

**U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
ATLANTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER
April 2004**



**SKID HEYWORTH '70
TO ADDRESS CHAPTER AT APRIL LUNCHEON

ARMY-NAVY ALUMNI GOLF COMING IN MAY**

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:

See articles in the newsletter for details!

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Most of you have heard about our recent South side of Atlanta social event in Tyrone, Ga. We had enough response to warrant doing it again. Let your Chapter Board of Directors know if you have another idea for an event or a theme, and many thanks again to Mitch Rowland '71 for pulling it all together.

Last summer the Chapter received a request for consideration to help fund the out-of-pocket expenses of a local midshipman, MIDN 1/c Neil B. Fletcher, USN, Class of 2004, from Roswell, Ga., for his participation in a Habitat for Humanity trip to Nicaragua. Due to the short fuse, too short for a fundraiser, your Chapter Board of Directors voted to provide \$1,500 out of the Chapter treasury to assist him. Here are excerpts from a very nice letter received from MIDN Fletcher addressed to Atlanta Alumni.

"I was in a bit of a shock when my Mother told me how much the Alumni Association funded me for this trip. It went beyond my wildest expectations. I feel a thank you is not enough, I hope to leave a promise as well. That I will continue to live up to the high standards and values USNA Alumni hold themselves accountable to and one day return this gift to a future midshipman trying to make a difference.

Enclosed you will find a few select pictures of my trip to Nicaragua. Please accept them as part of my small thank you for your generous support and funding.

I came to Nicaragua with uncertainty and left with a renewed spirit that I hope to carry throughout my Naval career". Signed Neil B. Fletcher, MIDN, USN.

If you read this in time, try hard to make the April 16 Chapter luncheon with our guest speaker, Skid Heyworth, '70, USNA AA VP for Communications. It's a great opportunity to find out what is going on in Annapolis and particularly what plans are in store for "Shipmate". The new managing editor works for Skid.

Keep checking the Events Calendar on the Chapter Website. There is a lot going on this spring and you don't want to miss anything by omission.

Bill Rentz '55, Atlanta Chapter President

2004 Membership Drive

You should have received your annual membership dues form in the mail in early March. We are looking forward to a great response in 2004! If you would like to pay your dues online, please go to the following web page and following the directions.

<http://usna.com/Communities/Chapters.asp>

April 24th Social Hour and Dinner at Jocks & Jill's – sign up now!

Since our first one last November was so well received, we are planning a second social hour and dinner at the usual location for our Chapter Luncheons.

The idea is to give those who cannot make it to a long lunch during a work day to get together for dinner. (Many have approached us and said that they just can't get away for lunch, but a dinner would work.)

Who: All area USNA alumni and spouses. (No children please.)

Dress: Casual to Business Casual

Menu: Our typically excellent Jock's & Jill's buffet menu, including: three main courses, side dishes/veggies, salad, dinner rolls, and dessert.

Where: Jock's & Jill's Sports Bar & Grill.

4046 Peachtree Road NE
Atlanta, GA

Cost: \$15.00 per person. (Includes wine before dinner.) Cash Bar.

RSVP Required: Please reply by e-mail to RobertS71@aol.com if you plan to attend, and include the number of people that will be in your party.

Chet Gladchuk, USNA Athletic Director Spoke at March Luncheon

USNA Director of Athletics Chet Gladchuk spoke to the Atlanta Chapter at our March luncheon. Chet offered an information-packed presentation on Academy sports across the board.

Chet started by explaining that Navy has one of the top five sports programs in the country, that consists of 30 varsity sports: including 18 varsity men's sports, 8 varsity women's sports, and 4 co-ed varsity sports.

37% of the Brigade is involved in varsity sports, including 34% of the men and 50% of the women. Navy athletes exceed the Brigade average in academics, conduct, aptitude for commission, and honor. 70% of athletes work in community service programs. Average graduation rates over the past 10 years have been: 78% for the overall class, 84% for varsity athletes, 73% for non-varsity athletes, and 79% for football.

The record for Army-Navy rivalry in all sports is as follows:

Last 6 years vs Army: 136-46-4 (.727)

Last 6 years N-Star vs Army: 95-31-4 (.746)

'02-'03 record vs Army: 20-8-2 (.700)

'02-'03 N-Star vs Army: 15-5-2 (.727)

Navy Football was a real high point! Under Coach Paul Johnson, Navy finished with an 8-5 record, which translates to the second best turn-around in the country! As you all now by now, since Navy beat both Air Force and Army, the Commander-in-Chiefs trophy now resides in Annapolis! Navy participated in the EV1.NET Houston Bowl last season as well. Navy was the second team in NCAA history to have four 1,000-yard rushers. Coach Johnson was a finalist for National Coach of the Year. Chet said that Coach Johnson brought an "expect to win" attitude with him to Navy.

Highlights of other sports include the following: Navy golfer Billy Hurley is one of the top five college players in the country, and fired a USNA course record 10-under-par 61. Women's Soccer set an attendance record with over 6,500 fans at the Navy vs UNC game. Navy Wrestling had a 12-4 season. Navy Lacrosse had a 4-1 season, are ranked 9th in the country, and had an estimated record crowd of 20,000 watch the Johns Hopkins game. The Navy Rifle team went 11-1, is 3rd in the nation, and has had 14 consecutive victories over Army (which Chet thought just a bit concerting... can't those Army guys shoot?)

Chet also brought along many before-and-after pictures of Navy Marine Corps Memorial Stadium. The renovation and improvements made to our stadium are nothing short of fantastic! We have a first-class facility that we can all be proud of.

Chet closed with a Q&A session about Navy sports and the Academy in general, reminded us to check WWW.NAVYSPORTS.COM for all the latest on Navy sports, and lead a GO NAVY – BEAT ARMY cheer!

Present at the luncheon: George O'Connell '35, Paul Smith '42, Jim Ravenel '45, Watt Sheffield '51, John Stark '51, Ed Flynn '51, Perry Stephens '51, Bill Rentz '55, Jim Ford '55, Charles Plumly '55, Johns Jaudon '55, Jack Clay '56, Reggie Vachon '58, Carl McCallum '60, Dick Fitzgerald '62, Paul Hurst '62, Richard Wilson '64, Joe Frazar '65, Doug Metzger '65, Skip Gunther '65, Will Wood '66, Jim Slemenda '66, Paul Borer '70, Lee Whitfield '71, Bill Donges '71, Mitch Rowland '71, Steve Dmetrek '71, Bob Schultz '72, Steve Frederick '72, Ben McMillan '74, Michael Lores '74, Pete Knoetgen '77, Shaun Bradley '78, Tim Phillips '89, Chet Gladchuck (speaker) and guests Jerry Hitchler, Martha Wilson, David Donges, Scott Rowland, Sue Knoetgen, and Bill Hilley.

Chapter Members enjoy BBQ at "The Barn" in Tyrone, GA

Under the guidance and leadership of Mitch Rowland '71, a member of the Atlanta Chapter Board of Directors, a rousing good time was had by 45 alumni and guests on the Southside of Atlanta on Friday, March 26, 2004.

The purpose was to have an alumni function close to the large number of graduates who live on the south side, particularly Peachtree City. Tyrone is on the

west side of Fayette County in the rural rolling hills of Georgia, about four miles northwest of Peachtree City. The Barn really is a large red barn located on a large estate, complete with pond and manor house. Mitch arranged a catered barbecue dinner with Brunswick Stew, coleslaw, and cobbler. There was also an open bar with plenty of beer, and a large supply of Boiled peanuts to help the Catholics on Friday in Lent.

Actually six of the attendees came down from the north side of town, and the gathering resulted in a few new members of the Atlanta Chapter and an order for Chapter name tags. We get the signal that we need to do this again in the future. Atlanta is such a spread-out area with traffic problems on the north side to cope with. In fact, one thing I noticed about the large number of new faces present is that they don't show the stress of north Atlanta traffic. Must be something to the laid back rural lifestyle.

Many thanks to Mitch Rowland for his hard work to coordinate this event for the Chapter, and his sustained efforts to track down and contact as many of his Peachtree City shipmates as he could!

The following area alumni attended the BBQ at The Barn:

Jack Brennen '51, Glenn Brewer '51, Nancy and Johns Jaudon '55, Bill Rentz '55, Pat and Ross Cook '56, Carl McCallum '60, Diane and Charles Gardner '61, Joe Frazar '65, David Browning '66, Larry Harton '68, Paul Borer '70, Ben and Richard Click '70, Frank Regan '70, Carole and Mitch Rowland '71, Lee Whitfield '71, Karen and Steve Frederick '72, Debby and Fred Kull '72, Connie and Bob Thome '74, Kristin and Joe Haggerty '76, Karen and Mike Davis '81, Betsy and Chris Owens '81, Jennifer and Bill Barnes '82, Michelle and Mark Hardy '82, Anna and Steve Ivory '87, Karen and Scott Quinn '87, Elena and Glenn Gay '88, Sherry and Jeff Kendrick '88, and Cindy Miller '90.

**Skid Heyworth 70, USNA Alumni
Association VP of Communications
Speaks at April Luncheon**

Be sure to join us this month...and bring a friend!

Monthly Luncheon Details:

We hold monthly luncheons 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.

Chapter Events Calendar

April 16, 2004

Chapter Luncheon

April 24, 2004 – 6pm

Saturday evening social and buffet. Jock' & Jill's in Brookhaven. RSVP required. Contact: Bob Schultz at (770) 448-4299.

May 7, 2004 – 9:30am

Army-Navy Golf Championship, Ft. McPherson, GA
Contact Will Wood at (770) 673-2746.

May 21, 2004

Chapter Luncheon

June 5, 2004 – 4pm

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

June 18, 2004

Chapter Luncheon

U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
ATLANTA CHAPTER
P.O. BOX 76684
ATLANTA, GA 30358

Address Correction Requested.