

**The 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion  
Of the United States  
Naval Academy  
Class of 1963**



**San Diego, California  
October 25-27, 2018**

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## Classmates and Members of the Class of 1963 Family

Welcome to San Diego and the 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion of the US Naval Academy Class of 1963.

More than half a century ago, we left the shores of the Severn to become leaders in the Armed Forces of the United States. At the time, there were just indications of future US involvement in Vietnam. Subsequently many of us served in that conflict and 13 classmates made the ultimate sacrifice. As you reflect and remember with your fellow classmates, take pride that through more than a half-century the Class of 1963 has honorably served the United States of America.

We will touch on those themes throughout this Reunion. We will open our 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion on Thursday night with a reception and dinner on the USS Midway Aircraft Carrier Museum. Many of our classmates served on the Midway during her forty-seven years of active service. On Friday, we will attend a memorial service at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, a beautiful venue that overlooks San Diego Bay that is the final resting place for classmates and shipmates alike. Immediately following, we will have a class luncheon and a short business meeting at the Admiral Kidd club, a venue where many of us spent collegial hours as junior officers. Friday night has been left for individual companies, our core support group during our four years in Bancroft Hall. Saturday brings us to the Navy - Notre Dame Game and its pregame tailgate. Our class is one of only four in Academy history to have defeated Notre Dame twice during our tenure.

Each of the events during this reunion was chosen to link us emotionally and physically to those things in the past that helped shape our lives as individuals and as members of our Class. Embrace them; embrace each other; and embrace the bond that few others can lay claim to.

Spencer Johnson, Class President

Phillip Marsden, Reunion Chairman

# Program of Reunion Events

## Wednesday 24 October

1200-1800 **Registration** at the Marriott SpringHill Suites

1520 Shuttle begins loading at DoubleTree Hotel

1600-1800 **Registration Reception** at the Marriott SpringHill Suites

## Thursday 25 October

0900 – 1730 **Registration** at the Marriott SpringHill Suites

1730 Buses begin loading at the DoubleTree

1745 Shuttle begins loading at the Marriott

1800 – 2200 **Class Reception and Dinner** on the USS Midway.

Note: Beginning Friday, San Diego Fleet Week will be in full swing with ship visits, exhibits and static displays on the Broadway Pier across the street from the Marriott Hotel. See handout in your Hospitality Bag.

## **Friday 26 October**

0845 Buses begin loading at both reunion hotels and Liberty Station Parking for Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery

1000 - 1100 **Class Memorial Service** at Fort Rosecrans

1115 Buses load to transport luncheon attendees to Adm Kidd Club, returning all others to the Liberty Station parking lot and hotels

1230-1415 **Class Luncheon** at the Adm Kidd Club

1430 Buses transport luncheon attendees back to Liberty Station parking lot and reunion hotels

TBD Individual **Company Events** that evening

## **Saturday 27 October**

1345 Buses begin loading at both hotels for SDCCU Stadium

1400 – 1630 **Navy Alumni Tailgate**

1500 Buses begin loading at both hotels for SDCCU Stadium

1700 - 2100 (about) **Navy-Notre Dame Football game**

30 minutes postgame. Buses begin loading to transport game attendees back to hotels.

**Sunday 28 October** Departures

## Event Descriptions

**Registration Reception:** Reunion registration will take place 1200-1800 Wednesday afternoon, 24 October and 0800-1730 Thursday, 25 October. Your registration packets will be available at the registration desk just outside the Ted Williams Room on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Marriott SpringHill Suites Bayfront.

If for some reason you can't make the registration place and times, please coordinate with Lee Cargill at (619) 519-0099.

**Registration Reception:** A reunion reception will be held Wednesday, 24 October from 1600 – 1800 in the Ted Williams Room on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Marriott SpringHill Suites. There you can observe the setting sun from the beautiful Ted Williams Room that overlooks the San Diego Harbor, the harbor ferries, the cruise ship pier and the USS Midway. Light finger food will be served. A no-host bar will be set up from 1300 to 1900.

**Class Dinner:** Our 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion events will kick off Thursday night with a Gala Reception and Dinner aboard the USS Midway Aircraft Carrier Museum, located on the waterfront just a short walk from the reunion headquarters at the Marriott Springhill Suites. Bus service to and from each reunion hotel will be provided.

Boarding the Midway will begin at 1800 for the Reception on the Flight Deck, enabling views of the San Diego sunset and of the emerging city and harbor lights. Access to the Flight Deck will be up some stairs (ladder), or via a nearby elevator.

The Reception will provide us the opportunity to meet and mingle with old friends, fueled by four cash bars and nourished by tray- passed hors d'oeuvres. Each registration package will include one "drink ticket" that is good for your first glass of beer or wine, or a half ticket for water or soda. An added bonus will be the opportunity to view vintage carrier-based aircraft. In case of inclement weather, the reception will be moved into the Hangar Bay below.

The Class Dinner will begin on the Hangar Bay at approximately 1930. Tables will be staged for 10 guests each and will be pre-set with salad, rolls, two bottles of wine, water and desserts. Two no-host bars will be on hot standby for additional support.

All tables will have table numbers. You will find your assigned table number on the back of your name tag. A table seating diagram and escorts will be stationed by the entrance to the dining area to help you locate your table.

The dinner program will begin with a few welcoming remarks from our emcee, and then you will be directed by table number to the buffet for steak, salmon and sides. The dinner program will include remarks from several speakers including our special guest, the Superintendent. His remarks will be

followed by a half hour of entertainment reminiscent of the Vietnam era USO shows. For you history buffs, the USO brought Bob Hope to our dinner venue in 1973, while she was on station in the Tonkin Gulf. Coffee service will close out the evening, along with a few remarks from our emcee regarding reunion events scheduled for Friday. We must be off the "boat" by 2200.

Attire for this gala event is business casual, sport coat recommended with ties optional. Ladies should consider wearing pants rather than skirts or dresses. Since the Class Reception on the Midway will be on the Flight Deck after sundown, windbreakers, sweaters and jackets are recommended. The Class Dinner, however, will be held in the Hangar Bay, which is protected from the weather. The steel decks throughout the ship favor comfortable shoes.

**Class Memorial Service:** The Class Memorial Service for our deceased classmates will be held at 10AM on Friday at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery at Point Loma. It is approximately a 25 minute bus ride from the SpringHill Suites downtown. The one hour ceremony will take place outdoors at the Rostrum, a stately area suitable for seating our large group. Situated on the serene grassy hills above Naval Base Point Loma, it has a beautiful view of San Diego and the Pacific Ocean. It is the resting place of many of our classmates. The reunion committee believes this is the ideal venue in San Diego for us to

remember and honor the memories and accomplishments of our deceased classmates, while also treasuring the presence of the classmates with whom we spent four years together at the Academy.

The weather in San Diego for late October is quite pleasant, with temperatures averaging between 62F and 73F. There is normally no more than a half inch of rain during the month. Inasmuch as Fort Rosecrans overlooks the water, a morning marine layer is not uncommon. Wearing a good hat will protect from sun exposure. The seating is on turf so low/flat shoes may be preferred. While mist or rain is unlikely, we nevertheless recommend that attendees pack a suitable light jacket and a travel umbrella as well. In the event of severe weather, this event will held indoors at the Admiral Kidd Conference Center, site of the Class Luncheon.

### **Class of 1963 Reunion Luncheon and Class Meeting:**

The Class luncheon will be held following the Memorial Service at Fort Rosecrans on Friday. Attendees who have purchased luncheon tickets will be bused from the Memorial Service to the Admiral Kidd Conference Center at Naval Base San Diego, the same location where we held the Class luncheon at the 2011 Mid-term reunion. (Note: personnel who are not attending the lunch will be bused directly back to the Liberty Station Parking and the reunion hotels.)

We anticipate that the lunch will start at about 12:30 PM in the scenic Skyline room that overlooks San Diego Harbor and features a beautiful view. The lunch will include a no-host bar, a served lunch with two menu choices, pasta and chicken. As with the Class Dinner, you will be assigned a table number located on the back of your name tag. Your chosen entree' will also be displayed. A table seating diagram and escorts will be stationed at the entrance to the Luncheon area. The Director of the CAE is our special guest and will address the Class. In addition, a short Class meeting will be conducted during the luncheon.

Following the lunch and Class meeting, attendees will be bused back to the Liberty Station Parking and the reunion hotels. Note: it is recommended that all attendees ride the buses as security procedures make entry to the base very difficult otherwise. (See FAQs for more details on base entry issues.)

**Company Events** Late Friday afternoon and Friday evening are set aside for individual companies to have scheduled events at a venue of their own choosing. A listing of the individual company event coordinators and their cell phone numbers can be found on page 19 of this program.

**Navy Football Tailgate:** An opportunity to socialize with other USNA alumni classes as well as classmates will be available at the Naval Academy Alumni Association sponsored tailgate party. The tailgate will take place in a large tent located in the San Diego County Credit Union (SDCCU) Stadium parking lot. (See the SDCCU Stadium layout map in your Hospitality Bag.) The Tailgate start time is 1400 on Saturday.

The tailgate will include tables for sit-down dining, numerous buffet food stations, beverage stations and lots of Navy spirit. The Class of 1963 has reserved a designated seating area within the tailgate tent. Admission for the event will be your reunion name tag for registered guests and separate ticket for any guests. All these tickets will be provided at reunion registration.

Bus transportation will be provided for registered guests from/to the two hotels (Marriott Springhill Suites and DoubleTree Mission Valley). The San Diego trolley will also provide a transportation option. (See stadium layout map for the location of the tailgate, bus off-loading area and the trolley station. The Bus Information Sheet and the FAQs provide additional details.)

**Navy - Notre Dame Football Game:** On Saturday, 27 October, we will be joining other USNA alumni, fans and ND alumni for the 92<sup>nd</sup> uninterrupted intersectional competition between these two schools. The game is sponsored by the San Diego Bowl Game Association and will be played in San Diego County Credit Union (SDCCU) stadium. The game is scheduled to start at 1700.

The Class of 1963 has seats in Loge Sections 23-26 which are easily accessible by ramp, escalator or elevator. (See SDCCU stadium seating map.) The seats have a clear line of sight to the field, the scoreboard and screen, and have some overhead protection from the elements and afternoon sun. They also have easy access to restrooms and snack bar.

Bus transportation will be provided for you and your guest from/to the two reunion hotels (Marriott Springhill Suites and Double Tree Mission Valley). The trolley will also be an option. (See stadium layout map for the location of the tailgate, bus off-loading area and trolley station. The Bus Information Sheet and the FAQs provide additional details.) Note: since the game extends into the evening hours, a jacket or sweater is advised.

## USNA Class of 1963 Presidents

1963-68	Vern VonSydow
1968-70	Ian Sargent
1971	Dan Hitzelberger
1972-73	Joe Bustamante
1974	Ted Bowman
1975	Kent Maxfield
1976	Austin Chapman
1977-78	Charlie Minter
1979-82	Phillip Marsden
1983	Phil Gubbins
1984-85	Mario Fiori
1986	Chuck Calvano
1987-90	Dan Hitzelberger
1991-94	Joel Gardner
1995-98	Bob Harper
1999-2004	Steve Duncan
2005-	Spencer Johnson

## **Official History of the Class of 1963**

The Class of 1963 was inducted on 7 July 1959, numbering 1,205 young men comprised of appointees from 48 States (no member from North Dakota), the Territory of Hawaii (not yet a state), the District of Columbia, the Canal Zone, and six foreign countries. We were the only class inducted under a 49-star U.S. flag, Alaska having been admitted to the Union in January of that year, while Hawaii was not added until August.

Our class was the first at Navy to take the SATs as part of the admissions process. Previously, candidates were given a special entrance examination prepared by the Naval Academy. We were also the first class since 1931 not to receive Plebe Summer flight training in the two-seat N-3N seaplane (the "Yellow Peril"), a fleet of which was still maintained across the Severn River. These antique bi-planes, which were almost 30 years old by 1959, had just been declared un-airworthy, to our great disappointment. We were the first class to participate all four years in the then-new majors program, and 106 of us received

major-credits on our diplomas. We were the last class to wear detachable collars with our white dress shirts; the last to have our names stenciled across our white works uniforms; the last to wear cloth cap covers and cape-style “rain gear”; and the last class to go through all four years using the old Navy 4.0 numerical grading system, where 4.0 was a perfect score and 2.5 was the minimum passing grade. By the end of our Youngster Year, the growing variety of academic courses had eroded the universal curriculum and, as a result, we no longer marched to and from classes.

We beat Army in football all four years. This string of victories continued with a fifth consecutive win the November after we graduated. We were the first class never to lose in football to either Army or Air Force, although we played Air Force only once, beating them 35-3 in the first encounter between the two teams. Evidencing strong, early spirit, members of the class painted “63 sez Beat Army” on the freshly refinished laundry smokestack at the beginning of Youngster Year. (The large laundry building stood at the present

site of Rickover Hall and the tall smokestack was a prominent feature in The Yard.) The feat was accomplished in a deft, night time climb and the encouraging words remained until we graduated.

The inaugural game at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium was played in September 1959, against William & Mary. (Navy won 29-2.) The occasion was made memorable by the personal appearance of President Dwight Eisenhower, who flew in from the White House by Marine helicopter and officially dedicated the new facility.

We were the last class to enjoy “Exchange Weekend” with West Point, where all 2/c Midshipmen, in successive small groups, spent several days at The Point, stepping into the life and academic schedule of a counterpart cadet while cadets did the same in our places at Navy. This was a unique experience in seeing “how the other half lives” and strengthened the close relationships that exist between Navy and Army.

At our commencement on 5 June 1963, Vice President Lyndon Johnson presented diplomas and commissions to a class whose ranks

numbered 876. The great majority of the graduates accepted Navy commissions. The largest number, 324, went into the surface line; 209 chose naval aviation, and 138 entered the nuclear power program. The remaining 54 new Ensigns were spread among the Supply Corps, the Civil Engineering Corps, and Engineering Duty Officers. Only 66 entered the Marine Corps, reflecting the limits on commissions into that service. Almost as many -- 60 graduates -- were commissioned in the Air Force. (The USNA and USMA classes of 1963 were the last allowed to send significant numbers of graduates to the Air Force, a vestige of the days before the Air Force had its own academy.) In addition, 20 new officers chose Army commissions. Five graduates were found not physically qualified for commissioning. Foreign students from Belgium, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Philippines, and Peru returned to service in their own countries.

Subsequent to graduation, members of the Class served with distinction in all the services during the Cold War and the First Gulf War. Thirteen

graduates were lost in Vietnam and two were held as POWs. Another 15 died in the line of duty over the years; among these were three men lost in the sinking of SCORPION and one who perished in the LIBERTY incident. Classmates serving in combat were awarded three Navy Crosses, one Army Distinguished Service Cross, and 15 Silver Stars. One Navy warship was named after a heroic classmate lost in Vietnam – the USS FITZGERALD (DDG 62).

Twenty 1963 graduates achieved flag rank, 19 in the United States Navy and one in the Peruvian Navy. Four of the U.S. flag officers attained the rank of Vice Admiral. Class members not serving a career in the military achieved notable success as physicians, actors, dentists, writers, artists, educators, jurists, clergymen, scientists, lawyers, and leading business executives. Class members also served widely in both elected and appointed governmental office at the national, state, and local levels.

In 1974, the Class established a Foundation to perpetuate the history and memories of the

Academy and the Class of 1963, and to assist the growth and development of Academy. Over the ensuing 30 years, the Foundation has provided nearly \$900,000 in scholarship aid to more than 90 children of our deceased classmates while also contributing substantial funds to other efforts, especially the Class of 1963 Center for Academic Excellence at the Academy.

Our class motto is **Quality – '63**, reflecting a shared dedication to excellence in the performance of our service to the nation and our fellow citizens. We sustain that high standard, though many years have passed since our time “by the Bay where Severn joins the tide.”

## **Class of 1963 All American Athletes**

**Don MacLaughlin** (Soccer)...1962 (2<sup>nd</sup> Team)

**Don MacLaughlin** (Lacrosse). 1962 (2<sup>nd</sup> Team), 1963 (1<sup>st</sup>)

**George Tracy** (Lacrosse) 1961 (HM), 1962 (1<sup>st</sup>), 1963 (1<sup>st</sup>)

**John Newton** (Lacrosse)... 1962 (HM), 1963 (2<sup>nd</sup> Team)

**Joseph Fossella, Arnold Glassner, Dudley Hendricks**  
(Lacrosse) (HM) 1963

**Douglas Tozour** (Track & Field)... 1963 (Hammer Throw)

**Raymond Pekary** (Squash)... 1962

**Michael Harman** (Wrestling) ... 1962

## **Class of 1963 N\* Hall of Fame**

**Don MacLaughlin** (Lacrosse & Soccer)

**Douglas Tozour** (Track & Field)

**George Tracy** (Lacrosse)

**John Newton** (Lacrosse)

**Raymond Pekary** (Squash)

**Michael Harman** (Wrestling)

**James Thorrell** (Track & Field)

**Irvin Hopkins** (Swimming)

## Company Event Coordinators

Co	Contact	cell
1	Pete Carrothers	281-796-2438
2	Ray Theep	619-459-9864
3	Donna Kaup	619-224-8822
4	Mike Shelley	828-506-2201
5	Perry Watt Miles	757-672-4875
6	Bill Hughes	858-602-8924
7	John Ryan	760-522-6016
8	Charles Helsper	619-840-6832
9	Phillip Marsden	619-318-6364
10	Lew Blackwell	760-801-3102
11	Ted Krohne	619-208-1771
12	Ron Wills	619-442-6054
13	Pete Vreeland	610-960-5118
14	John Dolby	760-631-2753
15	Chris Munger	914-262-9724
16	Lee cargill	619-519-0099
17	Bruce Webb	703-282-1050
18	Mike Cronin	202-215-2356
19	Pete Browne	703-201-7167
20	Tim Cook	949-285-1568
21	Alan McAnally	978-807-3952
22	Dave Thornhill	303-324-0335
23	Steve Hoy	951-296-7781
24	Dick Andrews	760-942-0864

## **55<sup>th</sup> Reunion Committee Points of Contact**

**Please contact the people below for any questions**

**Overall:** Phillip Marsden 619-318-6364

**Hotels:** Marriott - Dave Meyers 858-395-3596  
DoubleTree - Ron Wills 619-442-6054

**Transportation:** Dave Meyers 858-395-3596

**Tailgate/Game Tickets:** Jerry Harken 619-203-6996

**Class Dinner:** Ted Krohne 619-208-1771

**Class Memorial:** Alan McAnally 978-807-3952

**Class Lunch:** Marirose Kozak 619-876-0974

**Registration:** Lee and Sue Cargill 619-519-0099

**Hospitality:** Grant Telfer 619-435-1797

## **55<sup>th</sup> Reunion Committee Members**

**Leadership Team:** Chuck Stone (The Late Chairman Emeritus), Marirose Kozak, Alan McAnally, John Ryan, Jim Fontana, Lee & Sue Cargill, Phillip Marsden, Spencer Johnson, John-Rex Spivey '13

**Deputy/Secretary:** Phillip Marsden

**San Diego Bowl Game Association Liaison Team:** John Ryan, Phillip Marsden, Jerry Harken

**Navy/Notre Dame Liaison:** Ron Klemick, Steve Hoy

**Hotels:** John Ryan, Dave Meyers, Grant Telfer, Ron Wills, Marirose Kozak

**Transportation:** Dave Meyers, John Ryan, Rich Wilson

**Tailgate/Game Tickets:** Jerry Harken

**Class Dinner:** Jim Fontana, Ted Krohne, Vern Von Sydow, Bill Hughes, Sue Cargill, Donna Kaup and Jerry Harkin

**Class Memorial:** Alan McAnally, John Ryan, Phillip Marsden, Jim Fontana

**Class Lunch:** Marirose Kozak, Dottie Hughes, Chuck Stone, Janet Gushue, Jerry Harken

**Golf:** Bill Hughes

**Communications:** Leadership Team, Hannah Yun '13

**Registration/Treasurer:** Lee and Sue Cargill, Jerry Harken

**Hospitality/Admin:** Grant Telfer, Marirose Kozak, Tim and Valerie Cook, John Ryan, Ron Wills, Lee and Sue Cargill, Mike Blackledge, Steve Coester, Mike Shelley

**Class of 2013 Coordinators:** LTs John-Rex Spivey, Hannah Yun

