

DEAR CLASSMATES AND FRIENDS,

WE BEGIN THIS UPDATE WITH GREAT NEWS. On Monday of this week we were credited with over \$6 million dollars in contributions, pledges and estate giving toward our fiftieth reunion legacy gift goal of \$6.3 million dollars for the 63 Center for Academic Excellence. This is a major milestone. One that says we can make our goal with an increased stroke and an All Hands effort as we approach the finish line at the end of next month.

We are approaching seventy percent overall class participation in our efforts, with twelve companies over 63% participation and four more within two percentage points of that goal. The First and Twenty-fourth companies are at or near 100% (color company status) with the Twelfth and Twenty-third within striking distance. Ninety-two percent of our deceased classmates have had memorial gifts made in their names. Additionally, Sherry Freese, the widow of our recently departed classmate, Don Freese, has asked that donations be made to the 63CAE, a cause that Don felt passionate about, in lieu of flowers or other tributes.

Already this new academic year, a total of 2000 midshipman (600 Plebes and 1400 upperclass) have signed up with the 63CAE for assistance in one or more subject areas. This is due in part to the wider range of assistance being offered, from calculus, physics and chemistry, to thermodynamics and writing skills development, and the wide Brigade recognition that the 63CAE can make a major difference in academic achievement. The need for our support clearly is there. We can go a long way in helping to meet it.

Please consider making a contribution or pledge if you have not already done so or increasing the amount already contributed. Additionally, raffle tickets for a host of great prizes are still available (see our class website for details) with all proceeds going to our legacy gift.

We can achieve our goal of \$6.3 million dollars. We are the Class of 1963.

REUNION NEWS. We are now expecting close to or over 800 classmates, wives, widows and other family members to join us here in Annapolis 24-27 October. Bill Earner and his reunion committee crew are very busy putting the finishing touches on what promises to be a great reunion. With so many coming, we can not entertain any "walk-ins" for the class dinner. We have reached the elastic limit of Alumni Hall seating and the capacity of the caterer. IMPORTANTLY, please check the reunion attendance list by company that is on the class website to

ensure that you are registered. Hotel or company event registration are NOT Reunion Registration. A fair number of classmates have hotel reservations, but were late in adding reunion registration, so please double check.

Company events are being posted on the class website as we become aware of them. Please check for specifics for your company on the website. Let us know of others being planned.

REUNION GEAR Class specific (crest embroidered) clothing and other gear is available from the Alumni Store accessed through the Alumni Association at www.USNA.com and from Wedekind Brothers at www.wedekindbros.com. Additionally, our classmate, Fred Kaiser has a number of class specific items that were surplus to our San Diego reunion that he is selling at very reasonable prices with all proceeds going to our legacy gift effort. You can reach Fred for a listing and pictures of available items by going to thinkink@mc.net. If you do not see what you want, other items may be ordered from Fred at the same address or by calling 815-572-1941.

LUCKY BAG UPDATES. Please take a few minutes, if you have not already done so, to update your post graduation biography for inclusion in the Lucky Bag section of our website. Send text and photos as desired to Steve Coester at Steve.Coester@1963.USNA.com.

NAVY FOOTBALL. The 2013 team is off to a great start with victories over Indiana (41 to 35) and Delaware (51 to 7). Air Force is the next home game on 5 October. The PITT game for our reunion should be spectacular. It looks like a memorable season through Army on 14 December and whatever follows.

With only five weeks until we rendezvous here in Annapolis, excitement is in the air. I look forward to seeing you at the reunion.

Quality 63,

Spencer Johnson