

### **June 2, 2005** “Welcome Aboard Reception”

On Thursday, June 2nd, COL Fuquea spoke at the annual “Welcome Aboard Reception” for the incoming Class of 2009 and NAPS attendees held at the Second Baptist Church in Houston. He stressed that the incoming Midshipmen would be tested as never before, but that they were all capable of succeeding, if they really put forth the effort. **Peter VanDerlofske '68**, Blue & Gold Area Coordinator, reported that the event was attended by 200+ people representing the 30 local area appointees to the Class of 2009 and 9 appointees to NAPS.

### **June 3, 2005 Chapter Alumni & Parents' Club Dinner**

Our annual June dinner for alumni, spouses, guests, and USNA Parents' Club members was held on June 3rd. **Jeff Hogan '64** opened the evening by welcoming everyone and introducing our guest, COL **David C. Fuquea '81**, USMC, Deputy Commandant of Midshipmen, US Naval Academy.

We had a number of ceremonial toasts ... to the Commander-In-Chief (given by **Jeff Hogan '64**), to the Navy (given by **Dan Holsberg '92**) ... to the Marine Corps (given by 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. **Wes Ogden '05**) ... to the Naval Academy and the Brigade of Midshipmen (given by Parents' Club President Kirk Harris) ... to the Spouses and Dates (given by **Ed Klein '72**), to our Distinguished Guests and the USNA Parents' Club (given by **Rob Brown '65**) ... and to the submarine service (given by **Zeb Alford '48**).

Our Chapter presented **Rob Brown '65** with our “Outstanding Alumni of the Year” award. Board member and USNA Trustee **Lynn Wegner '65** spoke about Rob's achievements as Chapter Treasurer. The Certificate of Commendation from the USNAAA recognized Rob Brown for his efforts in organizing reservations & collections for all of the Chapter's monthly luncheons and special events, e.g. the annual USNA Birthday Celebration on the Battleship Texas, the June Dinners, and several Navy-Rice football games. The certificate was signed by ADM **Carlisle A. H. Trost '53**, USN (Ret.), Chairman, and **George P. Watt, Jr. '73**, President and CEO. Our guest of honor, COL **David C. Fuquea '81**, USMC, spoke to us about life at the Naval Academy and the challenges that exist for today's Midshipmen.

### **June 2005, Chapter News**

**Anthony Spinler '91** reports that he is scheduled to be activated in the Reserves next month. He has been selected as the next Operations Officer in one of the reserve Naval Mobile Construction Battalions. His unit could be called up for two months of mobilization training, followed by a six month deployment. On the homefront, Anthony reports that Dana, Sam (7) and Jaron (4) are all well. Anthony is a Project Manager at FMC Energy Systems, and can be reached at [anthony@spinler.com](mailto:anthony@spinler.com).

### **Aug 2005. Chapter News**

With much sadness, we report that **Rob Brown '65**, our good friend and shipmate, passed away on August 14th from an apparent heart attack. His obituary will appear in a subsequent issue. His wife, Kaye, has asked that his friends remember Rob with a donation to the USNA Alumni Association, Class of 1965, in his name. Rob was a tremendous supporter of our Alumni Chapter and his work over the past decade has been pivotal to our Chapter's success. He held the position of Treasurer for many years and handled the reservations and financial aspects for all of our activities, including football games and special events. His family can be contacted at 281-376-4264.

### **Sept 24, 2005. Navy-Rice Football game**

The Academy's birthday celebration and the football game, originally scheduled for Sept 23-24, was rescheduled to Oct 21-22 because of Hurricane Rita.

### **Oct 2005. Chapter News**

**Brett Sweet '93** reports that he's working for the Baylor College of Medicine as the VP Finance & CFO. After graduation, Brett entered the nuclear power program, serving on the USS Georgia (SSBN 729B) in Bangor, WA, for seven patrols. After leaving active duty, Brett entered Harvard Business School, earning his MBA in June '00. He joined the Boston Consulting Group, resettled in Dallas, and worked as a strategy consultant in the U.S. and Germany for the past five years. Brett, his wife Meredythe, and their two daughters, moved to Houston (West University Place) earlier this year. Brett can be reached at 713-798-2080 or [bcsweet@bcm.edu](mailto:bcsweet@bcm.edu).

### **Oct 21-22, 2005. USNA Birthday & Navy-Rice football**

We celebrated the Academy's birthday with a Social Hour and Dinner on board our state's historic battleship, *U.S.S. Texas* (BB-35), [www.usstexasbb35.com](http://www.usstexasbb35.com), with CAPT **Bruce Grooms '83**, USN, USNA Commandant of Midshipmen, as the evening's Guest of Honor and featured speaker. Our other guests included Midn 1/C **Cliff Adams '06**, USNA Brigade Commander, and Midn 1/C **Nick Schmitz '06**, First Regimental Commander, and members of the USNA Drum & Bugle Corps.

We had a number of ceremonial toasts ... to the Commander-In-Chief (given by **Carl Peterson** of the RV Chapter), to the Navy (given by **Bob Cabana '71**), to the Marine Corps (given by **Erik Woods '64**), to the Spouses and Dates (given by **Buddy Wellborn '59**), to our Distinguished Guests (given by **Zeb Alford '48**), to the Naval Academy and the Brigade of Midshipmen (given by **Hal Dantone '68**), and to the memory of **Rob Brown '65** (given by **Lynn Wegner '65**). After dinner, the first slice of USNA birthday cake was cut, with a Navy sword, of course, by the senior alum (**Lucien Hunt '40**) with help from the junior alum (**Eric Biggers '97**).

**Dan Holsberg '92** introduced our guest speakers, Midn **Cliff Adams** and **Nick Schmitz**. Dan then introduced CAPT Grooms, who spoke about his fleet experiences and his return to USNA as Commandant of Midshipmen.

On Saturday, with the Parents Club, we hosted a tailgate party (over 1400 Alumni, parents, and guests, plus 300 Mids) at the Navy-Rice football game. Towards the end of the game, the USNA Cheerleaders were joined by two "honorary members", VADM **Rodney P. Rempt '66**, USNA Superintendent, and CAPT **Bruce Grooms '83**, USNA Commandant of Midshipmen, as Navy finished a spectacular 41-9 victory

### **Nov 7, 2005. USNA Golf Classic**

Our chapter's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual USNA Alumni Association & Foundation Golf Classic was held on November 7<sup>th</sup> at Raveneaux Country Club. All proceeds from this tournament went to the USNA Foundation.

During lunch, Chet Gladchuk, USNA Athletic Director, spoke to us about the Navy football team's incredible season and the potential (at that time) bowl possibilities. Our guest, ENS **Bill Hurley '04**, is one of the most decorated players in Navy golf history. Most recently, he played in the U.S. Amateur Tournament where he was one of the final 32 golfers. Prior to that, he was a member of the Walker Cup Team. ENS Hurley is now stationed at the Academy, where he works in the Economics Department.

### **Dec 2005. Chapter Officers**

Recently elected Chapter Officers include:

President - **Dan Holsberg '92**,

Vice-President - **Bob St. Germain '71**,

Treasurer - **Rich Bulger '69**,

Secretary - **Ed Klein '72**,

Directors:

**Lynn Wegner '65**,

**Peter VanDerlofske '68**,

**Tom Wojciechowski '69**,

**John Buckingham '69**, and

**Scott Bell '92**.