

USNA CLASS OF 1959
59th Reunion Committee

Minutes of Committee Meeting 10 April 2018

The 59th Reunion Committee conducted its fifth meeting on 10 April 2018 at the Naval Academy Club commencing at 1400.

Committee members in attendance were: Gary Smith, Paddy Ford, Charlie Pease, Frank Pipkin, Pete and Elaine Stout, Bob and Sandy Reifsnnyder, Bill Garrett, Dan Truax, Walt Szczypinski, Jay Bainbridge, Dolf Lekebusch and Jim Wilson.

Committee Chairman Gary Smith announced that the goal of commencing registration for our 59th Reunion in February 2018 had not been met but that Registration had actually commenced on March 19, 2018 when Charlie Pease sent e-mails to the class. Simultaneously, the USNA Alumni Association had mailed to the class the Gouge and the mail-in Registration Form. The timing of this Committee meeting was selected to assess how registration was proceeding. To date, 89 persons are registered including two widows and four registrations by mail. This is a little slower than desired and efforts to increase registrations toward the planning figure of 375 were to be discussed. In the Jan/Feb 2018 issue of Shipmate there was a full page ad announcing our 59th Reunion without details. In our class column in the March 2018 Shipmate issue, more Reunion details were given. A detailed full page ad prepared by Pete Stout will appear in the July/August 2018 Shipmate issue. Also Charlie Pease will ensure the class Shipmate column between now and the Reunion will contain Reunion Information.

Also in the class column in the March 2018 Shipmate issue, Gerry Garbacz described the installation of the Burgess data base computer system at the Columbarium, funded by our class gift. To encourage classmate visits to the Columbarium site during our 59th reunion, the transportation plan has been revised to include the Columbarium site on the internal Yard bus shuttle route. Additionally, a bus will be scheduled to visit the Columbarium after the Memorial Service on Friday.

The Committee extended their sympathy to Paddy and Mary Ford on the loss of their son Danny the previous week and noted that funeral services and burial of Dan Richardson's wife, Leslie (sister of classmate Dave Sullivan,) will occur at USNA on 12 April, 2018. The Chairman forgot to note that a funeral mass for Frank Pipkin's son, Matthew, had been held on 23 March 2018. Reunion Committee members would recall that Matthew had hosted some committee meetings in his bank's board room for previous reunions. Subsequent to this meeting, Frank thanked classmates at dinner for their expressions of sympathy.

Committee chairmen reported the following:

Company Parties: Jim Wilson provided company representatives the status of where company parties will be held via e-mail on 9 March 2018. Many are as yet undetermined. He will contact the company representatives again shortly to encourage their company mates to promptly register for the Reunion and to firm up their party plans.

Correspondence: Charlie Pease will continue to provide appropriate reunion updates to Shipmate. The deadline for submission of the next full page ad in the JULY/AUGUST edition of Shipmate is 29 May 2018. Pete Stout will draft the ad and provide it to Gary Smith for submission by Charlie Pease.

Data: Elaine Stout provided printouts showing the status of registrations as of April 6, 2018. She also showed data from the Monkey survey, upon which estimates have been based. Data received from the online registration process has not been as good as for the 55th Reunion and Elaine is working with Holly Powers to improve this situation. Meanwhile, she has created a new secure Reunion web site for the use of the committee, which is still under development, and will be made available to Committee members shortly.

Favors: Pete Stout announced that Jack London will provide a 59th Reunion commemorative coin as a gift to the class which will include the class crest. Walt Szczpinski will bring to the next meeting a similar coin created by Jack London for a separate event. **Committee members were requested to individually provide a suggested slogan to be embossed on the coin to Pete who will coordinate the Committee's choice of slogans to Jack.** Concerning the business card favors, questions regarding inclusion of the phone number must be resolved. Pete Stout will make contact with Thread Logic and have made a simple male and female shirt with the Class Crest and the words, USNA '59. In addition he will price other OPTIONAL items with both Thread Logic and Anchor Enterprises to select a vendor for purchasing items by Reunion attendees on-line directly with the vendor. The Committee agreed that the Stuffing Party would be held at Dahlgren Hall on 3 October 2018 from 1-5pm as arranged by Holly Powers

Finances: Questions have arisen regarding refunds and it is thought that refund policy unknowns may be reflected in slow registration. Paddy Ford will propose a stated policy to the Committee Chairman for approval and promulgation to the class. The Committee agreed that full refunds should be provided prior to 1 September 2018

Hotels: Pete Stout reported that 65 of 65 available rooms have been booked at the Hilton Garden Inn, 35 of 60 available rooms have been booked at the Courtyard by Marriott and 15 of 20 available rooms have been booked at the Residence Inn Annapolis.

Printing: Bill Garrett reported that Free State Press will need the number of items to be printed (Gouge, Bus schedule, etc.) by about 1 September 2018. Frank Pipkin reported that old Tailgate signs will be updated and reused.

Registration: Bob and Sandy Reifsnnyder have made arrangements for the required assistants. The Committee emphasized that properly annotated name tags are required for entry to all pay reunion events, including the Football Game N* Buffet.

Religious Events: Dan Truax reported that because of his medical problems, he has relinquished his Chairmanship of Religious Events to Bob Beaton.

Sporting Events: Online data registration does not provide names for Golf and Tennis for our data displays. Norm Bednarek subsequently informed that he has arranged for six tee times for golf and that tennis courts behind the Eighth Wing have been reserved for tennis.

NAVY vs AIR FORCE AWAY Football Game N*Buffet. Blank name tags will be available in case of last minute attendees. Frank Pipkin will provide Elaine Stout the menu for promulgation on the Reunion web site. Frank will look in to the addition of big screen TVs.

Transportation: Walt Szczypinski met with the Annapolis Bus Company this date and discussed modifications to their proposal. This is an on going project but the bus company is very responsive to our needs. Walt reiterated the importance of Holly Powers' obtaining approval from USNA security for our buses to enter the Yard for the Friday Memorial Service and Sunday Church Services. Holly will request this approval about one month before the Reunion.

Trolley Tour of Historic Annapolis: Elaine Stout will create a Trolley Preference Table from Alumni Registration data to enable the assignment of individuals to specific tours. This assignment will take place after the close of registration on 1 August 2018.

Yard Events: Location of the Virtual Tour and Leadership Briefing on Friday are still to be determined. The need for additional transportation for these events, other than the Yard Shuttle, is not anticipated.

Handicap Arrangements: Personnel requiring handicap assistance are highlighted in red on the data sheets. Some school buses are outfitted with a wheelchair lift capability. Dolf Lekebusch will coordinate requirements.

The next Reunion Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, 12 June 2018. This meeting adjourned at 1645.

Respectfully submitted: Gary Smith