



# From The

# Bridge

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY FOUNDATION

2012 ISSUE 2

## Athletic Excellence: On and Off the Field

Navy athletic director Chet Gladchuk has witnessed the Midshipmen rise from the bottom to the top of the playing field, and that matters dearly to the Academy and its alumni.

Under Gladchuk's leadership, the Naval Academy, once a non-factor in much of the Patriot League, became the cream of its crop in 2012 by winning the league's President's Cup for the first time. That award goes to the school with the highest cumulative sports points total among its varsity athletic programs competing in the conference.

And Gladchuk, who oversees 33 varsity sports, knows how much the

deep support system for Navy athletics has propelled the Mids to the success that underscores the Academy's commitment to its physical mission.

One of the strong threads in that support system is the Fund for Athletic Excellence.

Unlike the charitable donations that are targeted to benefit specific sports or projects at the school, the donations to the athletic excellence fund cover a wide area of common ground at Navy. The fund allows the Naval Academy Athletic Association (NAAA)—which administers varsity athletics, intramural sports and the

## Physical Mission



The importance of athletics at the Naval Academy is evident every day in the lives of midshipmen. The Naval Academy Athletic Association manages 33 varsity sports, oversees 14 club sports, a host of intramural opportunities and a four-year physical education curriculum.

The physical mission has long been one of the defining traits of the Naval Academy, as evidenced by the emphasis on sports participation. Nearly every midshipman is an athlete at Navy, where 92 percent of this year's plebe class played at least one varsity sport in high school.

All of which makes the fundraising efforts of the Naval Academy Foundation that much more critical to Navy's success. To that end, the Foundation is hoping to expand the important Fund for Athletic Excellence from its current level of about \$1.5 million to more than \$2 million a year, as the cost of maintaining the Academy's high level of performance continues to grow.

The Fund for Athletic Excellence, which benefits varsity sports and non-varsity sports alike as short-term needs arise, helps to compensate coaches, fund athletic facility improvements and offers critical operational support to Navy athletics. To all of those who have contributed or plan to contribute to this vital fund, the Foundation extends its sincere gratitude and appreciation. Go Navy! ■

Chet Gladchuk, Navy athletic director



Back-to-back Patriot League Championships for women's basketball. Congratulations!

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## Brand New Boathouse



Hubbard Hall Rededication.

Then-Midshipman Matt Fluhr '12 graduated from the Naval Academy in May, and over the four years he spent as an oarsman for the Midshipmen, Fluhr witnessed the home of Navy crew literally transformed.

Hubbard Hall, the home base for the school's 140-year-old rowing program, was a useful albeit outdated structure when Fluhr arrived on campus in the summer of 2008. By the time he graduated, Hubbard was one of the jewels of the Yard.

Thanks to a publicly-funded \$18 million reconstruction project that overhauled the three-story building located on Dorsey Creek, the school's proud rowing program has arrived in the 21st century. Hubbard now boasts a list of amenities that accommodates about 200 rowers representing the Academy's heavyweight, lightweight and women's teams. Hubbard has a new floating docking system provided through a generous gift from General William "Bill" Anders '53, USAF (Ret.). In recognition of his gift, the rowing tank was named in honor of Colonel Robert Detweiler, USAF (Ret.), a member of The Great Eight, Navy's '52 Olympic gold medal crew. And, private gifts to the Navy Crew Excellence Fund will

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### Editor's note

From The Bridge is published periodically by the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation.

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## Athletic Excellence... *continued from page 1*

Academy's 14 club sports—to maintain a “margin of excellence” by addressing urgent needs that arise in various programs throughout the year.

Those needs range from coaches' compensation, to team travel costs, recruiting budget enhancements, equipment replacement, nutritional supplements, operational support and upgrades to the Academy's athletic facilities.

“There are so many needs and requests that can pop up at any time, and the Fund for Athletic Excellence has become a central component of our ability to advance the athletics program,” said Gladchuk, who works with margin of excellence funds totaling about \$1.5 million annually. “As coaches approach me with legitimate needs, I allocate the funds to help them. You can see how it has worked. The results are tangible.”

For example, Gladchuk cited how the acquisition of hi-tech swimsuits helped the Navy men's and women's teams win last year's Patriot League Championships. That helped Navy's entire athletic department, which was at the bottom of the league nearly a decade ago, and elevated them to second place in the President's Cup race in the previous five years, to win the Cup last spring with 121.75 points.

“Those suits became a necessary tool for the swim teams, and they cost us about \$25,000 to outfit the team. We had them delivered within about a week after ordering them,” Gladchuk said. “Clearly, those suits had a psychological benefit, and they helped our swimmers with their times. That was a sudden and necessary cost.”

“It might be something as small as replacing a six-man blocking sled with an eight-man sled for the football team during the season,” he added. “Or it could be a bigger expense such as coaches' compensation. Some people

we've hired in recent years, like [men's soccer coach] Dave Brandt and [women's basketball coach] Stefanie Pemper, I'm not sure they could have relocated to Annapolis without the help we receive from the athletic excellence fund.”

Navy baseball coach Paul Kostacopoulos, who has won 182 games in six seasons in Annapolis and led the Midshipmen to the National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament in 2012, said the fund has helped defray the cost of the team's annual trip to Florida. It has also paid for such additions as free weights and a hitting simulator in the team's hitting and pitching facility at Terwilliger Brothers Field at Max Bishop Stadium.

“These are the kinds of things you need at this level to compete. Our budgets are very fair, but sometimes there is a little extra piece you need to make you better,” said Kostacopoulos, who added that the Fund for Athletic Excellence ideally reflects the importance of athletic success in the school's physical mission.

“Sports are a proving ground for the future leaders we're coaching. You're going to have challenges and disappointments and get kicked in the gut. Sometimes you've got to go to Plan B,” he said. “There is no excuse not to perform and do the best you can. You've got to find the answers. You've got to keep your expectations high.”

In that spirit, the NAAA and the Naval Academy Foundation have enhanced the Fund for Athletic Excellence with new benefits and recognition levels. In addition to the President's Circle (\$2,500+) and Friends of Navy Athletics (\$25,000) levels, donors can now be recognized at the Fleet Club (\$5,000+) or Rip Miller Society (\$15,000+) levels as well.

By way of benefits, annual Athletic Excellence contributions of \$5,000 or

## Class Giving

# Battle Names Updated

When describing Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium, it's often said that it is a memorial first and a stadium second. Members of the Class of '66 took that to heart in their class gift to update the battle names on the façade of the stadium seating areas.

As part of their charge, the Naval Academy Memorial Oversight Committee, chaired by Admiral Bruce DeMars '57, USN (Ret.), took on the task of maintenance and review of the memorials at the stadium. They, in turn, asked the Naval Historical Society to review and reconcile the original battle names on the façade with official Navy and Marine Corps campaign/battle records as displayed on the battle arches throughout the stadium. The Naval Historical Society reviewed and recommended changes that were accepted by the Memorial Oversight Committee and approved by the superintendent.

The changes to names of wars, conflicts, campaigns and battles will bring the Battle Arches and façade names into alignment and continue the solemn tradition of the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium. Further, the names were replaced with a more durable material and made consistent in both size and color around the Stadium. As you enter the stadium in 2012, the following battle names will be recognized on the walls: Chateau-



Byron Marchant '78, president & CEO of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation; Chet Gladchuk, athletic director; CDR Mike Baird '66, USN (Ret.); VADM Michael Miller '74, USN, superintendent; and Dr. Bruce Bickel '66 at the unveiling of the plaque commemorating the Class of '66 gift at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium.

Thierry, Belleau Wood, Pearl Harbor, Wake, Java Sea, Coral Sea, Aleutians, Midway, Guadalcanal, Savo Island, Solomons, New Guinea, Tarawa, Kwajalein, Marianas, Philippine Sea, Peleliu, Leyte Gulf, Lingayen Gulf, Iwo Jima, Okinawa, Battle of the Atlantic, North Africa, Sicily, Salerno, Anzio, Normandy, Southern France, Pusan Perimeter, Inchon-Seoul, Chosin Reservoir, Wonsan Siege, 38th Parallel, Lebanon, Cuban Missile Crisis, Mekong Delta, I Corps-DMZ, Khe Sanh, Hue, Persian Gulf, Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iraq.

The Class of '66 raised the funds for this project as part of their \$1,966,000 50th Reunion gift project. Thank you for your generosity and commitment to honoring their shipmates who gave their lives in service of their country. ■

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more qualify donors for President's Circle recognition, Admiral's Row privileges and additional benefits available exclusively to supporters of the Fund for Athletic Excellence. ■

To learn more about the value of supporting the Fund for Athletic Excellence and helping to advance the school's physical mission, please contact Associate Athletic Director-Development Steve O'Brien, at 410-293-3767 or at [steve.obrien@usna.com](mailto:steve.obrien@usna.com).

## Athletic Excellence

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ensure the commitment to crew. Generous private gifts are critical to maintaining equipment and the spaces enabling Navy to compete with the best rowing programs in the nation and abroad.

"[Hubbard] was completely functional when I got here. But you could tell the teams were getting too big for what we had there," said Ensign Fluhr, a newly-commissioned surface warfare officer. "We knew [as incoming plebes] the new boathouse was coming. We started with the old and ended with the new, and it's pretty amazing."

The revitalized Hubbard Hall sits on the same space it occupied in 1930, when the facility opened and was designed to handle Navy's lone men's rowing team of 40 members. When renovation plans were finalized, there was no option to expand on its original space of 36,000 square feet.

Start with the state-of-the-art, motor-driven, indoor rowing tank that accommodates up to 16 people. Move on to the renovated shell storage area, which currently stores nearly 60 boats and boasts a brand new, tapered concrete floor that drains quickly.

"We had to do everything within the building's limits," said Chris Allsopp, Navy's assistant director of rowing and boatman, who also became former head coach Rick Clothier's de facto project manager during Hubbard's facelift.

The new Hubbard marries green technology with the fundamental needs of a crew program at a uniquely demanding school. For example, a new geothermal heating and cooling system eliminates any re-circulated air in the building. Allsopp said 87 geothermal wells nearly 400 feet below the ground, interconnected by about six miles of two-inch pipe, run the geothermal pump and the rowing tank.

Fluhr said the finished Hubbard product was worth the wait. ■





## President's Circle

### From Houston to Annapolis



The Honorable Stan Legro '59

The path that brought The Honorable Stan Legro '59 to the United States Naval Academy was through the Rice Institute in Houston, TX. Legro began his college career as a student at the Rice Institute and as a member of the school's NROTC program. The Navy captain who led that program soon became convinced that Legro belonged not at Rice, but at the Naval Academy. The captain pushed Legro to take a competitive examination which resulted in Legro receiving an appointment to the Academy. While Legro was happy at Rice, he accepted his appointment and headed to Annapolis. His decision to do so not only changed the course of his life, but allowed him the opportunity to give back to the school that paved the way for his success in and outside of the classroom.

Following his graduation, Legro served as an officer in the United States Marine Corps from 1959 to 1963, after which he transitioned into a successful and distinguished career in environmental law. Legro graduated first in his class from the Academy with a degree in engineering; combined with a juris doctor cum laude from Harvard University this prepared him to serve in high level positions including the chief environmental enforcement officer at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and as a member of the National Advisory Committee on Oceans and Atmosphere (NACOA). Legro has also held

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## President's Circle Weekend

### Celebrates Maryland and Recognizes Donors

Each year, the Naval Academy and the Naval Academy Foundation welcome President's Circle donors to Annapolis for weekend events to thank them for their generous support; introduce them to like-minded alumni, parents and friends; and to share information about the Naval Academy and midshipmen.

The weekend activities began on 27 September with a special luncheon for parents of midshipmen as well as fleet parents. Parents had the opportunity to hear from Commandant of Midshipmen Captain Robert Clark '84, USN; Byron Marchant '78,

president and CEO of the USNA Alumni Association and Foundation; Bill O'Connor, executive vice president of the Foundation; and fellow parent Lynn Atkinson Drucker who is a member of the Parent Steering Committee.

Drucker spoke directly to her peers about the importance of supporting the Naval Academy.

"Private gifts through the Foundation provide those extras like clubs, international exchange, distinguished professors, the Center for Academic Excellence, the Fund for Athletic Excellence, the Science,



Garden Party at Buchanan House. Photo by Barbara Hendricks

Technology, Engineering and Mathematics program for middle and high school students, to name a few,” Drucker said. “The Annual Fund allows the superintendent to fund top priorities such as adding Cyber Security to the curriculum as a major and developing the Center for Cyber Security Studies.”

Lynn and her husband, David, have been donors to the President’s Circle for four years, but this was their first time attending President’s Circle Weekend.

That evening, President’s Circle donors were invited to a welcome reception at the Loews Hotel in Annapolis. Loews generously sponsored the reception. The guests were greeted by ambassadors representing the War of 1812 including Francis Scott Key in an effort to tie the celebration with the Naval Academy’s focus on the commemoration of the war.

Friday began early with a morning mingle at Alumni Hall where guests met over a light breakfast. The annual meeting followed with briefs from Byron Marchant and Superintendent Vice Admiral Michael Miller ’74, USN. Marchant took the opportunity to share the spotlight with Naval Academy leadership including Chet Gladchuk, athletic director; Andrew Phillips, academic dean and provost; Captain Bruce Latta ’78, USN (Ret.), dean of admissions; and Commander Wes Huey ’87, USN from the LEAD division.

They, along with the superintendent, provided a terrific overview for the gathered audience on the state of the Academy as well as a look at how private dollars help to enhance the Academy and its programs.

“President’s Circle Weekend events provide a great opportunity for our dedicated and generous donors to learn more about the Academy and priorities, while also networking with

like-minded alumni and friends,” said Marchant.

The afternoon events included a junior officer fleet panel, a luncheon with midshipmen and seminars featuring Naval Academy curriculum.

Phil Ferrara ’65 and his wife, Linda, have attended nearly every President’s Circle Weekends since joining in 1998.

“Our favorite part each year has been the midshipmen and/or recently commissioned officer panels, followed closely by the lunch with the midshipmen and then the classroom seminars or classroom observations,” said Ferrara.

Friday wound down with a formal parade on Worden Field followed by the superintendent’s garden party at Buchanan House. That evening, President’s Circle donors were treated to a “Musicians of the Brigade” concert featuring Jules Massenet’s Meditation and the debut of the Naval Academy Chamber Choir. The midshipmen put on a terrific show and were thanked with a standing ovation from the crowd.

Saturday began with a “Taste of Maryland” tailgate at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium where guests were treated to farm-to-table treats and seasonal food grown or raised in Maryland. Ethel and Captain Frank Feltham ’64, USNR (Ret.), attended the tailgate with their grandson, Midshipman Kevin Ginn ’14. They used the time to catch up and share stories from the weekend. Frank Feltham described President’s Circle Weekend as “informative, enjoyable and should not be missed.”

Although the weekend ended with a loss against San Jose State (0-12), the energy of the weekend was undeniable.

“Reinforcing or reaffirming one’s own reasons for giving back can be very beneficial to an individual alumnus and beneficial to the group as a whole,” said Ferrara. “In effect, the President’s Circle group feeds upon the group energy.” ■

## President’s Circle

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private practices in both San Diego, CA, and Washington, DC.

Legro attributes his leadership abilities in both his civilian and service careers to his education and training at the Academy.

“I think the leadership and the training I received, combined with the interaction I had with the other midshipmen, faculty and the staff, really helped shape me as a person,” said Legro.

His appreciation for his experience at the Academy has driven him to give back to the institution. As a donor to the U.S. Naval Academy’s President’s Circle, Legro has contributed to the debate program and has also established an endowment for the Naval Academy Foreign Affairs Conference (NAFAC). Legro was president of the Foreign Relations Club while he was at the Academy but gives the credit for launching NAFAC to the classes that immediately followed. Since 1960, the Academy has hosted a gathering of undergraduates from around the world who come together to discuss themes from current global affairs.

“I think NAFAC is a vital program,” explained Legro. “It’s valuable for the midshipmen as far as participating in foreign affairs and from actually operating NAFAC as a midshipmen-operated program. I also think it does wonders for the wider institution of the Naval Academy as far as making it well known to a lot of bright young people on different major university campuses around the country.”

Legro’s commitment to the midshipmen foreign affairs experience and to the institution reflects his gratitude for the experience and education he received at the Academy.

“I think the Naval Academy did a lot for me, and I think it’s a wonderful institution for midshipmen,” said Legro on a visit to the Academy for President’s Circle Weekend. ■



Visit [www.usna.com](http://www.usna.com)  
for a video with Legro.



## Corporations and Foundations

### Northrop Grumman Donates Software

The United States Naval Academy Foundation received more than \$1 million in Voyage Management System (VMS) software donated by Northrop Grumman Maritime Systems, a business unit of Northrop Grumman Corporation, a leading global defense company. The gift-in-kind will support the Naval Academy's professional development of midshipmen as future naval officers, specifically as submarine and surface warfare officers.

"We are honored by Northrop Grumman's generosity," said Byron Marchant '78, president and CEO of the Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation. "This gift will enable today's midshipmen to train with a state-of-the-art electronic navigation system and thus better prepare them for service in the fleet."

Northrop Grumman donated the newest version of its VMS, which incorporates the Electronic Chart Display Information System-Navy (ECDIS-N) technology that has been selected by the navigator of the Navy and is now the fleet standard. This version is currently installed, or under contract and scheduled for installation, on more than 200 U.S. Navy ships and submarines.

"This donation is presented to allow the Naval Academy Professional Development Division to provide state-of-the-art navigation and electronic charting training," said Bill Hannon, vice president of Northrop Grumman Maritime Systems. "We are proud to continue our support to the mission of the United States Naval Academy, and I sincerely hope that this donation enhances the professional development of our Navy's future leaders."

Jeff Holloway '77, site director of Northrop Grumman Maritime Systems in Charlottesville, as well as a retired career naval

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## Class Giving

### '63 Supports Academic Excellence



Byron Marchant '78, president and CEO of the USNA Alumni Association and Foundation; CAPT Spencer Johnson '63, USN (Ret.); VADM Michael Miller '74, USN, superintendent; Andrew Phillips, USNA academic dean and provost; and Bruce Bukowski, director, Center for Academic Excellence.

On 21 September 2012, Naval Academy leadership, Alumni Association and Foundation staff, members of the Class of '63 along with friends and family gathered in the foyer of the Commodore Uriah P. Levy Center for the ceremonial ribbon cutting of the Class of 1963 Center for Academic Excellence.

Lieutenant Jacob Foster Davis '07, USN, director of strategic communications and instructor at the Center, served as master of ceremonies

and welcomed the first speaker Class President Captain Spencer Johnson '63, USN (Ret.).

"At the end of our four years here, almost a third of our class had been separated, largely due to academic

deficiencies," said Johnson describing his experience of a demanding course load and little available help. "If the Class of 1963 Center for Academic Excellence had existed in our day,

there would have been a lot more of us at graduation, tossing our caps in the air,

*"This building would not exist if not for the vision and generosity of our alumni."*

and going on to serve our nation in the armed forces and a thousand other civilian pursuits.”

Since 1989 when the Center for Academic Excellence opened, thousands of midshipmen have been aided through the programs and services offered. Last year alone, more than 750 midshipmen used services weekly including specialized plebe programs; extra help classes with assistance in calculus, chemistry and physics; academic counseling and tutoring programs; and midshipmen group study programs.

In 2003, the Class of 1963 decided to memorialize their class and help midshipmen reach their academic goals by funding the Academy’s expanding Center for Academic Excellence. The Center for Academic Excellence and the resources provided to midshipmen is one terrific example of the public/private partnership in support of the Naval Academy, the Brigade and the pursuit of excellence. More recently, the Class of ’63 again designated the Center as its legacy

project contributing nearly \$3.5 million with the goal of a \$6.3 million total to be realized at their 50th reunion.

Their support has allowed for the operation and staff of the Center while Superintendent Vice Admiral Michael Miller ’74, USN, allocated federal funds to renovate the spaces in the Levy Center reflecting the high priority of the Center and programs.

In his remarks, Superintendent Miller commented on the transformational power of private gifts. “You can’t stand in a place like this and not be reminded of how philanthropy changes our lives,” he said. “This building would not exist if not for the vision and generosity of our alumni.”

Thank you to the Class of 1963 for your leadership. And thank you to former Naval Academy Foundation board member and great friend of the Naval Academy, J. Willard Marriot, who has been a consistent leadership donor to the Center and to the Classes of 1956, 1973 and 1975 for joining in their efforts to support the Class of 1963 Center for Academic Excellence. ■



*Dr. Beth Mutch '98, chemistry learning specialist and midshipman study group coordinator for the Center for Academic Excellence, teaching.*

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officer and former Naval Academy instructor, spearheaded the gift-in-kind donation. The donated VMS software will allow midshipmen to use digital charts and Global Positioning System (GPS) in an integrated, automatic plotting system. By using this software in the computer lab, midshipmen are able to acquire relevant training that they will use in the fleet, allowing them to begin their first assignments on ships or submarines already familiar with the system and proficient in its use. This integrated system also enhances an officer’s bridge situational awareness while standing watch and improves safety at sea.

“The challenges of finding and fixing your position at sea remain the same, whether you are shooting sunlines, doing visual piloting or using GPS-generated fixes,” said Commander Doyle Hodges ’92, USN, chairman, Seamanship and Navigation Department at the United States Naval Academy. “What’s critical is getting midshipmen to understand the fundamental processes that underlie all of these techniques, so that they are truly navigating, rather than just relying on a compelling picture shown on the computer. Thanks to the generous support of Northrop Grumman, we are able to teach midshipmen how to approach electronic navigation and charting from an integrated perspective, and incorporate traditional techniques, even as they use the latest version of the software they will find in the fleet.”

Since 1991, Northrop Grumman’s philanthropy has supported a wide variety of the Academy’s strategic initiatives, including cyber security studies; science, technology, engineering, and mathematics outreach to middle- and high-school youth; the Vice Admiral James B. Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership; and the Midshipman Action Group, which enables midshipmen to participate in a variety of educational, environmental and social service volunteer projects in the metro Annapolis-Baltimore-Washington area and across the nation. With this most recent gift, Northrop Grumman has given more than \$12 million in support of the U.S. Naval Academy. ■





# UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY FOUNDATION

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//// **EVERY GIFT COUNTS,**

*every donor matters.*