

## Class of 1949 HISTORY

The history of the Class of 1949 is still in development. Nonetheless, members can recall its early beginnings and many things of subsequent years. A '49 ABSTRACT was prepared by Gene Shine (deceased) in 1994 and rewritten for dissemination during the 50th Class of 1949 Reunion titled A 50TH YEAR PROFILE OF THE CLASS OF 1949, U. S. NAVAL ACADEMY, October 1999. For those unaware of its existence, a condensation is given herein. Attendees of the 50th Reunion should have a copy of the 20 plus page document. A copy is at 49 House along with a copy of LUCKY BAG, Nineteen Forty-Nine and other class memorabilia.

### **THE FIRST 50 YEARS (1945-1995)**

Candidates for admission to the United States Naval Academy as members of the Class of 1949 began arriving in Annapolis June 11, 1945 and ended with the last checking in October 25, 1945. The appointee selection process many had already endured included competitive examinations, interviews, and some physical screening; some arrived with direct appointments and having passed the USNA Entrance Examination; and some arrived with direct appointments with their entrance examination waived by college certificate. All, reportedly 1345, had to successfully survive the admission process. (The 1345 number includes principal appointees and replacement alternate(s) should the principal fail his physical or change his mind.)

The admission process was a 3-day evolution. The first day scheduled required a physical examination following check-in at the Administration Building. Failing initial examination the candidate was rejected for entry or scheduled for reexamination. (Alternates at the Naval Academy Preparatory School (NAPS), at their homes, and elsewhere anxiously awaited failures of principal and alternates above them.) There were a number of failures.

The second day those successfully passing their physicals assembled for individual posture photographs. (None of the candidates failed this event; however, several "died of shame" when a roommate stole his photo and sent to girlfriends, inter alia.) The second event of that day was an explanatory talk by a member of the Executive Department and receipt of Executive Form No.41, Interpretation of Oath. It is unknown if any candidate changed his mind about entry at this point. The third event was receiving a room assignment, laundry number, and filling out forms incident to admission. Strangely, it was only following these events you were informed whether you passed your physical or not. If you were a member of the Navy you reported to the USS REINA MERCEDES for discharge.

The third day candidates made their entrance deposit, and if formerly in the military showed discharge papers. All requirements satisfied, candidates gathered in Memorial Hall for taking the Oath and being sworn in as Midshipman, U. S. Navy. Noteworthy is the fact that if the second day was a Friday former military personnel were "civilians" over weekends. The last event of the third day was reporting to the Fourth Class Battalion office to commence life as a Plebe.

**'49ers Abstract**

## 1. YOUNGEST MEMBERS (Requirement – Pass entrance exam and physical)

Sumner PARKER 3/24/28      William LALOR 3/05/28  
 Richard MERGL 3/16/28      William KING 2/25/28  
 William WENTWORTH 3/13/28      William MCFARLANE 2/11/28  
 Edward ZIMMERMAN 3/12/28      Thomas RINGWOOD 2/02/28  
 William BRYAN 3/05/28      John EKELUND 1/19/28

## 2. OLDEST MEMBERS (Requirement – Not older than 21 April 1st year of admission)

Barry WHITTLESEY 5/10/23      Joyce FRAZEE 4/14/24  
 Meredith NICHOLSON 4/01/24      Major MCCREIGHT 4/22/24  
 Joseph LOGOMASINI 4/06/24      Valerio DURONIO 4/24/24  
 Kenneth SCHIWECK 4/09/24      Merton FALLON 4/24/24  
 Stanley COOPER 4/12/24      Joseph LONERGAN 4/27/24

## 3. CLASS MEMBERSHIP ON ENTRY

New Admissions (Includes 200 SECNAV USN/USMC, Presidential, and Congressional appointees.) 1,111

Former Midshipmen readmitted: 5

Turned back from Class of 1948: 26

Turned back from Class of 1947: 3

Class of 1947 “turnbacks” advanced to 48B: 3

Total Class of 1949 members: 1,142

## 4. FIRST TO ENTER

The 200 SECNAV appointees included 10 Marines:

Bill BODAGER      Irven HISSOM  
 Kenneth BOTT      Richard HOLZWARH  
 Frank BROWN      Edward O’CONNELL  
 Richard FRANCIS      Lawrence O’CONNELL  
 Jacob HAMMER      Richard WEST

Richard HOLZWARTH died on Christmas leave December 1945. Jacob HAMMER was a non-graduate. The remaining eight graduated with six returning with commissions to the USMC, Bill Bodager being commissioned in the Air Force and Frank BROWN opting for commissioning in the Navy.

Of the 190 SECNAV enlisted Navy appointees, approximately 131 graduated with all but one (medical discharge) being commissioned in the Air Force, Marine Corps, and Navy. Six reached flag rank and 29 reached Captain in the Navy, and Colonel in the Air Force and Army.

Many Congressional appointees in the Navy exercised an option to transfer to the Naval Academy Preparatory School, NRTC Bainbridge, MD, or its overflow facilities at Camp Perry, VA, to prepare for the USNA entrance examination alongside SECNAV candidates for appointments. Congressional appointees in the other services could also receive this training by transferring into the Navy.

#### 5. LAST TO ENTER CLASS

Carlos McCULLOUGH 10/25/1945

#### 6. NATURALIZED CITIZENS IN CLASS

Paul LARIC (Yugoslavia)

Kenneth SCHIWECK (Germany)

Alexander THOMSON (Scotland)

#### 7. SHORTEST (Minimum 5' 6")

Robert WEAVER 5' 5" (Stretching)

John HEMANN 5' 5-3/4" (With knot)

#### 8. TALLEST (Maximum 6' 4")

John BARROW (Great basketball player)

John DIXON (Basketball center & football end)

#### 9. PRE-ACADEMY EDUCATION

##### a. Most Education:

The majority of '49ers had college backgrounds, many leaving college just before graduation to come to USNA. Only one completed college receiving a degree. Several completed sufficient college to become commissioned officers.

## Received degree:

Calvin C. NORMAN Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute BS, Chemical Engineering

## Receiving commissions:

Jack CURRENCE	Penn State V-12 Ensign, USNR
William FULTON	Cornell IA Ensign, USNR
William GOEWEY	Union/Cornell Ensign, USNR
Milton GUSSOW	Drew V-12/Columbia Reserve Mid'n School Ensign, USNR
Walter KRAUS	North Carolina V-12 Ensign, USNR
Robert LAWLER	Unknown 2nd LT, Army Air Corps
Joseph LONERGAN	Occidental /Notre Dame Reserve Mid'n School LTJG, USNR
Jack MAGEE	Franklin Marshall V-12/Columbia Reserve Mid'n School Ensign, USNR
Carlos McCULLOUGH	Oklahoma V-12 Ensign, USNR
John McTAMMANY	Brown V-12/Northwestern Reserve Mid'n School Ensign, USNR
Herman STROMBERG	Harvard V-12 Ensign, USNR

## b. Least Education:

Eugene SHINE High school 2 years and 3 months

## 10. HIGHEST PRE-ACADEMY ENLISTED: (SECNAV Appointees)

Raymond BEAN	Torpedo man 1/CPT Boats (5 combat awards)
Karl BERNSTEIN	Gunners mate 1/C
Kenneth BOTT	Staff Sergeant Marine Corps
William COLLINS	Sonar man 2/C
Kurt DORENKAMP	Motor Machinist Mate 2/C
Wesley LINDSEY	Quartermaster 1/C
Oscar OLSEN	Aviation Radioman 2/C
Lee RAMSEY	Aviation Radioman/Gunner DFC, NCM
Jay WALLACE	Quartermaster 2/C Submarine combat

## 11. ONLY CLASSMATE ENTERING FROM USMA

William RATLIFF Completed Plebe Year at West Point then entered USNA.

## 12. CLASS MEMBERSHIP OVER YEARS TO GRADUATION:

	<b>Plebe Summer</b>	<b>Plebe Year</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Class Year</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Class Year</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Class Year</b>	<b>Loss Total</b>
<b>Year Start</b>	1,145	1,121	917	825	794	
<b>To 48B</b>	3	0	0	0	0	3
<b>Deaths</b>	0	1	0	1	0	2
<b>Dismissed</b>	0	0	3	0	0	3
<b>Discharged</b>	0	2	0	1	0	3
<b>Hon. Dischg</b>	2	60	32	6	2	102
<b>Resign</b>	19	113	57	20	1	210
<b>To Class 50</b>	0	28	0	3	0	31
<b>Period End</b>	1,121	917	825	794	791	354

All persons who at any time were members of the Class of 1949 at the U. S. Naval Academy, all as veterans and past members of the Armed Forces of the U. S. are considered to be members of the Class of 1949 unless they expressly relinquished their membership or were dismissed or forced to resign under less than honorable conditions from the Armed forces of the U. S. for the good of the service or good cause, or were expelled as a member by majority vote of members of the Class in good standing for reasons which are contrary to, or which endanger, the purposes, interests, or character of the Class Constitution.

World War II ended August 14, 1945 (VJ Day) after entrance of the majority of the members of 1949 to USNA and prior to the beginning of the academic year (September 29, 1949). At that time there was no obligatory period of service for midshipman resigning even for former enlisted personnel who still had time remaining on their original enlistments. Consequently, a high rate of resignations occurred during the period August 1945 to September 1947. For example, 41 of the 200 SECNAV enlisted appointees resigned during this period. The overall attrition rate for the Class of 1949 was 31% the worst since the Classes of 1939 (effects of the Great Depression) and 1941 (effects of Great depression and impending war). Effecting Class of 1949 attrition can be ending a war and veterans desiring to pursue their desired careers.

## 13. GRADUATION DATA

Membership at end of course: 791

Did not complete course: 1

(John McFeaters received degree and was honorably discharged June 30, 1950.)

Number graduated and received Bachelor of Science degree: 790

Number not commissioned: 10

Physically disqualified Honorably Discharged: 8 upon graduation.

Hardship resignation accepted on graduation: 1 (Eric Fenno, CAPT, USN)

Foreign national: 1 (Manuel Bentin (D), ADM, Peru)

Number commissioned: 780

Ensign, Unrestricted Line: 581

Ensign, Supply Corps: 71

Ensign, Civil Engineer Corps: 18

2nd Lieutenant, Marine Corps: 55

2nd Lieutenant, Air Force: 55

#### 14. SPORTS LEADERSHIP

Earning more than 200 "Ns", 49er team captains were:

BASEBALL - Lee RENSBERGER

BASKETBALL - John "Wheel" BARROW

CREW - John "Spike" GARTLAND

FENCING - Bill BRYAN

FOOTBALL - Scott EMERSON and Pete WILLIAMS

150-LB FOOTBALL - Hal STROMBERG

GOLF - Ed BRIGGS

GYM - Roy GRAYSON

LACROSSE - Lee CHAMBERS

PISTOL - Ed RAWSTHORNE

RIFLE - Demy DEMYTTENAERE

SAILING - Jack BALTAR

SOCCER - Al SCHAUFELBERGER

SQUASH - Tom GILL

SWIMMING - Frank GOULBURN

TENNIS - Mike VOGT

TRACK - Jim BEELER

INDOOR TRACK - Jim BEELER

WATER POLO - Harry TRAIN

#### 15. PERSEVERANCE PAYS:

- a. Of the 28 midshipmen turned back into the Class of 1949, 16 graduated in 1949.
- b. Of the 31 1949 midshipmen turned back into the Class of 1950, 17 graduated in 1950.
- c. Of the 3 1949 midshipmen advanced to the Class of 1948-B, 2 graduated in 1948.

#### 16. CONDUCT AND LEADERSHIP & APTITUDE:

The number of demerits allowed before facing a board for dismissal from the USNA decreased yearly from 300 Plebe year to 150 First Class year. At least three '49ers had exemplary records in Conduct by standing number one for three of the four academic years. (It is noted that demerits acquired during Plebe Summer were expunged from records September 29, 1945 when Class of 1949 joined the Brigade for the academic year.) These "good guys" were Warren Fredericks, Thomas Linton, and William Sample.

Grading of midshipmen in the category of Leadership & Aptitude was a subjective system of grading based on observation by officers of the Executive Department, instructors in the professional subjects conducted the USNA and during summer training. The basic criteria were observation of midshipmen in a leadership role and expected performance in the military service ashore or afloat. Consistently leading the way were John C. Barrow, Edward Briggs, Dennis Stanfill, and Thomas Walters. Noteworthy is that several other "head and shoulder" performers in the Class of 1949 emerged during their naval and civilian service to high levels of leadership and responsibility.

#### **THE '49ER LEGACY**

##### 17. LONGEST SERVICE ON ACTIVE DUTY:

Glenwood CLARK, VADM Jul 1988	Thomas KILCLINE, VADM Aug 1983
Joseph JOSEPHSON, RADM Apr 1987	Edward KOCHER, RADM May 1983
James WEBBER, VADM Apr 1987	Harry TRAIN, ADM Sep 1982
James WATKINS, ADM Jul 1986	Sumner SHAPIRO, RADM Sep 1982
William HAMILTON, CAPT May 1986	Calhoun KILLEEN, MGEN Jul 1982
Kenneth CARR, VADM May 1985	Kenneth KNOIZEN, RADM Jul 1982
Edward BRIGGS, VADM Oct 1984	John C. BARROW, RADM Oct 1981
Robert WALTERS, VADM Oct 1984	John DIXON, RADM Oct 1981

John EKELUND, RADM Nov 1983

Karl BERNSTEIN, RADM Aug 1981

Ralph GHORMLEY, RADM Oct 1983

James MURRAY, RADM Aug 1981

Edward WALLER, VADM Sep 1983

## 18. YEARS AND TYPES OF SERVICE

Our '49er classmates have served in the Armed Forces of the United States during the period from May 6, 1941, the enlistment date of Stanley COOPER, to July 1, 1988, the retirement date of Glenwood CLARK. Members of the class have served in World War II, the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, and the Lebanon crisis, the Cuban Missile crisis, the Dominican Republic crisis, the Haiti crisis, and in almost all other crises, actions, and emergency deployments of forces by this country that occurred during the 47 years of active service by classmates. We are now represented by all ranks from Ensign retired, to Admiral, Retired. Thirty-nine '49ers achieved rank as flag and general officers. They accomplished this in the Navy (37), Air Force (1), and Marine Corps (1). Breakdown of warfare specialties of Navy flags were:

Aviation 13

Submarines 7

Surface 6

Engineering Duty (EDO) 4

Supply Corps (1 USNR included) 4

Civil Engineering Duty (CEC) 1

Cryptology 1

Intelligence 1

One of the 55 '49ers commissioned in the Marine Corps Calhoun KILLEEN, attained the rank of Major General. One of the 55 that were commissioned in the Air Force, Robert BERG, attained the rank of Brigadier General.

## 19. MEDALS AND AWARDS

The class data on honors, medals, and awards can only be approximate since many of our classmates (or their survivors) have apparently been too humble or shy to have kept the Alumni Association informed of awards and honors received. Additions to the following listing would be welcomed.

### NAVY CROSS

James LINDER

Homer SMITH

### SILVER STAR



Kenneth BOTT

Samuel CHESSMAN

Robert HUNT

James LINDER

#### PURPLE HEART

James BEELER

George BENAS

Kenneth BOTT

Philip BRANNON

Wayne HALL (2 awards)

Norman LARSON

Robair MOHRHARDT

Robert NEEDHAM

Thomas PARSON

Roger PEARD

Merlin SCHNEIDER

Paul STEPHENSON

Littleton WALLER

Harry WOOD

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS - 31 awards

BRONZE STAR - 76 awards

DSM/DDSM/DSSM - 25 awards

LEGION OF MERIT - 130 awards

#### 19. KILLED ON ACTIVE DUTY

Many classmates have been killed in action (KIA) or in accidents in the service of our country. Many of their bodies, never recovered, lie in the waters of the Atlantic, Pacific, Caribbean, and Mediterranean, as well as in the United States and foreign lands. Body not recovered (BNR) and KIA is indicated where appropriate in the following listing:

James BEELER, KIA Korea

Robert MANSEAU, A/C US

Frederick BLODGETT, A/C TX	John McCOY, A/C BNR At sea
Thomas BUTLER, A/C	Richard MERGL, A/C BNR off FL
Richard CLINITE, KIA BNR Korea	George MOFFETT, A/C BNR
Robert CONKLIN, A/C WA	Edward RAWSTHORNE, KIA BNR SE Asia
Edward CRUISE, A/C CA	Richard SETH, BNR off Greece
John FRIEND, A/C AL	Stephen SKOMSKY, BNR Sargasso Sea
Channing GARDNER, KIA BNR Korea	Homer SMITH, KIA Vietnam
Joseph GOLLNER, KIA BNR Korea	Wayne SMITH, Okinawa
William HARRIS, A/C AL	Leland STEGMERTEN, A/C WA
Irven HISSOM, BNR CA	Gordon STEWART, A/C North Africa
James HUGHES, KIA BNR Korea	William STODDARD, KIA BNR Vietnam
Joseph KANEVSKY, A/C CA	Fred TROESCHER, A/C BNR off Marianas
Gilbert KIRK, A/C BNR S China Sea	Michael VOGT, KIA BNR Vietnam
Frank GOULBURN A/C WA	Henry C. WHITE A/C FL

## 20. ACADEMIC ACHIVEMENTS

Once again, the academic record of the Class of 1949 is a close approximation because of the bashfulness of classmates in proclaiming their mental acuity. A majority of classmates have attained other degrees than the Bachelor of Science given at the Naval Academy. Noteworthy is that many have increased their knowledge by receiving advanced degrees in their study efforts. The Alumni Association records and other sources indicate the following display of scholarship

MASTERS DEGREES (MS, MA, MEd, MPA, etc.) - 158

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA) - 48

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (Various fields) - 17

William BACCHUS	Herman JONES
Michael BONNER	James MILLER
Robert CART MILL	Kenneth SCHIWECK
Warrington COBB	Elliot SHUMAN
William DOBY	Robert L. SMITH
Harry DONAHUE	John TINKHAM

Richard FRANCIS	Robert WEAVER
Norton HARDING	Evert WILMOTH
James INSKEEP	

## DOCTOR OF SCIENCE - 1

Frank SCHLOSSER

## DOCTOR OF MEDICINE (MD) - 6

Robert A. BROWN	Frederick FISHER
Carey BUTLER	Robert OOGHE
John EDSON	David WHERRY

## LAWYERS (JD, LLB, LLM) - 22

Craig AALYSON	Henry HOPPE
Edward ADKINS	William LAWLER
Edward ALDERMAN	Thomas LINTON
Theodore ANNENBERG	Hugh LONGINO
John BENOIT	William McFARLANE
William BODAGER (LLM)	William MEANIX
Loree COLLINS	Harry MORGAN
Louis DILLMAN	George NORMAN
Montraville EGERTON	Philip RILEY
Fred GRABOWSKY (LLM)	Eugene SHINE
Richard GREENWOOD	Fred WILDER (Wisconsin Circuit Judge)

## 21. OTHER PURSUITS

In addition to the professions noted hereinabove, our '49er classmates have been involved in a very broad range of businesses, activities, and professions. To name each '49er and his individual activities would require many more pages than is intended in this Class abstract. Nevertheless, a brief listing of endeavors and occupations follow to enable readers to see the broad range of activities in which classmates performed:

- Accountants, Comptrollers, Cost Analysts, and Fiscal Managers
- Architect, Complex Planning and Development

- Arts, Theatre, and Entertainment
- Authors (Text books and manuals, Biographies, Novels)
- Business Management and Development
- Civil Service: Federal, State, and Local Government
- Chaplains, Reverends, Priests, Pastors, Elders, and Deacons
- City Manager
- Commissioner and Chairman Nuclear Regulatory Commission
- Company Presidents/Owners/Directors/ General Managers
- Consultants, Program Managers, and Public Relations
- Corporate Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, President
- Deputy Director, State Department of Transportation
- Farming, Agriculture, and Ranching
- Furniture Manufacturing, Assembly, Sales, and Delivery
- General Aviation and Flight Instruction
- General Contracting and Construction
- Hospital Direction and Administration
- Insurance, Corporate Finance, and Investments
- Leaders in Community, Civic, Charitable, and Professional Organizations and Associations
- Manufacturing and Marketing
- Materials Purchasing, Supply, Storage, and Inventory
- Motion Picture Moguls and Film Producers
- Office Managers, Law firms and other Businesses
- Personnel Management and Recruitment
- Petroleum Reserves Director and Oil Company Executives
- Political Office Candidates, Party Workers
- Professional Engineers (Aero, Civil, Computer, Electric, Electronic, Marine, Structural, Systems, etc.)
- Professors, Teachers, Educators, and School Administrators
- Public Affairs Assistant, U. S. Senator
- Psychologists, Social Workers, and Counselors
- Real Estate Appraisal, Development, Management, Sales, and Rentals
- Sales Executives and Representatives
- Savings and Loan and Bank Officials
- Scientists, Physicists, and inventors
- Secretary, Navy Relief Society
- Secretary, U. S. Department of Energy
- Staff Assistant, State Legislature
- Stockbrokers and Investment Bankers
- Tax Specialists, Retirement and Estate Planners
- Trustees, Directors, and Board members

Following graduation members of the Class of 1949 scattered to the four winds. Some delayed leaving the Naval Academy to serve in marriage ceremonies as bridegrooms, best men, groomsmen, and participants in an “arch of steel”. Others enjoyed a respite of leave before proceeding to assigned duty stations. All left behind 4 years of fellowship that generated lifelong friends. Their careers in the military services and civilian life were seldom without being with or near classmates. There are many stories about these years that should be recorded as part of Class of 1949 history. Members are invited to report those events and times for posterity.

Responsibility for maintaining the cohesiveness, fellowship, and communications of the class over the years has been by dedicated class members throughout the world. Leadership of activities has been headed by the following Presidents:

Ralph Pete WILLIAMS 1947-1957

Richard William TAYLOR 1957-1961

Harry Dupue TRAIN 1961-1965

Dempsey BUTLER, Jr. 1965-1969

John Easley BENOIT 1969-1974

Lucian CAPONE, Jr. 1974-1979

John Curtis BARROW 1979-1984

John Franklin BARROW 1984-1989

Ralph McD. GHORMLEY 1989-1994

Alfred Clark BOUGHTON III 1994-1999

### **THE SECOND 50 YEARS (1995 - 2049)**

Commencement of the second 50 years in the summer of 1995 wasn't recognized as an occasion for celebration or even formally noted. It was a time of recall that the longest serving member on active duty had long since retired as had most classmates from their civilian careers. Almost all members had left the work force and entered the volunteer force. It is significant that as we entered our second half-century the class had undertaken a task, which would memorialize the Class of 1949 for the undetermined future.

Before the 45th Reunion Ace BOUGHTON was informed he had been elected President of the class. The outgoing President, Ralph GHORMLEY, recommended that Ace contact the Alumni Association and introduce himself as the incoming President of the Class of 1949. During his meeting with Roland BRANDQUIST ('60), CEO of the Alumni Association, in November 1994 Ace was shown the Superintendent's "wish list" for USNAAA projects. Number two on the list was "Refurbishment of 49 College Avenue" to a "Development Division Center". Intrigued by the thought of a "49 House", Ace investigated costs and commitments the class would be responsible for if the project was accepted by the Alumni Association.

If the Class of 1949 was to undertake support of this project for the Alumni Association, members of the Executive Committee realized several preparatory steps should be taken. A major one was to establish the class as a tax exempt entity. Gene SHINE, Executive Vice President (lawyer) rewrote the class Constitution making the Class of 1949 a duly chartered Maryland Corporation. (Extracts appear at the CONSTITUTION page of the class website.) This action was completed November 18, 1994.

Concurrently, a sufficient number of classmates voiced support of the project to provide confidence the \$250,000 estimate could be met.

December 1, 1994 the USNAAA Board of Trustees passed a motion to move as quickly as possible to commence renovations to the property.

Following approval of the Class of 1949 Executive Committee, a letter was sent to class members announcing the project. There was overwhelming approval. A Memorandum of Agreement with the Alumni Association was signed March 13, 1995. Contributions have met renovation costs with surplus funds going into a maintenance account at the Alumni Association to meet future 49 House requirements.

Refurbishment of 49 House was completed in December 1996 and officially opened by President BOUGHTON and Ron MARRYOUT ('57), CEO USNAAA, May 10, 1997. During work on the project Madelon McDonald and Gene SHINE researched the history of 49 College Avenue and printed a brochure for distribution. Parts were used in a SHIPMATE July-August 1997 article of the official opening and A 50TH YEAR PROFILE OF THE CLASS OF 1949, U. S. NAVAL ACADEMY, OCTOBER 1999 that was available at the 50th Reunion. An article about 49 House is on the website at HISTORY.

In keeping with the Alumni Association's "Another Link in the Chain" project, during late January and early February 1999 six evening receptions were held with Class of 1949 bringing the Class of 1999 on board. Speakers at these events were Ace BOUGHTON, Wesley BROWN, Tom PARSONS, Bill READ, Gene SHINE, and Ed WALLER. Attending as hosts and hostesses were John and Flo BARROW, Mickey BOUGHTON, Crystal BROWN, Bill and Betty CALLAGHAN, Chet and Ella DAVIS, Jack and Nancy FROST, Fred and Laila GRABOWSKY, Bill and Betty GUTHRIE, Tom and Dornell KILCLINE, Mickey and Madelon McDONALD, Marty READ, Joan SHINE, Pete and DeEtte SWANSON, Jack and Pat VENABLE, Warren and Ursula VOSELLER, and Marty WALLER. Over 200 Class of 1999 midshipmen and other guests attended each evening. Besides the inspirational talks by the speakers, each member of Class of 1999 received a faux marble memento depicting a compass rose surrounded by an anchor chain which enclosed the class crests of '49 and '99 with the words "Another Link in the Chain".

In October 1999 members of the Class of 1949 assembled in Annapolis to enjoy its 50th Reunion headquartered at Loews Annapolis Hotel on West Street. Many things had changed over the years. The White Tavern was gone and to walk from the Yard to West Street had somehow become a longer, more tiring endeavor. Nevertheless, the 50th was well planned, well attended, and well-remembered. With kudos to Ace, John BARROW relieved him as class President.

The next 5 years involved a shocking change. Unlike the wars during which we served and those MidEast conflicts with Iraq in which many of our off-spring served we suffered attacks within the United States by a foreign enemy for the first time since 1812. September 11, 2001 a new war began – the "War against Terrorism". Although long out of uniform several classmates provided assistance and advice for confronting this "out of uniform" enemy.

Approaching the 55th Reunion the Executive Committee considered reunion sites other than Annapolis in response to suggestions by many classmates weary of being crowded with other classes. Pete SWANSON and Jack BENOIT conducted a reconnaissance of Branson, MO facilities and the Executive Committee decided to slate reunion festivities there. The increased Homeland Security measures imposed on travel and complicated travel means reduced attendance. However, attendees enjoyed the new venue and facilities at Branson. Incoming President Harold TIPTON, Jr. relieved John BARROW while there.

Activities of the class between 2004 and 2009 were dispersed at regional sites. Joint Christmas luncheons were held, usually at Army-Navy Country Club, with Annapolis and DC area classmate's primary attendees augmented by not too distant classmates. Tidewater Virginia classmates had monthly luncheons with special occasions planned for the June 3 anniversary and Christmas season. The New York area group also had planned gatherings. And come Army-Navy game time whether 2 or 200, whether in the stadium or at a distant shore, classmates assembled to back the Blue and Gold to victory.

The significant event of this era was the construction of the WESLEY A. BROWN FIELDHOUSE (see GALLERY) and its dedication May 10, 2008. Class of 1949 was invited to the ceremony honoring LCDR Wesley A. BROWN, USN (Ret) as the first black to graduate from the Naval Academy and recognize his continued service to the nation until retirement. Robert J. Schneller, Jr. wrote "Breaking the Color Barrier", dedicated to Wes, about his entry and experiences at the Naval Academy. Additionally, the Naval Institute recently completed and published an oral history about Wes.

September 26, 2009 President Hal TIPTON introduced the newly elected President of Class of 1949, Ewing R. McDONALD, Jr. at the 60th Reunion class meeting.

## Class of 1949 Giving

### **'49 House, 49 College Avenue**

When the last 'forty-niner goes on eternal patrol (as they say in the submarine force), the class's shining legacy will be 49 House, a three-story, brick-and-frame, Queen-Anne-style building at 49 College Avenue, directly across the street from the campus of St. John's College. For anyone out there who is unaware of USNA Class of 1949's involvement in funding the renovation of the building, the following is a brief rundown.

The Naval Academy Alumni Association, which was bursting at the seams in its Ogle Hall home, on the corner of College Avenue and Prince George Street, purchased the building at 49 College Avenue in 1983, with an eye to making it into additional office space once funds were available. In 1995, USNA Class of 1949 agreed to join with the Alumni Association in funding the renovation and upkeep of the building as the class's 50th anniversary gift to its alma mater. The class's successful fundraising efforts contributed heavily to the initial renovation and also provided a viable fund dedicated to ongoing upkeep of the building.

The interior of the building was completely renovated and equipped with state-of-the-art: heating and air-conditioning systems; fiber optic computer systems; the most modern phone systems; highly insulated walls and floors; in-house printers and work stations; anti-EMF underground wiring; and many other technological improvements and creature-comfort features. In addition to workspace, there is a reception area as well as a conference room, and a modern apartment available for official guests in the basement. The building's exterior, which was in good condition, required only painting and a new roof.

The Class also undertook the project of revamping the house entry. Our thanks go to Ace Boughton, Class of 1949 President (1994-1999) and his Executive Committee for their leadership in undertaking this noteworthy class project; John Dobson, one of the class's CEC engineers, for providing oversight of the work and for his expertise solving problems that arose during the renovation; and lastly to all classmates for their initial contributions and their continuing support to meet future '49 House requirements.

The class gift did not end with the renovations. The Class went on to ensure the historic integrity of the property by stewarding the Historic Marker process. The Historic Annapolis Foundation (the preservation organization for Annapolis and Anne Arundel County) awards markers to noteworthy buildings that merit recognition and are maintained in a manner appropriate to their architectural significance. The markers are color-coded to identify the construction period. This plaque's purple color dates the structure to the Victorian period (1837-1901). The house now has historic designation and is known officially as the 49 House.

The building is home to the Alumni Association Development Division, which supports the needs of the Naval Academy and the Brigade of Midshipmen. Moreover, the 49 House conference room provides meeting space for visiting supporters of the Naval Academy. The gardens and patio afford a pleasant site for midshipmen and alumni functions.