

## PLEBE PARENT WEEKEND AUGUST 07 - 09, 2009

1. **Plebe Parent Weekend is a Must-Attend Event!** Juggling work schedules and finances can be intimidating, but no parent or family member should miss this opportunity to be with his or her Midshipman over Plebe Parent's Weekend.

2. Get reservations as early as possible! The Annapolis & Anne Arundel Co. Visitors Guide is an excellent source for hotels or restaurants and other attractions that are an easy drive to the Academy (<http://www.visit-Annapolis.org>). Remember the restricted 30-mile radius.

3. Plan to arrive in Annapolis on Thursday. Go to the Academy Thursday afternoon and register at Dahlgren Hall. The Academy sets up exhibits on the arena floor. Go by exhibits on Thursday if possible, because you will not have time on Friday or during the remainder of the weekend. Exhibits are good and a lot of information is available about the Academy and other Midshipmen services. You might go by the Omega Travel exhibit in Dahlgren and set up an account for your Plebe. When the Plebe makes travel arrangements they only have to call with the dates; your credit card will be billed and you will get an e-mail itinerary.

4. **If it's permitted, don't miss PEP (Physical Exercise Program) on Friday morning. PEP begins at 6:00.** The gates open at 5:15. Bring cameras and video recorders in case you locate your plebe. PEP formation on the field is by company, so you should be able to find the approximate position of your Plebe's company as they come onto the field.

5. Dahlgren Hall is open for breakfast following PEP.

6. **Attend the Commandant's Welcome on Friday morning.** After welcome, take opportunity to meet with Company Commanders and Plebe Summer Staff. Listen to comments from these individuals and take opportunity to ask questions. Be sure to thank these individuals for spending a part of their summer with your Plebe.

7. The Mid Store is open for your shopping. Pick up things you didn't buy during Induction Day weekend. For the academic year the Academy will supply your Mid with a computer, but he'll need a printer. A good supply of printers is usually on hand at the Mid Store on Saturday. Most printers are gone from the Mid Store by Sunday. Your Mid may want to take care of this after roommates are assigned.

8. Saturday at the dress parade find out if any parents around you have a Plebe in the same Company as your Plebe; try to get their e-mail address.

9. After noon formation on Friday, **GET OFF THE YARD! !** Go out for a nice lunch. Midshipmen are given Town Liberty (30 nautical-mile radius) for the remainder of the day on Friday, and must return to the Academy, usually by 12:00 midnight.

10. Go back to hotel room for the afternoon. Bring a change of clothes for your Mid to wear while he is in the hotel room with you. Bring swim trunks for a dip in the hotel pool. Have drinks and snacks on hand to munch on during the afternoon.

11. Do whatever your Plebe wants to do while he is with you. Remember, he has just come from six solid weeks of having to follow orders for everything, so it's the first time he can really relax. Don't be surprised if your Plebe acts VERY differently or just wants to sleep instead of doing an activity.

12. Lunch on Friday may be in King Hall with your Midshipman if tickets are arranged beforehand. Most Midshipmen will want to get away from the Academy during this time, so don't be surprised if they do NOT want to dine in King Hall. Make a dinner reservation, as Annapolis will be very crowded on this weekend. <http://www.marylandrestaurants.org/dining> Remember that parking around Annapolis is also bad. There are several public parking decks.

13. Town Liberty on Friday is usually over at 12:00 midnight. **TRAFFIC IS HORRIBLE! !** Leave the hotel in plenty of time to get your Plebe back to the Academy before Town Liberty expires. If you have a gate pass (see Pg. 11), **consider using Gate 8 instead of Gate 1.**

14. **Don't miss the formal parade Saturday morning on Worden Field.** Go early to get a good seat. Bring cameras and video recorders. Sit at the parade with Plebe parents of your Plebe's company, if possible. Get to know parents by asking them to tell you of experiences they have had with their Plebes over the summer.

15. Attend the Superintendent's Parent's Forum and reception. It's a good chance to meet the administrators and to ask questions.

16. Don't miss the Reaffirmation of the Oath of Office at the noon formation on Worden Field.

17. On Sunday, church worship services are available at various locations across the Academy. Religious services and locations are listed on the PPW schedule.

18. You may need to bring detergent, bleach and quarters for the Laundromat. Also, bring an iron, ironing board and fan for your Plebe (keep the receipt in case the roommates duplicate). These items will be needed in each room and they are sometimes hard to find in Annapolis on PPW (ask your plebe in advance if these items are needed).

