



The USNA Alumni Association

San Diego Chapter Newsletter

Dedicated Hotline: (619) 384-1875 RSVPs only.....Feb 2012 (2-12)
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President's Letter

First, I would like to thank all the generous donors who bought tickets for Wounded Warriors from Balboa Naval Medical Center to join us at the Army-

Navy game at Seau's. The response was overwhelming and far exceeded our needs. At the January board meeting, your Board members voted to donate the excess funds to the Wounded Warrior program at Balboa via their charity coordinator, the Armed Services YMCA. I will present a check to ASYMCA at one of their board meetings. The funds will go to support the Wounded Warriors at Balboa.

If you missed the January luncheon, you missed a great presentation from CAPT Jesse Wilson '86. Jesse is the Commodore of DESRON 23 and recently completed participation in Pacific Partnership 2011 (PP '11), a humanitarian cruise lasting more than 150 days providing assistance to five countries in the Pacific. Jesse was accompanied at the luncheon by three alumni who are on his staff. During PP '11, Jesse was joined by other alumni on the USS Cleveland, flagship for the cruise, as well as one 2011 graduate who was a foreign exchange student at USNA from the Federated States of Micronesia, one of the five countries visited.

We started a new tradition at the luncheon inviting alumni to share sea stories. Rich Carlquist was on deck first with stories from his days as the Officer of the Deck on a foreign vessel. We will entertain up to two alumni per luncheon for sea stories lasting no longer than 5 minutes per person. If you would like to share a sea story, please speak to me in advance.

Finally, the Dark Ages are nearly here. I hope you will join us for an evening of live music (who doesn't love Journey), good

food (Chef Todd Allison) and great friends (150 Chapter members and friends). If you haven't been to Anthology, you have missed a unique experience at San Diego's premier modern supper club. We have the entire second floor reserved. There are two lounge seating areas (one outdoors with heaters and monitors to watch the band) and an open area which is conducive to mixing and mingling. Tickets will go on sale on our website shortly and will be limited to the first 150 to RSVP. Unfortunately, we will not be able to accommodate walk-ins at this event. Don't miss the opportunity to join us March 9th, 6-11pm.
Barbette Lowndes '80
Go Navy! Go San Diego!

Attend the Feb. Luncheon!!

The February luncheon speaker is Maribel Gallo, Employment Coordinator for the VA, will be speaking with us on the opportunities that are available inside the VA and the best ways to make yourself ready to have a great interview for the start of a VA career. In March, VADM David Richardson, USN (Ret), Class of 1936 will be presenting the Early Days of Naval Aviation in which he personally participated.

HELP WANTED

An organization is only as good as the volunteers who support it. We have been fortunate to have had great volunteers over the years. Two of our best have asked to be replaced at our upcoming elections in April. We need to look now for volunteers to replace them.

Treasurer – Over the past five years, Diana Edmondson has done an amazing job getting our books in order and has automated many of the financial processes and is ready for

turnover. If you have basic computer skills and are detail oriented, please volunteer. In accordance with our bylaws, the Chapter Treasurer has several duties and responsibilities, which include: Manage the Chapter's finances in support of the approved goals and objectives determined; Report financial status to the Board of Directors on a monthly and year-end basis.

VP for Membership – Rich Carlquist has worked hard as the coordinator for Class Reps and has filled most of the Class Rep vacancies. The Vice President for Membership is primarily responsible for the Chapter's overall effort to secure new members and to retain current members.

We need volunteers to replace Diana and Rich. Please speak to any of the Board Members if you are able to fill one of these important vacancies or if you know someone who can.

San Diego Crew Classic, Volunteers Wanted!

The Navy heavyweight rowing team has added the San Diego Crew Classic to its 2012 schedule. The Mids will travel to California for the 39th-annual event, which will take place March 31 and April 1 at Crown Point Shores on Mission Bay.

The regatta features nearly 4,000 athletes from colleges and clubs across the world. Navy will join Cal, Stanford, Harvard, Cornell, Gonzaga, Michigan, U.C. San Diego and the University of British Columbia as other schools competing at this year's event.

The Chapter will host the Navy Tent on Alumni Row at Crown Point Shores Park. The Tent will be the focal point of Navy activities at the Crew Classic. We would like to host both breakfast and lunch available to those cheering on Navy. Please contact president@usnaasd.com if you would like to lead the event or join the committee. Thank you!

We are on Facebook; are you?

The Chapter Facebook page is up and running. If you have a Facebook account, go to www.facebook.com and search for "USNA Alumni Association San Diego Chapter" or use the following link <http://www.facebook.com/pages/USNA-Alumni-Association-San-Diego-Chapter/117296792155>.

If you do not have a Facebook account a tutorial is on YouTube at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OdQhZy1xoul>. The Facebook page is also linked to our Chapter Website.

Chapter Logo Gear Now On Line

Looking for the perfect shirt for the Army-Navy game or maybe some new glasses for the bar that show your San Diego support? Well, now you can order them on line through the USNA.com Alumni Store. Our new chapter logo is now available and can be put on everything from glass ware to tote bags. Ordering is easy, just go to: <http://www.navyalumnistore.com/16/Home.htm> directly or through the [USNA.com](http://www.usna.com) website via the "Shop" button in the toolbar and you can order all kinds of merchandise with our chapter logo. Show your chapter spirit and turn out for the tailgater or monthly lunch in your chapter colors! If you have any questions call Chapter Corresponding Secretary Mike Mowins at (760) 602-0857 or corrsec@usnaasd.com.

Class Rep News

We just filled several Class Rep positions within the Chapter and are eager to fill the gaps.

We still need volunteers for the following year groups: 1950, 1954, 1973, 1992, 1993, 2004,

2006, & 2008. This is a great way to support your Chapter and serve your classmates. Please contact Richard Carlquist USNA '80 at (619) 917-6200 with any questions.

Blue and Gold Update

The administrative cycle for candidates is fast closing as all candidates must soon turn in all their application items and complete their package. Our local Blue and Gold Officers are still busy conducting interviews and all Congressional Nominations have been submitted to the Naval Academy. High School Juniors are applying online for the Naval Academy Summer Seminar program and will later be entering the BGO Information System for the USNA Class of 2017. The Candidate Guidance Office is in "crunch-time mode" grinding out candidate reviews and making above and below "the-line" determinations and adjustments. The Nominations and Appointments Branch is sending out offers and determining the final Class of 2016 size.

The current statistics for the Class of 2016 from San Diego are; thirteen Fully Qualified Offers of Appointment (FQOs) with three of those candidates accepting their offer, three more candidates have Conditional Offers of Appointment (COAs), there are 376 applicants from San Diego and Imperial Counties, 61 candidates with 100% complete applications, area BGOs have completed 169 interviews.

If any alumni are interested in becoming a Blue and Gold Officer, now is the time to contact the local Area Coordinator, Captain Mike McVay and request an application form. The applications for Summer Training for new BGOs is just opening up. As we near the end of this candidate cycle Mike will be making school reassignments for BGOs and for new BGOs to be assigned to BGO Mentors.

Membership

Current Members – 967

Paid Members - 418

The Importance of Chapter Membership

There is a lot of value as a result of maintaining a current membership in our Chapter. Here are few of the reasons it makes sense to join or renew your Chapter membership:

Blue & Gold Support: The Chapter is the primary funding source for the San Diego Blue & Gold Program which is one of USNA's primary recruiting programs. Between 20 and 30 Plebes from the San Diego area are inducted each year into USNA.

USNA Program Support: From time-to-time Clubs (Rugby, Glee Club, etc.) seek funding assistance for San Diego area visits. If you were involved with a club as a Midn you'll recall that USNA funding generally didn't all club costs....that hasn't changed. The Chapter supports as many club requests as it can.

Chapter On-Line Directory Access: Only Chapter members have access to the data base of over 3000 area alumni

Preferred Pricing for Chapter Events:

All Chapter events have a non-member surcharge.

It's cheap: \$20/year

It's easy to join: Go to

www.usnaasd.com and click on the membership tab.

Call to Action to all San Diego Area Alumni!!!

Update your profile by logging onto www.usnaasd.com and clicking on the "My Account" tab in the upper right hand corner. Next, click on the "My Profile" tab in the middle of the page followed by the "Edit Profile" tab. You will be able to update your profile. Be sure to put your year group in the "Year" field in the "School 1" part of the "School Information" section.

Forgot your password? Email the webmaster to receive a temporary one. Please avoid creating a new record.

Last Call: CDR Gregory Panawek USN (Ret) '45

Dr. Gregory Panawek (Sr.) died peacefully in Coronado, CA on November 19, 2011 after a short illness. He was born in New York City's Lower East Side on February 15, 1921, to Samuel Panawek and Tatiana Chipok. He was 89 years old and had been a resident of Coronado, California since 1954.

Greg was raised in New York City and graduated from Seward Park High School. One of his classmates was actor Walter Matthau. Following high school. Greg joined the Merchant Marine and worked for ESSO (now ExxonMobile) as an able-bodied seaman on tankers sailing between the east Coast and South America. He also represented ESSO in the 1939 International Surfboat Championships Race, which they won. Greg briefly attended Bullis Prep School and NYU where he played football.

With World War II approaching and pursuing his love of the sea, Greg earned an appointment to the United States Naval Academy Class of 1945. The class graduated a year early in June, 1944 because of the war.

Following graduation from USNA, Greg served on the newly built light cruiser USS Wilkes-Barre (CL-103) as a Gunnery Officer during WWII. After sea trials off the East Coast, the Wilkes-Barre proceeded through the Panama Canal and called at San Diego where she loaded

provisions and ammunition. Greg vowed to return and make Coronado his home. The Wilkes-Barre served in the South Pacific during the final months of the war and received four battle stars. She took part in strikes against the Philippines, China and Indo-China, the Ryukyu islands, the Bonin and Volcano islands and Japan. When suicide planes badly damaged USS Bunker Hill off Okinawa on 11 April, Wilkes-Barre came alongside the stricken carrier to help fight her fires and evacuate some of her crew. The Wilkes-Barre was also among the procession formed from the 3rd Fleet that made its way triumphantly into the entrance to Tokyo Bay prior to Japan's official surrender. As the Pacific War ended, Wilkes-Barre supported the occupation of Japan, remaining in the Far East for the rest of 1945.

Greg had a 24-year career in the Navy, which included attending submarine school in New London, CT, a stint serving on USS Buck (DD-761) and as a nuclear weapons inspector for the Pacific Fleet.

He retired from the Navy in 1964. Greg then earned a masters degree in public administration from San Diego State and a PhD from US International University. He became a high school woodshop and math teacher at Mt. Miguel High School in Spring Valley where he could pursue two of his favorite activities – helping young people and woodworking.

Greg, affectionately known as Doc, was the beloved husband of Patricia Ruth Wolfkill for over 65 years. Greg will forever be remembered by his wife, devoted only child Gregory, his caring daughter-in-law Sally, his treasured grandchildren Kathleen Ryan, Gregory Patrick and Steven McNally (Jennifer Suzanne McCormick), and other friends and family whom were blessed to have know him.

Although he was physically limited over recent years, Greg had been active in the Coronado Flower Show, the 4th of July Parade, the Coronado Yacht Club and the Knights of Columbus.

Greg touched the lives of many people with his smile and generosity, and maintained his trademark sense of humor all the way to the end.

According to his wishes, Greg's ashes will be scattered at sea off the coast of Point Loma by the US Navy with full naval honors.

DATE/TIME	EVENT/SPEAKER	LOCATION/TOPIC	CONTACT
16 Feb/1130	Chapter Luncheon, Maribel Gallo on VA Careers	Anchors, 2376 Recreation Way, Bldg 3210	Send your reservation to: reservations@usnaaasd.com or USNAAASD, 701 Kettner Blvd, Unit 28, San Diego, CA 92101. \$20 Member/\$25 Non-Member
17 Feb/0700	NAVNET	Town and Country Hotel, Trellis Garden Grille, 500N Hotel Circle	tjhammons@aol.com
09 Mar/1800	Celebrate the Dark Ages @ Anthology	Anthology, 1337 India St San Diego, 92101 Map & Directions	Purchase tickets at: http://www.usnaaasd.com/store.html?event_id=199 or send \$90 member/\$100 non-member to USNAAASD, 701 Kettner Blvd, Unit 28, San Diego, CA 92101.
15 Mar/1130	Chapter Luncheon, VADM David Richardson '36 on The Early Days of Naval Aviation	Anchors, 2376 Recreation Way, Bldg 3210	Send your reservation to: reservations@usnaaasd.com or USNAAASD, 701 Kettner Blvd, Unit 28, San Diego, CA 92101. \$20 Member/\$25 Non-Member
16 Mar/0700	NAVNET	Town and Country Hotel, Trellis Garden Grille, 500N Hotel Circle	tjhammons@aol.com
31 Mar/0800	San Diego Crew Classic	Mission Bay	Please contact president@usnaaasd.com , if you would like to help coordinate or volunteer.
19 Apr/1130	Chapter Luncheon, Flack Maguire, Virtual Flight Academy	Anchors, 2376 Recreation Way, Bldg 3210	Send your reservation to: reservations@usnaaasd.com or USNAAASD, 701 Kettner Blvd, Unit 28, San Diego, CA 92101. \$20 Member/\$25 Non-Member
20 Apr/0700	NAVNET	Town and Country Hotel, Trellis Garden Grille, 500N Hotel Circle	tjhammons@aol.com