



03 April 2023

Dear Classmates,

Hello April showers and the beginning of 2Q23, along with some welcome signs of Spring (wait, was that a snowflake!?) Before I jump into the rest of the letter (and just in case you read nothing else), I have two top-of-the-fold items for you:

- 1. SAVE THE DATE** – Monday evening, 17 April 2023 at 2000 ET – for the “State of the Class” class meeting, courtesy of Article VII in the by-laws. Think of it as a combo class briefing, Q&A, and zoom social hour all in one. [USNA87 Zoom Call](#) :: Meeting ID: 529 229 7392 :: Passcode: 873301
- 2. CONGRATULATIONS** to newly nominated Marine Corps Lieutenant General Gregory L. Masiello as Director, Defense Contract Management Agency, Fort Lee, Virginia. Quite a ways from Stalag 17! Congrats, Sir!

And now the rest of the mess for your reading pleasure and edification:

- Alumni Center Plankowner Campaign Thanks
- Class Philanthropy and the 40th Reunion Class Gift Project
- Energizing the Company Wrangler network
- Kirk Benson for Board of Trustees (BOT), Central Region – vote now
- Football Planning: Navy v Notre Game in Dublin (26 Aug 2023) & Army-Navy (Football) tailgating
- Look ahead – the 2024 Class Alaskan Cruise (14 Jul 2024)
- Sub League seeking an Executive Director
- Suni in Space (soon)
- Old Goat Golf

ALUMNI CENTER PLANKOWNERS: During the recent Alumni Center Campaign which concluded in 2022, the Class raised over \$149,000 from 26 classmates. 13 Classmate merited individual recognition and qualified the Class for group recognition at the \$100K level. You can go [here](#) to review the recognition. Our Generous '87 Plankowners are noted below. Please give them a round of applause. Notify Tim or me of any errors:

Stollmeyer	Richard L. Stollmeyer	Jill L. Stollmeyer
Magee	Edward O. Magee	Jamelle Magee
Deane	Timothy M. Deane	Christina Deane
Buenavista	Joseph C. Buenavista	Paula R. Buenavista
Cohan	Stephen C. Cohan	Tracy Cohan
Day	Stephen J. Day	Holly S. Day
Hendrickson	Daniel B. Hendrickson	Kathryn B. Hendrickson
Herron	Michael S. Herron	Diane Herron
McFarlane	Scott P. McFarlane	Malinda W. McFarlane
Reimann	Timothy J. Reimann	Mary Reimann
Skelley	Suzanne Skelley	Susan Walker
Smith	Robert F. Smith	Claire O. Smith
Swift	Steve A. Swift	Kristine E. Swift

This extraordinary giving will also count toward our class tally as we approach our 40th Reunion Class Project.

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

The Project Executive Steering Committee (ESC) of Tim Wolf, Len LaPorta, Ed Magee, Mary McElroy, Jim Matheson, and Scott Herbener have been meeting to review and discuss information provided by the USNA Foundation regarding strategic initiatives for philanthropic support at the Academy. It is a robust list of initiatives that touch on all aspects of the Academy’s mission as it looks to implement its 2030 Strategic Plan.

The ESC is meeting in April, working to narrow, and ultimately select, the specific initiatives that will comprise the Class Gift focus and goals. Then, we will work with the Foundation staff to set the timing for sharing project details with you and begin to solicit gift support.

We recognize that there are many ways to support our alma mater, with making charitable gifts to the Foundation being one of these. Ideally, components of the project will appeal to many of you and we will reach both participation and gift amount targets. We acknowledge that some may have an area of interest that may not specifically included in the project. However, all gifts made to the USNA Foundation during this project cycle for any initiative will be included in our class gifting totals.

For the near-term, I encourage you to visit <https://www.usna.com/support> or <https://www.usna.com/support-impact-underway> for information about the ways that philanthropy has tangible impacts at the Academy. Please reach out to members of the ESC with any questions or comments.

COMPANY WRANGLERS: During the Reunion, we reinvigorated the Company Wrangler network. I’d like to keep that group energized and keep the Company network in hot standby for everything from personal emergencies response (“Help a shipmate, bro”) to Reunion picture wrangling (“Bro, Hold my Beer”) and everything else in between (especially in finding Classmates who may have gone “adrift”). The vision is that the company organizations are organically robust enough to be our first line of defense, especially in times of need. There have been more than a couple instances recently of company groups responding to someone’s crisis in a beautiful display of classmates helping one another. In that spirit, Steve Rowe will be working with Skip Trahan on whatever logistics might be appropriate. If we’re lucky, the network will only be called upon to improve headcount for the 40th Reunion in 2027 or some other special event (like a USMC wetting down, perhaps?)... but it also might end up saving a life or providing a moment of comfort and aid to someone. Certainly, more to discuss during the Class Zoom.

KIRK BENSON FOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT), Central Region:

As you may have already read in email or in *Shipmate*, Kirk Benson is running as a Trustee candidate for the Central Region of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association (USNAAA) Board of Trustees (BOT). If you’re in the region, expect an email from YesElections, the third-party vendor providing election services, as well as a hard-copy snail mail ballot. I encourage you to vote for our Classmate willing to serve. You can help to *Get The Vote Out For Kirk* with other alumni you may know in the Central region. Vote Kirk! Polls close on April 21, 2023.

FOOTBALL - BEAT THE IRISH: It sounds like a significant number of Classmates are already making overseas party plans to the Emerald Isle 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. If someone would like to volunteer as the ’87 Beat Notre Dame coordinator (helping to connect Classmates), please reach out to me or one of the other Class Officers.

FOOTBALL - ARMY-NAVY TAILGATE PLANNING: Army Navy Football tickets are already on sale for Blue and Gold members and people are 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). Chris Dunphy is heading up a committee for Army Navy Tailgate planning and said something about hosting a “tent city” in his backyard (in December... in Massachusetts) but strangely enough the directions appear to be to Gabe Gomez’s house. Please contact Dunph if you’re interested in helping.

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 40+ cabins and Howard just added another block to meet the growing demand. Deals, special packages, and extras to be had. 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 and Mai-Tai watch.

THE NAVAL SUB LEAGUE NEEDS LEADERSHIP (wait, that didn’t come out the way I meant it):
The incumbent Executive Director of the Naval Submarine League is soliciting for his relief. Must have been a submariner, preferably one who served a career and then served in the submarine industrial base. Timing is flexible over the next year. The budget for this national, 501 c 3 non-profit is about \$1.8M/year; more info is on the [NSL website](#). Office is in Old Town Alexandria. If interested, contact Tim Oliver (Executive Director, Naval Submarine League), (703) 256-0891 office, (202) 368-9743 cell, execdirector@navalsubleague.org.

SUNI IN SPACE (SOON): The latest news from Suni is that NASA and Boeing are now targeting July for the Starliner’s Crew Flight Test (CFT), docking with the International Space Station (ISS). Few people have their workday as well documented as Suni, here’s some germane articles (and [pics](#) of [Suni in action](#) within).

OLD GOAT GOLF: The USNA87 Old Goat Golf League (DC chapter) has started “Spring Training” and is looking for you to join the fun! Upcoming outings include: Fri, 4/14 @1300 Hidden Creek CC, Reston and Fri, 4/28 @1300 Algonkian GC, Cascades. Contact Ralph Nelson to join the fun RNelson01@aol.com or for tips to start your own Old Goat Golf Network (OG2N) chapter.

I’ll conclude where I began: **CLASS MEETING** :: Monday evening, 17 April 2023 at 2000 ET.
USNA87 Zoom Call :: Meeting ID: 529 229 7392 :: Passcode: 873301

Go Navy!



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President, USNA Class of 1987
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president@usna87.net

p.s. **Rob Pinataro** is always looking for a good cocktail party story (especially with evidence, I mean, pictures). Send your submission for *Shipmate* (Jul-Aug 23) NLT than Wednesday, May 17. Contact Rob at rpinataro87@gmail.com and include Shipmate in the subject line.

The last few Army-Navy contests of the AcYear are 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
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

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