



15 January 2023

Dear Classmates,

Happy New Year (and Welcome to the Dark Ages)! I trust, hope, and pray that your 2022 ended well. As a Class, we had quite a year:

- Set a structure for Class organization and governance with approval of our Class Bylaws (thanks [GEC](#));
- Held our first Class Elections since before we graduated (thank you to everyone who ran and voted);
- Crushed our 35th Reunion (thanks [Reunion Committee](#), [Company Wranglers](#), and [Classmate Sponsors](#));
- Kept the Class Spirit home fires burning in the tailgater department (thanks Tailgater teams)!

Individually, we marked milestones and passings, retirements and recoveries, career changes, and even some new beginnings (I'm particularly looking at you, very youthful-looking Grandparents).

I'm looking forward to 2023 with an optimistic anticipation of things to come. A good jumping off point for:

- Class Philanthropy and Support for USNA – 40th Reunion Class Gift Project
- Council of Class President's (COCP) debrief (hyperlinks to COCP presentations within debrief)
- Kirk Benson for Board of Trustees (BOT), Central Region
- Navy v Notre Game in Dublin (26 Aug 2023)
- Army-Navy (Football) future sites
- More Army-Navy contests (N-star events)
- Look ahead – the 2024 Class Alaskan Cruise (14 Jul 2024)
- Zoom "Wardroom Meetings"

CLASS OF 1987 40TH REUNION CLASS GIFT PROJECT – UPDATE:

As a brief update, we are engaged with Naval Academy Foundation staff and some classmates in obtaining information to help identify meaningful initiatives we may consider for our 40th reunion Class Gift Project. The Executive Steering Committee (ESC) of Tim Wolf, Len LaPorta, Ed Magee, Mary McElroy (and Jim Matheson, assisting) will be working to discuss and narrow the number of initiatives and validate our options with some donors and Foundation staff to ensure there is broad appeal.

By sometime in March/early April, we hope to communicate the scope and goals of the overall Class Gift Project, as well as the schedule for initial discussions and solicitations in 2023. That said, we know that some already have existing gift commitments, but this effort will run through 2027, giving everyone time to consider their support and participation. Thank you in advance for your input and consideration of your valued philanthropic support.

Please note: there will be many ways we quantify our combined support for the Class Gift Project, including participation and gifts. Two of these aspects will be giving amount totals.

- One will be the actual fundraising for the project initiatives (likely 2-4 areas) once they are set.
- The other will be a count of ALL gifts to the Naval Academy Foundation for all fund initiatives.

Both are important to track and recognize. The counting for the latter will include all gifts made after the 35th reunion, including those to the Alumni Center, made at the end of 2022. I extend gratitude to the ten classmates who committed to be Plankowners for the Alumni Center and, collectively, have afforded the Class recognition in the planned North Garden Terrace on the front side of the building. Thank you for your generosity!

COUNCIL OF CLASS PRESIDENTS' MEETING DEBRIEF:

Please find the [DRAFT minutes here](#) for your reading pleasure. Some highlights from the semi-annual COCP meeting on 2 December:

- The Supe's Brief had several informational gems: Academy "Ops Normal" to pre-COVID, especially re: Summer Training; Physically Qual'ed Mids can now service select Information Warfare; \$100MM infrastructure projects now underway (McDonough Hall and Seawall), and some outyear 40-year climate mitigation plan in the works; briefing points on some "in the news" hot button issues.
- ADM Mark Ferguson '78, Chair, AA Board of Trustees, brief: New Alumni Center use policies in draft (*potential impact for our 40th reunion planning???*); "Strategic Plan 2030" in development.
- RADM Julius Caesar '77 brief: Naval Academy Minority Association (NAMA), an AA&F Shared Interest Group (SIG), mission and opportunities; a SAVE THE DATE for NAMA's Leadership Forum (April 28-29, 2023) focusing on "Strengthening Our Competitive Advantage Through Inclusive Leadership"
- [Class Health Support brief](#) by Mr. Mitch Henderson '65: interesting initiative by Classes of '65, '68, '73 to "leave no one behind" – establishing an alumni focused health support network. They are hosting an [introductory Zoom meeting](#) on Wednesday, 18 Jan 23 at 1300 ET, if interested.

We're happy to provide further color commentary and context on any of these items.

KIRK BENSON FOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT): As some of you may already know, Kirk Benson is a Trustee candidate for the [Central Region](#) of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association (USNAAA) Board of Trustees (BOT). The next issue of *Shipmate* will provide details on the candidates for the Central and Eastern regions this cycle and the voting process. I encourage you to vote for the BOT in general, and Kirk, in particular. You can help to *Get The Vote Out For Kirk* with other alumni you may know in the Central region.

DUBLIN ROAD TRIP: It sounds like a significant number of Classmates are already making overseas party plans to the Emerald Island for Navy's Season Opener against Notre Dame in Dublin on 26 Aug 2023. The Alumni Association has the info you need at www.Navy2Ireland.com. We posted [a chat room](#) on the class website to facilitate classmate coordination.

ARMY-NAVY ON THE ROAD: ICYMI, the Army-Navy football game will be played at [five different sites](#) in the Northeast between 2023 and 2027. People are already reserving rooms in the area for the 09 Dec 2023 game at [New England's Gillette Stadium](#) (celebrating the 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea Party, along with the 225th anniversary of the USS Constitution). Future contest sites are: Washington, D.C. (2024); Baltimore (2025); NYC metro (2026); and finally, a return to Philly (2027).

MORE ARMY-NAVY CONTESTS (N-STAR EVENTS): It was so great to see so many classmates gathered during America's Game in Philly, that it got me thinking that we should be encouraging other opportunities to gather and to celebrate our glory days of contest and sport. After all, many of our Classmates are among the best the Naval Academy has produced. In that spirit, I'm highlighting at the end of this letter the [upcoming Army-Navy contests](#). Especially for "Sports in the Yard", it might be a great excuse and opportunity for two or three (or more) to gather and tell tales of defeating Army back in the day.

CLASS CRUISE TO ALASKA 2024: Underway & Making Way! Howard Baca is coordinating a 7-night roundtrip cruise from Seattle to Alaska sailing in July 2024 aboard Norwegian Cruise Lines. So far, Classmates have booked 30 cabins and Howard just added another block to meet the growing demand. Deals, special packages, and extras to be had – there is currently a half off (refundable) deposit deal that Howard arranged through **1/31/2023**. Contact Howard (602.935.0835 or hbaca@expediacruz.com) for all the gouge. Rumor has it that there may be some special tours of the Main Spaces as well as midwatch slots available for the SWOs in the group; other designators may sign up for the Mail Buoy watches. ;)

WARDROOM ZOOM: I noticed that some Classes are holding informal monthly “Wardroom” meetings via Zoom. As imitation is the highest form of flattery, I thought we might give that a try every quarter and see how it goes. We will announce a specific date soon (but if some enterprising group of Company Wranglers want to host some company wardroom calls more often – by all means, go for it!)

And as a final reminder, Rob Pinataro always enjoys a good story (with pictures even) and would like to publish yours in the next *Shipmate* (Mar-Apr 23). Send your submission NLT than this Friday, 23 January. Contact Rob at rpinataro87@gmail.com and include *Shipmate* in the subject line.

... and that’s a wrap. I wish you all a Healthy and Happy New Year as we launch into 2023.

Go Navy!



Scott Herbener
President, USNA Class of 1987
410.703.3519
president@usna87.net

YOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM: Reach out to any of us with your recommendations or concerns at:

- Scott Herbener, 410.703.3519, president@usna87.net
- Tim Wolf, 612.655.9823, vp@usna87.net
- Chris Dunphy, 617.750.9953, finance@usna87.net
- Steve Rowe, 757.676.9159, comms@usna87.net
- Jason Hardebeck, 410.417.8787, tech@usna87.net

Army-Navy contests coming up – I pulled this list off NavySports.com
 Who knows who you might catch at a game/match/race/event?

DATE	TIME	SPORT	N STAR?	SITE	SERIES
21 Jan	1100	W. Basketball	--	West Point (on CBS SN)	Navy, 40-39
21 Jan	1330	M. Basketball	--	West Point (on CBS SN)	Navy, 82-55
04 Feb	0900	Rifle	N Star	Annapolis	Army, 47-34
04 Feb	TBA	M. Indoor Track & Field	N Star	West Point	Navy, 34-27-2
04 Feb	TBA	W. Indoor Track & Field	N Star	West Point	Navy, 18-17-1
04 Feb	1400	Gymnastics	N Star	West Point	Army, 45-39-2
11 Feb	1100	W. Basketball	N Star	Annapolis (on CBS SN)	Navy, 40-39
11 Feb	1330	M. Basketball	N Star	Annapolis (on CBS SN)	Navy, 82-55
19 Feb	1400	Wrestling	N Star	West Point	Navy, 51-10-5
01 Apr	1000	W. Tennis	N Star	West Point	Army, 12-6
02 Apr	TBA	Baseball (DH)	--	West Point	Navy, 129-123
15 Apr	1300	M. Tennis	N Star	West Point	Navy, 70-38
22 Apr	1900	M. Lacrosse	N Star	Annapolis (on CBS SN)	Navy, 63-36-3
22 Apr	TBA	W. Lacrosse	N Star	West Point	Navy, 7-1
22 Apr	TBA	Baseball (DH)	N Star	Annapolis	Navy, 129-123
23 Apr	1200	Baseball	N Star	Annapolis (on CBS SN)	Navy, 129-123
TBA	TBA	W. Rugby	--	Annapolis	0-0
TBA	TBA	M. Outdoor Track & Field	N Star	Annapolis	Navy, 51-44
TBA	TBA	W. Outdoor Track & Field	N Star	Annapolis	Navy, 21-14