally emerging sport for women, triathlon defines exactly who we are at the Naval Academy and the type of opportunity we should offer to our midshipmen," Gladchuk said. "The broad-based requirements through highly competitive swimming, running and cycling highlight the demanding physical characteristics that correlate with personal confidence and leadership development.

"Our currently successful women's club team allows us a seamless transition to a varsity program. I am confident our women will be competing for the Triathlon NCAA Championship when one is offered in the very near future."

Triathlon has been a club sport at the Naval Academy since 1992 and the Midshipmen have won two women's team National Championships and two individual National Championships. This past fall, Navy finished third in the Women's Club National Championship. Navy has won the Armed Forces Triathlon Championship over Air Force and Army for the past eight years.

The races are sprint-distance, featuring a half-mile open-water swim, 12-mile bike and 3.1-mile run. □

### 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.



#### DIGITAL ADVERTISING

TWELVE TIMES A YEAR  
80,000 SUBSCRIBERS, 50% OPEN RATE

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.



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# SELFLESS LEADERS

The members of the 2023 Class of U.S. Naval Academy Distinguished Graduates are leaving a legacy of profound impact for the many lives they've positively influenced.

This Distinguished Graduate class embodies the Naval Academy's mission. They are leaders who assumed "the highest responsibilities of command, citizenship and government." Their individual stories are filled with success as Navy and Marine Corps officers, as private industry leaders and in charitable endeavors.

Selfless leadership is a common theme among this year's honorees. They are:

- Major General Leo V. Williams III '70, USMCR (Ret.)
- Ronald L. Nicol '75
- Admiral James G. Stavridis '76, USN (Ret.)
- Rear Admiral Julius S. Caesar '77, USNR (Ret.)
- Admiral Cecil D. Haney '78, USN (Ret.)

Major General Williams spent more than 30 years in the Marine Corps, the final 25 in the Reserve. He balanced those responsibilities while blazing trails as an executive with Ford Motor Company. He was the first Black director on the U.S. Naval Academy Foundation's Board of Directors, he is a mentor for future leaders and is helping with the development of the National Medal of Honor Leadership and Education Center in his home state of South Carolina.

Mr. Nicol has played an instrumental role in assisting veteran transitions into the civilian world. As a partner in the Boston Consulting Group, Nicol emphasized the value of veterans, leading to the hiring of 64 Naval Academy alumni.

Admiral Stavridis followed his 37-year active-duty career by educating the next generation of leaders as dean of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. The school doubled the number of women faculty members during his time, and he appointed the first woman chair of the school's Board of Advisors.

Rear Admiral Caesar retired after 34 years of active and reserve service. He championed the formation of the Naval Academy Minority Association (NAMA) and has been a sought-after mentor for students at the Naval Academy Preparatory School and the U.S. Naval Academy.

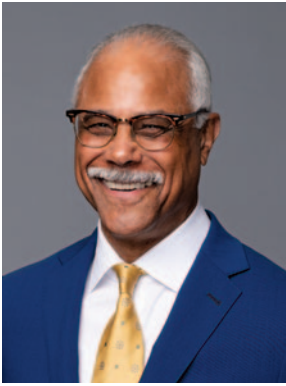
During his Navy career, Admiral Haney earned a place among the Centennial Seven—the first seven Black officers who commanded submarines. This group supported each other while also serving as mentors for the next generation of Black midshipmen and Navy officers.

The impact of these Distinguished Graduates' selfless acts will ripple for generations to come. For more on the 2023 Distinguished Graduate Award medal ceremony, including video coverage and complete honoree biographies, scan the QR code or visit [www.usna.com/dga](http://www.usna.com/dga).



SCAN QR CODE





WILLIAMS

NICOL

STAVRIDIS

CAESAR

HANEY



The 2023 Class of U.S. Naval Academy Distinguished Graduates were honored on 24 March in Alumni Hall. They are (left to right), ADM Cecil D. Haney '78, USN (Ret.); ADM James G. Stavridis '76, USN (Ret.); MajGen Leo V. Williams III '70, USMCR (Ret.); RADM Julius S. Caesar '77, USNR (Ret.); and Ronald L. Nicol '75.

## MAJOR GENERAL LEO V. WILLIAMS III '70, USMCR (RET.)



### HONOR. COURAGE. COMMITMENT.

These values define the U.S. Naval Academy, its midshipmen and its alumni. Major General Leo V. Williams III '70, USMCR (Ret.), integrates these values into every aspect of his life and relying on them, has built a legacy of leadership and service, blazing trails of inclusion and making new paths for future leaders to trust.

That legacy started more than 100 years ago on the banks of the Chesapeake Bay in Norfolk, VA.

“My grandfather, Leo V. Williams Sr., joined the Navy when he was only 14, in 1903, as a cabin boy,” Williams said. “When he was old enough to enlist, he did. That was in 1907 as a steward. In that time, the only jobs that were available to Black people in the Navy were steward, cook or fireman.

“He retired, for the second time, in 1941, after 38 years of service. My father enlisted in the Navy in 1944, eventually becoming one of the first Black medical corpsmen in the Navy.”

This family tradition of service to country and breaking barriers was foundational to Williams, who took the lessons and trials of his father and grandfather and used them to tread new paths at the Naval Academy, the Marine Corps and the corporate world at Ford Motor Company. Even in retirement, Williams continues to serve the Academy, the Medal of Honor Leadership and Education Center and his home Charleston, SC, community with the same passion and skill that has defined his life.

He points to his family, his community and the Academy for forging the values of integrity and truthfulness that have shaped his path.

“I’ve tried to embody integrity and truthfulness and teach them ever since my days at the Academy,” Williams said. “I began learning these lessons at home, growing up in my community, in my church and in the schools that I attended. Integrity and truthfulness were expectations.

“I appreciated those lessons more and more as I grew up. It was something I wanted to see and ensure that my sons and their children saw and learned from. I strove to show integrity and truthfulness with my associates so that I could teach the lessons when I could. These lessons were amplified by the Academy experience.”

Williams is highly accomplished in his military and civilian life, breaking racial and culture barriers in every realm. He credits his home, community and school life for the inspiration, encouragement and persistence to achieve.

“In 1963, my father graduated from the University of Virginia with a master’s degree in education, the first Black student to receive that degree,” Williams said. “He then became the principal of an all-Black elementary school. Ironically, it was named Robert E. Lee Elementary in Norfolk.

“When Norfolk began integrating schools, he became the first Black principal of a predominantly white elementary school.”

Williams had great examples from an early age of what it meant to be a path breaker. Graduating in 1966 from Norfolk’s all-Black Booker T. Washington High School, he was the class valedictorian of a class of 550 students. When it came time to make his own post high-school decision, military service was high on the priority list.

He chose to continue his family’s legacy of military service but with a slightly different path.

“When you grow up in Norfolk, the Navy presence is strong,” Williams said. “Some are good examples but every Marine you see stands out. One of my best friends in high school’s older brother set a pattern for me. He was a Dartmouth graduate and chose to go into the Marine Corps Reserve after graduating. He was one of the first Black Marine Corps pilots. Tragically, he died in a training accident.

“That sacrifice made a great impression on me. He set a poignant example for me. It’s a choice I’ve never regretted.”

There was another benefit for Williams.

“And everybody knows the Marine Corps has the best-looking uniforms in the world,” he said, with a smile.

### PERSEVERANCE REWARDED

Williams accepted the challenge to attend the Naval Academy to pursue his dream of becoming a Marine Corps officer. But the path to admission was filled with barriers. The most challenging was securing a nomination from a member of Congress. In the Jim Crow South, there was an unwritten agreement among members of the House and Senate from former Confederate States to deny nominations to any Black students.

But the tightknit Norfolk community where Williams was raised knew his potential and understood the importance of the opportunity.

“My homeroom teacher found out that one of my best friends and I wanted to apply to the Academy. Her father in Detroit had a connection to Representative Charles Diggs,” Williams said. “She connected her father to the congressman, and he connected to us. In the end, Congressman Charles Diggs from Michigan nominated both my best friend and me from Virginia. We were admitted to the Class of 1970 and became the first Black students from Virginia to attend the Naval Academy.”

The Class of 1970 started out with only 12 Black students out of a class of 1,200. By the time they graduated, only six remained out of 850, less than 1 percent of the student body.

“Throughout my four years at the Academy, I was almost always the only Black midshipman in any of my classes,” Williams said. “Only once did I have another Black student in a course with me. That condition became a benefit for me because there was no choice for me but to really understand the people I dealt with every day.

“That setting became a course in and of itself. You have to teach yourself how to make it through. An outgrowth of the situation was the Black support team we formed among ourselves. The other Black midshipmen, faculty and staff all had a hand in providing support for us.”



His commitment, drive and skill were noticed by others.

“As a midshipman, Leo had very mature and practical leadership traits that enabled him to navigate and excel in an environment that was not as welcoming to him as it was to the other 4,000 midshipmen,” wrote Admiral Robert Natter ’67, USN (Ret.), in Williams’ DGA nomination. “It was obvious by his actions that Leo was determined not only to survive the Naval Academy but that he was determined to learn, thrive and lead. His leadership even then was an example to all who knew him.”

Being part of such a rare community during the Academy experience was pivotal to Williams’ future.

“When you graduate and become a United States Marine, the people you work for and work with and who work for you are a kaleidoscope,” Williams said. “The present Academy level of diversity invites a real understanding of diversity, equity and inclusion. The Black students in my time at the Academy didn’t fully appreciate that lesson until later when you look at the success we enjoyed in our careers.”

The experiences Williams had as a midshipman were built on the lessons he learned from his parents, his community, his church and his schools. He learned how to excel, persevere, overcome challenges and to extend opportunities to those who came after him.

“We were conscious about maintaining a support group year after year so incoming Black midshipmen could have the best chance possible to succeed,” Williams said. “The support group became a literal lifeline because most folks who didn’t look like us did not know how to help us, except to do what they always did. We had to figure it out ourselves with one or two Black faculty members. They were very supportive. We knew they were always there when we needed them.”

After graduating from the Academy, Williams was commissioned as an officer in the Marine Corps, where he served for eight years as an infantry and artillery officer, a rare combination of combat arms specialties. In 1978, he left active duty and transitioned to the Marine Corps Reserve, where he continued his career for another 25 years, attaining the rank of Major General and deploying two times in support of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm and the War on Terrorism.

## BARRIER BREAKER

His military career was side by side with his work as an executive at Ford Motor Company, where Williams continued to break barriers. Most often, he was the only Black executive in his division. During his career with Ford, Williams mastered strategic planning, new vehicle development and brand management for the Ford F-150 pickup truck and all of Ford’s SUVs.

He and his team were charged with naming new SUVs at the time. Williams took this unique opportunity to have Ford Motor Company give a salute to the expeditionary “Go Anywhere, Do Anything” character of the Marine Corps. Voila; the Ford Expedition was launched.

In retirement, his service to the Academy has continued and even grown. He has served as the first Black director on the U.S. Naval Academy Foundation Board and the first Black vice chairman of the USNA Alumni Association. He is currently helping to lead the development of the National Medal of Honor Leadership and Education Center in Mount Pleasant, SC, creating not only a physical space to celebrate the values that mark heroes but developing an entire education program of leadership and character development.

“Leo has demonstrated the most uncommon of virtues, accentuated by his humility and selflessness,” wrote W. Thomas McQueeney, chairman of the National Medal of Honor Leadership and Education Center. “These qualities have entailed the betterment of those within his sphere, as well as the amelioration of American society.”

Throughout his military and civilian career, Williams opened doors for others, in the same way his community supported him.

“In high school, I knew that my teachers and counselors wanted only the best for me,” he said. “Unless you have that kind of support, especially in a community that is underserved, you have a hand tied behind your back. When you have the sense that you can make a difference, it makes it easy to say, ‘Hey, let me look around and see how I can give others the same opportunity that I had.’”

His commitment to leadership, his drive to develop a better future for the world and his embodiment of the values of honor, courage and commitment began in his home and community in Norfolk and were cemented in his time at the Academy.

“I want the Academy to be the best leadership school in America,” Williams said. “You can learn engineering anywhere; you can learn any of the majors at any university. None of those experiences is unique except the leadership lessons that you learn on a daily basis, every day you’re here. We need to hold tight to that goal and become the best leadership institution in the world.”

With distinguished alumni like Williams, that goal will become reality.



**MajGen Leo V. Williams III '70, USMCR (Ret.), with his wife Vicki above, was a barrier breaker as a Ford Motor Company executive. He balanced those responsibilities while serving the Marine Corps for 38 years.**

## RONALD L. NICOL '75



Ron Nicol '75 never sought the path of least resistance. His friends, U.S. Naval Academy classmates, clients and teammates said even when it might have been easier to take another path, Nicol always did the right thing.

That philosophy helped Nicol achieve levels of global leadership success few people can claim.

- One of the highest-level senior partners in the Boston Consulting Group, where he was key in its rise to global leadership in Fortune 500 consulting services and technical innovation.
- Named a top 25 global management consultant by *Consulting Magazine* in 2006.
- Chairman of the Board of Duke University's Fuqua School of Business when it was ranked the nation's No. 1 business school.
- Director of the 2016 U.S. Presidential Transition Agency Action Team.

For Nicol, it all comes back to the Naval Academy.

"My professional success in life was due to my ability to attend the Naval Academy," he said. "In the business world, I found that I was significantly ahead of my peers in having a coherent view of leadership and how to practice it successfully. Caring about the mission and the people, leading by example, they're key elements of leadership that I learned at the Academy."

Nicol didn't imagine the career awaiting him when he applied to the Academy. The son of hard-working parents in the western Maryland town of Frostburg, Nicol won a scholarship from Johns Hopkins University. But his father, who had served on LEYTE in World War II, encouraged him to try for the Academy.

"So I went to my guidance counselor and said, 'My dad suggested I apply to the Naval Academy,'" Nicol recalled. "She basically said, 'Look Ron, nobody from here gets in there.' Frostburg is on the edge of Appalachia, and most of my peers were going to go work an hourly job, blue collar work. And I said, 'Well, I hear you, but I won't forgive myself if I don't apply.'"

"I started the application process and went through all the testing and the physical requirements. I was playing a varsity tennis match when my dad came running on the court with a telegram from Senator John Glenn Bell and said, 'Son, you've been appointed to the Naval Academy!'"

The Frostburg boy who almost didn't get to apply, excelled at the Academy. A physics major, he graduated seventh in the Class of 1975. He was first battalion commander and served as the brigade honor coordinator.

Captain Arthur D. Ayars Jr. '75, CEC, USN (Ret.), roomed with Nicol for two years. They remain close friends. Ayars is not surprised by Nicol's accomplishments.

"I saw some very strong attributes, not just the intellect, but sense of humor, willing to work on a team," Ayars said. "He used

every bit of talent and capability to the maximum. It's hard to really keep at it and make sure you're contributing everything you can at the right time for the right reason, but he was that kind of guy.

"I think those talents clearly played out in the rest of his career. You throw in a personality and a down-to-earth kind of approach—that's a killer combination as a leader."

After completing Nuclear Power School in 1977, Nicol reported to MARIANO G. VALLEJO.

"When I arrived at the brow, I was met by Master Chief Petty Officer Davis," Nicol said. "He had ribbons down to his navel and welcomed me aboard with a sharp salute and a crisp, 'Welcome aboard, sir, you are my new boss. I'd like to take you aft and introduce you to your division, the Reactor Controls Division.'"

"We went to the engineering spaces, where they presented me with a tool bag that had a screwdriver with a broken blade and a pair of pliers with a broken jaw. Master Chief Davis said, 'Sir, if you touch the equipment with anything other than these, I'll break your damn arm. Welcome aboard, sir.' Chief Davis became one of the best mentors of my career."

### VALUING VETERANS

Nicol left active duty in 1982, went to work at Babcock and Wilcox, got his MBA at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business, then worked at Boston Consulting Group (BCG) for the next 30 years. Even as he rapidly moved up in the corporate world, he remained in the Naval Reserve.

"The least I could do for my country was remain available if needed," Nicol said. "While I'm proud that I made it to the retired reserve list, there are many of my fellow graduates who contributed much more significantly to the service."

Throughout his career, Nicol has been dedicated to giving back to the Academy and lifting up military veterans. The first Naval Academy alum hired by BCG, Nicol went on to hire 64 more Academy alumni at the company and to emphasize the value of veterans.

"One of the things I did that was most important was help translate military resumes," Nicol said. "Most people don't understand how the military works, so the recruiting people would get these resumes and say, 'Okay, this person was a division officer on a submarine, got a Navy Achievement Medal,' but they would have no context. I'd tell them that person could be a star."

Nicol quickly earned a reputation for his leadership. While heading a BCG consulting project to develop a new strategy for American Airlines, he met Roger Staubach '65, who was a member of the airline's board of directors.

"What impressed me most about Ron was the honesty and integrity he brought to his roles as a leader," said Staubach in his Distinguished Graduate application endorsement of Nicol. "As a fellow Naval Academy graduate, I was proud of Ron's leadership ability to do the right thing and tell the truth, no matter the consequences."



Nicol said the Academy's honor concept was very important to him. He's used it to guide him since.

"I've made mistakes in my life, but I've always known what the correct path is," Nicol said. "Just like there are rules of the road at sea, there are rules of the road in the corporate world. Breaking the rules may sometimes allow for shortcuts, but many times result in collisions. I have slept well at night for 50 years because I know the difference between right and wrong and always try to do what is right."

Nicol also has paid his success forward by mentoring his teams at BCG.

"I see it as my responsibility to give others the benefit of my experience," he said. "By simultaneously learning from my mentors and mentoring others, I compounded my team's capability."

Raj Varadarajan said Nicol has been his mentor for 17 years, since he started working for BCG after earning his Ph.D. in chemical engineering at MIT.

"He's been my guide, and a thought partner," Varadarajan said. "We've probably met and spoken most Sundays for over a decade. I've learned a lot from him, and he's mentored all kinds of people, all over the place, all the time."

Varadarajan said Nicol's reputation among his BCG colleagues is so revered that there's an unofficial guide they call "Ron's Rules," or "What Would Ron Do?"

"If I were to say what makes Ron just stand out completely from everybody else, there's three things ... principles over pragmatism, mission orientation and truth. That describes the core of his character," said Varadarajan.

Nicol admits one thing he didn't handle well was retirement.

"The first six weeks was nirvana, because I could sleep in. But then I started asking what's my purpose in life? What am I doing? And so, I just crashed and burned. I mean, it was just miserable. Then I got the call from Chris Christie's chief of staff."

The call was asking Nicol to lead the Agency Action Team for the 2016 U.S. Presidential Transition.

"I assembled a team of 350 volunteers to lead the transition of 80 agencies of the U.S. government," Nicol said. "We worked closely with the Obama team to ensure a safe and secure transition. It was one of the most challenging leadership roles of my career, given the chaos and turmoil of the campaign and election. The lessons and training I received at the Naval Academy were invaluable."

Nicol now serves on several corporate boards and looks forward to time with family.

"My wife, Liane, is a saint. Even though I spent relatively little of my cumulative career time deployed in the Navy, I spent most of my professional life away from home. She was a fantastic mother to our two daughters, who have blessed us with five wonderful grandchildren."

And he continues to give back to the Naval Academy. Nicol is a lifetime member of the USNA Alumni Association, a major donor to a number of projects and he helped equip the Naval Academy Center for Cyber Security Studies, in Hopper Hall. He also created a scholarship for transitioning Academy alumni and other veterans to attend Duke University's Fuqua School of Business.

"The Naval Academy is something that is bigger than each of us," Nicol said. "It represents the sacrifice and struggle of all who have attended, of those graduates who paid the ultimate price for our liberty. I would guess that few of us, certainly me, realized during Plebe Summer that we were embarking on a journey that would change our lives forever."

Nicol's Distinguished Graduate award is well earned, Doug Ayars said.

"Ron has made the most of every opportunity to achieve personal success. The benefit of that is all he has done for the United States Navy, the corporate world and now for the United States Naval Academy," Ayars said.

Nicol said there is no greater honor he could imagine than being named a Distinguished Graduate.

"To be recognized by the institution that has been responsible for my success is a wonderful feeling," Nicol said. "This honor is humbling. It inspires me to set an example for those who follow."

#### RON'S RULES

- You get more credit by giving credit away.
- Address the elephant in the room immediately and move on.
- The grass is brown everywhere.
- Time kills deals.
- You have two ears and one mouth—use them in that ratio.



**Ron Nichol '75, pictured above with Brigade Commander MIDN Michael Castellanos '23, USN, ADM Mark E. Ferguson III '78, USN (Ret.), and VADM Sean S. Buck '83, USN, is a faithful advocate for military veterans. He was a partner at Boston Consulting Group whose commitment to hiring veterans included 64 Naval Academy alumni.**

## ADMIRAL JAMES G. STAVRIDIS '76, USN (RET.)



*"In two words, I feel humbled and lucky."*

It is one achievement to excel in command and citizenship, but to become a model commander and citizen is another. Admiral James Stavridis '76, USN (Ret.), has been the latter throughout his career in and out of uniform.

Stavridis grew up in a military family living in various parts of the United States and Europe. His father, a Marine Corps veteran who served in the Korean War and Vietnam War, provided a template for Stavridis to pursue an interest in continuing a legacy of military service in his family.

"You could say I continued on in the family business," Stavridis said.

His journey to continue the "family business" began on the Severn River at the U.S. Naval Academy. This would ultimately become the cornerstone of Stavridis' extraordinary military and professional career.

During his time at the Naval Academy, U.S. troops were still engaged in combat in Vietnam, a war that would end before Stavridis and his classmates commissioned in 1976. With a changing military environment in the U.S., Stavridis embraced the adjustments as well as the challenges that come with being a midshipman. Like many others before him, Stavridis took advantage of his time at the Academy to begin to develop skills that he would carry with him for life.

"Being organized, staying calm under pressure, treating everyone with equal respect, trying to find innovative solutions—have stood me in good stead throughout my career," Stavridis said.

Being a member of the varsity men's tennis and squash teams as well as being brigade operations officer also helped shape Stavridis into a well-rounded midshipman, which would translate into a nearly four-decade long career in the Navy.

After commissioning, Stavridis took everything he learned from the Academy and began applying it to his post-Academy career and searched for more ways to develop as a naval officer. This would translate into a wave of new chapters in his life. As he went through each new chapter, however, not one was more important to Stavridis than his time at the Academy.

"I think of my life like a series of books on a shelf," Stavridis said. "The book of Midshipman Stavridis is very foundational to

all that followed. I spent 37 years on active duty after graduation, serving in the Cold War, the Persian Gulf War as XO of a cruiser, in the Balkans conflict as CO of a destroyer and the Global War on Terrorism as a commodore and rear admiral in command of a Carrier Strike Group—all of those are separate books. All the books are in some sense an extension of what I learned in Annapolis."

One of the books that stands out the most is Stavridis serving as the 16th Supreme Allied Commander at NATO. Stavridis was also the first Naval officer to be the NATO Supreme Allied Commander.

Each of these commands would lead Stavridis to become one of the longest serving combatant commanders in the service. After a 37-year Naval career, Stavridis retired as a 4-star admiral, received more than 50 medals and decorations and left an indelible impact on the nation he served.

#### CONTINUED SERVICE

Having earned his Ph.D. as a junior officer from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, he returned there as the 12th dean after retiring from the Navy in 2013.

During his five-year tenure as dean, Stavridis diversified and strengthened the curriculum through the study of principal subjects such as social networks and cybersecurity. The school doubled the number of women faculty members during his tenure, and he appointed the first woman chair of the school's board of advisors.

"I think education is service, something I learned from a superb life-mentor, Secretary of Defense Bob Gates," Stavridis said.

As part of his educational service, he has published 12 books to further the growth of leadership in the Navy and in civilian life.

Today, Stavridis is in the international finance field and continues his service as chair of the board of the Rockefeller Foundation, the oldest charitable foundation in the U.S.

For Stavridis, to be linked back to the Academy as a Distinguished Graduate means more than any individual accolade; he knows what it means to his class and those who have come before him.

"When I look at the list of previous awardees, and think about how very, very few graduates are so honored; I am humbled to be included," Stavridis said. "I'm especially proud to follow in the wake of surface warfare mentors like Admiral Mike Mullen '68, USN (Ret.), Admiral Bob Natter '67, USN (Ret.),



Vice Admiral Cutler Dawson '70, USN (Ret.), and Vice Admiral Scott Redd '66, USN (Ret.). And I'm proud to be one of four distinguished graduates so far selected from the proud Bicentennial Class of 1976."

Stavridis is not the only member of the Class of 1976 to appreciate the weight of this award. Class of 1976 President Captain Kevin F. Stone '76, USNR (Ret.), knows his classmate's global impact and accomplishments make him worthy of the recognition.

"It goes without saying that Jim's career in the Navy and as a civilian has been nothing short of spectacular," Stone said. "His ties to the Naval Academy have continued throughout. This is truly a distinguished career."

Stavridis can claim remarkable success in his "family business." He is proud his daughter, Julia, chose the "family business" as a Navy nurse.

In the Class of 1976 *Lucky Bag*, Stavridis' entry includes the following line written nearly 47 years ago:

"That he will excel at all he does, is a certainty." Indeed it was.



Admiral James G. Stavridis '76, USN (Ret.), receiving the Distinguished Graduate Award medal from Brigade Commander MIDN Michael Castellanos '23, USN, has published 12 books with six becoming national bestsellers. He produced new editions of the *Division Officer's Guide* and *Watch Officer's Guide*, fundamental textbooks for the surface Navy.

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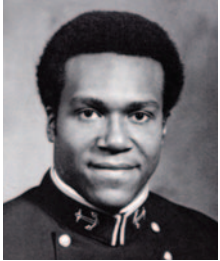
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# REAR ADMIRAL JULIUS S. CAESAR '77, USNR (RET.)



Rear Admiral Julius Caesar '77, USNR (Ret.), nearly made a critical mistake by underestimating his own ability.

Although his father suggested a path toward a military career after graduating from high school in Cleveland, OH, Caesar wasn't convinced. When the U.S. Naval Academy was raised as an option, Caesar demurred.

Fortunately, he overcame his self-doubt. He spent a year at the Naval Academy Preparatory School (NAPS), successfully applied to the Naval Academy, and his life's path was forever changed when he became a part of the Brigade of Midshipmen.

Reflecting on his initial hesitation to seek an appointment to the Naval Academy, Caesar is grateful. Had he balked at an opportunity just because it was challenging, he said he would have missed out on a Naval Academy education and a 34-year Navy career. Caesar tries to use his journey to inspire and uplift future midshipmen.

He said prospective midshipmen have nothing to lose by applying. Caesar said everyone experiences life's tribulations and the test of character is how you respond to hardships. He advises young people to not sell themselves short when opportunities arise.

"I've learned from that experience to be careful of closing a door because you don't know when you have to walk through it to achieve your goal," he said. "My journey to Annapolis almost didn't happen. Although, I had a desire as a young man to be a leader and a role model, I just didn't know at the time how my dream would manifest itself."

As one of 13 in the Class of 1977 to achieve flag rank, Caesar's exemplary career in both the Navy Reserve and as a corporate executive earned him the admiration and respect of his peers. But it's his unwavering commitment to promoting an environment of diversity and inclusion within the Academy and its alumni that cements his legacy.

"Julius' record of accomplishments and dedication to the Naval Academy are well-documented," said Captain Richard Thayer '77, USN (Ret.), a member of Caesar's nominating committee. "He has always strived to create change through a positive and constructive approach. Over the years, he has given a voice to many in the Naval Academy family who may have thought they did not have a voice within our various alumni organizations and associations."

## LAYING HIS KEEL

Lifelong friends, Thayer and Caesar met at Naval Station Great Lakes, IL, during boot camp. After talking with a Navy football scout, Caesar enlisted in the U.S. Navy Reserve in 1972 while still in high school. Upon completion of recruit training, he reported for duty at Naval Training Center, Bainbridge, MD, to attend the Naval Academy Preparatory School.

"I'm proud to have graduated from NAPS," Caesar said. "It's a great program and a wonderful resource for students like me, who show aptitude and potential but need some help honing their study skills and boosting their grades to the level required to attend Annapolis. It's also one of the largest sources for minorities to enter the Naval Academy."

Six weeks before Caesar's induction into the Naval Academy, his father died. Caesar could have left the Academy on a hardship discharge and returned to Cleveland to help take care of his mother, but she would hear nothing of it.

"After my father died, my mother went to work cleaning people's homes and doing what she had to do to take care of herself and my service-disabled uncle who lived with her," Caesar said. "She was the perfect Navy mom—always cheerful, caring and unselfish."

Caesar describes his mother as his superstar, a guiding force in his life who supported his aspirations and visited him in Annapolis every chance she could. Caesar entered the Academy as part of the largest class of Black male midshipmen in the school's history. Of the 125 who started, 62 graduated and commissioned. Caesar is the only Black graduate in the Class of 1977 to achieve flag rank. As a midshipman, he was part of 17th Company, which was Color Company for two of his four years. Caesar attributes his academic success in part to his roommate, Commander William Millward '77, USN (Ret.).

"I tell students today, 'You know how to get through the Academy? Have a really smart roommate,'" Caesar said. "We were roommates the entire time I was there and he helped me get through."

Captain John Heaphy Fellowes '56, USN (Ret.), also influenced Caesar during his time at the Academy. Fellowes, a pilot who was shot down over North Vietnam in 1966, spent six and a half years as a prisoner of war. Despite his harrowing circumstances, he maintained an infectious sense of humor, earning him the nickname "Happy Jack."

"I had Captain Fellowes for leadership," Caesar said. "It amazed me how he went through six-plus years of beatings and deprivation and came out with this tremendous sense of humor intact. I wondered if I would have the strength to endure all he did and not become a bitter individual. I learned a lot about the importance of resiliency and laying your keel from Captain Fellowes."

## EXEMPLIFYING SERVICE

Caesar spent six years on active duty as a surface warfare officer. When he was ready to transition into civilian life, he realized he wasn't ready to quit the Navy so he joined the Navy Reserve. He served an additional 28 years as a reservist and was promoted to the rank of rear admiral in January 2006.

"When I made admiral, my mother—my rock and my foundation—was sitting there in the front row just beaming," Caesar said. "She had a look on her face that said, 'My boy made it.'"



Though Caesar retired from the Navy in September 2011 after 34 years of service, his connection to the Academy endures. In 2018, he championed the formation of the Naval Academy Minority Association (NAMA), a Shared Interest Group that provides a safe and inclusive place for midshipmen and alumni to share their diverse backgrounds and experiences.

“With great energy and determination—if you know JC, you know what I mean—and consummate skill, he adeptly shepherded the NAMA SIG application through the various committees and ultimately received a unanimous vote by the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association Board to establish NAMA,” said Admiral Robert Natter ’67, USN (Ret.), who was then chairman of the Board. “Following a full career as a Navy officer, JC continues to contribute his scarce time in support of the Naval Academy, our Alumni Association and fellow alumni.”

Under Caesar’s steady leadership, NAMA presented the 2022 USNA Alumni Leadership Forum, a two-day symposium with the Secretary of the Navy, Honorable Carlos del Toro ’83, as a keynote speaker. Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Michael Gilday ’85, USN, and corporate leaders attended a gala dinner recognizing 150 years of Black achievement at the Naval Academy where Montel Williams ’80 delivered remarks. The Alumni Leadership Forum will be held each year to engage alumni and midshipmen.

The association also launched STEM and admissions programs for schools in underserved communities. In 2020, Caesar organized a series of virtual forums for alumni and midshipmen to discuss issues of social unrest as protests occurred across the nation.

He’s also served as chair of the U.S. Naval Academy Foundation’s Athletic & Scholarship Programs (A&SP) Awards Committee for the past five years. Recognizing that women were underrepresented at A&SP awards ceremonies, he spearheaded the effort to establish three awards recognizing the accomplishments of female athletes.

Caesar frequently is tapped to mentor students at NAPS and the Naval Academy.

“There was a midshipman who was on the verge of leaving the Academy,” Caesar says. “He needed some tough love and the chance to talk with someone he could relate to. I’m proud to say he got back on track. He’s scheduled to graduate in May and has been selected as a Navy pilot. I know what it’s like to hit a bump in the road. I’ve been fortunate to have mentors in my career who’ve helped me find my way. It’s gratifying to be able to do the same for others.”

Caesar credits Admiral Michael G. Mullen ’68, USN (Ret.), 17th chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Vice Admiral John G. Cotton ’73, USN (Ret.), and Major General Leo V. Williams III ’70, USMCR (Ret.), as mentors.

These thoughtful acts of one-on-one mentorship, relationships formed out of the spotlight to help others find their own path, define Caesar’s character for many.

“Rear Admiral Caesar is a leader that sees the best in people, advocates for their future and elevates all to be their best,” said Lieutenant John-Rex Spivey ’13, USN, director of the Naval Junior Officer Counsel. “He is a class act known for asking, ‘What can I do for you?’”

## MOLDING THE NEXT GENERATION

Though he’s honored and humbled by the recognition as a distinguished graduate, Caesar has never sought public recognition for his work. He finds fulfillment in helping others and making space for them to grow.

He spent three decades balancing dual careers in military and industry. He’s currently an executive with NetApp Inc., a global Fortune 500 cloud solutions, artificial intelligence and data management firm which supports his volunteer activities. He’s also a father to Christopher (spouse Megan), Jessica (spouse Jamarll), and grandfather to Mya, Jaidyn, Kyla, Isaiah and Leora.

“Faith, family and friends,” Caesar said. “Those are the most important things to build resiliency in your life.”

As a teen, Caesar envisioned a future where he could serve as a leader and role model. When he speaks to midshipmen now, he shares his story—both the hardships and the triumphs. When he arrived at the Academy, there weren’t many people in the Navy who looked like him. Now, his is a face that other midshipmen can look up to—“If JC can make it, you can, too.”

“The Academy did so much for me,” Caesar said. “It set a high standard that I strive to follow to this day. It put me on the path to a rewarding career and allowed me to make a good living and support my family. Those of us who can trace our success to the Academy have a responsibility to mold the next generation of leaders.”



**RADM Julius S. Caesar '77, USNR (Ret.), mentors students at the Naval Academy and the Naval Academy Preparatory School. He was also integral in establishing the Naval Academy Minority Association (NAMA) Shared Interest Group.**

## ADMIRAL CECIL D. HANEY '78, USN (RET.)



*“This isn’t just about me. My performance may help or impede others coming behind me.”*

Admiral Cecil D. Haney '78, USN (Ret.), blazed a historic path during his 38-year Naval career, serving as the first Black commander in several notable assignments. But his lasting legacy is the generations of midshipmen and military officers who have benefited from his

dedicated leadership and mentorship.

Haney’s prestigious career can be traced back to a series of conversations with his colleagues while working for Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) during high school. He spent his summers using a mainframe computer and punch cards to help keep track of shipyard data. His supervisors took an interest in him and encouraged him to learn computer programming languages.

As graduation approached, Haney set his sights on enlisting in the Army and saving money to attend medical school. Again, his NAVSEA supervisors had a recommendation. They introduced him to a Navy captain who explained the opportunities at the military service academies and ROTC programs, leading Haney to apply to both. As he learned more about the U.S. Naval Academy—and how he could still serve on the ground in the Marines—Haney knew he had found his match.

While Haney traded his Army plans to enroll at the Academy, he still hoped to join the pre-med program—until it was disbanded shortly after his arrival. Instead, he pursued ocean engineering, which opened his eyes to the possibilities outside joining the Marines. Then, during one summer, he had a chance to cruise on a submarine.

“I thought it was pretty neat,” he said. “I could go into the water in stealth and do all kinds of interesting things with a very small crew, compared to an aircraft carrier or a big cruiser.

“I started looking at the program and said, ‘If Admiral [Hyman] Rickover, USN (Ret.), Class of 1922, will accept me, I will go into the submarine business.’ Thankfully, he did.”

### AN INSPIRATIONAL LEADER

Haney said every assignment in his career had “great moments of growth,” starting with his first submarine assignment aboard JOHN C. CALHOUN.

“To have the trust and confidence of a commanding officer, to conn the ship [with little direction] from the captain, you feel like you’ve achieved something significant,” Haney said.

He went on to serve as the commanding officer of fast-attack submarine HONOLULU, commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet (PACFLT) and commander of the U.S. Strategic Command (STRATCOM). As PACFLT commander, he led the largest fleet in the Navy and was critical in providing the president with the military forces to pivot to the Pacific and serve as a deterrent to Chinese aggression. At STRATCOM, he fought for modernization and improved readiness for the nation’s nuclear forces and increased investments in space and cyberspace.

“When I graduated from the Academy, my goal was to command a ship someday,” he said. “While in command of HONOLULU, getting to do deployments out to the West Pacific theater, doing some critical operations, was a pinnacle moment in my life.”

Because of his work ethic and performance, Haney was often selected for some of the more challenging shore assignments. He served as assistant for Enlisted Affairs at Naval Reactors; congressional appropriations liaison officer for the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Comptroller; deputy chief of staff for Plans, Policies and Requirements, U.S. Pacific Fleet; director of the Submarine Warfare Division; and director of the Naval Warfare Integration Group.

Haney has been recognized for his leadership, particularly the prestigious Vice Admiral James Bond Stockdale Leadership Award for Inspirational Leadership for his performance as commanding officer of HONOLULU. He also received the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal and the Legion of Merit.

When Haney served as director of the Submarine Warfare Division in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, he led the requirement specifications and advocated for the replacement of the aging OHIO class strategic ballistic missile submarines. He worked closely with Admiral Kirkland Donald '75, USN (Ret.), who said Haney was “unsurpassed” in ensuring the submarine fleet had the resources it needed to accomplish its mission.

“His assignments were some of the toughest in the submarine community, and he set the example of excellence,” Donald said. “Through command at every level, he continued to lead with decisiveness and compassion, earning numerous awards and the undying devotion of a generation of sailors.”

### A MODEL TO THOSE WHO FOLLOWED

While Haney’s career achievements are notable on their own, they are even more remarkable because he was the first Black individual to serve as a 4-star submariner, as PACFLT commander, and as



STRATCOM commander. He is also only the second Black 4-star admiral in the nearly 250-year history of the Navy.

Haney was the sixth Black commander of a U.S. submarine, and he earned a place among the Centennial Seven—the seven Black officers who commanded submarines in the 20th century. Members of the group come together for support and mentorship, and to encourage and inform Black midshipmen and Navy officers about career opportunities.

Haney recalls one moment in his initial submarine training when Captain C.A. “Pete” Tzomes ’67, USN (Ret.), the first Black submarine commander, pulled him aside to talk about the privileges of being a submariner and the challenges of being a minority in the sub service and his expectations.

“His expectation was that we were going to do great things and that we were going to work hard to achieve as best we could,” Haney said. “It was a bit of a reckoning to recognize that this isn’t just about me. My performance may help or impede others coming behind me. That was a motivator to work as hard as I could.”

Later, when Haney was in command of HONOLULU, fellow Centennial Seven member Vice Admiral Bruce Grooms ’80, USN (Ret.), was the commanding officer of ASHEVILLE. They would meet occasionally to talk about their experiences.

“We would have a heart-to-heart talks,” Haney said. “These were roll-up-your-sleeves conversations about how you were dealing with various people, material and operational challenges.”

## AN EXPERIENCED GUIDE

Mentorship has been a constant undercurrent of Haney’s career, from his Naval Sea Systems Command supervisors that turned his attention to the Academy, to his support of young Black midshipmen and officers as a member of the Centennial Seven. He was also a Blue and Gold Information Officer in Washington, DC, and spent decades guiding applicants from predominantly underserved communities through the Academy’s admissions process.

Haney, along with the other members of the Centennial Seven, are credited with nearly tripling the number of Black submarine commanding officers in the 21st century.

“He has been instrumental in focusing this esteemed group to proactively identify, support and mentor young Black sailors and junior officers in their Navy careers and beyond,” says Vice Admiral Joe Leidig ’78, USN (Ret.). “As the saying goes, Admiral Haney has not only ‘talked the talk,’ he has, and is, ‘walking the walk’ to the betterment of the Naval service and our nation.”

Haney advises the young officers he mentors to be strong communicators who can clearly articulate their plans and

intentions yet listen carefully to others. He also stresses the importance of valuing the opinions of people at all levels—not just those in positions of power—and to have more than one mentor for a more balanced perspective.

Even in retirement, Haney continues to lend his expertise by serving as an advisor or board member for a variety of organizations, including the Aerospace Corporation, General Dynamics Corporation, Tenet Healthcare, Systems Planning and Analysis Incorporated, the Center for a New American Security, the Naval Studies Board, Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory and Penn State University Applied Research Laboratory. He is also chairman of the board of directors for the Military Child Education Coalition. Additionally, he is the chair of the trustee board for Hillandale Baptist Church, teaches Bible study and enjoys singing in the choir.

“When I retired, I had several goals,” he said. “I didn’t want to become a technology dinosaur, so I wanted to be associated with organizations that would keep me up-to-date. Second, I didn’t want my strategic thinking to depreciate; I wanted to help organizations think strategically. And I wanted to maximize my time on the home front and be the best grandpa on the planet.”

With mentorship—both giving and receiving—being so central to his identity, it should be no surprise that he sees his recognition as a Distinguished Graduate as an acknowledgment of those relationships.

“The Distinguished Graduate Award has my name on it,” he said, “but I look at it as something for all of those individuals throughout my career who have worked with me, who have enabled me to be successful. It’s all about them.”



**ADM Cecil D. Haney '78, USN (Ret.), was a trailblazer during his 38-year Naval career. He is only the second Black 4-star admiral in Navy history. He is a member of the Centennial Seven, which offers support and mentorship to Black midshipmen and Navy officers.**



# LYNCH LEAVES ENDURING A&SP LEGACY

Rear Admiral Thomas C. Lynch '64, USN (Ret.), envisioned the Naval Academy with elite coaches and athletes competing in some of the nation's finest facilities. After all, it was that reputation that sold him on the Academy as a high school football recruit. That wasn't the reality when Lynch became chairman of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association & Foundation's Athletic & Scholarship Programs (A&SP) in 2003. He had seen the deteriorating conditions while serving as the Academy's 54th Superintendent in the 1990s.

The Academy's once world-class facilities were aging and surpassed in quality by programs big and small. While Congress will finance the Academy's moral and mental missions, the physical mission may be easily neglected. Lynch said the secret to elevating collegiate athletic programs is providing quality academics, elite coaches, superior facilities and the athletic resources needed for a quality program. By partnering with Navy Director of Athletics Chet Gladchuk, Lynch helped transform the Academy's physical mission offerings from top to bottom.



Former U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association & Foundation President and CEO Byron F. Marchant '78, Naval Academy Director of Athletics Chet Gladchuk, RADM Thomas C. Lynch '64, USN (Ret.), Ron Terwilliger '63 and Naval Academy Superintendent VADM Sean S. Buck '83, USN, cut the ribbon on the Ron Terwilliger '63 Center for Student-Athletes in 2021.



**RADM Thomas C. Lynch '64, USN (Ret.), left, with Navy Coach Wayne Hardin, and Roger Staubach '65. Lynch was captain of the 1963 team that finished the season ranked No. 2.**

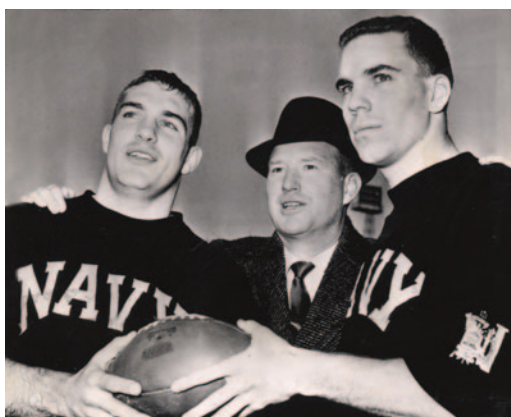


PHOTO COURTESY OF RADM THOMAS C. LYNCH '64, USN (RET.)

Between 2013 and 2022, Navy won nine Patriot League Presidents' Cups, including the past eight. Lynch, who stepped down from his role as A&SP chairman in April, said his tenure has been a labor of love. He deflected credit for the Academy's physical mission turnaround.

"I knew if I had an opportunity to give back to the Naval Academy for all the things the Academy has done for me, I was willing to step up," Lynch said. "We're making a meaningful impact in so many different ways. We're very proud of what has been accomplished, but it has taken us a while to get where we are today.

"I would not be stepping down if I felt we didn't have the structure in place. I know the next person who comes in will see things I don't see and find ways to make our athletic programs even stronger in the future."

Lynch's legacy includes upgraded athletic facilities that are among the nation's finest, first-class coaches for Navy's 36 varsity sports and continued support for prospective midshipmen to spend a year at one of 16 partner preparatory schools. More than 95 percent of Navy athletics' annual budget is from external, nongovernmental resources. During the *Called to Serve, Daring to Lead* campaign, which closed in June 2021, \$111 million was raised for the physical mission.

In 2022, A&SP provided almost \$4 million in direct support to the Academy's varsity, club and intramural teams as well as the Naval Academy Preparatory School in Newport, RI. Lynch played a central role in assuring Navy athletics has the resources required to excel.

"Tom's legacy is ingrained in the fiber of every dimension of success we have realized over the past two capital campaigns," Gladchuk said. "He has led by example through his personal philanthropy and motivated so many others as a result of his genuine loyalty to the Academy.

"When Tom speaks, people just do it. The physical mission would never have achieved the last 20 years of tangible advancements without Tom Lynch willing us to win, and always expecting those around him to take it to another level. He is one of this institution's greatest heroes."

## AN INVITATION TO LEAD

Lynch was captain of the 1963 football team, playing center and inside linebacker for the Navy squad quarterbacked by Roger Staubach '65. Navy entered the Cotton Bowl ranked No. 2 and facing No. 1 Texas. Although the Longhorns would win what was essentially a home game, Navy finished 9-2 and retained its No. 2 ranking.

Lynch retired in 1995 after 31 years as a Naval officer. Lynch was working in the financial industry in Dallas when he received a course-changing call in



*"Admiral Lynch has worked tirelessly for 20 years to establish A&SP as a strong force supporting Navy athletics. Tom has built a board of enthusiastic*

*supporters and the capital raised annually has been key to sustaining athletic excellence on a year-to-year basis. Additionally, during the two capital campaigns, members of A&SP have contributed significantly to the success of each campaign, resulting in the Naval Academy having outstanding facilities as well as coaches."*

—Ron Terwilliger '63 chairman, U.S. Naval Academy Foundation Board of Directors



*"Tom Lynch was a great teammate and friend and still is today. His leadership of our '63 football team was outstanding, and he is still leading our team and*

*keeping us together and in touch with one another. He is a born leader and his job as chairman of A&SP will be yet another portion of the great legacy he leaves the Naval Academy."*

—Roger Staubach '65, NFL Hall of Fame quarterback



*"Admiral Tom Lynch has made a generational impact on our U.S. Naval Academy. Every aspect of our mission has been positively improved through*

*his work. His legacy will live on through the countless number of midshipmen and Naval officers who serve thanks to Tom Lynch's unbridled spirit and love for NAVY."*

—VADM Walter "Ted" Carter '81, USN (Ret.), former U.S. Naval Academy Superintendent

## FEATURE



*"In 2005, Rear Admiral Tom Lynch ('64) took over the chairmanship of this unique 60-year old organization. At the time, it was largely a social organization*

*that focused on a highly successful USNA program and did some fundraising. He expanded the membership, continued the prep school focus but joined forces with the new USNA Foundation Development Group to dramatically increase the fundraising to support Navy athletic programs. Often stating, 'If you don't have the money, you don't have a program,' he led A&SP in the effort to raise more than \$100 million for Navy athletics in the capital campaign, Leaders to Serve the Nation. A&SP is now a critical and leading part of all fundraising efforts to support the physical mission of the U.S. Naval Academy.*

—CAPT Ed Wallace '72, USN (Ret.), former vice president and executive director, A&SP (2002-20)



*"Through his inimitable energy and passion for the alma mater and its moral, mental and physical development mission, Tom assured the alignment and*

*support of all 250 trustees to the same. Admiral Holloway's vision of Tom as a transformational leader could not have been more prescient. He now leaves the A&SP Trustees far better than he found it and has positioned his successor and future generations of trustees for continued success."*

—CAPT George P. Watt Jr. '73, USNR (Ret.), former president and CEO of the Alumni Association & Foundation



**RADM Thomas C. Lynch '64, USN (Ret.), second from right, at the 2014 unveiling of his Superintendent portrait with former U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association & Foundation President and CEO Byron F. Marchant '78, Dan F. Akerson '70 and then-Academy Superintendent VADM Michael H. Miller '74, USN (Ret.).**

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION & FOUNDATION

the early 2000s. Admiral James L. Holloway III '43, USN (Ret.), then-chairman and president of the U.S. Naval Academy Foundation Inc., was overseeing the reorganization of what is now the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association & Foundation. He wanted Lynch to run A&SP.

Any effort to decline the invitation would have been futile, Lynch said.

"Admiral Holloway was someone you don't argue with, you just say 'Yes sir,'" Lynch said.

The new incarnation of the Foundation—including A&SP—would deliver the necessary resources to provide the Academy with the "Margin of Excellence." Through alumni community philanthropy, the Foundation would fund the programs and facilities to lift the Academy from good to great.

Stroll the Yard or catch a game at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium and it's easy to spot A&SP's impact. The results are obvious from the prominent coaches working the sidelines to the athlete support systems (nutrition, academic and strength and conditioning) to modern facilities. Midshipmen athletic success can be traced back to the partnership between A&SP and the Naval Academy Athletic Association (NAAA).

Lynch said the old Foundation was not relevant to the Academy. He wanted the revitalized Foundation to be led by more highly engaged volunteer leaders. At A&SP, that meant raising the number of trustees from 150 to 250 and demanding more of their time, talent and treasure. A&SP also has about 90 trustees in emeritus status.

A&SP Trustees must attend 50 percent of meetings at the Academy and join their local alumni chapter. Ten committees permit active participation of many A&SP Trustees to support the Board's efforts.

Lynch said the pool of Trustees reflects the demographics of the entire alumni community.

"I'm proud of how diverse we are today," Lynch said. "We're now a relevant and respected entity within the Brigade of Midshipmen, to the director of athletics, the Foundation, the Superintendent. We are a committed group of men and women who want to achieve our mission of advancing athletics at the Naval Academy. I feel pretty good about what we've accomplished."



Thanks to a united effort and an unrelenting drive, the Alumni Association & Foundation provides midshipmen superior resources following two capital campaigns this millennium.

The first campaign in the early 2000s included a \$5 million gift from A&SP to begin transforming Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium. The stadium, originally built for the 1959 season, underwent a \$56 million renovation beginning in 2007. The *Leaders to Serve the Nation* campaign also included funding for the Glenn Warner Soccer Facility, the complete renovation and expansion of the Robert Crown Sailing Center and a new multipurpose Brigade Sports Center near Greenbury Point, among other significant Margin of Excellence initiatives. The subsequent *Called to Serve, Daring to Lead* campaign funded a variety of projects including the Gurneé '61 Golf Performance Center, the Ron Terwilliger '63 Center for Student-Athletes, the Tom Lynch '64 Football Wardroom, the Roger Staubach '65 Football Locker Room, the Captain Owen Thorp '77 Men's Lacrosse Wardroom, the Prager Family Squash Facility, Bishop Stadium lights and video board, Halsey Field House renovations, the Dyer Tennis Facility and the Ingram Track resurfacing.

A&SP's prep school scholarships are fully endowed through alumni community generosity, allowing A&SP leadership to focus fundraising efforts on athletic excellence. That effort is evident in the move of the Academy's men's and women's rugby teams and women's triathlon team from club to varsity status in the past year. Plans for a best-in-class lacrosse center were announced in January.

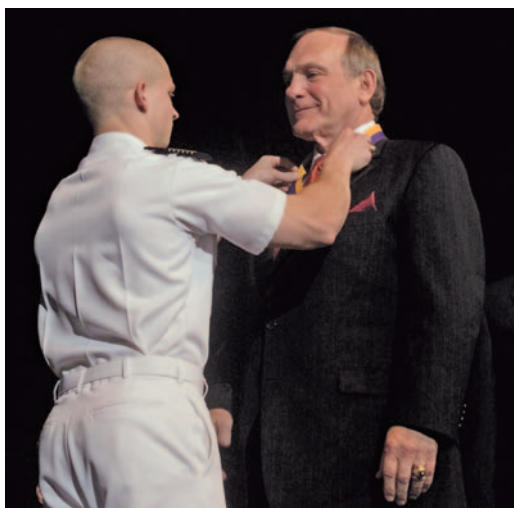
Lynch said top-tier student athletes expect—and Naval Academy athletes deserve—facilities that reflect a commitment to a high-caliber physical mission.

"Admiral Lynch embodies the ethos of 'non sibi sed patriae,' service before self," said Byron F. Marchant '78, who served as president and CEO of the Alumni Association & Foundation from 2009 to 2022. "He has been a resilient advocate through thick and thin for the Naval Academy.

"Admiral Lynch has been the cornerstone of Naval Academy success in the decade-plus I was president and CEO."

Marchant and Lynch partnered on campaigns and strategic planning that produced record-setting results. Midshipmen have benefited from Lynch's commitment as he personally led a \$100 million effort to raise funds for Navy athletics, Marchant said.

That commitment helped nearly double the initial Fund for Athletic Excellence goal, Marchant said.



**RADM Thomas C. Lynch '64, USN (Ret.), is a 2010 Naval Academy Distinguished Graduate honoree.**

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION & FOUNDATION



*"Rear Admiral Lynch is a towering figure and his 20-year legacy of giving back to the physical mission personally and as A&SP chairman will be unmatched. Tom*

*is a compassionate and caring leader who provided the margin of excellence for Navy's 34 varsity sports programs and greatly increased the number of A&SP awards for midshipman women athletes. He will be missed!"*

—RADM Julius S. Caesar '77, USN (Ret.), a 2023 U.S. Naval Academy Distinguished Graduate and an A&SP Trustee since 2010



*"He and I navigated good and bad times together. He was a constant bulwark to ensure staff had the proper resources so we could continue to be a first-rate*

*organization. Leadership is a contact sport; you can't do it virtually. Admiral Lynch is the ultimate embodiment of leadership as a contact sport. It makes perfect sense that as we honor his tenure, he will be honored at the new alumni center with his name on the A&SP suite."*

—Byron Marchant '78, former president and CEO of the Alumni Association & Foundation



*"As Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Twelve, there was NO doubt he was Task Group Commander during counter-narcotics ops in the Caribbean, an*

*often-frustrating mission. The Admiral's leadership traits came through loud and clear. ... Fast forward about a quarter century later at NewDay USA, I witnessed compassion and a great heart in action for the sake of the little guy, the veterans and families who need a helping hand up. There was total and genuine immersion for the needs of veterans. He was hands-on, all-in, all heart, his actions defining his legacy."*

—CAPT Joe Stewart '73, USN (Ret.), served in the Navy with RADM Lynch in the early 1990s and at NewDay USA



*"I will always appreciate how Admiral Lynch supported Navy athletics but maybe even more important, he transformed the membership of the Athletic & Scholarship Program Foundation to reflect the face of today's Naval Academy."*

—Sharon L. Disher '80, A&SP Board member since 2007



*"In his nearly two decades as chairman, Rear Admiral Lynch's leadership has had a tremendous impact on all of our athletic programs at the Naval Academy."*

*Because of his legacy, I have no doubt A&SP will continue to thrive for years to come."*

—VADM Sean S. Buck '83, USN, U.S. Naval Academy Superintendent



*"Tom Lynch's legacy is etched in every athletic achievement at Navy over the last 20 years, and sustained by the young men and women he inspired*

*and guided to enter Annapolis and serve our nation."*

—ADM Mark E. Ferguson '78, USN (Ret.), chairman, U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association Board of Trustees



*"Thank you, Rear Admiral Lynch, for your tireless dedication and support of the Naval Academy's physical mission. Your passion and dedication*

*are inspiring. It's fitting that efforts to sustain the Academy's prominence in the physical arena will occur in a space named for you."*

—Jeff Webb '95, president and CEO of the Alumni Association & Foundation



**Thomas C. Knudson '67, former Naval Academy Superintendent VADM Walter "Ted" Carter '81, USN (Ret.), and RADM Thomas C. Lynch '64, USN (Ret.), at a 2018 event.**

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION & FOUNDATION

Marchant credited Lynch for expanding the demography of alumni interested in the physical mission with men and women of all ages and races. Lynch was an effective conduit for linking eight decades of alumni.

"That did not exist when I first started," Marchant said. "He's been an important bridge for multiple generations. He bridged the generational landscape in communicating across decades, better than most volunteer leaders have been able to do."

Lynch has "leaned in" to ensure the physical mission is equipped for its immediate needs while also eyeing a sustainable path for athletic excellence, Marchant said.

"As he turns over the Athletic & Scholarship Program to new leadership and the trustees to a new leader, they're in the best shape they've ever been," Marchant said. "Financially, alumni demographics and NAAA have never been better supported by its alumni than it is today. He helped put Chet Gladchuk and the athletic mission on a map they wouldn't otherwise be on, frankly."

### TRANSFORMATIONAL FIGURE

Captain George P. Watt Jr. '73, USNR (Ret.), was a second-class midshipman and Lynch was a lieutenant commander serving as the Academy's candidate guidance officer when they first met. Watt was serving as the USNAAA&F president and CEO when Holloway picked Lynch as his successor as chairman of the executive committee of the A&SP Trustees organization.

It was a pivotal time for A&SP, Watt said. For it to survive and become relevant to the Academy, A&SP needed a transformative leader. It found one in Lynch.

"Tom took the baton neatly and for the next 20 years placed the A&SP Trustees on a remarkable trajectory characterized by never-before-seen impact and dramatically increased relevance," Watt said. "He provided philanthropic leadership by modeling the way with his own generosity and encouraging others to follow. He brought a renewed sense of pride to the entire organization, while growing the previously small and rather insular group into a true representation of Naval Academy alums, parents and friends."

Lynch's teammate Roger Staubach '65 said his longtime friend has always been an inspirational leader. A&SP has benefited from Lynch's passion and commitment, Staubach said.

"Tom Lynch was a great teammate and friend and still is today," Staubach said. "His leadership of our '63 football team was outstanding, and he is still leading our team and keeping us together and in touch with one another."

"He is a born leader and his job as chairman of the A&SP will be yet another portion of the great legacy he leaves the Naval Academy."



Naval Academy Vice Admiral Superintendent Sean S. Buck '83, USN, appreciates Lynch's counsel and dedication to fulfilling the Academy's mission.

"There are very few of us who have walked in these shoes and served as Superintendent," Buck said. "With that, there aren't many people you can turn to for advice. Tom Lynch took me under his wing from day one and has been a great mentor. I truly appreciate that. He's a great friend—a friend forever."

"In his nearly two decades as chairman, Rear Admiral Lynch's leadership has had a tremendous impact on all of our athletic programs at the Naval Academy. Because of his legacy, I have no doubt A&SP will continue to thrive for years to come."

The Alumni Association & Foundation will be housed under one roof for the first time this summer when the new Fluegel Alumni Center opens. To recognize Admiral Lynch's contributions, the A&SP suite in the new facility will be named in his honor.

Alumni Association & Foundation President and CEO Jeff Webb '95 said Lynch will be missed but his legacy will remain.

"We are grateful for Admiral Lynch's tireless dedication and support of the Naval Academy's physical mission," Webb said. "It is fitting that the A&SP suite will be named in his honor given his decades of exemplary service to our enterprise, after his decades of service to our Navy and nation. While his service as A&SP chair is concluding, I look forward to enjoying his company as a passionate alumnus and friend of the Naval Academy for years to come."

Lynch said he leaves A&SP knowing its future is bright.

"I hope to be remembered as someone who always did the right thing for the Naval Academy and for the program and people I was working with," said Lynch, who is still executive chairman of the board of advisors at NewDay USA, a mortgage lender that specializes in VA-guaranteed loans. "I wanted it to be better when I left than when I came. It was a privilege to have that opportunity." ⚓

## GOOD THINGS COME IN THREES

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# SUSTAINED SUPPORT

## ALUMNI CONTINUE TO SUPPORT WAR-TORN UKRAINE

Nico Woods '12 had only lived in Kyiv, Ukraine, for a few weeks before Russia invaded in February 2022. In the immediate aftermath of the war, Woods helped connect those seeking to evacuate with private efforts to get people out of Ukraine. He delivered food to people who could not go outside.

As the war raged on, Woods worked to improve humanitarian aid supply chains. He also partnered

with a Ukrainian body armor manufacturer to restart their production with all products donated to the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine.

Since that initial scramble to assist Ukraine's people and military, Woods has become director of operations for the Ukrainian Freedom Fund (UFF). UFF is a nonprofit that has supported more than 200 requests from hot spots all over Ukraine. Among the items



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF NICO WOODS '12

The Ukrainian Freedom Fund partnered with the Lviv Defense Cluster to provide more than 100,000 pieces of body armor to the Ukrainian military free of charge since Russia's full invasion. Nico Woods '12 is pictured here with some of that body armor.



provided through January 2023 are 150 drones, 20 cars, 40 tablets, 15 generators, 250 winter uniforms and surgical tools for an entire front-line operating room.

They've led renovation efforts on hospitals and promoted education and community outreach programs. Woods shared with *Shipmate* how some of UFF's efforts are positively impacting Ukrainians.

### **BRIX**

Brix is UFF's first student in a 5-month long dog-training program focused on explosive and bomb detection. The Russo-Ukrainian War has resulted in a significant number of casualties, and the use of explosive devices by both sides has become increasingly common.

Trained dogs can be instrumental in detecting explosives and bombs, helping to mitigate the impact of such devices, and saving lives. Additionally, the presence of trained dogs can serve as a deterrent, as their ability to detect explosives may dissuade aggressors from using them. By providing Ukraine with a reliable and effective method of detecting explosives, the dog training program can aid in the country's efforts to defend its borders and protect its citizens.

### **BODY ARMOR**

At the onset of the full invasion, Ukraine needed more than 350,000 sets of body armor. Seeing an opportunity to help the Ukrainian military obtain personal protective equipment, Woods partnered with Lviv Defense Cluster (LDC), a Ukrainian nongovernmental organization (NGO) that manufactures body armor.

LDC quickly moved from Kharkiv to Lviv and began building their operations from scratch. Woods saw the potential of this partnership and helped the Lviv Defense Cluster raise \$100,000 in the first month alone. With this initial funding, they were able to scale their operations and make significant contributions to the Ukrainian military. They have provided more than 100,000 pieces of body armor to the Ukrainian military free of charge.

### **CARS WITH SUPPLIES**

UFF acquires sport utility vehicles, trucks and vans for use by Ukrainian citizens



**Brix is the Ukrainian Freedom Fund's first student in a 5-month long dog-training program focused on explosive and bomb detection.**

and defenders as ambulances and for the transport of critical supplies and aid between the front lines and logistics hubs in the West. UFF has provided dozens of vehicles to Ukraine.

This includes sprinter vans for the transport and deployment of humanitarian drones, refrigerated busses for the dignified transfer of fallen Ukrainians to their families for burial with honors, SUVs for the rapid deployment of humanitarian aid, replacement vehicles for those destroyed by Russian artillery and makeshift ambulances to deliver wounded Ukrainians to lifesaving care within the critical "golden hour" when chances of survival are highest.

### **TIRES**

One of the Ukrainian Freedom Fund's recent initiatives was procuring off-road tires for an ambulance that plays a critical role in transporting civilians and defenders to points of medical care quickly. This ambulance is often required to navigate rough terrain, and the new off-road tires will significantly improve its ability to reach those in need of urgent medical attention.



**The Ukrainian Freedom Fund provides off-road tires for an ambulance that plays a critical role in transporting civilians and defenders to points of medical care quickly.**





The Ukrainian Freedom Fund provides cold-weather clothing to military members as part of its “Warm up Ukraine” campaign.



In December 2022, the Ukrainian Freedom Fund delivered critical resources to six cities within the Donetsk region including generators for a children's hospital and combat life saver bags to the Ukrainian military.

### WARM UP UKRAINE

Kyiv's average low temperatures in October and November are 40 degrees F and 32 degrees F, respectively. From there, average lows drop sharply and do not increase above 30 degrees F until April. If not properly dressed and equipped, mild hypothermia sets in at these temperatures after around 30 minutes of exposure, severe hypothermia in under an hour and minimum survivable temperature in under two hours.

UFF is in constant close contact with Ukrainian citizens and defenders. The Ukrainian Freedom Fund has prioritized a new “Warm Up Ukraine” campaign from October to April with the goal of providing winter clothing and equipment to Ukraine. This includes hats, gloves, jackets, socks, boots, thermal underwear, Gore-Tex and multi-layer sleep systems, furnaces, generators and other critical aid.

### FRONTLINE AID

From 18 to 20 December 2022, the UFF team visited several cities within the Donetsk region: Pokrovsk, Myrnodgrad, Slavyansk, Svyatogirsk, Lyman and Kostiantynivka, which is 10 kilometers from Bakhmut.

Together with the paramedics of the training center of the main administration of the National Police in the Donetsk Region, UFF team members visited a children's hospital in honor of St. Nicolas Day in the city of Svyatogirsk and spread joy among the children living under occupation all this time.

The UFF team delivered:

- Two generators from Kolo Foundation to Kramatorsk Children Hospital.
- Mavic-3 and tablets to military unit A7039.
- Four combat life saver bags and ten tactical scissors to military unit A4062.
- 20 combat squad medical bags, 40 pairs of kneepads and 20 water canteens for the Pokrovsk National Police Training Center. 🇺🇦

# A RETIREMENT I DIDN'T ENVISION

By Ken Shearer '77

When we last visited John Shmorhun '77, in the June 2022 *Shipmate* issue, he had volunteered as the director of Humanitarian Assistance for the Ukrainian Education Platform. Focusing on the biggest unmet need of housing for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Shmorhun and his wife, Tuscia, formed MoveUkraine along with a third partner, Andy Kuzich, in May of last year. Kuzich is a British Ukrainian, with a construction background, who has lived in Ukraine more than ten years.

The focus of MoveUkraine is assisting Ukrainians in rebuilding their homes, lives and communities amidst the destruction brought on by the war since Russia invaded in February 2022. At the core is rebuilding disused and damaged buildings to make homes for IDPs. Adjacent to that is building community and supporting Ukrainian business, as the nation rises from the rubble of bombs and missiles, while also acting as an “integrator” of other nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) services to the communities of Ukraine.

MoveUkraine is building wonderful partnerships with groups like United Nations, Liev Schreiber's BlueCheck



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF MOVEUKRAINE

Ukraine, Ridgefield Responds, Norwegian Refugee Council, USAID, International Organization for Migration, Despro, Ethalon, People in Need and the local mayors and municipalities where they are working. This enables the charity to move quickly and efficiently to respond to the women, children, orphans and seniors in need.

I retired in March 2022 after a 45-year career of military service and civilian work for large companies and small—predominantly in sales, marketing and consulting. As I envisioned slowing down a bit, the normal hobbies of travel, golf, cooking, wine and more time to read were on my mind. What I didn't anticipate was a dinner that John Shmorhun, my wife, Susan Leigh, and I had over the Fourth of July weekend. For three hours, Shmorhun shared the vision, mission, challenges and hopes that he, Tuscia and Kuzich were pursuing.

Many things impressed me that evening, but two stand out. First, the three founders all had every opportunity to leave Ukraine and live comfortably either in Switzerland or England, but decided to stay to help their adopted country not only survive, but thrive and rebuild. Second, all of the people involved are working completely as volunteers, including the three founders. Before the evening was done, with a nod from Susan, I told John that I wanted to be part of the team to help with marketing, communications and fundraising. It is one of the best calls I have ever made.

I was not alone in answering the call. Three months after joining with Shmorhun and MoveUkraine, the Class of '77 held our 45th reunion in Annapolis. Two of our Classmates, Captain Craig W. Turley '77, USN (Ret.), and Thom McKee '77, with the support of Class President Captain John F. Vuolo '77, USN (Ret.),

**John Shmorhun '77, his wife Tuscia, and the Mayor of Kalush, Andriy Nayida, cut the ribbon to officially open the new facility in Mostyshche in November 2022 that will house 29 children and caregivers, who have lost their homes during the war with Russia.**



**MoveUkraine renovated a 120-year-old school to provide homes for 29 women and children, including orphans, in Mostyshche.**



## FEATURE

organized a golf fundraising tournament. Nearly \$6,000 was raised directly or indirectly from that effort to support the charity. Wonderful support from so many in our class!

In nine action-filled months, MoveUkraine has already made a big impact. In our year-end report (<https://tinyurl.com/2kz0g5gv>), we noted four projects were completed in 2022, with three more over 80 percent done. These retrofits of under-utilized or damaged buildings are now housing 200 children and their caregivers. MoveUkraine makes a difference for women, children and seniors, as most of the able-bodied men (and some women as well) are off fighting the war.

### AMBITIOUS PLANS

One of the first projects in Mostyshche, provides a home for 29 women and children, some of them orphans and/or disabled. Orphaned children are a key focus as we move forward, and our “people network” identifies groups of kids that desperately need homes coming from the eastern and southern parts of Ukraine, closer to the war front.

MoveUkraine’s plans for 2023 are ambitious. But when you see the pictures and hear the stories of the senior citizen taking shelter in his chicken coop, because his home had been destroyed by Russian shells, there is great motivation. We finished the remaining three projects started in 2022 in March. There are an additional 11 projects that have been identified.

Between these two blocks of work, an additional 1475 IDPs will have new homes. Thirty percent of these projects have received funding, and we continue to raise money for the remaining (approximately \$3.2 million more to be raised this year). The charity is only limited in the work that can be accomplished, by the investments it receives. The principals (John and Tuscia Shmorhun and Kuzich) have developed a network of craftsman, builders and manufacturing resources to drive the work forward, while at the same time encouraging the economic activity so vital to rebuilding the communities around these homes.



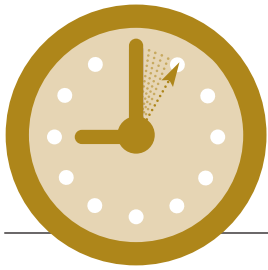
A new and exciting development/innovation that MoveUkraine is testing is called a Nest, which was developed by Eric Rasmussen, managing director and principal scientist at the Applied Hope Foundation, and his network of engineers and professionals experienced in large-scale disaster relief. The designer and architect of these units was Dan Keeney, senior director of engineering at Briotech Inc., and one of the cadre of volunteers Rasmussen recruited.

Rasmussen was one of the first volunteers to join the MoveUkraine team in the U.S., and brings his 25-plus year Navy experience as a medical doctor to the table, as well as post-military involvement with numerous efforts around the world where natural disasters have struck. The Applied Hope Foundation provides the IRS approved 501(c)(3) status in the U.S. for MoveUkraine. This Nest can be built in less than two weeks and house a small family in a warm and comfortable place. In addition to the support for IDPs, the Nest concept is also being adopted for use by the Ukrainian military.

Another component of the charity is aimed at assisting children. Kathleen Hessert (a communication innovator in the sports and entertainment industries who founded WeRGenZ, which provides insight from members of Generation Z to businesses, educators, researchers and media) is driving a program called KidsKonnnect Ukraine, which aims to build connections between schools in Ukraine and the U.S. The objective is to support the children of Ukraine, existing in an environment that will change them forever, while providing a global perspective for U.S. students that they might not otherwise get to understand.

The Class of '77 has stepped up in a big way to support MoveUkraine. The Shmorhuns and the rest of the volunteers on the ground and around the world are an exemplary model of selfless leadership in action. We are always on the lookout for new teammates to join our effort and we welcome all Naval Academy classes to get involved. I can be reached at [Ken@MoveUkraine.org](mailto:Ken@MoveUkraine.org) if you want to know more about why being a part of MoveUkraine is the most important and impactful thing I have done in my life—supporting those in need. Slava Ukraini! 🇺🇦

**MoveUkraine is testing Nests, which are homes that can be built in less than two weeks and house a small family.**



## FIVE MINUTES WITH... CAPTAIN DARIJA JURKO '01

*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.*

Captain Darija Jurko '01 was promoted in December 2022 and became the first female Navy captain in the Croatian Armed Forces.

Jurko was an international midshipman from Croatia. After graduating from the Naval Academy with a systems engineering degree, she assumed her first assignment as a weapons officer onboard the then-new Croatian fast missile attack ship, RTOP-12 KRALJ DIMITAR ZVONIMIR. She was the first female crew member onboard any of the Croatian Navy warships.

Her staff officer assignments at the Croatian Navy headquarters included duties and responsibilities in the areas of international and NATO cooperation, combat readiness, doctrine development, exercises and training. She was also the first female Croatian Navy officer to participate in the European Union Naval Forces Operation ATALANTA-Somalia in 2011.

Jurko is currently stationed at the Croatian Defense Academy, as a head of the section responsible for future Croatian Navy officers' education, where she teaches courses related to naval weapons systems. She is pursuing a Ph.D. in engineering and information technology in Split.

**Shipmate:** What attracted you to the Naval Academy?

**CAPT Jurko:** I applied to the Naval Academy through the Croatian Minister of Defence at the time when Croatia was coming out from the Homeland War. This type of military education cooperation between our two countries was a great uplift for future Croatian Navy officers. The love of country and the huge respect for those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for Croatian independence drove me through those four years by the Bay. I was the first foreign national from Croatia. Frankly speaking, I didn't know what to expect. The Naval Academy has a reputation of excellence, and it definitely deserves it. Now I am glad I could be a part of that excellence.

**Shipmate:** How did the Academy prepare you to lead in the Croatian Navy?

**CAPT Jurko:** At the Naval Academy I first learned how to follow. I am grateful for all the people I've met at the Naval Academy, and I appreciate all the things we have gone through together. I've learned a lot from classmates, as well as from upperclassmen. They had great people on staff, both military and civilian, who tried to get the best out of each individual. My first-class spring semester, I was a striper, and I had a great leadership opportunity as the 2nd battalion executive officer. It was an awesome leadership experience that helped me in the coming years.

**Shipmate:** What drives you as a leader?

**CAPT Jurko:** First, I lead myself and I strive for excellence in everything I do. I have developed a high sense of accountability and I believe I can inspire and motivate others by setting the example. I still look up to great



In December 2022, CAPT Darija Jurko '01, was promoted and became the first female Navy captain in the Croatian Armed Forces.

leaders and try to follow their passion. Also, good communication skills are important in transferring visions, missions and goals of the organization.

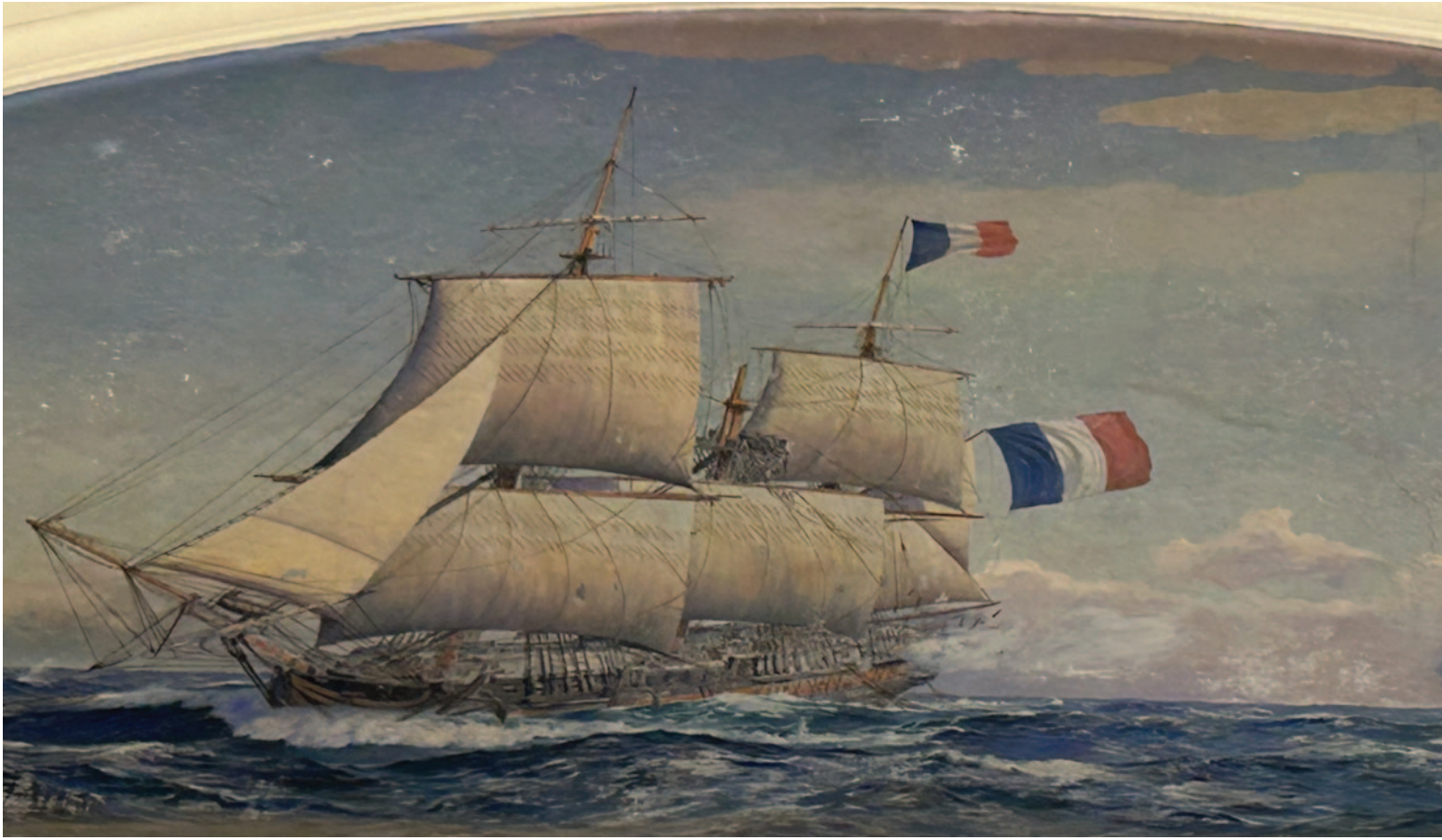
**Shipmate:** Did you envision yourself as a barrier breaker when you started your career?

**CAPT Jurko:** At the beginning of my career, I was not fully aware of barriers I would encounter as the first female officer onboard a warship. I was an educated young naval officer and I had to prove my knowledge and abilities to lead. Looking back at those 22 years of my career, my persistence and hard work paid off. I have broken many barriers and I am glad I am part of the history. But, I wouldn't have made it this far without great shipmates and co-workers as well as some great commanding officers who have been supporting me all this time. This promotion is definitely my favorite moment among many barrier breaking moments I've had since graduation.

**Shipmate:** Do you see yourself as a role model for the next generation of women officers in the Croatian military?

**CAPT Jurko:** I am glad I've helped open the challenging path to new generations of women in the Croatian Navy. It is a small navy and today we have many women onboard serving as officers, enlisted and sailors. Female midshipmen comprise 20 percent of the current naval officer study program. Being there for them, to transfer my knowledge and experience, and to motivate them by personal example is a great honor. To be a role model for the next generation of officers, would be the best award for me at the end of my career. □





# CONSTELLATION vs. L'INSURGENTE

## MEMORIAL HALL'S SECOND MURAL COMMEMORATES FIRST VICTORY OF THE U.S. NAVY

By Warren D. J. Hoppe '61

*This is the second article in a series on the mural-sized paintings at the U.S. Naval Academy, which began with coverage of Memorial Hall's first lunette in the March-April 2022 issue of Shipmate.*

*This installment deals with Memorial Hall's second lunette, titled "CONSTELLATION vs. L'INSURGENTE." It is known historically as "The Action of 9 February 1799," which occurred during the undeclared Quasi-War with France, and was the first victory by a U.S. Navy vessel.*

### Historic Battle

In 1785, the United States disbanded the Continental Navy to reduce federal expenditures but soon the fledgling nation found its merchant ships were considered easy prey for pirates. Despite its Revolutionary War ties to France, America remained neutral in the early 1790s when the French monarchy was toppled and hostilities flared among European nations.

Tension escalated among the former allies in 1796 and 1797 as French privateers

began seizing American ships trading with Britain. The lack of a U.S. Navy allowed such privateers to roam the seas virtually unchecked. Privateers seized 136 ships accounting for six percent of the U.S. merchant fleet by October 1797.

Three years earlier, Congress had come to recognize a need for a navy and while negotiations dragged on over enabling legislation which would create the U.S. Navy, it authorized the construction of six frigates. CONSTELLATION,





The "CONSTELLATION vs. L'INSURGENTE" mural in Memorial Hall was dedicated 26 May 1936. It depicts the battle in which the U.S. frigate CONSTELLATION defeated French frigate ship L'INSURGENTE on 9 February 1799 during the Quasi-War with France.

the first of the six to be completed, was soon at war.

After five rather tranquil years spent cruising in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean, in 1798 L'INSURGENTE was dispatched to the Caribbean to serve as a commerce raider. Under Barreaut's command, she arrived on station at about the same time Truxtun's squadron reached the same waters.

The smaller of the two combatants, L'INSURGENTE was 149 feet, 3 inches long and weighed 950 tons. Larger and more robust, CONSTELLATION was 164 feet long and weighed 1,265 tons. By gun counts, their armaments might be taken as equal.

L'INSURGENTE was rated at 40 guns, while CONSTELLATION was rated at 38 guns but now also carried 40. But these counts were deceptive because L'INSURGENTE's main battery consisted of 24, 12-pounder classic long guns whereas all CONSTELLATION's

guns were 24 pounders, about equally split between long guns and the new, short-barrel carronades. In more familiar phraseology, the battle that ensued between the two ships could be likened to a duel between a destroyer and a cruiser.

Near noon on 9 February 1799, while patrolling 18 miles northeast off the island of Nevis in the Caribbean Sea, CONSTELLATION spotted L'INSURGENTE, which was flying American colors, and closed to investigate. Commissioned in 1793, L'INSURGENTE was considered the fastest ship in the French Navy and possibly in the world.

Sighting CONSTELLATION around 12:30 p.m., Captain Michel-Pierre Barreaut mistook her for a British corvette and turned to flee to the Dutch Islands of Saba and Sint Eustatius. L'INSURGENTE's job was commerce raiding and not engaging enemy warships, which she had already demonstrated by successfully escaping from CONSTITUTION three weeks earlier.

But Captain Thomas Truxtun chased her down and within an hour was close enough to make private signals inquiring whether she was British, and then American. Receiving no answer, Truxtun resumed the pursuit, clearing his ship for action and beating to quarters. To further lessen the range, CONSTELLATION crowded on more canvas just as a sudden squall came up, powerful enough to tear sails or crack a spar.

Reefing sail just long enough to weather the brief gale, CONSTELLATION barely lost way but L'INSURGENTE wasn't as lucky. The violent wind snapped her main topmast, impairing her speed and allowing the onrushing enemy to draw near. Barreaut ordered her to lay up and prepare to fight. Hoisting the French Tricolor, he attempted to parlay before shots were fired but Truxtun ignored the request. Instead, with his standing orders to attack any French privateer or warship he might encounter, he closed to within 50 yards of L'INSURGENTE and as CONSTELLATION's last guns were

brought to bear, he answered Barreaut with a full broadside.

All guns were double-shotted and fired at L'INSURGENTE's hull, a tactic of American and British warships of the period. L'INSURGENTE replied with her own broadside, but her guns were aimed at CONSTELLATION's masts and rigging per French doctrine.

CONSTELLATION's masts were saved from sail being reduced to slow her as she came alongside L'INSURGENTE and fired a broadside, which left many French dead and caused others to desert their guns. Attempting to gain the upper hand, Barreaut maneuvered his ship to board CONSTELLATION, only to watch the American ship rush ahead to cross L'INSURGENTE's bow and fire a devastating raking broadside.

The bloody combat at close quarters lasted for 74 minutes with L'INSURGENTE taking the brunt of the punishment. Her hull was badly damaged and much of her rigging shot away while CONSTELLATION remained in decent fighting shape, suffering only moderate damage aloft. Realizing he was in a completely unequal contest, Barreaut struck his colors. The comparable losses in men told a stark tale: 29 French dead and 41 wounded from a crew of 409 against three American dead and two wounded from a crew of 309.

### Naval Academy Connection

Although the first lunette "Opening of the Action between CONSTITUTION and H.M.S. JAVA, 29 December 1812" was completed as a standalone work, soon after its dedication in early 1932 discussions were underway about a companion piece for the opposite wall. An early proponent of the idea was the Superintendent, Rear Admiral Thomas C. Hart, USN, Class of 1897, the moving force behind the first mural.

Hart was sure the artist should again be Charles R. Patterson, who created the first lunette. Hart worried that with Patterson approaching 60, if the decision



PHOTO COURTESY OF NAVAL HISTORY AND HERITAGE COMMAND

**CAPT Thomas Truxtun commanded CONSTELLATION when she launched on 7 September 1797. In December 1798, Truxtun took command of a squadron of CONSTELLATION and four smaller ships ordered to patrol a sector in the Eastern Caribbean and engage French privateers or warships.**

the Naval Academy Chapel and by the time “Tommy” Hart was himself Superintendent he relied heavily on his wife’s judgment, which is evident by decisions involving dealings with Patterson on the first lunette attributable to her.

After leaving Annapolis for his new command, Hart and Caroline discussed the subject of the second lunette at “King House,” their home in Sharon, CT, when on leave. By then, the idea of a memorial to Admiral Brownson had become almost certain since Sellers was personally convinced that the second mural-painting would be that memorial.

The subject of the painting came up during a phone conversation Sellers had with Caroline on 16 May 1935 during which he told her that there could be “no more dignified, fitting and lasting memorial” to her father than the new mural-painting. He gave his assurances that Patterson was ready and able to perform the work. Ten days later, Caroline invited Patterson to King House to discuss the project with herself and her mother.

Patterson responded promptly but his tone was surprisingly indifferent. Although behind on an existing commission and never expecting to hear anything further regarding the second lunette, he agreed to meet. From then forward, Caroline Brownson Hart oversaw the dealings with Patterson and others—including a final price for the work of \$10,000—that led to the lunette’s dedication on 26 May 1936. The honor of the unveiling went to Mrs. Brownson’s grandson and Caroline’s son, then-Midshipman Thomas Comins Hart ’39.

### The Quasi-War with France

Events foreshadowing the Quasi-War with France of 7 July 1798 through 30 September 1800 during which CONSTELLATION engaged L’INSURGENTE were convoluted. Since the war itself was rather unusual, the lead-up to the conflict follows to set the stage for this first victory of the newly formed United States Navy.

Only 20 years earlier, France had been a key U.S. ally during the Revolutionary War. The U.S. entered into its first international agreements with France while the war was still being waged. Known as the Treaties of Alliance and Commerce with France of

1778, these pacts were aimed at fostering trade between the two nations, but also obligated the United States to side with France in the event of war between her and Great Britain.

Prior to the Revolution, merchants from the North American colonies conducted a robust two-way commerce with British Colonies in the Caribbean. But full prosperity was slow in returning to the new nation because the Treaty of Paris of 1783, which ended hostilities, failed to address several trade-related issues. Great Britain’s exports to the United States flourished while she effectively prohibited reciprocal import of U.S. goods through heavy tariffs; the British West Indies were closed to U.S. trade; and eight British forts remained on U.S. territory, stretching from Lake Champlain to Mackinac Island in Lake Huron.

In 1785, the Continental Navy, which achieved some glory during the Revolutionary War but without any impact on its outcome, was disbanded just short of its tenth anniversary. Due to limited financial resources, the young nation decided to forfeit maintaining a standing navy. But having relinquished the ability to safeguard its maritime interests, it soon found its merchant ships vulnerable to attack and capture. This was particularly true in the Mediterranean where the infamous Barbary Pirates brazenly preyed upon American vessels without fear of consequences.

Then in 1789 the French monarchy, which had entered into the 1778 treaties, was overthrown during the French Revolution and replaced by a republic bent on similarly demolishing the other monarchies in Europe. The threat became real in 1792 when the Republic of France began the conflict known as the War of the First Coalition against Great Britain and several other European powers which saw the new French regime as a mortal enemy.

The United States elected to remain neutral, claiming that any obligation to side with France against the British was void because the agreement was made with the monarchy. In addition, it applied to “defensive wars” and France had opened the hostilities by declaring war on Britain and Holland. In 1793, Congress used the

to proceed with the second lunette dragged on, the artist might not be up to the rigors of handling another large project.

In January 1934, Hart received orders to command Cruiser Division 6 with his change of command as Superintendent slated for 18 June by Rear Admiral David F. Sellers, USN, Class of 1894. His impending transfer would prevent him from initiating the project let alone to see it through to its completion.

But Sellers had been thinking of the second mural even before relieving Hart, and by early 1935 had a potential donor in Mrs. Isabella Roberts Brownson, widow of Rear Admiral Willard Herbert Brownson, USN (Ret.), Class of 1865, the 18th Superintendent (1902-1905).

Some sources indicate Sellers “found” his donor in Mrs. Brownson. But, she may have conveniently been “offered” as the donor because during two years of her husband’s three years as superintendent, a young officer from the Class of 1897, known to contemporaries as “Tommy,” taught ordnance and gunnery. He also courted the Brownsons’ second daughter Caroline. The couple married in 1910 at

same argument, that the Treaties of 1778 were invalid, to renege on French loans obtained during the American Revolution.

Almost concurrently with the steps which infuriated the French, by 1794 relations between the United States and Great Britain had so deteriorated that the countries were also on the brink of war. Not only had issues left unresolved by the Treaty of Paris become more grating on the Americans but there were new aggravations. The Royal Navy had begun impressing American seamen for its manpower needs and was preventing American ships from entering French ports despite their neutral status.

But Britain had recently taken an even more belligerent step. Fearing the United States might yet side with France in the current struggle despite having disavowed its obligation to do so, Britain was arming the eight forts on American territory,

which had stood unoccupied for years.

To defuse the situation with Britain, President George Washington dispatched John Jay, Chief Justice of the United States, and at the time one of the country's most experienced diplomats, to London to negotiate a treaty resolving the disputes. Arriving there on 15 August 1794, Jay reached an agreement on the treaty bearing his name on 19 November, but ratification by the two governments delayed its taking effect until 29 February 1796. Under its terms, Britain abandoned forts on U.S. soil, granted the U.S. most favored nation status and allowed a limited degree of U.S. trade with the British West Indies.

Learning the Jay Treaty contradicted the most favored nation status granted France in 1778, American ships trading with Britain started to get seized by French privateers. In July 1797, having served for only a few months, President John Adams sent a special commission to France to negotiate a solution to the situation that threatened to break out in war.

It was widely known at the time that diplomats from other nations paid bribes to meet with the French foreign Minister Charles-Maurice de Talleyrand-Périgord but the Americans were highly insulted by the demands and returned home without having entered into talks. The Adams Administration report to Congress on the mission replaced the offending French diplomats' names with the letters "W," "X," "Y" and "Z" to mask their identities. The incident became known as the "XYZ Affair." With the failure of peacemaking efforts, the Quasi-War, which was fought essentially at sea, broke out on 7 July 1798 with the capture of a French privateer by the sloop-of-war DELAWARE off Egg Harbor, NJ.

### Creation of the U.S. Navy

As attacks on its unprotected merchantmen mounted, the U.S. government came to acknowledge a need for a permanent navy. On 27 March 1794, while debate in Congress stalled over the enabling legislation, it authorized construction of what became known as the "six original frigates." The sixth to be ordered was the nation's first CONSTELLATION, bearing a name derived from wording in the Flag Act of 1777

describing the stars in the flag as "representing a new constellation."

Built in Baltimore with Truxtun overseeing construction, she was launched on 7 September 1797 and although her commissioning date is uncertain, with Truxtun in command, she was the first of the six frigates to put to sea.

At long last the United States began assembling a naval force to deal with the French deprivations, starting with a few warships still in service with individual states and a handful of armed merchantmen. Soon these were joined by CONSTELLATION, first active from June through August 1798 escorting ships off the Atlantic seaboard. Then in December, Truxtun took command of a squadron of CONSTELLATION and four smaller ships ordered to patrol a sector in the Eastern Caribbean and engage any French privateers or warships encountered.

### Outcomes

Following a refit at Norfolk, L'INSURGENTE was commissioned as USS INSURGENT. Completing a war patrol in European waters over the winter of 1799-1800, she was briefly back in America only to sail for duty in the Caribbean soon after. Departing Hampton Roads, VA, on 8 August 1800, she was never seen again.

Although CONSTELLATION would serve the nation in peace and war throughout the first half of the 19th Century, she would only engage in combat one more time and that a second frigate-on-frigate action during the Quasi-War on 1 February 1800. This time it was a running battle against the French LA VENGEANCE which lasted until the badly-damaged ship broke contact with CONSTELLATION to run for neutral territory. Taking on water, she intentionally grounded to prevent from sinking.

The Quasi-War ended with the Convention of 1800, signed on 30 September. This was made possible by the significant reduction in activity of French privateers and warships due to patrols by the U.S. and Royal Navies and the more conciliatory diplomatic stance shown by the French government of First Consul Napoleon Bonaparte.

Further information can be found at [usna.com/tributes-and-stories](https://usna.com/tributes-and-stories). ⚓



PHOTO COURTESY OF NAVAL HISTORY AND HERITAGE COMMAND  
ADM David F. Sellers, USN (Ret.), Class of 1894, was the 30th Superintendent of the Naval Academy. He found a patron for financing the "CONSTELLATION vs. L'INSURGENTE" mural in Memorial Hall in Isabella Roberts Brownson, widow of the 18th Naval Academy Superintendent RADM Willard Herbert Brownson, USN (Ret.), Class of 1865.



# TRAIN YOUR BRAIN

By Lieutenant Kathleen Barrios '18, USN

**“W**hen things are going bad, there is going to be some good that will come from it,” said John Willink Jr., retired United States naval officer who served as a member of SEAL Team 3 and is popularly known as “Jocko.”

In the U.S. military, there are numerous highly technical weapon systems that assist our warships, submarines and aircraft in accomplishing the mission. However, our most powerful, strongest and precious weapon is our mindset. The warfighter mindset should be protected at all costs and should be valued more than the most capable missile.

Sailors around the world are answering the call to serve in the armed services without fully understanding this concept. Many so confidently and selflessly join the military without the resources or knowledge of the importance of maintaining their mental health. The mental health of all sailors is vital to the success of the mission but it is the individual’s responsibility to train their brain to be ready for the fight.

## **Life is tough, but so are you.**

Throughout life, there will be roadblocks and obstacles, however, there will also be accomplishments and achievements. Life in the military is no different. People with different backgrounds, experiences and values coming together to work toward a common goal can be difficult, but having a problem is an opportunity to find a solution. Camaraderie and resiliency establish the warfighter mindset, while accountability and motivation build and sustain it. Lead by example and establish the warfighter mindset as the standard within your command and watch it grow.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LT KATHLEEN BARRIOS '18, USN

LT Kathleen Barrios '18, USN, organizes a ship reception aboard FORREST SHERMAN in Port Haifa, Israel, during the ship's 2022 deployment while serving as the flagship for Standing NATO Maritime Group Two (SNMG 2).

**Perspective is vital.** As a firefighter, you do not wait until a house is on fire to conduct training on how to respond. As a surgeon, you do not wait until someone is in need of a heart transplant to review the procedure. As sailors, we should not wait until something devastating occurs or wait for the crucial moment where we need to make a difficult decision to think about what we would do if that situation arises. Each day is an opportunity to train our brains so when the time comes, whether in peace or war, we are ready. Day-to-day military life will bring frustrations,

but life is so much bigger than small grievances. When life presents barriers, good. “If you can say the word good, guess what, it means you’re still alive. It means you’re still breathing. And if you’re still breathing, you still have some fight left in you,” said Jocko.

**Find your passion.** The most rewarding and consistent way to feel a part of a team is to get involved. Whether you volunteer, conduct training, establish a group—the most important thing is that you do something! Do not wait around for someone else to do it. The time is now!

Taking care of your mental health does not always mean going to talk to a therapist, that your life is falling apart or that you need to step away from your job. Taking care of your mental health means comprehending how resilient and capable you are. It means policing your thoughts and focusing your perspective on the positive and understanding that negative results are a part of life. It means focusing on what you can control and making a plan for things you’d like to change. It means finding something you are passionate about and buying in to the team mentality.

Are you having a tough day? Good, because you are stronger for it. Now get out there and make a difference! ⚓

LT Kathleen Barrios '18, USN, is currently serving as the fire control officer aboard FORREST SHERMAN (DDG-98), homeported in Norfolk, VA. She was selected for lateral transfer in August 2022 and will begin her career as a public affairs officer in July 2023. She is married to LT Garrett Barrios '18, USN who is serving as the damage control assistant aboard McFAUL (DDG 74), homeported in Norfolk, VA.

# BRAVO ZULU

## 1970s

**'70: CDR Peter deV. Patrick, USN (Ret.)**, was inducted into the Society of the Cincinnati of Maryland in February at their 241st annual meeting in Baltimore, MD.

**'74: The Honorable Donald P. Loren** was conferred the title of Distinguished Professor of Practice by the National Defense University in Washington, DC, for his work as professor of national security and resource strategy at NDU's Eisenhower School. Loren retired in 2006 as a rear admiral with 32 years of active service as a surface warfare officer.

**'79: Wayne Elmer** was selected as St. Luke's Foundation 2022 Physician of the Year. The foundation provides innovative support to advance compassionate patient care, research and community health.

## 1980s

**'88: Jim Maguire** was elected to the City Council of Dayton, OR. He was appointed to the City Council to fill an unexpired term that ended in December 2022, and successfully ran for his first full four-year term. His fellow city councilors and mayor elected him as council president at their first meeting in January.

**'89: RADM Peter A. Garvin, USN**, will be assigned as president of the Naval War College in Newport, RI. Garvin was serving as commander, Naval Education and Training Command, in Pensacola, FL.

## 1990s

**'92: CDR Juliane Gallina, USN**, was honored on the 2023 Federal 100 list released in February.

## RADM Pittenger Honored by Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (WHOI) announced a tribute for Rear Admiral Richard "Dick" Pittenger '58, USN (Ret.). Pittenger led WHOI's marine operations for 32 years. To honor him, WHOI created the Rear Admiral Dick Pittenger Access to the Sea Fund, which will enable WHOI scientists, engineers and students access to the sea on some of the world's most advanced oceanographic research platforms, such as NEIL ARMSTRONG and ATLANTIS.

The fund will:

- provide WHOI researchers with the ship time they need to develop proof-of-concept research results, which will help them attract more traditional risk-averse funding;
  - ensure the WHOI fleet is equipped with systems and technologies that will enable innovative research well into the future;
  - provide ship time for a MIT-WHOI Joint Program student cruise, providing Ph.D. candidates with valuable first-hand experience in cruise logistics, conducting research at sea and completing a post-cruise assessment.
- Pittenger joined the U.S. Naval Reserve during the Korean War and earned an appointment to the Naval Academy. He served as a Navy officer for 37 years and earned a master's degree in physics, specifically underwater acoustics, at the Naval Postgraduate School. His last duties in the Navy were as director of Anti-Submarine Warfare for the chief of naval operations, and as the oceanographer of the Navy. [□](#)



PHOTO COURTESY OF WHOI

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (WHOI) announced the creation of the RADM Dick Pittenger Access to the Sea Fund that will honor longtime WHOI marine operator RADM Dick Pittenger '58, USN (Ret.). From left to right, Marine Operations Coordinator Eric Benway; Director of Ship Operations Al Suchy; RADM Pittenger; WHOI Marine Engineer Hank Ayers and WHOI Port Engineer Dutch Wegman attended the christening of NEIL ARMSTRONG.

She was recognized for her efforts in the federal IT field.

**'93: Thomas J. Mills** was honored on the 2023 Federal 100 list released in February. He was recognized for his efforts in the federal IT field.

**'94: CDR Juliana Vida, USN (Ret.)**, was honored on the 2023 Federal 100 list released in February. She was recognized for her efforts in the federal IT field.

**'97: CAPT Steve Djunaedi, USN**, relieved CAPT Bob Holmes, USN, as commanding officer of Naval Air Station Oceana during a change of command ceremony in February. Djunaedi previously served as the executive officer and commanding officer of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 154, the Black Knights, and as the Air Boss in HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75).

## 2000s

**'01: CAPT Joseph Darcy, USN**, relieved CAPT Dana Simon as the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Philadelphia Division's commanding officer during NSWCPD's Change of Command Ceremony in Philadelphia, PA, in March. Darcy previously served as technical director for Surface Ship Design and Systems Engineering, Naval Sea Systems Command Engineering and Logistics Directorate (SEA 05).

**'02: CDR Dan Hancock, USN**, left command of FRANK E. PETERSEN JR. as the commissioning commanding officer to serve as executive officer of ZUMWALT. **CDR Rich McCandless, USN**, completed a tour as commanding officer of ALBANY, including leading his boat to win the COMSUBLANT 2022 Battle "E"

for SUBRON 6. He is now the 5th battalion officer and nuclear accessions officer at the Naval Academy.

**'09: LCDR Nick Rausa, USN**, received the Army Achievement Medal for organizing the Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School's recent trip to the U.S. Supreme Court. As part of the trip, Rausa coordinated the visit of 109 active-duty judge advocates by working with staff members of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces and Navy-Marine Court of Criminal Appeals.

Do you know someone who deserves a Bravo Zulu? Send to [comms@usna.com](mailto:comms@usna.com).



## ALUMNI MENTORING PROGRAM

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And finally, I got a great video clip sent me by **Doyle** and **Joan Borchers** who run a most successful dance company in the Napa, CA area. They planned for, managed, rehearsed their buns off and then produced a most successful Nutcracker performance in that area during the Holidays. Wow, what an effort! Their teenaged grand-daughter, Finley, performed in the Clara role, and daughter AJ performed as Mrs. Stahlbaum in the party scene. Congrats to Doyle and Joan for putting all that together.

Thazzit, guys! Aloha, Dave

## '66

**Life Membership: 66%**  
**Donor Participation: 3.55%**

Pres: **VADM John "Scott" Redd, USN (Ret.)**  
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Sec'y: **CDR Mike Baird, USN (Ret.)**  
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West Coast Sec'y: **Robert G. Johnson Jr., Esq.**  
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Website: [www.usna66.org](http://www.usna66.org)

Hopefully everyone is enjoying warmer weather. There's not a great deal to report this month so this will be short. Hopefully the June '23 issue will provide more news.

The first Class luncheon of 2023 was held on 8 February at the Army-Navy Country Club in Arlington, VA. Through the efforts of **Scott Redd**, the guest speaker was the Honorable Dan Coats. Dan has been a Senator, Congressman, Ambassador, and Director. His talk focused on his tenure and Director of National Intelligence, a Cabinet Secretary level position. Dan's presentation was well received by Classmates and spouses attending. Pictured are left-to-right, Ambassador **Paul Wohlers** ('74), **Don Jackson**, **Robert Percival**, **Chuck Grutzius**, **Tom Eubanks**, Dan Coats, **Scott Redd**, **Jim Maynard**, **Jim Long**, **Ace Sarich**, **Pete Wright**, **Chuck Tebrich**, and **Rodger Carter**. Not pictured, but attending, were **Phil Bozzelli**, and **Pete Hesser**. Also attending were Scott

Redd, Jr., and Adam Redd. Spouses attending were Donna Redd, Karen Tebrich, Nancy Long, Jean Grutzius, and Betty Eubanks. Many thanks to Scott for obtaining the guest speaker and providing the photo. As a reminder the next luncheon is 10 May, in Annapolis, MD, and the final luncheon will be held on 9 August at the Army-Navy Country Club in Arlington, VA. An email will be sent a few weeks before each event with details.

In closing, don't forget to visit our Class website at [www.usna66.org](http://www.usna66.org). It's a great source of news, including *Shipmate* deadlines, *Shipmate* Articles, Presidents Corner, Band of Sisters, and recent posts like the new benefits for Vets exposed to Agent Orange. Postings are also provided for Class luncheons and other news. Therese Long-Fish has done an excellent job of keeping the site current. So, I encourage you to check it out. Until June...All the best... Mike!!!

## '67

**Life Membership: 76%**  
**Donor Participation: 4.95%**

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

Sec'y: **LtCol Jim McNeece, USMC (Ret.)**  
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Got a note from Diane, wife of **Tony Monaco**, giving us a heads up about the death of **Ron Stoll**. Ron passed away on 22 January 2023 in Phoenix surrounded by his wife Elizabeth and his six children: David, Kristin, Carin, Brian, Emily, and Amy. He joined us at USNA in 1963 and did very well academically. His nemesis, however, was swimming—the only class he received a grade lower than an A in and the reason he became an officer in the Marine Corps instead of the Navy. According to his family, given how proud he was to be a Marine, there is no doubt that this "fail" was anything but. After a tour in Vietnam, he served a stint as White House Liaison to the Secretary of the Navy. Ron left the active Marine Corps in 1972 and moved the family to Toledo, where he attended law school at the University of Toledo while Elizabeth pursued her career in nursing.

By 1979, the family had moved to Phoenix where he became a successful real estate attorney. His family saw him as a complicated person on the one hand, but genuinely satisfied with simple pleasures. "He never met a salty snack or a root beer float he didn't like and enjoyed a salt-rimmed margarita on the occasions that he partook." They said that as if on cue, Ron took his last breath moments after his family toasted him with margaritas in hand. In addition to Elizabeth and their children, Ron is survived by 17 grandchildren. Donations in his memory may be made to causes that were important to him: Hospice of the Valley (<https://rb.gy/kko312>) or Catholic Charities of AZ (<https://rb.gy/xivzjmj>). Services for Ron were private.

In the last column, I briefly reported the passing of **Ed Meintzer's** wife, Kay, on 17 January 2023 in Denver. CO surrounded by her family. Kay was born in 1944, grew up on the south side of Chicago, worked at Johns Hopkins Medical Center as a nurse, married Ed on 17 June 1967, and raised five children: Edward, Thomas, Suzanne, Mary Kay, Michael. After the family settled in Denver, she worked as a psychiatric nurse for 25 years. In addition to Ed and their children, she is survived by six grandchildren. Kay's family and friends describe her as the rock of her family, a "powerhouse," the ultimate nurturer and caregiver, and the light and life of the party.

**Dan Welch** sent a note apologizing for not letting us know sooner about the death of his wife, Sabra.

✉ I've been remiss for months in not sending news of my wonderful wife Sabra's passing in July 2022. I have been devastated and very slow to get it together. Sabra knew a few classmates notably, **Pete Misiasek**, who, with Lynn, lived close to us in Spain.

It's never too late, Dan.

Sabra Welch passed away peacefully on 9 July 2022 at Concord Hospital, Concord, NH. She was born in 1947 and graduated from Boston University School of Nursing in 1969. After commissioning in the Naval Reserve and being stationed at the Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, VA, she met Dan. They were married in 1977. After her naval service and receiving advanced degrees, she worked for over 40 years in nursing and counseling, focusing on families and youth. Sabra had expansive interests and hobbies ranging from historical research in support of the Canterbury Shaker Village, to extensive travel, and to running an 18th century tavern called *The Brown Dog*, named after the family Lab. In addition to Dan, Sabra is survived by their son ENS John Welch, and two stepdaughters Cathy and Deidre.

And as I was finishing up this column I found out that **Charlie Brown's** wife Marlene passed away on 18 January 2023. Charlie said they were married the day after graduation.

I got a great note from **Steve Delesie**. Steve was a gymnast during our 4 years at the Academy.



'66 FEBRUARY LUNCHEON ATTENDEES



# CHAPTER NEWS

## Alabama

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

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

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Sec'y: **Ruth Lichtenfeld**  
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## Arizona

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### Arizona Chapter

Pres: **Capt David M. English '86, USMCR**  
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Sec'y: **Steven W. Ranes '02**  
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Website: <http://arizona.usnachapters.com>

### Southern Arizona Chapter

Pres: **Thom Rossa '63**  
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Sec'y: **Jim Hillenmayer '73**  
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Website: <http://southernarizona.usnachapters.com>

## Arkansas

BGO Area Coordinator: **David Chucoski**  
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### Arkansas Chapter

Pres: **Denny East '08**  
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Vice Pres: **Doug Waller '02**  
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Sec'y Treas: **Jason Coyle '09**  
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## Asia

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### Guam Chapter

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### Singapore Chapter

Pres: **Say Yong Tan '05**  
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Vice Pres: **Andy Harrell**  
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Sec'y: **LTJG Nicole Uchida '12, USN**  
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### Republic of Korea Chapter

Pres: **CDR Chong (John) M. Yi '85, USN**  
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### Tokyo Bay Chapter

Pres: **Mori Nixon '81**  
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Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-0062  
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## California

### Los Angeles Chapter

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Sec'y: **Russel Hill '06**  
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Treas: **Michael Seaver**  
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BGO Area Coordinator (LA County/Orange County):  
**CDR Steve Shatynski '83, USN (Ret.)**

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

We have some exciting news since our last submission! We'd like to welcome our new chapter president, **Adrian Montecinos '14**. Adrian is a native of Brea California and has been our Vice President for the past 3 years and we look forward to his continued leadership in his new role. We'd like to thank our outgoing President, **Shane Skopak '05**, for his service to our chapter and everything he did while he was President. He led our chapter during the Covid years and did an amazing job keeping all of our members engaged! Under Shane's leadership, we revived Army/Navy watch parties onboard the battleship USS IOWA in San Pedro including over 250 Army and Navy alumni and their families. Thank you Shane!

The Chapter also elected Mr. **Brian DeJarnett '98** as a Trustee for his second term. Congratulations Brian and thank you for representing our chapter with pride in our Naval Academy Alumni community.

In February, members from our chapter joined The Adventurers Club of Los Angeles at their clubhouse for a reading by USNA Alum and Award-Winning Author Mr. **Brian O'Hare '88**. We'd like to extend a warm thank you the Adventurers Club and Mr. Rich Mayfield who invited us. We look forward to joining them for more events in LA.



On right: Brian O'Hare '88



Left to right: Rich Mayfield '07, Brian O'Hare '88

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



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

We have several outstanding events coming up. Please check the next page and we hope to see you there!

# CHAPTER NEWS

## Upcoming Events:

**March 8:** Happy Bear/Board Meeting at Salty Bear Brewing in Costa mesa with Special Guest Brian O'Hare

**April 12:** Board Meeting (Zoom)- Open to All Alumni

**April 16:** Annapolis Cup 2023: Croquet Match in Burbank with USNA Parent's Club

**April 29:** Cirque de Soleil: Corteo (Save the Date)

**May 10:** Board Meeting (Zoom)- Open to All Alumni

**May 27:** LA Fleet Week (Save the Date)

### \*Attention\*

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

### Monterey Bay Chapter

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

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

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

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

### Sacramento Chapter

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

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

Sec'y: **Paul Deveaux '96**  
e: paul@pauldeveaux.com

Treas: **Alan Abbs '91**  
e: alanabbs@gmail.com

Past President: **Dennis P. Joyce '61**  
p: 916-996-1333; e: djoyce1961@hotmail.com

Our Parents Club is amazing, and we are grateful they include alumni in their events. On 5 February, Greg and Darcie **Garcia (Meredith '26)** hosted the annual Dark Ages Packing Party and lunch at their home in Sacramento. **Brian Grubbs '92, Lauro Aguilla '81** and **Terri Riggs '82** joined the parents to pack over thirty care packages with lots of goodies to send to the Sacramento area midshipmen to help them get through the dark days of February. It's great to stay connected to the parents to see what has changed and what remains the same about our days in Annapolis.



Class of 1983 with the SECNAV and the football they presented to him that they had signed.

We continue to host events each month now and seem to be settled on the day and location for each. The classes of the '60s are well represented at breakfast and lunch, we get some 'younger' crowd as well as West Point and Air Force alumni at happy hour. These tend to be mostly social and we're always looking for ways to attract more members by making it a worthwhile experience.

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.

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

Our VP, Brian Grubbs '92, is sending monthly emails for reminders and updates to our calendar. If you don't get those emails and would like to be included, let one of us know. We continue to work on transitioning to myusna.com for all of our communications and networking. If you're in the area and would like to join us, just show up.

### San Diego Chapter

Pres: **Steve Rasmussen '88**  
e: President@usnaaasd.com

Corr Sec'y: **Charlie Carey '70**  
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e: cdcarey@1970.USNA.com

Website: <http://usnaaasd.com>

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



The San Diego Chapter in coordination with the San Diego Parent Club had the honor and privilege of hosting a lunch for The Secretary of the Navy, **Carlos Del Toro '83** at the Bay View Restaurant onboard the Marine Corps Recruit Depot.

With less than a three-week notice, **Mike Philbrook '83** was able to organize a great event. There were 233 people in attendance with 170 alumni representing 57 classes spanning 74 years, from the class of 1953 to the future class of 2027. The class of 1983 showed support for their classmate by having 25 people in attendance.

The Parent Club was represented by 14 of its members representing five different classes ranging from 2020 to 2027.

After lunch the SECNAV received a special introduction by the reading of his entry from Lucky Bag. His first order of business was the presentation of his coin to Foundation student and future member of the class of 2027, **Benjamin Koziner**. After short remarks, he answered questions from the audience and stayed around to shake hands and pose for pictures with everyone that desired one.



Senior attending member Rufus Moore '53, SECNAV Carlos Del Toro '53, and junior attending member A&SP Foundation Student Benjamin Koziner '27

2023	ISSUE:	DUE DATE:
<b>CHAPTER SECRETARY COLUMN DEADLINES</b> <i>Send to: <a href="mailto:chapternews@usna.com">chapternews@usna.com</a></i>	July-August '23	30 May '23
	September '23	29 June '23
	October '23	27 July '23
	November-December '23	28 Sept '23





San Francisco Chapter Board Dinner Meeting.

This event was a class act and a huge success.

## San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

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

Vice Pres: **Mike Fazio '85**  
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Sec'y: **Ray Fazio '57**  
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Treas: **Brian Frack '89**  
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Website: <http://sfbayarea.usnachapters.net>

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

Instagram: @usnaaa\_sfbaychapter

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

**Mike Fazio '85** was elected to replace **Gordon McDonald '06** as Chapter Vice President. A Bravo Zulu to Gordon for your faithful service.

Chapter President, **Bobby Nefzger** organized a dinner meeting at the Marines Memorial Club in San Francisco for Board members and prospective new members in January. Plans for Chapter activities were outlined for 2023.

In attendance and shown in the photo were: **Ray Fazio '57, Pete Antoniak '67, Tom Berns '68, Steve Hall '75, James Gafford '76, Mark Lorenflo '83, Mike Fazio '85, Klaus Barboza '88, Brian Frack '89, Devan Cross '93, Jose Cobos '95, Doyle Galvin '02, Lauren Cosgrave '04, Chester Heer '12, Bobby Nefzger '14 and Spencer Leslie '14**

## 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/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/santabarbarachapterusna.9>

Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/usnaalums\\_santabarbara/](https://www.instagram.com/usnaalums_santabarbara/)

## Colorado

### Colorado Chapter

Pres: **CAPT S. Guy Higgins '69, USN (Ret.)**  
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Sec'y: **CAPT Matthew McLaurin '92**  
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Website: <http://usnacolorado.com>

BGO Area Coordinator (Denver):  
**CAPT Dick Eason '84, USN (Ret.)**  
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### Colorado Springs Chapter

Pres: **LCDR John Sledgianowski '87, USN (Ret.)**  
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Andrew Graziano**  
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## Connecticut

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

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

Sec'y: **Eric Irwin '86**  
p: 860-857-8748; e: irwiner@comcast.net

Comms Dir: **David Candler '67**  
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Meeting Chairman: **Vacant**

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

Naval Academy Parent Club of CT

Website: <http://ct.usnaparents.net>

Aloha Shipmates!

Dark Ages hereabouts, but this to be delivered to your mailbox later on...

A few historical items that may have been bothering you. Other than Tecumseh, most monuments on the yard have logical originating names. And buildings, as well. And surely you are aware of the source of the name for Carter Hall, previously Maury Hall. But not as crisp is our knowledge of source of the names for the surrounding waters. Of primary curiosity is the

Severn River. That name came from the very colonial practice of naming after existing similar items back "home" - home being England for this region. And the Severn River back "there" was named after the River Severn - the longest (220 miles) and most voluminous river in England/Wales. The Annapolis Severn River is but 14 miles long. And the River Severn has its history in Olde English and Roman (Sabrina) and Welsh (hafren- which means boundary). And I think THAT is far enough back. The Annapolis Severn tributaries are Weems Creek (named after the first settlers near its banks in the 1600s, and Spa Creek (twisted from Spaw). (Chesapeake Bay is left to the reader).

Looking for information you have that I should share with Shipmates. Send to [DavCandler@aol.com](mailto:DaveCandler@aol.com).

*Dave Candler '67*

## Costa Rica

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

### Costa Rica Chapter

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## Delaware

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### Delaware Chapter

Pres: **Chris Dierkes '85**  
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## Florida

### Gainesville Chapter

Pres: **Vacant**

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Steve Swift '87, USNR**  
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### Jacksonville Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Scott Neidhold '77 USNR (Ret.)**  
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Vice Pres: **Glen Hamilton '85**  
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Treas and Chapter Trustee: **Enochia Anderson '94**

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

Communication Director: **CDR Nels Frostenson '80 USN (Ret.)**  
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50 Year+ Alumni Liaison: **CDR Peter Garfield '60 USN (Ret.)**  
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BGO Area Coordinator: **CDR Richard O'Sullivan '77, USN (Ret.)**  
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# CHAPTER NEWS

## Greater Miami Chapter

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

BGO Area Coordinator:  
**CAPT Dennis R. Neutze '65, JAGC USN (Ret.)**  
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## Orlando Chapter

Pres: **Christopher Clark '01**  
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Sec'y: **Dave Shikada '79**  
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Webmaster: **Greg Hemphill '72**  
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Website: <https://mysna.com/topics/9546>

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **CDR Richard O'Sullivan '77, USN (Ret.)**  
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Our Chapter Board of Directors distributed a membership survey at the end of 2022 with the aim of better understanding the interests, preferences, and constraints of area alumni to inform our forward planning and activities. Our response rate was a not so bad 12%. The survey results were tabulated, summarized, and some findings and recommended actions were outlined. This report is accessible on the Orlando Chapter myUSNA.com website, on the tab labeled "Media Center."

We'll continue to communicate Chapter activities, announcements, and other important nuggets via email blasts and posting to our website.

## Palm Beach Chapter

Pres: **Ivan Rosa '84**  
e: irosa@1984.USNA.com

BGO Area Coordinator:  
**CAPT Dennis R. Neutze '65, JAGC USN (Ret.)**  
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## Pensacola Chapter

Co-Pres: **Jose Perez '10**  
Co-Pres: **Joey Walker '02**  
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Sec'y: **JD Kameen**  
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Capt. Joan Platz**  
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## Southwest Florida Chapter

Pres: **Hank White '68**  
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Sec'y: **Lukas Rebertus '12**  
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BGO Area Coordinator:  
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Website: [southwestflorida.usnachapters.net](http://southwestflorida.usnachapters.net)



Suncoast Chapter: USNA Grads at Navy League Dinner Feb 2022

## Space Coast Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Pete Peterson '56, USN (Ret.)**  
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Sec'y: **LtCol Tom Schwartz '56, USAF (Ret.)**  
p: 321-255-5452; e: thomasschwartz@bellsouth.net

BGO Area Coordinator: **CDR Richard O'Sullivan '77, USN (Ret.)**  
p: 407-687-6877; e: raaos@aol.com

## Suncoast Chapter

Pres: **Alois (Al) Burda '68**  
e: alburda3@verizon.net

Vice Pres: **George Thompson '77**  
e: thompsongw77@gmail.com

Second Vice Pres: **George "Bo" Hamrick '79**  
e: bhamrick@financialpreservation.com

Treas: **Dick D'Anna '68**  
e: dannari68@comcast.net

Sec'y: **Vacant**

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Steve Swift '87, USNR**  
e: sswift@1987.usna.com

On Wednesday 1 February at Bird Key Yacht Club, the Sarasota Manatee Council of the Navy League held a joint dinner meeting with our Florida Suncoast Chapter. The dinner was attended by over 60 people, half of which were USNA Grads with their wives. Notable attendees included Chapter Members **RADM Larry Chambers '52, USN (Ret.)** and **RADM Steve Horton '73, USN JAGC (Ret.)**. All came to hear Chapter Member and Distinguished Alumni **VADM Doug Crowder '74, USN (Ret.)** speak of the Navy's many challenges moving forward. The meeting started out with Council President **Carl Cramb '81** welcoming everyone.



Carl Cramb Welcomes

A delicious dinner was served, followed by VADM Crowder's realistic, entertaining, and sobering presentation.



VADM Crowder

After speaking, VADM Crowder donated copies of his books "Sea Stories" and "More Sea Stories" to those in attendance. After dinner, USNA graduates gathered for a group photo and many attendees gathered to socialize before departing.

Lots of fun on Friday, 10 February in the Florida sun for Chapter members and guests at Snook Haven on the Myakka River in Venice. About forty alums and guests attended in perfect weather for great BBQ and music in an "old Florida" atmosphere. A wonderful event!



Raise the Flag

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## Tampa Bay Chapter

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

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Steve Swift '87, USNR (Ret.)**  
e: sswift@1987.usna.com



Pres DJ Marzetta '94 leads the toasts

The success of our winter event encouraged the chapter board to resume holding our monthly luncheons. In the past, we've held about 10 luncheons per year, typically on the fourth Friday of the month. The Chapter website will be your source of information for these events including location, time and the name/topic of our guest speaker.

One of our chapter's long-time traditions is the annual summer Lobsterfest. The board recently met to discuss whether we are ready/equipped to host one in 2023. While member enthusiasm for the event is high, the board is doing its due diligence. It's been several years since we've done this, and given the increased costs of everything, the board is looking at a number of options.

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

## Georgia

### Atlanta Chapter

Pres: **DJ Marzetta '94**  
p: 404-996-7019; e: djmarzetta@gmail.com

Sec'y: **John "Wiz" Withers '79**  
e: jdwithers@1979.usna.com

Website: <http://www.usnaaaa.com>

BGO Area Coordinator (Atlanta/North Georgia):

**Deborah Catrini**  
e: deborah.catrini@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator (Southern Georgia): **Ryan McDonel**  
e: rmcdonel.usna@gmail.com

Atlanta is back!

After a two-year hiatus (everyone knows why), the Atlanta chapter successfully resumed our "live" social scene. In February we held our "Dark Ages" party at the 57th Fighter Group Restaurant at the DeKalb-Peachtree airport in Atlanta. The cold, rainy evening did not dampen the enthusiasm of 40-plus members, spouses and guests, and the prescribed "Navy Spirit" attire added to the lighthearted fun of the evening.



Dark Ages party



More party fun

## Hawaii

### Hawaii Chapter

Pres: **Ted Peck '88**  
p: 808-371-7514; e: ted.peck@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Keno Knieriem '06**  
e: keno@honokea.com

Sec'y: **Eric Kimura '76**  
e: kimurayoshihiro9@gmail.com

Comms: **Brian C. Smith '05**  
e: brian.conley.smith@gmail.com

Treas: **Tom Marzec '87**  
e: tamarzec@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator:

**CDR Jason Afong '06, USN**

e: Jason.afong@bgo.usna.com

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

## Idaho

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

### Northwest Chapter

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

## Southern Idaho Chapter

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

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

Treas: **Dennis Hanrahan '68**  
e: dennisdannyehanrahan@gmail.com

Idaho Parents' Club President: **Nicola McIntosh (Luke '24)**  
e: themacs97@hotmail.com.

Greetings Shipmates. The Dark Ages are in full swing as we all look ahead to the coming of Spring. Everyone is hunkered down and looking out for their own "Punxsutawney Phil". Shadow or no shadow, more winter is sure hang around for a while. A few hardy SIC souls ventured forth in January to participate in crew visit activities of the future USS IDAHO (SSN 799). Members of the pre-commissioning unit (Pre-Com) visited Boise and, among other activities, took in a Boise State basketball game as well as an Idaho Steelheads hockey game.

The chapter leadership team met in January to discuss the activities for the upcoming year as well as a look ahead to chapter elections in May.



Roy Ledesma '87 and some Idaho Mids take in a fall football game.



Rick Schellhaas '68, Dennis Harahan '68, and Paul Campbell '98 and a future midshipman get ready for the Boise Veterans Day Parade.

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 <tincan\_sailor980@gmail.com>

## CHAPTER NEWS



Chicago Chapter members with the Secretary of the Navy at the Chicago USO in February

## Illinois

### Chicago Chapter

**CDR Fredrick W. Weber '75, USNR (Ret.)**  
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h: 847-559-9381; w: 312-845-3444  
e: Fred.Weber@2comm.com

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

BGO Area Coordinator (Southern, IL): **Gene Marquez**  
e: gds\_m\_marquez@charter.net

Several members of the Chicago chapter were in attendance at the Great Lakes recruit graduation on 3 February where The Honorable **Carlos Del Toro '83**, Secretary of the Navy, spoke. Afterwards, a reception was held at the beautifully refurbished Great Lakes USO. SecNav mentioned he was the commissioning Commanding Officer of USS BULKELEY (DDG-84). VADM Bulkeley's daughter Joan was also in attendance and honored for her many years of service on the USO Illinois Board. The Chicago chapter contingent was led by **John Kemble '51** and **Mike Isabelli '83**, who is a classmate of SecNav.



John Killacky '93 and Fred Weber '75 with Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Lisa Franchetti, at the Chicago Union League Club celebrating Washington's Birthday

Also, Chicago chapter President **Fred Weber '75** and **John Killacky '93** represented the chapter at the 134th annual George Washington Birthday celebration held at the Union League Club on 17 February. The keynote speaker was Admiral Lisa Franchetti, Vice Chief of Naval Operations. Admiral Franchetti is the second woman to be promoted to the rank of four-star

Admiral and a graduate of Northwestern University. The Navy band Great Lakes performed and members of the NJROTC unit from the Rickover Naval Academy High School presented the colors.

## Indiana

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR Drew Thomas '04, USNR**  
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### Indianapolis Chapter

**CDR Lynn Thomas '83**  
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### Michiana Chapter

Pres: **John Ross '94**  
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Vice Pres/Sec'y: **CDR John (Chris) Haizlip '72, USN (Ret.)**  
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Treas: **John Strauss '69**  
e: ejstrauss3373@att.net

## Iowa

See Minnesota

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

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

## Kentucky

### Louisville/Southern Indiana Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Gregory Reinhardt '79, USNR (Ret.)**  
712 Talon Pl., Louisville, KY 40223  
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BGO Area Coordinator:  
**CAPT Gregory Reinhardt '79, USN (Ret.)**  
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### CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2022

*Fair Winds and Following Seas  
from your  
Alumni Association and Foundation.*

## Louisiana

### Louisiana Chapter

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

Vice Pres: **Bob Ferrante '90**  
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Sec'y: **Wayne Morgan '98**  
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Treas: **Drew Dodenhoff '70**  
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Website: <http://www.USNALouisiana.org>

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR Jessica Thornhill '01**  
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## Maine

### Maine Chapter

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

### Annapolis Chapter

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

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

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

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

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

### Baltimore Chapter

Pres: **Jason Hardebeck '87**  
p: 443-269-1599; e: jhardebeck@whoglue.com

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

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

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

### Greater Southern Maryland Chapter

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **Kevin Schaaff**  
e: Kevin.Schaaff@bgo.usna.com

### EVENTS

**Events: 03 February: "Dark Ages" Dinner at Olde Breton Inn. "Dark Ages"?!? What "Dark**





Greater Southern Maryland Chapter: The USNA alumni attendees all in one spot. Talk about “herding cats”

Ages“??? It was a fun, informative time, just like at old Mother B...wait! We never had fun at Mother B during the period from returning to Annapolis in January until Spring Break in April. My memory is a bit fuzzy so work with me here! The “no fun” part is real and that’s all that matters! Back to our dinner, Guest Speaker was



**CAPT Derrick Kingsley '96, Commanding Officer of NAS Patuxent River**, who spoke briefly and, then took our questions. And election results were provided by **Dennis Bostich '74**, filling in for **Andy Mechling '73**. Not

surprisingly, all incumbents won another term.



Dinner attendees



CAPT Kingsley addresses the group

**ALUMNI IN THE NEWS: TBD**

**COMING EVENTS**

- 5/10 Chapter Meeting Flight Deck Lounge.
- 6/14 Chapter Meeting Flight Deck Lounge.

6/24 Welcome Picnic for Members of 2027, NAPsters, Foundation sponsorees, and their families. Venue TBD. Please check your email and the GSMC website [www.navalumni.org](http://www.navalumni.org) for updates on these events and all events throughout 2023!

## Massachusetts

**Boston Chapter**

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141 Dorchester Ave., Unit 406, South Boston, MA 02127-1836  
p: 617-645-1032; e: [jameskras@comcast.net](mailto:jameskras@comcast.net)

Shipmate contact: **CAPT Pete Seibert '65**  
p: 781-235-5909; e: [pkseibert@comcast.net](mailto:pkseibert@comcast.net)

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

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

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

BGO Area Coordinator (Western Mass): **Ken Walton**  
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## Michigan

**Michigan Chapter**

Pres: **Maj. Joe Zane '07 USMCR**  
e: [joseph.zane.2007@gmail.com](mailto:joseph.zane.2007@gmail.com)

Vice Pres: **Shawn Hoch '08**  
e: [shawn.hoch@2008.usna.com](mailto:shawn.hoch@2008.usna.com)

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Communications Sec'y: **Chris Bernard '88**  
e: [gcb117@gmail.com](mailto:gcb117@gmail.com)

BGO Area Coordinator (Eastern):  
**CAPT Michael Johnson '79, USNR**  
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BGO Area Coordinator (West & Upper):  
**Col. Benjamin Richmond '93, USMCR**  
e: [brichmond97@earthlink.net](mailto:brichmond97@earthlink.net)

February went fast! We had a good turnout at our 100th Night Celebration hosted by former Chapter President, **Art Bryant '66** on 15 February, with eight alumni and two spouses attending. Good times were had by all, catching up with each other, reminiscing about our Hundredth Night experiences, and making fun of me for forgetting the Naval Academy meaning of “to spoon”. I blame my concussion in plebe boxing.

We have a full set of events for the spring. By the time you read this, we should have met up for a March luncheon on 14 March in Novi, as well as a friendly croquet competition on 22 April. There will be a luncheon on 17 May, with a boat outing hosted by Mike Droogleever in late July. Keep your eye out on your email for details. If you are reading this and want to join but haven't seen that e-mail, feel free to reach out to me personally at [joseph.zane.2007@gmail.com](mailto:joseph.zane.2007@gmail.com). Also, we're always open for suggestions as to events and locations, especially if you are willing to help plan the event.



Michigan Chapter: At the 100th Night Party: (From left) Mike Droogleever '05, Peggy Menzies '85, Mitch Kallek '14, Joe Zane '07, Art Bryant '66 (holding a vintage carrier tailhook), Steven Stivers '00, Lynne Bryant, Ingrid Vernier (wife of Jack Udebrock), Ryan Lally '04 and Jack Udebrock '59.



## CHAPTER NEWS

As always, keep your eye out on MyUSNA and your email for the latest on events and updates.

Thank you for reading, and until next time: Go Navy!

*Joe Zane '07*  
Chapter President

## Minnesota

### Upper Midwest Chapter

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

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

Website: [www.USNAUpperMidwest.org](http://www.USNAUpperMidwest.org)

Facebook: [www.fb.com/USNAUpperMidwest](http://www.fb.com/USNAUpperMidwest)

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Mark J. Salmen, USN (Ret.)**  
NAIP Area Coordinator-Minnesota  
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## Mississippi

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

### South Mississippi Chapter

Pres: **CDR E. Spencer Garrett IV '88, USNR**  
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p: 228-497-5050; e: esgarrett44@aol.com

Sec'y: **CAPT Harry J. Rucker '73, USN (Ret.)**  
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## Missouri

### Greater Kansas City Metro Chapter

Pres: **Bob Culler '74**  
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Vice Pres: **Victor Hurlbert '10**  
p: 816-665-1647; e: victorh@yahoo.com

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

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

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

### St. Louis Chapter

Pres: **Dave Turnbaugh '89**

Website: <https://stlusna.com>

Shipmate contact: **Raese Simpson '61**  
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BGO Area Coordinator:  
**CAPT Kent Higginbotham '76, USN (Ret.)**  
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## Montana

BGO Area Coordinator: **Andy Metroka**  
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## Nebraska

BGO Area Coordinator: **Eric Taylor**  
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### Omaha Chapter

Pres: **Jeremiah Binkley '00**  
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## Nevada

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

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

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

BGO Area Coordinator (South NJ): **Martha Christinziano**  
e: Christinziano.area114@gmail.com  
website: [www.usnanj.org](http://www.usnanj.org)

## New Mexico

### New Mexico Chapter

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

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

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

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

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

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



Lt. Caitlin Perkowski is front row, second from right



Lt. Caitlin Perkowski is ready for takeoff in her Super Hornet

On 12 February 2023, it was safe to say that most televisions in the US were tuned to the coverage of Super Bowl LVII. As is tradition



New Mexico Chapter



wherever the Super Bowl is played, the end of the National Anthem is timed to be punctuated by the thunderous roar of military aircraft flying overhead to rouse the audience across the nation into a full-throated cheer. This year, however, there was a twist in the script, which was connected to the New Mexico Chapter. In honor of the 50-year anniversary of female military pilots who were first assigned to active-duty aviation in 1973, this year's Super Bowl Flyby was piloted by an all-women team. In addition, the majority of the logistics, maintenance and ground crew supporting the Flyover were also women from the U.S. Navy. Flying an F/A-18F Super Hornet in a diamond formation, the "slot" aircraft assigned to the rear point was flown by **Lt. Caitlin Perkowski '15**. Catie, callsign "Jenga", is the daughter of former Naval Aviator and New Mexico Chapter Past President **Michael Petrofes '80**. She graduated from La Cueva High School in Albuquerque in 2011 and immediately accepted her USNA appointment. After her commissioning, she successfully achieved a Master's of Science degree in Aeronautical Engineering in 2019 using an online course offered by Purdue University. She is now a Division Officer in Strike Fighter Squadron 192 (VFA-192), the Golden Dragons, based at Naval Air Station Lemoore, CA. The New Mexico Chapter is proud of its connection to Caitie and of her role in this historic event.

## New York

### New York Capital District Chapter

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

Sec'y: **Gordon Lattey**  
40 First St., Troy, NY 12180  
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Website: <http://capitaldistrictny.usnachapters.com>

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

### Central New York Chapter

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

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

Website: [CentralNY.usnachapters.com](http://CentralNY.usnachapters.com)

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

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

Alumni, family, friends, USNA parents, and others with an interest in the Naval Academy are welcome to join the Chapter at all Chapter functions. Call (315-663-7490) or e-mail

**Bob Fegan** to let us know if you plan to attend a function.

Future Chapter activities will be addressed as they are planned.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Metro New York Chapter (NAANY)

Pres: **William B Biles '08**  
e: benbiles08@gmail.com  
HotLine: 1-800-234-USNA (8732)  
Website: <http://www.NAANY.org>

BGO Area Coordinator: **Gardner Jackson**  
e: ghjackson86@gmail.com

### Western New York Chapter

Pres: **Dan Sullivan '95**  
p: 585-410-1941; e: daniel.sullivan@savox.com  
Vice Pres: **Pete Owen '86**  
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Website: <http://westernny.usnachapters.net/>

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **Col. Kevin Hart '75 (Ret.)**  
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### Cape Fear Chapter

Pres: **Ray Decker '72**  
p: 703-939-0202; e: dax24@icloud.com

Vice Pres: **Paul Normand '74**  
e: paulnormand@mac.com

Sec'y/Treas: **Steve Yandle '75**  
e: sryusna75@gmail.com

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

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

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

## CHAPTER NEWS



Cape Fear Chapter

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

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

The Chapter's 2023 Calendar of Events is posted on our website: [capefearnc.usna chapters.net](http://capefearnc.usna chapters.net).

### Charlotte Chapter

Pres: **Christopher (Nix) M. Nickels '91**  
e: CHRISNIX@AOL.COM

Email: [UsnaaaCharlotte@gmail.com](mailto:UsnaaaCharlotte@gmail.com)

Facebook Page: <http://facebook.com/usna-alumni-association-charlotte-251965968210794/>

Website: [Charlotte.usnachapters.net](http://Charlotte.usnachapters.net)

LinkedIn Group: <http://linkedin.com/groups/8344487>

Chapter members enjoyed getting together 16-Feb at Glide— great time had by all! Stay tuned for more events, including 1st joint networking event with local USMA Alumni chapter!

Navy Football in the Queen City! Mark your calendars for 14-Oct when Navy plays against the UNCC 49ers. Keep an eye out for event details. This is a fantastic opportunity to engage our Alumni, the local community and all those who travel to the Queen City to see Navy beat the 49ers!

Salute to 2023- congratulations on your commissioning and joining the fleet!

### Eastern North Carolina Chapter

Pres: **Rob Skrotsky '67**  
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Vice Pres: **Rick Kunkel '67**  
p: 910-347-6251; e: [rkunkel@ec.rr.com](mailto:rkunkel@ec.rr.com)

Sec'y: **Tim Marvin '59**  
P.O. Box 731, Kure Beach, NC 28449-0731  
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Treas: **Randy Bogle '68**  
4308 Periwinkle Pl., New Bern, NC 28562  
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Website: <http://myusna.com/topics/9508>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/14196247/>

### North Carolina Triangle Chapter

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

Sec'y: **Chris Perrien '74**  
e: [ibmchris@mac.com](mailto:ibmchris@mac.com)

Website: [www.usnatriangle.com](http://www.usnatriangle.com)



Greetings from the Research Triangle Park of North Carolina,

Spring is well established in the RTP (Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill). Our Chapter, with **George Lipscomb '87** as diligent OIC, completed its transition to MyUSNA.com, which simplifies gratefully event management and member communications.

The month of May heralds the graduation and commissioning ceremonies across the Piedmont NROTC Consortium comprising Duke, North Carolina State and UNC at Chapel Hill. Coordinated by **Emory Miller '07**, we support leadership awards at each of the three universities: **Ensign Worth Bagley 1895**



Charlotte Chapter



Triangle Chapter & the NC Sub Museum supplied Charlotte Hornet Ball-Caps to the crew of the USS CHARLOTTE (SSN 766)



(NCSU), **George Herbert '45** (UNC) and Admiral Skip Bowman (Duke).

Important news in 2023 is formal announcement of the **North Carolina Submarine Museum**. (See the photo on the previous page.) This project evolved from our Chapter's support over the past 6+ years of the USS NORTH CAROLINA (SSN 777) Club led by **Gray Tompson '07** and **Alex Dworjan '10**. The Museum will honor the crews and families of NORTH CAROLINA's three name-sake submarines: ASHEVILLE (SSN 758), CHARLOTTE (SSN 766) and NORTH CAROLINA (SSN 777). In conjunction, the NC Sub Museum will welcome its visitors into the atmosphere of the ocean where a STEM-centered exhibit pavilion will offer virtual-reality and hands-on experiences centered on the design, construction and operation of arguably the most technically sophisticated machine that our nation builds a modern nuclear-powered US Navy submarine. Board Members and Advisors of the NCSM include **Christopher Perrien '74**, **Doug Guthe '76**, **Steve Gillespie '87**, **Reece Morgan '89**, **Noah White '04**, **Gray Tompson '07** and **Luke Wolf '08**. For additional information, please visit [www.ncsubmuseum.org](http://www.ncsubmuseum.org).

Recognized for the 6th consecutive year as a **Distinguished Chapter** in the USNA AA network, our Triangle Chapter comprises 165+ active members from eight decades of USNA classes, their families and a growing set of supporters (parents, friends, all-Navy veterans and families). To view the schedule of future events, please visit [MyUSNA.com](http://MyUSNA.com) (Group- North Carolina

Triangle Chapter) or follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/USNAAARTP/>. Linked-in: USNA Alumni Association-Triangle Chapter (USNAAA Triangle).

## Piedmont Triad Chapter

Pres: **Tom Cornejo '00**  
e: [thomas.cornejo@yahoo.com](mailto:thomas.cornejo@yahoo.com)

Sec'y: **Josh Fogle '03**  
e: [foglejw@gmail.com](mailto:foglejw@gmail.com)

## North Dakota

### Upper Midwest Chapter

See Minnesota

Send Shipmate input to: **Nathan CW Smith '98**  
e: [nathancwsmith@outlook.com](mailto:nathancwsmith@outlook.com)

Blue & Gold Area Coordinator: **Mary Plumb**  
e: [Mary.plumb@yahoo.com](mailto:Mary.plumb@yahoo.com)

### DONATE ONLINE

Support the Annual Fund,  
visit [usna.com](http://usna.com) and click **Give Online**.

## Ohio

### Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Chapter

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

Vice Pres: **Jennifer Yuchasz '98**  
e: [jen.yuchasz@rhinestahl.com](mailto:jen.yuchasz@rhinestahl.com)

Chapter Sec'y and Shipmate Submissions:

**Jon-Michael Pollock '10**  
e: [jonmichaelpollock@gmail.com](mailto:jonmichaelpollock@gmail.com)

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BGO Area Coordinator: **Bryan Grubert**  
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### Cleveland Chapter

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

Sec'y: **John Blackburn '82**  
e: [joblackburn@clevelandtrack.com](mailto:joblackburn@clevelandtrack.com)

BGO Area Coordinator: **Doug Cabarle**  
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### Columbus

Pres: **CDR Tony Konecny '79, USN (Ret.)**  
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Vice Pres: **Ben Sandman '10**  
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Sec'y: **Dave Goins '84**  
e: [dgoins84@gmail.com](mailto:dgoins84@gmail.com)

Treas: **Jim Waddell '71**  
e: [jbwaddell@columbus.rr.com](mailto:jbwaddell@columbus.rr.com)

Shipmate Contact: **CDR Tony Konecny '79, USN (Ret.)**  
e: [adkonecny79@gmail.com](mailto:adkonecny79@gmail.com)

Chapter email: [USNAAACbus@gmail.com](mailto:USNAAACbus@gmail.com)

Website: [https://columbus\\_usnachapter.net/](https://columbus_usnachapter.net/)

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

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

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

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

Parents' Club President: **Eric Forrest**  
e: [Ea4rest@gmail.com](mailto:Ea4rest@gmail.com)

BGO Area Coordinator:  
**Carla Dowling-Fitzpatrick**  
e: [dowlingfitzpatrick@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dowlingfitzpatrick@sbcglobal.net)

The Chapter gathered for our Annual Dark Ages Pub Night on Saturday, 28 January at Blarney Stone Pub in Worthington. Many thanks to **Tom Gomia '70** for organizing the event and scheduling the venue. The food and drinks were excellent and the sea stories were, well, mostly factual. We welcomed some new members and local Parents Club members to their first Dark Ages Pub Night. Joining us were **Jim '66** and **Dana Cowardin**, **Doug '68** and **Elice Little**, **Tom '70** and **Libby Gomia**, **Dave '78** and **Nancy Guza**, **Dennis McElroy '79**, **Elizabeth Clifton '82**, **Dave Goins '84**, **Mark '85** and **Jan Andreas**, **Justin Shineman '91** and **Chris and Maggie Zimmer (Parents)**.



The annual dues campaign wraps up March 31. We are grateful for the annual renewals, new members, and also for the additional donations that allow the Chapter to better support member activities. Additionally, these funds allow us to accomplish a major Chapter initiative of sponsoring local, needs-based students by providing tuition for STEM Camp or Summer Seminar. **THANK YOU!**

It is exciting to see alumni new to the area join the Columbus Chapter, building on an already strong foundation. If you are new to Central Ohio, we encourage you to reach out to any of the Chapter contacts below and introduce yourself.

Finally, the Columbus Air Show is 17-18 June 2023 at Rickenbacker International Airport. The highlight of the Air Show will be the Blue Angels. At least four Blue Angels are USNA graduates. Your officer/board members are working to coordinate an event with other local commands. Please look to Shipmate, the Chapter Facebook page, and myUSNA for information on the air show.

### Toledo Chapter

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **Gregory Zerr**  
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## Oklahoma

BGO Area Coordinator: **Mike Whaley**  
e: [mwhaley@ossaa.com](mailto:mwhaley@ossaa.com)

### Oklahoma City Chapter

Pres: **Jonathan Mason '07**  
e: [jrmason03@gmail.com](mailto:jrmason03@gmail.com)

### Tulsa Chapter

Pres: **Rocky Goins '84**  
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Vice Pres: **Patrick Hamilton '87**  
e: [patrickhami@gmail.com](mailto:patrickhami@gmail.com)

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

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

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

The USNAA Tulsa Chapter continues their outreach by helping to sponsor and to support the Seaperch competition at Jenks on 25 March. Elementary, Middle and High School students compete with their underwater robots as part of STEM understudy. Special thanks to **Shea Ferrell '86** who contributed his time to judge the event!

Additionally, the chapter is working with the Oklahoma University NROTC to award the Evan Edwards Sword to their top Midshipman in Leadership.



## CHAPTER NEWS



Oregon and Southwest Washington: Valentine's dinner

### Oregon

#### Oregon and Southwest Washington Chapter

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

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

Treas: **CDR Ted Scypinski '90, USNR (Ret.)**  
e: ted.scypinski@flir.com

National Chapter Trustee:  
**LtCol Doug Ballard '74, USMCR (Ret.)**  
e: Cassandra.alpha61@comcast.net

BGO Area Coordinator: **Gillian Richards**  
e: jill@teamrichards.net

Website: [oregon.usnachapters.net](http://oregon.usnachapters.net)

February saw the chapter have its annual Valentine's Dinner. This was our largest gathering since the pandemic. Those attending included **Mike Carmichael '69** his wife Suzie and friends Capt. Susan Labhard USN (Ret.) and her husband Michael, **Jerry North '61** and his wife Ann, **John Adams '69** and his wife Barbara, **Tex Harkins '67** and his wife Cecily, **Mark Cooksey '71** and his wife Capt. Susan Cooksey USN (Ret.), **Ted Scypinski '90**, **Scott Fitzpatrick '80**, **Chris Carlson '78** and his wife Kerry, **Butch Bewick '62**, **Doug Bomarito '68**, **Doug Ballard '74**, **Hod Wells '59** and his wife Peg, **Steve Somnitz '82** and his wife Kathy, **Ky and Jenny Nguyen representing the Parent's Club** and **Mark Norman '80** and his wife Cindy Sawyer. Jenny gave an update on the Parent Club activities and several attendees gave a variety of interesting stories of how they met their spouse. Thanks to Doug Bomarito for bringing red roses for the ladies. Pictured are the alumni in attendance.

Our weekly Zoom happy hours continue to be an excellent forum to keep Chapter activities on track. Participating this month included: included **Mike Carmichael '69**, **John Adams '69**, **Doug Ballard '74**, **John Frerichs '50**, **David Lutes '63**, **Janette Sandberg '96**, **Tim Myers '64**, **Jack Kohl '65**, **Mark Cooksey '71** and **Ted Scypinski '90**.

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of **Capt. Mark Springer '89, USN**

(Ret.). Mark passed away on 24 January after a brief illness. Mark will be sorely missed. He was an active member of the chapter and a member of the Chapter Council.

### Pennsylvania

#### Philadelphia Chapter

Pres: **Rob Bender '73**  
p: 267-625-3459; e: rbender@travismanion.com  
Website: <http://philadelphia.usnachapters.net>

BGO Area Coordinator: **CDR Tim Farrell '76, USN (Ret.)**  
e: tim.farrell@1976.usna.com

#### Pittsburgh Chapter

Pres: **Conor McKenzie '06**  
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Website: [Pittsburgh.usnachapters.com](http://Pittsburgh.usnachapters.com)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/usnaaapittsburgh/>

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT David Gates '77, USN (Ret.)**  
p: 724-632-6621; e: LJreese357@aol.com

#### 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.usnasvc.com>

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Matt Chabal '77**  
e: chabal@1977.usna.com



Susquehanna Valley Chapter: Army-Navy Basketball watch party

Please join our monthly gatherings the third Thursday of every month 1630-1900 at Mad Chef Craft Brewing in East Petersburg and bring your family and friends with you. Open your own tab and pay only for what you and those you bring with you eat and drink.



January gathering

January monthly gathering **Scott Sutherland '81**, **Bill Boniface '72**, **Kim Sutherland**, **Susan Boniface**, **Dave Lawrence '76** and **Tim Farrell '76**.

**Dave Carnal '96**, **Al Landon '84**, **Dianne Archer '84**, **Toni Chase '84** and **Juan Bonner '07** joined the Central Pennsylvania USNA and USMA Parents for a Navy @ Army Basketball watch party at the Grateful Goat Brewing & Provisions, Camp Hill, PA



February monthly gathering with **Dan Filippini '72**, **Lee Erdman '76**, **Scott Sutherland '81**, **Tim Farrell '76**, **Jon Johnson '70** and **Ray Kaufman '70**



# Recreational Vehicle

## American Chapter

Pres: **Tom Wolfe '70**  
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Treas: **Dale Gange '70**  
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Shipmate sec'y: **Jennifer Stone**  
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Website: [www.rv.usnachapters.net](http://www.rv.usnachapters.net)

Facebook: **USNA RV CHAPTER**

The USNA RV Chapter closed out 2022 with two Comearounds - Watts Bar, TN and Colorado Springs, CO welcomed RV Chapter members last Fall, just before the busy holiday season.

Our Watts Bar Comearound had a wonderful turnout with few members braving a 12-mile bike ride along the Eureka Rails to Trails path in Albany, TN. Several of us had coffee afterwards while others snuck in some more ice cream from nearby Mayfield Dairy. It was a fun ride even if we did have to dodge a few recent deposits from horse traffic on the trail.

The final Comearound of 2022 in Colorado Springs, CO was held at the gorgeous Garden of the Gods RV Resort, coinciding with the Navy-Air Force Football game. We also welcomed new RV Chapter members **Jim '73 and Wendy Hillenmayer!**

Several of the group rode the Broodmoor Manitou and Pikes Peak Cog Railway to the top of Pike's Peak where they reported the air temperature at 31 degrees with wind chill of 24. Some also visited the Garden of the Gods Park and Nature Center and the Colorado Wolf and Wildlife Center.

Several also attended the Alumni Association reception that evening at the Garden of the Gods Resort. During the event they had photo ops with our Alumni Association liaison, **Dr. Sofi Loomis '99**, USNA Superintendent **VADM Sean Buck '83** and Secretary of the Navy, The Honorable **Carlos Del Toro '83**.



Evening reception at Garden of the Gods Resort



RV Chapter: Watts Bar Comearound



Dawn on game day

Departing the campground at zero-dark thirty on game day to participate in an early morning tailgate hosted by the USNA Parents Club of Colorado and Wyoming, the firsties (**Tom '70 and Rose Wolfe**) unintentionally ensured all would be in attendance by holding reveille with their RV when they accidentally tripped the coach's break-in alarm prior to departure for the stadium.

During this Comearound we also enjoyed a chuckwagon dinner at the Flying W Ranch followed by a western theme show performed by the world-famous Flying W Wranglers. The Ranch began entertaining visitors in 1953 to supplement income generated from its working cattle operation. Over the years it had become an institution in the Colorado Springs area, growing from an original guest list of 11 to entertaining 1400 visitors per night. It was destroyed in 2012 during the devastating Waldo Canyon fire but reopened in 2020. The Flying W Wranglers are the second longest western performance band in the world.

Finally, had a guided tour of the cadet area of the Air Force Academy given by a 1998 graduate of the Air Force Academy. We caught the noon meal formation and follow-on march to the dining facility.

Check out the next issue of SHIPMATE to read about how we kicked off 2023 with our annual Key West, FL Comearound. Or, better yet, see for yourself what all the fun is about during our upcoming Comearounds at Solomon's Island, MD (5-8 May) and Dodge City, KS (6-11 June) by joining the USNA RV Chapter - we're always welcoming new members!

# Rhode Island

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Stuart Craig '86, USN (Ret.)**  
e: [stuart.craig@bgo.usna.com](mailto:stuart.craig@bgo.usna.com)

## Rhode Island Chapter

Pres: **Mike O'Sullivan '73**  
p: 401-742-7091; e: [michael.osullivan1973@gmail.com](mailto:michael.osullivan1973@gmail.com)

Sec'y: **COL Paul Muller '88, USMC (Ret.)**  
p: 401-248-3405; e: [usmctanker@cox.net](mailto:usmctanker@cox.net)

# South Carolina

BGO Area Coordinator: **Ryan Blacklock**  
e: [ryan.blacklock@2004.usna.com](mailto:ryan.blacklock@2004.usna.com)

## Central Savannah River Area

(Aiken, SC; Augusta, GA; and surrounding areas)  
Pres: **LtCol Dave Smith '73, USMC (Ret.)**  
e: [dsmith708@atlanticbb.net](mailto:dsmith708@atlanticbb.net)

Sec'y: **Brian Goldschmidt '94**  
e: [goldschmidtbp@gmail.com](mailto:goldschmidtbp@gmail.com)

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

On 27 August 2022, chapter president **Dave Smith '73**, who is the Another Link in the Chain rep. for the Class of 1973 to the South Carolina USNA Parents' Club, attended a social at the New Realm Brewery in Charleston, SC. Pictured with Dave at the event is Leslie Tarala, mother of **Piotr Tarala '23**.



On 21 September 2022, the Chapter held its Fall Organizational Meeting at the Red Bowl Asian Bistro in Aiken, SC. The following members were in attendance: **Jim Tisaranni '64, Bill Bower '65, Mike Martin '67, Robert Scott '68, Dave Smith '73, Mike Budney '80, Jay McGovern '83 and Brian Goldschmidt '94**.

## CHAPTER NEWS



Central Savannah River Area Chapter

The primary agenda item was the election of the following as the chapter Board of Directors for the term of Fall 2022 - Fall 2024:

President: **Dave Smith**

Vice President: **Mike Budney**

Secretary: **Brian Goldschmidt**

Treasurer: **Rick Reichel '83**

Member at Large: **Mike Martin**

On Saturday 1 October 2022, the following members and family gathered at the Wild Wings Cafe in Aiken to watch the Navy vs. Air Force football game: **Bob Van Buren '63, Jim Tisaranni '64** (and his wife Cynthia), **Dave Smith '73, Greg Hoffman '75** (and his wife Mary and brother Chris), **George Puddington '76** and **Brian Goldschmidt '94** (and his wife Marica and sons Cody and Sean). Shown in the photo above are (L - R): Mary Hoffman; Chris Hoffman; Greg Hoffman; Dave Smith; Marica, Cody and Sean Goldschmidt; Bob Van Buren and George Puddington. Despite the result of the game, a "good time was had by all"!

### Charleston Chapter

Pres: **CDR Rick Stein '82, USNR (Ret.)**  
784 Preservation Pl., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464  
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e: USNA\_AA\_Charleston@Comcast.net

On Monday, 20 February, The Charleston Chapter held a Joint Meeting with the US Air Force Academy Association of Graduates Charleston Chapter. Our Speaker was Francis Gary Powers, Jr., who spoke about his father and the U-2 Incident of 1960.

In attendance: Max Hill '51; Fuzzy Knight '53; Jim Flatley '56; John Common '64; John Nuernberger '64; Mike Epprecht '65; Tim Hudgens '65; Ray Setser '65; Frank Bryant '66; Alan Burkhardt '67; Chuck Greer '67; Roger Paradis '67; Ber-

nie Magdelain '67; Jim Welsch '67; Eric Oser '68; Gary Maxwell '69; Tom Gillespie '69; Charlie Young '70; Al Olson '72; Jim Beltz '73; George Watt '73; David Oyster '74; Dave Shimp '76; Dennis Simon '77; John Blackburn '82; Rick Stein '82; Jeff Gordon '83; OP Honors '83; Perry Ramicone '83; Greg Shore '84; Ronald Allen '88; Pat Hunkler '89; John Hartman '90; Dan Turbeville '97; and Jerry Maniscalco '07.

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

### Low Country Chapter

Pres: **Tom Cavanaugh '69**  
p: 516-220-9896  
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VP: **Dave Igyarto '74**  
e: igyartodp@icloud.com  
Sec'y: **Tim Johnson '02**  
e: tim.w.johnson@outlook.com  
Treas: **John Scanlan '83**  
e: ping1@hargray.com

The weather is starting to warm up here in the Low Country and the chapter is off to a great start of activity in 2023. The membership ranks are growing, we are adding new chapter events this year, and attendance at events is up over 2022. All good signs for a good chapter year.

We held a quarterly chapter lunch in February at the Frankie Bones in Bluffton, SC. We had over thirty (30) alumni and guests in attendance from all corners of the chapter area. **Dave Igyarto '74** did a great job organizing the lunch as always. Thanks to Dave. Pictures of the tables are included. Your chapter secretary here will take a round turn on attendance tracking, class years, and labels for pictures for our

events to be able to give you more than just raw numbers and pictures going forward.



Low Country Chapter Frankie Bones Lunch Feb. 2023



Low Country Chapter Frankie Bones Lunch Feb. 2023

By the time this goes to print we should have completed our April tour of Burnt Church Distillery in Bluffton.

Depending on when this hits your mailbox, there may be time to register for the annual luncheon on 13 May 2023 at the Callawassie Club on Callawassie Island. This lunch will feature a guest speaker, Distinguished Graduate Admiral **Robert F. Willard '73, USN (Ret.)**. It promises to be an enjoyable day. Check myUSNA for details and registration.

Other events upcoming with times and dates TBD include: in June or July, we're hoping to arrange a tour and buffet lunch at the Mighty 8th Air Force Museum in Savannah; we are also planning viewing parties for the Air Force and Army games; and flag placements at the graves

**UPDATE YOUR PROFILE**

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at [usna.com](https://www.usna.com)  
to update your profile.



of Academy graduates in Beaufort National Cemetery on Veteran's Day.

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

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

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

## Palmetto Chapter

Pres: **Jerry Pilewski '97**  
e: palmettousna@usna.com

Vice Pres: **Brian Treanor '89**  
e: brian\_treanor@hotmail.com

Sec'y: **Suzanne Hopper**  
(husband, **John Hopper '95** and son, **Selik Hopper '23**)  
e: hoppermomx6@gmail.com

## South Carolina Midlands Chapter

Pres: **Craig Augenstein '87**  
4847 Furman Ave., Columbia, SC 29206  
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Sec'y: **Chuck Tebrich '66**  
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Website: [www.usnasc.org](http://www.usnasc.org)

## South Dakota

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

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

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

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

## Tennessee

### Chattanooga Chapter

Pres: **Casey Turner '01**  
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BGO Area Coordinator: **CDR Richard Cataldi '69, USN (Ret.)**  
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## Knoxville-Oak Ridge Chapter

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

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## Nashville Chapter

Pres: **CDR John F. Ohlinger '69, USN (Ret.)**  
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## Texas

### Alamo Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Ron A. Sandoval '81, USN**  
18010 Keystone Bldg., 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: **Dave Driskell '63**  
p: 210-275-4011; e: daved@frand.com

The Alamo Chapter held our first meeting of the year on 13 February at Little Italy Italian Restaurant in San Antonio. Our guest speaker with **Grant Moody '92** the recently elected to Bexar County Commissioner position 2. His responsibility covers virtually all of north Bexar County. He gave us an overview of the role of County Commissioners and their relationship with other governing bodies (read taxing) in the county. (Ed note: there are a lot of them!) We had a good turn out and hope to start up regular meetings going forward. In accordance with our tradition, long stem roses were presented to attendees. Ours are still blooming as of 23 Feb.

On the Blue and Gold side, BGO **Greg Chapman '03** and yours truly attended a college fair at C.T. (read Lady Bird) Johnson high school on 9 Feb. Johnson H.S., has 5,000 students according to the head counselor. This fair was unusual in that it was held outdoors (a first for me). The biggest result was that we were invited to brief a monthly meeting of all counselors in the ISD on USNA and its opportunities. This is a tremendous opportunity to get our message to an entire group of influencers at one time.



Bexar County Commissioner Grand Moody '03 addressing Alamo Chapter Feb meeting.



Some (not all) alumni & spouses at Feb meeting.



BGO Greg Chapman at Johnson H.S. USNA table.

## Austin Chapter

Pres: **Brad Holbrook '06**  
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Treas: **Kevin Windbigler '86**  
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*Shipmate* Contact: **CDR Don McAlister '63, USNR (Ret.)**  
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Dave Driskell '63**  
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## SHIPMATE

More than 85 years available online  
to all Alumni Association members.  
[Visit usna.com/shipmate.](http://usna.com/shipmate)

# CHAPTER NEWS

## North Texas Chapter

Director at Large: **Daryl Smith '88**

Pres: **Jamey Cummings '93**  
e: pres@usnaaa-ntx.com

VP of Programs: **Carrie Murdoch '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](http://www.usnaaa-ntx.com)

BGO Area Coordinator: **Tom Eschenbrenner**  
p: 972 740 4060 ; e: eschenbrenner@gmail.com



**Chris Cassidy '93** addresses North Texas Alumni and their guests

In February, the North Texas Alumni had more than 50 members attend a preview of the National Medal of Honor Museum destined for Arlington, Texas in 2025. Former Astronaut, Navy SEAL and member of the Class of '93, **Chris Cassidy**, serves as CEO of the National Medal of Honor Museum. For that evening, Chris graciously shared the vision of the museum bookended with some incredible stories about his time at NASA. The evening ended with a motivated "Go Navy!"

Towards the end of the month North Texas was excited to welcome Navy gymnastics to town. Several alums were on hand to cheer for Navy as they battled Air Force; unfortunately, this year the Mids fell just short of a victory.

Congrats to the Class of '23 from the North Texas alumni association! Fair Winds and Following Seas the new grads as they embark on their next adventure in the mythical fleet. Lastly, we hope you'll join us in June as we welcome to the USNA family the class of '27 and the NAPS class of '23 at our annual picnic; see the website for details!

Semper Fidelis-LIVE IT!

## Texas Gulf Coast Chapter

Pres: **Bill Pritchett '01**

Vice Pres: **Jordan Mack '08**

Sec'y: **John Augusto '02**  
e: m020234@2002.usna.com

Treas: **Rich Bulger '69**  
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Website: [txgulfcoast.usnachapters.net](http://txgulfcoast.usnachapters.net)

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

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BGO Area Coordinator: **Don Link**  
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# United Kingdom

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

Pres: **Tim Fox '97**  
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Vice Pres: **Cody Nissen '11**  
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

Greetings from London, where Spring has finally arrived, and with it, our host country will celebrate the coronation of a new monarch, King Charles III, on 6 May at Westminster Abbey. The UK Chapter extends best wishes to the new king as he begins his reign.

It's difficult to top news of that magnitude, except to offer a fervent "Go Navy, Beat Army!" Until next time ...

# Utah

## Intermountain Alumni Chapter

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

## Central Virginia Chapter

Pre: **Bill Murray '83**  
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Vice Pres: **Ty Schieber '87**  
e: ty.schieber@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Ed Borger '80**  
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Treas: **Steve Hill '74**  
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Don Aldridge**  
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## Hampton Roads Chapter

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Website: [www.usnahamptonroads.com](http://www.usnahamptonroads.com)

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

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR David Lannetti '81, USN (Ret.)**  
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Alumni gathering after work in Hampton Roads



Mixing and mingling at February Happy Hour in Hampton Roads

Lots going on in Hampton Roads in 2023, and lots more to come!

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

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

At our Annual Meeting on 18 April at the Sewells Point Golf Course Clubhouse, Chapter member VADM Kelly Aeschbach, Commander, Naval Information Forces in Suffolk, provided terrific insight into the latest developments in



the Information Warfare Community, including recent changes regarding accessions from USNA. And on 20 April, Director of Golf (DoG) **Bob Perry '72** orchestrated our annual Spring golf outing at the Sewells Point Golf Course.

Coming up in May (date TBD) is our annual Chapter Night at Harbor Park; and bright and early on Memorial Day, **Dave Paddock '77** will again organize a sunrise Run to Honor at the Virginia Beach oceanfront. In early June (TBD the 1st or the 8th), our 30th annual Plebe Recognition Dinner will be held at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel; and the Guest Speaker at that signature event will be **LtGen Brian Cavanaugh '90**, Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic; Commander, Marine Forces Command; and Commander, Marine Forces Northern Command. And wrapping up the month of June is our annual Summer Beach Bash/ Picnic at Norfolk's Captain Slade Cutter Park!

To get all the latest news on future Chapter initiatives and events, as well as USNA news and updates, be sure to check out our website under the Hampton Roads Group at myUSNA.com. And don't forget our LinkedIn and Facebook pages! *Dick Enderly '71*

## Quantico Area Chapter

Pres: **Robin Dreeke '92**  
e: rdreeke@gmail.com

Vice-President: **George Williams '87**  
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Treas: **Ron Diefenbach '00**  
QACUSNAAtreasurer@yahoo.com

Sec'y: **Nancy Springer '87**  
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Jim Ripley '74**  
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On 3 February, 21 Chapter members and supporters gathered at The Hampton Inn, Dumfries for the latest installment in our breakfast speaker series. Our guest was CAPT **Joe McGettigan '80**, USN (Ret.), Director of the U. S. Naval Academy STEM Center for Education and Outreach who gave a very interesting talk on the Center's history and STEM outreach activities. This session was very relevant for QAC since STEM outreach is a specified Chapter goal, and we have searched for ways to get involved in the local community and schools. Interestingly, CAPT McGettigan informed the group that the country currently has 2.5 million unfilled STEM-oriented jobs, and the vacancies are projected to increase to 2.7 million by 2027. He attributed some of these vacancies to a lack of STEM awareness in young people and a lack of STEM-focused education in the schools.

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



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

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

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

All area (and visiting) alumni are welcome at Chapter events! Please check the webpage and Facebook site for more information. Also, QAC is actively recruiting members from the

202x decade. Come join us and add your unique perspective to the Chapter! For more information, please contact President **Robin Dreeke '92** at rdreeke@gmail.com.

## Richmond Chapter

Pres: **Michael Metzger '89**  
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Sec'y: **Matt Laser '97**  
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## Shenandoah Valley Chapter

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BGO Area Coordinator: **Jim Ripley '74**  
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## Virginia Peninsula Chapter

(formerly the Williamsburg Chapter)

Pres: **Kathleen Jabs '88**  
e: kjabs@aol.com  
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Vice Pres: **Rick Yasky '78**  
e: rickyasky@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR David Lannetti '81, USN (Ret.)**  
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Website: [www.myusna.com](http://www.myusna.com)

Group: **Virginia Peninsula Chapter**

Chapter dues are \$20 a year and nametags (optional) are \$12.

*DUES and Contributions:*

Send your checks to our treasurer:

USNAAA VA Peninsula

c/o Gary Carlile

3724 Mesa River

Williamsburg, VA 23188

Chapter Dues are primarily in support of Chapter events and support for USNA STEM and Summer Seminar participation by VA Peninsula high school and middle school students.



Quantico Area Chapter: The February Chapter Breakfast Club with Our Guest

## CHAPTER NEWS

### February 2023 Activities

On the 18th, the Virginia Peninsula Chapter and family members met at James River Country Club for lunch and a lecture on the Russia and Ukraine War. The guest speaker was Mr. Jeffrey Edmonds, a scientist and an expert on Russia and Eurasia from the Center for Naval Analyses Research.



Andrea Howard '15, Rich Johnson '74, and Steve Jasper '74 at James River Luncheon.



Tom Paulk '80, Rich Johnson '74.



Rick Yasky '78, Speaker Jeffery Edmonds, Center for Naval Analyses Research.

### Future Activities

Our annual Alumni Picnic in June will be at The Beaches at Capital Landing, the Spence Witten family estate. All Navy alumni, family, and significant others are welcome at all our events. If you aren't on our email list, please send us a note at <vapeninsulachapterusna@gmail.com> and we will notify you about upcoming luncheons and other events.

### Joint Service Academy Small Business Development

On the 2nd Wednesday of each month, the Joint Service Academy Small Business - Business Development Forum meetings are held locally. **Mike Ohlhaber '75** is the host of these meetings. Contact Ben Francisco <roger.benton.francisco@gmail.com> if you are interested in learning about this group or desire to attend meetings.

If you live on the Virginia Peninsula and are interested in joining our chapter, please contact Kathleen Jabs, our chapter president, to be welcomed and put on our email list. If you know of other USNA grads in the area who might be interested in joining us, please let us know and pass along their contact information. The hospitality committee will contact them and add them to our email list.

## Washington

BGO Area Coordinator: **Darin Perrine**  
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### Hanford/Tri-Cities Chapter

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### Puget Sound Chapter

Pres: **Alan Schrader '92**  
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Sec'y: **George Windsor '75**  
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### Distinguished Graduate Speaker Ron Nicol '75

Ron Nicol entered the Naval Academy on his 18th birthday, 30 June 1971, joining the Class of



1975. Ron was a Physics Major and graduated 7th in his class. Upon graduation, Ron opted for Nuclear Power training and Submarine Service. He served a sea tour on USS MARIANO VALLEJO (SSBN-658) where he

qualified in submarines and as engineer before transferring to Naval Nuclear Power School as an instructor.

Resigning his commission in 1982, Ron briefly worked at Babcock and Wilcox before attending the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University to earn his MBA. He was then employed by the Boston Consulting Group where he rapidly moved up the chain to partner and subsequent

senior leadership positions in the firm. Retiring in 2016, Ron still serves as a BCG Senior Advisor and is a director on numerous Boards. Ron remains active with USNA and recently concluded a strategic study for the Superintendent that was funded by a grant from BCG which he presented on 16 February. In December 2022, he was selected as a Distinguished Graduate and was honored as such in March.

### Speaker Series - Naval Ops in the Pacific Series.

On 8 March **Bob Fishman '73** presented Part 1 of 5 in the series "World War 2 Naval Ops in the Pacific Series" Part 1: Pearl Harbor to the Battle of the Coral Sea (December 1941 - May 1942)

### Upcoming events at a glance:

(a) 13 May - "World War 2 Naval Ops in the Pacific" — Part 2: The Battle of Midway, June 1942

(b) 3 June - Plebe Welcome Class of 2027

(c) 29 July - Annual Picnic at Camp Mckean - Kitsap.

George

## Washington, DC Area

### Greater Washington Chapter

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Sec'y: **Crysta Gonzalez '18**  
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Treas: **Jennifer Shaar '92**  
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Diversity and Inclusion: **Alberto Ramos '10**  
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Trustee: **Fred Latrash '87**  
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Pat Seals**  
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We were honored to host NASA Associate Administrator **Robert Cabana '71** at the AWS Skills Center in Crystal City, Arlington, VA, in early March. We had more than 60 attendees, with grads from the 60s all the way to 2017!

Mr. Cabana's bio on NASA's website:

Robert D. Cabana is a former NASA astronaut, currently serving the agency's associate administrator, its third highest-ranking executive and highest-ranking civil servant.

Before taking that position, Cabana was director of NASA's John F. Kennedy Space Center in Florida. In that role, Cabana managed all NASA facilities and activities at the spaceport, including the team of civil service and contractor employees who operate and support numerous space programs and projects.



Born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Cabana graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy in 1971 with a bachelor's degree in mathematics. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps and completed Naval Flight Officer training in Pensacola in 1972. Cabana then served as an A-6 bombardier/navigator with Marine Air Wings in Cherry Point, North Carolina, and Iwakuni, Japan.

Returning to Pensacola in 1975, Cabana began pilot training and was designated a naval aviator in September of 1976, earning the Daughters of the American Revolution award as the top Marine to complete flight training that year. He graduated with distinction from the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School in 1981 and served in the Flight Systems Branch at the Naval Air Test Center until 1984. During his career, Cabana has logged over 7,000 hours in 50 different kinds of aircraft.

Cabana was selected as an astronaut candidate in June 1985 and completed his initial astronaut training in July 1986. He was assigned to the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center Astronaut Office, serving in a number of leadership positions, including lead astronaut in

the Shuttle Avionics Integration Laboratory; Mission Control Spacecraft Communicator, famously known as CAPCOM; and chief of NASA's Astronaut Office.

A veteran of four spaceflights, Cabana has logged 38 days in space, serving as the pilot on STS-41 and STS-53 and mission commander on STS-65 and STS-88. His fourth flight was the first assembly mission of the International Space Station in December of 1998. Following his retirement as a colonel from the Marine Corps in September 2000, Cabana was appointed a member of the Federal Senior Executive Service. He served in numerous, challenging senior management positions at Johnson Space Center in Houston, ultimately becoming deputy director.

In October 2007, Cabana was appointed director of NASA's John C. Stennis Space Center in Mississippi. A year later he was reassigned as the tenth director of the John F. Kennedy Space Center.

Cabana's many achievements have been recognized with induction into the Astronaut Hall of Fame and being named an Associate Fellow in the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and a Fellow in the Society of

Experimental Test Pilots. He has received numerous personal awards and decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Presidential Distinguished Rank Award, and the National Space Club Florida Committee's Dr. Kurt H. Debus Award. He also is a recipient of the Rotary National Award for Space Achievement's National Space Trophy.

Address: 1500 Crystal Dr Suite G, Arlington, VA 22202, USA

## Wisconsin

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

Pres: **Timothy Mahoney '10**  
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At Large: **Chris Adams '75**  
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WISNAPA Co Presidents: **Andy and Laura Kittleson**  
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BGO Area Coordinator: **Mr. Leonard Green**  
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# SHARED INTEREST GROUPS

## NAMA

Pres: **RADM Julius S. Caesar '77, USN (Ret.)**  
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Vice Pres: **LCDR Valerie Mansfield '92, USN (Ret.)**  
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CoS: **CDR Calvin Bumphus '97, USN (Ret.)**  
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Treas: **C.J. Willis '75**  
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BGO Coordinator: **Nikki Betz '05**  
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Shipmate Contact: **LCDR Jessica Anderson '08, USN**  
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### EVENTS

#### Upcoming Events:

It is hard to believe graduation for the Class of

2023 is upon us. Congratulations! With that comes I-Day! If you are interested in volunteering to speak to parents, friends, and family about what NAMA offers for the incoming class of 2027, let us know! NAMA will continue to offer online sessions to help answer questions about finance, career progression, home buying, and more. NAMA offers a multitude of resources and is an excellent way to GIVE BACK to the institution that shaped us into the leaders we are today and in the future. Join NAMA today and get involved! We look forward to seeing what great work we can do together!

#### Past Events:

Thank you for making our second USNA Alumni Leadership Symposium and Gala a success.

It was an amazing opportunity to engage in meaningful conversation on many important topics impacting alumni. We could not have done it without you! In March we had the pleasure of seeing NAMA's Executive Director, **RADM Julius Caesar '77 (Ret.)** receive his Distinguished Graduate Award. Bravo Zulu to all the 2023 recipients! NAMA members supported Black History Month events and Women's History Month events. Online events on finance, FITREPS, and real estate were offered to Active Duty members and Midshipmen. Lastly, members of the Class of '77 attended a NAPS Dining In '77 Link in the Chain. RADM Caesar attended the USNAA&F and Naval War College geopolitical symposium.

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

Follow these steps to contribute today:

1. Visit [usna.com/give](http://usna.com/give) or follow direction on the NAMA\_webste
2. Select the dollar amount you would like to contribute.



NAMA Shared Interest Group

# SHARED INTEREST GROUPS

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

4. Type in Naval Academy Minority Affairs Fund.

5. Enter your donor information and click "Next"

Direction are on our website

<https://www.usnama.com/donation-selection/>

## NESA

Naval Engineers & STEM Advocates (NESA)

Pres: **ADM John Richardson USN (Ret.)**

Vice Pres: **CAPT Sarah Rice '97, USN [Sel.]**

Sec'y: **CDR Renee Reedy '81 USN (Ret.)**

Treas.: **LT John Rex Spivey '13, USN**

Outreach & Engagement: **CAPT Jill Rough '96, USNR**

CoS: **CAPT Dale Lumme '80, USN (Ret.)**

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

### What is the NESA SIG:

#### NESA supports USNA Alumni, faculty and midshipmen by partnering with:

- Local and national communities to connect, network and inspire participation,
- Engage students, professors, teachers and engineering professionals in support of
- Recruiting and supporting the next generation of Naval Engineers and STEM Advocates.

#### NESA SIG supports USNA Alumni Association activities, including:

- Class, Chapter and Parents Groups
- NAMA and Women's Shared Interest Groups STEM events, STEM Fireside Chats and education programs.

#### NESA SIG actively partners with the USNA STEM Center for Education and Outreach

- In support of USNA STEM Camps and STEM education outreach.
- Provide mentoring and networking opportunities to expand and advance the USNA tenets.

The NESA SIG supported several events with USNA Midshipmen, Professors, and NESA volunteers attending at the Naval Academy and at local Annapolis area STEM outreach events.

- 07 - 08 Nov 2022: USNA NESA SIG STEM outreach supported three USNA Midshipmen and three USNA Professors at the Maritime Institute of Technology and Advanced Graduate Studies (MITAGS).
- 29 Nov 2022: "Best Practices in STEM Outreach" DoD Workshop, with DOD, joint and inter-agency STEM advocates, November 29, 2022 at the U.S. Naval Academy.
- 21 Jan 2023: USNA BioTech STEM Day at the Naval Academy with over 125 high school students and dozens of USNA Midshipmen and USNA NESA SIG volunteers. Student lab experiments included Biofuels & Sequencing, Bioterrorism, DNA Gel Investigation, PCR Analysis, and a STEM career mentoring panel with USNA Admissions Office reps and NESA volunteers.

#### The NESA SIG accepts charitable donations via the USNA Foundation website.

- Go to [USNA.Com/Give](https://USNA.Com/Give)
- Enter the amount of your donation.
- Under the "I would like my money to go to" - select "Other"
- Type in: Naval Engineers & STEM Advocates (NESA)

Donations to the NESA SIG will support USNA STEM Camps, Summer Seminars and STEM events at USNA and around the USA in support of inspiring the next generation of USNA Alumni!

#### Future events:

NESA members will be attending and supporting the NAMA SIG and the USNA Alumni Leadership Forum on 28-29 April 2023.

## Run to Honor

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p: 813-787-6098

e: [president@runtohonor.com](mailto:president@runtohonor.com)

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## USNA Women

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Vice Pres: **Kendra Chappell '94**

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Treas: **Monica (Gutierrez) Laux '09**

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

The WSIG held an election for new officers in February 2023 which concluded on Monday, Feb 20, 2023. Congratulations to the new officers: **Linda Postenrieder '82** - President, **Kendra Chappell '94**, Vice President, **Jill Richards '94** - Outreach, **Maureen Kane '08** - Secretary and **Monica Laux '09** - Treasurer.

The quarterly WSIG Sexual Assault Survivor webinar Series kicked off on 28 February 2023 with an educational and healing presentation by Dr. Jill Richards on Trauma. This virtual



series continues on Tuesday, May 23rd, 2023.

Please see details under the WSIG events on [myUSNA.com](http://myUSNA.com) or click on the QR Code to register.



USNA BioTech STEM day - 21 Jan with 125+ high school students

### STAY CONNECTED

Find a Chapter.

[usna.com/FindAChapter](https://usna.com/FindAChapter)



# 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

**Joseph Shepard Bryan Jr. '45**  
22 November 2022

**William Kahlen Doty '46**  
CAPT, USN (Ret.)  
14 April 2022

**Theodore Wendell Moldenhauer '46**  
27 December 2020

**Louis Anthony Romatowski Jr. '47**  
CAPT, USN (Ret.)  
3 February 2023

**Ronald Bresler Durning '48**  
5 March 2023

**James Clayton Oliver Jr. '48**  
CAPT, USN (Ret.)  
9 December 2022

**Holton Carroll Dickson Jr. '49**  
CAPT, USN (Ret.)  
8 December 2018

**Lemond DeKern Lang '49**  
9 March 2023

**Peter John Sarris '49**  
2 March 2023

**Robert Paul Kramer '50**  
CDR, USN (Ret.)  
18 February 2023

**Robert McLanahan Smith Jr. '50**  
CDR, USNR (Ret.)  
8 December 2022

**Edwin Ellis Speaker '50**  
Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)  
24 February 2023

**Robert Kendall Reed '51**  
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1 March 2023

**Robert Stewart Buckman '52**  
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16 February 2023

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7 March 2023

**John Hayward Amendt '53 ■**  
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26 February 2023

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16 July 2022

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11 November 2022

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27 February 2023

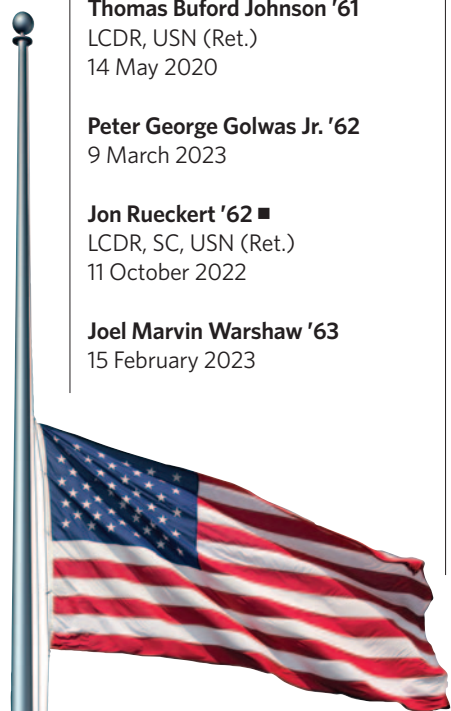
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11 January 2023

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16 February 2023

**Angela Dawn Elamon Anderson '12**  
10 February 2023

**Kenneth Charles Motsay '14**  
Capt, USMC  
13 February 2023

**Caleb Lewis Moore '17 ■**  
17 February 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.*



2023 SHIPMATE Classified Information & Insertion Order

Black and White Classified Ad Rates  
SIZE

Non-LifeMember Rates	\$ 77.00	1"	\$ 60.00	25% LifeMember Discount Rates
	\$154.00	2"	\$120.00	
	\$230.00	3"	\$180.00	
	\$310.00	4"	\$240.00	
	\$385.00	5"	\$300.00	
	\$460.00	6"	\$360.00	
	\$540.00	7"	\$420.00	
	\$545.00	8"	\$485.00	



Color Classified Ad Rates  
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	\$395.00	4"	\$285.00	
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	\$595.00	6"	\$430.00	
	\$695.00	7"	\$500.00	
	\$790.00	8"	\$580.00	

2023 SHIPMATE Classified Information & Insertion Order

Classified Advertising Policy

Classified ads are accepted on a space available basis as a service to **USNA Alumni** only. The Alum's name and class year **MUST** appear in the ad. Spouse ads are accepted only with the Alum's name and class year included in the ad. Ads are accepted camera-ready and electronically; jpg., tif. or PDF formats. (300 dpi) Any classified ad may occupy one column width (2.5 inches) by a maximum of up to 8 inches of column length.

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Classified ad rates are \$77 per inch for black and white and \$100 per inch for color. A \$50 set up fee is charged if ad is designed for advertiser. **Life Members** are eligible for a 25% discount—reducing the cost to \$60 per inch for black and white and \$70 for color. Please select the issue(s) in which you wish to run, or specify: RFN - "Run Until Further Notice."

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 Annapolis, MD 21402

fax: 410-295-4003; phone: 410-295-4074

Please contact Maria O'Shea via email or phone for space availability — even if the due date has passed, I will try to be as flexible as possible.



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