



The USNA Alumni Association San Diego Chapter Newsletter



Leaders To Serve The Nation

January 2016

Chapter Officers:

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Corresp. Sec.: Barbette Lowndes '80
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Directors - Term to 2016
 Sandra Davidson '86 sldavidson@aol.com
 Suzanna Brugler '98
 Ben Johnson '99
 Betsy Radelow '01 betsyradelow@yahoo.com
Directors - Term to 2017
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 Myron Fleming, '62, mtfleming@1962.usna.com
 Don Hinderliter, '83,
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 Craig Smith, '82, swojcsmith@aol.com
Directors - Term to 2018
 Dick Evert '68
 Ben Hobbs '02
 Erica Young '09
 Shawn VanMeter '97
Western Region Trustee: Chris Cooke '81
(619) 972-4283, chriscooke@aol.com
National Trustee: Barbette Lowndes, '80
USNA Foundation Athletic and Scholarship Board - Trustee: Randy Bogle '68
(619) 328-5728 Randy.Bogle@L-3Com.com
Blue and Gold Coordinator:
 Mike McVay '77 Skip.McVay@1977.usna.com
Extended Brigade Initiative (EBI)
 (Alumni helping Alumni) - ebi@usnaaasd.com
 Charles Carey, '70 (858) 636-4116
Chapter Homepage: <http://www.usnaaasd.com>
Webmaster: Mike Bice '90
webmaster@usnaaasd.com

President's Letter

Happy New Year, Fellow Alumni!

I wish you a year filled with happiness and prosperity!

What a year for Navy Football! The team ended their season with a bowl win against Pittsburg which capped Navy's best season since Roger Staubach. Navy finished 11-2! Additionally, Midshipmen QB Keenan Reynolds rewrote the record book with the most rushing yards by a QB in FBS history.

Now that football season is over, don't let the Dark Ages get you down!!! Please save the date for our Annual Dark Ages Event at Ballast Point! Join your Shipmates on February 20, 2016 for an entertaining night out. Details about the event to follow.

BEAT ARMY!!! Gilda

Upcoming Luncheons

Please take note that luncheons have moved to the 3rd Wednesday of the month, and we will continue to meet at Admiral Baker.

Looking for speakers. Please contact any board member with amazing ideas!

January

Did you ever wonder what the USNA Foundation Athletic & Scholarship Program was all about? Please join us as we welcome Randy Bogle as he provides information about the Board of Trustees and future plans for the organization. This will NOT be a fund raising speech. It will be a great forum to get your questions answered. Randy has been a Trustee on the Board since April of 2009 and currently chairs the Outreach Committee

Class Rep News & Gouge

We are AT 1,000 members - who will be 1001? Keep recruiting your classmates to join the biggest & best USNAAA Chapter worldwide! Class Reps are still needed for the following year groups: 1930's, 1943, 1945, 1946, and 1954. Please contact and encourage your local Classmates who are not yet Chapter members or need to renew their lapsed membership to join or renew and stay connected with our super USNAAA San Diego Chapter and receive excellent member benefits with discounted pricing to most of our events. FYI, the primary reason stated by Navy Grads for not joining the USNAAA San Diego

Chapter is that they assume that USNAAA Life Membership with Annapolis automatically signs them up for membership in their local USNAAA Chapter - this is not the case at all. When you meet a Classmate or USNA Alum, provide them the gouge about our local Chapter and direct them to the USNAAA San Diego Chapter website www.usnaaasd.com to sign-up to become a local member - thank you very much for your assistance! The Class Rep position has proven to be the cornerstone for strengthening local USNA and Classmate camaraderie while at the same time promoting all of our upcoming San Diego Chapter luncheons and special events. Serving as a Class Rep is a great way to stay connected with your local area Classmates by encouraging their support of our Chapter as well as by keeping everyone up to speed on all of our current USNA news and upcoming Chapter gatherings. Please contact Vice President for Membership, Craig Smith, at vpmembership@usnaaasd.com to volunteer to fill a Class Rep vacancy or to discuss any questions regarding application for local Chapter membership. Thank you very much for staying connected with your local Classmates and fellow Alumni - Go Navy, Beat Army!

Membership
Current Members - 1000
Paid Members - 469

The Importance of Chapter Membership

There is a lot of value as a result of maintaining a current membership in our local San Diego 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.

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 cover all team activity

costs, this has not changed. The Chapter supports as many requests as it can.

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

Preferred Pricing for Chapter Events: All Chapter events have a non-member surcharge, so you will normally save \$5/event.

It's Cheap & Easy to Join: \$25/yr; \$15/yr Active/Reserve O-3 & below. Visit www.usnaasd.com and click on the membership tab.

Call to Action to all San Diego Area Alumni!!! Please 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 Chapter Webmaster to receive a temporary one. Please avoid creating a new record.

Friend us on Facebook! Search for "USNA Alumni Association San Diego Chapter" or use the following link: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/USNA-Alumni-Association-San-Diego-Chapter/11729679215>.

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 online 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.navalumniastore.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.

Obituaries

CAPT Ronald E. "Mugs" McKeown,
USN (Ret) '61

CAPT Ronald E. "Mugs" McKeown, USN (Ret), made his Last Take-Off on November 20, 2015 in San Diego, California. Mugs had been suffering with Parkinson's disease.

Ron was born on June 17, 1939 in Pipestone, Minnesota, to Roy and Ella McKeown but the family soon moved to Ysleta, Texas, where his father established a contract electronics school in Ft. Bliss. Ron's dad signed him up for boxing and he excelled in that sport. He was also a great football player at Ysleta High School and became an all-state running back.

He was recruited by USNA Athletic Director Rip Miller and he excelled at both boxing and football at the Naval Academy. He played football on an excellent Navy team. The 1960 team was ranked #3 in the nation and his teammate and classmate, Joe Bellino, won the Heisman Trophy that year. Navy played on the 1961 Orange Bowl losing to Missouri. Ron earned the "Spike Webb Award" for being the undefeated Brigade light heavy-weight boxing champion for three years straight.

After graduation, he married his wife, Lauree on June 24, 1961 and began, began flight training in Pensacola. He earned his wings in November 1962. His first squadron was VF-154 flying F8U Crusaders. He participated in the first raids against North Vietnam in 1964.

He returned to the USA and transitioned to the F4B Phantom and returned for his second cruise to Vietnam. He then attended U.S. Air Force Aerospace Research Pilot School for test pilot and astronaut training. While there, he flew a specially modified F-104 to an altitude of 127,000 feet. Next, he reported to Air Test and Evaluation Squadron Four (VX-4) as Chief Test Pilot, in charge of all engineering changes to the SPARROW air-to-air missile. As the F4 Tactics Manager, he was charged with developing Navy tactical doctrine for the F4 Phantom and he had the opportunity

to fly the Soviet built MiG-17 and MiG-21 aircraft.

He was assigned to VF-161 as Operations Officer in 1969 and he embarked aboard USS Midway (CV-41) for his fourth combat deployment to Vietnam. On May 23rd, Mugs and his RIO, LT Jack Enschede, and their wingmen were attacked by six North Vietnamese MiGs. In what has been described as one of the longest and most exciting dogfights of the war, Mugs and Jack actually tumbled their aircraft end over end during the engagement. When it was over, Mugs had shot down two MiG-17's, including one off his wingman's tail, and then chased the remaining enemy aircraft into China. For this action, Mugs and Jack Enschede were awarded the Navy Cross.

LCDR McKeown received orders to become the first Commanding Officer of TOPGUN, the Navy Fighter Weapons School. Thirteen days after Mugs left the Midway, Jack Enschede was shot down and became a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. During Jack's incarceration, Mugs refused to accept the Navy Cross, stating that he and Jack had won the decorations together and would wear them the first time together. After Jack's release from POW status, Mugs requested that Jack be assigned to TOPGUN, where they again flew together.

Mugs was CO of TOPGUN for three years and then was assigned to the Pentagon for a brief tour before assuming command of VF-1. As fate would have it, LCDR Enschede reported aboard as Maintenance Officer and the "Dynamic Duo" flew together again.

CDR McKeown went on to become the F-14 Tomcat Project Officer after VF-1, and then Chief of Staff for Operations for Commander Carrier Group Eight. The CARGRU 8 battle group developed electronic warfare tactics and procedures used in the Gulf of Sidra, Desert Shield, Desert Storm, and Iraqi Freedom operations. His final tour was as Chief of Staff and Executive Assistant to the Chief of Naval Material.

After retirement from the Navy, Mugs worked in the defense contractor industry for over 25 years. He also served as the military adviser to the Mayor of San

Diego for several years before going into complete retirement following the diagnosis of his Parkinson's disease.

The book "Afterburner" by John D. Sherwood, provides a wonderful slice of naval carrier aviation including MiG destroyers McKeown and Enschede, and indicates that Mug's used his boxing lessons-learned to improve his air-to-air tactics.

CAPT McKeown's personal awards include the Navy Cross, Legion of Merit, (5) Distinguished Flying Crosses, (27) Air Medals, and (14) Navy Achievement Medals. He flew 440 combat missions in Southeast Asia and made 997 carrier landings during his flying career.

CAPT McKeown's Memorial Service was held at the Miramar National Cemetery on 9 December. Donations in lieu of flowers

can be made in his name to the San Diego Parkinson's Association/Tremble Clef or the Tailhook Education Foundation.

RADM Benjamin F. Montoya CEC USN (Ret) '58

Admiral Montoya was born in Indio, CA on 24 May 1935 to Benjamin and Margaret Montoya. He graduated from Coachella Valley Union HS in 1953 and attended Cal Poly San Luis Obispo University before earning an appointment to the US Naval Academy. He graduated in 1958. Ben's 32 year naval career began with a tour in Vietnam and he rose through the ranks to become Chief of the Civil Engineer Corps (SeaBees). He retired in 1989 as a Rear Admiral.

Following graduation, he married his high school sweetheart Virginia Cox also of Indio. Happily married for 57 years, Ben and Ginney raised five sons and two daughters who blessed them with 17 grandchildren.

In addition to his Naval Academy degree, Admiral Montoya also earned an Engineering degree from RPI, a Master's degree from Georgia Tech and a Juris Doctorate from Georgetown School of Law. After retiring from the Navy, he was a Senior Vice President with PG&E and then was President and CEO of Public Service of New Mexico before retiring a second time in 2000.

Financial News

2014 Financial report is available upon request. Please contact Chapter Treasurer.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES are listed below. Please call the VP Membership or email vpmembership@usnaasd.com if you are interested in filling an opening. Class Reps will be invited to an annual training event in April. Classes that have graduated 60 or more years ago are provided a free Lifetime Membership. A "*" indicates the Decades Rep. Class Rep e-mail addresses are located on the USNAAA San Diego Chapter website.

* 1930's <u>VACANT</u>	1941 Rollo Rieve 760.704.1319	1942 Charlie Bishop 619.223.0492	1943 <u>VACANT</u>	1944 Jack Reynolds 858.673.8122	1945 <u>VACANT</u>
1946 <u>VACANT</u>	1947 Nick Nicholson 858.454.9624	* 1948 Chuck Gorder 619.546.4808	1949 Chuck Howe 619.437.4190	1950 Dean French 858.459.4360	1951 Paul Tuzo 858.695.3690
1952 Dick Dietz 619.435.4646	1953 James Rodgers 619.435.1021	1954 <u>VACANT</u>	1955 Ned Floyd 619.423.2870	* 1956 Carl Nelson 619.421.9094	1957 George Lanman 619.437.6095
* 1958 Chuck Smith 619.472.5858	1959 Jim Cartwright 619.435.9363	1960 John Schmidt 858.673.7169	1961 Jim Richardson, (619) 226-4978	* 1962 Greg Chauncey 858.551.7540	1963 Phillip Marsden 619.435.3318
1964 Bob Glennon 760.730.3608	1965 Dave Schlesinger 619.470.0542	1966 George Klein 619.221.0059	1967 Warren Millard 858.695.3342	1968 Randy Bogle 619.328.5728	1969 Mike McNeil 858.354.6565
1970 Tom Flaherty 858.740.5142	* 1971 Tom Hammons 858.538.9824	1972 Ed Nocon, (858) 484-7279	1973 Dave Kuhn 619.957.8371	1974 Bob Santos 619.476.7683	1975 Dave Frost 858.541.2604
1976 Phil Poirier 858.538.6708	1977 Mike Keeney 619.435.2642	1978 John Rogitz 619.561.5292	1979 Pat Garcia 619.307.9167	* 1980 Rich Carlquist 619.294.9727	1981 Tom Carlson 619.397.0909
1982 Craig Smith 619.623.5509	1983 Don Hinderliter 619.665.9078	1984 Bryan Caraveo 619.249.6043	1985 Kyle Freitas 760.522.7916	1986 Dan Gruta 619.806.1155	1987 Tad Northcott 703.819.2289
1988 John Ross 760.744.1762	1989 Paul Gallagher 760.492.4247	1990 Mike Bice (619) 947-3569	1991 Max Folkers 619.277.3688	1992 Brian Dozier 619.920.3178	1993 Arlen Aspenson 858.717.9998
1994 Jamieson Slough 760.716.1350	1995 Kevin Messer 858.663.1658	1996 Bob Willingham 619.889.9872	1997 Chris Benson 619.417.0620	* 1998 Gilda Reeves 858.220.1108	1999 Alan Baca 619.818.1024
2000 Roger Grant rlgrant@hotmail. com	* 2001 Betsy Radelow 619.306.1333	2002 Jason Jackson 619.665.6131	2003 John Reeves 858.997.6993	2004 Justin Braune 619.791.9797	2005 Paul Bania 702.538.3407
2006 Eric Handal (703) 795-4420	2007 Nate Myers (760) 505-8418	2008 Natalie Lamb 301.233.4138	2009 Chris Rowland 815.954.7305	* 2010 Michelle Webster 619.980.1651	2011 Will Cumha 901.336.6581
2012 Donald Bowers 713.876.0794	2013 Leslie Beatrice 571.212.1870	2014 David Matasic 484-356-5137			

DATE/TIME	EVENT/SPEAKER	LOCATION/TOPIC	EVENT INFORMATION*
20JAN2016, 1115	Monthly Luncheon : Randy Bogle	<i>Admiral Baker</i> - 2400 Admiral Baker Rd San Diego, CA 92120	Contact: Gilda Reeves '98, president@usnaaasd.com
20FEB2016	Dark Ages Event	Ballast Point	Registration to open in January 2016

Luncheon Reservation RSVP: reservations@usnaaasd.com or (626) 644-6452 NLT the Monday preceding the event.
 \$20 Member with RSVP; \$25 Non-Member or Member at the door
New Member/Renewal: \$25 per year, \$15 Active/Reserve O-3 and below

Luncheon/New Member/Renewal Form: Please make checks payable to: USNAAA San Diego, 2682 W Victoria Dr
 Alpine, CA 91901

Full Name _____	Class _____	Phone _____	Cell _____
NickName _____	Rank _____	Service _____	Spouse _____
Email: Primary _____			
Email: Alternate _____			
Home Address _____	City _____	State _____	Zip _____

*Please visit <http://www.usnaaasd.com/events.html> for additional event information and RSVP.