

YARDTALES

A PUBLICATION OF THE WISCONSIN NAVAL ACADEMY PARENTS' ASSOCIATION



YARDTALES
Spring 2008

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Stephanie & John Kelling



From the Helm

By: John and Stephanie Kelling
WISNAPA Co-Presidents
Chad Kelling - Class of 2009

Seize your opportunities

One summer during my first years in college, I painted my grandfather's house in Milwaukee. We'd take a break each noon and go out for lunch. Our conversation carried over into the garage as he smoked his daily cigar. The time with my grandfather gave me the opportunity to ask him questions about his life. He was born in 1892 and experienced much in his 93 years before his death in 1985.

That summer was a time I will never forget. Unfortunately, I should have recorded those conversations. Though I remember the essence of what he told me, the details have long been forgotten. All of us have those moments in our past we wished we could remember more vividly. Those we know have so much tell us about their past,

it's hard for us to remember it all, and then pass it along to those we want to tell.

Our family has always been history-oriented, but since our involvement through Chad at the Academy, our scope of American and military history has broadened greatly. I'm sure yours has too, with your Mid's appointment. With those who have walked the hallowed halls of Bancroft and Stribling Walk, there are plenty of stories yet to be heard, as well from those who served our country but did not have the Academy as a their introduction to military life. We need to hear from them too. As we begin our journey in the early years of the 21st century, we realize how the 20th shaped our lives by the wisdom, determination, courage and sacrifice of so many. We can only

imagine where our sons and daughters will lead us and the generations to follow as history is being created and they make their mark.

Since assuming the "helm" of WISNAPA, my goal has been to find those individuals who have stories to tell, provide them an opportunity to share and a forum for us to hear. Our lives have been enriched by those who have spoken to us in the past, and we can only anticipate great stories and memories yet to come. Though we cannot hear from everyone, we certainly don't want to regret "missed opportunities."

Each day more than 1200 servicemen and women who forged and defended our freedoms since World War II are dying. Just think of the stories being lost to the ages. Though

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Wisconsin Naval Academy Parents' Association (www.wisnapa.org)
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Class of 2008

Service Assignments



Andrew Clingman
Submarines
Steve & Sue Clingman
Brookfield



Brian Davis
Sumbarines
Sue Glumske, Chetek
Brad & Pam Davis, Barron



Douglas De Vuono
Naval Aviator
Tony & Cindy De Vuono
Racine



Marta Drew
Naval Aviator
Skip & Wendy Hein-Drew
Milton



Jacob Gerlach
Submarines
Bryan & Jackie Gerlach
Brookfield



David Jach
Marine Pilot
Joan Jach
Milwaukee



Kimberly Julka
USMC Ground
Jeff Julka
Fond du Lac



Ian Kilpatrick
Surface Warfare Officer
Paul & Amy Kilpatrick
Glendale



Caroline Mayer
Naval Aviator
Greg & Nanette Mayer
Racine



Jessica Troska
Surface Warfare Officer
Keith & Lois Troska
Anoka, Minn.



Emily Vanden Heuvel
USMC Ground
Tom & Marueen Vanden Heuvel
Hartford



Army - Navy Football • Baltimore, MD • December 1, 2007

Panorama created by Breck Barker as part of the 2007 Army-Navy Fundraiser for "Operation Support Our Troops"



Photo by: Jerry Dekan



Photo by: Jerry Dekan



Photo by: Tom Mahoney



Navy photo



AP photo



AP photo



Photo by: Tom Mahoney

Navy makes it six straight over Army

A milestone afternoon for Navy football ended with the sweetest accomplishment of all: an unprecedented sixth straight win over Army. The Midshipmen improved to a 52-49-7 against Army, their biggest lead in a series that began in 1890. No team had ever won six in a row. Navy earlier ended a 44-game losing streak to Notre Dame.

Although Navy's potent offense was limited to 294 yards, the Midshipmen set a school record for points in a season (479), breaking the mark of 442 set in 1917.

For the fifth straight year, Navy captured the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy, awarded annually to the winner of the football competition between the three major service academies. Again, Navy finished a clean sweep against Army and Air Force.



AP photo



AP photo



AP photo



Photo by: Jerry Dekan

L-R: Midn. Heidi Boettger ('09) & Midn. Jessica Dekan ('09)



Photo by: Larry Cichucki

Midn. Nick Cichucki ('09), second from left, with Santa and other Mids in Baltimore



Photo by: Larry Cichucki

Midn. Nick Cichucki ('09), yelling, with Midn. Tim Mahoney ('10), last drummer on left, at the Navy pep rally



Photo by: Larry Cichucki

Midn. Andrew ('09) & Linda Chaloupka



Photo by: Larry Cichucki

L-R: Kim & Wenda Cichucki



Photo by: Jerry Dekan



Photo by: Jerry Dekan



Photo by: Jerry Dekan

L-R: Joan & Janelle Dekan



Photo by: Jerry Dekan



Photo by: Jerry Dekan

Leap frogs during pre-game festivities



Photo by: Jerry Dekan

Navy Color Guard



Photo by: Jerry Dekan

Bill the Goat



Photo by: Jerry Dekan

Prisoner exchange during pre-game festivities



Photo by: Tom Mahoney

Drum & Bugle Corps during half-time

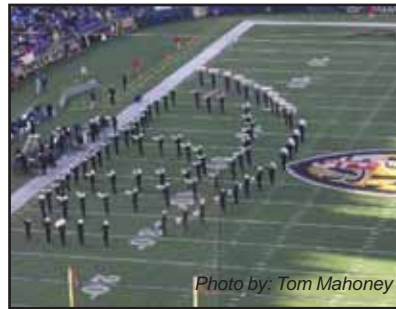


Photo by: Tom Mahoney



Photo by: Jerry Dekan

Exchange Midshipmen eager to return to the Brigade



Photo by: Jerry Dekan

Brigade of Midshipmen during march-on



Photo by: Jerry Dekan

Stephanie & Midn. Chad ('09) Kelling



Photo by: Jerry Dekan

John Kelling



Photo by: Jerry Dekan

Jeff Julka



Photo by: Tom Mahoney

L-R: Gerianne, Midn. Bill ('09), Bradley & Jeff Prom



Alumni News



LT Rebecca Sigmon Bowen Class of 2000

Becky and her husband 2nd LT Eric Sigmon had a baby girl, Anna Charlotte, at Bethesda, Maryland on Feb. 8.
Submitted by: Sara & Mike Bowen, Fox Point

2nd LT Anthony De Vuono Class of 2006

Anthony finished ground intelligence school in Dam Neck, Virginia this past summer and was stationed at Camp Pendelton. He was assigned to the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) and is currently deployed to Japan.
Submitted by: Tony & Cindy De Vuono, Racine

Ens. Betsy Burnett Class of 2007

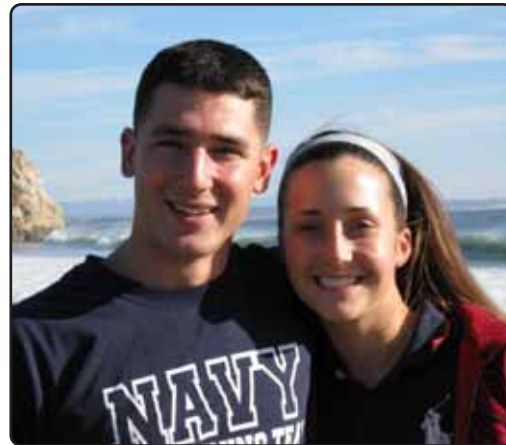
Betsy continues to serve on the *USS Tortuga*, homeport of Sasebo, Japan. She is the 2nd Div Officer, PAO and SAVI Officer. They are underway for the next two months, in port for April, then underway until September.



L-R: Alissa, Tim & Betsy Burnett on Christmas Eve

She was in San Diego in December for training for the Visit, Board, Search & Seize (VBSS) team which gave her time to visit with '07 classmates stationed there. We were fortunate to have her home in Wisconsin for five days before she reported back to Japan. Our present plan is to visit her in Japan in April, provided the ship schedule stays as planned. Needless to say, we are looking forward to that adventure!

Submitted by: Kathy & Jim Burnett, New Holstein



2nd LT Tony De Vuono (USMC) and his wife, 2nd LT Amanda De Vuono, at Avila Beach, California in January, just before he deployed with the 31st MEU

Ens. Alex Haupt Class of 2007

Alex was home for Thanksgiving to help celebrate his younger brother's 21st birthday. He flew to San Diego for the Poinsettia Bowl, then we met in Phoenix, Arizona between Christmas and New Year's for a family wedding December 29.

Alex is currently in primary flight training at the Naval Air Station in Corpus Christi, Texas after completing pre-flight indoctrination in Pensacola, Florida. He is living with three other '07 Naval Academy graduates, one is from his former company. Their house about 200 yards from the Gulf of Mexico, where they can see the water from Alex's third-floor bedroom. They study a lot, play a lot and are having a blast.

Although he doesn't have to decide for seven or eight months, he's leaning toward helicopters. After months of

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Ens. Alex Haupt

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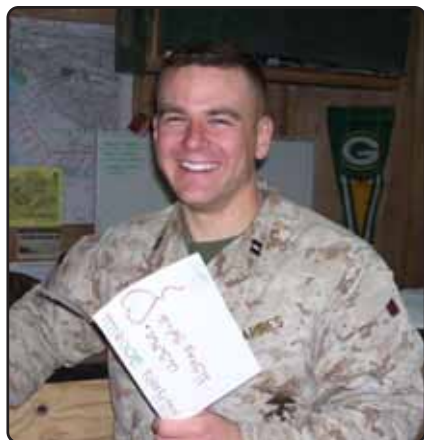
Roommates (L-R): Vic Barger, Justin Wells, Alex Haupt & Craig Johnson

ground school and paperwork, he finally got a chance to fly in a T-34 on February 4.

We're planning a road trip to Texas to visit him in March.

Submitted by: Jan & Bill Haupt, Lodi

Capt. Eric Larsen, USMC Class of 2003



Capt. Eric Larsen in Iraq

Currently serving with the 3rd Battalion/5th Marine Regiment at Camp Baharia in Iraq as the communications officer, Eric is looking forward to returning to the States after his third deployment. Eric has found that the conditions in Fallujah in the Al Anbar province have changed since his first and second de-

ployments. An opportunity for you to learn more from reporters who have been embedded with his regiment and others can be found at the battalion website at www.iimefpublic.usmc.mil/3bn5mar/.

As of this writing, Eric's orders are to serve as a communications instructor at the Communications Officers' School in Quantico. He is planning on investigating the housing market in the area. We're looking forward to assisting him in the move from Camp Pendleton to the east, and hopefully having him serve on U.S. soil for several years.

Again a special thank you from our family for your prayers and support while Eric has been deployed. God bless all our sons and daughters who have chosen to serve our nation.

Submitted by: Cindi and Loren Larsen, Racine

Ens. Hollace Mulliken Class of 2007

Hollace completed her training at the Navy dive school in Panama City, Florida and was awarded her dive bubble. Her schooling included training on standard scuba diving equipment and the Mark 40 re-breather. The Mark 40 is used in clandestine work as it does not emit the tell-tale air bubbles of the normal scuba equipment.

She is currently enrolled at the EOD (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) school at Eglin AFB near Ft. Walton Beach, Florida. The EOD community is very small, and as such, the school trains EOD personnel for all branches of the US military. There are several US Army officers in her training unit. The school takes about nine months to complete, after which she will be assigned to a language school or a working EOD community.

Submitted by: Hugh & Alicia Mulliken, Ephriam

LT Andrew J. Oswald Class of 2001

Andy is engaged to Allison Lloyd. They are currently living in Bainbridge Island, Washington. Andy is serving his commission as the Naval Submarine Support Center Supply Officer at the submarine base in Washington. Allison is a graduate of UW-La Crosse and is the editor of a trade business magazine, *Documents*, published in Madison. Allison and Andy are planning a December 20, 2008 wedding in Oshkosh.



Allison Lloyd & LT Andrew Oswald

Submitted by: Kay & Alan Stenerson, Oshkosh

*Ens. Matthew Surprenant
Class of 2007*

What does an ensign do when he is landlocked living in a college apartment? Answer: get an inflatable fishing raft that you can store and haul in the trunk of your car! While fishing is one of Matt's favorite pastimes, he has been busy at the University of Wisconsin at Madison as a graduate student in electrical engineering. Presently, he is working on microgrid research.

He reports to a Navy ROTC officer and sometimes attends Navy ROTC events. Navy ROTC midshipmen often ask him about USNA, but he tells them that there is no comparison. Civilian college life just isn't the same as service academy life. Go figure!

Matt is very passionate about Navy football. He was able to drive down to Indiana this past fall to see Navy beat Notre Dame. He was ecstatic! For now, Matt is happy to be a Badger.



Matt trying out his new fishing raft

Submitted by: Linda & Bob Surprenant, Muskego



Midshipmen News



*Midn. Andrew Clingman
Class of 2008*

Andrew finished his first semester very strong and enjoyed finding out his grade - 4.0! He continues to enjoy his aero classes and will get to fly soon as part of one class. The whole family including his uncle, close family and friends joined him at the Army/Navy game. What a great time! The harbor activities were fun as was the awesome game. After

the win, we celebrated with the traditional steak dinner. Andrew had a restful Christmas break finding lots of time to play and take in a few road trips.

He surprised us with a visit in January to watch the Packers. Even though it was mighty cold, he managed to have a good time. A win would've put the weekend over the top, but... maybe next year.

As many have said before, the four years by the bay have really gone quickly. We all are anticipating Commissioning Week and visiting Andrew in Charleston as he attends NPS this summer. Here's to all our sons and daughters as they finish this last semester in Annapolis and move on to the next chapter of adventures.

Submitted by: Sue & Steve Clingman, Brookfield



(L-R): Steve Clingman, Midn. Andrew Clingman and his uncles, Bruce Dedon and Dave Pyne, at the Army/Navy game

*Midn. Douglas De Vuono
Class of 2008*

Douglas is looking forward to graduation and then flight school at Pensacola, Florida. He is currently taking the IFS course in Annapolis, which means that he is learning to fly small airplanes. When that course is finished, he will work on getting a private pilot's license.

On Sept. 24, 2007, Doug was chosen as the Patriot League Player of the week. He also tied for lead scorer for Navy

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Midn. Douglas De Vuono

Continued from page 8



Midn. Doug De Vuono in the backseat of a F-18 Super Hornet, 450 knots, 20,000 feet, somewhere over the California desert

He really enjoys the practical and “hands-on” of this semester.

Submitted by: Tony & Cindy De Vuono, Racine

Midn. Marta Drew Class of 2008

Marta has entered the final semester of her four years at the Naval Academy. We watch with awe, amazement and a tremendous sense of pride as she meets her goal. In a few short months Marta will be on her way to the next part of her journey.

Marta received her first choice for service selection - naval aviator. She already has started flight lessons at BWI. She astutely noticed that the BWI airport is a bit busier than Rock County Airport where her sister obtained her private pilot's license! Three weekends of ground school and 25



Midn. Marta Drew with classmates Midn. Jake Gerlach, center, and Andrew Clingman at the All Academies Military Ball

soccer for the 2007 season. It was a good ending for a Navy soccer v a r s i t y player.

Douglas is having a great end of year at the A c a d e m y with some research in mechanical engineering and also getting a vehicle to run on alternate fuels.

hours of air time add additional responsibilities to her final semester.

The *Lucky Bag* demands a chunk of her time. Coordinating the assembly of the yearbook is a massive undertaking. To make it “just perfect,” accurate and appealing, adds another layer to a tremendous task.

At the semester break Marta flew to join her sister in New Zealand. Janna took a year off before starting college, and is working, traveling and exploring the country. Marta joined Janna for almost two weeks of adventures. They had a great time, outstanding stories and pictures. Both are still alive!

The remainder of winter break Marta spent at home enjoying the snow and visiting friends. We enjoyed having her home - just a great young woman!

The best to Marta, all 2008 grads and the other young men and women who have chosen the Naval Academy path in order to serve their country.

Submitted by: Skip & Wendy Hein-Drew, Milton

Midn. Jacob Gerlach Class of 2008

In the last *Yardtales* update, we mentioned that Jake's first choice for service selection was Surface Warfare Officer

Contributed photo from: Mary Moore



(L-R): Midn. James Licata, Midn. Jake Gerlach and Andrew Clingman at the All Academies Military Ball

(SWO). Well, he's going subs instead. Apparently, for the first time in many years, there weren't enough Mids choosing subs. An admiral who interviewed Jake promised engineering experiences in the sub community superior to SWO!

Related to Jake's engineering goals is some good news from early February: he is granted an EDO option (engineering duty officer). This makes him eligible for the Navy's EDO grad school program after his first division officer tour. He is preapproved for a lateral transfer to the EDO community after his department head tour of 11-12 years. He especially appreciates this because of his love for engineering.

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Midn. Jacob Gerlach

Continued from page 9

The other recent happy news is Jake's acceptance into Navy Dive School with five weeks of training this summer in Panama City, Florida. Then he heads to Nuclear Power School in Charleston, South Carolina in either August or October.

Amidst all the training and opportunities, we look forward to having him back in Wisconsin for as much time as he's able!

Submitted by: Bryan & Jackie Gerlach, Brookfield

Midn. David Jach Class of 2008

David is serving as the 25th Company Commander for his final semester at the Naval Academy. Currently, he is also participating in IFS, getting a taste for flying before becoming a Marine pilot. He was excited to begin the semester, and he is looking forward to commissioning as a Marine officer in May. After commissioning, David hopes to report to the The Basic School (TBS) in Quantico, Virginia in June.



Kate Tyson & Midn. David Jach

Submitted by: Joan Jach, Milwaukee

Midn. Kimberly Julka Class of 2008

The countdown to graduation and commissioning is on ... oh how the time has flown by. Seems like I-Day was just yesterday when I watched a recent high school graduate walk into Alumni Hall but soon a new 2nd LT will be heading off to TBS at Quantico, Virginia.

Kim has had a great first class year, starting with her summer training experiences. Her time at Marine Corps Base Quantico for *Leatherneck* confirmed her desire to go Marine Corps and the follow-on logistics training with an air delivery platoon



Midn. Kim Julka

at Camp Lejeune only further reinforced that desire. So when service selection time came this fall, there was no hesitation in listing Marine Corps Ground as her first choice. You can't imagine how pleased and proud she was in November to be selected to become one of *The Few, The Proud, The Marines*. Kim looks forward to reporting to Marine Corps Base Quantico with Echo Company on May 29.

Kim served as OPS officer for 23rd Company during the fall semester and among numerous other responsibilities, coordinated a picnic for company 1/C and their parents during Firstie Parents Weekend in September. She has continued her musical pursuits throughout her time by the bay, in addition to her Drum & Bugle Corps travels, she also serves as president of Trident Brass (a midshipmen jazz band) for 2007-08. She also finished the semester on the Dant's List.

She has remained an active member of the USNA Drum & Bugle Corps all four years, serving in a variety of positions of increasing responsibility. This past summer she served as executive officer of Plebe Summer Drum & Bugle Corps. She is currently serving as spring semester OPS Officer for D&B, a job that actually began early last November, the day following Navy's sixth football win. That win made Navy bowl eligible and so began her task to move personnel, instruments and equipment to San Diego for the Poinsettia Bowl on December 20.

In addition to Parents Weekend in September, I had the opportunity to be in South Bend to experience Navy's win over Notre Dame. I saw Navy beat Army *again* this December and I traded winter in Wisconsin for a few days in San Diego for the Poinsettia Bowl. (Where else can you have a pep rally on the flight deck of an aircraft carrier or have a beer in the bar where the "sleezy bar scene" from *Top Gun* was filmed?)

I give each firstie tremendous credit for being able to remain focused during this final semester, but then again we are dealing with the best of the best.

Submitted by: Jeff Julka, Fond du Lac

*Midn. Caroline Mayer
Class of 2008*

This past fall, Caroline was selected to row for the women's crew team at the Head of the Charles Regatta in Boston, held Oct 20-21. This was a highlight of her four-year rowing career at Navy, not just because she was selected for the prestigious race, but because she was born in Boston, and as a toddler had seen the sculls going by from the banks of the River Charles.



Left: Cadet Jason Wallace, USMA ('09), Racine, strikes a defiant pose at the WISNAPA post-game tailgate in Baltimore, but Midn. Caroline Mayer, ('08), has the last laugh. Right: Midn. Caroline Mayer completing her scuba certification at Lake Andrea, Kenosha

Also last fall, Caroline was selected for Navy pilot as her service selection, moving her one step closer to a long held dream. In her senior year of high school, Caroline received her private pilot's license, and her flight experience means that the spring flight familiarization program has been waived for her. She recently participated in her major department's open house for Plebes, informing them about the astro major, and encouraging them to select it. She looks forward to the next steps toward getting her wings.

Submitted by: Greg & Nanette Mayer, Racine

*Midn. Jessica Troska
Class of 2008*

Fall was a busy time as Jess continues to be heavily involved with the choral groups including Catholic Choir, Glee Club, Chamber Choir, the Halloween Concert and Messiah. Along the way, there was time to pick some apples at a New York apple orchard.

November was exciting with service selection as she received her first choice as SWO and has recently been looking over the ports and ships available for selection in February.



Midn. Jessica Troska & Midn. Rob Goodwin ('08) picking apples at a New York orchard.

Jess is beginning to get excited with this being her last semester at the Academy as she's ready to move on to the next challenge. In addition to working with the musical *Gyps & Dolls*, Jess is headed to California for spring break with the Glee Club.

For classes, there was room for some fun as kayaking finally fit into her schedule, which has always been an interest.

Submitted by: Keith & Lois Troska, Anoka, Minnesota

*Midn. Jessica Dekan
Class of 2009*

Jessica was home at Thanksgiving and did some deer hunting, along with looking at cars. Jessica was joined by her family for the Army-Navy game. It was a fun time. She also participated in the half-time show.

In December she competed in a 10K run and did very well, qualifying for a marathon in March. The end of January, Jessica became a squad leader, so she is now busier than ever with many new things to learn and to develop her leadership style.

She is also a student trainer with the women's lacrosse team. At the end of spring break she is looking forward to bringing her car back to Annapolis.

Submitted by: Jerry & Joan Dekan, Arcadia



Midn. Jessica Dekan

**Midn. Erika Hubbard
Class of 2009**

Right:
Midn. Erika
Hubbard,
second from
left, with
three of her
teammates.

Below:
The USNA
women's swim
team. Midn.
Hubbard is on
the left of the
back row



On Erika's semester break, she traveled with the women's swim team for their training trip to San Juan, Puerto Rico. The team trained hard but enjoyed breaks at the beaches, sightseeing to a rain forest and evening trips to the local restaurants. The team was treated like royalty by getting police escorts wherever they traveled.

After departing San Juan, Erika enjoyed a brief Christmas break at home in Madison, then traveled to visit some relatives out of state before heading back to the Yard for spring semester.

Submitted by: Richard & Jackie Hubbard, Madison

**Midn. Leah Jordan
Class of 2009**

Since finishing her second year at Annapolis, Leah has had a variety of opportunities and new experiences. She began last summer by completing a short YP tour from Annapolis to Boston during zero block. After relaxing at home



Right: Midn. Leah Jordan at Trophy Point on the Hudson River at the US Military Academy in West Point. Below: Prisoner Exchange at the Army-Navy game. Midn. Jordan is second from the left and Midn. Peter Bose is second from the right



for several weeks, Leah was off to the University of Salamanca in Spain for a five-week immersion program to study the language and the culture of the country. Traveling with several other Mids, Leah toured much of Spain and, in the process, made new friends with students from various countries. After spending her final weeks at home, Leah then traveled to West Point for the fall semester as an exchange student at the U.S. Military Academy.

Moving into this new and unknown environment, Leah found that she was immediately accepted and respected by her Cadet counterparts. Throughout the semester, she gave many of her classmates fits academically "beating Army" at every possible turn. We, along with our son Chris, were privileged to travel to West Point for a weekend in October. Needless to say, we were awed by both the beauty and history of the campus. Also, we had an opportunity to meet several impressive young men from Army and formed relationships with them as well.

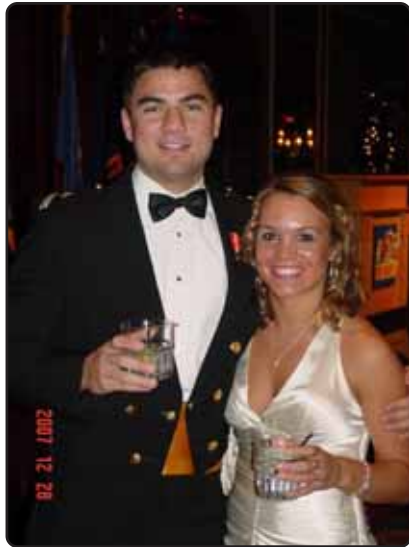
Leah's time in New York culminated with the Army-Navy game. However, in the week prior to the game, Leah's rack, desk, and several uniforms disappeared. The good news is she was able to confound members of her company by hiding several other uniforms; thus, she was not forced to wear a Root hog costume and assume the position of the company mascot. As part of the pre-game festivities in Baltimore, Leah was involved in the traditional prisoner exchange with other exchange students at these academies. Ultimately, she got the final laugh over her new classmates with Navy's big win.

Leah has now returned to Annapolis to complete her second class year.

Submitted by: Jim & Nancy Jordan, Weston

Midn. Chad Kelling Class of 2009

We got to see a little more of Chad this fall, as he went to the Navy-Notre Dame game, came to the Wisconsin-Michigan game on a long weekend and was home for Thanksgiving. We also went to the Army-Navy game and Chad was in Wisconsin before and after attending the Poinsettia Bowl during the Christmas break.



Midn. Chad Kelling & Lindsay Wayne

We also made another trip to Maryland in early January, but this time it was to take Chad to Bethesda National Naval Medical Center for surgery. In a pre-commissioning physical (x-ray followed by a CT scan, MRI and biopsy) in the weeks after Thanksgiving, it was determined he had a large, but benign, tumor on his spine between his ribs. After a six-hour surgery, a five-day stay in the hospital and many prayers, he returned to the Yard to recuperate. We were impressed by the quality care he received in the hospital, the hospitality of the Fisher House where he stayed next to the hospital and the visits by many from his company (probably the best medicine of all!). It was quite a scene to have nine Mids packed into his hospital room, cheering on the Packers on a little nine-inch TV!

Chad hopes to be recovered enough to go to Mexico with friends during spring break.

Submitted by: John & Stephanie Kelling, Waukesha

Midn. James Licata Class of 2009

First semester saw James on the varsity offshore sailing team coaching the JV team and keeping on top of his core aerospace engineering courses. It culminated with his selection as Sergeant Major of the First Regiment. He is now busy with those responsibilities, which include conveying concerns and suggestions from the regiment to the command leadership.

We have enjoyed several family-related highlights with James during his otherwise busy academic year: a grandfa-

ther-father-son football weekend in Annapolis, a mom-and-friends trip there for the Halloween concert, the Navy victory over Notre Dame, the Poinsettia Bowl game, the All Academies Military Ball and a surprise trip back home for James over the MLK weekend. We hope to make a trip to the Yard in April to get the proud parent pictures of our Sgt. Major in a noon formation.



(L-R): Midn. James Licata with his dad Steve and a family friend from California on the flight deck of the USS Midway at the pep rally on the eve of the Poinsettia Bowl game

Submitted by: Mary Moore & Steve Licata

Midn. Audrey Oberdick Class of 2009

We had a wonderful winter break with our Mid. Audrey made arrangements with her cousin, Omayra, who is the same age, to come to Wadsworth from Phoenix at the same time she came home. So we had our house full of girls! Two in their twenties and two in their teens. What great fun! We had a lot of fun sightseeing in Chicagoland, as we hosted Omayra's vacation here for a week. But of course our favorite thing to do is just be silly.

It has become a tradition to make a "sister sandwich" whenever Audrey is home. This time it was a sister and

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Midn. Audrey Oberdick, bottom, making a "sandwich" with her cousin Omayra, top, and sisters Dorothy & Emma

Midn. Audrey Oberdick

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cousin sandwich with Omayya on the top and Audrey on the bottom with Dorothy and Emma in between.

Then, of course, came all the regular festivities of Christmas and New Year and the All Academy Ball. In between all of that, was lots of fun shopping for wedding dresses for Audrey's future sister-in-law Lisa. Audrey will be in her brother Karl's wedding this October.

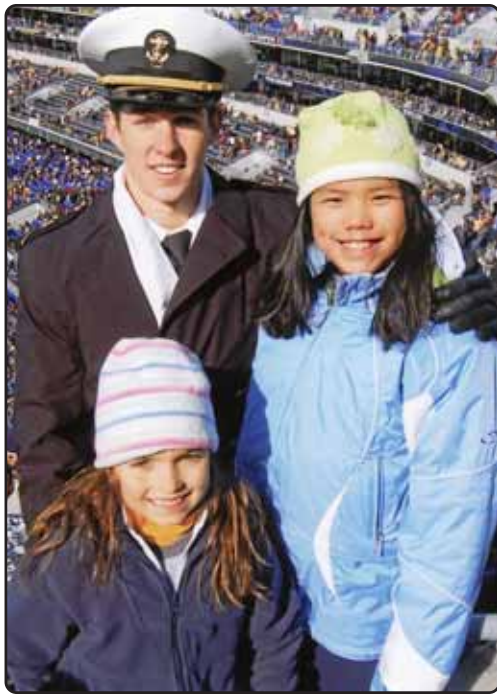
The fun ended much too soon, with Audrey having to drive back on New Year's Day. She got caught in the winter storm in Indiana and Ohio and finally ended up pulling off for the night and staying in a hotel (at our insistence). The next day the weather had cleared and she had smooth sailing back to the Yard. We won't see her now until summer, since she will be going to Rome on her spring break!

Submitted by: Bernie & Peter Oberdick, Wadsworth, Illinois

Midn. John Champion Class of 2010

It was a good fall semester for John. He enjoyed his classes and loved cheering on Navy football. He is enjoying getting more in depth in his major (political science) and minor (Chinese) and plans to combine the two, with an Asian focus. Intramural sports and Friday night basketball provide a good recreational outlet.

We had a great time together over Christmas, especially with this year's wintry weather! John attended the Poinsettia Bowl in San Diego, and had a good chance to play with younger siblings and catch up with relatives and friends. After returning for second semester, he managed to get home for the NFC



Midn. John Champion at the Army-Navy game with his sponsor sister, Sophie Smith, left, and his sister, Corrie

Championship game, since it was a long weekend. Though our guys didn't win, being together for big games at Lambeau Field is always something special.

Now it's time for PRTs, six-week exams and knuckling down. It's hard to believe that come summer, John and his 2010 classmates will be half-way through their Naval Academy experience.

Submitted by: Jane and Bill Campion, Green Bay

Midn. Matthew P. Duffey Class of 2010

Matthew completed his plebe year with a sigh of relief and a smile on his face. He sailed for the varsity off-shore sailing team and served as guide on for 2nd Company. His summer cruise took him to San Diego where he and other Midshipmen sailed the Navy 44-foot sailboats up the coast of California. Immediately after his cruise he boarded the *USS Pennsylvania*, a nuclear submarine, for a ten-day cruise out of Bangor, Washington.



Midn. Matthew Duffey

He started his youngster year happy to be a Plebe no more. He traded his sailing gloves for boxing gloves and is enjoying the change in routine. He is happy to be taking courses in his political science major. He applied for the West Point Exchange Program this semester and is sitting on the banks of the Hudson as we speak. He is looking forward to getting reacquainted with his West Point friends from his foundation year at the New Mexico Military Institute.

Submitted by: Molly & Tom Duffey, Elm Grove

Midn. Andrew Duwell Class of 2010

It's funny, somehow I think Andy expected to have a bit of extra time on his hands after completing his Plebe year, but I think he's found his commitments as a youngster to be equally time consuming, yet different. Despite the time commitment, Andy has enjoyed his position as company corporal, mentoring and helping his 9th company Plebes

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Midn. Andrew Duwell

Continued from page 14

to be on task and making sure they're doing what needs to be done. I think early morning fitness training has been his favorite.

Skydiving one weekend with fellow air assault school Mids was probably the highlight of his fall.

He's inspired to get certified and there's some talk of a possible Navy skydiving team in the future.

This year for Army-Navy weekend, we enjoyed stress-free travel and had a wonderful time in Baltimore with our son. The game and win was great, but the added bonus was that Andy's cousin manages the Hampton Inn Baltimore Harbor and we got to enjoy a stay in his hotel and some quality time with extended family. Sunday afternoon both Eric and I thoroughly enjoyed working out in the Naval Academy weight room with Andy. We were even greeted by the Supe and his wife while exercising and were very relieved to see that our presence didn't get our son in trouble!

Christmas break was short, yet filled with family fun. The whole family plus Andy's girlfriend, Brittany Tobakas, enjoyed our first All Academies Military Ball.

As per most Mids, I think the winter blahs have set in a bit, but classes are going well and plans are being made for this summer. I don't know what it is about Wisconsin Mids, but Andy, like many others, is considering a service selection with the Marines (Marine air) for right now. I believe he's hoping to do a rotation with them this summer to see if it's a good fit for him.

Submitted by: Janell & Eric Duwell, Oshkosh

Midn. Jeremiah Derrick Class of 2011

It is amazing how one event or one person can change someone's entire life. Jeremiah spent the entire Christmas vacation telling everyone that he probably would not major in engineering because he could not grasp three dimensional vectors in calculus. After one day with his second semester calculus professor, he suddenly fully understood vectors and is now planning on becoming a math major. He



Midn. Andy Duwell & Brittany Tobakas

plans on taking summer school to allow him to pursue both math and Chinese.

Jeremiah was deeply saddened by the tragic loss of Midshipman Second Class Anthony Valliere. Jeremiah had the honor to work with Midshipman Valliere on several occasions and had great respect for him.

Submitted by: Sandy & David Thurwanger, Racine

Right: Midn. Jeremiah Derrick & Hannah Bartlett; Bottom: (L-R): Midn. Rory O'Donnell, Midn. Jeremiah Derrick, Midn. Patrick Tagan, Midn. Beau Guidry & Midn. Graham Ziemba at the Beat Army pep rally. The bonfire was to burn a wooden mule hanging from the gallows.



Midn. Scott Voigt Class of 2011

We were able to experience Navy's great win over Notre Dame at South Bend, Indiana. We also were able to go out

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Midn. Scott Voigt, in the back row, playing "Anchors Aweigh" with the Drum & Bugle Corps at the Navy-Notre Dame game

Midn. Scott Voigt

Continued from page 15

with our son, Scott, for dinner after the game. He seems to have adjusted very well to the academic year. Scott took one of the five buses of Midshipmen that attended the game. Notre Dame is a great venue, a great experience, has very loyal fans, but also very gracious fans, even in defeat. It was a once in lifetime experience. The Mids were very happy to get a day off from classes the following Monday.



Steve & Karen Voigt with the winning score of the Navy-Notre Dame game

Submitted by: Steve & Karen Voigt, Lake Mills

BGOs needed

If you are interested in becoming a Blue & Gold Officer (BGO), now is the time to raise your hand. Parents are often the best advocate of the Naval Academy, and WISNAPA members make wonderful Blue and Gold Officers. Those who have joined the BGO team have found the experience very rewarding.

What are the qualifications to be a BGO? You need to be an advocate for USNA and have an interest in working with and interviewing high school students.

What is the time commitment of a BGO? The minimum expectation is that you interview candidates at schools for which you are responsible. On average, BGOs in Wisconsin have four candidates in a year, less than 20 hours a year. BGOs have many more opportunities to get involved, but the interview is the basic commitment.

What other requirements do I need to meet? You must attend a one-week training session at USNA in July within two years of becoming a BGO. USNA pays your expenses.

How do I become a BGO? Send an E-mail to CDR Craig Walker (craig.a.walker@ge.com) expressing your interest. He will send an application form to complete and then return to him. USNA sends a packet of material, along with a short test (to ensure your basic understanding of the process) to complete and return. Once you send in your test, you are a BGO "affiliate" and you can start working with candidates. You receive full fledged status after formal training.

Please consider joining the BGO team.



Cdr. Craig Walker

Blue & Gold Area Coordinator

Twenty-four years, nine months, and five days. That's the time that transpired between May 25, 1983 and March 1, 2008. On May 25, 1983, I lined up with about 25 guys from the

17th company under a blazing sun and azure sky in one of the most emotional events I can recall. We made it through "Four years together by the Bay," and our real journey was just starting. On March 1, 2008, I will officially retire from the Naval Reserve. What a ride it has been for all of us in my class. I expect no less for the Class of 2008 or 2010, or even 2083 for that matter.

So what has happened to the Class of 1983 from 17th Company? What might your Midshipmen experience in their time? Most of us have continued our life's work in relative anonymity. A few have not. Let me give you a few examples.

Mark Hagerott grew up in a family with farming roots in North Dakota, but came to USNA from Kent, Washington. He majored in history at the Academy, met a girl from Towson who he eventually married, and spent two years in Oxford, England as a Rhodes Scholar. After serving as a White House fellow, CO of a Frigate and aide to Paul Wolfowitz, he moved to Annapolis. You'll find Captain Hagerott between the racks of books in Nimitz Hall studying for a PhD in history. He will soon be teaching your sons and daughters.

Willie McCool, the smartest and most relaxed person I ever met, excelled on the cross-country course and in the classroom. He was once heard to say after a particularly difficult exam, "I could tell that was supposed to be a hard test." Willie stood number one in our class until two weeks before graduation, when he received five demerits for coming through Gate 3 with his T-shirt untucked after a long run through Annapolis. He graduated number two, went on to fly EA-6B aircraft out of Whidbey Field and became an astronaut. We all watched in horror as Willie and his crew died tragically five years ago as the Columbia re-entered the earth's atmosphere.

Bob Chapleski, first set 17th Company Commander, became a CH-46 pilot flying vertical replenishment from a supply ship. One afternoon in a simultaneous stroke of bad luck and raw courage, Bob caught a bad gust of wind across an aircraft carrier flight deck. He was able to prevent plunging into the ship's wake, but he had to put the helicopter down sideways onto the flight deck. He saved his crew, but lost his wings. He now manages a company in his hometown of Allentown, Pennsylvania.

The accomplishments continue:

Captain Chris Pietras, Long Island, New York, Commanding Officer, Supervisor of Shipbuilding, Pearl Harbor.

Colonel Ben Mathews USMC, Dothan, Alabama, Commanding Officer, MAG 36.

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2007 Wisconsin All Academies Military Ball



Wisconsin Naval Academy Midshipmen

Class of 2008

Midn. Andrew Clingman, Brookfield
Midn. Brian Davis, Barron
Midn. Douglas De Vuono, Racine
Midn. Marta Drew, Milton
Midn. Jacob Gerlach, Brookfield
Midn. Thembe Hinke, Stanley
Midn. Sarah Horn, Shorewood
Midn. David Jach, Milwaukee
Midn. Kimberly Julka, Fond du Lac

Midn. Ian Kilpatrick, Glendale
Midn. Joseph Mabis, Lodi
Midn. Caroline Mayer, Racine
Midn. Christopher Romnek, Wind Lake
Midn. Jacob Rozich, Altoona
Midn. Tomas Simonson, Newark, Delaware
Midn. Jessica Troska, Anoka, Minnesota
Midn. Emily Vanden Heuvel, Hartford
Midn. Ryan Worrell, Hudson

Class of 2009

Midn. Samantha Andrews, Pewaukee
Midn. Peter Bose, Union Grove
Midn. Andrew Chaloupka, Port Washington
Midn. Nicholas Cichucki, Muskego
Midn. Jessica Dekan, Arcadia
Midn. Michael Gawne, Wautoma
Midn. Erika Hubbard, Madison
Midn. William Jenkins, Stevens Point
Midn. Leah Jordan, Weston
Midn. Chad Kelling, Waukesha
Midn. Ryan Kroning, Waukesha

Midn. Nathaniel Lamb, Madison
Midn. James Licata, Mequon
Midn. Paul Lietzan, Appleton
Midn. Brittney Maehl, Neenah
Midn. Audrey Oberdick, Wadsworth, Illinois
Midn. Erik Paulson, Leesburg, Virginia
Midn. William Prom, New Berlin
Midn. Shawn Stelzel, Wausau
Midn. Sean Ublacker, Kaukauna
Midn. Alexander Wallis, Whitefish Bay
Midn. Marshall Witkowski, Glenbeulah

Class of 2010

Midn. John Champion, Green Bay
Midn. Lindsey Duecker, Cedarburg
Midn. Matthew Duffey, Elm Grove
Midn. Andrew Duwell, Oshkosh

Midn. Derek Grady, Delafield
Midn. Tim Mahoney, Green Bay
Midn. Andrew Scherer, Delavan

Class of 2011

Midn. Yousef Ahmed, Eau Claire
Midn. John Bowen, Fox Point
Midn. Kerry Brady, Germantown
Midn. Dièdre Coulson, Hudson
Midn. Matthew De Villers, Menomonee Falls
Midn. Matthew Debbink, Oconomowoc
Midn. Jeremiah Derrick, Racine

Midn. Alex Eagan, Madison
Midn. Travix Lippman, Hudson
Midn. Matthew Roukema, Emerald
Midn. Jason Thill, Montello
Midn. Seth Tompkins, Dousman
Midn. Scott Voigt, Lake Mills
Midn. Matt Wittkopp, Fond du Lac

2007 Wisconsin All Academies Military Ball



Sara Bowen, Karen & Steve Voigt man the registration table



Wendy Hein-Drew, left, enjoys hors d'oeuvres before dinner

Committee Chairs

Gerianne and Jeff Prom
Debbie Andrews
Sara Bowen
Tony and Cindy De Vuono
Kalaniwai Grady
Stephanie and John Kelling
Tom and Sue Mahoney
Nanette and Gregory Mayer
Nancy Witkowski
Ann Wallace (West Point)



Emcee Tony De Vuono



Color Guard during the posting of the colors



Academy Ball Co-Chairs Gerianne & Jeff Prom



Molly & Matt ('10) Duffey, Kristen Matyas & Tom Duffey



POW/MIA missing man table



2nd LT Amanda, 2nd LT Anthony, USMC ('06) & Douglas ('08) De Vuono

Program

Reception and Cocktails
Quick & Smart Photography
Opening Ceremony
Introduction of Cadets and Midshipmen
Welcome
Recognition of Distinguished Guests
Posting of the Colors
Pledge of Allegiance
Invocation
Pastor John Kelling
POW/MIA Remembrance
2nd LT Anthony J. De Vuono ('06)
Midn. Caroline Mayer (USNA '08)
Cadet Jason Robinson (USAF '08)
Midn. Christoph Gabaldo (USMMA '11)
Cadet Chris Pappe (USCGA '10)
Taps
Military Prayer
Ceremonial Toasts
Midn. David Jach (USNA '08)
Midn. Nicholas Cichucki (USNA '09)
Cadet Mark Kloiber (USMA '09)
Midn. Andrew Clingman (USNA '08)
Cadet Raymond Hoffman (USAF '08)
Cadet Chris Pappe (USCGA '10)
Midn. Nicolas Mann (USMMA '11)
Midn. Chad Kelling (USNA '09)
Dinner at 7:30 p.m.
Closing Ceremony
Retiring of the Colors
Dancing
Casino Night

Contributed photos from John Kelling & Jeff Prom



Steve & James Licata ('09) & Mary Moore



Tom, Tim ('10) & Sue Mahoney



John Campion ('10)
& Andy Duwell ('10), right



Kate, Clare, Nancy, Dennis
& Marshall ('09) Witkowski



David Jach ('08)



Ian Kilpatrick ('08), Jacqui Charnigo ('08), Evan ('09 - Merchant Marine Academy) Paul & Amy Kilpatrick



Ens. Monica ('07) & Vickie Mondlach & Samantha Andrews ('09)



Mary & Matthew ('11) Wittkopp, Laura Schneider & Kirk Wittkopp



Brittany ('09) & Joseph Maehl



Bill Prom ('09) & Emily Moeller



James Licata ('09) & Jeremiah Derrick ('11)



Andrew Clingman ('08) & Jabob Gerlach ('08)



Linda, Andrew ('09) & Roland Chaloupka

Contributed photos from Mary Moore, Tom Mahoney, Nancy Witkowshi, Jeff Prom & John Kelling



Nick ('09), Wenda & Larry Cichucki



Douglas De Vuono ('08)



Front (l-r): Emma & Dorothy Oberdick;
Back: Bernie, Audrey ('09) & Peter Oberdick



Tim Mahoney ('11), Jess Hemersath
& Dan Mahoney (both ROTC SNC '08)



Ann Wallace, Army Parents
Academy Ball representative,
Nanette & Greg Mayer



Andrew ('08), Megan,
Steve & Sue Clingman



Chris, Ardis & Kerrie Kelling, Lindsay
Wayne, Chad ('09), Stephanie & John Kelling



Ethan, Eric, Janell, Elise, Andrew ('10) & Erin Duwell



Nancy & Greg Bose



Abi Dean, Mike ('09) & Anne Gawne



Michelle, Lance, Derek ('10) & Kalaniwai Grady

Contributed photos from Mary Moore, Tom Mahoney, Sue Clingman, Jeff Prom & John Kelling

WISNAPA Officers:



President:
John & Stephanie Kelling
jKelling2@wi.rr.com
262-542-1945



Vice President:
Bill & Jane Campion
gbschubop@aol.com
920-983-0978



Treasurer:
Kalaniwai Grady
kalaniwaigrady@northwesternmutal.com
262-646-2181



Secretary:
Nancy & Greg Bose
Nancybose5@yahoo.com
262-878-0471



Wisconsin Naval Academy Parents' Association



Meeting Minutes, October 20, 2007

President John Kelling opened the meeting and introduced Ralph Eder, an honorary WISNAPA member, who is a member of the Yacht Club that sponsored the meeting.

The Plebe parents spoke about their Mid's activities, followed by parents of the upperclassmen and graduates. John Kelling led the group in prayer, which was followed by lunch.

After lunch and dessert, President Kelling introduced the speaker, Mr. Jerry Gerndt, USAF, retired. He discussed his life from the farm in northern Wisconsin until the present and as a POW in Vietnam for five-and-one-half years.

Business Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were amended and accepted. The amendment changed the June meeting minutes to reflect wording to the WISNAPA constitution and bylaws regarding 501(c)3 status.

Kalaniwai Grady gave the treasurer's report. Additional details would be provided on the WISNAPA web site.

A thank you note was read from Lanaya Martin, an '07 USNA graduate, who thanked WISNAPA members for the graduation gift of a desk clock.

Maureen Fitzsimmons Vanden Heuvel reported on the status of the 501(c)3. The paperwork would be mailed the following week. Upon approval by the IRS, donations will be tax deductible as of the November 3, 2006 filing date.

A report was given on Firstie Weekend. The parents of graduates highly recommended upcoming Firstie parents go the Annapolis for the entire week of Commissioning.

John Kelling gave a report on the 2007 Parents' Club Officer's Conference, held at the Naval Academy in September during FPW.

A report was given about the Army/Navy game in Baltimore. The post-game tailgate party will be at the Holiday Inn BWI hotel with a catered picnic dinner. The planners need to know how many would be attending by Nov. 15. WISNAPA will pay for the Mids' meal. Members attending the game should E-mail John Kelling with their seat information. If weather-related problems occur, members can call John's cell phone.

John Kelling had distributed several copies of *Yardtales* during the Parents' Club Officer's Conference, which were gone immediately. Jan Haupt said it was easy to get a press pass to take pictures at gradu-

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Guest speaker Jerry Gerndt, USAF, retired



Sandy & David Thurwanger (Jeremiah Derrick '11), Racine



Dan & Charlene Brady (Kerry Brady '11), Germantown

Meeting Minutes

Continued from page 21

ation. She added several items to the WISNAPA web site. She was looking for volunteers to take pictures at the Army/Navy game and at the All-Academy Ball.

Gerianne Prom gave a report on the All Academies Military Ball. Each WISNAPA family was requested to solicit \$250 from their local community. A list of potential businesses, personalized sample business letters and donation cards were distributed. The letters were available on the web site and it was suggested to also include the donation cards. The date of the ball is December 28 at Country Springs off I-94 in Pewaukee. There will again be a Casino Night. Donations are needed for Mids' and Cadets' prizes and gifts. A request was made for gifts for the Casino Night prizes, preferably cash donations.

Ball donations should be sent to Kalaniwai Grady.

Debbie Andrews discussed the table settings. The invitations are to be sent out by November 1 and Gerianne Prom asked WISNAPA members to RSVP right away. Sarah Bowen is overseeing the registration table and envelopes for the Mids and Cadets. As in past years, a photographer will be available to take pictures of the Mids/Cadets and their families. Stephanie Kelling is in charge of the reservations and table assignments. Volunteers are still needed in various areas. The companies that donate will be recognized in the program. Air Force was recognized as doing a great job last year. Jan Haupt made two baskets to raffle with proceeds going to the Academy Ball.

There was no old business.

The spring meeting will be held on Saturday, March 1, 2008 at the Delafield Brewhaus. The summer meeting will be on Saturday, June 7, 2008 at the Charcoal Grill & Rotisserie in New Berlin.

The Campions brought Navy apparel, courtesy of the Mahoneys, for members to purchase.

Care packages were filled at the beginning of the meeting and help was requested to transport the boxes to the post office.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Parents of First Class Mids met after the meeting to discuss Firstie gifts and Commissioning Week.

Submitted by:
Nancy & Greg Bose
WISNAPA Co-Secretaries
Peter '09 - 7th Company



Wendy Hein-Drew
(Marta Drew '08)
Milton



Ralph Eder
(USNA 1944)
Fox Point



Joan Jach
(David Jach '08)
Milwaukee



Christine & Mike De Villers
(Matthew De Villers '11)
Menomonee Falls



Jackie Hubbard
(Erika Hubbard '09),
Madison



Carol Sells (Joe Leonardelli '06),
Random Lake



Joan, Jerry & Janelle Dekan
(Jessica Dekan '09), Arcadia



Tom & Debbie Andrews
(Samantha Andrews '09), Pewaukee

Photos wanted!
If you have updated photos to post to the web site, submit (JPEG/TIFF format) to Jan Haupt (jhauptlodi@aol.com)



Bankers Aweigh

Additional account information and updates will be provided at the spring WISNAPA meeting on Saturday, March 1, 2008.

Operating Account

\$ 2,813.89	Balance forward as of Sept. 30, 2007
\$ 1,523.00	Receipts
\$ (3,235.98)	Disbursements
\$ 1,100.91	January 31, 2008 Balance

Academy Ball Account

\$ 2,190.01	Balance forward as of Sept. 30, 2007
\$ 28,045.00	Receipts
\$ (26,155.28)	Disbursements
\$ 4,079.73	January 31, 2008 Balance

Submitted by:
Kalaniwai Grady, Delafield
WISNAPA Treasurer
Derek '10 - 20th Company



Updated photos wanted!
If you have updated photos, submit (as JPEG/TIFF format) to Jan Haupt (jhauptlodi@aol.com) for the web site.

BGO Report

Continued from page 16

Dr. Robert Campbell, Cambridge, Massachusetts, astrophysicist.

Derek Roberts, San Diego, California, Regional Sales Manager - Fresno, Nalco Co

Captain Sean O'Connor, Rumson, New Jersey, Commanding Officer, *USS Lake Champlain CG-57*

The list continues with nary a black mark on the record of any of us. We have all gone beyond the walls of the Yard and made our contributions. We all served, and now in many different capacities, we all lead within our worlds. I'll stack up the Class of '83 17th Company against any group of 25 people from any other school. We'd hold our own, and it has been quite a ride.

Spring Meeting
Saturday, March 1
10:30 a.m.
Delafield Brewhaus
3832 Hillside Dr.
Delafield, WI 53018
Cost: \$18 per person
RSVP by Feb. 18 to:
Kalaniwai Grady
1118 Bayshore Ln.
Delafield, WI 53018



From the Helm

Continued from page 1

many choose not to recount their horrors of war, far more want to leave that legacy with us. They do it, not to honor themselves, but to validate the cause to which our families are now a part of through our Mids. Even the Academy seeks out those notable individuals who have stories to tell, so that history will not be forgotten. Our Mids have heard some of those stories.

In the past two years, I have come to know a war hero. His name is Gaston Vandermeerssche. He was a young Dutch Resistance fighter who was tireless in the underground during WWII, even betrayed by those close him. But he has lived to tell his story. Books have been written about him - even an autobiography of the true story, and a "Hollywood style" movie about his exploits. Gaston and his war-bride wife Violette will be our guests at the March meeting. Age and health do not allow Gaston to tell you the story himself,

so I have asked for the privilege to share it with you through pictures and stories from his autobiography. His life following the war is just as exciting. I hope you can join us and not regret this as a "missed opportunity."

As our Mids prepare for service in the fleet, they are already adding to their portfolio of stories to tell. Though we have all heard, "What happens at the Academy stays at the Academy," I encourage you to start asking the questions (Stephanie and I have learned to ask the "right questions") and recording these moments in "family" history. They have stories to tell which you can share. Some families are even putting together scrapbooks of academy life - heirlooms of history. Some day, your Mid may be standing before the families of WISNAPA - not to honor themselves, but to validate the cause for which they served. It's a story we want to hear and share - never a "missed opportunity."