

'86

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 3.29%

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'87

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 2.63%

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Hello Classmates,

Welcome to June. After a very dry month on content for May, we are back.

Our column starts with a word from **Scott Herbener** regarding our upcoming reunion.

■ "Hello classmates and other Denizens of the Deep! As I write this, Spring appears to have sprung, my NCAA brackets are a shambles, and the Orioles beat the Red Sox 8-5 at Spring Camp. Bear with me as I'm prognosticating ahead three months, thinking about things you need to know in about 87 days when we gather for the 35th Reunion (1-4 September). I'm also hoping that many of your questions were answered when you joined us during the 20 May Commissioning Commemoration zoom call - good fun, amiright?

So here it goes, Carnac the Magnificent sez...

1. Follow the class website (www.usna87.com) for the latest gouge.

2. Register for the reunion NOW if you haven't already - time, tide and formation, etc. Accurate (and early) event headcounts really are helpful. The registration website is (signupnow.events/usna1987).

3. Once you have registered and if you are golfing, get your foursome info to Dave Berman- text: 262- 945-4775 or email: drberman@hotmail.com.

4. During the Reunion weekend itself, there will be THREE registration check-in opportunities:

- Thursday evening (9/1) in the N* Room at the Stadium.



'87: The Navy cheering section. Jim Swanson at center in back row

- Friday evening (9/2) at the Graduate Hotel; and

- Saturday (9/3) at the Tailgater

- CRNW and '53 Pavilion.

Speaking of opportunities (to volunteer), please contact **Janet (Walters) Bristol** to help with Registration. The need is great, but the commitment is light (and fun). In case you're wondering, spouses are most welcome (and are often better qualified) to help. You can contact Janet by text at (406) 250-1406.

There will be bus transportation to/from the Yard on Friday (9/2). We anticipate first bus shuttle departures from the Graduate hotel and from Stadium parking prior to 0800 to get everyone to Hospital Point prior to the 0900 Memorial Service.

Remember that you need to buy a ticket to the Navy/Delaware game (via NAAA) to get into the stadium (and thus the tailgater). By the time this is published, kickoff time (and by extension, Tailgate start time) should have been announced.

If you have not yet ordered your on-demand SWAG - time, tide and formation, etc. See the class site for info and ordering details.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone on the Yard (and in the MidStore) in early September for a great weekend of camaraderie, reminiscences, frivolity and as Ronnie Harris might suggest - hijinks. Stay tuned to unfolding details with the steady rhythm of Class Blasts, website updates and (if technology go <https://www.usna.com/profiles> our way) customized text messages directly to your phone. Cheers!

From **Jim Matheson: Class Governance update**. It's critical to the class officer election process that USNA AA has your most recent/best email address. Please take a minute to validate your contact info and update your ClassMail at <https://www.usna.com/profile>.

By the time you read this, we should have already voted on and adopted our updated by-laws. We should also be in the midst of nominations for and the election of new class

officers. Please participate in the process, consider running for office, and VOTE.

Jim Swanson shared this news:

■ "Had a couple classmate contacts within the COVID restriction timing over the past few months. **Rick MacMurchy** shot me a note and let me know that he was flying into Minneapolis/St Paul and would have an overnight layover and was wondering if we could get together. You know it; 36th Company classmates do not make too many trips up this way, so we got together and had a couple drinks at a local brew pub and then headed back to my house for a little chat time with my wife (Kris) before having to take him back to his hotel in downtown Minneapolis. Rick seems to still be enjoying flying for United; and his family, back in Pittsburgh, is doing well and looking forward to the reunion in September.

My second contact was while my wife and I were down in Pompano Beach, FL for a couple weeks. I was able to get a hold of **JJ Jenkins** while he was still living down in Miami. JJ is doing very well and was happy to get together for dinner down in the Miami area. Although, he is giving up the warmth and sun of Miami and moving back to Iowa to help out with his mom at her home. I told him that I would head south on the 4-hour drive on my bike and have a good long weekend once we get a little warmer weather!

I also recently made a trip to St Louis, very last minute! Got a text from **Dave Turnbaugh '89** that Navy was playing in the ACHA National Tournament and offered up a place to stay should I want to head south...so I finished the household chores, got in the car and drove. Had a great time at Dave's, a little pistol action at the range, a little dart action at the local bar (along with cigars) and I was able to catch up with classmate and company mate, **Doug Wilson** 36th Co. We also got together with Doug and his wife, Susie, for brunch Saturday and talked about each other's kids and plans for the reunion.

87/88 CLASS NEWS



'87: Navy Hockey at the ACHA National Tournament



L to r; Jim Swanson and Doug Wilson

Unfortunately, Navy lost in the first round to Pitt. However, we did win the fan/crowd attendance competition. There was great attendance from the St Louis alumni group and plenty of cheering!!! It was a great group of folks supporting Navy hockey in St Louis."

Unfortunately for me, I won't be able to make it to the reunion this year. My nephew is getting married on the Big Island of Hawaii Labor Day so the whole family on my side will be making the trip west instead of east.

Beat Army! ~Jim Swanson

Rob Douglass has some impressive news to share.

✉ "Saw your note and thought I'd give you a proud Dad update. Oldest son ENS John Douglass earned his SWO pin onboard USS RUSHMORE (LSD 47) and puts on LTJG today 2/23/2020 (OCS from Tulane). He wanted nothing to do with subs but really enjoyed RUSHMORE's recent 8-month deployment to the WESTPAC and is learning through the challenges of the ship's current dry docking and modernization period." ~ **Rob Douglass**

Thanks to the initiative of **Ralph Nelson, Greg Pray** and **Harry Benson**, the 3rd Company Plebe Year Class of 1987 crew got together in March for our first ever zoom reunion. Ralph and team put together a fun session with a plebe summer photo slide show, classmate trivia and guest speakers Greg Pease '84 and Chuck Mills '85. The drinking lamp was lit, and a good time was had by all in pursuit of the mission to maximize attendance at the 35th class reunion in September. We had such a good time that we're going to do this again in the summer. Attendees included **Rob Douglass, Greg Pray, Harry Benson, Ralph Nelson, Matt Maker, Matt Horan, Rob Pinataro, Rob Shepherd, Chris Merriam, David Smith, Mike Sopko, George Ganahl, John Plohetski, Steve Otto** and **Doug Keller**. Apologies to anyone I've missed.

Please send your news to: rpinataro87@gmail.com with "SHIPMATE" in the subject line.

'88

Life Membership: 100%
Donor Participation: 3.49%

Pres: **Jim Schwab**
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Website: www.usna.com "find my class"

'88, "Prudens Potens Patria (judicious power for country)", USS CURTIS WIBUR (DDG54).
r/ Sara

Laura Stroman Lee - '88 social meet-ups over Zoom are going strong! "Wardroom meeting" themes and dates vary, but the time is always 2000 Eastern. The purpose of the wardroom meetings is to help members of the class of '88 reconnect in a helpful, fun, trusted community. Virtual meetings can never take the

place of real live parties and tailgaters, but they've been a great way to keep in touch since we are geographically so spread out. Lately, we've heard from classmates like **Dion Cornett** (3rd company), **Henry Stoever** (6th company), **Andre Stokes** (5th company), **Lou Maldonado** (13th company), **Mike Fournier** (34th company), and **Dan Bacon** (25th company) about their businesses, from gourmet ice cream to high-tech. **Dr. Myron Hall** (36th company) announced that he's running for U.S. Senate in California which has led to some lively discussions, as well. Our commonality as '88ers helps to bridge our many differences and whether you're

zooming with '88, meeting up at tailgaters, having a beer with a classmate or two locally, waiting for the reunion, or just keeping a low-profile, engaging with the class can be a very positive way to stay involved with old friends and with the broader world. The class announces plans here in *Shipmate* and on our private Facebook and LinkedIn groups. You should also be getting class emails. If not, just log onto usna.com to reset your email address. The zoom meeting number and password are listed on all three of these communication portals.

If you'd like to volunteer to help plan our 35th reunion, which will take place between mid-September and the end of October 2023 depending on the football schedule, contact class president **Jim Schwab** (28th company).

2022 WARDROOM MEETINGS

Thurs, Jan 13	Wed, Sept 14
Tues, Feb 15	Thurs, Oct 13
Wed, Mar 16	Thurs, Nov 10
Thurs, Apr 21	(and Sat, Dec 10 A/N football game)
Thurs, May 26	

5 pm PT / 8 pm ET - Zoom link available on the '88 Facebook and LinkedIn groups or class email



Rob Gray (7th): I moved my daughter to the DC area last week. While I was in town, I caught up with **Tim Heatherington** (8th) and **Don Wright** (19th)"