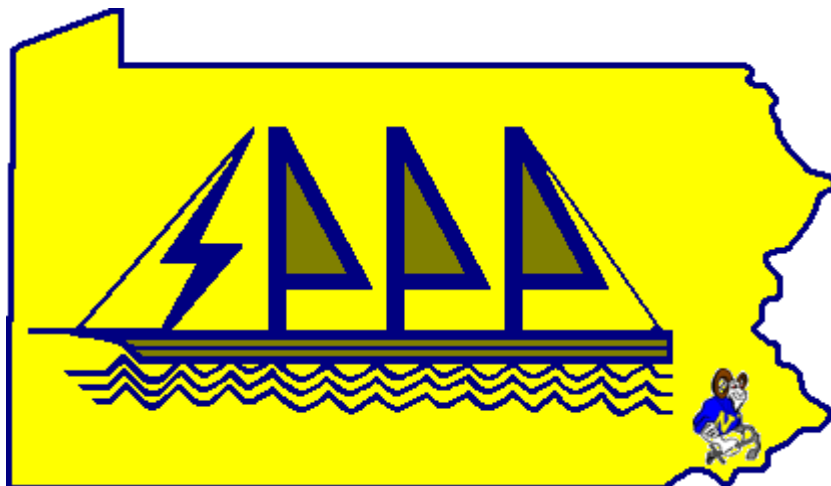




PARENTS' HANDBOOK



Class of 2018
Brigade of Midshipmen
U S Naval Academy

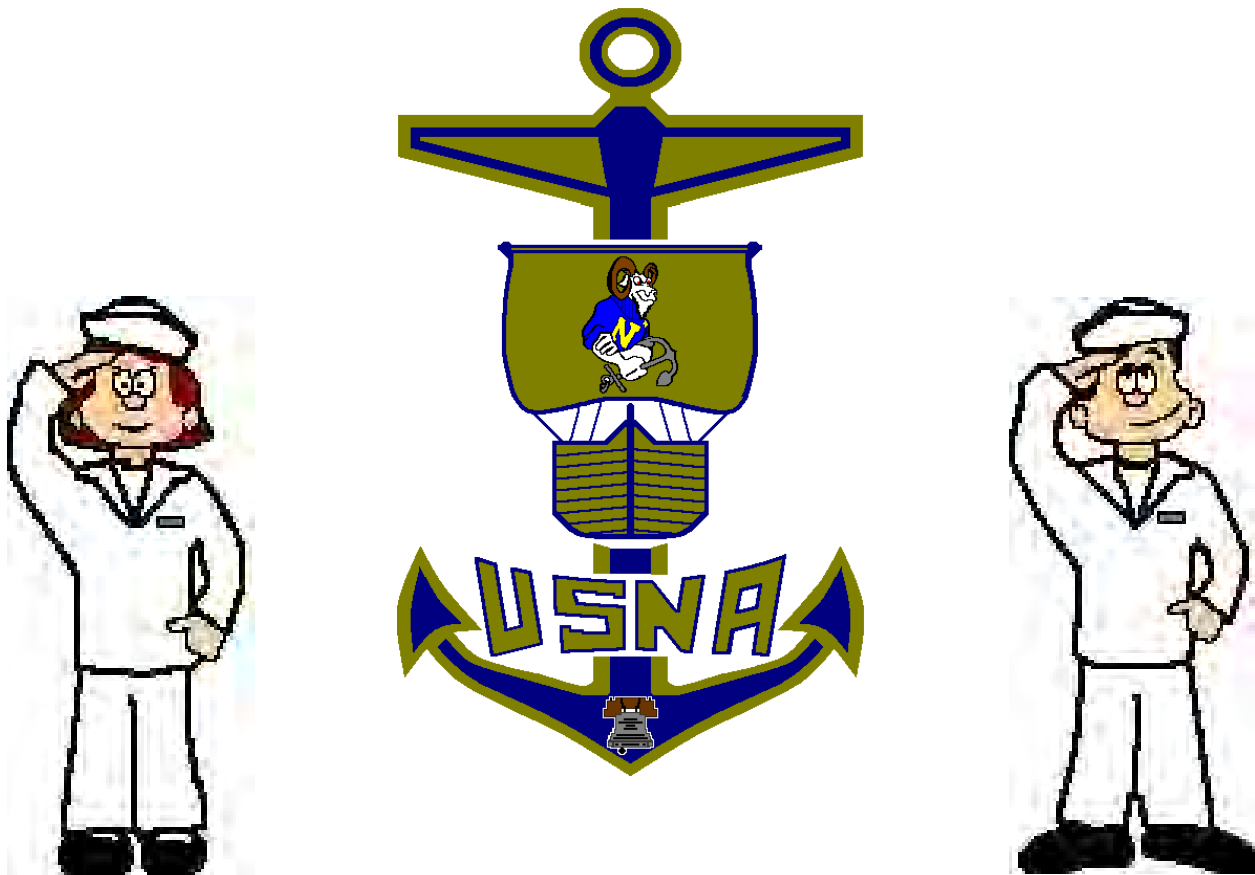


PARENTS' HANDBOOK

**SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA
PARENTS' ASSOCIATION**

**UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND**

JUNE 2014



SouthEastern PA Parents' Association's Parents' Handbook was prepared as the result of a perceived need to provide more pertinent data, and/or information, to S/E PA Families incoming to the *United States Naval Academy*.

The information contained herein, has been developed to assist, and/or help, Midshipman Parents, to understand, as well as follow, the Operational Policies of the US Naval Academy, the US Navy, and the US Marine Corps.

It is further recommended that, as Midshipman Parents, one continues to actively support the *United States Naval Academy*, and the *SouthEastern PA Parents' Association*, by sharing personal experiences and meaningful information; support planning, and execution, of Activities to instill camaraderie among *SouthEastern PA Parents' Association* Members; as well as provide support for the *SouthEastern PA Parents' Association* Midshipmen, through the various *SouthEastern PA Parents' Association* Activities.



US Naval Academy



NAVAL ACADEMY PARENTING IS A ROLLER COASTER
RIDE. PLEASE REMAIN SEATED UNTIL COMMISSIONING
HAS COME TO A COMPLETE AND FINAL STOP !!





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COMMITMENT

DUTY

HONOR

INTEGRITY

LOYALTY

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WELCOME

HAIL and **WELCOME** from the Southeastern Pennsylvania Parents' Association (**SPPA**), and its Families, as well as the Families who are a part of the United States Naval Academy (**USNA**), the United States Navy (**USN**), and the United States Marine Corps (**USMC**). Also, Congratulations to your Son, or Daughter, for their choice of accepting that USNA Appointment and making that decision to become either an Officer in the United States Navy (Ensign) or the United States Marine Corps (Second Lieutenant), upon Graduation. We thank your Son, or Daughter, for their Service.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This **SPPA** Parents' Handbook has been developed to provide information to assist and/or help you, our Midshipman (**MID**; **MIDN**; nominally **MID**), Parents, to understand, as well as follow, the Operational Policies of the US Naval Academy, the US Navy, and the US Marine Corps.

MISSIONS



◆ ◆ ◆ US NAVAL ACADEMY ◆ ◆ ◆

To develop Midshipmen, morally, mentally, and physically, as well as to imbue in them the highest ideals of Duty, Honor, and Loyalty in order to provide Graduates who are dedicated to a Career of Naval Service and have the potential for future development in mind and character to assume the highest responsibilities of Command, Citizenship, and Government.

◆ S / E PA PARENTS' ASSOCIATION ◆

Initiate ways and means to facilitate the following Objectives: Support **SPPA** Members while their Sons, and/or Daughters, are attending the United States Naval Academy, by sharing personal experiences and meaningful information; plan and execute Activities to instill camaraderie among **SPPA** Members; and support the Midshipmen of **SPPA** Members through various **SPPA** Activities.



SINCE **SPPA** IS **NOT** AN OFFICIAL DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD) ORGANIZATION, DOD, US NAVY, AND USNA DO **NOT** ENDORSE ANY OF THE CONTENTS OF THE

SPPA PARENTS' HANDBOOK



MIDN 1/C
FIRSTIE



MIDN 2/C
FLAMER



MIDN 3/C
YOUNGSTER



MIDN 4/C
PLEBE



MID SHOULDER BOARDS

SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

PARENTS' HANDBOOK

INTRODUCTION

In an effort to assist you, our incoming Plebe Parents, to become more acclimated and knowledgeable with the United States Naval Academy's (USNA) also known as (aka) **THE YARD**, and the United States Navy's (USN) way of Life, the Southeastern Pennsylvania Parents' Association, herein referred to as **SPPA**, has developed this Parents' Handbook to inform its Members, especially our Plebe Parents, of events and situations that will be pertinent to their Mid, while they are attending USNA. That is, this Parents' Handbook was developed to provide information that will be useful to you, and your Family, over the next Four (4) Years of togetherness by **THE BAY**.

While all of the answers may **not** be within this Parents' Handbook, someone within **SPPA** will have, either been through it, or will be knowledgeable enough to help you in finding out the answers to your questions, or concerns.

Since **SPPA** is **not** an official Department of Defense (DoD) Organization, DoD, US Navy, and USNA do **not** specifically endorse any of the contents of this Parents' Handbook.

In addition, to be in concert with USNA's Infrastructure, this document has been generated to be in agreement with USNA's Class Years:

PLEBE, Fourth (4th) Class (4/C)

YOUNGSTER Third (3rd) Class (3/C)

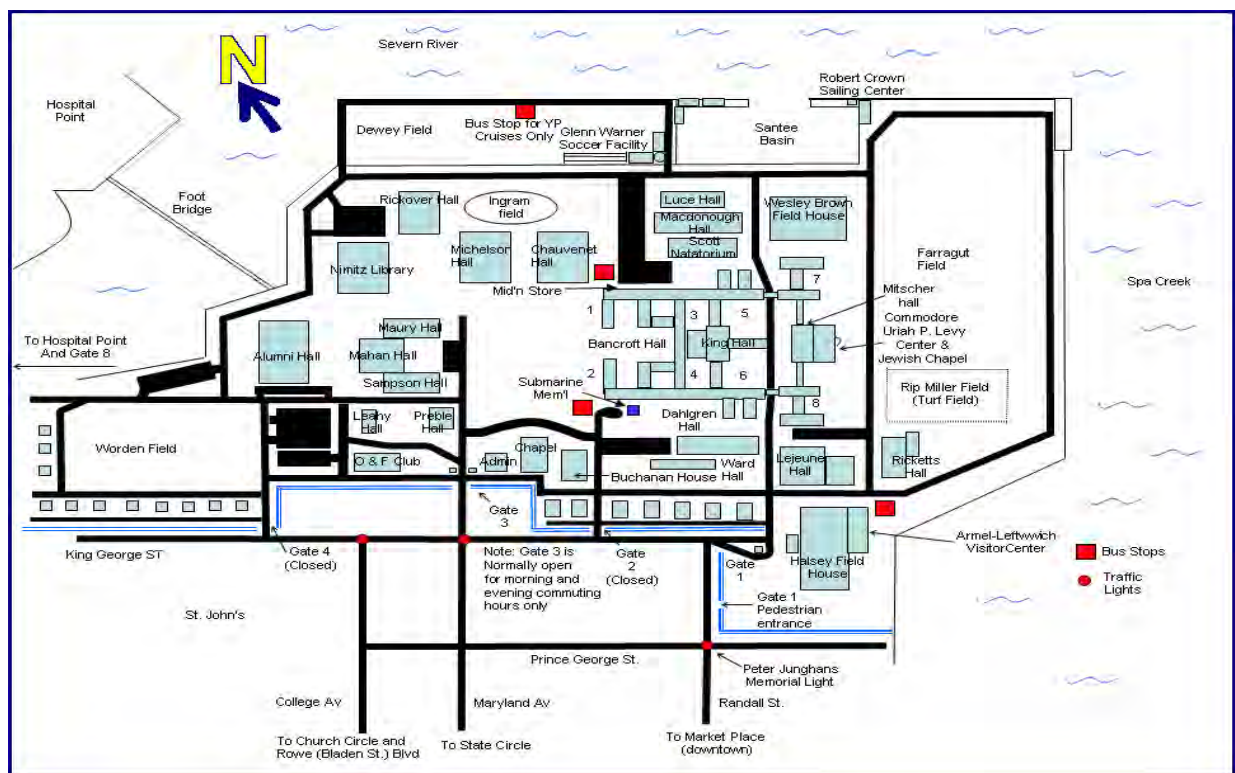
FLAMER, Second (2nd) Class (2/C)

FIRSTIE, First (1st) Class (1/C)

The majority of the information, herein, will provide important, useful data, and/or information, regarding your Mid's Four (4) Years at USNA.



S/E PA ... USNA AREA



USNA AREA

ORGANIZATION

GENERAL

There are two organizations that it is recommended that you become familiar with as a result of your having a Mid attending USNA: USNA and **SPPA**.

USNA

The United States Naval Academy (**USNA**) extends a Warm Welcome to you and your Family, as you join the Naval Academy Family and the **Brigade Of Midshipmen (BOM)**, a distinguished list of men and women, who have attended USNA since 1845.

USNA will expect a lot from your Mid and will do its best to keep you informed of your Mid's progress. It will be a difficult Four (4) Years in which your Mid will have to excel in Academics, Honor, Conduct, Professional Performance, and Physical Education.

USNA knows that the Mids can do it, but do you, as Mid Parents, know if you can do it? To help you, the Mid Parents, cope with the rigors of USNA, it is recommended that you consider joining one, or more, of the many fine organizations that support USNA, and its related Program(s).

SPPA

SPPA, and its Members, welcome you, and your Family, to our Naval Family. It is a big Step when your Son, or Daughter, applies to, and then is accepted to be a Mid, at USNA. Now, your Mid-To-Be may be a little in awe, and maybe a little confused, but you, as Parents are also wondering what you got yourselves into. Again, **SPPA** will be available to help you and to let you know, that, Yes, sometimes what you will be hearing, or seeing happening, will be Normal! That is the benefit of this, our **SPPA** Naval Family, of which you now find yourself a Member.

SPPA operates in accordance with the Club By-Laws (Original adopted 16 September 1992; modified, 09 November 2005 | 19 April 2007) and is governed by a **Board Of Directors (BOD)**, which shall consist of 5 elected Officers (President; Vice-President Administrative; Vice-President Membership; Secretary; Treasurer); the Immediate Past President; One (1) Active Class Representative for every Active USNA Academic Year (1/C, 2/C, 3/C, 4/C); and Two (2) Alumni Class Representatives from past graduating Classes.

In addition, all of **SPPA's** Past Presidents are empowered to act as Advisors to the BOD.

The **SPPA** BOD conducts all of the Club's business transactions, as well as makes, and/or amends, all Policies, for the operation and regulation of **SPPA**. The BOD also presides over the Annual Election process.

The Service Term for the BOD, as well as for its Members, is in accordance with **SPPA's** established Fiscal Year: 01 June of the current Calendar Year to 31 May of the following Calendar Year.

In addition, **SPPA** has Six (6) Standing Committees: Activities/Programs; By-Laws; Finance; Membership; Nominating; and Public Relations, as well as Positions regarding Club, Facebook Web Sites; Dine Around, North, South; Military Ball; Newsletter; and Trips. All duties, and powers, are as assigned by the BOD.

Each Committee Chair has the obligation to submit its Operating Plans for approval to the BOD, as well as submit Status Reports on a regular basis.

NOTE:

Only **Active** Members of **SPPA** can hold an elected Office

LOGO

The **SPPA** Logo, **THE SHIP**, was developed by *Bob Gantert*, '89 USNA Parent, and **SPPA's** first Newsletter Editor. Over the Years, that **SPPA** has been in existence, the Logo has been changed numerous times.



The original Logo is shown on the Left; and the current Logo is, as shown, on the Right.

INVOLVEMENT

GENERAL

It is highly advised that you get involved with the USNA Naval Family; and one of the finer Organizations supporting USNA, **SPPA**, who encourages your involvement. Plan on having a great next Four (4) Years of going to USNA and attending -- and having fun at -- many of the Events, like the Parents' Weekends (Plebe - 4/C; Flamer - 2/C), the Football Games, the Herndon Climb, the Commissioning Week Festivities, and, Yes, of course, the **ONE** and only, **THE GAME**: Army versus Navy!

USNA

To review, USNA was founded in 1845 by the Secretary of the Navy, *George Bancroft*, in what is now historic Annapolis, MD. USNA's history has often reflected the history of the United States (**US**) itself. As the US Navy has moved from a Fleet of Sail, and Steam-powered, Ships to a high tech Fleet of Nuclear-powered Submarines, and Surface Ships, as well as Supersonic Aircraft, USNA has also changed over the years to maintain its educational, military, and technological edge.

USNA gives young men, and women, up-to-date Academic and Professional Training needed to be effective Naval, and Marine Officers in their assignments after Graduation. Every day, at the Undergraduate College of the Naval Service, USNA strives to accomplish its Mission to develop Midshipmen morally, mentally, and physically.

As such, it is suggested, as well as highly recommended, that you consider joining other Naval Academy Associations, such as the USNA Athletic Association and the Alumni Association, to receive their Bulletins, and/or Newsletters, that will contain pertinent information about News and Events happening at The Yard. In addition, also consider subscribing to the **Trident**, USNA's Weekly Newspaper. Accordingly, also consider joining the Naval Academy Alumni Association, Philadelphia Chapter, to receive information about other local Naval Events, Happenings, and Tours, within the Philadelphia Area.

LOCAL

In addition, it is recommended that you also consider joining, and attending, all of the local Functions sponsored by **SPPA**. These Functions include the Welcome Aboard Picnic, which is usually held in either late June, early July, or early August, for the Parents of the incoming Plebe Class, the Football Tailgates, the Member Meetings, the Army-Navy Football Game, and the Delaware Valley's All Service Academies' Military Ball (**Mil Ball**), normally held in late December, when our Mids are Home for Christmas Break.

Announcements of all upcoming **SPPA** Functions will always be provided by an **E**lectronic **Mail (E-Mail)** Notice, as well as be posted on-line, on the **SPPA** Web Site, <http://sppa.usnaparents.com>.

In addition, this, and similar information, will also be contained in ***Tell Tales***, **SPPA's** Club Informational Newsletter, on-line at <http://www.sppa.net>.

NOTE:

SPPA also maintains its own Facebook Web Site

It is highly recommended that you check your E-Mail, as well as the **SPPA** Web Sites, often.

SOCIAL

GENERAL

SPPA is primarily a Social Organization, and will promote certain Activities that may be enjoyed by all of our Mid Parents, their Mids, and their Families.

MEETINGS

As with any Organization, **SPPA** will hold Meetings of importance, with its Membership, who will always be informed of the time and the place of these Meetings, utilizing E-Mail. All **SPPA** Meetings will normally be held at either one of the Area's Military Organizations, or at a local Community Center, or at a Member's (Club Officer) Home.

TAILGATES

SPPA, in partnership with the Maryland, New Jersey, Delaware, and New York *USNA* Parents Clubs', participates in a Joint Tailgate Event held at all of the Navy Home Football Games.

In addition, something that you really will not want to miss is a Navy Football Game Brigade March-On. What better way to observe this Event than by attending, and participating in, that Maryland, New Jersey, and **SPPA**, Parents Clubs' Joint Tailgate. These Tailgates, which will be held prior to and immediately following almost all Navy Home Football Games, will provide you with an opportunity to view the Brigade March-On with our Mid Parents.



When attending, and participating in, this Joint Tailgate will also provide you with an opportunity to view, and/or inspect, the **SPPA** Tailgate Truck. This Truck, which contains, and hauls, all of the required Equipment, and Items, that help make any Tailgate a success, is owned, and operated, by One (1) of our Mid Families: *Pam and Rob Roy*, Class of 2011, Emmaus, PA.

ARMY-NAVY GAME

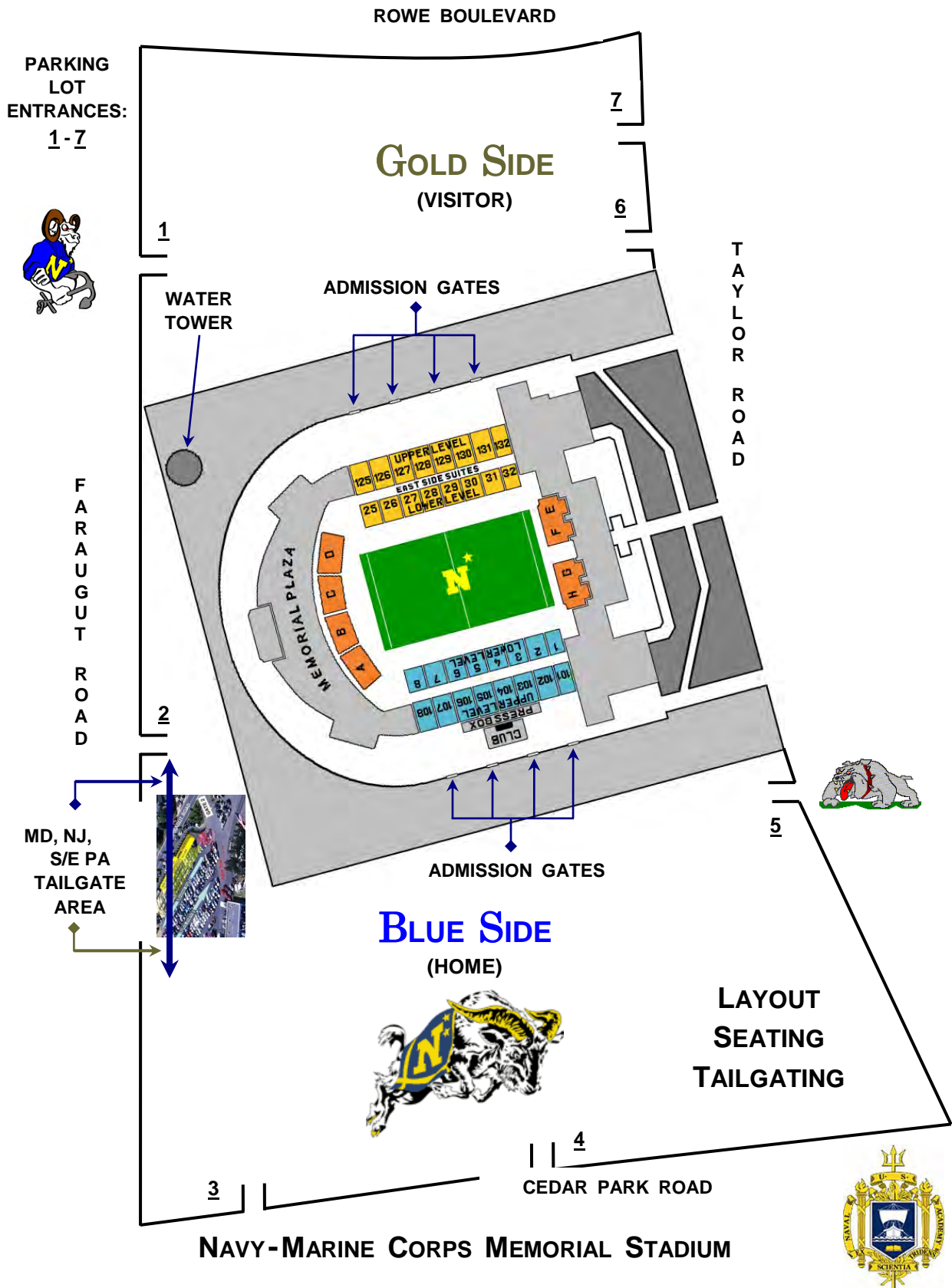


The Army-Navy Football Game is an Annual College Football Game between the US Military Academy (USMA; West Point, NY) and the US Naval Academy (USNA; Annapolis, MD). The Army-Navy Teams represent their Services' oldest Officer Commissioning Sources; and as such, the Football Game has come to embody the Spirit of the Inter-Service Rivalry of the US Armed Forces.

It is one of the most traditional, and enduring, Rivalries in College Football and is televised nationally. The Game Winner is awarded the **Thompson Cup**, named after, *Robert M. Thompson* - US Naval Officer, Business Magnate, Philanthropist, and a Past President of the American Olympic Association, as well as the Namesake of the USS **THOMPSON** (DD-627), a **GLEAVES** Class Destroyer, and later an **ELLYSON** Class Destroyer Minesweeper (DMS-38).

It is recommended that Plebe Parents also be alert to USNA Mailings regarding ordering Tickets for the Annual Army/Navy Football Game. In addition, although the majority of the Games are played in Philadelphia, PA, the Game Site will periodically change to another City, such as Baltimore, MD. Therefore, Information announcing the requisite Details will normally be in the Summer Issue of *Tell Tales*, or disseminated at the annual Welcome Aboard Picnic, which is held to help the Plebe Parents become acquainted with **SPPA's** Navy Family, as well as being on all of the **SPPA** Web Site(s).

All Plebes will be transported to the Army/Navy Football Game, by Bus, where they will sit with the Brigade Of Midshipmen. While all Upperclass Mids will be required to attend this Football Game, they may utilize an alternate means of transportation, to go to, and attend, this Football Game.



MILITARY BALL



The Service Academy Parents' Clubs of Delaware Valley sponsor an Annual All Service Academies' Military Ball, which will normally be scheduled to be held at the end of December, during Christmas Break, and usually after the Christmas Holiday.

This social function will provide another opportunity, for Academy Parents, to develop a camaraderie of a different nature -- a chance to exchange information and ideas on an Inter-Service Level.

Participation in this Gala Event involves each of the Five (5) Delaware Valley Service Academy Parents' Clubs:



Air Force Academy
Coast Guard Academy
Merchant Marine Academy
Military Academy
Naval Academy

In addition, One (1) of the Five (5) Academy Parents' Clubs will be the Host for each Year's Military Ball.

Hosting is on a rotating basis, with the rotation order based upon the Year that each Service Academy was founded:

- ◆ Army 1802
 - ◆ NAVY 1845
 - ◆ Coast Guard 1876
 - ◆ Merchant Marine 1943
- ◆ Air Force 1957

The First Annual **Service Academies' Military Ball**, that was formed and sponsored by the Service Academy Parents' Clubs of Delaware Valley, was held in December 1991, with **Army** as the Host Club.



SUPPORT

GENERAL

SPPA provides various methods of support to its Members. One is the Adult Sponsor (**Shipmate**) Program. Another is the dissemination of Information by either E-Mail, or on the Clubs' Web Site, at <http://sppa.usnaparents.com>.

SPONSOR

SPPA has instituted its Shipmate Program, which, similar to USNA's **Plebe Sponsor** Program, enables our veteran Navy Family Members to support, and guide, our Rookie Navy Family Members (Plebe Parents), as well as help all become better acquainted with each other, and the Club. This Program also enables our Plebe Parents to ask Questions, or obtain Information privately. It is, therefore, recommended that these Navy Parents maintain close contact in order to become more interactive in the Club, as well as assisting their Mid in becoming more comfortable with our Navy Family.

ELECTRONIC MAIL

SPPA utilizes **Electronic Mail (E-Mail)** as its main communication method with/to its Members, regarding Club Activities. All Members who have an E-Mail Address are asked to ensure that **SPPA** has your correct E-Mail Address. It is highly recommended that your **HOME** E-Mail Address is provided, as more and more Employers are blocking the sending and receiving of E-Mails by Employees, if they are not Business related.

WEB SITE

As stated, **SPPA** has developed, and maintains, its own Web Site, <http://sppa.usnaparents.com>. This Web Site provides Visitors, as well as Members, insights into the Club and its activities. On the Web Site, one will find an overview regarding **SPPA**, data for upcoming activities and events, as well as information for joining; access to the Reference Library (By-Laws / original Handbook Appendices / Other Parents' Resources / Articles - Information / Past News / on-line Books); other Links; Photo Gallery(ies); and another access to the Club Newsletter, **Tell Tales**.

FACEBOOK

As stated, **SPPA** has also developed, and maintains, its own **Facebook** Web Site; Address is <http://www.facebook.com/pages/SPPA-Southeastern-Pennsylvania-Parents-Association/126279364083414>.

Facebook (**FB**) is a Social Networking Service and Web Site, launched in February 2004, operated and privately owned by Facebook, Inc. Users may create a Personal Profile, add other Users as Friends, and exchange Messages, including automatic Notifications when they update their Profile.

Additionally, Users may join Common Interest User Groups, organized by Workplace, School, or College, or other Characteristics.

The FB Name stems from the colloquial name for the Book that is given to Students at the start of an Academic Year, by University Administrations, in the US, to help Students get to know each other better. In addition, FB allows anyone who declares themselves to be at least 13 Years old, to become a registered User of the Web Site. Initially, membership was limited, by the Founders, to Harvard Students, but was later expanded to other Colleges in the Boston area, as well as to the Ivy League, and Stanford University. It gradually added Students from various other Universities, before opening to High School Students; and, finally, to anyone aged 13, and over.

NOTE:

Be Careful what you Post ... You do **NOT** want your Mid under Scrutiny

NEWSLETTER

SPPA also has the ability to provide Information to its Members, on a scheduled basis, utilizing the Club's Informational Newsletter, ***Tell Tales***. The Newsletter's Name is derived from that Device that informs the Helmsman of the Rudder's Pointing Direction, onboard most Sailing Vessels; also those Small Lines that hang from Spars on Sailing Vessels, are sometimes known by this Name.

The Newsletter has been structured for the dissemination of Information to the **SPPA** Membership on a Monthly basis, but at least 4 times during the Fiscal Year, to inform All Concerned of Activities, Meetings, and other significant Events. The content will provide a synopsis of the just past Meeting, as well as a reminder for the next Meeting. In addition, other Information involving reminders for upcoming Activities, as well as reporting News regarding current status and whereabouts of our Mids, and Alums, will also be included.

The Newsletter is now **on-line** and is accessible at this Web Site Address, **www.sppa.net**. In addition, the Newsletter has been developed in 2 Parts: Open (Non-Protected; nominally <10 Pages) and Protected. The Protected Part is necessary to be in compliance with USNA's Privacy Policy and Procedures. Accessibility requires that a **SPPA** Member have the correct **USER ID** and **PASSWORD**.

NETWORKS

SPPA also recommends that our Members join one of the Parents Networks currently available on-line, as Membership is **Free**. Parents of USNA Mids comprise 2 of these Internets, and are helping each other every day to cope with the problems of Navy Parenting, as well as sharing the joys of having a Son, or Daughter, at the Yard.

These are Parents of all Classes, from Plebe through Firstie, as well as Alumni, who will answer Questions, share Experiences, and generally help you be a better Navy Parent to/with your Mid.

In addition, these Web Sites contain a variety of Web Address Links for various Subjects with Yard connections, or involvement.

While Membership Requirements vary, you must have a connection with USNA to become a Member. Membership is extended to Parents, and Family Members, of currently enrolled Mids, USNA Parents' Club Members, USNA Graduates, Sponsor Parents, Staff and Faculty Members.

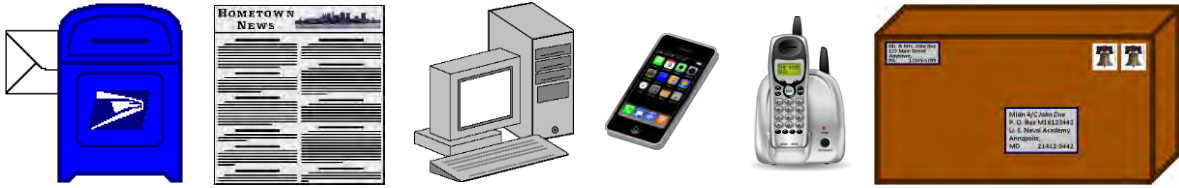
NOTE:

As Member, must agree to observe Net Netiquette Guidelines, and Rules of Operation

The official, USNA-sponsored List Server (Web Site) is located at <http://www.usna.com/page.aspx?pid=493>. To become a Member of this USNA Parents' List, just go to that Web Site, and comply with the Instructions.

In addition, there is another Web Site that, while in-operative, does have some useful data, information. That Web Site is located at <http://www.usna-parents.org>.

COMMUNICATION



GENERAL

SPPA urges that all of the Members of your Family and your Mid's Friends, keep in touch with him, or her, by continuously sending **Mail**, especially during **Plebe Summer**.

MAIL

It is highly recommended that you provide your Mid with Mail as often as possible, especially during **Plebe Summer**, and the **Academic Year**. However, check with your Mid first, prior to sending that Mail, as the Mail Room may **not** be conveniently located for him, or her, to pick up that Mail. When convenient, send your Mid pictures of Family, Friends, Pets, House, and local Events. Anything that will help keep your Mid in touch with Home and **not** let him, or her, feel left out. Also, order a local Newspaper Subscription and also have it delivered by Mail. Remember, anything that keeps your Mid up-to-date, will be more than greatly appreciated. It is always nice, and helpful, to provide your Mid with news from Home.

Your Plebe's 1st USNA Mailing Address will be a P. O. Box Number, which will remain the same for all 4 Years. Plebes will be assigned to a Company during **Plebe Summer**, and this Assignment will determine their Wing, and Room, during their 1st Year. At the end of their 1st Year, in accordance with current USNA Policy, Plebes may be assigned to another Company, for their remaining 3 Years.

Snail Mail (Normal US Mail) is important during **Plebe Summer**, inasmuch as Telephone Calls will be limited and will **not** occur for the first 2-to-3 Weeks. While E-Mail will **not** be available to them, Mail Call will be a source of support, particularly during **Plebe Summer**, and **Plebe Year**. However, it will also remain important for all 4 Years.

Consider starting Mail Communication early so that your Plebe will receive Mail during the first week of **Plebe Summer**. The Address will be:

Midn 4/C (Name) P. O. Box YXXXX U. S. Naval Academy Annapolis
MD 21412- (Last 4 Digits of Box # [XXXX])

If you move while your Mid is at USNA, he, or she, will be required to notify the **Midshipmen Personnel Office (MPO)**. It is recommend that your Mid provide both Parents' Addresses, if living at different locations, in order that USNA Information can be sent to both Parents.

E-Mail Communication will normally be initiated after BOM Reform, sometime in late August. It then will become an important Link in providing encouragement to your Mid. Only transmit positive Communication, utilizing E-Mail.

NOTE:

E-Mail Communication is Government Property and may be monitored

ELECTRONIC MAIL

One wonder of the Computer Age is the advent of **Electronic Mail (E-Mail)**. Your Mid's E-Mail Address will be **m000000@usna.edu**, where **000000** is your Mid's Alpha Number. Utilizing E-Mail, you will be able to leave Messages at any time, day or night; and your Message will be available to your Mid upon checking into the E-Mail System.

Since the majority of Electronic USNA Communications is through a Computer, your Mid will get into the habit of checking the E-Mail System, daily, for Messages from Professors, other Mids, and Friends, as well as checking on Assignments, Schedules, Grades, and so forth. Your Mid may want to create an E-Mail Address with a free Service, such as yahoo, or msn/hotmail, to communicate with Family and Friends, and leave the USNA E-Mail Address for Official Communications.

TELEPHONE

Many Mids use Cell Phones for outside USNA communications, but this is optional. Your Mid will have a Room Telephone Number assigned shortly after **Brigade Reform** in August. If it is necessary to contact your Mid in an Emergency, call 410-293-1000; ask to be transferred to your Mid, or other location, as required.

NOTE:

SPPA Web Site has Link to other important USNA Phone Numbers

CARE PACKAGES

It is recommended that you also provide your Mid with Care Packages (Shoe Box-sized Container), especially during **Plebe Summer**, as well as the **Academic Year**. It is always nice to receive, have, something from Home, especially a favorite Item, or Treat! It will also be nice to know that, if your Mid misses a Meal for any reason, that there will be something in that Care Package that will keep him, or her, going.

It is highly recommended that you **avoid** sending a lot of Candy, or Sweets, or home made goodies during **Plebe Summer**. Instead, try to provide more healthy items like Granola Bars, packaged Cheeses, Crackers, Nuts, Powerbars, and Raisins. Also, please make sure that, where possible, everything is packaged in easy serving sizes, or else provide containers, for sealing Leftovers, as open food containers are **not** allowed in **Bancroft Hall**, aka **Mother B**.

There are 4 very important times to provide your Mid with Care Packages:

PLEBE SUMMER ... It will be appreciated to receive, and have something from Home, especially a favorite item, or treat, when your Mid is trying to survive the rigors of this time.

DARK AGES ... That time between Christmas and Spring Break when almost nothing is happening at USNA. It is also that time when Mids ask themselves what are they doing at this Institution that limits their Activities, Freedom, and Creativity.

FINALS ... That time when it is difficult to take time to get something to eat; it is especially great and helpful to have something to eat when studying gets too intense. It is easier to grab and eat something in the Company Ward Room than it is to put on a Uniform and have to go down to **King Hall**.

WHENEVER ... Any time throughout your Mid's USNA Tour.

Also, remember, that during **Plebe Summer**, Care Packages will be under the control of your Mid's Squad Leader, who may ration Items out in a judicious manner.

If possible, include a Can Opener, Plastic Containers w/Lids, Eating Utensils, and rolls of Quarters for those Vending Machines. Also, when you send, or leave, a Care Package, remember that your Mid has at least 1 Roommate and **many** hungry Classmates!

VISIT

If possible, try to visit your Mid whenever, most especially during the **Plebe Academic Year**. It is always nice to see a familiar face, or faces, certainly when things might be a little stressful. While visits to your Mid during **Plebe Summer** will **not** be encouraged; however, after **Plebe Summer**, and during the remainder of your Mid's USNA Tour, visiting is highly encouraged!

MID SPONSOR

The USNA has instituted, and monitors, the **Plebe Sponsor Program** and attempts to place every 4th Class (4/C) Mid (Plebe) within this important Program. This Program offers Plebes the opportunity to be able to take a break, and to relax in an informal and friendly family atmosphere, away from the discipline, routine, and stress of USNA Life.

The contact(s) made as a result of this program will often develop into life-long friendships.

The Sponsor Program consists of a Volunteer Family, or an Individual, who lives in the Annapolis Area, or within the approved Travel Radius, who agrees to provide a Mid, or multiple Mids, with a Home-Away-From-Home. The accepted Volunteers are assigned to interested Plebe(s).

All who agree to become Sponsors must attend Training Sessions, and/or Briefings, conducted by USNA to become an eligible Mid Sponsor. A clear definition of the Rules and Regulations of the Program are presented, as well as the responsibilities for both the Mid and the Sponsor. In this manner, the Sponsor will know where the Mid can go; what the Mid can, and **cannot**, wear; and what time the Mid must be back at **Bancroft Hall** during the Academic Year.

Your Mid will be assigned a Sponsor and be introduced to them sometime during **Plebe Summer**, prior to **Plebe Parents' Weekend (PPW)**.

It is a great Program that gives your Mid a break from USNA. Your Plebe will appreciate having an opportunity to stay somewhere that has a Radio, Television, Phone, and Food, readily available. Sponsors are wonderful, generous people and become treasured Friends!

SPPA recommends that you arrange to contact your Mid's Sponsor during PPW. It is also appropriate to remember your Mid's Sponsor with an occasional Gift.

While this Program is primarily for Plebes, there is nothing that states that it will end with the termination of the Academic Year. The length of the relationship between your Mid and Sponsor may last well beyond Graduation and will be dependent upon the needs of your Mid and the Sponsor Family.

USNA



GENERAL

The following information will provide a partial insight to USNA, and its Operating Philosophies. Items that are recommended that you become acquainted with, as your Son, or Daughter, completes their USNA Tour.

ADMISSION

It **cannot** be stressed enough that you keep copies of all Paperwork in a safe place. There are always cases where Applicants have to prove that the Immunizations, or Medical Waivers, were sent to USNA. In fact, make several copies of everything. Keep one set on file, take one set to **Induction Day (I-Day)**, and mail in the Originals as part of the Application. Duplicates can be Lifesavers!

PREPARATION

The best way for your Plebe-to-be to prepare for I-Day is to **RUN**. The single, most important advice to give to your Plebe is to run Every Day, utilizing comfortable Sneakers; and an extra pair of Sneakers will be a valuable asset. Since many Plebes develop problems with their Feet due to the endless Miles of Running, also provide Cushioned Insoles. Shin Splints will turn into Stress Fractures; and being a Broken Plebe, is **not** desirable!

NOTE:

Daily Running before I-Day, will make **Plebe Summer** Runs more bearable
Exercise is a good way to deal with stress

Regarding what to Pack. You **cannot** include personal items, as your Plebe will **not** be able to keep them. Only pack a Simple Bag with items that are on the list that USNA has recommended. Your Plebe will be provided with everything that will be required, from Socks to Underwear to Cleaning Supplies.

If you feel that there are things your Plebe might need, pack and send them in a separate Box to USNA, or bring them to your Plebe on PPW. Remember that all Plebes are supervised by the Detailers (Cadre), the most Senior Midshipmen, called Firsties. They will inspect all Packages; take anything **not** allowed; and put it away until PPW. Some Companies allow things that others do **not**! Since you do **not** know what is allowed, pack reasonable things and hope for the best. Do **not** send Over-The-Counter Medications, as they are **not** permitted by USNA.

Spoil your Plebe somewhat, as it is the end of his, or her, Childhood. After years and years, of daily attention, this responsibility will **no** longer be yours! These final days at Home are poignant and are to be treasured. If your Plebe does **not** know how, consider teaching him, or her, to Iron. By the end of **Plebe Summer**, your Plebe will become very competent in this Task. Prior to leaving USNA, spend lots of time with your Plebe, as Plebes will **not** get Positive Personal Attention for a long time! In fact they will work very hard **not** to receive any Attention whatsoever.

To facilitate Communications with your Plebe, consider handing out Postcards to Friends and Relatives. Pre-address them with your Plebe's Name and Address, which will be sent to you about the middle of June. Other than a few hurried Phone Calls, the only support you can offer your Plebe during the 6 Weeks of **Plebe Summer** is through the Post Office. Consider sending lots of Mail. Number the Envelopes as they are sent out. Plebes often receive Mail out of order due to their hectic schedule. Nothing may be received for days, and then several Letters will be received in one day. A Numbering System gives your Plebe an idea of which Letter to open first.

VALIDATION

During the first week of **Plebe Summer**, Plebes will be tested in a variety of Subjects to see if they have the skill level to test out of certain Courses; these tests are known as Validation Tests. It is recommended that a Plebe validate any Course in which he, or she, demonstrates competent skill levels. Validation may mean taking less Classes later on, allowing for an easier life than those Plebes, who did **not** validate any Courses. Therefore, it is recommended that Plebes enroll in an appropriate set of Classes after taking the Validation Tests, as more is required of Plebes than can possibly be accomplished in the allotted time frame.

Allocating Study Time is a Lesson in **prioritizing** for Plebes, and validating Classes may help to keep Study Volume levels to a more reasonable amount.

EDUCATION

USNA's Philosophy of Education stresses attention to individual Mids by highly qualified Faculty Members (600), who are strongly committed to teaching. USNA's Classes are small, with the average Class size being fewer than 20 Mids. Also, USNA's Faculty is an integrated group of Officers and Civilians, in nearly equal numbers. Working together closely, these Military and Civilian Faculty Member form one of the strongest, and most dedicated, teaching Faculties of any US College, or University.

As stated, Class size will range from 10 to 20 Mids, and the Curriculum will have three basic Elements:

CORE REQUIREMENTS ... Engineering, Natural Sciences, Humanities, and Social Sciences Courses to ensure that Graduates are able to think, solve problems, and express conclusions clearly

CORE ACADEMIC COURSES/PRACTICAL TRAINING ... Teaching Professional and Leadership Skills required of Naval and Marine Corps Officers

ACADEMIC MAJOR ... Subject chosen by each Mid during their **Plebe Year** that will allow for development of individual Interests and Talents

USNA's Academic Curriculums include **Engineering/Weapons** - Aerospace Engineering; Electrical/Computer Engineering; Mechanical Engineering; Naval Architecture/Ocean Engineering; Weapons/Systems Engineering. **Humanities/Social Sciences** - Economics; English; History; Languages/Cultures; Political Science. **Mathematics/Science** - Chemistry; Computer Science; Mathematics; Oceanography; Physics. **Leadership Education/Officer Development** - Officer Development; Leadership, Ethics, Law. **Professional Development** - Professional Programs; Seamanship/Navigation.

Academics are a key to a Mid's success inasmuch as the Merit Rating strongly weighs Academics. Studies will be very demanding; after getting **A**'s in High School, getting a **D**, or failing an Exam, can be quite a shock. If a Mid falls behind academically, it is likely he, or she, will be forced to resign. A minimum Course load will be 15 Hours per Semester, with a 2.00 **Cumulative Quality Point Rating (**CQPR**) required to Graduate.**

EXTRA INSTRUCTION

USNA offers **Extra Instruction (**EI**)** and other Help Sessions, but will **not** waste time with anyone who fails due to lack of effort. The records of Mids, who do poorly, will be reviewed by an **Academic Board (**Ac Board**)** each Semester. The Ac Board will study all aspects of a Mid's Record; and then, decide whether separation from USNA will be deemed necessary. Some Courses may be available during Summer School for make-up, and/or enrichment; however, for many, it may be too little, too late.

As previously stated, EI will be available to all Mids.

NOTE:

USNA recommends that Mids not wait until in trouble, to access EI

Everyone receiving an USNA Appointment should be able to conquer the Academics if they really try, as Professors, and Officers, want everyone to succeed. Many will get the Gouge from their Roommates, or Upperclass Mids. Small Classes are a definite learning advantage; but if a Mid goes to Class unprepared, that lack of preparedness will not go unnoticed.

EI Sessions are established in many Math, Science, and Engineering Courses for Mids, who have scheduling conflicts with Instructors, as well as for those who need more help. Mids are urged to seek necessary help from their Course Instructors whenever possible, as they are the primary and critical foundation for all Academics at USNA.

Volunteer, Department Faculty, and Labs are also available every Class Period:

Math Department has a Midshipman Group Study Program (**MGSP**) for Mids who can offer, or who need, help in understanding and learning Pre-Calculus through Calculus III and are available every night Sunday - Thursday

Chemistry Department's Resource Room has Computers, Chemistry Software Programs, Videos, and Reference Materials; Faculty staff the Resource Room most periods during the Day; and Upperclass Mids are available to lead MGSP Study Groups in the evenings

Writing Center offers Tutorial Assistance in Writing Monday through Friday from 0800 to 1530, excluding Lunch

As illustrated, there are many opportunities available for Academic help. Time Management is the real issue. With Watch Schedules, Rates, and Navy Pro Knowledge to learn, available time for Mids is severely limited. Prioritizing what needs to be accomplished, and then chipping away at the information, is the only way to cope. **Persistence** is a requirement of the **Plebe Year** ... Extra help is there for who seeks it.

DEGREE

Each Mid will be awarded a Bachelor of Science (**BS**) Degree upon Graduation, regardless of his, or her, Major, because of the technical content of the Core Curriculum. The top 10% of each Class will graduate with distinction. There are many special Academic opportunities that will offer an even greater challenge for those Mids who meet the criteria, including Trident Scholars, Honors Program, and Voluntary Graduate Education Program (**VGEP**).

All Mids will take Professional Courses as part of the USNA's Integrated Program. Physical Education Training will teach Mids the value of Physical Fitness and staying fit for life. Unless they validate, Mids will take Physical Education (**PE**) Courses every Semester. The Physical Education Program is very demanding and requires that each Mid illustrate a high degree of proficiency. Prior to Graduation, each Mid must jump from the 10-Meter Tower into the **Lejeune Hall Pool**, while wearing the Khaki Uniform. If a Mid can't do it, he, or she, will not graduate and will be separated from USNA. This Emergency Training simulates an **Abandon Ship** Maneuver. All Mids must also complete the Obstacle Course (**OC**), and the Personnel Readiness Test (**PRT**) within the limits specified for each Semester. PRT includes a 1.5 Mile Run, and Push-Ups, Sit-Ups, as well as a Flexibility Test.

NOTE:

Being prepared physically, before **Plebe Summer**, makes Plebe Life easier!

TRAINING

Summer for most College Students will mean jobs, vacations, or other non-Academic activities. However, for the BOM, billeted at USNA, Summer will give these Mids a first-hand look at the Sea-going Navy, as they leave the Classroom to report to Ships, and/or Naval Bases, all around the World. Mids have been going to Sea since USNA was founded in 1845, to receive intensive operational training. That same philosophy of putting Mids into the Fleet to provide them with a comprehensive Naval Education, still holds true today.

According to the Summer Training Manual (**STM**): Evaluations that will be made during Summer Training will be particularly important, for they are made in an environment that cannot be simulated in a Classroom, or an Academic, setting. While most Mids will utilize their Summer Leave to go Home, or on Vacation, some Mids will volunteer to be involved with Airborne Training, or for other, similar Programs. Though USNA is basically quiet during the Summer, the BOM will, indeed, be in motion, traveling all over the World for additional training. It may be hard work, but the Mids all say that they do enjoy doing this work.


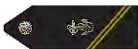
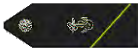

USNA's Summer Training Program is broken into Training Blocks that will introduce Mids to the Operational Units of the Navy and Marine Corps, Life at Sea, and Junior Officer (**JO**) responsibilities. Also available, will be Extracurricular Programs, such as the Yard Patrol (**YP**) Craft Power Squadron (**YPCPS**) and the Command Seamanship Training Squadron (**CSTS**).

CLASS/RANK

Information regarding USNA's Mid Class, and Rank, is as delineated in the Tables on the following page. If there is more than 1 Stripe (Up to 6), then the **Number** denotes a higher Rank, with attendant responsibilities. Also, there is a very distinct and specific line between First and Second Year Mids.

Plebes will be **No Mo'**, once that **Dixie Cup** is replaced with an **Upperclass Cover** on the top of the **Herndon Monument** during **Commissioning Week**. ; earning the right to be 4th Class (4/C) Mids. They will become 3/C Mids when they can see the Chapel Dome, upon return from their Summer YP Cruise. Youngsters will become 2nd Class (2/C) Mids; and Flamers will become 1st Class (1/C) Mids, when that first 1stie (1/C) Mid Cover hits the **Navy/Marine Corps Memorial Stadium** Turf during Graduation.

MIDSHIPMEN CLASSES

YEAR	MID	STRIPEs	CIVILIAN	PICTORIAL
1/C	FIRSTIE	1 STRAIGHT	SENIOR	
2/C	FLAMER	2 SLANTED	JUNIOR	
3/C	YOUNGSTER	1 SLANTED	SOPHOMORE	
4/C	PLEBE	0	FRESHMAN	

MIDSHIPMEN RANKS

OFFICER	STRIPEs	PICTORIAL
ENSIGN	1 STRAIGHT	
LIEUTENANT JG	2 STRAIGHT	
LIEUTENANT	3 STRAIGHT	
LT COMMANDER	4 STRAIGHT	
COMMANDER	5 STRAIGHT	
CAPTAIN *	6 STRAIGHT	

* BRIGADE COMMANDER, 6-STRIPER

OTHER

GENERAL

The following will delineate those other functions that Mids either will participate in, or must have knowledge of, these items.

ALCOHOL/DRUGS

As future Naval and Marine Corps Officers, Mids learn to drink in a responsible way, if at all, and to avoid illegal Drugs entirely. The use of illegal Drugs will result in **SEPARATION**, from USNA and the Navy.

NOTE:

All Mids subject to random Drug Tests, utilizing **Urinalysis**

Plebes are **not** allowed to drink, even if they are of legal drinking age. For those Upperclass Mids who are of legal drinking age, 21 in Maryland, consumption, or possession, of Alcohol at USNA is prohibited, except in the Officers' Club and the Dry Dock Restaurant.

NOTE:

Mid Drinking is **Separation Offense**

An exception to this Rule is the Home Football Game Tailgate Parties, which are held in the Navy/Marine Corps Memorial Stadium Parking Areas.

EXCHANGE

During the First Semester of a Mid's 2/C Year, 15 competitively selected Mids will participate in an **Exchange **Program (EP)** with their Counterparts at the three other Service Academies (Army; Air Force; Coast Guard). They will continue their regular Studies in their new setting, maintaining Navy loyalty, of course!**

EXTRACURRICULAR

Mids have over 90 **Excurricular **Activities (ECA)** available to them at USNA, ranging from Scuba Diving to Photography and Rock Bands to Chapel Choirs. While many of these ECAs are coupled to Academic interests, others are just for fun. Mids have their own Radio Station, as well as Drama Clubs; Yearbook (**Lucky Bag**); and Drum And Bugle Corps, to identify a few.**

ECAs are a necessary break from the rigorous routine of USNA, and have helped Mids to learn new Talents and explore new Interests, as well as serve the Annapolis Community, and/or related surrounding Communities.

LIBERTY

Mids will be allowed to leave the Yard, but only for specific reasons, at specific times. The main reasons will be: **Liberty** (Town | Weekend) or **Military Leave** (Holidays | Semester Break | Other); however, **not** when on **Restriction** for Academic, or Disciplinary, Reasons. When on Liberty, Mids will **not** depart, or return, from Liberty, in any Uniform other than those prescribed for Liberty. Mids will **not** be authorized to wear regulation PE Gear, or Blue and Gold Jogging Suits, while on Liberty.

1/C and 2/C Mids may wear authorized Civilian Attire on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday while on Liberty. 3/C Mids will wear the Uniform of the Day for Town Liberty; however, 3/C Mids may only wear Civilian Clothes (Civies) when outside the **Tri-City Metropolitan Area** (**TCMA**: Annapolis; Baltimore; Washington, DC) and on Weekends. In addition, 3/C Mids will **not** depart/return from Liberty in Civies, even if they are leaving TCMA. **All** 4/C Mids will wear the Uniform of the Day for Town Liberty, regardless of status, as well as also remain within TCMA, during Town Liberty.

In addition, 4/C Mids must submit a Special Request Chit, as well as an **Operational Risk Management (ORM)** Worksheet (Operational Risk Oversight planning ahead for inadequate, or failed, external events, or processes, including human factors) to their Company Officer, or Senior Enlisted, in order to request, be granted, Liberty outside TCMA.

Types of Liberty:

TOWN LIBERTY ... Mids will be permitted to leave USNA after their Obligations, including Last **Military Obligations (LMO)**, have been completed for the day, but will be required to return on that evening, to spend the night in **Bancroft Hall**; refer to the Table on the following Page. This Liberty will also be granted to Plebes who will **not** be allowed to travel outside USNA's 30-Mile Circle Limit, as measured from the **Chapel Dome**. On days of Home Football Games, Liberty will begin at the end of the Football Game and will terminate at a specified time that evening, depending upon the results of the Football Game, as directed by the **Supe**

WEEKEND LIBERTY ... Permit Mids to leave USNA after their Obligations for the Weekend, but requires that they return on Sunday evening. This Liberty has **No** Mileage Limits and Military Obligations, such as Taps, or Meal Formations, with the exception of Football Games. Liberty, and Leave, will also be dependent upon satisfactory performance in Academics, Military, Physical Education, and Conduct. There are several ways that Mids may earn extra Weekend Liberties. Some of the ways include earning high performances on their Academics, or on their **Physical Readiness Test (PRT)**

NOTE:

Town and Weekend Liberty authorized, in accordance with current USNA Policy

TYPICAL LIBERTY SCHEDULE

CLASS	DAY	COMMENCE	EXPIRE
1/C	FRI	LMO NET 1300	2400
	SAT	0800	2400
	SUN	0800	1800
2/C	FRI	1830	2400
	SAT	0800	2400
	SUN	0800	1800
3/C	SAT	1200	2400
	SUN	0800	1800
4/C	SAT	1200	2400

YARD LIBERTY ... Plebes may escort Visitors during Liberty on Weekends and Holidays, and for a few Hours on Weeknights. Escorting Privileges will be limited to Parents, Guardians, immediate Family, close Relatives, or Family Friends. Plebes can invite their Parents to participate in a Noon, or Evening Meal, in **King Hall**, as well as are authorized the use of the Officer's Club, but only as the Guest of an Officer's Club Member, Parent(s), or Sponsor(s). Plebes can also invite Guests to scheduled Sporting Events, Musical Productions, and so forth

MILITARY LEAVE ... Generally permits Mids to leave USNA during the following time periods: Thanksgiving, Christmas, Spring Break, and a Month-long Summer Leave (Maybel!), staggered to fit into the Mid's **S**ummer **P**rofessional **T**raining **S**chedule (**SPTS**)

NOTE:

Leave normally begins after last scheduled Exam, or completion of **L**ast **M**ilitary **D**uty (**LMD**)

LIBERTY CURFEWS ... It is to be noted that Liberty Curfews will differ according to Mid Seniority, as well as Restrictions. Mids will **not** be eligible for Liberty if assigned a Military Watch, rotated Responsibilities, or if they are having serious difficulty in Academics, Performance, Physical Education, and Conduct.

When not on Liberty (Non-Liberty Status), **All** Mids may conduct the following:

Mids involved with individual Workouts on, or off, the Yard (Off Yard, from Sunrise to Sunset, only); visit Yard Areas; and attend On Yard Sporting Events from 0545-2000, on a **Not To Interfere** with Military Obligations, or Mandatory, Events, in accordance with established USNA Priorities

Mids will **not** depart the Yard, except to conduct Individual Workouts as stated above; will **not** visit a Sponsor's Home on USNA's Grounds

Refer to the ***Midshipman Regulations Manual, COMDTMIDNINST 1020.3B*** (28 December 2011) for further data, and/or information, regarding Mid Liberty, as well as other Rules and Regulations, as directed by USNA.

QUARTERS



BANCROFT HALL ... MOTHER B

All Mids, who comprise the **Brigade Of Midshipmen**, live in **Bancroft Hall**, also known as **Mother B**. This is a huge building with over 5 Miles of Corridors and is the largest Dormitory in the World. It is both ancient and new, and houses Artifacts from the 1700s -- Flags and Documents from our Nation's Founding.

Bancroft Hall has been completely renovated and, like the Military itself, it is old and new, ancient, and recreated again for utilization by today's potential Naval and Marine Corps Officers. Each Room has a Sink and Shower, with shared Toilet Facilities that are located in each Hall Wing.

Mids are allowed to have personal Photos, and Mementos, on the Bulletin Board beside their Desk, or under the Glass on their Desk.

MEDICAL

Bancroft Hall is equipped with a Medical, and a Dental Center, that will be capable of handling most common health situations. Mids diagnosed as being too sick to participate in activities will be confined to their rooms and will be called down to the Medical Center daily, to be seen by the Medical Staff. Even while ill, Mids will be usually given permission to attend classes, if they feel well enough to do so. If unable to leave the Room, the Mid's Roommate(s) will be responsible for bringing meals to the sick Mid.

The Medical Staff will determine when, and if, the Mid is well enough to resume participation in all activities. More serious cases will be sent to **Bethesda Naval Hospital**.

Mids who become ill, or injured, while on Leave, or in a Weekend status, will be informed that they are to go to the nearest Uniformed Service Facility (Army | Navy | Air Force, | Marine Corps | Coast Guard). In the event of an Emergency, Mids may obtain Civilian Medical Care without prior authorization.

Bills for medical treatment received at a Civilian Medical Facility, that was **not** an Emergency, or pre-authorized, will **not** be reimbursed by the Government. In the event of the hospitalization of a Mid for any reason, immediate notification of the **Command Duty Officer (**CDO**)** will be required. Call either 410-293-2701, or the Main Office, 410-293-5001, 5002, 5003.

It is recommended that Parents maintain Health Insurance for their Mid, if it is allowed by their Health Insurance Carriers. This will ensure that your Mid will have Health Insurance if he, or she, leaves USNA because of Illness, or serious Injury. Since Mids are in the Navy, and eligible for Military Health Care, they then are also eligible for **Veterans' Administration (**VA**)** Follow-Up Care for any Service-connected Injury, or Illness, that might lead to their discharge.

MOTOR VEHICLES

Since Parking Space is at a premium at USNA, as well as in **Annapolis**, the following Policy, or Restrictions, will apply to the use of Motor Vehicles by Mids:

Plebes (4/C Mids) and Youngsters (3/C Mids) are **not** be permitted to operate, or keep any Motor Vehicle, except when they are on Authorized Military Leave during Thanksgiving, Christmas, Spring Break, and Summer. They will be allowed to ride in a private Automobile when accompanied, or driven, by Parents, Guardians, USNA-approved Sponsors, Staff, and Faculty Members, or when escorting to a Formal Dance, Play, or Concert, at USNA.

Flamers (2/C Mids) may have, and operate, a Motor Vehicle, but it must be parked off of the USNA Grounds.

Firsties (1/C Mids) may have, and operate, a Motor Vehicle in Annapolis, and on USNA Grounds; and they also may park their Motor Vehicle on USNA Grounds.

NOTE:

Mids not allowed to operate any Motorcycle, within Town Liberty Limits

PAY

Mids, upon arrival, must have on deposit, an amount determined by USNA, to be used as partial payment for Uniforms and Supplies, including a Computer. The Navy will pay for the Tuition, Room and Board, and Medical/Dental Care of Mids. Many Mids also wonder how much spending money they should have when they report to USNA. An adequate sum should be ~\$100.00.

After I-Day, except for a few trips, the first time Plebes will be able to leave USNA, will be on **Plebe Parents' Weekend**. Probably, their only USNA expenditures will be for personal Items purchased at the **Mid Store**; i.e., Floor Wax, Mop, Lighter, Cotton Balls, Shoe Polish, Snacks, and so forth.

Mids will also enjoy regular Active Duty Benefits, including access to Military Commissaries and Exchanges, Commercial Transportation, and Lodging discounts, as well as the ability to fly Space Available in Military Aircraft around the World.

Mid Pay is called **Funny Money**, from which Laundry, Barber, Cobbler, Activities Fees, Yearbook, and other Service Charges are deducted. Actual Monthly Cash is based upon an Ensign's Pay, and this increases each Year, as there are fewer Deductions. The Bank at USNA is the Navy Federal Credit Union (**NFCU**). Plebes will be asked if they want to open a Checking, and/or Savings, Account there; and most Mids will find it convenient to have their monthly Paycheck deposited directly into their NFCU Account. Automatic Teller Machines (**ATM**) allows Mids to have access to their money at anytime. In addition, some Mids will invest a portion of their monthly Pay; and some Mids will use a Credit Card. Financial and Legal Officers are available to advise Mids.

SPORTS

FEAR



THE GOAT

There are 26 Men's and 12 Women's Varsity Teams and 13 Intramural/Club Sports and have been very successful. This is impressive when you realize that most of the Schools with which USNA competes, are much larger schools.

Some Mids will participate in a Varsity Sport even if they have never previously participated in that Sport.

NOTE:

All Mids must participate in either, Varsity, or Intramural/Club, Sport, while at USNA

Available Varsity, and Intramural/Club, Sports are:

- Fall Cross-Country; Football; Light Weight Football; Pistol; Rugby; Sailing; Soccer; Volleyball; Water Polo
- Winter Basketball; Boxing; Fencing; Gymnastics; Indoor Track; Rifle; Squash; Swimming; Wrestling
- Spring Baseball; Crew; Golf; Hockey; Lacrosse; Light Weight Crew; Sailing; Tennis; Track

The Intramural Program will also be extensive and quite competitive. It will pit Companies against Companies, and Battalions against Battalions. It is a great way to stay in shape, vent frustrations, and relieve stress.

Available Intramural Sports are:

- Basketball (3 on 3 | 5 on 5); Board Sailing; Fieldball; Knockabout Sailing
- Racquetball; Soccer; Softball; Touch Football; Ultimate Frisbee; Volleyball
- Power Lifting; Weight Lifting

Physical Fitness Activities will be another method, or way, for Mids to relieve stress while at USNA.

Some examples of Physical Fitness Activities are: Running; Swimming; Weight Room Activities

FOOTBALL



The USNA Football Team, known as the **MIDSHIPMEN**, is a member of **N**ational **C**ollegiate **A**thletic **A**ssociation (**NCAA**). The NCAA is a semi-voluntary Association of 1,281 Institutions, Conferences, Organizations, and Individuals that organizes the Athletic Programs of the majority of US Colleges, and Universities, with headquarters in Indianapolis, IN.



USNA's MASCOT(S) ... BILL, THE GOAT

As an NCAA Member, Navy is in Division I-A College Football, as a Division I Football Bowl Subdivision Independent School. That is, Navy has **no** Conference affiliation.

In addition, USNA has 19 Players and 3 Coaches in the College Football Hall of Fame; won the National Championship in 1926; and was undefeated, and unscored upon (One 0-0 Tie), in 1926.

Other Items of Note:

- Heisman Trophy *Joe Bellino, 1960; Roger Staubach, 1963*
- Maxwell Award *Ronald Beagle, 1954; Bob Reifsnyder, 1957; Joe Bellino, 1960; Roger Staubach, 1963*
- Other Awards *Percy Northcroft, All American, 1906, 1908; Zerbin Singleton, Disney's Wide World of Sports Spirit Award, 2007*

The high light of the USNA Football Program is the Annual Army-Navy Football Game, which is a College Football Game between the US Military Academy (USMA; West Point, NY) and the US Naval Academy (USNA; Annapolis, MD). This Football Game is normally played in Philadelphia, PA; however, it has also been played in other locations, such as New York, NY; Baltimore, MD; Chicago, IL; and Pasadena, CA.

TROPHY

The Commander-In-Chief's (CIC) Trophy is awarded to each Season's Winner of the Triangular College Football Series played between the US Military Academy (Army), the US Naval Academy (Navy), and the US Air Force Academy (Air Force).



CIC TROPHY

In the event of a tie the Award is shared, but the previous Winner retains the Trophy. When Navy has possession of the CIC's Trophy, it is displayed in a Glass Case, in Bancroft Hall, the Midshipmens' Dormitory.

One (1) of the longest times any Service Academy has had possession of the prestigious Trophy was when Navy controlled the Trophy from 2003 to 2010.

First awarded in 1972, the CIC Trophy was the idea of Air Force General, *George B. Simler*, the Commander of the Air Training Command and former Air Force Academy Athletic Director, who felt the need for such a Trophy as a means to ensure the Air Force Football Games played against traditional Rivals, Army and Navy, were given some meaning at least slightly more significant than all other normal Collegiate Opponents that those Two (2) storied Programs were to play, on any given Saturday.

Typically, the Navy - Air Force Football Game is played in early October, the Army - Air Force Football Game is played in mid-November, and the Army - Navy Football Game is played in early December.

OTHER

Stereos, Radios, Walkmans, CD Players will **not** be allowed during **Plebe Year**. Music CDs, or other Audio Devices, may **not** be played on Computers. Civilian Clothing will **not** be an option for Plebes and Youngsters, who **must** remain in Uniform at all times.

In addition, Plebes (4/C), as well as Youngsters (3/C), will **not** be allowed to keep Civilian Clothes in their Rooms, and/or in the Homes of their Sponsors. This requirement will be lifted during Military Leave, but **not** for Liberty.

Plebes will be authorized to attend Sunday Worship Services in the Annapolis area; however, they must return to USNA immediately following that Service.

NOTE:

Plebes authorized to attend Sunday Worship Services in Annapolis Area;
However, they **must** return to USNA immediately following that Service

Also, **any** involvement in hazardous Activities, such as Scuba Diving, or Hang Gliding, will require approval of their Battalion Officer (**BO**) through their Company Officer (**CO**).

All Mids have the responsibility that they conduct themselves properly, at all times, while observing the Customs, and the Traditions, of the Naval Service.

RECOMMENDATION

During your Mid's 4 Years at USNA, there will be at least **5 Events** that you, and your Family, should plan on attending. Of these, **4** will occur during your Mid's **Plebe Year**: July, Induction Day (**I-Day**); August, **Plebe Parents' Weekend**; and May, **Sea Trials** (Limited Basis), and **Plebe Recognition Ceremony**, also known as the **Herndon Monument Climb**, or just **Herndon**. The remaining **1** will take place during your Mid's Firstie Year: May, **Graduation/Commissioning Week**.

These Events will be important to your Mid, as they are once in a lifetime experiences that will make you unbelievably proud to be a Parent of a Mid.

As a result, you will never be able to listen to ***Anchors Aweigh*** again without a Smile on your Face and, maybe, a Tear in your Eye.

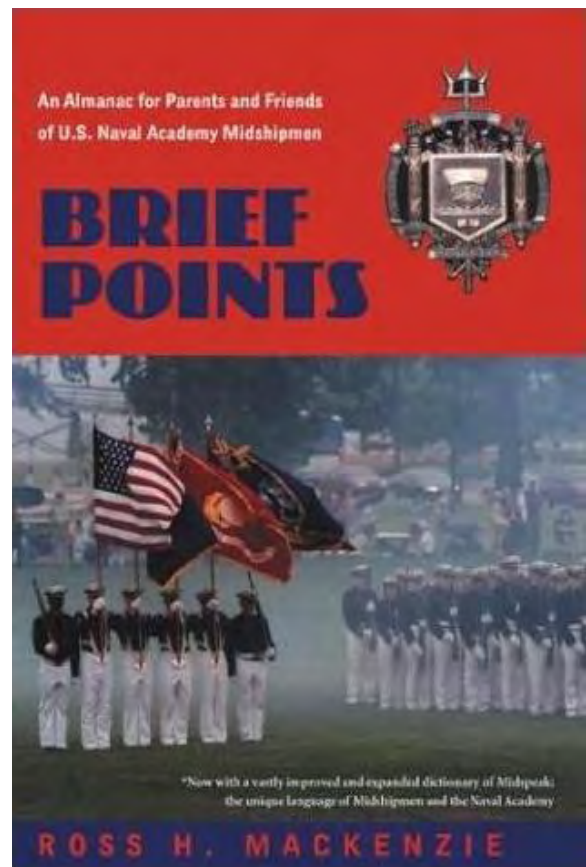
You may also want to consider starting a **Scrapbook**; and putting Pictures, Mementos, and so forth, that you gather from your visits to USNA, or from reading various Newspaper Articles and Publications. If you do nothing else, at least start and complete **one** for your Mid's **Plebe Year**, since this will be the Year with the most memories. It will be a wonderful reminder of this one important time in your Family's life.

In addition, you may also want to consider purchasing a copy of ***Brief Points*** in the **Mid Store**, or have your Mid obtain one for you. This Book is similar to your Mid's ***Reef Points***.

It will contain a wealth of data and information, ranging from Word Definitions of the new Language that your Mid will be learning, to explanations of Events, Functions, and Locations at USNA.



MIDSHIPMAN



CIVILIAN: FAMILY ... FRIENDS

KEY USNA MANUALS



USNA



BRIGADE OF MIDSHIPMAN



◆ ANNAPOLIS
MARYLAND ◆





GENERAL

All personnel who attend USNA are appointed by various Methods, and are addressed as **Midshipman (Mid; Midn)**, an official US Military Rank, and Pay Grade.

In addition, these Mids are also members of the US Navy, whose induction into the US Navy, started from the moment that they raised their Right Hand and affirmed the Oath of Office, which occurs at the Swearing-In Ceremony in **Bancroft Hall's (Mother B) Tecumseh Court (T-Court)**, on I-Day at ~1800 Hours.

As a result of taking the Oath, these Mids are now, subject to the **Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ)**, and all of USNA Regulations, which are a part of the UCMJ, as well as being subject to all of the Executive Policies and Orders, formulated by the **Department of the Navy (DoN)**.

At USNA, all Students are comprised of both Males, and Females, who are appointed to the Rank of Midshipman, serve on Active Duty in that Rank, and are classified as a Line Officer, though their Exercise of Authority is limited by their Training Status.

Currently, the BOM is comprised of approximately 4,000 Mids. Legally, Mids are a special Grade of Officer, ranking between Warrant Officer (W-1) and Chief Warrant Officer (W-2). While at USNA, Mids study a Core Curriculum in 21 Majors, as well as having access to a variety of Electives, in addition to access to Advanced Study and Research Opportunities.

NOTE:

Congress determines number of Mids, who will attend USNA, each Year

Mid Uniforms comply with US Navy Standards, having Shoulder Board and Sleeve Insignia, which will vary by Year, or Rank, as prescribed by Chapter 6, **US Navy Uniform Regulations**. Mids also wear Gold Fouled Anchors, as their primary Insignia on Caps and Shoulder Boards; plain Anchors are worn as the Collar Insignia on their Service and Full Dress Uniforms.

Upon graduation, Mids are commissioned, either as US Navy **Ensigns (ENS)**, or US Marine Corps **Second Lieutenants (2ND LT)**, serving a minimum of **5** Years. If selected to serve as a Pilot (Aircraft), then, they will serve **8-11** Years, minimum, from their Winging Date; and if selected to serve as a **Naval Flight Officer (NFO)**, they will serve **6-8** Years, minimum.

NOTE:

Attending Foreign Mids are commissioned into their Native Country's Armed Forces

BRIGADE

At USNA, the Student Body is comprised of all of the Mids that are currently attending USNA, and are known as the **Brigade Of Midshipmen (BOM)**. In addition, any Student initially entering USNA, will be a Member of the Plebe Class.

The Plebe Class is USNA's Fourth Class (4/C), which is the lowest Mid Rank, derived from the Latin, *Plebeius*, the lowest Class of Roman Citizenship.

In addition, USNA Mids are **not** classified as Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors, as in a normal College, and/or University, but as Fourth (4/C), Third (3/C), Second (2/C), and First Class (1/C) Midshipmen.

STRUCTURE

USNA's BOM is currently divided into 2 **REGIMENTS: 1ST; 2ND**; 6 **BATTALIONS: 1ST, 2ND, 3RD, 4TH, 5TH, 6TH**; and 30 **COMPANIES: 1ST through 30TH**, with the Heart of the BOM being the Company.

Each Mid will normally remain with his, or her, Company Group for the Plebe Year. At the end of Plebe Year, the Mids may be scrambled, or randomly scattered, into the rest of the Brigade, where they will remain for the rest of their 4 Years By The Bay.

The Figures following, delineate USNA's BOM Organization.

HIERARCHY

As stated, a 4/C Mid, or a Plebe (First Year Mid, equivalent to a College Freshman), is the lowest of USNA's Mid Ranks and has the least privileges. In addition, because the first year at the Academy is one of transformation from a Civilian into a Military Officer, Plebes must conform to a number of Rules and Regulations that are **not** placed on the upper 3 Mid Classes (3/C; 2/C; 1/C), as well as having additional Tasks, and Responsibilities, that will disappear upon promotion to Midshipman Third Class (3/C).

A 3/C Mid (Second Year Mid, equivalent to a College Sophomore) is treated with more respect because he/she is an Upperclassmen. They are commonly called Youngsters, because of this new Stature, and Rank, are allowed additional privileges, such as watching Television, listening to Music, watching Movies, and Napping. In addition, one important duty is to help Plebes in adjusting to Academic and Military Life at USNA.

2/C Mids (Third Year Mid, equivalent to a College Junior) are charged with the training and discipline of Plebes, report directly to 1/C Mids (Fourth Year Mid, equivalent to a College Senior), and issue Orders, as necessary, to carry out their responsibilities. 2/C Mids (Called **FLAMER** by **SPPA**), are allowed to drive their own Cars, but may **not** park them on The Yard, and are allowed to enter, or exit, The Yard in Civilian Attire; however, only on Weekends.

1ST BATTALION

5 Co	4 Co	3 Co	2 Co	1 Co
1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd
2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd
3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd
4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd

2ND BATTALION

10 Co	9 Co	8 Co	7 Co	6 Co
1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd
2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd
3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd
4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd

3RD BATTALION

15 Co	14 Co	13 Co	12 Co	11 Co
1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd
2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd
3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd
4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd

BRIGADE OF MIDSHIPMEN ... 1ST REGIMENT

4TH BATTALION

20 Co	19 Co	18 Co	17 Co	16 Co
1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd
2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd
3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd
4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd

5TH BATTALION

25 Co	24 Co	23 Co	22 Co	21 Co
1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd
2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd
3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd
4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd

6TH BATTALION

30 Co	29 Co	28 Co	27 Co	26 Co
1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	1 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd
2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	2 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd
3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	3 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd
4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd	4 PTL 1 Sqd 2 Sqd 3 Sqd

BRIGADE OF MIDSHIPMEN ... 2ND REGIMENT

A 1/C Mid (Fourth Year Mid, equivalent to a College Senior) has more Freedoms and Liberty, but also have the most challenging Responsibilities. While they must maintain mandatory Sports Activities, and Academics, they are also charged with providing Guidance, and Leadership, to Plebes, in adjusting to Academic and Military Life at USNA, as well as providing Leadership to the BOM. The 1/C Mids, commonly called Firsties, are allowed to park their Cars on The Yard, and have greater Leave, and Liberties, than any of the other Classes.

COMMAND

As stated, USNA's BOM is divided into Regiments, Battalions, and Companies. The following delineates the USNA Chain Of Command (**COC**):

- **ADMINISTRATIVE** US President; Secretary of Defense (**SECDEF**); Secretary of the Navy (**SECNAV**); Chief of Naval Operations (**CNO**); Superintendent (**SUPE**), USNA; Commandant (**DANT**), USNA; Battalion Officer (**BO**); Company Officer (**CO**)
- **MIDSHIPMEN** SUPE; DANT; Brigade Commander; Honor Advisor; Character Advisor; Brigade Sergeant Major; Brigade Executive Officer (**XO**); Regimental Commander (1 each, 1st, 2nd Regiment); Battalion Commander (1 each, 6 Battalions, Sport, Support Activities); Battalion XO; Company Commander; Platoon Commander; Squad Leader | Senior Enlisted Leadership (**SEL**: CPO, SCPO, Gunny Sargent) between Company Officer, Company Commander (30 Company SELs); Command Master Chief (**CMC**) | Leading SEL, each Battalion (i.e., 1 of 5 SELs) is Battalion's Leading Chief Petty Officer (**CPO**); CMC, nominally, is also USNA's CMC

NOTE:

Commissioned Officers, Midshipman Officers, and Enlisted Personnel
(Company Assigned) make up USNA's Midshipman COC

USNA's Mid Chain Of Command (**COC**) is headed by 1/C Mid, known as the Brigade Commander (**BC**), who is chosen for his, her, outstanding Leadership performance. The BC is responsible for much of the BOM's Day-to-Day Activities, as well as the Professional Training of all Mids.

Overseeing all BOM Activities is the Commandant (**DANT**), an Active Duty Navy **Captain (CAPT)**, or Marine Corps **Colonel (COL)**. Also, working for the Dant, are experienced Navy and Marine Corps Officers, assigned as Company, and/or Battalion, Officers.

CROSS-COMMISSION

Since 1959, Mids have been able to Cross-Commission. This is accomplished by requesting a Commission from another Service (Air Force; Army), provided that they meet the Eligibility Standards (2004: Cross-Commissioning was allowed in the **Coast Guard**). Every year, 3 or 4 Graduates do this; usually in a 1-for-1 trade, with a similarly inclined Cadet, at one of the other Service Academies.

RESIGN - EXPELLED - SEPARATED

Mids who elect to resign, are expelled, or are separated from USNA, in their first 2 Years, incur **no** Military Service Obligation. Those who are separated, voluntarily or involuntarily, after that time are required to serve on Active Duty, as an Enlisted, usually for **2-to-4** Years.

Alternatively, if separated, these former Mids may have to reimburse the Government for their Educational; this expense may often be in excess of \$150,000.00.

The decision as to whether, or not, to have a former Mid serve as an Enlisted, or to reimburse the Government, is under the Authority of SECNAV.

FOURTH CLASS MIDSHIPMAN



PLEBE



GENERAL

This Section will delineate events, and/or information, that relates to a Mid's **Fourth Class** (4/C), or **Plebe Year** (First Year), at USNA, as well as information regarding a Mid's **Third Class** (3/C) **Summer**.

INFORMATION

Included, herein, are some events, and/or functions, that you, as new Navy Parents, may want to consider as your Son, or Daughter, transitions into Life at USNA, and the **US Navy**. Over the next 4 Years, it is recommended that you, and your Family, consider and plan to attend, at least, these following **6 Events**, which your Mid will hold in high esteem.

The initial **4 Events** will occur during your Mid's First, or **Plebe Year** (4/C), and the remaining **2 Events** will occur during your Mid's Fourth, or **Firstie Year** (1/C). Each of these **Events** is very important to your Mid and are once in a lifetime experiences that will make you feel very proud to be the Parents of a Mid.

SPPA urges that you do your best and make every effort to attend the following, delineated **Events**, as allowed by USNA:

- **INDUCTION DAY (I-DAY)** ... Normally will occur in early July, or during the last Week in June, depending upon the occurrence of the 4th Of July Holiday, but prior to the Academic Year in which your Mid will report to USNA
- **PLEBE PARENTS' WEEKEND** ... Normally will occur in mid-August, again just prior to the return of the full **Brigade** and the start of the Academic Year (**AC Year**)
- **SEA TRIALS** ... Normally will occur in mid-May, prior to **Herndon**, and will test Plebes regarding their endurance and ability to work as a Team
- **PLEBE RECOGNITION CEREMONY (HERNDON)** ... Normally, if held, will occur at the start of **Graduation/Commissioning Week** and includes a **Board Pinning Ceremony** and a **Plebe Parents' Dinner**. Successful completion of the climb will signify that your Mid is no longer a **Plebe**, but will now be called a **4/C Midn**
- **FLAMER (2/C) PARENTS' WEEKEND** ... Normally will occur after the start of your Mid's next-to-last Year at USNA, sometime in September of that Academic Year, on a Football Game Weekend
- **GRADUATION/COMMISSIONING WEEK** ... Will signify the last Function that your Mid will participate in, as a 1/C Mid, and normally will occur sometime in late May of your Mid's final Academic Year

In addition, consider purchasing a copy of the book, ***Brief Points***. You, or your Mid, can obtain a copy at the **Mid Store**; or it can be ordered from the **Naval Institute Press** in Annapolis. The Book contains a variety of Information and will help you decipher that new Language that you will be hearing from your Mid, as well as the History and Explanations about Areas, Events, and Objects at USNA. Also, you will find that you, and your Family, will be utilizing this **Hand Book** for at least the next 4 Years.

INDUCTION DAY

Induction Day (I-Day) will be your Son's, or Daughter's, official Reporting-In Day to the **US Naval Academy** and will take place in **Alumni Hall**. Pre-Registration for Foundation, Enlisted, and NAPS Personnel, will have occurred on the prior day, also in **Alumni Hall**.

I-Day will normally be scheduled for any day during that 1st Week in July, and in the majority of cases, prior to the 4th Of July Holiday; on rare occasions, I-Day will occur during that last Week in June. In addition, requisite Notices and Instructions will be provided for reporting to the Yard. These Notices, provided at receipt of your Mid's Appointment, provide Time, Location, and Directions for that day, when your Son, or Daughter, will have to be at the Yard.

I-Day may be one of the longer Days in your Son's, or Daughter's, life, as well as a proud moment for your Family and Friends that may have elected to accompany you and attend this function. As shown in the Table on the following page, I-Day will start at 0630 Hours (6:30 AM) and will continue until approximately 1930 Hours (7:30 PM). During this time, your Mid will be very busy from Arrival through the **Oath Of Office (OOO) Ceremony** (1800 Hours [6:30 PM]; **Tecumseh Court**).

It is important to arrive in **Annapolis** with plenty of time to spare, making reasonable allowances in your travel plans for unexpected delays, including those that will be caused by the heavy I-Day Traffic in **Annapolis**.

NOTE:

Also, there are **NO** allowances, or reimbursements, for overnight lodging

During I-Day, Appointees will cycle through Medical Examinations, Uniform Fittings, and Equipment Issue. They get their first Haircut and fill out Forms and more Forms. Approximately 12 Hours after they first arrive at USNA they will assemble for the OOO Ceremony. With anxiety, fatigue, and great pride, the new Mids will pledge to **WILLFULLY AND FAITHFULLY DISCHARGE THE DUTIES OF THE OFFICE ON WHICH THEY ARE ABOUT TO ENTER.**

The Table, following, delineates a typical I-Day Schedule for an incoming Mid - Plebe.

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
0600-2100	DRYDOCK RESTAURANT	DAHLGREN HALL
0700-1045	BAND CONCERT	ALUMNI HALL
0900	COLORS CEREMONY	TECUMSEH COURT
1045-1230	PICNIC LUNCH PLEBE FAMILY/FRIENDS FREE	FARRAGUT FIELD
1345-1430	BAND CONCERT	ALUMNI HALL
1430-1540	PARENTS' BRIEFING	ALUMNI HALL
1800	OATH OF OFFICE CEREMONY INCLEMENT WEATHER, IN HALSEY FIELD HOUSE	TECUMSEH COURT

TYPICAL I-DAY SCHEDULE

As **Annapolis** can be hot, and humid, during late June, early July, as well as the complete Summer, it is recommended that your Mid report in lightweight clothing, as **NO** other clothing will be necessary except for that which has been prescribed, and can be carried in a collapsible overnight Bag.

Your Mid will be issued a Summer Working Uniform and Tennis Shoes; and throughout the day, your Mid will be receiving either Equipment, Instructions, or Supplies, as well as learning how to become, act, and function, as a Mid.

Refreshment Stands, Tours, Orientations, and Briefings will be available during I-Day for your Mid's Family, Relatives, and Friends, who have chosen to remain for the **Swearing-In Ceremony**. Somewhere between 1800 and 1830 Hours (6:00 PM-6:30 PM), the official **Swearing-In Ceremony** will be conducted. At this time, your Mid will be committed to a 30-Day Enlistment Period at the Yard and will be involved in the beginning of **Plebe Summer**.

In addition, the **US Naval Academy Alumni Association (**USNA AA**) will be providing Refreshments for those Family, Relatives, and Friends who care to take advantage of this function by walking down to **Alumni House**, located at 247 King George Street, at the corner of King George Street and College Avenue.**

Alumni House can be easily accessed by going out either **Gate 1**, or **Gate 3**.

It is recommended that you take the opportunity, during the Day, to tour USNA and attend the scheduled **Parents' Brief**, as well as the other Events and **Items Of Interest (IOI)** that have been recommended.

At the conclusion of the **Swearing-In Ceremony**, you will be allowed to meet, briefly, with your Mid, for approximately 15 Minutes, usually along **Stribling Walk**. Be positive and encouraging, as it has also been a long day for your Mid, too.

Some type of Refreshment would be greatly appreciated at this time.

Also, when you terminate this Meeting with your Mid, do so on a high note, as the next 6-to-7 Weeks will, at times, be very discouraging, and very stressful.

At the termination of this 30-Day Enlistment Period, your Plebe, if he, or she, elects, will be allowed to leave USNA and have **NO** further obligation to the **US Navy**.

PLEBE SUMMER

Plebe Summer will be the first Military Training evolution for most members of any incoming Class; and it is a time-intensive, demanding Training Period that is very rigorous, both physically and mentally.

This evolution begins with I-Day, when your Plebe takes the Oath and begins the transition from Civilian, or Enlisted, Life to Officer Candidate Status.

Plebes will receive Indoctrination and Training in proper Military Discipline, Courtesy, Requirements, and Traits of Special Trust and Confidence, Teamwork, and Personal Accountability.

FOURTH CLASS REGIMENT

The **Fourth Class (4/C) Regiment** is the fundamental **Element** in the professional education of all Mids, to prepare them to serve as Leaders, as an Officer, in either the US Navy or the US Marine Corps. Therefore, the 4/C Year is that period where each Mid completes his, or her, transition from Civilian, or Enlisted, status to becoming a Mid. The 4/C Training Objectives are designed to smoothly facilitate this transition.

The 4/C Year is divided into two distinct Phases:

- **Phase 1:** Plebe Summer ... Indoctrination Phase
USNA's Summer Training Program, required of all incoming Plebes, lasting approximately 6 Weeks and consisting of rigorous Physical and Mental Training, with the stated purpose of turning Civilians into Mids

- **Phase 2: Fourth Class Academic Year ... Training Phase**

USNA's 4/C Academic Year trains Plebes for their responsibilities within the Brigade; and besides Academics, also build the foundation for tangible, and intangible, Qualities in making an outstanding Naval Officer, through learning of Self-Discipline; Time Organization; Physical Conditioning; and the ability to Think clearly under Stress and to react quickly, when the unexpected comes your way

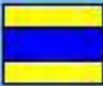























In addition, a Plebe (4/C Midn) is also identifiable as having **NO** Stripes on his, or her, Uniform Sleeves and Shoulder Boards, as well as **NO** identifiable markings on the Uniform Collars.

PLEBE SUMMER REGIMENT
































































Plebes will be assigned to Military Units that will comprise the **4/C Regiment**, or **Plebe Summer Regiment**, which will consist of 2 Battalions: **Port** and **Starboard**. The **Starboard Battalion** has 8 Companies: **ALPHA; BRAVO; CHARLIE; DELTA; EASY; FOXTROT; GOLF; HOTEL**; and the **Port Battalion** has 7 Companies: **INDIA; KILO; LIMA; MIKE; NOVEMBER; OSCAR; PAPA**. This totals 15 Companies, with each Company having 2 Numbered Platoons.; and each Platoon having 4 Squads, with about 10-to-12 Plebes per Squad, for a total of 120 Squads, which will be the Base Unit during **Plebe Summer**.

Each Plebe will be assigned to a Company, and to a Platoon within that Company, for **Plebe Summer**. As stated, there will be 15 Companies, identified as A through P, with 2 Platoons per Company: Alpha Company, 1st and 2nd Platoons | Bravo Company, 3rd and 4th Platoons | Charlie Company, 5th and 6th Platoons | Et Al.

The Figures, herein, further break down, as well as define, the **4/C (Plebe) Summer Regiment**.

D Co 	C Co 	B Co 	A Co 
7 PTL 	5 PTL 	3 PTL 	1 PTL 
8 PTL 	6 PTL 	4 PTL 	2 PTL 
H Co 	G Co 	F Co 	E Co 
15 PTL 	13 PTL 	11 PTL 	9 PTL 
16 PTL 	14 PTL 	12 PTL 	10 PTL 

PLEBE SUMMER ... STARBOARD REGIMENT

M Co 	L Co 	K Co 	I Co 
23 PTL    	21 PTL    	19 PTL    	17 PTL    
24 PTL    	22 PTL    	20 PTL    	18 PTL    
	P Co 	O Co 	N Co 
	29 PTL    	27 PTL    	25 PTL    
	30 PTL    	28 PTL    	26 PTL    

PLEBE SUMMER ... PORT REGIMENT

With the reforming of the BOM, following **Plebe Summer**, usually the third Week in August, your Mid will be assigned to the AC Year Company whose Number coincides with the Platoon Number that he, or she, had during **Plebe Summer**, as Brigade Companies are **Numbered** rather than **Lettered**. Therefore, if your Plebe was in **E**cho (**E**) Company, 10th Platoon, during **Plebe Summer**, then your Mid will, normally, be in 10th Company for the AC Year.

During the AC Year, Plebes will also receive Basic Skills and Training in Seamanship, Marksmanship, Military Drill, Watchstanding, **Y**ard **P**atrol (**YP**) Craft Handling, and the Customs and Traditions of Naval Service.

Plebe Summer ends with the reforming of the **B**rigade **O**f **M**idshipmen (**BOM**) at the beginning of the Academic Year, which usually occurs in late August. It is the challenging, fast-paced, 6-to-7 Week Orientation period of intensive Instruction and Training that will have prepared your Son, or Daughter, to become a Mid and be ready for acceptance by the BOM, when they return from their Summer Duty to begin the Academic Year, in late August. Your Mid's Military Training during **Plebe Summer** will be conducted by selected 1/C (**FIRSTIE**) and 2/C (**FLAMER**) Mids, as well as by selected Commissioned Officers and Enlisted personnel. The Plebes will also meet their Classmates, many of whom will become close friends by Summer's end.

Again, **Plebe Summer** is a highly competitive, and stress is a deliberate part of this USNA Program. A rigorous Physical Conditioning Program, including Calisthenics, Running, Pull-Ups, Sit-Ups, Swimming, Wrestling, and Boxing takes up only a small part of the Daily Regimen. Team Spirit, and the desire to win, are developed through competition in Activities ranging from Athletics to Dress Parades and Seamanship Drills. Your Mid will experience both success, and failure, and will be treated accordingly.

Plebes will also receive Instruction and Indoctrination in the BOM's **Honor Concept**. The Character Development Program stresses that each Individual has the moral courage and the desire to do the right thing because it is right, **not** from a fear of punishment. There will also be additional Training for the Plebes in Human Relationships and Equal Opportunity Concepts. Through it all, however, your Mid is expected to maintain a healthy perspective and learn from his, or her, Experiences.

If your Mid works hard and maintains a sense of humor, then **Plebe Summer** will be a rewarding experience that your Mid will never forget, nor regret. During this entire time, it is recommended that you send plenty of Mail to help your Plebe keep his, or her, spirits up and high. Your Plebe will inform you as to when Care Packages from Home may be sent, to help stave off those hunger pangs when Meals are missed. Care Packages are also highly encouraged and should be sent often. With pre-planning, you will also be able to leave Care Packages at almost any time, when you visit USNA.

Provide your Plebe with plenty of pre-addressed, stamped Envelopes for sending Mail Home - Opportunities to get, or think of, these supplies will be limited. But, do **not** be disappointed if you only get that 1, required Postcard, from your Plebe, after that 1st Week of **Plebe Summer**.

In addition, you will **not** be able to call and speak with your Plebe for those first few Weeks of **Plebe Summer**. However, let your Plebe know that the opportunity to call Home will always be available, when phone calls are allowed. Therefore, consider providing your Plebe with a Calling Card (AT&T preferred), or a Cell Phone.

However remember that each Company has its own Rules and Policies, so be sure that you, and your Mid, are clear on what can, and **cannot**, be had.

Again, be positive and supportive during any phone calls that you do receive from your Plebe, which will start coming around **Plebe Summer's** second week.

After the I-Day Shock, the first few Weeks of **Plebe Summer** will be the hardest. Keep encouraging your Plebe to hang in there for another Day ... another Week ... until Thanksgiving.

NOTE:

Visits from Home are **NOT** encouraged during **Plebe Summer**

Remember that visits from Home tend to make things even harder to cope with for your Plebe, who really needs to keep a clear mind, and a focused purpose.

After **Plebe Summer**, and during the AC Year, as well as during the remainder of your Mid's Tour at USNA, there will be plenty of opportunities to make Visits, provided that your Mid will **not** be on Duty, and so forth, at the time of your planned Visit.

It **cannot** be stressed enough that whenever you visit and stay overnight (Summer and late Fall, when **Annapolis** is busy with Boat Shows, USNA Events, and so forth) make sure that you make Hotel, or lodging, reservations early. Most **Annapolis** Area Hotels will accept reservations for up to 9 Months prior to any Event.

In summary, **Plebe Summer** begins with **I-Day** and culminates with an **Honor Affirmation Ceremony**, wherein Plebes formally affirm their **Allegiance** to the **Honor Concept** and **Treatise** of the **Brigade Of Midshipmen** during **Plebe Parents' Weekend**, as well as re-affirm their **Oath Of Office**.

A typical Day for your Plebe, during **Plebe Summer**, as listed in the Table on the following page, will consist of the following Events, and major Elements:

- **PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM ... Physical Education Program (PEP)** is a progressive 6-Week Exercise Regime designed to enhance the fitness level of the newly inducted Plebes. PEP is an integral part of the 4/C Development and is a controlled, supervised Exercise Program, supporting physical development of Mids.

Upon conclusion of PEP, Plebes will have experienced the following functions: Safe, enjoyable Exercise Habits, Physical Pride, Unit/Class Unity, Spirit, and Pride, as well as an ability to successfully complete **Physical Requirements Tests (PRT)** to USNA Standards.

PEP supports effecting lifestyle changes that will significantly reduce the probability of a Mid failing to meet USNA's **Physical Education (PE)** Requirements, as well as developing his, or her, effectiveness as an Officer.

- **CLOSE ORDER DRILL ... Close OrdEr Drill (COD)** was originated to provide simple Routines from which various Combat Formations can readily be assumed, and is utilized to teach Discipline, Responsibility, Accountability, and Teamwork, as well as build Unit Cohesion. Multiple COD Sessions provide an opportunity to handle individual Weapons, instill Discipline through precision and automatic response to Orders, as well as to increase a Leader's confidence through exercising Command of drilling Troops.

Movements from USNA's Drill Manual are learned and demonstrated during Formal Parades and Platoon Drill Competitions.

- **MARKSMANSHIP ...** Every Plebe will undergo rigorous Military Indoctrination Training (Weapons' Training) during **Plebe Summer**. Some of the most rewarding experiences are the Hands-On Training and Qualifications in the operation and firing of both the Berretta 9mm Pistol, and the Military M-16A2 Combat Rifle. Plebes will learn in-depth Safety Rules and Requirements for the Weapons' Range; and memorize and understand Firearm Components, Safety Features, and Firing Options.

After Hands-On, 1-on-1 Training, Plebes will be provided with an opportunity to qualify on both Weapons with Live Firing Exercises. Plebes achieving a score of Marksman, or Sharpshooter, will be awarded the Navy's Pistol, and/or Rifle, Ribbon while those achieving Expert will be awarded the Navy's Expert Pistol, and/or Rifle, Medal, with corresponding Ribbon.

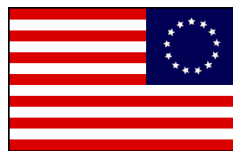
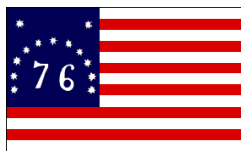
TIME	FUNCTION
0515	GET UP, DRESS FOR PEP (RUNNING SHIRT AND SHORTS)
0530	REVEILLE, FALLOUT INTO PASSAGEWAY
0540	FORMATION FOR PEP, AFTER MAKING RACK
0600	PEP, 1-HOUR
0700	SHOWER AND DRESS MEMORIZE NAVY RATES, DAILY MENU, NEWSPAPER ARTICLES
0754	ROOM CLEAN-UP, MORNING FORMATION, BREAKFAST
0845	MORNING TRAINING
1145	RECITE NAVY RATES FOR SQUAD LEADER, ON DEMAND
1210	NOON MEAL FORMATION, LUNCH
1300	AFTERNOON TRAINING
1600	INTRAMURAL/VARSITY SPORT PRACTICE
1800	EVENING MEAL FORMATION, DINNER
1900	EVENING TRAINING/DRILL PERIOD
2110	PERSONAL TIME
2130	COUNSEL TIME
2145	BLUE AND GOLD

TYPICAL PLEBE SUMMER DAY

Self-discipline, hand-eye precision control, and pride in one's self are some of the attributes Plebes will take away from their Weapons Training Experience.

- **CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT/HONOR EDUCATION** ... Character Development is provided through 14 Hours of Training that is delineated as follows: **Honor Lesson** presents 8 Topics such as Moral Courage, Integrity and Loyalty, and Honor Meaning, as well as the basic mechanics of the **Honor System**; and **Human Relations Class** addressing 6 Issues, such as Discrimination, Conflict Resolution, Stress Management, Alcohol Abuse, and Sexual Assault Prevention.

MUTINY



One of the least known, published, or advertised Mid Traditions at USNA, is a **Mutiny**, which will be declared if an Upperclass Mid discovers more Plebes gathered in a Plebe's Room than legally reside in that Room. That is, if there are more Plebes than there are Racks (Beds) in that Plebe's Room at any one time. Upon an Upperclass Mid making that **Declaration Of Mutiny**, a **Punishment** will then be handed out. That punishment may be just about anything, such as a trip into the Shower, in full Uniform, timed to occur shortly before a Formation.

However, if an **American Flag** is present and prominently on display in that Room where the Plebes are congregated, then this gathering **cannot** be declared a **Mutiny** by an Upperclass Mid.

SPPA supplies an **American Flag**, with this Handbook, to be prominently on display in your Plebe's Room, in **Bancroft Hall**

PARENTS' WEEKEND

Prior to the end of your Mid's **Plebe Summer**, **Plebe Parents' Weekend (PPW)** is scheduled. At this time, you, the Parents, will have a Weekend in which to visit, and spend time, with your Plebe in his, or her, new Environment. In preparation for this Weekend, USNA will provide you with an Information Packet regarding this Weekend. PPW, with its Events Program, will give you an enjoyable opportunity to have a closer look at the Historic Surroundings of USNA: Academic Life; Traditions; Unique Atmosphere; and **Annapolis**, the Town, also known as **Crabtown**.

You will also have an opportunity to enjoy the surrounding Communities, and to see how well, your Son, or Daughter, is developing as a Mid. You will also have an opportunity to meet the Officers, Staff, and Faculty, who were responsible for your Mid, during **Plebe Summer**; or who will be responsible for them during the AC Year. They will be available to answer any Questions that you may have as a result of the Information Packet that you have received regarding this Weekend.

The first time that you will meet with your Mid, will be after Friday's **Noon Formation**. You will meet at a Letter Sign, on Stripling Walk, associated with the 1st Letter of your Mid's Surname; and at this time, you will see your Plebe in his, or her, Summer White Uniform.

Remember that Plebes are **not** allowed to wear Civilian clothing of any type, or drive a Car, at any time. However, he, or she, will have Liberty and will actually be allowed to leave USNA. They will also be able to spend brief periods of time with you. This will be a great time to catch up on everything that your Plebe did, and learned, during **Plebe Summer**. Plan your time well, since your Plebe's Liberty terminates at Midnight on Friday; and as you will have been awake at dawn to, possibly view PEP, you will also be tired.

Recently, USNA has instituted giving Plebes an overnight on the Saturday of PPW. However, do **not** be surprised if all that your Mid will want to do is sleep and eat. If you can, plan to arrive at USNA early on Thursday afternoon of that Weekend. This will provide an opportunity to spend a more leisurely time at USNA. Optimize this time!

During this Weekend, you will also be allowed to visit your Plebe's Room. This Glimpse will be a rare opportunity for you, as you will **not** see a Mid's Room again, at least, **not** until that Second Class Parents' Weekend.

You can also choose to Sail with your Mid, watch a Dress Parade and Sports Exhibitions, dine in King Hall, where all 4,000+ Mids eat their Meals, at the same time during the AC Year.

Make the most of all of these great Opportunities and do visit your Plebe's Room, visit the open areas of **Bancroft Hall**, and visit the other USNA Buildings that will be open to you. A favorite place will, more than likely, be The **Mid Store**. Be prepared to spend Hours in this place. Also, be attentive and responsive at all of the Activities that you attend and be especially tuned to that **P-Rade** (Parade)! Plebes have worked hard to show off what they have accomplished in Drilling and Marching. This is a time to feel proud as Parents of your Plebe and of a job well done!

Alas, PPW will terminate for all of you with that Sunday's Evening Meal Formation; and it will be a tough time for everyone. That is why it is called **Black Sunday**! Be strong with your Plebe, be Positive, and show Encouragement and Support with Love. When you head for Home, be prepared for the Sun to rise on an even Blacker Monday! Remember, you will also have experienced an emotionally and physically overwhelming Weekend. You will also be down because you left your Plebe behind. However, also remember that, on that same Monday, your Plebe will **Now** be facing the **Brigade Of Midshipmen** and preparing to begin his, or her, AC Year.

TRAVEL LIMIT

During **Plebe Summer**, and the attendant AC Year, Plebes are **only** allowed to travel within a restrictive Nautical Mile Radius of USNA. This Travel Restriction changes annually, and your Plebe will know the current Mileage.

Currently, Plebes are allowed to travel within the Tri-City Area encircling USNA, which encompasses Annapolis, Baltimore, and Washington, DC.

On the page, following, is the **30 Nautical Mile Radius** with USNA at Circle center.

REFORM

Following **Plebe Parents' Weekend (PPW)**, the rest of the BOM will return to USNA for Reform. That is, Reform is that time prior to when the rest of the Mids (Upperclass: 3rd, 2nd, 1st Class) are at USNA, to begin the new AC Year. At this time, the Plebes will move to new Rooms and will be issued Books, Uniforms, and Computers. The Plebes' daily routine will change considerably, and they will watch with trepidation as the Upperclass Mids return from Summer Assignments. Suddenly, the Plebes, and Cadre (Detailers), are **not** the only ones around.

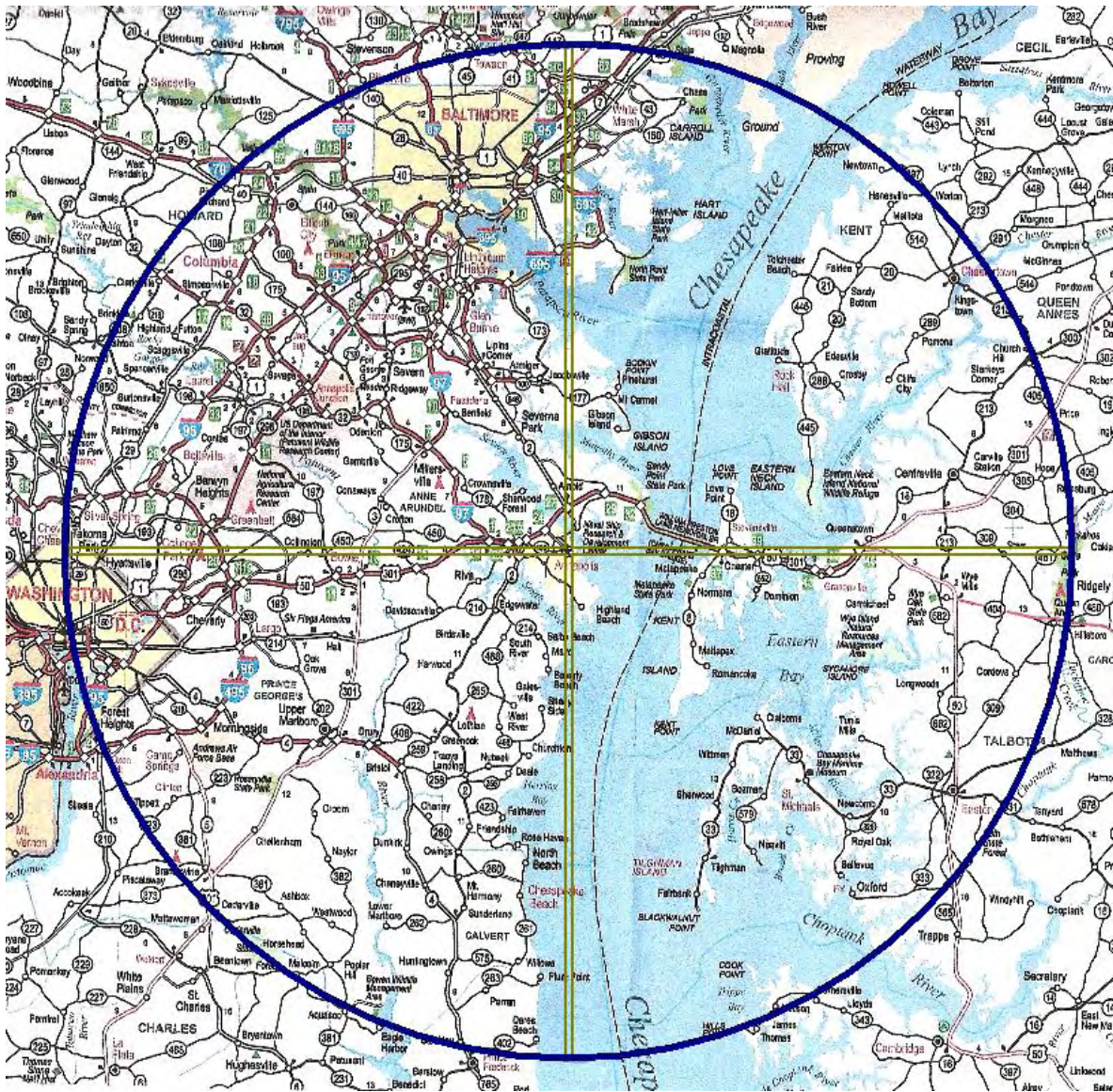
Within 1 Week, there will be over 3,000 Upperclass Mids at USNA; and the Cadre is no longer in the **Minority**. As more and more Upperclass Mids return, the Plebes face a wave of additional prospects; and there will be new Faces, and Names, to memorize.

For many Plebes, Plebe Year now becomes more demanding, because, along with Academics, there will be Come-Arounds, Rates, Athletics, Watches, Marches, Room Inspections, and on, and on; it will **not** get easier.

Plebe Summer has been left behind, and a whole New World will begin, with **Brigade Reform**. Computer issue is a **Brigade Reform Ritual**, with newer, faster Computers giving instant access to Research Materials, Class Notes, Professors' E-Mail Addresses, and Internet. Each Mid will receive a *Yard*-specified Desktop Computer. When this occurs, then Parents will be able to re-establish regular Communications with their Plebe.

Having your Mid's E-Mail Address, and the possibility of Instant Messaging, brings about a sense of connectedness that was impossible during Plebe Summer.

Also, Parents will receive their Mid's Room Phone Number. Although your Mid may **not** always be available, contact can be made most Evenings, or by leaving a Message with one of his, or her, Roommates. With this Contact, your Plebe will have gone from a Survivor to a Student, with Life settling into a pattern of Studying and Free Time, however, never enough, but some Free Time.



PLEBE TRAVEL LIMIT

ACADEMIC YEAR

USNA's AC Year will begin in late August. This is the time that your 4th Class (4/C) Mid will begin, in earnest, to interface with Upperclass Mids, or the BOM. In addition, your Mid will also begin to realize the importance of his, or her, **Plebe Summer**, why it occurred that way, what it was about, and what was to have learned regarding it.

In general, Upperclass Mids will be concerned with Academics, just as will the Plebes. However, Plebe Discipline and Training will continue, as well as their responsibility for continuing Physical Training, since PEP ended upon completion of **Plebe Summer**.

Academic Schedule: Attend 6 Classes, Special Instruction, and a 3-Hour Study Period, as well as Inspections, Formations, Drills, Parades and Sports Practices, and take Calculus, Chemistry, English, Government, Leadership, Naval History, and Naval Science. The latter are the General Background for all Majors.

Majors: After Spring Break, Plebes will declare a Major from 7 Engineering, 7 Science, and 4 Humanities/Social Science Majors, with all Options presented and explained.

NOTE:

Although possible to change Majors, is difficult to accomplish

BRIGADE Of MIDSHIPMEN

As previously stated, at USNA, the Student Body is comprised of all of the Mids that are currently attending USNA, and are known collectively as the BOM.

The following delineates Upperclass Mid Duties, as Members of the BOM:

- **3/C Mids** help Plebes in adjusting to Academic and Military Life at USNA
- **2/C Mids** discipline Plebes in adjusting to Academic and Military Life at USNA
- **1/C Mids** provide Guidance and Leadership to Plebes in adjusting to Academic and Military Life at USNA, as well as providing Leadership to the BOM

BETS / PRANKS

Life as a Plebe will be difficult for your Mid; however, occasionally, there are memorable moments that will make your Plebe and all his, or her, Friends and Family laugh for years to come.

Plebes are required to make Bets with their Upperclass Mids. They must bet for Navy to Win at whatever Sport is currently being contested. If the Plebes win, they get Privileges, such as being in the Company Ward Room to watch TV, play DVD Movies, or listen to CDs on the Stereo. If Navy Loses, they lose Privileges. Since, Plebes normally have **NO** Privileges, interesting consequences can, and do, occur.

Among other things, Plebes are sometimes instructed by their Squad Leaders to tell a new Joke, daily. Parents can help by sending Joke Books.

Also, Plebes are **not** always the brunt of Pranks; and they have been known to dish them out, as well as receive them. All is performed as good-natured Fun!

HOLIDAYS

Unlike College, and University, Freshman, Plebes do **not** have much time to themselves, and look forward to those few Holiday Breaks that are available to them:

Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Spring Break.

However, **not** all Plebes go Home. Some may choose to spend time with their Sponsor, or go to the Home of a Classmate.

It is recommended that you consider hosting one of your Son's, or Daughter's Friends. Hosting another Plebe is a great treat, as they make perfect House Guests.

DARK AGES



As Mids return from Christmas Leave, they have to learn to settle in for those long, cold and depressing Months ahead. Traditionally, January through March's Spring Break represent the **Dark Ages**.

Dark Ages is that time of shortened Daylight, intense Studies, and usually bad Weather; and it is also that time when Plebes, and Upperclass Mids, might fall into some sort of Depression.

As Parents, be prepared to send Mail, and Care Packages, more often, and be extra supportive and encouraging to help your Plebe through this dreary Winter Period.

SEA TRIALS



While many College Students may end their first year with a few Exams, and perhaps, an alcoholic Drink, things are a little different for the Plebes at USNA.

In late Spring of each Ac Year, USNA will provide the Plebes with an opportunity to utilize the Skills learned during the 1st Yard Year, as well as test their Determination, Endurance, Teamwork, and Training. They will be required to endure a 14-Hour period of Challenges regarding Physical Fitness and Problem Solving Tests - known as **Sea Trials** - before they can move on.

Sea Trials is the culmination of 12 Months of Training and is designed to test the Plebe's Physical Endurance and Teamwork Skills. It is one part of a Plebe's journey to become an Officer in the US Navy, or US Marine Corps, and is expected to be a confidence Builder for the Plebes to carry with them, for their time at the USNA and into the Fleet.

Sea Trials, based upon US Navy's **BATTLE STATIONS**, and US Marine Corps' **CRUCIBLE**, is a Day-long Event that serves as the culminating Training Exercise for Plebes. The Event is comprised of 30 separate Stations, which reinforces the importance of Teamwork, Perseverance, and Commitment. It is planned, coordinated, and executed entirely by Upperclass Mids, to emphasize Concepts the Plebes have learned throughout the AC Year, setting the stage for a more in-depth understanding of their Roles as Junior Officers (**JO**) in the Fleet and Marine Force. The Training Objectives of each Station are specifically designed to force the Plebes to work together.

For many, this may be the most challenging, painful, exhausting, and longest Day of their young Lives. This may also be, yet, the most rewarding, as the purpose of **Sea Trials** is to challenge Plebes Morally, Mentally, and Physically, as well as provide personal feedback on Plebe Experiences.

Furthermore, **Sea Trials** was designed to provide Upperclass Mids with an opportunity to enhance, as well as strengthen, their Leadership Skills, as well as to provide Plebes with a Winning Team Attitude!!!

HERNDON CLIMB



The climbing of the **Herndon Monument** is normally the **Ultimate Culmination** to your Mid's 4/C, or Plebe Year!

This historic event, which occurs on an afternoon of a day that is normally, but **not** always around Memorial Day Weekend, is also known as the **Plebe Recognition Ceremony**, and marks the start of **Commissioning Week**.

If held, the Herndon Monument Plebe Assault will begin at mid-afternoon. A successful climb, regardless of the time of completion, will mark a Mid's transformation from a Plebe to a 4/C Mid. Until the Climb has been completed, and that **Plebe Dixie Cup** is exchanged for an **Upperclass Cover**, Mids, of any Class, will **not** be able to leave USNA.

It is to also be noted that Tradition has it that the Plebe, who successfully makes the climb and makes that Cover Exchange, will be given a pair of Admiral's Shoulder Boards and will be that Class's first **Admiral**. However, this has **not** as yet happened. The successful Climber will receive the **Superintendent's Cap** and Souvenir **Admiral's Boards**, as a Memento of this great Occasion.

The Herndon Monument, on the grounds of USNA, is a 21-Foot tall Grey Obelisk, that was erected, on 16 June 1860 and has never been moved even though USNA was completely rebuilt between 1899 and 1908. The Monument was erected in memory of Captain *William Lewis Herndon*, who courageously decided to go down with his Ship, **SS CENTRAL AMERICA**, a Pacific Mail Steamer on 12 September 1857, during a Hurricane off of Cape Hatteras on the North Carolina Coast. All Women, Children and many of the Men onboard were saved by a nearby Ship, during the storm.

NOTE:

Table, herein, delineates **Herndon Monument** Climb Times

For further information regarding Herndon, and related Climb Times, conduct a Search on the USNA **Web Site**.

THIRD CLASS SUMMER

At the completion of your Mid's **Plebe Academic Year**, USNA will divide your Plebe's Summer into **Training Blocks**. The primary Program Goal is to provide each Mid with a wide range of Activities and Experiences, relevant to their future Naval Career. These experiences will enable each Mid to make an informed choice regarding his, or her, future as a Naval, or Marine Corps, Officer. Each 3/C Mid's Summer Assignment will vary regarding as to when each Block will occur. There is **NO** standard Format, Schedule, or Set-up.

Regarding a Leave Period, that may, or may **not**, occur, depending upon your Mid's Summer Schedule. However, at the completion of your Mid's **3/C Summer**, he, or she, will return to USNA in late August for the upcoming **Youngster Year**.



YEAR	CLASS	TIME	REMARKS
1962	1965	0:03:00	FIRST RECORDED TIME
1969	1972	0:01:30	FASTEST RECORDED TIME - WIRE MESH!
1990	1993	1:34:50	FASTEST SINCE CLASS OF 1991
1995	1998	4:05:17	LONGEST TO DATE!!!
2000	2003	1:19:44	FASTEST SINCE CLASS OF 1993
2003	2006	1:19:00	FASTEST SINCE CLASS OF 2003
2005	2008	1:16:13	FASTEST SINCE CLASS OF 2006
2010	2013	0:02:30	CLEAN MONUMENT ... NO GREASE!
2011	2014	2:41:32	MONUMENT RE-GREASED!
2012	2015	2:10:13	FASTEST SINCE MONUMENT RE-GREASED
2013	2016	1:32:43	FASTEST SINCE CLASS OF 2015

SIGNIFICANT / INTERESTING HERNDON MONUMENT CLIMB TIMES





On Monday afternoon, 25 May 1998,
First *SPPA* Plebe, whose Parents were *SPPA* Members,
to successfully reach the top of the Herndon Monument, was:
Midshipman 4/C *Joshua B. Stewart*, USNA '01
Downingtown, PA
HERNDON was successfully breached in
2 Hours : 22 Minutes : 55 Seconds



CLASS OF 2001 ... *PLEBES No Mo'*



THIRD CLASS MIDSHIPMAN





GENERAL

With the successful climb of the **Herndon Monument**, your Mid's **Plebe Year** will be over, and your Mid will now be a Third Class (3/C) Mid, or a Youngster. As such, your Mid will now be expected to help to those Plebes assigned to him, or her. He, or she, will be given an opportunity to relate his, or her, Plebe Year experiences and to exercise Leadership and Judgments.

THIRD CLASS

As a 3/C Mid, your Mid will now be a part of the responsibilities involved with the preparations for, and the conduct of, the **Herndon Monument Climb** by that Year's Plebe Class. In addition, your Mid may also be assigned a Company Leadership Position.

As Youngsters, they will follow a new set of Rules and Regulations. They can actually sit on the Benches scattered throughout USNA and get to stay up later than 2300 Hours. This is a privilege that is often **not** exercised because Exhaustion has its limits! In addition, they will have extended Town Liberties, although Curfew will still be in effect.

Youngsters are identifiable by a **Single Diagonal Stripe** on their Uniform Sleeves, and on their Shoulder Boards. They also wear an **Anchor Pin** on the Right Side of their Uniform Collar.

ACADEMICS

All Youngsters take the same Courses during their **Plebe Year** and will choose their Major during the Spring Semester of that Year. During their **Youngster Year**, they will be involved with the Courses that are required for their Major.

LUAU



During **Commissioning Week**, the Plebes climb **Herndon**, the **Flamers** promenade through their **Ring Dance**, and the **Firsties Graduate**. The Youngsters' **Luau** is designed to allow them an opportunity to blow off steam and relax.

They can design their own T-Shirt; wear Hawaiian Leis and Shorts; and have plenty of food and music to please everyone, as they lounge at **Sherman Field** on Hospital Point.

SECOND CLASS SUMMER

At the completion of your Mid's **3/C Year**, USNA divides your Mid's Summer into **Training Blocks**. As before, each Mid's Summer Assignment will vary regarding as to when each Block will occur. There is no standard Format, Schedule, or Set-Up. All Mids, who are about to become Flamers, are assigned according to Service Interest.

SECOND CLASS MIDSHIPMAN





GENERAL

After the completion of **3/C Summer**, your Mid will now be a 2/C Mid, or Flamer, and will be responsible for training incoming Plebes. That is, your Mid will train those assigned Plebes, as well as being given further opportunities to exercise Leadership, Judgments. In addition, your Mid may also be assigned a Company Leadership Position.

SECOND CLASS

As Flamers, they also will follow stricter Rules and Regulations, as they will now be part of the **Cadre** that will be training the Plebes. In addition, they also will be able to stay up later than 2300 Hours and have extended Town Liberties, although Curfew will still be in effect.

A 2/C Mid is identifiable by **2 Diagonal Stripes** on their Uniform Sleeves, and on their Shoulder Boards. They also wear an **Anchor Pin** on the Right and Left Side of their Uniform Collar.

PARENTS' WEEKEND

Sometime in September, a **Parents' Weekend** will be scheduled. At this time, you, as 2/C Mid Parents, will have a 4-Day Weekend to spend with your Mid. Special functions will be scheduled for you to attend, as well as a Navy Football Game.

Tradition has it that **Parents' Weekend** Weather will duplicate **Plebe Parents' Weekend** Weather.

Friday morning, and afternoon, will be spent attending Classes with your Mid. If it is an all 2/C Mid Class, then the Professor will talk with you, the Parents.

ACADEMICS

The 2/C Mids will continue with Academics where the previous Year left off, but with the Course Selection now very detailed regarding the chosen Major, and related Courses. This Year is acknowledged to be the toughest Academic Year.

PHYSICAL TRAINING

In addition to the normal Physical Education Requirements, all must pass the **Tower Jump** and the **40 Year Swim** (1/2-Mile Swim in 40 Minutes, fully clothed) to Graduate.

2 FOR 7

For 2/C Mids, the **Point of No Return** is called **2 FOR 7**. This means that there are 2 Years remaining at USNA, and 5 Years left to serve in the **Fleet**, after Graduation. This is a momentous **Decision** made at the beginning of their 2/C AC Year, and many Mids consider both Options: **To Stay**, or **To Leave**. These Mids do know that they can leave at the end of their 2/C Summer Training without incurring any further **Military Obligation**, with 2 Years of Undergraduate Study completed, and with **NO** Debt.

However, leaving for any reason after Day 1 of Class of Ac Year, other than being separated by the US Navy, will result in a **3-Year Naval Enlistment**. Similar situation for 1/C Mids, except it is a **5-Year Naval Enlistment**.

LOAN

Each Year, during February/March, USNA will hold a **Bankers Open House**, where various Financial Institutions (**USAA; Navy Federal Credit Union; Navy Mutual**) are invited to present their Products and Services Package to 2/C Mids.

This is an opportunity to set-up what is called a **Starter Loan**, an **Unsecured Loan** permitting 2/C Mids to an amount of money, as high as \$30,000, re-paid over a 48-Month Period at a very low interest rate.

RING



Sometime early in the 2/C Year, Mids will be ordering their **Class Ring**. The Rings come in all shapes, and sizes, with every type of stone and setting that be can imagined. What all of the Rings have in common is the Class Year and Crest, which represents a Mid's connection to USNA, and to his/her classmates.

This is a big occasion, and many sleepless nights may unfold while your Mid decides what Ring to procure!

Each Class designs their own Ring, a Custom that was started by the **Class of 1869**. Mids wear their **Class Ring** with pride and distinction, throughout their Military Career and probably for the rest of their lives. Many long, retired Naval Officers wear their Class Ring next to their Wedding Band. Often Wedding Band are custom made to fit next to the Class Ring.

USNA Graduates, and the Families of deceased USNA Graduates, solely own that Ring.

NOTE:

Contract Jewelers will not to make **Class Rings** for non-Graduates, Collectors

RING DANCE



One of the major Social Events, in a Mid's life at USNA, is a large formal event, known as the **Ring Dance**. It is the highpoint of the **2/C Year** and is normally held on the Saturday Night, following the **Plebes'** climb of the **Herndon Monument**, at the beginning of the **Commissioning Week** Festivities.

The Ring Dance is considered to be the Right-of-Passage for 2/C Mids, as is **Herndon** for 4/C Mids. At this Function, Mids officially receive their **Class Rings**, which are then blessed by being dipped into the **Waters Of The Seven Seas** and are officially permitted to wear their **Class Rings**.

Also, after officially receiving their Class Ring, 2/C Mids will be allowed to wear their Class Rings, that were ordered earlier in the Year, after the Class Ring has been blessed by being dipped into the **Waters Of The Seven Seas**, in Bowl containing all 7 Seas Water (Antarctic; Arctic; Atlantic; Caribbean; Indian; Mediterranean; and Pacific), as well as Water melted from Ice, which fell as Snow in Antarctic (Year Christ born); Water flown in Space by USNA Graduates; and Water taken from the SEVERN RIVER, where it flows into Atlantic, to remind the Mids of their 4 Years together, by The Bay.

As part of this Tradition, Navy Chaplains gather, mix the Waters, and dip each Class Ring to symbolize that these Mids are being Wedded to the Navy. It is a Solemn Tradition that 2/C Mids take very seriously.

In addition, the Ring Dance, itself, is more akin to a Dining-In than a Prom. The Ring Dance is a formal affair, with the Mids at their spit-and-polish formal Mess Dress best. The Ladies Gowns are breath-taking, very elegant and sophisticated. The Ring Dance begins with Dinner; and then, after Dinner, the Dipping Ceremony will occur. If the Weather is favorable, the Ring Dance will be held outside on the Landing between *Rickover Hall* and *Nimitz Library*. If the Weather is not cooperative, the Ring Dance will be moved inside, to *Dahlgren Hall*. To conclude the Ring Dance, there is, normally, a spectacular Fireworks show.

It is to be noted that the Ring Dance was established as a Yard Tradition in 1925, to replace a more rowdy Custom, where 2/C Mids put on their Rings after completing their Final Exam in Navigation. In 1924, as these 2/C Mids were leaving Class, they were grabbed by 1/C Mids and dragged to **Dewey Basin**, where they were thrown into the Severn River. Unfortunately, a 2/C Mid did not return to the surface, after being thrown into the Severn River. Apparently, this 2/C Mid hit his Head on the Seawall; and NO one noticed that he did not return to the surface. The **Drowning** prompted USNA to change the manner in which the 2/C Mids were to receive their Class Rings.

FIRST CLASS SUMMER

At the completion of your Mid's **2/C Year**, USNA again will divide the Summer into Training Blocks.

As before, each Mid's Assignment will vary regarding as to when, where, each Block will occur. There is no standard Format, Schedule, or Set-Up. All Mids, who are about to become Firsties, are assigned according to their Service Interest.

Again, a Leave Period may, or may not, occur, depending upon your Mid's Summer Schedule.

However, at the completion of your Mid's **1/C Summer**, he, or she, will return to USNA in late August, for the upcoming Academic Year, your Mid's **Firstie Year!**

FIRST CLASS MIDSHIPMAN



FIRSTIE



GENERAL

After the completion of the **1/C Summer**, your Mid will now be a 1/C Mid, or Firstie. As such, your Mid will be expected to lead all Mids, who are assigned to him, or her. In addition, your Mid will be given opportunities to exercise Leadership Skills and Judgments, as well as again, be given a Company Leadership Position.

FIRST CLASS

It is to be noted that 2/C Mids are **not** officially 1/C Mids, or Firsties, until those Graduating Firstie Covers hit the **Navy/Marine Corps Memorial Stadium Turf**.

As Firsties, they also will follow even stricter Rules and Regulations, as they will be leading the BOM. Those Firsties, in Leadership Positions of Authority, are called Stripers, due to the number of Stripes (1-6) that identify their Rank. To maximize the number of Mids being able to acquire Leadership Experience, Stripers rotate at Semester Break. In addition, the Firsties will also be able to stay up later than 2300 Hours and have may extended Town Liberties, although Curfew will still be in effect.

Again, their Rank is identifiable by the number of Horizontal Stripes on their Uniform Sleeves and on their Shoulder Boards; and they also wear a number of Gold Bars on the Right and Left Side of their Uniform Collar.

SERVICE SELECTION

USNA's **Service Selection Process** has been developed to select the best qualified Mid to meet the Navy's Strategic Plan Requirements, by utilizing an Interview Function and a Ranking Criteria, which will result in the determining of that First Duty Assignment, in the Naval Communities. This Process, which begins in the Fall (Late September, early October Timeframe) of the Firstie Academic Year, is based upon the Whole Person Concept, and is comprised of Four (4) Phases, relating to a Mid: Personal Interview; Physical, Medical, and Academic Screening; Personal Indication; and total USNA Record, as well as Personal Preferences. The Service Selection Assignment Board, which determines a Mid's Service Selection, is comprised of the Community Assignment Board; the Whole Person Concept; the Mid's Personal Preferences; and the Executive Review Board.

Upon receiving the Supe's Approval, all Assignments are posted, and the process is completed on **Service Selection Night**, which is normally be held on either the last Friday in January, or the first Friday in February of that Academic Year.

COMMISSIONING WEEK

That final, big, and perhaps the most memorable **Event** in your Mid's, and your Family's, Life, **Commissioning Week**! You will receive detailed Information regarding this Event from USNA; and the Event will begin late in May, normally around the Memorial Day Holiday, with the **Plebe Recognition Ceremony**, Herndon.

Your Mid's Commissioning Week will terminate with **Graduation and Commissioning Swearing-In Ceremonies**.

HAT TOSS



The **Graduation Hat Toss** is the traditional ending to the **Graduation and Commissioning Ceremonies**, and has become the **Symbolic End** to a Mid's 4 Years at USNA. Before 1912, Graduates were required to serve 2 Years in the **Fleet** as Mids before being commissioned as Naval Officers. Thus, these Mids had a need for their Mid Covers (Hats). However, when the Class of 1912 was commissioned, they were the first to be issued Officer Caps; and in a spontaneous gesture, the Mids tossed their Hats into the air.

ASSIGNMENT

Some time prior to or during **Commissioning Week**, your Mid will either know, or will be told, what his, or her, actual First Duty Assignment will be, as things do tend to change even after **Service Selection**.

Upon completion of their **1/C Year**, all Mids receive a **Bachelor of Science (BS) Degree** and a **Commission** as either a **US Naval Officer**, or a **US Marine Corps Officer**.

PANORAMIC PHOTOGRAPH

Sometime in late February, or early March, of your Mid's **1/C Year**, an announcement will be received in the mail, from **Denver Panoramic Photography**, which will be an offer for you to acquire a group photo of your Mid's Class.

This Photo will be taken in front of **Bancroft Hall**, with a special Zoom Lens that will allow every Mid's Face to be identifiable, or be clearly seen and will be suitable for framing and will measure approximately 33" X 10".

Duty ~ Honor ~ Country



Courage ~ Integrity ~ Commitment

SPPA has compiled this Parents' Handbook, as a service to its Members, and especially for the Parents of Fourth Class Midshipmen, PLEBES, who are currently attending USNA, and their Families.

Please take the time to read all of this information, as you will find it to be invaluable over the upcoming 4 Years. Every effort has been made to insure the accuracy of the Handbook's contents, has been updated with the latest information, as practical. However, the information that you receive from USNA, throughout the Year, will be the best source for the most accurate information.

SPPA recommends that you always verify the Details, Dates, and Places, for all USNA Events and Information, since these can change from Year-to-Year.



911 - - - NEVER TO BE FORGOTTEN!



Go NAVY
BEAT ARMY!



United States Naval Academy



SPPA Members began to attend USNA's Plebe Luncheon to solicit incoming Plebe Parents, providing rationale for joining Club.

Plebe Luncheon held annually at Officers' Club, Naval Air Station (NAS)/Joint Reserve Training (JRT) Base, Willow Grove, PA, under direction of Blue and Gold Officer (BGO), CAPTAIN *Donald A. McRae*, USNR (Retired), USNA's Southeastern (S/E) Pennsylvania's (PA) BGO Area Coordinator.

Initial Parents' Handbook was approximately 10 pages in length and grew larger over the years, as SPPA perceived need to provide more pertinent data, and/or information, to incoming Plebe Families.

In mid-2000s, Appendices were removed and placed in Reference Library located on Club's Web Site.

**SPPA Parents' Handbook authored, and maintained, by
Joseph W. Bartish, Parent, USNA Class of 1993**

Initial Issue: June 1990



**SOUTH EASTERN
PENNSYLVANIA
PARENTS'
ASSOCIATION**

**PARENTS'
HANDBOOK**

**UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND**