

**U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
ATLANTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2005**



JOIN US FOR THE ARMY-NAVY GAME DECEMBER 3RD!

MONTHLY LUNCHEON – NOVEMBER 18TH

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

As I write the newsletter article for the November edition of this great publication, the football season has recently come into focus for our team. This past weekend I was fortunate enough to get over the Jock's and Jill's Sports Bar to watch Navy trounce Tulane. We had a good crowd that included Pete Knoetgen and his family, Mitch Rowland, Les Gable, Paul Borer, Jack Wilson, Don Thompson, and a couple of other grads, along with some parents of current mids. (One of the parents was Marilee McGinn, mother of Andrew McGinn '09, an offensive guard, number 72.) (My apologies to those attendees that I did not talk to and cannot therefore identify.) As the Navy game came to an end, not having been in doubt since half way through the first quarter, Craig, the manager of Jock's and Jill's, and intrepid Navy supporter, put the Army Air Force game on one the TV's so that we could watch another game of interest to us that day. Army, having attained their first win of the season the week before, beat Air Force on Saturday, thereby enhancing the significance of the Army Navy game significantly. Now the Army Navy game is for all the marbles, the Commander in Chief's Trophy. The winner of that game will be 2 and 0 against Service Academy teams, and the winner of the trophy. Having held it for the past two seasons, I think many of us have grown accustomed to the bragging rights that go with possession of the trophy. With that said, plan on joining us at TJ's Sports Bar on Holcomb Bridge

Road to watch the game on December 3rd and cheer the team on to victory. It's a great time every year, and this year it has more importance than many of the past years. Go to the Chapter website, www.usnaaaa.com to sign up and do it soon. We are expecting a good crowd and need to get an idea of how many folks to prepare for. With Army having a shot at the Commander in Chief's Trophy, we can expect a sizable contingent of West Pointers on hand, so we need to make sure that we are well represented. See you there.

Our October luncheon was well attended, as was to be expected, considering the fact that our guest speaker was VADM Norb Ryan '67, the current president of MOAA. He did a great job of presenting the significant issues affecting veterans and military retirees in congress today. His presentation was timely, interesting, and frankly, eye opening. Take a look at the great article that Bob Schultz '71 has provided and posted on our website. Attendees at the luncheon included: Jim Ravenel '45, Jim and Lynn Hatch '47, Perry Stephens '51, Jim Todd '55, Reggie Vachon '58, Carl McCallum '60, Ed Hux '61, Paul Hurst '62, Tony Womble '63, Bill Holmes '64, Lori Moore '64, Skip Gunther '65, Bill Williams '65, Dick Borowiec '68, Gary Grant '68, Paul Borer '70, Mitch Rowland '71, Bob Schultz '71, Lee Whitfield '71, Steve Frederick '72, Mike Lores '74, Ed Brownlee '81, Lidden Pate '82, Mario Maddox '85, Rob Burger '86, John Prendergast '90, Lee Hunter '91, and Tony Yannone '98. And somehow, in the midst of things, was West Stewart USMA '63. West was there as the only Woop who took us up on our invitation to join us because of the wide-spread applicability of VADM Ryan's presentation.

The attendance of the West Stewart at our event brings me to another subject – the interaction between the West Point Society of Atlanta and our organization. We have been trying to increase the common participation of members of the two groups by opening up activities that would be of common interest. Recently, the WPSA invited us to join them at a tour of the Lockheed facility in Marietta, and then a skeet shoot on a recent Saturday morning. Hopefully, you heard about each opportunity via e-mail or on our website. As

these opportunities become available we will let you know via e-mail. As an alternative however, please keep an eye on the website for detailed information about activities and sign up procedures.

In the next few months we have several significant events. Again, on December 3rd we have the Army Navy game at TJ's Sports Bar. On December 11th we have the Chapter Christmas Party at my house in Kennesaw. Keep an eye on the website for reservation/registration information. In early February we will have the annual Founders Day Party, a black tie optional affair, with Chet Gladchuk, the USNA Athletic Director, as the scheduled speaker. We are hoping he brings Coach Johnson with him, but the Coach will commit to nothing until the season is over (including the bowl game.)

In closing, let me give you one more reason to watch the website closely. Watching the Navy Tulane game at Navy Marine Corps Memorial Stadium last Saturday, in person, was a Liberty Bowl representative. He was interviewed on camera and indicated that the Liberty Bowl Committee would love to get Navy back to Memphis for the Liberty Bowl. We won't know until bowl bids are extended, but if Navy accepts a bid to a bowl within a reasonable driving distance, we will investigate the possibility of renting a bus for a group trip. If such an opportunity presents itself, we will need to respond quickly. So please keep an ear to the ground and an eye on the website. It could be a great trip, but only if we have a reasonable level of participation.

I hope to see each of you at TJ's on December 3rd, and who knows, maybe at a bowl game later. **Go Navy, Beat Army!**

Steve Frederick '72
Chapter President

VADM Norbert Ryan '67, USN (Ret.) Speaks at Chapter October Luncheon

VADM Norbert Ryan '67, USN (Ret.) is the President of MOAA, the Military Officers Association of America, formerly The Retired Officers Association (TROA). He was also former Chief of Naval Personnel and, as many know, is the twin brother of former USNA Superintendent VADM John Ryan.

Many thanks to Chapter member **Jim Hatch '47** for arranging this very valuable visit to our Chapter!

MOAA is the fourth largest association in the country, gathering over 20,000 new members each year. The name change, implemented three years ago, was intended to make it obvious that you don't have to be a retired officer to be a member. Members include active duty, retired, National Guard, Reserve, and former officers and their families. Current membership is approximately 365,000 members represented by 419 chapters.

VADM Ryan next spoke to the issue that he referred to as the mission and the reality being "out of alignment". He summarized as follows:

1. We are currently at war.
2. The nation is not at war. Our military is at war. (Less than 1% of the population is involved in the war.)
3. The result is that our volunteer corps is terribly stressed.
4. The one weapons system that has never let us down is our men and women in uniform, but we have let them down.
5. Only 3.2% of the GDP (gross domestic product) is being spent on the military and the war. That's a peace time budget! (The lowest since 1940!)

In closing, he stressed that, in order to have our voice heard, we all need to "stay engaged" and "stay in the arena" of our country's military. Join MOAA, stay involved in our Alumni Association and other military organizations, and continue to be an advocate for our men and women in uniform.

For complete information about MOAA, visit www.moaa.org

Note: You can also call 1-800-234-6622 for a 1-year free membership to get started.

Many thanks to VADM Ryan for making time in his busy schedule to visit with the Atlanta Chapter.

(A more detailed write-up is available on our website)

Bob Schultz '71

Blue & Gold Officer Update

In Georgia, there have already been a few early offers of appointments to students for the class of 2010. These "early offers" or LOAs as we call them in the Blue & Gold Officers community, are as a result of other schools taking our highly qualified candidates before we could offer them appointments. Other schools, like Harvard, Yale, Georgia Tech, etc... notify their highly qualified candidates that they are accepted to the school before Christmas. USNA, along with the other military academies, used to have to wait until Feb/Mar in order to process the nominations and offer appointments. All the military academies are now offering these "early offers" to their most competitive candidates. An LOA states that if a student is medically qualified and receives a nomination, they are accepted to USNA. USNA does not send out many LOAs, it is very selective.

During the week of Thanksgiving, we are going to have numerous midshipmen come home to Georgia early in order to talk to students at local schools. This program is open to midshipmen with strong grades and good conduct and PE grades. The midshipman will be allowed to leave the Friday before Thanksgiving, giving them a few more days of leave than other mids. If you would like one of these midshipmen to come and speak at a high school or civic group, please let me know at the below phone/e-mail and I will make every effort to arrange it. We usually have midshipman coming home to all areas of the state, not just Atlanta.

If you know of a student that is interested in USNA, feel free to contact me and we can get him or her started in the right direction for an application. As Blue and Gold officers, we often start talking to interested students when they are in their sophomore year in high school. It is critical that the students take the right courses in high school in order to be competitive for USNA. If you would like to know more about becoming a BGO, please contact Cindy Miller at (770) 650-8921 or cindymiller@1990.usna.com

Upcoming Events

Friday, November 18, 2005 – noon

Monthly luncheon –Jocks and Jills

Saturday, November 19, 2005 –1:30 pm

Temple at Navy Football – Jocks and Jills

Saturday, December 3, 2005 – 2:30 pm

Army/Navy - watch the game at TJ's Sports Bar, 2880 Holcomb Bridge Road, Alpharetta.

Sunday, December 11, 2005 – Time TBA

Holiday Party at the home of Steve and Karen Frederick.

February 2006 - DateTBA

Founders Day/Dark Ages Party - the scheduled guest speaker is Chet Gladchuck, USNA Athletic Director.

Monthly Luncheon Details:

We hold monthly luncheons at noon on the third Friday of each month at:

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

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ATLANTA CHAPTER
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Address Correction Requested