

USNA CLASS OF 1959
59th Reunion Committee

Minutes of Committee Meeting 12 June 2018

The 59th Reunion Committee conducted its sixth meeting on 12 June 2018 at the Naval Academy Club commencing at 1400.

Committee members in attendance were: Gary Smith, Paddy Ford, Charlie Pease, Frank Pipkin, Pete and Elaine Stout, Bob Reifsnyder, Bill Garrett, Jay Bainbridge, Holly Powers, Bob Beaton, Norm Bednarek, Ray Art and Jim Wilson.

Committee Chairman Gary Smith reviewed for the Committee members that Registration for our 59th Reunion had commenced on March 19, 2018 when Charlie Pease sent e-mails to the class and the USNA Alumni Association mailed to the class the Gouge and the mail-in Registration Form. As of our last Committee meeting on 10 April, 2018, eighty-nine persons were registered. As of 12 June 2018 only ninety-five have registered (171 attendees). This is well below our planning figure of 375 attendees and ways to speed up and increase registrations were to be discussed. A detailed full page ad prepared by Pete Stout has been submitted for the July/August 2018 Shipmate issue. Also, Reunion information is included in the class Shipmate column for that issue.

Registration discussion: The planning figure of 375 attendees was largely based on results of the monkey survey. Based on results to date a figure of 250-275 now seems more reasonable. Elaine Stout provided a handout graph showing number of registrations per two-week period leading up to our 55th Reunion and a similar one for the 59th (March, 2018 to the present). She also provided to Jim Wilson a printout comparing individual's monkey survey intentions versus whether they had registered yet. (159 not yet registered). Jim will use this information, working through the company representatives, to encourage registration where a discrepancy exists. We have advertised that this is our last big reunion and are counting on the company reps to encourage their company mates to attend and to register promptly. In a 30 April 2018 email to the company reps, Jim advised them of the guaranteed refund if requested by 1 September and individual consideration by the Class Treasurer if requested at a later date.

Committee Chairmen reported the following:

Company Parties: Jim Wilson will assist company reps desiring to join with other companies if requested and will promulgate an updated list of party locations soon. Holly Powers mentioned that there are several good restaurants near our headquarters location including BRIO Tuscan Grille, Palladar Restaurant, and Gordon Biersch Brewery Restaurant for those companies which have not yet settled on a location. Jim will obtain phone numbers for Company Reps from the Stouts.

Correspondence: Charlie Pease has bad email addresses for approximately 25 classmates. Pete Stout is working with him to resolve the correct addresses where possible.

Data: Elaine Stout provided printouts showing the status of registrations as of June 12, 2018. Data received from the online registration process has not been good for Trolley tour choices and name tags. Holly Powers will provide spreadsheet Trolley tour data if requested by Elaine. Also the Stouts have to manually merge mail-in data with the online data. Much effort has been made to correct individual's on

line registration errors including amount paid and name tag info. The new secure Reunion web site for the use of the committee, will be made available to Committee members shortly.

Favors: Reunion Coin-For lack of a better slogan suggestion, the Committee voted approval of “Rise and Shine with “59” for use on one side of the commemorative coin being produced by Jack London. Use of the USNA seal on the other side of the coin requires approval of the USNA PAO. Pete Stout will pursue obtaining this approval by phone/visit and will continue to coordinate with Jack London.

Meet-and-Greet card favors, Pete Stout will contact attendees individually by email to validate and approve the data to be included (phone numbers, etc.) on their individual cards.

Optional Golf Shirts. Pete Stout will receive sample male and female shirts with the Class Crest and the words, USNA ‘59 in July from the vendor and anticipates Reunion attendees can order them individually on-line from the vendor by mid-August.

Stuffing bags will be ordered about 15 August and the desired items to be included in each bag were discussed.

Finances: Refund policy was provided to Company Reps by a 30 April email. Paddy Ford announced that if total attendees for the Brunch is estimated to be much lower, the Brunch contract should be modified to not include the entire Club dining area.

Hotels: Pete Stout reported that 65 of 65 available rooms have been booked at the Hilton Garden Inn, 36 of 60 available rooms have been booked at the Courtyard by Marriott and 15 of 20 available rooms have been booked at the Residence Inn Annapolis. However, we need further data from Residence Inn.

Printing: Bill Garrett provided Committee members with an Annapolis Visitors Guide brochure, prepared by the Annapolis Visitors Bureau which he proposes to include in each stuffing bag. They will be provided at no cost. About 1 September, Bill and Holly will attain the Chairman’s approval of a final version of the Gouge for submission to the printer. It will include Company party locations.

Registration: At the beginning of our meeting, Bob Reifsnider introduced a representative of the company providing us registration support. Pete Stout will provide extra Registration forms for use at the N* Room.

Religious Events: Bob Beaton requested a volunteer reader to assist him at the Memorial Service. He suggested Tom Priest (10). Pete Stout will contact Tom for his acceptance.

Sporting Events: Norm Bednarek will discuss bus transportation requirements based on tee times with Walt Szczypinski. Ray Art will provide tennis bus transportation requirements to Walt and noted that no one is presently registered for tennis. There were some tennis requests in the Monkey Survey.

NAVY vs AIR FORCE AWAY Football Game N*Buffet. Frank Pipkin noted that the contract with the caterer calls for a minimum of 200 attendees and this should easily be met. Frank will make final table arrangements in August.

Transportation: Jay Bainbridge provided a copy of the latest version of the Bus Schedule prepared by Walt Szczypinski. It incorporates visits to the Columbarium by the yard shuttle buses and a bus from the Memorial Service to the Columbarium and, after a wait period, return to the hotels.

Trolley Tour of Historic Annapolis: Elaine Stout will create a Trolley Preference Table from Alumni Registration data to enable the assignment of individuals to specific tours. This assignment will take place after the close of registration on 1 August 2018.

Yard Events: Location of the Virtual Tour and Leadership Briefing on Friday are still to be determined but Mahan Hall has been requested by Holly Powers.

Handicap Arrangements: Personnel requiring handicap assistance are highlighted in red on the data sheets.

The next Reunion Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, 14 August 2018 at 1400. This meeting adjourned at 1630.

Respectfully submitted: Gary Smith