

U.S. Naval Academy
Council of Class Presidents (COCP)
Spring Meeting - 26 APR 2024
Fluegel Alumni Center, Annapolis, MD

-Hot Breakfast was served outside of the Reinemund Conference Room in the pre-function area from 0700-0745

-At 0745 the meeting was called to order by Steve Comiskey '69, Chairman of the Council of Class Presidents, using the USS Constitution Gavel & Sounding Board from the Class of '75. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Steve Comiskey thanked the Alumni Association & Foundation (AA&F) for their support of the COCP (Note: we do not have a budget). Recognition of active duty attendees: CAPT David Forman '98, CAPT Jason Birch '99 , LT Jon-Rex Spivey '13, and Capt Chosnel Raymond '17

-Recognition of the oldest and youngest class presidents in attendance (CAPT Rick Claytor '49 and Capt Chosnel Raymond '17)

-There are no new class presidents since our last meeting

-Class presidents lost since our last meeting were:

-CAPT Jack Stevens, '47, USN (Ret.)

-CAPT Christos Zirps, '53, USN (Ret.)

-Acknowledgement of the operational loss of Capt Miguel Nava '17, USMC

-A moment of silence was observed. Fair Winds and Following Seas shipmates.

-A motion to approve the minutes from Fall 2023 meeting was presented and seconded. Minutes were approved.

-Steve Comiskey's presentation of gavels & sounding boards to the classes of '75,'76,'78,'95,'96,'97 was mentioned and will be distributed to the classes prior to the lunch break. The idea is that we will use a 50 year cycle going back from 1970 forward for 50 years was reiterated. Example—1970 will present a gavel to 2020. The link in the chain concept of the senior LITC presenting class to the current junior LITC class in perpetuity, 1970 to 2020 then 2020 to 2070, etc.

CHAIR OPENING COMMENTS—the COCP charter cites “The purpose of the Council of Class Presidents is to provide a forum for discussion and resolution of common issues among the Classes and to elect Class Presidents to the Alumni Association Board of Trustees. The Council of Class Presidents is an organization that is independent but supportive of the US Naval Academy Alumni Association.”

-Decade Reps were recognized:

1940s/50s LTCOL Gordon Gerson '58

1960s Mr. Steve Comiskey '69

1970s CAPT Kevin Stone '76

1980s Mr. Jim Schwab '88

1990s Mr. Wags Wagner '97

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2000s Mr. Donnie Horner '08

2010s/20s Mr. Ian Cameron '12

-Council of Class Presidents Officers were recognized:

Chair: Mr. Steve Comiskey '69

Vice Chair: Mr. Jim Schwab '88

Secretary: Mr. Bob Kuberski '93

—At the conclusion of our last meeting a survey was sent by the AA and the Chair incorporated that feedback into today's COCP Meeting. We will continue to do so

--Introduce COCP sponsors—USAA Derrick Turner '89, SignUpNow Evan '91 and Pam Barnet, Teresa Denison of Long & Foster. Please connect with our sponsors and hear their story. Share it with your classes

—We will work diligently to get the meeting minutes to you quickly so you can share them with your classes

—The agenda for the day was summarized. We are excited to meet VADM Yvette Davids '89 and she invited the COCP to attend the Formal Parade followed by a reception at Farragut House

—Steve Comiskey asked each of the 12 roundtables of Class Presidents to introduce themselves to the group in attendance

REUNION ADVISORY COUNCIL

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/web.usna.com/PPTs/2024/Reunion-Advisory-Committee-forCOCP-slides.pptx>

Wendy Owen, Director of Alumni Class Programs presented the Reunion Advisory Council concept. Gordon Gerson '58, Rick Ruben '72, Brian Goodrow '84, Scott Herbener '87, Chris Bushnell '88 and Bob Kuberski '93 form the committee. We sent an extensive survey and received great responses on reunion logistics and execution. We found several areas of concern:

-Yard Receptions—NABSD

Sole source catering

Event space availability

-Football ticket blocks—NAAAA

Digital system confusion

-Tailgate options—NAAA

Sole source catering

-Bus Coordination

Too few options and competition between classes for bus services

-Vendor timely payments

We can do a better job compensating our vendors and speeding up processing at the AA

-We have updated the class reunions handbook as well as the class president's (CP's) handbook which will soon be emailed and online. Please continue to provide feedback for these living, breathing documents

Q: Will we have a full-time staff member at the AA to serve as a reunion facilitator?

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A: Not currently a requisition but it is not off the table

Q: Timeline for COCP and CP handbooks?

A: Next week

-Suggestion to post collateral on the myUSNA for COCP. Wendy Owen will follow up

-Can other class presidents join the reunion council. Yes

—Spring reunions were discussed, and we do indeed have classes that have done them in the past. There is less competition for services and venues. Consider a baseball game or lacrosse game as options outside of the traditional fall football games. Class of '62 is planning a one-day reunion and it will be on the anniversary day of their graduation. "62 at 62" is the name of their reunion. Lots of positive comment about reunions outside of the fall as an idea for classes to consider. West coast reunions as well as other locations. Consider San Diego, as just one example

MEMORIAL AFFAIRS

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/web.usna.com/PPTs/2024/TimothyW-MemAffair-COCP.pptx>

LTCOL Joe Fagan '89, Director, Memorial Affairs, USNA and Timothy Elizabeth Woodbury, Memorial Affairs Manager and Shipmate Obits Editor addressed the group. Timothy thanked and encouraged the classes to communicate early with her and to include not only grads but spouse, children, non-grads, etc. Continue to encourage classmates to locate their own DD-214 and write a summary of their military service. Share that with their families. Please email obits@usna.com if you have a protocol in place for your class on what to do when losses occur so Timothy can compile them and distribute the guidance to the classes

Q: Can we give a widow checklist to assist them

A: We can do so

Q: We terminate the decedents entry in the database when the loss occurs

A: CP's should have access to the information needed to contact the widow. If you have an issue please let Timothy know

-If widows assume lifetime membership their information remains and Timothy can provide information to CP's but will not share with classmates.

-LTCOL Joe Fagan mentioned that the DD-214 can be submitted to Memorial Affairs and they will store it for graduates who have served honorably. A paper file in a double locked office with secure physical paper files. Flag officer rank, Distinguished Grads, and those stationed at USNA and who passed away are Columbarium candidates. KIA can be buried in the cemetery. The www.usna.com/cemetary site provides a checklist and regulations on things like columbarium, cemetery, and chapel services for classes

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Q: Can you confirm that if a spouse pre-deceases an alumni that internment for the spouse can occur immediately or do you have to wait until the graduate passes

A: The family wishes will be accommodated. Yes

-CP's can designate a representative from the class to coordinate with the AA and the family but usually the next of kin is the point of contact. Typically a DD-214 would be on file with the AA but they can hold other docs like a description of military service

-Columbarium has issues with flooding primarily. Ramsey Road has a low point which leads up to the columbarium. It has the capacity to build perpendicular space and they will not do so due to flooding. A concept of some different spaces is being considered and Beach Hall will be a probable site. Construction of a sea wall will soon begin to shelter the current columbarium from future flooding. We anticipate that in the next 50 years the columbarium will have to be moved.

-It was suggested that if we are running out of space, can we have a sense of timing on new space in the columbarium?

-Many political hurdles have to be overcome. Number of spaces left is less than 100. They anticipate that will last about 1 year. NAVFAC will do concrete work and an outside company will provide pre-fabricated spaces for interment which is the thought process that is in development

-A question about urns was mentioned and SignCraft was mentioned as an urn maker. Two urns will fit into a columbarium for a couple. Some of the columbarium's are space constrained and not standard sized

-Is the chapel looking at remote broadcast feature for funeral services so that classmates can observe?

-The PAO would be the point of contact for this question and LTCOL Fagan will bring that to PAO. On rare occasions this has been done

-For those who have cruise boxes and would like their remains in the cruise box to be placed in the columbarium is this possible?

-They cannot use biodegradable boxes like wood and they are prohibited so it is dependent on the cruise box construction

Break was taken

CHET GLADCHUK

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/web.usna.com/PPTs/2024/Chet-2024-COCP-Meeting.pptx>

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Athletic Director addressed the COCP and expressed his excitement about working with VADM Yvette Davids and the enthusiasm she brings to the Academy. We have won the President's Cup for 9 consecutive years which recognizes the top athletic program in the Patriot League. We are looking to make it 10. The Army Navy series started slow but we gained momentum and captured the series yet again. Murph McCarthy is doing a wonderful job launching the Women's Rugby program coming from the club level. Gavin Hickey and Men's Rugby will face St. Mary's for the National Championship game coming up on May 4th in Houston. We won the 2023 National Championship and we're looking to add our 2nd. It's about academic excellence and balance. We are #4 in the nation for Academic All-Americans. We've had 173 in the last 20 years. Top 10 NCAA graduation success rate at 95. We have the most Patriot League Scholar Athletes of the Year in league history. Excelling in the classroom and the Brigade. Roger Staubach's #12 dedication happened last fall; and the Dyer Tennis Clubhouse was recently dedicated. A new group will be started and the letter winners association will bring home to the Academy 10,000+ letter winners; some who have been lost in the shuffle. This is an initiative from the Athletic and Scholarship Program (A&SP) trustees. There is an Athletic Excellence Legacy Fund for planned giving to help NAAA fund 36 varsity sports. NAAA is self-funded and not supported by the Navy. Athletic Excellence Legacy donations can be pledged for when you and your spouse pass and this can be done well in advance. Pat Owen, Head Pro and Director of Navy Golf will be retiring after over 33 years. Mike Burke and Rick Phelps will serve as the new Director and Head Professional, respectively. Kylee Sullivan was named Head Coach of Navy women's golf in January 2024. She took her team to the Patriot League Championship in her freshmen campaign. Navy Sailing will be fine-tuned and the Offshore program will look more like a Varsity program. Jesse Fielding is a world class sailor, and he is Head Coach of Navy offshore and began in February 2024. Navy Football is back! Write that down per Chet. Coach Newberry has Chet's full confidence. We have a new offensive coordinator and Chet wants the Commander in Chief (CINC) Trophy and a bowl game. He feels very confident. We have impact players that have returned. Army and Air Force 5th year players have largely moved on. We will play ND at MetLife Stadium on October 26th. In 2026, Navy Notre Dame will be held at Foxborough stadium. Navy joined the AAC in 2015 and the conference unity is paramount. Army has now joined the American Athletic Conference. We will not play them during the regular season. Could face them in the championship. Army Navy is in Washington this year. Power 5—ACC, Big10, Big XII, SEC and PAC 12. PAC 12 is out of business and they were a storied conference. Greed is driving the consolidation. PAC 12 was left hanging and a number of those teams have joined the big 4—ACC, Big 10, Big XII and the SEC. NCAA Playoff will go from 4 teams to 12 teams and there is a \$1.3 billion dollar pot of money they are chasing. They have captured most of the TV monies. Student-Athletes are resentful and want a piece of the revenue. They are suing the NCAA for using their likeness and there are numerous lawsuits to the tune of \$14-\$16 billion dollars in liability. NCAA may be relegated to a minor role in college sports. It is as if the Big 4 conferences will operate in their own realm. The have's and have not's. Dartmouth players want to unionize and become employees and are suing the NCAA and their institution. USC athletes are retroactively suing for money they think they missed out on. Tennessee lawsuit versus NCAA says college football (sports) are a business. Throw out all the rules as well as regulation and consistencies. More have's and have not's. Amateurism is dying. Midshipmen

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cannot engage in NIL. They are government employees, and the Navy cites that they are already being paid. We lost 18 Navy athletes this year out of 1,560 and only 2 were meaningful contributors. The transfer portal hasn't tremendously affected us. New portal rule is that you can immediately transfer and play and thus be entitled to NIL. Chet encourages our athletes that it's not about the next 4 years but about the next 40 years. The service academies are the last frontier of amateurism. The Patriot League is perfect for us and they will be modest and competitive. Expect to Win is the mindset. In NCAA football the train is moving down the track and will cause both a philosophical and financial separation. We should still beat Army and Air Force. We should still Win the CINC and get to a post-season game. This gives a chance to rally the alumni around the model. We have true student-athletes, and we won't change that according to Chet. Keep track of who we are and what we are trying to accomplish. We will support the game and our formula will not change. Chet would like CP's to consider being philanthropic and supportive of the athletic programs and highlighted the following: Navy Marine Corps Memorial Stadium (NMCMS) is the #1 facility in our league—club boxes, a year round hospitality area, the north end zone with banquet facility and the double decker tents will be permanently constructed. Navy nutrition stations are still being added, brigade sports complex, tennis facilities and the lacrosse facility (\$25M with \$15M already raised) are all on the docket, an expanded aquatics campaign, Max Bishop stadium and all are funded by donations to the campaign for Athletic Excellence

DR. SAMARA FIREBAUGH

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/web.usna.com/PPTs/2024/Firebaugh-COCP-May-2024.pptx>

Provost and Academic Dean thanked Chet for the true Student-Athletes that NAAA supports. She has an initiative to become more resilient in the ever-changing environment. Her priorities are Stewardship of the Core Curriculum, Increasing cultural awareness, geopolitical knowledge, and foreign languages. Preparing midshipmen for the future battlespace and being a center of excellence for naval installation resilience. She highlighted several events that have occurred since the last COCP meeting. She highlighted some of those including midshipmen projects for satellite maintenance, arms for small satellites which will likely be prevalent on a go forward basis. Capstone is coming up next week and the Trident Scholar event is today. The Debate Team continues their success and we Beat Army in a virtual squad tactics exercise. We are working with faculty who have no military experience to show them aspects of the fleet and how that can help faculty to understand what midshipman will do in the fleet. War-gaming has been ramped up dramatically and project-based learning (PBL) initiatives abound. Flooding events are more prevalent at USNA and one of our Trident scholars has been working on infrastructure resilience and the impact on the broader armed forces. Solar panels on the top of Hopper Hall funnel power through the labs there and students can learn how to work with that power source

Q: There are some great majors that have been added but what is the retention rate for some of the technical tract grads? There isn't a good career path for those majors. What do we know and what do we have planned?

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A: The Navy is trying to create pathways to retain this talent as well as the Marine Corps. Specialties are being considered and we need internal talent for the future of national security. It is all about Cyber and the Data. The Superintendent can provide some color during her address to the COCP

Q: How are we facilitating alumni to be able to come back to the Academy to be instructors and return to USNA to share their expertise?

A: The importance of cultivating the rotational officers is very important to Dr. Firebaugh

The Center for Academic Excellence has been a critical asset to USNA

SUPERINTENDENT

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/web.usna.com/PPTs/2024/26APR24-COCP-Supes-External.pptx>

VADM Yvette Davids '89, 65th Superintendent of the United States Naval Academy addressed the COCP for the first time. David Forman '98, Deputy Commandant, and President of the Class of '98, is on hand to represent the Commandant's office. She began in January '24 and shared a bit of her background and her priorities. Her goal is that the COCP will be excited about what is going on at Navy and that we will share that with our classes. Graduation is on the horizon. Her background: Colorado School of Mines is where her grandfather attended before returning back to Mexico. Her family moved to San Antonio and was involved in the early development in the community and politics. Her father was sent to the U.S. by her grandparents and joined the Army as a doctor for his career. She had an Army brat upbringing and moved frequently during her upbringing. When she got to USNA she thought she could be an Oceanographer and go to Airborne School and that was bliss for her. She sailed dinghies at Navy, and she quickly got recruited to sail. That changed her trajectory and imbued her with team, leadership, and love of the water. This was the nexus of her surface warfare career. Her husband Keith Davids '90, SEAL, was a recruited navy sailor. He is WARCOM in San Diego and takes care of their 2 children, twin teenage boys. She hopes that in June and July the family will be reunited. Her mom and dad live in Bend, OR and followed Yvette's sister but in their heart, they are Texans. USS San Jose was the ship she chose, and the women's exclusion law was in existence at that time. They served vessels in and around the Arabian Gulf and her first tour was very meaningful in support of Operation Desert Storm. Her XO was one of the first female XOs in the Navy and she sent Yvette to her first warship on a special 10-day assignment and Yvette's eyes were opened! It showed her the contrast between what men were able to do versus what the cap was on what women could do. A few years later those limits were lifted and today there are no limits! 2 female mids have permission to go to SOAZ which is the summer program for considering Navy SEAL training. The change in our fleet and our Navy has been immeasurable and she is excited to see what happens in the next 20-30 years. She confirmed that VADM Fred Kacher '90 was officially recognized as the 64th Superintendent. Her priorities: Dignity and Respect—a Positive and Inclusive environment, Culture of Excellence—War Fighting, Readiness and Sense of Urgency—we can shift quickly with things like Cyber and Foreign Affairs. In the classroom and on the playing fields,

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Infrastructure Resilience and Recapitalization—her first day at USNA had a strong wind that brought the 3rd largest tide in USNA history and highlighted the need for resiliency. SECNAV is helping us to address the sea level rise that her predecessor worked so diligently on during his tenure. Downtown Annapolis and USNA are joined at the hip when it comes to flooding. Some sports activities have been temporarily located and will move back to Macdonough Hall after renovations have been completed in 2025

She noted the delay in her confirmation along with many other senior officers in the Navy. She spent time overseeing all Navy ships in the interim and this helped her craft her vision

The Commandant will change from Colonel J.P. McDonough, the 89th Commandant, to Captain Walter H. Allman, SEAL, as the first Navy SEAL to become Commandant

Around the Yard: Yvette's Change of Command was held in Memorial Hall and Yvette and her family felt welcomed and were in awe of the experience but most importantly about the alumni support she received including "The Ladies of the 80's". This can be very empowering, and she encourages all of us to support our constituents. Service Selection dinners were an early part of Yvette's tenure, and the communities were highly motivating for the midshipmen. Surface Warfare selection was highlighted as the selection of an actual ship versus the start of a class (like flight training) wherein a date was picked. Surface Warfare runs in Yvette's veins and is the foundation of the Navy. The Embassy of Japan invited midshipmen who will be homeported there after commissioning. The Seawall project is well underway. This will continue all around the yard as well. Work is being done across the river in the YP area and floating docks are being added for our sailing vessels. Bancroft Hall was last renovated almost 30 years ago. The early 1900's is when Bancroft was constructed and constantly added to over the years. Do we renovate wing-by-wing or system-by-system? Phase Zero will begin in August in T-Court and the Rotunda areas, especially the steps. The Rotunda and Memorial Hall are included in this project. We will protect the artwork and high scaffolding will be erected to address the flaking ceiling. Renovation of the entire Bancroft Hall is in VADM Davids' sights. Athletic Excellence and the Physical Mission is important. Navy baseball plays in West Point this weekend. Remind your classmates they can stream our sports online at www.navysports.com. We are in the right league with our teams and the games are extraordinary. Navy Men's Tennis came down to captain vs captain and first class versus first class. Our captain took the match after his slow start, showing Navy resilience. Abigail Ward, Rugby team, Intel, Rhodes Scholar and Gabby Baldwin, Swimmer and Diver and Academic All-American were cited. Our CNO, ADM Lisa Franchetti asked if we do anything big like Army Navy for other sports. Women's Lacrosse versus Army last week had the CNO in attendance and tremendous alumni support. CNO bought flag officers to support the Women's lacrosse team. One of our team members, Emily Messinese, lost her tooth, and it was found, and they took her off and sutured her gums. She came back on the field to a roar and even scored a goal! It was an awesome showing of resilience. The support for Women's sports has gained tremendous momentum. There is not only academic and athletic talent at Navy. We have world class programs in the arts—choruses, bands, and theater, for example. All of those other endeavors also inspire excellence, and we should recognize that while creating those

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environments. There are over 100 extra-curricular activities designed and created by midshipmen

Manning the Fleet: 25% to USMC. 75% Navy. Actual numbers are 768 Navy and 260 USMC. We are producing what the fleet needs. Last Monday we concluded the admissions process. We have nominations from all but one eligible Congressional districts. Total of 15,147 applications. 1,200 admitted is the goal. 43.9% are minorities and 32.1% females. Yvette is pleased by the trends. The talent at USNA is phenomenal

VADM Davids is incredibly proud to be here at USNA and is filled with pride to be our Superintendent

Q: Is there a process or possibility that we could get something named for Admiral Spruance?
A: There is a process in place that we can work with and there is a council that facilitates the process. Buildings have been named after Fleet Admirals traditionally. It is worth looking at and Yvette is open to looking into the possibility. The Academy wants to retain control over that process. The committee is considering more modern recognition where service members have served our country more recently

USNA Alumni Association and Foundation Reports:

Mr. Jeff Webb '95, CEO and President, USNA Alumni Association & Foundation

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/web.usna.com/PPTs/2024/Jeff+COCP+25+April+1100.ppt>

-Jeff gave the history of the Alumni Association going back to 1886 when it was founded. The amalgamation was cited where the AA and the Foundation were merged and that for the last 20+ years that we have been pretty consistent. Jeff shared our Alumni Association and Foundation values: Integrity, Respect, Service, Teamwork, Growth. Let Jeff know if we believe they are falling short so he can address those issues. The goal is to Connect, Communicate, Support and Anchor—Engagement roadshows, Fluegel Alumni Center, Alumni Support Services, Celebrating our past (Legacy of Valor), and Entering the Campaign Quiet Phase which is to say that our fundraising campaign is under construction for the next phase. Jerry Miller '77, Tim Sullivan '80 and Michael Taylor '86 will lead the campaign going forward. 4 DGA's were recently recognized: ADM Blair '68, ADM Locklear '77, Jerrold Miller '77 and John Young '78

Q: Can we have a staff member dedicated to reunions?

A: West Point has this and they pay for that service. Do we have the budget and do we charge for the service? We don't have the solution yet and it is on the idea board but there is no slot designed and funded. Our budget has gone up dramatically so we have to be mindful about adding expense. Jeff will take this one on and revert back

-A thought was shared that if our classes don't feel support for their reunions, there will be less of an appetite to give back. Especially among the more junior classes. Reunions are the number one item that CP's have to execute on.

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-The issue of the mailing from PCI around updating our database was brought up and the quirkiness of the process was highlighted. Jeff stated that the core of the exercise was obtaining information and that it was beneficial but apologized for the quirkiness of the process

-In addition, gifts and the recording of those contributions, which have quite a delay, need to be rectified in a more timely and efficient manner. Jeff cited we have had staff turnover and we have new talent to address those issues. Please let Jeff know when issues arise so he can address those

-Wendy Owen was recognized by the COCP for all that she does during reunions. Often juggling multiple reunions at the same time. Wendy has been a tremendous asset to all of us

Q: Is there a way to update myUSNA?

A: Jeff is working on a way to simultaneously update USNA.com and myUSNA

Q: Are we looking for a way to archive class websites?

A: I'll find out sir!

Dr. Bill O'Connor, Executive Vice President

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/web.usna.com/PPTs/2024/BOD-04-24-COCP.pptx>

—In our last campaign, we raised a total of over 1 billion dollars. We primarily raise funds via class giving campaigns so thank you to our alumni. Starting July 1, 2021, we began counting towards our next campaign and classes will figure in significantly. We are trending toward more specific campaigns to raise funds versus broad-based capital campaigns like we saw in the past. Examples are Leadership, Cyber, International Programs, Project Based Learning, Academic Excellence, to name a few. Does your class want to take ownership of a campaign and drive contributions? Most class projects have included 4 campaigns. '73, '83, '93 and '03 were cited for their success in their class projects. Class of '12 supported the 7th wing gym and International Programs while '11 and '14 are funding the new Global War on Terror monument on the Yard. The younger classes are stepping up

-The Great Class Challenge started 6 April and the website goes live 6 May through 10 May. Who Will Be the GOAT? In 2024, for the first time, there will be a trophy given to the top class. The winner be determined by participation rate to offer a level playing field. We want to encourage broad-based support. '84 was the victor last year and broke 50% of the class giving for the first time and had the largest number of donors. Any donation above \$10 will be counted toward the challenge. On the website will be an improvement leader board to highlight year over year growth

CAPT Donnie Kennedy '92, Executive Director, Fluegel Alumni Center (FAC)

https://s3.amazonaws.com/web.usna.com/PPTs/2024/Kennedy-COCP_APR24_AlumniCenter_Kennedy_v2.pptx

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-Have had over 100 events in Fluegel Alumni Center to date in just under a year. Wendy will continue to be your point of contact and she will coordinate with the Events & Marketing staff led by Alex Dooley. Liz Beedenbender, who needs no introduction, still plays a vital operations role. We are open to feedback about this construct so please opine

-We are finishing punch list items with a 30 April completion date

-A gate across the street at the baseball stadium to allow pedestrian traffic from the parking lot to Fluegel Alumni Center (FAC) is being constructed

-We operate our facility on Federal property and we are updating the agreement for what we can/can't do on a go forward basis

-2024 Reunion framework—the priority is 50, 55+,40,30,20,10 in order

-the annual scheduling window is 14 days post football schedule release

-Director, Alumni Class Programs will confirm

-After the Priority Window—first come, first serve basis

-1 year (upcoming season), Plus next 2 seasons of known football games

-We will reserve Thursday/Friday and Sunday morning for reunions

-Saturday evenings, when available

-Scheduling events—reach out to Donnie Kennedy '92 to coordinate

-Pricing—we have costs to incur in the running of our operation and we will provide all-inclusive pricing versus extra charges like cleaning, setup and tear down for example

-Donnie shared a standard reunion weekend model (see slide deck) covering Thursday through Sunday. They are looking at how to assimilate President's Circle Weekend within the reunion construct. FAC has 6 preferred vendors and will consider other suggestions on a case-by-case basis. There is a cash bar option at FAC currently, but it isn't in place for all 6 vendors at this time. The reunion prioritization is basically on the 10 year cycle versus including the 5 year cycle as that would create priority every 5 years for every class. Class gifts always run on the 10 year cycle so there is alignment there. There is a 240-person capacity in Reinemund and a 120 person capacity in Natter plus the balconies at FAC. Donnie cited they can host 600+ person events if the full facility is considered. When there are multiple reunions during one weekend, FAC recognizes that they will not be able to accommodate every class

CAPT T.J. Grady '96, Executive Vice President, Engagement & Communications

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/web.usna.com/PPTs/2024/TJ-Grady-22April-1500.pptx>

-Mission: Strengthen Bonds, Help us Thrive as Leaders and Reach our Full Potential

-Initiatives-Connect, Communicate, Support and Anchor

-New Service Academy Career Conference (SACC) contract is forthcoming

-Spousal support initiative is underway

-Better data utilization to help drive decisions and reinforce initiatives

-Reunion handbook for executing class reunions is in process

Mr. John Schofield, Executive Director, Communications

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/web.usna.com/PPTs/2024/Comms-COCP-2024-SlidesFinal.pptx>

-Our goal is to keep you as informed as possible

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- Morning Clips, the daily news summary, is sent to CPs and please let John know if you'd like to add circulation. Consider your class leadership. On May 1st they will be posting clips on myUSNA
- Shipmate—Operation Opt-Out—you can elect to opt out of receiving a paper copy of Shipmate by going on to your USNA.com profile. Shipmate is available online and we can reduce our paper usage as an organization. '24 will only get Shipmate online access but they can Opt-In manually if they prefer to also get a paper copy of Shipmate.
- Direct any feedback on the PCI Register of Alumni to John Schofield
- August '24 we'll see the new USNA.com
- Video will be a major form of the media we experience going forward
- Send content suggestions to John

Ms. Nancy Murray, Senior Director, Alumni Engagement & Outreach Programs

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/web.usna.com/PPTs/2024/COCP-April-24-Roadshow-Slides.pptx>

- Roadshow-meet people where they are, provide an update on the AA and the Yard and ask for feedback how to better support chapters and parent clubs
- 19 chapters and 14 parent clubs so far this year
- DC to NY is the goal for the next phase of the roadshow
- 2025-2027 is mapped out for the roadshow at this juncture

CDR Mike Lowe '98, Director, Alumni Support Services

- SACC Chicago is coming up in May
- Merchandising-2 key goals-begin to support alumni owned businesses for their merchandise
- Classes can give permission to use their class crest and the AA can get our class loaded on VSA and they will formulate a way to give back to the applicable class.

www.usna.com/shop

Break for Lunch

Decades Presentations

50's-Gordon Gerson '58-a reunion discussion was conducted and there is a suggestion that the AA should do what West Point does. This is to say the AA will do the setup of the reunion for the class. Some classes aren't able and/or willing to facilitate

60's-Steve Comiskey '69-Our 60's decade is happy with discussion we just had on reunions and the work that the AA is doing to respond and to accommodate. We need to continue to give and to get back specific information. Dave Church reminded us that there are Chapel pews that are designated for each class. You have a right of refusal on those class designated pews. The cost is \$25,000 per placard with the option of one placard on each end of each of the class Pews. The Class of '65 made Yvette an honorary member of their class (Yvette is the 65th Superintendent). NAAA is the toughest organization to deal with concerning reunions. Honoring ADM Spruance by his name being added to a building on the Yard is an

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initiative that is supported by the 60's decade enthusiastically. '64 decided they will no longer have annual elections. They will instead now have class leaders for life. The Athletic Association has a video honoring the '63 Navy football team with Roger Staubach and his Heisman Trophy and the Cotton Bowl game all highlighted in a video that is available for all to request. The Athletic Association also has a video honoring the '59 Navy Football Team. An updated Class Presidents handbook will be available soon

70's-Kevin Stone '76-reunion, reunion, reunion. That's what we want the Alumni Association to focus on. Looking forward to written policies. Difficult to schedule around games. Can NAAA help to give us weekends of Home football games well in advance? Dissolution of class funds when the last of the class member passes is an issue with many classes. '71 has a policy on how to disburse funds when that time comes but most classes don't have policies or processes.

80's-Jim Schwab '88-reunion feedback has been given to the Alumni Association today and they are encouraged to have a reunion support person after we have completed the reunion project and have done the work on the low hanging fruit. There is still a lot of donor confusion amongst the classes. Recognition about donors should be improved. Are there talking points that exist around the 5th year athletes that other academies have allowed and that Navy has not allowed?

90's-Bill Pennington '96-echoing the sentiment already shared around reunions. This meeting has been one of the best for communications around the reunions. Some classes are in the process of re-doing bylaws. Other classes please share bylaws. The Class Presidents handbook is a welcome start

00's-Donnie Horner '08-thank you for hosting the COCP to all at the AA who make this possible. Supe, Provost, AA CEO all presented today. This is a testament to COCP leadership in the running of this session. Class giving and different buckets of philanthropy and how that ties together is something we should share with our classes. Millennials are in the digital age and opt in/opt out of a paper copy of Shipmate is a move in the right direction. We appreciate a seat at the table

10's/20's-John-Rex Spivey '13-Murph McCarthy our ex-chair is an inspiration to all of us. Not only is the women's rugby team a rugby success story but they also have 2 Rhodes Scholars. '17 had the afore-mentioned operational loss and the way that has been communicated is commendable. CTE (concussion oriented) studies are going on around veterans of the War on Terror. This has been an aspect that these classes have experienced. Reunions-a dedicated resource would be very helpful. What can we accomplish in the interim?

'95-Heidi Linzini-2026 will be the 50th anniversary of women at the Academy. This will be a milestone event and your support will be appreciated

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ADM Mark Ferguson '78, Chair of Board of Trustees, USNA Alumni Association

https://s3.amazonaws.com/web.usna.com/PPTs/2024/Mark-Ferguson-COCP-Brief_5.7.24.pptx

- The 2021 survey gave us an overwhelming response. Hundreds of written responses were also submitted. ADM Ferguson's conclusions were as follows: Provide value and impact. Communicate to where we are in our lives. Tell us what is going on and engage us.
- We developed principles at the Board of Trustees. Jim Schwab '88 led the effort for over a year to support alumni in the future.
- Distinguished Graduate Award (DGA) discussion—we average around 4 DGA's awarded a year and the timeline for that progression was shared. Younger classes aren't participating as much. Around 30-40 DGA packets are submitted each year. CP's have endorsement authority on the packages for their class. ADM Harry Harris '78 USN (Ret.) is the Chairman. 114 DG's since 1999 and 41 are Deceased and 73 Living. Median age of DGAs is 72 currently and trending down. There are 3 women in the DGA group currently. Individual gets 3 looks before they are required to take a pause
- Quality of the package is the key. Some classes have a committee to put forth DGA packages. The DGA Selection committee doesn't look at the candidate's class or the number of people that each class puts forth
- The AA Board is considering 3 new annual awards: Athletic, Professional and Volunteer Leadership & Service. Any AA member can nominate another member for consideration. Goal is to have the inaugural awards on 1 Aug 2024. There will be an annual ceremony and it will be separate from the DGA award ceremony. ADM Ferguson believes that we don't recognize our alumni success nearly enough. Pending Board approval.
- Spencer Johnson '63 informed COCP that his class has opted out of the DGA process—they are all Vietnam era veterans, and they consider themselves all distinguished. A round of applause was given.

CDR Lou Giannotti '69, USN (Ret.)

(Presentation not available for distribution)

- Lou shared a copy of a context paper that he wrote with all CP's. The last 2 pages have information about every building in the Yard
- Lou served 21 years in the Navy and in the Persian Gulf. He spent 33 years at USNA with many Superintendents, Commandants and Deans over his tenure
- USNA began with 10 acres and 10 buildings. Now there are 100 building on 1,993 acres
- It is very costly to run the Naval Academy. The cost is 535-545 million dollars annually. In comparison University of Virginia is 525 million for their undergrad programs
- Admissions is a difficult task and each generation is dramatically different. This starts with Admissions but applies to the Curriculum as well. This has to be done while also satisfying the needs of the Navy and Marine Corps
- USNA is a 47-month program with heavy technical core
- There are 143 extra-curricular activities (ECA's) today and, in comparison, there were 3 in 1969
- ADM Tom Lynch hired Lou in 1992 and he came to USNA and never left until his retirement after 33 years

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- We still have a farm in Gambrills, MD which is the 2nd farm in our history. We do not raise dairy products today, however
- NAPS was formed in 1918 and began with 100 sailors and marines. It was situated in many locations over the years. Treasure Island, Norfolk, San Diego, and Bainbridge were some locations before settling in Newport, RI
- USNA ranked #1 in 2021 as a “Premier” public institution
- There are 16 Exchange and Faculty Staff at USNA
- There are 16 Academic Departments and 26 Academic Majors
- Mids take about 40 courses of Core Curriculum regardless of their major
- There are many academic support programs at USNA today available for every midshipman and this ensures that no midshipman should fail out academically
- Mids do many research projects including satellites-there are currently several orbiting
- International Programs have 450-500 Mids who are engaged each year
- The Study Abroad Program is very popular, as would be expected
- USNA owns our exclusive (293) telephone exchange and paid \$10,000 for it when the (410) exchange was offered to expand the (301) area code. This has allowed us to have our own telephone exchange (293) and emerge from our very antiquated system
- Ward Hall is the Hub of our IT network and technology helps us deliver all of our resources in our 47-month program. There are 37 miles of Fiber at USNA. Every system must be able to communicate with every other system
- All IT money is appropriated by the Federal Government
- There are 11 communities that USNA grads can go into

Steve Comiskey '69 -Thanked Lou Giannotti for his excellent presentation; and requested that all Presidents and their guests be seated for the parade at 1545, and that the Supe's reception at will immediately follow the parade

Steve Comiskey '69 -Heard a motion to adjourn, it was seconded, and the motion was carried.

The meeting was adjourned.

Navy Blue and Gold was sung by the COCP and guests.

**Minutes as recorded by Bob Kuberski, COCP Secretary
4.26.24**