

**COAST GUARD ACADEMY PARENTS ASSOCIATION (PA) COUNCIL
MEETING**

USCGA, Alumni Center
February 28, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 12:59 a.m. by President Kaye Hollifield.

Members Present: Dave Beshoar, Karen Bradley, Cassandra Brown, Katie Campbell, Mark and Sarah Hafensteiner, Eileen Hipe, Kaye Hollifield, Julie Jefferson, Stephanni Jones, Paul Kauffman, Bill Korn, Lizann Miller, Kelly Morgan, Craig Nielsen, Niles Pierson, Duncan Pitcairn, Bob Pray, Stephanie Prefer, Frank Rodino, Nancy Stevens, Tim Van Cleef, Rich and Peggy Vihonski, Alice and Nevin Wiest,

Academy Staff: RADM J. Scott Burhoe, CAPT John Fitzgerald, LCDR Kathy Felger

Academy Report:

The Superintendent and his staff provided the group with status reports of CGA activities. RADM Burhoe (Superintendent) thanked the Parents Association (PA) for its work and donations to the cadets. He commented on several projects including the completion of the Leamy Hall student center, and the nearing completion of the new pedestrian bridge down to the lower playing fields and the sailing center. He noted the Leamy Auditorium makeover was pushed back to roof repairs that were found and will need to be repaired prior to the makeover. It was noted the applications this year are up 20% from a year ago. The accreditation process is ongoing and consuming a lot of staff time, but is expected to be completed. The current Academy funding is reported to be doing well and has allowed for new equipment in the science buildings and plans for the McAllister Hall engineering upgrades are underway. New furniture for Smyth Hall and a new Cadet Fitness Center has been completed. The Academy is concerned over some theft in Chase Hall and that matter is being looked into.

CAPT Fitzgerald (Commandant of Cadets) noted that Billet Night is next week and there are only 80 days until graduation. The goal of having summer schedules to the cadets prior to spring break is on schedule. Capt Fitzgerald also noted that 175 cadets put in requests for foreign travel during spring break. As this travel does need prior approval, he asked that cadets put in a request early next year and get approval prior to purchasing tickets and making family plans. The Sponsor Family program is undergoing some changes and background checks are now required to participate. While some resistance has been expressed, the Academy thinks this effort to protect the cadets is more important and the process is ongoing. The Host family project (prior to R-Day) is currently not affected, but they will be looking into this.

LCDR Felger (Academy liaison to the PA) reported on the completion of the Parents Room in Chase Hall and is working with cadets on some new gaming equipment for the new student center as well as new consoles for the Day Rooms. LCDR Felger indicated that again this year her *Eagle* Assignment will keep her away from the Academy during R-Day and that LT Valerie Boyd will be the R-Day coordinator this year.

Council Officer Reports:

Kaye Hollifield reported the minutes of the June 29, 2008 meeting were approved electronically.

Kelly Morgan (Treasurer) reported that our endowment funds have not been immune to the economic downturn with a loss of about \$95K compared to last year.

2008 PA dues paid: \$13,230.00
2008 PA income: \$805.00
2008 PA expenses (newsletters, meeting refreshments, award pins etc) \$12,216.23

2009 PA dues paid \$348.00
2009 PA income \$0.00
2009 PA expenses \$0.00

Fund Balances as of 2/25/2009:

Parents Gift Fund Balance	\$119,678.16*
Parents Cadet Transportation Endowment	\$147,688.29**
Parents Cadet Activities Endowment	\$156,204.91***

*Large expenditures from Gift fund 2008:

- \$80,000 transferred to the endowments \$40,000 to each
- \$53,697.51 to cadet activities for van maintenance and copier service
- \$ 6,099.84 to purchase new refrigerators (funds from chapters passed through)
- \$ 6,309.88 to purchase new furniture for parents lounge in Chasse Hall
- \$ 3,000.00 to help with purchases for Leamy Hall game room

For 2009:

\$15,000.00 to cadet activities for van maintenance and copier service

**funds available to be distributed from the Parents Cadet Transportation Endowment in calendar year 2009: \$4,386.00 funds spent YTD: \$0.00

***Funds Available to be distributed from Parents' Cadet Activities Endowment in calendar year 2009: \$5,224.00 funds spent YTD: \$0.00

Motion to accept treasurers report was made by Niles Pierson and seconded by Cassandra Brown and the report was approved.

Pres. Hollifield reported that attempts to get Lou Hepp to stay on as president of the Chesapeake & Potomac chapter were not successful and a new president will be appointed in the near future.

Niles Pierson reported the Parents Lounge honoring Past PA president Dom Dilulio has been completed including the installation of the plaque.

The Upstate NY Chapter reported they are working with the Alumni Association to provide challenge coins for the 2009 families and friends. This coin will be different from the cadet coins but will make a great keepsake for friends and families. The chapter asked for approval that all profits from the sale be used entirely as a donation to begin the Class of 2009 Alumni Fund. Motion was made by Julie Jefferson and seconded by Cassandra Brown and approved.

Leadership 44's: Kelly Morgan reported the efforts to purchase 8 new sailboats to replace the aging fleet has run into financial trouble as the original RFP came back at nearly double the original estimate. The committee has re done the RFP with some changes and hopes to get the cost down to about \$500,000 per boat. All fundraising activity from the PA is on hold until the project becomes more defined.

New Business:

To address the concerns of the PA as to the use of our name in fundraising, a motion was made by Sarah Hafensteiner and seconded by Cassandra Brown as follows:

All fundraising solicitation letters must be reviewed and approved by the President of the CGAPA and when appropriate signed by the President prior to distribution.

The motion was approved.

Concerns about the transparency of the parents' gift fund and the Alumni Association in general were expressed and work will be undertaken to clarify the situation

The new Alumni Association web site with the inclusion of the PA pages was discussed and concerns raised as to the visibility and the loss of identity. President Hollifield formed a committee to discuss our concerns with Tara at the Alumni Office. The committee consists of Craig Nielsen, Sarah Hafensteiner, David Beshoar, Bill Korn and Ken Winterberger.

The nominating committee chaired by Cassandra Brown was charged to present a prospective slate of officers. The committee includes Harold Gracey and Duncan Pitcairn.

Cassandra Brown presented the report of the committee organized to look into the problem of the relationship between the PA and chapters that has been created with the requirement of PA membership for message list access starting with the 2012 class. The committee consisted of Cassandra Brown, chair, Craig Nielsen, Ken Winterberger, Elizabeth Miller, David Beshoar, and Gary Ward. The committee recommended the following:

1. Clarification of our Constitution & By-Laws as to the exact nature of our relationship with the Alumni Association
2. Clarification of our Constitution & By-Laws as to the exact nature of our relationship with the Chapters
3. Set the Chapters as subsidiaries of the CGAPA
4. Work with the Alumni Association to collect dues for both the PA and the Chapters
5. Amend the CGAPA Constitution and By-Laws to reflect the needed changes.

President Hollifield created a committee of Chapter Presidents to work with the original committee chaired by Cassandra Brown. This committee will be chaired by Stephanni Jones and will include Julie Jefferson, Karen Bradley, Paul Kauffman, and Gary Ward. The committee is charged to draft By-Law Changes that will address the 5 concerns addressed above and how best to deal with dues and chapter membership/PA membership.

Chapter Reports:

Delaware Valley

Held its Fall general membership meeting Sept. 19, 2008 with great participation. Experienced record sales during R-Day and Parents Weekend and able to donate \$2000 to the PA for cadet activities. Two members provided support for the All Academies Ball in the Delaware Valley area. The Ball was held December 26 and was sponsored by the Naval Academy Parents. The Chapter donated \$500 to the ball and collected donations for gift cards which were distributed to the cadets in attendance. The Winter general membership meeting was held at the USCG station in Philadelphia. Current membership is 79 families. Next meeting is May 31, 2009 at Air Station Atlantic City. Upcoming will be the welcome picnic at Air Station Atlantic City and they are planning on supporting the Pre R-Day Social with the C&P Chapter.

New England

As soon as the rec room is finished they plan to purchase some electronic games for the cadets with the monies raised from the ongoing Magazine drive. They have a \$750 Verizon Volunteer grant that they will match with \$1250 of fundraising dollars to give a donation of \$2000 to the Leadership 44 program when that fundraising kicks off. They will also give a donation of \$2000 to the Parents Fund with monies raised at R Day and Parents Weekend.

Carolinas Chapter

Local high school seniors who had incomplete applications to the Academy (per the Admissions Office) were contacted. Planning for Swab Picnic in late May, and will support the *Eagle* visit to Charleston in late June.

Florida

In the process of sending out more order forms for the Tapestry throw which is a big success.