

Class of 85,

I have sent this same email out to my company Reps to help spread the word on current happenings for our Class. The most time sensitive of upcoming events is the Class of '85 Army/Navy weekend. As of today, we are at about 60 classmates and family signed up for both the Friday night cocktail party and the Saturday Game tailgate. Frank Proctor and I have put these events together and fronted the money for them because we were under a time deadline to confirm both the Pyramid Club as well as the services of a Man Cave Events for our Saturday Tailgate. Both of these parties are 5 star events and the admission fee was kept low by donations from a few classmates and corporate partners. So yes, what we are charging is below the actual cost in today's inflated world. So, PLEASE sign up for the Army/Navy weekend, for Dublin next year, for Class Giving and for helping us fund tailgating 2022.

Everyone asked me at our reunion last year to keep working to do more in the years between major reunions, these events are an example of me hearing you. I now need you to attend and enjoy!!

Here is my email and I hope you will also be hearing from you company reps soon and maybe be part of a zoom meeting with your company mates and maybe make plans for a company reunion in Philly in December or Dublin next August. Here is the body of my letter to the 36 Company Rep:

Class of '85,

Bob Smith here, your Class President, here to give you some important updates and information about happenings going on with our great Class.

Fundraising success:

We embarked on a fundraising project last year to raise \$1 Million as part of our 40th Reunion Project. The Goal was to raise \$750,000 for the new Alumni Center and another \$250,000 for the Fund for Athletic Excellence. We were hoping to raise this amount prior to the 40th Reunion in 2025. Well, in true style of this Class, we are at 98% of this goal as of today, well in advance of our goals. So, we will not stop here, because we reached this goal with only 15% of you giving something, many of you giving large donations (THANK YOU!). What does this mean? As part of this contribution we were going to kick off an annual Foundation Scholarship Award starting in 2025 named the USNA Class of 1985 Memorial Scholarship. That annually awarded scholarship will now start in the Spring of 2023 with our first award winner joining the Brigade on I-Day 2024. Next, when we go above our goal, our giving will shift to areas decided by the Class who need our help. So far, we are looking to partner with Navy Hockey in the remodel of their locker room and purchase of some much needed equipment. That locker room will be named the USNA '85 Locker Room. After that, we are in contact with Navy Rugby and other non-athletic groups in need of help. We are happy to take inputs from any Classmate about groups within the Yard who need a helping hand. So, I ask you to consider a gift to the Class Project and help us keep on giving back as Class and building our charitable legacy as we join the Senior Graduating Class Group at our 40th. Here is the link to set up a pledge to our Class Project. Please email or text me if you have any questions. Also, I encourage anyone who wants to gain plank holder status at the new Alumni Center by giving a pledge of \$12,500 to contact me. Here is the pledge weblink: <http://1985.usnaclasses.net/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2021/06/1985PledgeForm.pdf> or contact Clay Evans of USNA at: clay.evans@usna.com with questions on giving or the plank holder program.

Army/Navy 2022 Weekend Events: I have partnered with Frank Proctor to put together both a Friday night cocktail party at Philadelphia's Pyramid Club from 1800-2100, and a Fully catered Saturday Tailgate outside Lincoln Financial Stadium from 1030-1430 on game day. The Friday Event is drinks and hors d'oeuvres for all 3 hours with in a room that has breathtaking views the Philadelphia skyline. Saturday's Tailgate is being done by Man Cave Events, who handles high end corporate tailgates for the Philadelphia and will have a barbecue lunch with beer/wine/soda in an exclusive and heated area with large screen TV's. Each of these events is \$85 per person or \$150 if you attend both events. Please email me to RSVP at: usnaclassof85@gmail.com to get on my list and I will set up payment via Paypal, Venmo, Zelle or checks prior to the events. The game is moving out of Philadelphia for the next 5 years, so we decided to go large for year's this game in Philadelphia and we hope that we can fill up these great events with Classmates, families and friends. PLEASE RSVP as soon as you can, these will be very memorable events.

Ireland Trip 2023: When Navy announced they had rescheduled the Football game in Dublin from 2020 to August 23, 2023, I reached out to Tenon Tours of Boston (they hosted our group back in 2012 in Dublin with GREAT success). I asked Tenon to put some tours together for the game next year and they have done an amazing job of putting some awesome tours together for the game. You can go for a few days or a few weeks, Tenon has tours available and will happily build you a custom tour before or after the game. Personally, I am doing the Southern Ireland extension after the game and then heading to the Coast of Portugal for a week. Here is the link to the Tenon website to get reserve your trip. We will lose the exclusive access to the hotel rooms Tenon Booked for us later this year, so PLEASE book now as these rooms are in great demand by the Notre Dame loyal fan base.

<https://www.tenontours.com/destinations/ireland/2023-college-football-classic-navy-class-of-85/>

Our class contact at Tenon Tours is Grace Gadler, her email is: gracie@tenontours.com or (781)435-6800.

Class of '85 Fall Tailgate Fundraiser:

We started a fundraising drive on GiveSendGo to fund the 2022 tailgate season. We continue to have full service tailgating under the USNA '85 Tailgate Tent at each home game, and this year, at Army/Navy as well. If you are a regular attendee or someone who is coming to a game or two, or just want to support Navy '85 tailgating, please pledge your gift at: <https://www.givesendgo.com/G3PXP> Our goal is \$10,000 and we are at \$4700 as of today, thank you to those who gave already and I encourage your help if you can help us keep our Class Tailgating a 5 Star experience.

You may or may not have noticed this, but our USNA '85 Website is now a fully functional and up to date site. All the above information is on our website as are all my Class emails and other important information. This site will remain fully up to date and we work hard to keep this updated and fully user and content friendly. Here is the link: <http://1985.usnaclasses.net/>

At our delayed 35th Reunion last Fall, many of you gave me feedback that your wanted to see more Class events in the years between our major reunions. I heard received your feedback and have rolled up my sleeves to make sure we get together during the off reunion years. Home game tailgating, the Army/Navy weekend this year and the Ireland Trip in 2023 as all examples of hearing your voices. NOW,

I need the Class to step up and actually sign up and attend these events.... OR.... we may stop doing some of them. Now that Covid is over and most of us are at a point that we can get out and travel, I am optimistic we will fill up these events and always have fun and well attended home tailgates. I have a few simple requests from this Class: Come to Philly, sign up for Ireland next August.... keep giving to our Class Fundraising, get ready to attend a great 40th Reunion in 2025. (Simple right?)

As always, contact me at usnaclassof85@gmail.com or (502)432-6185 with any questions, comments or suggestions. Otherwise, I hope I get to see you in Annapolis or Philadelphia this Fall or next year in Ireland.

Regards,

Bob Smith '85