

**U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
ATLANTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER
December 2003**



**NAVY TAKES COMMANDER & CHIEF'S TROPHY FOR
THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1981**

ALUMNI HELP GEORGIA PUBLIC TV RAISE \$17,000

Chapter Web Site:

<http://www.usnaaaa.com>

PRESIDENT

Bill Rentz '55

H: (678) 432-3089, C: (678) 230-3661

VICE PRESIDENT

Steve Frederick '72

H: (770) 419-9224, W: (770) 423-9298

VICE PRESIDENT, INFO. SYSTEMS:

Mike Herger '90

H: (404) 378-2122; W: (404) 773-6785

TREASURER:

Nick Ward '74

H: (770) 205-2456; C: (404) 358-1540

SECRETARY:

Matthew Kirby '94

H: (404) 351-2534; W: (404) 384-2534

DIRECTOR - MEMBERSHIP:

Dick Fitzgerald '62

H: (770) 529-4937, W: (770) 529-4939

BLUE & GOLD CONTACT

Cindy Miller '90, H: (770) 650-8921

WEBMASTER

Bob Schultz '71

H: (770) 448-4299; W: (770) 236-7891

GENERAL DIRECTORS:

Stew Caldwell '65, Eric Busko '88, Joe Frazar '65,
Mitch Rowland '71, Lee Whitfield '71

EVENTS CALENDAR:

12/06 Army-Navy Football

12/13 Chapter Christmas Party

12/30 EV1net Houston Bowl

1/17 USNA Gospel Choir in Atlanta

See articles in the newsletter for more details!

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings to those who have recently moved to the Greater Atlanta area, or those who have lived here for a while and have not participated in Chapter events, but would like to. We would like to have you join us. Check out our fine Atlanta Chapter website at www.usnaaaa.com for reports on recent events and the Events Calendar for upcoming activities. You will see that your Chapter Board of Directors stays pretty busy planning and organizing these functions and that the people in charge have done a bang-up job in carrying out the plan. We are always looking for more ideas and help from alumni in the area.

As I am writing this in December, we have just completed the Army-Navy telethon on Georgia Public TV on December 4, soundly trouncing the West Pointers, thanks to the leadership of Mike Herger '90. And you know how the Football Game came out on December 6. We had a large crowd watching that at T.J.'s Sports Bar in Roswell, shepherded by Nick Ward '74 along with some quiet West Pointers. Our Chapter Christmas Party was at Sue and Bill Rentz's '55 home in Locust Grove and we had about 40 hardy souls who braved a cold, wet night for a hearty party. Our Chapter monthly luncheon was held as usual on the third Friday of the month, December 19, at Jocks & Jills in Brookhaven. No speaker was scheduled this month, so Bill Rentz briefed those present on the recent Board of Trustees and Admissions Standing Committee meetings, which he attended, and the occasion was used for a Business Networking session. We are getting ready to gather on

December 30th at Jocks & Jills for the Houston Bowl where Navy takes on Texas Tech.

On January 16 to 18, 2004, the USNA Gospel Choir will be in Atlanta, visiting several High Schools, appearing on CNN on January 16, and having lunch with Chapter and Parents Club members before performing at Ebenezer Baptist Church at the Martin Luther King Center on January 17. We understand that the Superintendent, VAdm Rempt, will participate at Ebenezer. February 7 is our Chapter Founder's Day/Dark Ages Dinner Dance at Cobb Galleria, a Black Tie affair for members only, organized by Steve Frederick '72. USNA Alumni Association President and CEO George Watt and his wife Peggy will be Guests of Honor. On the Vernal Equinox, March 20, 2004, the Chapter will gather on the Southside of Atlanta again at "The Barn" in Tyrone, Georgia, for a real Southern BBQ. Mitch Rowland '71 who is organizing it said to bring your Roloids.

Our final two events for this year are the Army – Navy Golf tourney at Ft. McPherson on May 7, headed up by Will Wood '66, and the world famous Atlanta Lobster Fest on June 5 at Red Top Mountain State Park, led by Mike Herger '90 and a crew of workers and Kitchen Queens. We will also hold Chapter Officer elections on June 5.

By the time you read this in SHIPMATE, you may have already missed some of these activities, but my message to you is to keep checking the website Events Calendar for details, and be aware that these events don't happen by themselves. We need your inputs and help to encourage your neighbors, classmates, old shipmates, and squadron mates to join us. We want their ideas, company, and most of all membership in the USNAAAA.

Bill Rentz '55, Atlanta Chapter

CHAPTER NEWS

Chapter Member's Celebrate the Holiday's at Home of Bill & Sue Rentz'

About forty alumni and family members braved the rainy, cold, afternoon and evening on Saturday, December 13th, to celebrate the holidays.

"Navigation" to the event was a bit harder considering the weather, but everyone managed to make it "over the hill and through the woods" (literally) to Bill and Sue Rentz's house in Locust Grove. The maps and driving directions posted on the web site must have worked.

The last few miles of the drive on unpaved roads made you think that you took a wrong turn somewhere. But, nope... you were still on course! Just a few hills and mud puddles later there was the Rentz house, nestled out back in the woods next to a small lake. Looked as though Santa could be rigging up the reindeer out back and getting ready to go! A beautiful setting and great place to celebrate the season. We even had a real wood fire glowing the fireplace.

Equally well received were the USNA Alumni Association signature wines that nearly had to be smuggled in from Annapolis via the underground due to some obscure state laws about shipping spirits! Hey, don't they know we "still" make our own white lightnin' up in the north Georgia mountains! What's the matter with them Eastern folks!?!?

Thanks again to Bill and Sue for hosting this event and sharing their beautiful home with us. See the website for pictures of the event.

USNA AA MEMBERS COME TOGETHER TO WATCH ARMY-NAVY FOOTBALL (and Navy earns a trip to the EV1.net Houston Bowl)

About 120 Naval Academy Alumni and friends gathered at TJ's Sports Bar & Grill in Roswell on December 6th to out-cheer the attending West Pointers and watch Navy win the 104th meeting of Navy and Army on the gridiron. Navy has now won four out of the last five games!

The final score of Navy 34 - Army 6 gets Navy one game away from tying the overall series record which now stands at Army 49, Navy 48, Ties 7. Navy leads the series in total touchdowns and total yardage. In a couple of years we'll lead the series as well!

This year the game was played for the 77th time in Philadelphia, the traditional home of the event. The stadium and field were snow covered earlier in the day, but by game time at 4:00 PM the snow had

stopped and the field was clear. Neither did the sub-freezing temperatures did not stop the Navy running game. The Mids, lead by quarterback Craig Candeto, plus backs Roberts and Eckel played a solid running game all day long.

Navy ended their season with an 8-4 record, the best in some time. The Commander-in-Chief's Trophy comes back home to Annapolis for the first time since 1981, and the Navy team is bound for the Houston bowl!

Thanks to Chapter Treasurer Nick Ward '74 (and of course Jean!!) for working check-in and to everyone else who helped make Saturday, December 6th another great day for Navy football.

ALUMNI HELP GPTV RAISE OVER \$17,000

On Thursday night December 4th, Navy and Army teams manned the phones at the GPTV studio offices for our annual Army/Navy GPTV Fund Raising Challenge.

Many thanks to Atlanta Chapter VP of Information Systems Mike Herger '90, for organizing the event again this year. Mike reported that the night at GPTV was a great success and that the Navy team prevailed with ease. Army only had six participants. Hey, if you can't field a full team, you better expect to get beat!

The following alumni made up the Navy team: Mike Herger '90, Manny Garcia '84, Al Jones '67, Dick Fitzgerald '62, Steve Frederick '72, Tim Phillips '89, Nick Ward '74, Matt Kirby '94, Dean Cottle '80, Eric Busko '88, Mike Donohoo '65, Terry McElroy '86, Ples Bruce '77, and Murray Scott '90. See the website for pictures!

December Luncheon – Business Networking Luncheon

This will be our third Business Networking Luncheon. Our concept here is to provide a forum for business networking among area alumni. Alumni can interact before and during lunch, plus an opportunity will be afforded to a certain number of alumni to take the podium for perhaps five minutes each to address those in attendance.

If you are looking for work, bring copies of your resume. If your company is hiring, bring information on the types and experience of people they are looking to hire. If you have a business that you want to promote, prepare to provide a summary and/or bring information to hand out on the service or product that you provide, etc.

Luncheon Details:

Regular monthly luncheons are held at noon on the third Friday of each month at:

Jocks & Jill's Sport Bar & Restaurant
4046 Peachtree Road NE
Atlanta, GA
Phone: (404) 816-2801

The cost is \$12.

Blue & Gold Officers' Corner:

In the state of Georgia, the USNA admissions board has granted 6 conditional offers of appointment to extremely qualified students. As long as these 6 students are medically qualified and receive a nomination, they will be officially offered an appointment to USNA.

Senator Miller and Congressman Isakson have already submitted their list of nominees to USNA. Senator Chambliss and many of the congressman have already held their nomination boards. A congressman and senator can nominate 10 students for each spot that they have at USNA. Each congressman and senator is allotted 5 students at any time at USNA.

Any candidate who is applying to USNA and has not completed their application at this time needs to seriously consider their desire to attend the Academy. The admissions board does review the amount of time that it takes a student to submit their application and a delay of more than 30 days can be detrimental to the student's overall admissions score. . If you would like to know more about the program or if you would like to help by becoming a BGO, please contact Cindy Miller at (770) 650-8921 or cindymiller@1990.usna.com.

**Chapter Events Calendar (see also
www.usnaaaa.com)**

December 4-5, 2003

Chapter Presidents' Meeting, Annapolis, MD
Contact Bill Rentz for details.

December 4, 2003

7pm – 11:30pm
GPTV Fundraiser
Contact Mike Herger for details.

December 6, 2003

4pm
Army-Navy Football at TJ's sports bar in Roswell, GA
Contact Nick Ward for details.

December 13, 2003

4pm
Chapter Christmas Party at the home of Bill and Sue
Rentz

December 30, 2003

4pm
EV1.Net Houston Bowl, Houston Texas. Navy football
team takes on Texas Tech. Join USNA Alumni at Jock's
& Jill's in Brookhaven (if you aren't in Houston).

January 17, 2004

USNA Gospel Choir to visit Atlanta. Lunch at noon, 2pm
concert at Ebenezer Baptist Church (450 Auburn Avenue
404-331-6922). Lunch hosted by Chapter. Contact Stew
Caldwell, Nikki Peoples or Cindy Miller.

February 7, 2004

6pm
Founder's Day Party. Guests of Honor are George and
Peggy Watt and VADM and Mrs. Rempt. Location TBD,
Contact Steve Frederick and Carl McCallum.

Late March/Early April

Vernal Equinox BBQ Bash – "The Barn" in Tyrone, GA

May 2004

Army-Navy Golf Championship, Ft. McPherson, GA
Contact Will Wood.

June 5, 2004

4pm
Lobsterfest at Red Top Mountain
Contact Mike Herger and Carl McCallum.

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P.O. BOX 76684
ATLANTA, GA 30358**

Address Correction Requested.