

**Minutes
of the
National Council Meeting
of the
U.S. Coast Guard Academy National Parents Association
March 21, 2003**

This meeting was held in Leamy Hall, overlooking the Thames River. Frank Garcia presided. The meeting began shortly after 8 a.m. The Senior Management Team introduced themselves and gave their reports.

SUPERINTENDENT

Captain Jim Thomas introduced himself as the new Assistant Superintendent. He is a graduate of the class of 1976, a class of 240 graduates--the largest class to graduate from the Academy. He majored in Civil engineering, and then went into the aviation field. In his assignments in Astoria, Oregon and Sitka, Alaska he learned of the inherent dangers of the work of the Coast Guard personnel. He recently finished an assignment in Logistics at Coast Guard Headquarters.

CAPT Thomas gave the report of the Superintendent. His opening comment was "There's a lot going on here!" The recent Castle dance was a success. The budget continues in a cyclical fashion, and in a state which brings the CGA to where it was last year. At the recent Atlantic Area Conference, the Atlantic Area Commander, VADM Hull, emphasized his strong support for operations. VADM Allen, the CG Chief of Staff, is looking forward to the cadets coming into the workforce. The Academy's program aims to have cadets ready to step in as officers when they report to their first assignments.

The Air Force Academy's recent report of sexual assaults was a cause to study the CGA's program. Though the assaults are a negative situation, the information that can come out of the study of handling these cases is good. The CGA has a sexual assault task force of 30 men and 30 women – this is not just a women's issue. A recent report aired on the television program "20/20" was shown at the CGA. Following that viewing, the CGA women stated that the problems here are not of the type shown in that report. There does, however, seem to be a direct link between sexual assault and alcohol use/abuse.

CAPT Thomas is optimistic that President Bush may be the graduation speaker this year, even though this is not the year of normal rotation for the President to speak here.

DEAN OF ACADEMICS

Dean Haas reported the positive experience that is ongoing with the faculty exchange between the CGA and Connecticut College. CDR Vorbach is teaching drug policy issues at Connecticut College – constitutional law, and tolerance issues. In exchange, two Conn College faculty members are at the CGA. Dean Haas reported that there have been significant changes made within the Physics Department. The program change includes two new faculty members as well as curriculum changes. These changes will be particularly beneficial to the Class of 2005 and follow-on classes. Additionally, four new Permanent Commissioned Teaching Staff (PCTS) members have been identified. This is a good sign that faculty members rotating through the Academy have made the decision to stay in the field of educating cadets.

Statistics show that the cadets and the academic programs are working. Last semester only 64 of 970 students were carrying GPAs below the 2.0 grade point average. There have been eight academic disenrollments this year. These numbers are significantly lower than in previous years. The number of cadets in internships has increased from six just five years ago to 31 this year. Those internships took two cadets to Antarctica over the Christmas holidays. Alumni financially support the internships. The CGA is doing well in meeting the Coast Guard needs for technical grads. The numbers following the class years indicate the percentage of technical grads: 2002 - 28%, 2003 - 42 %, 2004 - 38 %, 2005 also 38%, 2006 - 49%. (Technical grads are those in the engineering majors, plus the Management Info Systems students in Operations Research. The Academy's Board of Governors projects the numbers of technical graduates needed to staff billets at the Lieutenant level. This number is then used as one of the considerations in recruiting candidates for each class at the Academy.)

Of special note: Professor Faye Ringel is working with top cadets to go after recognition in honors programs such as Fulbright and Rhodes Scholar opportunities. USCGA cadet Kelly Borg, who was at the USMA for a semester, participated in the International Model U.N. Competition Armed Conflict Conference which other USMA cadets also attended.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Captain Kevin Marshall reminded parents that the LDC receives officers and enlisted personnel for training before each assignment in which they need either new or refresher training for their upcoming assignments. Since jobs change as a person moves upward through the organization, the goal is to teach the participants about the next level of responsibility that they are likely to encounter--such as how to be a leader, or an executive officer, or a commanding officer. The "transition changes" in a person's career mean that, for instance, the chief is no longer doing the work, but will be leading workers; and a person who moves into the officer ranks will then be directing operations. The LDC began its programs in 1998. Last year over 4,000 students participated in various course offerings.

DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

Dr. Ray Cieplik stated that the winter season was very successful. Teams and individuals did well, with many cadets participating in winter sports. The women's basketball team did extremely well in conference play. They got to the championship game in the NEWMAC conference. The men's basketball team lost a top scorer to an injury, but tried to keep team spirits high. Men's and women's swim teams both sent cadets to championships. The men finished second, and the women third in the NEWMAC championships. Men's and women's track teams were both very successful. Both teams compete well at home and on the road. Men's wrestling successfully hosted the All-Academy wrestling championships in February. In all of these sports, the strength is in the team performance. The broad base of student-athletes with strong competitors contributes to the overall strength of the program. Seventy percent of the cadet corps is participating in some aspect of the athletic program.

A recent innovation in CGA sports is the internet broadcast of some games in football and in men's and women's basketball. The athletic department internet web site is updated each evening. The sports director is working to keep up good communications and sports information. Of note is the close cooperation with Connecticut College for the track teams. They use the CGA indoor track, and the CGA teams use their outdoor facilities. This is a continuing strong working relationship that benefits both colleges.

Dr. Cieplik announced to parents the retirement of Geoffrey Cardinelli, the Department Head of Health and Physical Education. He is retiring after 40 years of leading cadets in their athletic programs.

DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS

Captain Bibeau introduced LCDR Pat Knowles, the Chief of Recruiting (formerly a chemistry instructor), Ann Roller, a parent and member of the CG Auxiliary, and two additional Auxiliarists, Russell White, and Ray Birnbaum.

The Class of 2007 is on track. At this date there have been 39 acceptances of appointments. 335 appointments will be tendered, most of which will be out by the end of April. The class size for 2007 is approximately 271, plus four international students. (Due to the higher than normal retention in the classes of 2003 and 2004, the incoming class will be slightly smaller.) The Class of 2007 will include 27 NAPS graduates, and 14 from the CGRIT program. The Class of 2007 began the admissions process with more than 6,000 pre-applications. There is an increase of 30 in the minority ranks. This class also includes the largest number of pre-applications for women. The average SAT score for this class is 1295. Most students in this group are in the top 11% of their high school class.

The Admissions Office undertook several new initiatives this school year. The first was an open house, which brought 35 students (many with both parents) to the CGA on a Saturday. The Admissions Office personnel are also working on a Volunteer Handbook, which is intended to be a tool for parents, alumni, and CG Auxiliarists who are involved in the admissions process. A new Collegeware computer program will help the admissions officers track inquiries to the Academy and progress of prospective cadets. Last fall social events were organized to help more cadets finish the application process.

CAPT Bibeau thanked all the parents who appeared on short notice during the fall and winter to meet prospective cadets and their families, to help answer questions, and to provide information to parents of prospective

cadets. CAPT Bibeau also thanked the Briese family for their significant donation of the “In the Beginning...” handbook, which has been distributed to incoming cadets for the previous five years. This handbook will remain part of the Admissions landscape.

A special admissions presentation followed the general presentation of the Senior Management Team. See notes below.

COMMANDANT OF CADETS

Captain Phil Heyl began by reporting the Castle Dance was a great success, which the 1st class cadets enjoyed. This is an alcohol-allowed event held at one of the prestigious castles in the area. The fact that the Superintendent and the Commandant of Cadets were invited marked a change from previous years in the way cadets are interacting with officers.

CAPT Heyl announced that his replacement this summer will be CAPT Doug Wisniewski, who will be coming to the Academy following an assignment at the Training Center in New Jersey. He has a strong training background and understands the mechanics of training. CAPT Heyl will report to Key West for his new assignment in mid June.

CAPT Heyl reported that the Class of 2003 is ready to go to sea though three cadets still need to pass their Deck Watch Officer qualifications. The members of the Class of 2004 must pass the “rules of the road” portion of the Deck Watch Officer training before heading to their summer assignments. This means that, if necessary, some cadets will give up their summer leave for an intensive three-week program, which CAPT Heyl is confident that all will pass! Passing this qualification is key to the new 1st class cadets qualifying and having a successful summer training program. Billet night for the Class of 2003 was an enjoyable event. 63% of the top half of the class got their first choice of assignments. 75% of the class got one of their top four choices. Detailers directed 7% to jobs.

A recent visit to the Academy by the CG Chief of Staff included a visit to Chase Hall. Chase Hall renovations are one of his priorities, and are on track to begin in 2004.

Four Chief billets will be assigned to the companies in Chase Hall in the future to aid in the development and professionalism of cadets. Under the guidance of RADM Olsen, program GOLD (Guide to Officer Leadership Development) will assess how professional development is progressing. The CGA has been training leaders of character for 125 years. In this new system, each cadet will complete an individual plan with several domains such as academic, military, intellectual, spiritual, and ethical development. Cadets will be able to track their goals in each of these areas.

CAPT Heyl spent some time addressing the issues related to the use of vans. The Commandant of Cadets emphasized that while he supports Club sports, there is an operational risk to the corps when vans are driven long distances by cadets who participate in sporting events and then return to the driver’s seat too tired to complete the drive back to the Academy. The administration decided that vans going long distances on unfamiliar roads are too risky. There has been a new training program developed for the van drivers. The CGA is looking for alternative cadet transportation options in the future. This may include hiring buses and professional drivers to shuttle the cadets to their events. Cadets will have to present their sports schedules by a designated time to qualify for this opportunity, so that funding and scheduling issues can be considered.

This past spring break cadet travel to Europe was severely curtailed due to tensions in Europe and the Middle East. This was a decision carefully made keeping in mind the safety and welfare of the cadets. It seemed to be a poor climate for cadets who planned a trek of European countries staying at youth hostels. On the other hand, cadets whose families are in Europe were allowed to visit, including the international students.

Rugby will have no spring season this year due to the lack of a schedule being submitted. CAPT Heyl emphasized that the CGA is a rules-oriented system. The Commandant of Cadets is working with the team captains, and the team may participate in the “Beast of the East” competition.

Following sexual assault issues at the Air Force Academy, a task force is in place to study the issues of safety and welfare of cadets at the CGA. The CGA has had a system in effect where issues can be properly reported. There is a very deliberate process to take care of all issues and incidents reported. CAPT Bibeau and other women of the staff are part of a task force offering guidance on how the system should work. CAPT Heyl had been in close touch with the Commandant of Cadets at West Point. They believe that because the CGA is smaller, there are different types of interactions between and among students than at the larger military schools. The percentage of women is higher at the CGA (28% at the CGA compared to 14-18% at the other military academies.) It is also felt that the humanitarian nature of the Coast Guard leads to more shared values. All of these conditions lead to an environment that seems to be more respectful of fellow students. CAPT Heyl stated that the CGA does have

challenges, and needs to stay proactive about sexual assault, alcohol, and other issues. CAPT Heyl encouraged parents to keep up discussions with their cadets on all of these issues.

CAPT Heyl wants parents to know that every issue raised by concerned parents reflects a legitimate concern. Though not all answers will be the answers parents may prefer, every issue is given serious consideration. CAPT Heyl believes that the parents have helped in the leadership development of cadets.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q Can the Castle Dance be held at a location without so many antiques?

A The ambiance of the Castle Dance is what's inside the mansion where the dance is held. Part of the cadet training is to learn proper behavior in situations and at locations where cadets/officers find themselves.

Q to Dean Haas: Is there any push for additional language classes at the Academy? Are they being taken over at Connecticut College?

A Connecticut College has a great relationship with the Academy. Next year juniors who meet the standards will be allowed to attend classes at Conn. The Spanish program is tracking well here. Knowledge of the Spanish language will be particularly advantageous for operations in the south.

Q to CAPT Marshall: How does the leadership program work when students don't necessarily stay in the field of their major? It seems that young officers are geared to an MBA degree.

A There are many opportunities for graduates of the Academy. Grad school is one of the opportunities. Different tracts work for different fields. The LDC specializes in training students for their next immediate assignment. The Officer Career Guide Book offers information in a broad scale.

A CAPT Heyl: If cadets have questions of a post-graduate nature they can go to their advisor and/or department head for specific expertise in the respective field. Career path questions should also be addressed to the academic advisors. An example of the professional training offered by the LDC includes current policies for the use of force.

Q West Point has a terrorism program. Has the CGA developed a program for antiterrorism?

A Dean Haas: The Dean's Cabinet (composed of the Academic Department Heads) looks at long-term priorities. There is a list of activities ongoing within the program, and regular evaluations to reinforce the outcomes and the content. There is a compilation of courses (examples: law and chemistry) made with security and terrorism in mind. The curriculum is relevant to today. In the future, structural changes may need to be made in order to keep the program relevant in mind and spirit. As a result of 9/11, there is a New War Seminar Series conducted with Connecticut College. A recent scenario was a co-curricular activity with the CGA and Connecticut College.

A CAPT Marshall: Homeland Security is a tremendous opportunity to keep an eye on people and events 7 days a week/24 hours a day. The Coast Guard is the backbone of Homeland Security. The senior budget person in the HLS is a Coast Guard person.

A CAPT Heyl: There is a 5-year analysis to see if the material is relevant. The main question the educational program addresses is, "Are we teaching the right courses for Deepwater, Homeland Security, professional development, etc.?"

Q What is the likelihood that any graduates of the Class of 2003 will be assigned to units in the Middle East?

A CAPT Heyl: Currently USCGC WALNUT is on assignment in the Gulf. Its primary purpose is to be available for oil skimming. Eight 110' cutters were transported on a merchant ship to the Gulf. Graduates are not usually assigned to these types of ships for their first assignment. Currently there are two high-end cutters in the area--one in the Mediterranean, one in the Gulf. It also may be possible that a person's second tour could be with a Port Security Unit assigned in the Gulf.

Q Parents across the United States are finding that the key issue for prospective female cadets is sexual harassment. What can we say to these prospective students?

A CAPT Heyl: This topic will be a major topic of discussion on Report-In Day – for both parents and cadets. Reporting incidents is key to the process of resolving issues. The Academy staff is working to make the atmosphere a positive one, where all reports are taken seriously. Parents and cadets need to trust that the right thing will be done. I need the help of parents in keeping open discussions about sexual awareness issues and alcohol use. Cadets do need an adult voice on these issues.

A CAPT Bibeau: The Admissions Staff is watching the applicants closely to see what issues/trends are the decisive ones in determining whether or not prospective cadets will accept an offer of appointment.

Q Where can parents get information about the Class of 2003 Graduation events?

A Dean Haas: A website will be operating soon. This will have the complete graduation week schedule. Plans include construction of a 5,000-person stadium. A 270' cutter will serve as a backdrop for the President.

A Frank Garcia: There is talk among the class for a possible river cruise for the class on Saturday night.

A CAPT Heyl: Classes make selections of what events they would like to include in the grad week festivities. Traditional grad week events are on schedule. The complete schedule is not yet fully developed.

SUMMARY COMMENT

President Frank Garcia offered the Senior Management Team special thanks for their time at this meeting and for the time they give to parents. He indicated that the other military academies do not have such a privileged relationship between senior managers and parents.

RECRUITING SUPPORT FOR 2003

CAPT Bibeau reminded us that parents are the most important influence on a student's choice of college. Many high school students have their first choice in mind at the beginning of their senior year fall semester. The Coast Guard Auxiliary is influential to recruiting through the CGate program. The involvement of parents of current cadets is critical in the process of providing information about the Academy.

Ann Roller, a Coast Guard Auxiliarist as well as a parent of a cadet, gave a presentation on the Coast Guard Auxiliary's role in recruiting. The proposal indicates how the Parents Association and the Coast Guard Auxiliarists can work along with the Admissions Office in the recruitment effort to receive training, make contact with those on lists of prospective cadets, visit high schools, and to conduct interviews. Ann feels that the presence of Auxiliarists at the time the cadets take their oath of office is important. The goal of the Career Counselors in the Auxiliary is to recruit outstanding students. A map of the U.S. showing regional divisions for the Auxiliary was distributed.

(Candidate interviews are optional because not all candidates can be reached for a personal interview. The interview includes a specific list of questions to be asked. The Auxiliary offers training sessions for interviewers. It has been found that an interview leads to more enthusiasm on the part of the applicant.)

CAPT Bibeau: Pre-applications in the future will include more questions so that candidates can be self-assured of their decision to attend the CGA. This will also act as a filtering system to screen those candidates for whom the Academy is not the right choice. CAPT Bibeau expressed her sincere appreciation to the parents who made contacts with applicants this fall and winter. She is aware that the lists of candidates provided to the local chapters were long, and that some candidates had taken themselves out of the application process before the parents contacted them. She indicated that timing is tricky when providing lists of candidates in order to get the events together.

CG Auxiliary recruiters have been provided a list of the Parents Association chapter presidents. CAPT Bibeau hopes that each group will invite the other to their meetings so that a stronger bond of recruitment can be formed.

LCDR Pat Knowles, the Chief of Recruiting, formerly a chemistry instructor, reminded us that 100 contacts lead to one CGA cadet.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION BUSINESS

Frank Garcia asked for members to introduce themselves.

The summer schedule of ports of call for the Barque EAGLE submitted by LT Law has been posted. Port visits are scheduled for Wilmington, NC, Norfolk, VA, Annapolis, MD, and Philadelphia, PA. He encouraged the Chesapeake and Potomac and Delaware Valley Chapters to support the port visits in their areas. We need to have the parents in North and South Carolina support the Wilmington port visit.

Bob and Tamara Slivinski were thanked for the considerable amount of time they have spent during recent years to propose changes to the organization's Constitution and Bylaws. This has been no small effort.

RECORDING SECRETARY REPORT

Highlighted notes of the minutes of the Parents Association meeting of September 13, 2002, were read and approved.

Frank summarized the results of the recent voting on the proposed changes to the Constitution and By-laws as collected by Lynne Butterworth. In the voting process members were able to vote on each proposed change separately. Each of the changes was approved as proposed. In the area of membership there still may need to be further definition of the associate member and honorary member category. In the family unit-voting proposal, each family will have one vote, unless a member of the family is on the executive council as well as a member-at-large, then the family may have two votes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report submitted by Doug Butterworth was distributed and approved. The treasurer's report included the National PA annual financial report and the annual financial reports from seven of the chapters.

Parents Association financial information:

2002 Parents Association dues paid	\$10,150.00
2002 Parents Association income	\$ 1,518.60
2002 Parents Association expenses: (Newsletters, meeting refreshments,pins, awards, etc)	\$ 5,118.93

Total Dayroom money collected	\$ 14,600.00
Total Dayroom expenses: Bob's discount furniture	\$ 15,469.00
Dayroom plaques:	\$ 229.70

Breakdown on Cadet Day Room contributions so far:

Chesapeake and Potomac	\$ 4,500.00
Delaware Valley Chapter	\$ 3,400.00
Greater New York Chapter	\$ 2,000.00
Great Lakes Chapter	\$ 2,200.00
New England Chapter	\$ 2,000.00
Florida Chapter	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
Total	\$ 14,600.00

Balances as of 3-12-03:

Parents Gift Fund balance:	\$ 25,381.30
Library Reading Room balance:	\$ 4,601.00
Van/Transportation Fund balance:	\$ 2,462.50
Challenge Coin Fund balance:	\$ 1,030.00
Parents Cadet Activities Endowment balance:	\$ 53,636.80

Funds available to be spent from the Parents Cadet Activities Endowment in calendar year 2003: \$2,280.00.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ric Waechter clarified the effect of the new Constitution and By-laws changes: Beginning with the upcoming summer meeting of the National Parents Association, held the day before Report-In Day, the terms of office for the new executive council of the National Parents Association will begin following the summer meeting. The outgoing president will preside over the meeting. This change will more closely tie the term of the president and other executive council members to the school year. Both the outgoing president and the newly elected

president will be present for ceremonies during Parents' Weekend. The terms for those parents in the members-at-large category will still begin with the meeting held during Parents' Weekend. The 2-year terms of the members-at-large will be staggered so that 7 of the 14 positions will come open for continuation or replacement each year. New members for the at-large positions will be solicited on Report-In Day.

Ric shared information on the status of two vans involved in collisions this school year. (Cadets also made a van status presentation. See below.) With current vans deteriorating, and with transportation still being necessary to shuttle cadets within the zone allowed by the CGA administrators, a request was made to fund a new van. The members voted to authorize Ric to begin the process to purchase one 7-passenger van. Ric hopes to take advantage of the current rebates to get the van for no more than \$24,000.

Fundraising: A proposal to produce a Christmas card with a scene of the Academy was made. The Naval Academy has these types of cards every year, and a sample card of this nature was passed around the room. It was mentioned that the CGA has done these cards in the past. Finding an affordable artist is a primary consideration. No decision was finalized.

A second proposed source for fundraising is clothing with Coast Guard or lighthouse related embroidery. The council is aware of the embroidered denim shirts that the Coast Guard Spouses of Southeastern Connecticut have currently as one of their fundraisers. It is felt that there are plenty of clothing items that would not put the PA in competition with the Spouses organization. There was a request for committee members to lead these fundraising opportunities. No decision was finalized.

Continued funding of the Cadet Company day rooms by the local chapters was discussed. Lt Sundland relayed the cadets' desire to purchase copiers and refrigerators for the day rooms. Five day rooms need refrigerators. There is one copier available to the corps of cadets. At the Reporting-In-Day Council meeting Ric Waechter will provide information on his investigation of copier pricing and service contracts.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Gregg Zike requested updated address and e-mail addresses from the membership. He will send out the new listing shortly.

Frank has received several requests for funding by the National Parents Association. The first discussion was whether National will be able to fund the "stars" dessert. This is a dessert held once each semester for every cadet who has earned a star. The motion was approved to provide \$350 dollars each semester, (\$700 total) to support the dessert in the upcoming school year. Another request was for the funding of new refrigerators and copiers for the dayrooms. Some, but not all, of the dayrooms have recently purchased a new refrigerator with a portion of their own morale money. It was decided that these items would be offered to the chapters for funding. A request was also made for the National PA to take over the funding of the reception held the night before Report-In Day. A motion was approved to allow \$500 for this event.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REPORT

John Maxham was pleased to report that in the calendar year 2002, the Academy received a total of \$102,000 in gifts given by parents. This is a 20% increase over the 2001 giving. A list of fund codes and fund descriptions was provided. This list shows a summary of the funds that are currently available to receive donations.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

In a proposal to increase membership in the National PA, Frank Garcia proposed that letters be sent to parents of graduates giving them the opportunity to continue their membership in the PA. The 4-year membership they paid for the term of their cadet at the CGA will have ended. The goal is to let parents of graduates know of the PA work that's continuing. This would also be an additional source of revenue for the organization. Much discussion followed. Various proposals for a PA lifetime membership were discussed, including single payments of \$60 or \$75 for a lifetime membership. Gary Murphy described the lifetime membership that the Delaware Valley Chapter is offering to its members. Dom DiIulio and Gary Symansky will make recommendations to the Council on whether a lifetime membership should be offered, and how to offer membership to post-graduation families.

Dom DiIulio's report was submitted, and presented as follows:

Class of 2003	154
Class of 2004	185
Class of 2005	165
Class of 2006	189
Total	693 member families

POSITION DESCRIPTIONS OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

There was some discussion and descriptions of the categories of service proposed for the members-at-large. Following the discussion the following people chose to work in the categories listed:

Membership: Dom DiIulio, Gary Symansky

Services: Bill Armstrong

Fundraising: John and Joanne Larkin, Ric Waechter

Special Interest: Lynne Butterworth

Chapter Liaison: Dana and Patty Morris

By-laws/Constitution: Bob and Tamara Slivinski

Recruitment Coordinator: Carolyn DiIulio, Harvey Berger, Larry Hall, Tim Wheeler

Report-In-Day: Frank Garcia, Cliff Meeks, Gregg Zike

Webmaster: Jim Buckley

WEBMASTER REPORT

Jim is recuperating from a knee injury. He will be back on duty soon.

VIRTUAL CHAPTER PROGRESS REPORT

Lynne Butterworth submitted a summary of conversations about the virtual chapter, and identified some concerns expressed by parents. She provided a list of recommendations that will help improve communications in the VC forums. There seems to be interest in the North and South Carolina areas, and in Georgia.

REPORTING-IN DAY COFFEE CORNERS/NATIONAL TABLE

Cliff Meeks reported that there was a good amount of interest in the informal coffee corners held for parents of the reporting-in cadets last summer. He recommends additional sessions, and provided a list of the frequently asked questions. There is a logical follow-on to routing parents from these sessions directly to the table for the National PA.

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION

Gary Symansky has received an offer to provide a sign/banner for the use of the PA. Such a banner may be used for the national table on Report-In Day.

Admiral Olson sent a message of thanks to the parents for the work we do. He appreciates that many questions of the parents are answered before they get to the senior management level. ADM Olsen feels that the Dean's letter to incoming students, as well as a letter from CAPT Bibeau, address many concerns the incoming cadets and their parents may have.

There was a discussion regarding an appropriate way of saying thanks to businesses that donate goods to the local chapter events. A question was raised as to whether or not there is an affordable generic plaque that could be given showing the Coast Guard Parents' appreciation. It was mentioned that perhaps a framed letter could be presented instead.

CHAPTER REPORTS

Chapter presidents (or their representatives) presented summaries of their recent events. Chapter representatives were encouraged to submit written reports for attachment to these minutes. Please e-mail reports to ddiulio@cox.net

CADET VANS

Cadet 1/C Lauren Ford presented a status report on vans that have been donated by the Parents Association. Of the five vans, 3 are 7-passenger, 2 are 15-passenger. Two have more than 100,000 miles. Normal van usage is about 15,000 miles a year. Of the \$20,000 in the budget this year \$17,000 has already been spent, with some maintenance still remaining. These funds are used for both scheduled and emergency maintenance, gas, cell phones, etc. Diagnostics are done at the beginning of each semester. There are weekly and quarterly checks on vans to keep them up to date.

There is now a van scheduling division, which offers greater control of the van usage. To ensure safety of the cadets, the operational boundaries are now between the Cadet Lodge at Stonington and the exit for Crystal Mall. Vans are also used to get cadets to medical appointments. Every week requests for 2-3 sports teams are declined.

Van driver training: Each prospective driver is given a written test, which includes questions specific to cadet applications. There is an expanded practical exam, which covers some of the regular routes for cadets. Beginning with the incoming class of cadets, the plan is to ensure all 4/C cadets receive the driver training.

With a gift of \$5,000 through a self-insurance program, MWR will be able to replace the van that was totaled. The PA voted to allocate that \$5,000. (This means that two vans will be funded through commitments made at this meeting.)

1/C Cadet Ford clearly appreciated this vote by the PA! Ric Waechter will make purchase arrangements.

CADET SEXUAL ASSAULT TASK FORCE

Cadets 1/C Allison Klinke and Kevin Sullivan presented information to the PA in response to the numerous questions that were asked earlier in the day. This task force is comprised of 50-60 cadets; 60% female, 40% male. Training to prevent sexual harassment/assaults begins during SWAB summer. The training continues for four years, and includes information that cadets need to know before and after graduation. There is specific training during each of the four years a cadet is at the Academy. When a claim of sexual assault is made, taking care of the victim is the top priority. Cadets have many resources in dealing with and reporting an assault. These programs have been ongoing, but the recent publicity of events at the Air Force Academy has caused the CGA to re-evaluate its own program.

The goals for training in the next month include underage drinking, dating outside the class, and fraternization issues. Cadets, along with the CGA administrators are working to improve the system.

The CGA is a small, family-oriented institution with an open-door policy. Nearly 30 % of the population is female. There is a good quality of training for all the cadets here--not just those on the task force. Confidentiality of the reporting person is respected, at least until after the investigation is complete. Cadets can bring issues to counselors. The chaplains are not required by the military system to report confidential information. Everyone involved in hearing a sexual assault report is geared to the priority of getting help for the victim, including hospitalization when indicated.

At the CGA cadets feel that harassment is the bigger issue; physical attacks are rare. The Coast Guard Investigative Service (CGIS) is the investigative agency for all reports--not Academy personnel.

Cadet Klinke would like parents to know that students are safe at the CGA.

Follow-up Comments and questions: CAPT Heyl emphasized that every assault claim is taken seriously. His review of all sexual assault cases reported to CGA administrators during the last 10 years indicates that in every case alcohol was a factor. CAPT Heyl, as well as the full CGA staff is working to develop leaders of character. Students will be held accountable for their actions and decisions.

CAPT Heyl opened the floor to questions.

Q What is the policy for club sports to get a bus?

A In the fall, sports teams will need to plan their season, and designate their needs for transportation. All cases will be considered. For the current semester all events are being considered on a case-by-case basis.

Q What is the likelihood of funding being made available for a "non-stars" dessert?

A Every opportunity the cadets have to associate with the Parents Association is a positive experience. The "stars" dessert is an incentive to excel. The administration takes the position that excellence leads to more excellence. Please consider as an option to a "non-stars" dessert the possibility of an additional dessert for everybody, scheduled at a time that does not compete with the "stars" dessert.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 P.M. The next meeting will be June 29, 2003, beginning at noon.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn DiIulio, acting Recording Secretary

ATTENDEES

Academy Staff:

CAPT Jim Thomas
CAPT Phil Heyl
Dr. Tom Haas
CAPT Susan Bibeau
CAPT Kevin Marshall
Dr. Ray Cieplik
Wayne Gronlund, USCG, Ret
John Maxham USCG, Ret
LCDR Pat Knowles
LT Joe Sundland

Assistant Superintendent
Commandant of Cadets
Dean of Academics
Director of Admissions
Leadership Development Center
Director of Athletics
President, Alumni Association
Alumni Association VP for Development
Chief of Recruiting, Admissions Division
CGA PA representative

National Council:

Frank Garcia
Ric Waechter
Gregg Zike

President
Vice President
Corresponding Secretary, Member-at-Large

Carolyn DiIulio
Harvey Berger
Kristine Garcia
Tamara and Bob Slivinski
Donna Waechter
Joanne and John Larkin
Janet and Cliff Meeks
Larry Hall
Gerry Van Derlaske
Patricia Shuck
Bill Armstrong
Mary and Gary Murphy
Shirley and Richard Howard
Ann Roller
Gary Symansky
Tom Boghosian
Ann Cooley
Tim Wheeler
Kathleen Dopkin
Bob Sauerbrunn
Russell White
Ray Birbaum

Recording Secretary (acting), Member-at-Large, Chesapeake/Potomac
Member-at-Large, Florida Chapter
Member-at-Large, Delaware Valley Chapter
Member-at-Large, Delaware Valley Chapter
Member-at-Large, Delaware Valley Chapter
Member-at-Large, Delaware Valley Chapter
Member-at-Large, Delaware Valley Chapter
Member-at-Large, Delaware Valley Chapter
Member-at-Large, Greater New York Chapter President,
Member-at-Large, Greater New York Chapter
President, CAPT Paul Foye Chapter
President, New England Chapter
President, Delaware Valley Chapter
President, Greater Los Angeles Chapter
President, Upstate New York Chapter; CG Auxiliary
President, Greater New York Chapter
Upstate New York Chapter
Upstate New York Chapter
New England Chapter
Secretary, Delaware Valley Chapter
Listmaster '06; CAPT Paul Foye Chapter
CG Auxiliary
CG Auxiliary