

**U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
ATLANTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER
September 2002**



**CINDY MILLER '90, NEW DIRECTOR OF GEORGIA'S
BLUE & GOLD PROGRAM TO ADDRESS CHAPTER**

**MIDSHIPMEN VISIT ATLANTA STUDENTS OCT 6TH,
ALUMNI VOLUNTEERS REQUESTED**

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<http://www.usnaaaa.com>

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BLUE & GOLD CONTACT

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EVENTS CALENDAR:

09/17	September Board Meeting
09/20	September Luncheon
10/06	Fall Midshipmen Visit
10/15	October Board Meeting
10/18	October Luncheon
11/15	November Board Meeting
11/18	November Luncheon

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

It's September already! Where did the time go?
Where did the flags go?

When I sat down at my keyboard to author this month's President's Corner article, I started to sort through my notes on Chapter issues. Then the calendar on my home office wall caught my eye. My God... it's September already! An entire year has passed since the September 11, 2001 attack on America!

My fingers fell off of the keys. I sat back in my chair and exhaled a long, slow breath. As I did, my thoughts immediately flashed back to the graphic images of the destruction and lost lives that we all watched in real time horror on national television coverage. I wasn't ready to relive it all again this soon. But, neither do I want to ever forget.

I want never to forget my classmate Chic Burlingame '71, who gave his life trying to defend his passengers and his country as the Boeing 757 he commanded crashed into the side of the Pentagon. Neither do I want to forget any of the Naval Academy alumni and shipmates who lost their lives at the hand of a band of cowards who killed nearly 3,000 innocent people that day in the name of their religion.

Here, for your quiet reflection and prayer, is the list of our shipmates who went before us a year ago September 11th:

Charles "Chic" Burlingame, III - Class of 1971, 1st Company, Pilot, AA Flight - Pentagon

Kevin P. Connors - Class of 1969, 23rd Company, worked in WTC

Gerald F. Deconto - Class of 1979, 7th Company, worked at Pentagon

Robert E. Dolan - Class of 1981, 20th Company, worked at Pentagon

William H. Donovan, Jr. - Class of 1986, 13th Company, worked at Pentagon

Patrick Dunn - Class of 1985, 15th Company, worked at Pentagon

Wilson "Buddy" Flagg - Class of 1961, 5th Company, Passenger on AA Flight - Pentagon

Ken McBrayer - Class of 1974, 25th Company, worked in WTC

Michael G. McGinty - Class of 1981, 34th Company, worked in WTC

Jonas M. Panik - Class of 1997, 33rd Company, worked at Pentagon

Darin H. Pontell - Class of 1998, 6th Company, worked at Pentagon

Ronald J. Vauk - Class of 1987, 24th Company, worked at Pentagon

Kenneth E. Waldie - Class of 1978, 10th Company, Passenger - Flight that impacted WTC

John D. Yamnicky - Class of 1952, 5th Company, Passenger on AA Flight - Pentagon

The following alumni have since given their lives for their country in the continuing fight against terrorism:

Matthew W. Bancroft – Class of 1994, 7th Company, Command Pilot - KC-130/R crash in Pakistan

Terri S. Fussner - Class of 1996, 34th Company, Pilot - SH-60B Seahawk, crash in Mediterranean Sea

Last year at this time I made the following observation: On September 11th, a new generation

of Americans had the true meaning of the phrase "Freedom is Not Free" suddenly and abruptly forced into the very core of their consciousness, along with the rest of us.

Now, a year later, I'm concerned that many Americans have let these just year-old memories slip too far away. Maybe because they are just too painful. Maybe because they have gradually gone back to their comfortable lives and can't, or won't, imagine for even a minute that it can happen again. I hope that's not the case. We must never forget, because we must be forever diligent.

That brings up my second question: "Where did all the flags go?" A year ago there were United States flags flying everywhere. Our flag flew from offices, from homes, from cars, from bikes, even from baby carriages! In my mind, they disappeared way too soon.

We all need to get our flags back out! We need to get them hoisted again from every possible post. Let's keep them up this time, as a daily reminder that we must never forget, and to demonstrate to the rest of the world that we are serious when we say "United We Stand!".

My flags are already up. They never came down!

God bless America, and God bless our troops defending freedom around the world.

Bob Schultz '71

CHAPTER NEWS

New Director of Georgia's Blue & Gold Program to Address Chapter at September Luncheon

Join us September 20th at 11:45am for lunch at Jock's and Jill's Sports Bar on Peachtree Road in Brookhaven. Cindy Miller '90 will address the Chapter with a talk that promises to be lively and highly informative. She will provide for us a broad overview of the Blue & Gold Program and let us know how Blue & Gold Officers (BGOs) are making a difference in the quality of young people we are sending to Annapolis. Come learn how you too can make a difference!

Midshipmen Fall Visit Scheduled for October 6th, 2002 – Volunteers Needed

The Atlanta Chapter has invited a Midshipman from the local area to speak to potential USNA candidates. What we need: Max participation! The Midshipman will be coming to answer questions from potential candidates about the Naval Academy and life as a Midshipman, generally. We are inviting over 300 potential candidates. We also strongly encourage Alumni to bring family members, neighbors, and students who have expressed an interest in USNA. We need the presence of Alumni to show strong support and to assist the Midshipman with the crowd's questions. Coordinators for the event are Tim Phillips '89 (USNA Candidate Awareness Representative) and Cindy Miller '90 (State Blue & Gold Director). Their contact information is listed below.

Where: Georgia Tech Student Center Theater
When: Sunday, October 6th from 12-2 PM

Detailed directions to be posted on chapter website.

Tim Phillips '89
w. (404) 885-3263
tim.phillips@troutmansanders.com

Cindy Miller '90
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BGO Notes: What is a BGO?

[From the Secretary: We are excited to bring you a new series called "BGO Notes" written by Cindy Miller '90, the new Director of Georgia's Blue & Gold Officer program. She will start the series with...]

What is a BGO?

A BGO is a USNA Blue and Gold Officer. BGOs perform counseling and interview students that are applying to USNA. A BGO performs a very important and needed service to the Academy Admissions office by providing a face-to-face interview with the candidate and evaluating the student for their true desire to attend USNA and serve in the Naval service.

Who can be a BGO?

A BGO can be an active duty or reserve officer, retired military, a civilian who was an Academy graduate, or civilians who are parents of midshipmen or graduates. We are always looking to add BGOs to our great team here in Georgia; we currently have about 60 BGOs in the state. We can use BGOs no matter where you live in Georgia but I am making a special plea to those who live in Savannah, Columbus, the Northeastern most section of the state, Dublin area, Douglas area, Waycross area, Bainbridge area, Milledgeville area, and Waynesboro area. If you are interest in being a BGO and helping USNA get the most qualified and motivated students, please contact Cindy Miller at (770) 650-8921 or cindymiller@1990.USNA.com.

How much time is involved?

Within the first few years of being involved in the program, BGOs are required once to attend a one-week training course in Annapolis during the summer. USNA pays for your transportation, lodging at Bancroft Hall, and food at King Hall. We have an upcoming condensed training session on Saturday, September 21st at NAS Atlanta from 9am to 3pm. If you would like to attend the training to either become a BGO or learn more about the program, please contact Cindy at the above number/e-mail since we have to give the front gate all names of attendees for security reasons.

BGO work can accommodate almost anyone's schedule. We have airline pilots, drilling reservists, active duty, retirees and those that work "normal" jobs in a lot of different job fields the program. As a BGO, you can determine how many schools and students you want under your area of responsibility. Since it is all on the computer system now, it is requested that all BGOs have a computer with access to the web.

What do BGOs do?

USNA Admissions has a computer system and web site that lists all the students that are applying to USNA and their information such as school they attend, SAT scores, whether they passed the medical and physical tests, nomination information and when the student submitted the required application paperwork. As a BGO, you have access to the students that are assigned to you. We initially contact all candidates and introduce ourselves as the BGO. When a student has completed about 50% of

the required paperwork, we interview them based on some guidelines given by USNA Admissions. The interview is then input into the computer system by the BGO and is presented to the admissions board when the students record is reviewed. BGOs are also able to assist the student to make sure that the information in the computer system is correct so that only the correct information is sent to the admissions board.

Besides working with students, BGOs go into their schools and talk to counselors, attend college fairs, and work with congressmen and senators on their nomination committees and with their Academy Days (Academy Days are where the congressman invite students of all grades that are in their district and interested in any of the academies to come and talk to academy representatives).

What do you get for being a BGO?

In some cases, you can receive drill credits toward retirement (without pay) but in most cases, BGOs do it because of their love of USNA and the values it instills in the midshipmen. By working as a BGO, we insure that the high standards in leadership, morals, athletic ability, and academics are maintained at USNA. It is a wonderful way to help young students and ensure the future of America.

How do you get involved?

If you would like to become a BGO or if you want more information, you can Call Cindy Miller at (770) 650-8921 or e-mail Cindy Miller at cindymiller@1990.usna.com. Attend the USNA Alumni Association meeting on Friday, Sept 20 where Cindy will be speaking on the subject of Blue & Gold Officers. Attend the BGO training at NAS Atlanta on Saturday, Sept 21st (RSVP is required for security reasons so please contact Cindy Miller)

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Address Correction Requested.