

**U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
ATLANTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER
June 2001**

**NEW CHAPTER BOARD GETS ELECTED
IN JUNE**

Chapter Web Site:

<http://www.usnaaaa.com>

PRESIDENT:

Bob Bush '65
H: (770) 351-0008

VICE PRESIDENT & WEB MASTER

Bob Schultz '71
H: (770) 448-4299; W: (770) 236-7891

VICE PRESIDENT, INFO. SYSTEMS:

Pete Dabbieri '67
H: (770) 433-2599;

TREASURER:

Mike Herger '90
H: (404) 378-2122; W: (404) 773-6785

SECRETARY:

Joe Solymossy '68
H: (770) 426-4378 W: (770) 644-8210

TRUSTEE:

Paul Hurst '62
H: (770) 509-7300; W: (404) 894-1944

BLUE & GOLD CONTACT

John Gates, (404) 284-2217

EVENTS CALENDAR:

06/02 Lobster Fest
06/12 Chapter Board Meeting
06/15 June Luncheon – Bob Bush '65
07/17 Chapter Board Meeting
07/20 July Luncheon
08/14 Chapter Board Meeting
08/17 August Luncheon
09/18 Chapter Board Meeting
09/21 September Luncheon

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

This will be the last time I author this portion of your newsletter as my term as President expires at the end of this month. It has been a wonderful experience for me and I am most grateful to have had this opportunity. If the truth were known, my Navy career was undistinguished. It had its high points and I did realize my childhood ambition to become a Naval Aviator, but I never approached my full potential. Serving as your President has been my substitute for my Naval command. That may be a silly analogy, but it has been a rare privilege for me and I have been most honored to preside over a "ship" crewed by so many true Naval leaders and real heroes.

As I look back over my term there have been many events and Chapter accomplishments that have made me proud, but two stand out. The first was an event that was sandwiched into the middle of the NAVY – GA Tech weekend. The morning of the game the admissions department from the Academy held an information session for local youngsters, their parents and school officials who wanted to learn more about the opportunities at the Naval Academy.

Paul Hurst '62 was instrumental in organizing that outing but several Chapter members helped promote it. The result was that the turnout far exceeded the expectations of the Academy representatives as well the fire marshal's building capacity.

The second event was a BBQ lunch the Chapter sponsored for the Academy's Gospel

Choir when they visited Atlanta for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Weekend. The event was a great success and a joint effort between the Chapter and the Georgia Parent's Club.

Two stories came out of those two events I would like to share with you because I think they illustrate what the Academy is about. On the GA Tech weekend Navy also played in a soccer tournament at Georgia State. At the Saturday Tailgate Party I met Midn 1st Class Michael Paisant who is from the Atlanta area, was captain of the soccer team and the team's leading scorer.

On Sunday I went out to see the match and was surprised to see Michael sitting on the bench. One of the parents on the sidelines explained why. Michael had busted curfew the night before. There was no scandal involved, he had been out to dinner with his parents, but the coach benched him for the first period nevertheless. I wonder how many other college coaches (or high school coaches for that matter) would bench their leading scorer for getting in late from dinner with his parents!

At the Gospel Choir lunch I set out with Midn 1st Class Leron Culbreath in search of special batteries for the Choir's camera and I got to know a little bit about him. He is the son of a Marine sergeant and he enlisted in the Navy right out of high school. Although his high school grades were not spectacular, he did qualify for nuclear sub training. Before he graduated from sub school he was offered the opportunity to go to NAPS. That opportunity led to an appointment to the Academy. Leron just graduated with a degree in engineering and an assignment to Nuclear Power School.

I asked him if his dad was proud of his accomplishments. He said that when he phoned his dad to tell him he'd gotten his appointment to the Academy, his father "made a WHOOOOP!!! sound" like he'd never heard before.

Michael Paisant could have played soccer at any one of a number of colleges but he chose to accept the discipline that comes from being a NAVY athlete and despite the rigors of Academy life was able to achieve the status of Offensive Player of the Year in the Liberty

Conference. Leron Culbreath came to the Academy and had his expectations elevated beyond his dreams. These young men have now joined the Fleet. I anticipate that they'll both enjoy rewarding and successful careers.

We can be proud of our Academy and the young leaders it produces. Let's make a loud WHOOOOP!!! Sound. And BEAT ARMY!!!

BobBush'65

CHAPTER ANNOUNCEMENTS

This section in our chapter newsletter will make Chapter announcements. Call me or e-mail it to me at jsolv@excite.com. This is neither an advertisement nor a marketing opportunity.

- Dirk Mosis is moving to San Antonio. He put his business card in the mail. Info as follows: Dirk P.D. Mosis III Vice President Real Estate Investments USAA 9830 Cannonade Blvd, Suite 600 San Antonio, TX 78230-2239210 498 4078 / Fax: 210 498 9241 dirk.mosis@usaa.com
- This is the last copy of the newsletter you will receive, unless you have paid your dues for 2001 as a paper member. Please see the last article in this newsletter.

REPRESENTATIVE BOB SNELLING '65 SPEAKS AT MAY LUNCHEON

The speaker for the May luncheon was Bob Snelling '65, Representative to the Georgia Legislature from Douglasville, Georgia, (District 99) currently serving his fourth term in that office. As he did last year, Bob provided some interesting and informative insight into the "inner workings and (sometimes) hidden mechanisms" of the Georgia 2001 Legislative Session. As the ranking Republican member of the Transportation Committee and a member of the Education Committee and the Ways and Means Committee, Bob was at the center of several important and sometimes heated legislative contests this session.

Prior to speaking Bob was recognized by Art Czerwonky '65 (Georgia Chamber of Commerce) for his voting record on business related issues.

According to Bob, there were more than 1,000 bills introduced during the 2001 Session. He chose to discuss just a few, starting with House Bill 656 on Education Reform. This bill includes the phase-out of "social promotion" and the establishment of "gates" at grades 3 for reading, and at 5 and 8 for reading and math skills to ensure that students are performing at grade level before moving on. This is critical because the ultimate dropout rate of children who fall behind at early levels is many times that of children who get off to a good start. Rather than being punitive, Bob describes the bill as being redemptive in that it provides measures to provide additional help to failing students.

On the tax and budget side, the budget has increased on average 7% a year since 1994. Of the \$15.4 Billion, approximately 50% is spent on public education, including the higher education system. A substantial portion of the remainder is spent on health and welfare leaving a relatively small balance for the State's other responsibilities.

A major concern to Georgians, especially in the Atlanta area, is transportation. One area of concern to Bob is the emphasis on public transportation at the expense of new highway construction. Studies have shown that automobiles are the least polluting when they are moving at 35-55 mph, yet around Atlanta the lack of adequate highways results in thousands of cars and trucks idling along for several hours each day.

One emotional and hotly contested vote this year was on the change to the state flag. Bob voted his conscience, which for him, was in favor of the change. As a result he anticipates that he will have a tough campaign ahead of him in 2002. that he will appreciate any help any members of the Chapter can offer when he next comes up for reelection.

JUNE LUNCHEON SPEAKER

The speaker for the June 15 Luncheon meeting will be Bob Bush '65, president USNAAA Atlanta Chapter.

NOMINATIONS FOR 2002 BOARD

This is the proposed Board of Directors for next year:

President	Bob Schultz ' 71
VP	Lorie Moore ' 64
VPIS	Mike Herger ' 90
Treasurer	Ned Hunter ' 81
Secretary	Joe Solymossy ' 68

Trustee	Bob Bush ' 65
Dir - Membership	Geoff Anderson ' 74
Dir - Brigade Support	Stu Caldwell ' 65
Dir - General	Nick Ward ' 74

Additional responsibilities:

Alumni career support (job opportunities)	Bill Miller ' 88
CAR	Tim Phillips ' 89

Don't forget, the Chapter nominations will be presented at the Lobster Fest and Board election will occur at the June Luncheon.

THE ATLANTA CHAPTER USES LATEST COMMUNICATIONS METHOD

The electronic age has brought us a new communications method commonly called a "List Server". A list server is an automated group e-mail list. The list administrator can send an e-mail message to all list "members" at the same time.

(Our list, called USNAAAEMAIL, is a free, and private list that will be shared only with the other list members, and will not be sold or otherwise distributed in any manner outside of our Chapter. A List Server is an "automated" group e-mail list because each individual member of the list can "subscribe" or "unsubscribe" from the list at will. The list

administrator can only invite you to join. Once invited, confirmation e-mail is sent to you, to which you must reply before your name will be added to the list!)

Why does our Chapter need this service?

We need to be able to communicate with members quickly! If a new event is planned, a deadline is approaching, or an event has been canceled, we need to send a notification to as many members as we can quickly via e-mail! The List Server will allow us to do that with much less effort and much greater accuracy. We also need to let people know when they should check the USNA AAA Web Site for new information! Not everyone remembers to check it regularly. And lastly, as we all get used to the electronic communications world, the Chapter has an electronic membership, which means you receive all communications via the Internet. The

goal of the Chapter is to eliminate this paper newsletter by July 2002. I may get the distinction of being the last Chapter secretary to send out a paper newsletter. Today we send out about 150 printed newsletters a month, or about one-third of our members. For those of you who want to continue to read your "mail", we will pair you with a member who uses the Internet and will print your newsletter off the Web. Your thoughts and comment on this transition plan is welcome. Telephone me or send me a letter (e-mail is good if you use it).

Please subscribe now to build our e-mail list quickly! <http://www.usnaaaa.com>

NOTE: You are responsible for updating your List Server e-mail address if your e-mail address changes.

U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI
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