



U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association
Western New York Chapter
Rochester, New York

Minutes of the Chapter Meeting 17 March 2011

Called to Order: 0705 at the Rochester Plaza Hotel, restaurant, 70 State Street, Rochester, New York

Present: Nelson Blish, Mark Pedersen, Matt Testerman and Joe Vaccarella. Joe Vaccarella presided.

New Business

Communications—Mr. Vaccarella and Mr. Testerman discussed the ease of using Facebook© for announcements about the Association and the possibility of reaching alumni through an email address search of Facebook©. Mr. Testerman said that although the web page is not as easy to change, it fulfills the need to reach those not on Facebook© and those searching for the Association via the Academy's links.

Mr. Vaccarella will invite via email all alumni in the area to join the Association and provide each with the link to our Web page (<http://westernny.usnachapters.com/>). In addition, he will search Facebook© and invite alumni to join the Association's Facebook© page: (http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/home.php?sk=group_188534014493798¬if_t=group_activity).

Chapter Officers Meeting—Messrs. Blish and Testerman will check their calendars to see if they can attend the Chapter Officers Meeting at the Naval Academy on 27 April. Mr. Vaccarella will ask Mr. Kievit to attend if neither of them is able to do so.

Spring Candidate Dinner—Tentatively scheduled for either Thursday, 26 May or Friday, 27 May. Because it falls on Memorial Day weekend, Mr. Testerman suggested we consider both days, as those with vacation plans may not be in town on Friday evening. Mr. Vaccarella will discuss our plans with Mr. Ian Cunningham of the West Point Society to see if the Society would like to combine again for this dinner.

Mr. Vaccarella suggested that an alumnus, such as Captain Bartkoski, would be the most meaningful speaker to the new candidates, and all present praised the presentation by last year's alumnus speaker. Mr. Vaccarella will coordinate a speaker, or speakers (one for Navy, one for Army) with Mr. Cunningham. Mr. Cunningham has either already stepped down as president of the West Point Society, or will be doing so soon.

Mr. Pedersen is unavailable 18-22 May, and Mr. Blish is unavailable on 4 June, when his daughter is getting married.

Navy Week—Rochester hosts Navy Week, from 11–17 July 2011, culminating with the Air Show, including the Navy Blue Angels, on 16 & 17 July. Unfortunately, this comes too late to connect with our Spring candidate dinner. Check the web page for more information (<http://www.navyweek.org/rochester2011/>).

Vetnet Event—Vetnet of Kodak Employees hosts RADM Gretchen Herbert, Assistant Chief of Naval Enterprises, for a talk on 14 April 2011. The Women’s Network of Kodak will also be in attendance. Chapter members and friends are invited. Mr. Blish will send further information.

Meloria Weekend—Former President Bill Clinton will speak at University of Rochester’s Meloria Weekend, 20–23 October 2011. For further information and reservations, see their website (<http://www.rochester.edu/melioraweekend/>).

Next Meeting

The next Chapter meeting is 16 June 2011 at the Rochester Plaza restaurant meeting room at 0700.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark W. Pedersen
Recording Secretary