

## Chuck Adams' Visit to Hubbard Hall And the Class of '63 Crew Shell

On Thursday of our extended 60th reunion weekend, I visited Hubbard Hall. My reason for going was to check on our class shell.

I was pleased to view the new shell with "Class of 1963" on its side. I was unable to get a close look at it because it rested on a rack above my head. From a rather distant perspective, I was able to discern that the boat is a deep blue in color with our class name in gold letters. It was fortunate that I chose to visit on Thursday because I learned that the shell would hit the road on Friday for an away race.

The current '63 boat is the third to bear our class name since we dedicated the first one in 2013. The service life of a Navy rowing shell is five years. It is apparently the practice now to name a new shell "Class of 1963" when the old one is retired. I will continue to monitor to ensure that there is Navy shell with our class name on it. but frankly, I have had to do nothing for ten years. It just happens.

Also, during my visit to the boat house, I viewed the bronze plaque that we presented at the same time of the first shell's dedication. It is prominently mounted on a bulkhead in the boat room.

If you remember, Hubbard Hall was a real dump when we were midshipmen and for many years thereafter. The building underwent a complete renovation a few years ago. Now it is a veritable palace. One major change was to move the "N Room" where names of those who have earned the Navy athletic "N" are displayed. The new "N Room" is now Under the stands of the Navy Marine Corps Stadium.

Another factoid of possible interest. When we were midshipmen and up until we first dedicated our class shell, few, if any, Navy shells had names. We apparently started a trend. Now most shells in the boat house have names.