



The USNA Alumni Association San Diego Chapter Newsletter

Leaders to Serve the Nation

July 2018



Chapter Officers:

President: Craig Smith, '82 (619) 623-5509

president@usnaaasd.com

1st Vice President: Ben Hobbs '02,
(707) 301-9607 vp1@usnaaasd.com

2nd Vice President: Sofi Loomis, '99
vp2@usnaaasd.com

VP for Membership: Caroline Rodi, '98
vpmembership@usnaaasd.com

VP for Communications: Kristen Dennis '94
Secretary: Steve Rasmussen '88
(571) 275-8897

steven.r.rasmussen@gmail.com

Treasurer: Kyle Christman '06
treasurer@usnaaasd.com

Directors – Term to 2019

Dan Archer '80, darcher@mitre.org

Charlie Carey '70,
charlie.carey@gmail.com

Evan Ipema '15
evanipema@gmail.com

Alan Lerchbacker '74
alerchbacker@aol.com

Directors – Term to 2020

Randy Bogle '68 rbogle@cox.ent

Jon Brenner '03 brennerjml@gmail.com

Barbette Lowndes '80 bhlowndes@att.net

Michael Such '95 michael.such@ml.com

Directors – Term to 2021

Thomas Bethmann '08,
tbethmann@gmail.com

Dick Evert '68, richardevert68@gmail.com

Dan Garcia '88, tdgarcia2001@hotmail.com

Mike Wentz '08,
mwentz@sandiegorealinvestments.com

Correspondence Sec.: Gilda Reeves '98
(858) 220-1108, corrsec@usnaaasd.com

Western Region Trustee: Steve Hall '75
National Trustee: Alan Lerchbacker '74
alerchbacker@aol.com

USNA Foundation Athletic and Scholarship Board - Trustee: Randy Bogle '68
(619) 328-5728 rbogle@cox.ent

Blue and Gold Coordinator:

Mike Philbrook '83
Michael.philbrook@1983.usna.com

Parent Club President

Shelia Douglass, swdnavy834@gmail.com

NAVNET/Job Board: Tom Hammons '71
(858) 538-9824, Tjhammons@aol.com

Webmaster: Michael Bice '90
webmaster@usnaaasd.com

Homepage: <http://www.usnaaasd.com>

President's Letter

Greetings! Summer is in full swing and there is a lot going on! Thanks again to Ben Oakes '99, CO USS PINCKNEY for a super luncheon presentation. It is always great to hear the latest from Fleet alumni.

Our "First Thursday" Happy Hours still bring out a steady group. This week we had just 16 people with 4 first-timers, but plenty of conversation and comradery. Cutwater Spirits can support dozens more people, so come on out and re-connect with your fellow alumni.

Volunteers are still needed to help at the ASYMCA Neighborhood Exchange on Thursday, July 26. Please contact me if you are interested in this worthwhile event and chance to give back.

For you golfers, the annual Surface Navy Association RADM James G. Prout tournament on August 24th. For more details go to: www.NAVYSNA.org.

We are planning a day at the Del Mar races sometime in August. Stayed tuned to the website for more details.

SACC San Diego is scheduled Aug 23-24 at the Manchester Grand Hyatt. Your alumni association will have a booth there and sponsor a happy hour. We are also looking for more Blue & Gold officers. If interested, please contact Mike Philbrook '83.

It is not too soon to be thinking about Navy football! Pick your favorite viewing spot for regular season games, grab some friends, and plan ahead for Notre Dame week events and the Navy/Notre Dame in October. Your membership will get you great discounts on all of our events.

Thanks again to all of the volunteers that make this chapter run so well! Please check our chapter website frequently for updates, like us on Facebook, spread the word about our events, bring a friend, and renew your memberships!

BEAT ARMY!!
Craig

Upcoming Events

Wed, Jul 18 @ 11:30AM – 1:00PM

Chapter Luncheon (Dave & Buster's)
3rd Annual Sea Story Contest
Cash Prizes!! Enter today.

Fri, July 20 @ 7:00AM

NAVNET at the Admiral Baker Clubhouse

Wed, Jul 25 @ 5:30PM–7:00PM

Chapter Board Meeting
Location: Wood Ranch Grill

Thurs, Jul 26 @ 8:30AM–12:30PM

ASYMCA Neighborhood Exchange
Volunteers still needed!
POC: Craig Smith '82

Future Events

Thu, Aug 02 @ 5:30PM–7:30PM

First Thurs Networking Happy Hour
Cutwater Spirits
9750 Distribution Ave, San Diego

Fri, Aug 17 @ 7:00AM

NAVNET at the Admiral Baker Clubhouse

Thurs/Fri, 23-24 Aug

Service Academy Career Conference
SACC San Diego
Manchester Grand Hyatt

Fri, Aug 24 @ 11AM–6:30PM

28th Annual RADM James G. Prout III
Memorial Golf Tournament
Sea & Air Golf Course

Wed, Sep 19 @ 11:30AM – 1:00PM

Chapter Luncheon
CAPT Larry Blumberg, USN (Ret.)

Thurs, Oct 25 @ 10AM

Navy/Notre Dame Golf Tournament
Riverwalk Golf Course

Fri, Oct 26; 11:30AM-1:30AM

Navy/Notre Dame Alumni Luncheon
MIDWAY Museum

Sat, Oct 27

Navy Tailgater and Navy/Notre Dame
Football Game
SDCCU Stadium, San Diego

Membership:

Current Members – 995

Paid Members – 413

“SIR, I’ll find out SIR!!”

Chapter Information Corner:

Attention all San Diego Area Alums!!!

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.

Class Rep News and Gouge

Everyone receiving this newsletter likely already knows the difference between membership in the National Chapter (Alumni Association) and being a member of your local San Diego Chapter. This is a crucial distinction that some of more recent classes aren’t always aware of. Your local chapter works to provide you with camaraderie, connection, and utility during your stay in San Diego whether just for a PCS or for life.

Please help us spread the word out to all alums to stay connected and receive excellent member benefits with discounted pricing to our events. Life Membership in the National Chapter does not register an alum with our chapter. When you meet a Classmate or USNA Alum, give them the good gouge about our local Chapter and direct them to our website www.usnaasd.com to sign-up.

If you are still on active duty, transitioning out of the service, or if you’re an established veteran in the San Diego community, send any ideas for events that you’d like to see or take part in, groups you’d like us to connect with, or services that you’d like to see to our Chapter Vice President, Benn Hobbs ‘02 at vp1@usnaasd.com

Why Join your San Diego Chapter?

- **USNA Program Support:** Give back to the next generation and continue the chain
- **Chapter On-Line Directory Access:** Connect or Reconnect with fellow alums in the area

- **Preferred Pricing for Chapter Events:** Enjoy discounts at fun events that keep us all in touch
- **Camaraderie and Networking:** Get plugged into a vibrant community of veterans and leaders in America’s Finest City
- **It is Economical & Easy to Join!**

Contact Caroline Rodi ‘98 for more info.

USNA Alumni Travel Program

Did you know that our alumni network conducts annual trips all over the world?! Take a look at some of the excursions available to you on the USNA website!

Last Call/Obituaries:

RADM John R. “Smoke” Wilson, USN (Ret) ‘55

Rear Admiral John Raymond "Smoke" Wilson Jr., USN (Ret.) made his last take off on 11 June 2018 at the age of 85 surrounded by his loving family. John was born in 1933 in Glendale, California, to John and Leona Wilson, second of three children. Smoke graduated from the Naval Academy in 1955 and was designated a naval aviator in 1956.

Smoke's extraordinary career included three combat tours in Vietnam with 172 missions. As Air Wing 14 Commander, he conducted the final flight operations of the Vietnam War. While serving at Pacific Missile Test Center, Pt. Mugu, CA, he was the first pilot to fire all four air-to-air weapons of the F-14 and he made aviation history on November 21, 1973 as the only pilot to ever fire six missiles at six separate targets in what is known as the Phoenix "six-on-six" missile test.

Even though his last 13 years were in non-flying jobs, Smoke amassed 4,500 flight hours in 106 different types of aircraft (multiple tours as a test pilot) including 1,034 carrier traps (plus two rotary wing carrier landings) of which 223 occurred at night. In his career, Smoke flew every aircraft type in the Navy inventory as well as many others. Highly decorated

throughout his career, he retired on 1 July 1990 as the Chief of Naval Research.

He was a graduate of the Armed Forces Staff College and Test Pilot School. Smoke and was designated as an Aviation Material Professional as well as a Naval Aviator. In his distinguished career he was awarded the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star, the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, and 10 Air Medals, plus various other campaign and foreign service decorations.

He was married to Constance Dale from Wheat Ridge, Colorado, for 60 years. Smoke was a core member of the group of volunteer fathers called "Lave Sus Manos" that constructed the first baseball fields for the Rancho Bernardo Little League of which his sons were charter members. One of his fond memories was when he returned from an extended deployment to Vietnam and the Rancho Bernardo freeway sign displayed "Welcome Home Smoke... Lave Sus Manos!"

In addition, Smoke restored old cars, enjoyed photography, was a master woodworker, and enjoyed watching his grandkids play sports.

John is survived by his wife Connie, brother Ralph, son Skip (Kathy), daughter Robin Offerdahl (Tim), son Bill (Teresa), daughter Julie Stofan (John), and ten beautiful grandchildren, Ryan, Jack, Jake, David, Kelli, Andrew, Jordan, Kyle, Rachel and Emma.

John was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Susan. At his request, there will be no formal service and his ashes will be scattered at sea at a future date.

For more obituaries, see our chapter website.

Find us on Social Media!



Luncheon Reservation RSVP: reservations@usnaaasd.com or (619) 623-5509 NLT Tuesday before the event. \$20 Member with RSVP; \$25 Non-Member or Member at the door. (It pays to be a member!)

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.

Date/Time	Event/Speaker	Location/Topic	Event Contact Info
Jul 18, 2018; 11:30AM	Monthly Luncheon Sea Story Contest! Cash Prizes!!!	Dave & Buster's 2931 Camino del Rio North San Diego, CA 92108	Craig Smith '82 president@usnaaasd.com
Jul 20, 2018; 7:00AM	NAVNET Breakfast	Admiral Baker Clubhouse 2400 Admiral Baker Rd San Diego, CA 92120	Tom Hammons '71 thammons@aol.com
Jul 25, 2018 5:30PM-7:00PM	Chapter Board Meeting	Wood Ranch Grill Mission valley	Craig Smith '82 president@usnaaasd.com
Jul 26, 2018; 8:30AM-12:30PM	ASYMCA Neighborhood Exchange Food Bank	ASYMCA Volunteers Needed!	Craig Smith '82 president@usnaaasd.com
Aug 02, 2018; 5:30PM-7:30PM	First Thursday Networking Happy Hour	Cutwater Spirits 9750 Distribution Ave San Diego, CA	Caroline Rodi '98 caroline.rod@gmail.com
23-24 Aug, 2018	SACC San Diego	Manchester Grand Hyatt	Mike Philbrook '83 Michael.philbrook@1983.usna.com
24 Aug, 2018	Annual RADM Prout Memorial Golf Tournament	Sea 'n Air Golf Course	www.navysna.org
Sep 19, 2018; 11:30AM	Monthly Luncheon Speaker: CAPT Larry Blumberg, USN (Ret)	Dave & Buster's 2931 Camino del Rio North San Diego, CA 92108	Craig Smith '82 president@usnaaasd.com

The USNA Alumni Association – San Diego Chapter

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES are listed below. Please call the VP Membership or email ypmembership@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.

1940 VACANT	1941 Rollo Rieve 760.704.1319	1942 Charlie Bishop 619.223.0492	1943 VACANT	1944 VACANT	1945 VACANT
1946 VACANT	1947 Nick Nicholson 858.454.9624	1948 VACANT	1949 VACANT	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 VACANT	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 Tom Hejl 619.437.4706	1978 John Rogitz 619.561.5292	1979 Pat Garcia 619.307.9167	* 1980 Barbette Lowndes 858.243.2142	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 Michael 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 Cunha 901.336.6581
2012 Bryan Leight 314-545-4306	2013 Leslie Beatrice 571-212-1870	2014 David Matasic 484-356-5137	2015 Evan Ipema 678-448-8056	2016 Mike Sappio 925-255-3503	2017 Justin Reed 479-427-0692

Contact our VP for Membership, Caroline Rodi '98 to fill a Class Rep vacancy or regarding application for local Chapter membership.