



Hudson Valley Scuttlebutt

October 2017 - Issue 7

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2017 USNA Graduation



Just a few months ago, on Friday, May 26, the Class of 2017 graduated from the United States Naval Academy. 1,053 midshipmen, from the 167th class, threw their covers in the air and are now commissioned as Navy Ensigns or Marine Corps 2nd lieutenants. Vice President Michael Pence delivered the graduation address. Hats off and congratulations!



The mission of the United States Naval Academy is to develop Midshipmen morally, mentally, and physically and imbue them with the highest ideals of duty, honor, and loyalty in order to graduate leaders who are dedicated to a career of Naval service and have potential for future development in mind and character to assume the highest responsibilities of command, citizenship, and government.

HVPG & USNA Favorite Links

- USNA Hudson Valley Parents Group Website <http://hvpg.usnaparents.net>
- USNA HVPG Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/usnahudsonvalleyparentsgroup/>
- USNA Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/USNavalAcademy>
- Navy Sports <http://www.navysports.com>
- Naval Academy Parent Event Calendar <http://www.usna.com/parents-event-calendar>

What's Coming Up...

Please Join Us!



Navy vs. Notre Dame Football
Sat., November 18 at 3:00pm (3:30 game)

The Brazen Fox

175 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains, NY 10601



2017 Army - Navy Football Game

Saturday, December 9, 2017 - 3:00 pm
Lincoln Financial Field, Philadelphia, PA



Hudson Valley Parents Group Pin



Represent the Hudson Valley at the Naval Academy. Club pins can be ordered for \$12 each. If interested, send your check, payable to the *Hudson Valley Parents Group*, to:

Guy Buonocore

106 Ridge Rd

Valley Cottage, NY 10989-2465

Guy10989@gmail.com

Remember to include the correct spelling of your name and your complete, return mailing address. Delivery time is approximately two weeks. If you have any questions, please contact Guy.

To help fund future events and activities, please consider donating.

<http://hvpg.usnaparents.net/donate-to-hvpg/>

Your support is greatly appreciated!

DONATE NOW

Affordable Holiday Transportation

The NYC Parent Group has made arrangements for round-trip travel for the Thanksgiving weekend. The Mid Express Bus will leave the Yard on Wednesday, November 22 and return on Sunday, November 26.

Arrangements are also available to return to the Yard on the Mid Express Bus on Thursday, January 4 after the semester break.

See the **HVPG website** for a link to the registration form, cost and additional information.

Dark Ages Cookie Delivery

During the *Dark Ages of February* at the Academy, the HVPG makes arrangements with *The Calvary Cookie Factory* to deliver a baker's dozen of chocolate chip cookies to each HV mid's room. There is no charge for the cookies, but donations are welcome.

Remember to submit your membership form (on hvpg website) with your mid's information!

News to Report...

Welcome Aboard Picnic

The Welcome Aboard Picnic was held on Sunday, June 4 at the Outdoor Recreation Round Pond Campground at West Point. Despite the rainy weather (again!), there were about 30 people in attendance, including two midshipmen headed to USNA and one to NAPS. Representatives from The United Services Automobile Association (USAA) were in attendance and discussed the services available.



Herndon Climb

Congratulations to the USNA Class of 2020 for successfully working together to replace the plebe cover with a midshipman cover at the top of the greased and wet-down, 21-foot tall Herndon monument, dedicated to Commander William Lewis Herndon. On Monday, May 22, Midshipman 4/C Joe McGraw reached the top in 2 hours, 21 minutes and 21 seconds. After successfully completing the climb, the freshman are “plebes no more.”



Summer Training Blocks

So what does a midshipman do over the summer? They use their learnings from their academic studies in a practical environment. This training occurs over four blocks – block ‘0’ through ‘3’, from the middle of May to the middle of August.

Each block except “0” is 4 weeks in duration. Block 0 is the two week period from the end of the academic year through Commissioning. The mid may be invited to an internship at a national lab, spend time in a submarine or on a destroyer, can go on an Alaskan expedition, or spend time overseas in a language immersion program. They may also remain on the yard working with high school students who attend the Naval Academy camps or be on a ship for yard patrol.



News to Report...

Induction Day

Induction Day, more commonly known as "I Day", marks the beginning of Plebe Summer, a demanding six-week period during which civilian students are indoctrinated into military life. The Class of 2021 reported to Alumni Hall on Thursday, June 29 with a class size of 1,214 consisting of 887 men and 327 women. They finished their first day with the Oath of Office Ceremony.



Plebe Summer and Plebe Parents Weekend

The purpose of Plebe Summer, according to the Academy, is to "turn civilians into midshipmen." Over the course of the six weeks, plebes are challenged, both mentally and physically. The culmination of the Plebe Summer is Plebe Parents Weekend. For the Class of 2021, it was August 10-13. During the four day weekend, parents were able to see their plebes in a formal parade, tour the dorms at Bancroft Hall, and meet with faculty and staff members. The class of 2021 joined the Brigade of Midshipmen a few days later.



News to Report...

Class of 2019 Commits to Serve

The “2 for 7” signing represents a midshipman’s dedication to finish two more years of school at the Naval Academy and to serve in the Navy or Marine Corps for at least 5 years after commissioning. This is a big decision made at the beginning of the Second Class academic year. Congratulations!



Jamie Maguire signing “2 for 7.”

We Will Always Remember



On September 11, midshipmen ran relays in small groups carrying the American Flag around the grounds of the Naval Academy for the entire day. From sunrise until 6:00pm, they honored those who were lost that day. The run was one of several 9-11 remembrance events held at the Academy.

2/C Parents’ Weekend

2/C Parents’ Weekend took place on September 22-24, 2017, a beautiful and warm weekend! The weekend offers an exceptional opportunity for parents to visit with their midshipman to expand their knowledge of the traditions, academic life and unique atmosphere of the Naval Academy. To make a great weekend even better, Navy beat Cincinnati!



Please Read...

SAVE THE DATES

Saturday, November 18 - Notre Dame vs. Navy – 3:00pm at The Brazen Fox, White Plains. Game starts at 3:30pm.

Saturday, December 9 – Navy vs. Army at Smoky Rock BBQ - hosted by Nike Psichas and family (son Alex is a youngster) will be showing the game again this year and generously allowing all military families to eat free of charge. More info to follow.

Saturday, February 10 - Navy vs. Army basketball game - assist with tailgating at West Point. More info to follow.

February 2018 – TBD – All Academy Ball. More info to follow.

REMEMBER to complete the membership form on the HVPG website!



GO NAVY FOOTBALL!!

09/01/17	at Florida Atlantic	Boca Raton, Fla.	W, 42-19
09/09/17	vs. Tulane *	Annapolis, Md.	W, 23-21
09/23/17	vs. Cincinnati *	Annapolis, Md.	W, 42-32
09/30/17	at Tulsa *	Tulsa, Okla.	W, 31-21

HVPG is now an official 501 3c tax exempt non-profit organization so all donations are tax deductible. You can help support the group every time you shop at Amazon. Just follow this link to AmazonSmile: <https://smile.amazon.com> and search for and select **USNA Hudson Valley Parent Group**. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. Please share with your mids.