

PUBLISHED BY THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND FOUNDATION

# WAVETOPS THE GOUGE

Welcome to the inaugural edition of...

## *The Gouge*

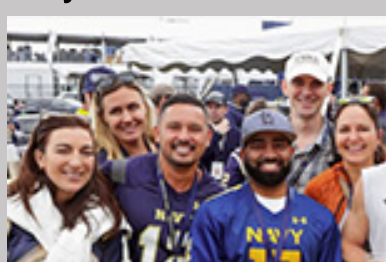
This is a quarterly "Wavetops Special Edition" for alumni and chapter members. Our goal is to provide timely and relevant information to better communicate, connect, and engage alumni while also supporting chapters in their efforts to increase membership, participation, and impact in their local communities. If you have suggestions for future content, reach out to [Nancy Murray](#), Senior Director, Alumni Engagement and Outreach Programs.

## Chapter Roadshow



[January marked the kickoff of our chapter and parent club roadshow.](#) Over the next three to four years, the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association staff will be visiting all chapters and parent clubs across the country to share what's happening at the Alumni Association and on the Yard, as well as getting feedback from you on what the Alumni Association can do to better support you as individuals and as a chapter. Find out where we're going next!

## Stay Connected



**All alumni:** Is your contact information up to date? Log into [usna.com](#) and review your profile. We want to make sure you receive your *Shipmate*, emails and more. Join your local chapter to connect with fellow alumni. [Find your local chapter here.](#) **Chapters:** Make sure local alumni have the gouge on your chapter happenings by keeping your website, myUSNA page and social handles current. Is your chapter dormant? Contact [Nancy Murray](#) for assistance. Is there a USNA Alumni Spouse Club in your community? If so, contact [Mike Lowe '98](#), Director, Alumni Support Services.

## Bravo Zulu: Rhode Island Chapter



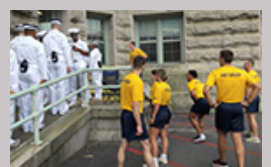
The chapter is dedicated to preserving the rich history and traditions of the Naval Academy, particularly its ties to Rhode Island. [They worked with the USNA Museum to obtain photos depicting leadership, midshipmen, and facilities of the Naval Academy during the Civil War era.](#) These photos will become part of the chapter's archives and will also be provided to the Newport Elks Lodge, located on the Naval Academy site, for a year-round exhibition. This offers the Rhode Island community a captivating illustration of the Naval Academy's history in Newport.



Summer Seminar and STEM Support



Liberty Cards



Welcome Aboard Class of 2028



myUSNA Tips

## In Memoriam: ADM Bruce DeMars '57, USN (Ret.)



[Admiral Bruce DeMars passed away on 3 February in Falls Church, VA, at the age of 88 after a brief illness.](#) DeMars was born in Chicago, IL, in 1935, and graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1957. After 44 years of service to his country, he retired in 1996. He was honored with many awards and decorations including the [Distinguished Graduate Award in 2009](#).

## Alumni Marketplace and Alumni Businesses



Alumni Entrepreneurs and more—show your U.S. Navy, U.S. Naval Academy, and class spirit. The U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation (USNAAA&F) shares the perfect gifts for every occasion. We feature [alumni-owned businesses and other top-notch vendors to offer merchandise](#) for every occasion. Many [Naval Academy alumni go on to launch and/or own businesses](#) in a wide variety of vital industries.

## Mid-Atlantic & Western Regional Trustee Elections in March/April



Mid-Atlantic and Western Region regular members of the Association: [your representatives on the USNA Alumni Association Board of Trustees will be campaigning for your vote](#) in March and April. Get to know your candidates now by clicking on our election page. Don't know the region in which you reside? [Here is the regional map for our alumni community.](#) All regular members in these regions can vote in the election.



Preferred Provider of Financial Services



RhumbLines Vol. 7: myUSNA



Class of 2024 Ship Selection



Modley '83: Former Acting Navy Secretary Shares His Side

## Celebrating Black History Month



February marked Black History Month, a celebration with origins dating to 1926 that has been observed by presidents starting with Gerald Ford. March is Women's History Month, which, since 1987, has celebrated women's contributions to history, culture, and society. As an alumni community, we celebrate the achievements of our Black alumni and women alumni and the milestones they have reached in service to this nation. [See our coverage on usna.com](#) and our social media channels: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

## Honor Your Midshipman with the Honor Chair Program



For a tax-deductible gift of \$1,000 to the Naval Academy Fund, you can celebrate your son or daughter's tremendous achievement by honoring them with a plate bearing their name in Alumni Hall. To learn more or make your gift, [visit the Tribute Gifts website](#) or call 410-295-4111. Gifts made by 26 April 2024 are guaranteed installation by Commissioning Week. Honor Chairs can also be made in honor or memory of classmates, parents, friends, or family!

## Join Fellow Travelers in 2024 and 2025



It's almost March and 2024 is selling strong! With more than 50 trips to choose from the [USNA Alumni Travel](#) offers something for everyone on land and by sea. [Visit usna.com/travel for more information on destinations, rates, and itineraries.](#) Will we see you on one (or more) of these amazing adventures in 2024? [Check out the 2025 travel opportunities](#)—many are ready to reserve!

## USNA Hosts Jean Bartik Computing Symposium



The U.S. Naval Academy Computer Science Department hosted the [5th annual Jean Bartik Computing Symposium on 1-2 February](#). Named after Jean Bartik, one of the pioneering women who programmed the first general-purpose electronic computer, the symposium highlighted the accomplishments of women and minorities in computing. The symposium was attended by 34 midshipmen, 14 cadets (U.S. Military Academy), 10 cadets (U.S. Air Force Academy), and 10 cadets (U.S. Coast Guard Academy).



Thorp '81 Steps Down as President & CEO of U.S. Navy Memorial



Legacy of Valor Part Two: Advice (Video)

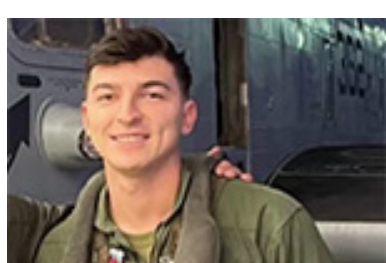


2024 Distinguished Graduate Award Ceremony



83rd Brigade Boxing Championships (Video)

## Nava '17: Marine Killed in Helicopter Crash Remembered



A U.S. Marine from West Michigan who was [killed in a helicopter crash](#) this week is being remembered as a "beloved" student, leader, and athlete by his former high school. Capt Miguel Nava '17, USMC, of Traverse City, MI, was identified as one of five Marines who were killed on Tuesday, 6 February in a helicopter crash during a "routine flight training" in San Diego, CA.

## Introducing Alumni Legacy Programs



[Alumni Legacy Programs](#) celebrate, honor, and acknowledge the enduring impact of the events, achievements, actions, and lives of our alumni that unite the community in shared experience and understanding of what it means to "thrive as leaders" and "reach their full potential" as Naval Academy alumni. Through this, we "strengthen our members bonds" to the Academy and each other.

## Meet the Staff: Jimmy DeButts



[DeButts is the editor of Shipmate magazine.](#) He has the privilege of sharing the stories of alumni doing extraordinary things in the fleet, Marine Corps, private sector, nonprofits, and in their communities. He joined the Alumni Association and Foundation in 2019 after seven years as an editor with the *Capital Gazette* in Annapolis, MD. He was part of the team honored with a special citation from the Pulitzer Prize board.

