

U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ATLANTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER MARCH 2006



TONY DOCAL TO SPEAK AT LUNCHEON - 17 MARCH

USNA SUPERINTENDENT TO SPEAK - 11 APRIL

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

As the "dark ages" wind down and we start to get a couple of beautiful spring days here in the Atlanta area, we have had a pretty quiet month by our standards. Our monthly luncheon was well attended as always, and our guest speaker was quite interesting and entertaining.

Alan Price was the Chief Pilot at Delta Airlines on 9/11/01, and he shared with us some of his observations from many years in the aviation business, and his unique perspective of the monumental day. Interestingly, he is a USAFA grad who attended the Navy/Air Force game last October. He graciously told us that Navy had outplayed the Falcons, and that Navy deserved to win. Of course, he was significantly outnumbered. In attendance were: George O'Connell '35 (SOPA), John Stark '51, Bill Rentz '55, Dale Herndon '56, Reggie Vachon '58, Ed Hux '61, Paul Hurst '62, Bill Holmes '64, Bill William '65, Jon Barton '66, Jim Slemenda '66, Paul Borer '70, Mitch Rowland '71, Bob Schultz '71, Steve Frederick '72, Ples Bruce '77, Mike Hill '77, Lidden Pate '82, Mario Maddox '85, Kary Brownlee '93,

Make sure you check out our website, as the activity for the Chapter increases dramatically in the next few months. In addition to the monthly luncheons we will have our annual Vernal Equinox on 25 March (close enough), a Chapter dinner get together at Babette's in Virginia Highlands on 15 April, and of course, our signature event, the

Lobster Fest on 3 June at Red Top Mountain. Each of these events has its own unique flavor, but each entails a great deal of camaraderie, good food, and many sea stories. Go to the website at www.usnaaaa.com for the details on the event, and instructions on how to sign up. Hope to see you there.

One more quick note: Jock's and Jill's is moving to new site, and the move requires them to shut their doors from May until September. Consequently, we will be looking for a new venue for our monthly luncheons starting in June. If you know of a venue that could handle our group please let someone on the BOD know so that we can check it out. And make sure you pay attention to the website to ensure you go to the correct location this June.

BEAT ARMY!
Steve Frederick '72
Chapter President

Alan Price, Chief Pilot for Delta Airlines during 9-11, spoke at February luncheon

Our guest speaker at the Chapter luncheon was Alan W. Price. Alan was the Chief Pilot for Delta Airlines in Atlanta when the terrorist attacks of 9-11-2001 occurred. As such, he had over 3,300 pilots under his direct supervision on that fateful day.

When discussing the events of that day with those in attendance, he focused on what he termed "crisis leadership". Crisis leadership, Alan said, requires the development and application of three main characteristics in a leader.

First, is to have a proper perspective. This means to stay in touch with the reality of your situation. Objectivity in the evaluation of the situation is of the utmost. Strive not to get out of touch with reality.

Second is to expect the unexpected. In order to do that you need to understand the pie chart of your knowledge of a situation. The first slice is "what you know". The second slice is "what you know

that you don't know". The third, and largest, slice is "what you don't know that you don't know". Alan called this third slice the "red zone". The trick to this second characteristic is to both understand and stay out of the red zone.

Third, is to be critical, but not self-critical. Alan said that bad things will happen in your life. Most people learn from even their bad experiences, but successful people and successful leaders learn the "right lesson". Don't beat yourself up with negative criticism of a bad situation. Instead, be critical of the situation itself by analyzing it and learning the right lessons from it so you can apply them in the future.

When it became clear on 9-11 that the twin towers had been attacked by terrorists and had not been caused by an accident, Alan said that the decision was immediately made to ground all Delta flights. This was a "principle value" decision that was the only correct action for the situation. Though the impact of grounding all flights for a day was around a fifty million dollar loss, it never entered into the decision.

During a crisis, he said, the primary crisis objective is "communicate, communicate, communicate!" This applies even if you only have partial information at the moment. You can fill in the missing pieces as you get them. Some information is better than none.

Bob Schultz '71

Tony Docal - Program Director for CEISMC (Center for Education in Science, Math, and Computers) at Georgia Tech will speak on 17 March

Tony runs the **Summerscape** program camps for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. These camps include classes, practical exercises, and a dorm sleep-overs on the Georgia Tech campus. Tech has long sought to have more minority and underprivileged kids attend along with those from the more wealthy neighborhoods of Atlanta.

Vernal Equinox Party - Southside Event
25 March 6:30 pm

We are having another south metro area event like the previous BBQ dinners. (All are welcome, it's not that far south.)

South Hampton Village Subdivision Clubhouse
RSVP To: Mitch Rowland at 770-487-9746, or
grumpymitch@bellsouth.net

USNA Superintendent to Speak 11 April

Superintendent VADM Rodney Rempt '66, will speak to alumni and educators on 11 April. The venue is Jock's and Jill's at 11:30.

Army-Navy Golf Classic to be held 22
May at Fort McPherson

The 10th annual version of the classic will be held at Fort McPherson's "The Golfers Club" on Monday, May 22. More details and a sign-up sheet for Army-Navy golf can be found on the Events Calendar page of the USNA AAA website.. For almost eight years now, the Army-Navy Golf Classic has raised funds (over \$10,000 so far) that are directed at paying the Summerscape tuition (roughly \$450 per child) for such less-fortunate kids.

Event Calendar

Friday, 17 March 2006 – noon
Monthly luncheon –Jocks and Jills

Saturday, 25 March 2006 6:30 pm

Vernal Equinox Party – South Hampton Village subdivision Clubhouse Tyrone, GA

Tuesday 11 April 2006 11:30 am.

Luncheon with USNA Superintendent VADM Rodney Rempt and USNA Alumni Association CEO George Watt Jock's and Jill's

Saturday 15 April 2006 - 7 pm

Social Hour/Dinner – Babbette's Café Virginia Highlands Contact Bill Rentz 678-432-3089 or billrentz1@bellsouth.net

Friday, 21 April 2006 – noon

Monthly luncheon –Jocks and Jills

Friday, 19 May 2006 – noon

Monthly luncheon –Jocks and Jills

Monday 22 May 2006 - 9:30 am

10th Annual Army-Navy Golf Challenge Ft. McPherson

Saturday 3 June 2006 – 4 pm

LobsterFest – Red Top Mountain State Park

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

**U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
ATLANTA CHAPTER
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Address Correction Requested