

Scuttlebutt



United States Naval Academy
Parents' Club of
Northern Virginia

WELCOME

Welcome aboard! The Naval Academy Parents' Club of Northern Virginia extends a very warm welcome to our new Midshipmen, their families and friends. Whether your Midshipman is coming to the Academy from high school, Naval Academy Prep School, the Naval Academy Foundation, the fleet, or transferring from another college, we are happy to have you join us.

Every newcomer to the Navy "family" comes on board with more than a few questions. This guide is a compilation of the experiences and suggestions of our Mid families that have gone before, as well as information gleaned from fellow parents' club handbooks. It is not intended to reflect Naval Academy policy, but to give an overview of what to expect and look forward to during your Mid's time at the Academy. We hope you find this useful.

Your Mid is embarking on a most challenging adventure. We wish you and your Mid a happy and successful four years at the Naval Academy. The time will pass by faster than you can imagine, and we encourage you to share in the experience whenever possible. Enjoy these years together!

This club exists to support its Midshipmen and their parents. If you ever have a question, and you will, an answer or help is just a phone call or e-mail away. Please feel free to call any of the club officers listed on the next page. In addition, the internet age has made access to information (and your Mid) much easier than in past times. Our club webpage is found at www.nvnac.org.

Again, welcome aboard!

THE USNA PARENTS' CLUB OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

The USNA Parents' Club of Virginia was founded in 1993 to provide information and support to the families of Midshipmen from the Northern Virginia area. The club hosts a number of social events annually, providing opportunities for our members to meet with other USNA families, and, hopefully, enrich our common experience. As new members, you will appreciate the friendship of experienced academy parents as you start this journey.

The Virginia Parents' Club meets several times each year:

- A June picnic to welcome the incoming plebes and their families;
- We have a club table at I-Day for parent support;
- We host a fall tailgate at a Navy home football game;
- We participate in hosting the Annual Joint Military Academy Holiday Ball in December;
- We meet for a Navy basketball game & dinner in Annapolis during the winter;
- We host an annual spring dinner to elect club officers and honor the parents of graduating Midshipmen.
- We give graduating Firsties individual commemorative flags flown over the U.S. Capital on graduation day in honor of their commissioning.

Mids are always welcome guests of the club at all of our events and meetings.

Most states have a parent's group. Therefore, if you should move, your Parents' Club can assist you in locating a new parents' group, or you can contact: Parent Office, USNA Alumni Association, 247 King George Street, Annapolis, MD 21402-5068, (410) 293-1950.

THE BRIGADE OF MIDSHIPMEN

Congress determines the number of Midshipmen allowed at the academy each year. Currently, each Academy is generally capped at 4000. The brigade is divided into two regiments, six battalions, and thirty to thirty-six companies. The heart of the brigade is the company.

The company is similar to a fraternity, as there are approximately thirty Mids from each of the four classes who all live together in their company's designated area in Bancroft Hall. The First Class Midshipmen (seniors) are in charge of the company and reports to a company officer. The company officer is usually a mid-grade Navy or Marine Corps Officer and many are academy grads. Second Class Midshipmen (juniors) are learning leadership techniques by working with the Plebes. Third Class Midshipmen (sophomores), frequently called Youngsters, assist with Plebe development. They help the plebes learn their rates, but they are much more supportive than the Second Class. At the bottom of this totem pole are the Plebes. They are learning about the Navy, learning how to perform under pressure, and making the transformation from high school students to future military officers.

Plebes will stay with their plebe summer platoon throughout their first academic year. At the end of the summer they will move to their academic year rooms in their assigned company living area. Each company determines its roommate selection process. Most companies allow plebes to select their academic year roommates from the other plebes in their company. Rooms usually accommodate two or three Mids. Roommates "keep each other going" and they often become best friends for life.

SPIRIT AND TRADITION

Each Mid becomes an important part of the team, initially at the US Naval Academy and eventually in the Navy or Marine Corps. Camaraderie, tradition and school spirit prevail as they share this chosen life. No one can make it on his or her own; every Mid learns to rely on other Mids.

Annapolis and the Academy are rich in a tradition that will become more meaningful to your Mid each year. Sometimes only an insider can truly appreciate and understand. Many of the buildings, monuments, statues, and facilities have interesting stories and significance. Be sure to ask your plebe about these, as he or she will learn much about them during plebe summer.

Mids also learn discipline, and how to follow the rules that have proven effective through the generations. Even with all this discipline and regiment, your Mid will still maintain an individual personality. And while Midshipmen are always eager to get away from the Yard (as the Naval Academy grounds are called) on leave or liberty, they are usually ready to return and "get on with it" again.

It is important to remember that your son or daughter is now in the Navy and the mission of the Academy is: "To develop Midshipmen morally, mentally, and physically and to imbue them with the highest ideals of duty, honor and loyalty in order to provide graduates who are dedicated to a career of naval service and have potential for future development in mind and character to assume the highest responsibilities of command, citizenship and government."

GO NAVY! BEAT ARMY!

The Army-Navy rivalry in sports, especially in football, is the highlight of any varsity sporting season. Teams that “beat Army” earn stars for their varsity letter sweaters. From induction day until after graduation, and for years thereafter, Mids and Naval Academy graduates will shout “Beat Army” at the completion of singing “Navy Blue and Gold.”

HONOR CONCEPT

The U.S. Naval Academy promotes an honor concept each every Mid lives by: “A Midshipman does not lie, cheat or steal.” It is probably one of the most basic but important concepts a Mid develops and lives by. The brigade monitors and upholds the honor concept. Anyone who is found to have violated this concept is disciplined or separated from the Academy.

SERVICE COMMITMENT

Each Midshipman who graduates from the Naval Academy has a minimum service obligation of five years. Special programs, such as naval aviation or graduate school, incur additional service. It should also be noted that graduating Midshipmen will be commissioned as reserve officers and will not be considered for active status for at least a year. If during their last two years as Midshipmen, they are separated from the academy, they are either sent to the fleet in an enlisted status to serve their commitment or they may be required to reimburse the Navy for the cost of their education.

TELEPHONE SERVICE

Once the academic year starts Mids will have phones in their rooms. Each phone has local dialing and a voice mail system. Plebes are restricted in the hours they can use their in-room phones. Cell phones are a great way to keep in contact, and Plebes may be authorized to use their cell phones during the regular year, although they will not have access to their phones during Plebe Summer, with this exception: 3 pre-determined dates are announced in advance, their cell phones are given to the Plebes, and they are allowed a few minutes for a phone call home. You will want to be certain you are available to answer these special calls! Have your Mid check on the current policy on cell phones within his company after the regular school year starts.

In the event of an emergency, families can contact the Command Duty Officer (commissioned officer) at Bancroft Hall. Messages will be relayed to your Mid to call home (after Plebe Summer): (410) 293-2701

Naval Academy Phone Numbers

USNA Switchboard	(410) 293-1000
Academic Dean	(410) 293-1583
Action Information Line (recorded events)	(410) 293-3109
Alumni Association	(410) 295-4000
Ambulance	(410) 293-3333
Athletic Association Ticket Office	1-800-US-4-NAVY
Bancroft Hall Main Office	(410) 293-5001
Candidate Guidance Office	(410) 293-4361
Chaplain Center	(410) 293-1100
Commandant of Midshipmen	(410) 293-7005
Duty Officer: On Base	0
Off Base	(410) 293-1000
Family Service Center	(410) 293-2641
Ethics/Honor Office	(410) 293-7020
Fire Department	(410) 293-4444
Information & Guided Tour Service	(410) 263-6933
Library, Nimitz	(410) 293-2420
Naval Academy Museum	(410) 293-2108
Naval Institute Book Store	(410) 268-6110
Public Affairs Office	(410) 293-2291
Registrar's Office	(410) 293-6383
Visitor Center Gift Shop	1-800-778-4260

ACADEMY ADDRESS and MAIL

Each Midshipman has a locked post office box at the Naval Academy post office. If your Mid's mailing address doesn't come in the mail before Induction Day, try to get your Mid's mailing address on Induction Day. It will be in the following format for Plebe Summer only:

MIDN Joe Mid
Company # Platoon
P.O. Box #####
Annapolis, MD 21412- #####

Once the academic year begins, your Mid's address will change to remove the second line and remain this address for the next four years.

MIDN Jane Mid
P.O. Box #####
Annapolis, MD 21412- #####

If you wish to send a package to your Mid with a service other than USPS, you will need to send it to the Naval Academy's Express Office. When using companies such as Federal Express, United Parcel Service, Airborne, DHL, and other carriers that cannot deliver to a PO Box the following address should be used.

MIDN Joe Mid
Company ##
Bancroft Hall / Express Office
U.S. Naval Academy
Annapolis, MD 21412

Most plebes are too busy to write very frequently during plebe summer, but they do appreciate cards and letters from home. In August plebes will receive their computers, and after that, most communications with your sons and daughters will be done by e-mail. If you don't currently have an e-mail account, we strongly recommend that you get one. The US Post Office at Annapolis is located in the 7th wing. Past experience has shown that the closer a mid lives to 7th wing, the more frequently they check their mail. Also, packages may not fit in the personal mailbox, so the mids can only pick up packages when the pickup window is open. This may delay the receipt of a package you want your mid to have.

CARE PACKAGES

"Care Packages" from home are always very important, but are particularly welcome during Plebe Summer, and later during exam weeks. What to send? Depending on your Mid's tastes, look for healthy items that are individually wrapped (granola bars, packaged cheese and crackers, powerbars, dried fruit). If you are sending items other than individual servings, be sure to include an airtight container for storage. This is essential due to the resident mouse population. Also, drink mixes are appreciated (Gatorade, Kool-Aid, etc.) How much to send? Send plenty, as sharing is the norm. Be advised, however, that Plebes like to keep a low profile and don't want to be seen carrying big "chow packages" around. Try to keep your packages sized to about a large shoebox. Care packages must be mailed.

Generally plebes do not have access to vending machines during Plebe Summer, but you may wish to send a roll of quarters just in case your Mid's detailers are moved to a "random act of kindness."

There are several businesses in Annapolis that will deliver a variety of care packages to Bancroft Hall. Check advertisements in the Naval Academy newspaper, named Trident, which you can pick up in newsstands around the Naval Academy. Most of these organizations have web sites and orders can also be placed on-line. Please check out our club web site (www.nvnapc.org) for the most current information. The following list is not an endorsement, just a sample of what's available.

Cluck U. - Fantastic chicken, very popular with the Mids, delivery to USNA. Call 410-295-3300

Graul's - A local grocery store that delivers cakes for all occasions. They also deliver care baskets loaded with your Mid's favorite snacks. Phone them at 410-974-0737 to place an order.

Mangias Italian Grill - Honor, courage, commitment, PIZZA! Thursdays are 10% off for Navy. Delivers to Gate 0. Great menus, crab dip, nachos, subs, full meals. Call 410-268-1350

Miss Nancy's Fancy Bakery - Will deliver fresh baked gifts to Bancroft, such as, brownies, chocolate chip cookies, decorated cakes, fresh breads, cheeses, etc. To order by telephone or to request a price list call 410-267-7170.

Shelly's Flower Box - Has special baskets for Halloween, Valentine's Day, Easter, or any occasion. If your Mid prefers something special, or has a favorite let us know. Baskets are made to order. To order: Open 7 days a week and deliver to the Academy hourly. Honor all major credit cards and have a toll free number 1-800-736-0876 or 410-267-0876. Located outside Gate 3 at 260 King George St. Annapolis, MD 21401.

Chick and Ruth's Deli - Fabulous GI-NORMOUS Sandwiches, Old Fashioned Milk Shakes, and Bakery. Delivery to Gate 0 USNA Call 410-269-6737 Fax: 410- 269-6738.

VISITING THE ACADEMY AND ANNAPOLIS

During plebe summer, family and friends may visit the Yard and enjoy the many public areas, including the Visitors Center, the Library, Preble Hall Museum, the Chapel and John Paul Jones' crypt. Be aware, however, that while you may visit the Academy, **you are not allowed any contact with your Mid during Plebe Summer** until Parents' Weekend.

Most areas within the Yard are open to everyone on the special invitational weekends; however, sometimes you will need your Mid as an escort. The Mid Store stocks all kinds of things your Mid will need at very reasonable prices: clothing, jewelry, personal products, cleaning goods, books, electronic equipment, cameras, decals, convenience foods, snacks, and keepsakes of all kinds. It is fun to purchase and wear items that display the Academy emblem. You'll be surprised how many friends and relatives will be looking for gifts with academy emblems.

There is a cafeteria in Dahlgren Hall, and on special occasions, the Academy will extend an invitation to dine in King Hall, the Midshipman dining facility. There is an abundance of good restaurants in the Annapolis area, so it's relatively easy to find someplace to treat your Mid to a quiet lunch or dinner during liberty hours.

The city of Annapolis is within walking distance of academy gates. Mids are fortunate in this regard; cadets leaving the confines of West Point and zoomies leaving the Air Force Academy are a long way from civilization. Annapolis is rich in history. Many present-day attractions include the historic buildings, the city dock, marinas and a variety of restaurants where fresh Maryland crab is the specialty. There are lots of little shops for browsing and purchasing unusual gifts.

Any time you plan a stay in the Annapolis area, be sure to make your reservations early, especially for specific academy events. There are several nice hotels, and many motels in the area and many motel and hotel chains now offer membership cards that entitle the holder to discounts; check with your favorite motel or hotel. In addition, there are several bed and breakfast rooms available in old homes, townhouses, and on ships. Two excellent sources for finding accommodations are "Roomfinders" at (410) 263-3262 for houses and "Annapolis Accommodations" at 1-800-715-1000 or (410) 280-0900 for hotels and bed and breakfast's.

Annapolis weather can be either unseasonably hot or cold. The beautiful gardens are a result of frequent rain showers and humid conditions. Most of Naval Academy events are informal and comfortable walking shoes are a must.

MIDSHIPMEN PARENT PASS

In early August, parents of new Midshipmen will receive an ID card in the mail which, when presented with a government-issued photo ID (such as a drivers license), can be used to access the Academy with a vehicle any time during your Midshipman's attendance at USNA. It is not vehicle specific and may be used with rental cars.

The Midshipman Parent's Pass (MPP) is issued through the mail to the address that your Midshipman provides in the Midshipman Identification System (MIDS), USNA's data base. No action is required to receive the initial card and it should arrive in early August. Each parent will receive his/her own card. Please be sure your Midshipman enters accurate information into MIDS, including information for parents living at a different address who are each entitled to visit here.

If you require a new card due to loss, change of address, or incorrect information, one may be requested by visiting the Pass and ID office located in the Visitor Access Center at Gate 1. Pass and ID is open from Monday through Friday, 0600-1600 and is closed on weekends and holidays. A temporary pass will be issued immediately and a new card will arrive via mail within 30 days. Alternatively, you may e-mail parkingandaccess@usna.edu providing your Midshipman's full name and Alpha number and the parent's name and address. A new card should arrive via mail within thirty days. If you arrive after the Pass and ID office is closed and do not have your card, proceed to either Gate 1 or Gate 8. Let the gate sentry know you are a Midshipman Parent and present him with photo identification. He will verify you in the database and permit your vehicle to enter.

The MPP is valid as long as your midshipman is enrolled at USNA and expires two weeks after graduation. MPP's are issued to parents only. If parents are divorced, a separate card will be issued for each parent and step-parent. An e-mail should be sent to parkingandaccess@usna.edu requesting additional cards for parents. There are times during the Midshipman year when the pass will allow access to the Yard but not parking. These periods include but are not limited to Induction Day and Commissioning and Graduation Weeks. During times of parking restrictions, parking will be available at the Navy Marine Corps Memorial Stadium and at public parking lots in Annapolis.

If you have any questions concerning vehicle access to USNA, please contact the Pass & ID office located in the Visitor Access Center at 410-293-5762. They are open from Monday through Friday, 0700-1530 and are closed on weekends and holidays.

PLEBE PARENTS' WEEKEND

Definitely do not miss Plebe Parents' Weekend. Make reservations ASAP, then go! In most years the plebes cannot come home overnight, but they want to spend as much time with you as possible. Accommodations in Annapolis are highly recommended as they give you a place to sit and relax with your Mid, and help you to avoid driving back to Northern Virginia after midnight. Even though it has only been six weeks since Induction Day, the weekend is definitely worth the trip. Plebes look forward to seeing you as much as you look forward to seeing them. Take as many pictures as you can because your family and friends will not believe the change that's taken place in your Mid!

Prior to the weekend, the Academy will send you a suggested list of places to stay and an itinerary of the scheduled events. But don't wait for the list, make reservations now. Again, Annapolis Accommodations are great in helping to arrange for hotels, B & B's, etc. (1-800-715-1000). The Academy will notify you of when liberty begins and how to meet your Mid. In the past, the academy placed the letters of the alphabet on top of tall poles along Stribling Walk, where you can meet your Mid by the first letter of your last name. It's amazing how much they all look alike, especially when wearing uniforms and covers (hats). Some activities begin on Thursday, but your Mid will not be free until after the Friday noon meal formation. As always, parking spaces are at a premium, so get there early. There are regular shuttle buses to the Yard from the Navy-Marine Corps Stadium.

It is fun to attend all the special things that are planned but more importantly, follow the lead of your Mid and do what he or she suggests. Mids need many things, but probably the first thing they will want to do is get off the Yard. Mids need to talk, show off their new home and introduce you to their new friends. Mids also want some much-needed sleep and will enjoy eating away from the Academy. (Be sure to eat with them in King Hall when invited; it is a memorable event.) You may want to suggest your Mid invite a Mid whose family or friends are not present to join you for a meal or to accompany you to an event. There may be a time when you can't be there and others will return the kindness.

After sharing a wonderful weekend with the Mids, you'll be more confident that your Mid is prepared and ready to attain her goals one day at a time. Families can visit their Mids anytime they are free after Plebe summer.

SPONSOR FAMILIES

Families in the Annapolis area have been volunteering to be a "home away from home" to any Mid who requests one. Prospective sponsors must reside within 22 nautical miles of the Naval Academy and it is recommended that each family sponsor at least two Midshipmen. Sponsors will then have the opportunity to meet their respective Midshipmen during Plebe Parents' Weekend. Club members suggest that you try to plan a get-together with your sponsor family during parents' weekend.

Sponsors offer the Mid the opportunity to experience a home situation with a family on occasional weekends. Although it is officially a "plebe" sponsor program, many relationships last well beyond the plebe year. In fact, many continue to maintain a special relationship long after their time at the academy.

PLEBE YEAR

Some feel that plebe year is more demanding than plebe summer. Once the brigade returns following Plebe Parents' Weekend, there are as many as three upperclassmen for each plebe, and as a result it is very intimidating. However, once classes start in August, Plebes settle into a routine that lasts until May.

During the academic year, a typical day begins with plebe wake-up (0530) well over an hour before the upperclassmen get up. Plebes need to read and be conversant with newspaper articles, memorize menus, professional topics, and "chow calls." At around 0630, they will probably have their first "come around" of the day with a Youngster or Second Class who will go over professional topics. Morning quarters formation is at 0700 for the entire company, breakfast is shortly afterwards, and the first academic class starts at 0755. There are four class periods in the morning, with the last one ending at 1145. Plebes may also have a noon "come around" with their Youngster or Second Class at 1155. This gives them ten minutes to get back from class, memorize new information, brush off their uniforms (or change if they had PE) and get to their "come around." After this ten-minute grilling, they will probably have a "chow call," which means standing in a prearranged spot in the company area and yelling at the top of their lungs:

"Sir, you now have ten minutes until noon meal formation. Noon meal formation goes outside. The uniform for noon meal formation is winter working blues, stripers carry swords. The menu for noon meal is: (This of course changes for every meal.)

Tuna Salad Sandwich Kit
Sweet Pickle Chips
Cheese Doodles
Mayonnaise, Sliced Tomato, Lettuce and Onions
White Bread
Lady Baltimore Layer Cake
Iced Tea with Lemon Wedges, Milk

The officers of the watch are: the Command Duty Officer is Lt. (Name), 1st Company Officer, the officer of the watch is Midshipman Lt. (Name), Brigade Assistant Operations Officer. The professional topic of the week is naval aviation. The major events in the Yard today are:

0800 Blood drive on Deck 4-0
1600 men's water polo vs. Army, Lejeune Hall
1900 Company Officer's time
You now have ten minutes Sir!"

As the plebe is loudly yelling this, he is typically surrounded by several Second Class who are just waiting for him to make an error. Following this five minute "chow call," (which is very similar to the ten minute call), plebes "chop" to formation in the center of the passageway, eyes straight ahead, squaring all corners, and greeting all upper-class with a loud "GO NAVY, SIR" or "BEAT ARMY, SIR!" As a result of all this yelling, don't be alarmed at your plebe's hoarse voice when he calls home. In fact, they will sound as if they are catching a cold all summer and for the better part of the year.

After the noon meal, there are two more classes that end at 1520. Non-varsity athletes march in parades on Mondays and Wednesdays and play intramural sports on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, during the fall and spring. Varsity athletes practice every day of the week and are exempt from marching in the parades while they are "in-season."

Evening meal is served buffet-style between 1730 and 1930, except Wednesday evening when it is family style like the Noon meals. There is open seating during evening meal and Mids can eat at their convenience between the prescribed times. Evening meal is followed by study hour at 2000. Plebe taps is at 2300 and upper-class taps is at 2400, with a muster each night.

Plebe rooms are usually inspected daily and formal inspections are conducted approximately twice each semester or after a failed daily inspection.

On the weekends, plebes have town liberty on Saturdays, starting about 1200. They have Yard liberty from 0800 to 2000 on Sundays with a formation at 1300 to ensure they are on the Yard. Liberty hours and class privileges change from year to year, so discuss this with your Mid. Upper class liberty increases each year. First and Second Class are allowed to wear civilian clothes while coming and going off the Yard when on liberty.

For the plebes, the hassles continue all the way through the first and second semesters. If Navy beats Army in football, "carry on" is usually granted until Christmas leave. This means that many of restrictions are eliminated; for example, plebes can sleep when they want to, even during the day! Periodically throughout the academic year, rumors circulate that maybe they can have stereos or their rates will be changed, but the privileges never come until final exams.

"Herndon" is the big event for plebes at the end of the academic year and possibly the biggest event of the year. Upperclassmen coat the Herndon monument across from the chapel with 200 lbs. of lard and affix a "dixie cup" on the top. The plebes must work together to replace the "dixie cup" with a Midshipman's cover. Recorded times to accomplish this task vary from year to year. The longest recorded time took place in 1995 (Class of '99), 4 hours +. The shortest time occurred in 1969, 1 minute and 30 seconds (no lard was used that year.) The average time is about 2 hrs 15 min. The successful plebe is rewarded with a mounted Superintendent's shoulder board and tradition holds that the Mid will be the first one of the class to make Admiral (it has yet to come true.)

ACADEMICS

Academics are the key to a Mid's success, especially since post-Academy service selection is based on class standing. Studies are very demanding and after getting "A's" in high school, getting a D or failing an exam can be quite a shock. Choosing a major that one has a passion for is very important. It helps the Mid stay motivated even while studying for long hours and on weekends.

If your Mid can validate a course during plebe summer, he or she will be able to move ahead or take more advanced courses. All Mids are assigned academic counselors who will help them select the best course offerings. Towards the end of plebe year, each Mid makes a selection from one of the 18 majors with the help of his academic and military advisor. Some Midshipmen with prior college experience or those who have validated a large number of courses are given the opportunity to work on a master's degree during their final year at the academy.

Since the Naval Academy has such a concentrated four-year program, if one falls behind academically, it becomes increasingly hard to keep up. A minimum course load is 15 hours per semester and a 2.0 grade point average is required to graduate. While the Academy bends over backwards to help Midshipmen succeed, the Academy does not waste its time with anyone that fails due to lack of effort. The Academic Board meets every semester and reviews individual records of those who have done poorly during the previous semester. They look at all aspects of the Midshipman's record and decide whether to separate him or her from the academy. Some courses may be available during summer school for make-up and/or enrichment, but for many, it is too little too late.

Extra instruction (E.I.) is available to all Mids. Encourage your Mid not to wait until he or she is in trouble to avail herself of E.I. and the Academic Center, which offers a number of study support programs and should be each Mids first stop for academic help. It is said that everyone who receives an appointment should be able to conquer the academics if he or she really tries and the professors and officers want to help everyone succeed. Many get the "gouge" (useful information) from their roommates or upperclassmen. Small classes are a definite learning advantage, but if Mids go to class unprepared, their lack of preparedness will not go unnoticed.

Many plebes are interested in one of the twenty-one designated majors but are afraid they won't be able to handle the academics. When making that decision, it is usually best to start out in a more demanding major because it is easier to drop back to a less challenging major than to try to get into a tougher one later. The primary decision, however, should lie with the Midshipman's interest. All plebes will be taking a similar course load their first year. It should look something like this:

1st Semester - 16 credits

Calculus

Chemistry

Government

Naval Leadership I

Rhetoric and Intro to Literature I

Physical Education (Boxing and Wrestling)

2nd Semester - 18 credits

Calculus II

Chemistry II

American Naval Heritage

Fundamentals of Naval Science

Rhetoric and Introduction to Literature II

Physical Education (Swimming)

There are many special academic opportunities that offer an even greater challenge for those students who meet the criteria, such as Trident Scholars, Honors Program and Voluntary Graduate Education Program (VGEP). The catalog gives a detailed description of these programs.

Exams are scheduled and the semester ends before Christmas leave, so the Mids begin the second semester in the new year. Mids may request that their grade reports be mailed to their parents, Senator or Congressman (or person who gave them their appointment).

Unless they validate, Mids take PE courses every semester which include boxing, wrestling, swimming, Marine Corps Martial Arts and other elective sports. The physical education program at the academy is very demanding and requires that each Midshipman show a high degree of proficiency.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

During each semester every Midshipman is required to pass a physical readiness test consisting of situps, pushups, and the 1.5 mile run. The goal is to encourage each Midshipman to maintain a satisfactory level of fitness and develop a life-long habit of staying fit. In addition, Midshipmen are required to take a physical education course each semester, including swimming, boxing, and wrestling/self-defense.

SPORTS

Every Midshipman must participate in either a varsity or an intramural sport. There are 26 men's and 12 women's varsity teams and 13 intramural sports. Academy teams are very successful which is impressive when you realize that most of the schools with which the academy competes are much larger schools. Moreover, many other schools do not maintain the same high academic standards for their varsity athletes. The benefits of playing a varsity sport are: competition at the Division 1 level, travel with the team, respect from classmates, and the ability for plebes to compete at the same level (and gain the respect of) upperclassmen.

Available Club and Varsity Sports are: (*women/**men & women)

Fall

Cross Country **
Football
Football (150 lb.)
Soccer **
Water Polo
Volleyball *
Sailing **
Rugby
Pistol **

Winter

Basketball **
Brigade Boxing
Fencing **
Gymnastics **
Indoor Track **
Squash **
Swimming **
Wrestling
Rifle **

Spring

Baseball
Crew **
Crew (150 lb.)
Golf
Lacrosse**
Tennis **
Track **
Sailing **
Hockey

The intramural program is equally extensive and also quite competitive. It pits companies against companies and battalions against battalions. It is a great way to stay in shape, vent your frustrations and relieve stress as well.

Intramural sports available vary year to year but commonly include:

3 on 3 Basketball	5 on 5 Basketball	Fieldball
Power Lifting	Team Handball	Racquetball
Lacrosse	Flag Football	Softball
Weight Lifting	Soccer	Volleyball

COLOR COMPANY

A color company is determined each semester and all thirty companies participate in a point system competition that continues throughout the year, until commissioning. Points are accumulated for performance in academics, sports, parades, and military activities. The winner becomes what is called the Color Company. With this honor, there are added responsibilities and certain privileges that are awarded and are recognized during Commissioning Week.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

There are many extracurricular activities available to the Midshipmen. Every Mid should be able to find something of interest. The activities range from scuba diving to photography, and rock bands to chapel choirs. While many activities are geared to academic interest, others are just for fun. Midshipmen have their own radio station as well as drama clubs, yearbook (Lucky Bag, and The Log (humor magazine), Drum and Bugle Corps, parachuting, karate, and power lifting. The academy also has its own chapter of NESAs, the Boy Scout National Eagle Society. There is a Flying Club, and an academy sponsored program called VTNA where Mids can learn to fly, up through their solo flight. If a Mid can't find something of interest, he or she can get some people together and start a group. ECA's are a necessary break from the academy routine. These activities help Mids learn new talents, explore interests and serve the community.

During the first semester of 2/C year and second semester of 3/C year, several competitively selected Mids participate in an exchange program with their counterparts at the three other service academies. They continue with their regular schooling in their new setting, while maintaining Navy loyalty of course.

Chapel attendance is no longer required but there are services for all faiths in the beautiful chapel in the Yard and there are friendly chaplains who are available for counseling. This service is especially important during Plebe Summer and Plebe Year, as the chaplains become a lifeline to many Mids.

ACADEMY PUBLICATIONS

By now you all should have read the USNA catalog. Available on-line at, <http://www.usna.edu/Catalog> you'll find that you will refer to it often. In addition, the academy will send an occasional informational letter.

Each Mid is assessed for an annual yearbook, called the Lucky Bag. It makes a wonderful keepsake. Graduating Mids receive two copies so they can give one to their parents. Be aware the Lucky Bag arrives a year after the year of publication to allow all sports and activities to be included in the yearbook.

The Trident is a relatively new academy publication and many of us in the parents' club feel it is a MUST! This weekly newspaper is produced by Comprint for the Academy and free copies can be picked up at the academy or stores and restaurants in town. In addition, one can subscribe and have a copy mailed home. The annual cost is \$28.00 for 3rd class mail and \$85.00 for 1st class mail. (1st class arrives in a few days, while 3rd class can take up to several weeks for delivery.)

The Trident Calendar is another popular item with the Mids. The calendar is published early and sometimes the dates change, but it gives them a general indication of the major activities scheduled.

The Christmas card committee selects a beautiful and different academy-related card each year. These cards and a variety of books about various phases of academy life may be purchased in the Mid Store and in the Visitors' Center.

OPERATION INFORMATION

"OP Info" is a program by which Midshipmen, with the USNA's approval, volunteer to provide information about the Academy to their home communities. The majority of their efforts focus on the high schools in their local area, and occasionally they interview with local newspapers, speak and show films to perspective candidates; sometimes, they appear on local radio and TV stations. The OP INFO period is during Thanksgiving leave each year. This program is impressive, because it allows the Mids to share their experiences with many different audiences.

PARADES AND FORMATIONS

Formations are held twice each day before meals. Formations are outside when weather permits and conclude with everyone marching into "Mother B." During the fall and spring seasons, "Parades" take place on Worden Field every Wednesday afternoon. Moreover, the brigade marches on before every home football game and at the Navy-Army game, wherever it is played. The Color Parade and Dedication Parade are held during Commissioning Week. These parades and football march-ons are impressive sights and it's highly recommended you attend at least one of each.

HEALTH CARE

Only healthy civilians become Mids at the Naval Academy. Notwithstanding, the Naval Academy is equipped with a medical and dental center that can handle most common health situations. If a Mid is diagnosed as being too sick to participate in the activities at the Naval Academy (e.g., pneumonia), he is confined to his room. The Mid, however, is called down to the medical center once a day to be seen by the medical staff. Even while the Mids are ill, they are usually given permission to attend classes, but only if they feel well enough to do so. The Mid's roommate is responsible for bringing meals to the sick Mid. The medical staff are the ones who determine when the Mid is well enough to resume participation in all activities. More serious cases are sent to Bethesda Naval Hospital.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Plebes are not allowed to drink, even if they are of legal drinking age and in Maryland, twenty-one is the legal age. Consumption or possession of alcohol inside the Yard is prohibited except in the Officers' Club. Alcohol consumption is permitted at home football game tailgate parties, which are held in the stadium parking areas. The Naval Academy has a zero tolerance policy towards under age drinking and drunk driving. Random breathalyzer tests are common. Parents should know that although false ID Cards are apparently common on some college campuses, the use of a fake ID by a midshipman is a very serious offense and likely to result in discharge from the Academy.

SOCIAL LIFE

The social life of a plebe can be defined by two words: slim and nonexistent. A big Saturday night for most plebes is getting a pizza with other plebes and going to see a movie, or visiting with their sponsor family or their own family - should you happen to be in the town. Dahlgren Hall is a nice place to relax, have a pizza, and watch TV or a Navy Hockey game.

Inter-brigade dating (between male and female Midshipmen in different companies) is relatively common but dating between plebes and upperclassmen is **STRICTLY** forbidden. A few Mids are able to maintain relationships with the girl or guy back home (known as "The 2% Club".) Maintaining this type of relationship is difficult and adds an extra burden in the life of the Mid.

MID MONEY

Upon arrival, each appointee should have deposited approximately \$2,200 with the Academy to be used as a down payment for uniforms and supplies. Many parents and candidates wonder how much spending money Mids should have when they report to the Academy. To begin with, realize that starting on "I-Day," the next time they walk out of the gate will be Parents' Weekend in August. Except for a couple of official group trips to Washington and Baltimore, your Mid should not expect any expenditures prior to Plebe Parents' Weekend.

The bank on the Academy grounds is called the Navy Federal Credit Union (NFCU). All Mids are required to open a checking and savings account there; most Mids find it convenient. There are automatic tellers so the Mids can get their money any time. Mids' monthly paychecks are direct deposited into their NFCU accounts. All Midshipmen will have a pay account monitored by the Academy. This is called "Funny Money" by the Mids. It's the Mid's money but they have very little control over it. Every month, Mids are paid approximately \$765 by the government that goes into the "Funny Money" account. Then money for such things as uniforms, books, laundry, and the barbershop is deducted. After all the deductions, plebes get about \$100 per month (spending money) at first. The amount increases each year, by an additional \$100 per month. Mids must buy cleaning supplies and bulletin board supplies besides personal items. These may be charged to their "Funny Money" accounts. Many parents provide an allowance and most Mids find it extremely helpful. Each year there are fewer deductions from the original issue. Therefore, by the time they are First Class, they pocket around \$400 per month. Before long they will be telling about the neat new stereo they bought and the great new car they were able to finance with their low-interest loan. In addition, Mids have access to financial and legal officers for advice.

LEAVE PERIODS

Every leave begins after completion of the Mid's last scheduled exam or military duty. In addition, a movement order gives authorization for a group of Mids to leave the Academy for various types events (i.e., sports, clubs, and drills). There is specific criteria for every leave.

In the fall, everyone has Labor Day, Columbus Day, and Veterans Day liberty and at least two days off for Thanksgiving weekend. Shortly after Thanksgiving, the big event of the year takes place-- Army vs. Navy in football. The timing changes each year depending on location and TV availability, but it usually occurs around the end of November or beginning of December. All Mids are transported to the game and are required to sit with the Brigade.

Mids can go home for Christmas leave after their last final exam or duty; this usually occurs between December 16th and the 20th. Everyone has to be back the same day, usually a few days after New Year's Day. That equates to about three weeks of holiday vacation.

The return from Christmas brings the "Dark Ages," a time at the Academy where things seem to close up for the winter. Everyone has Martin Luther King's Birthday and George Washington's Birthday off and then the next leave is Spring Break in early March; it is nine days long, including weekends. After final exams in May the Mids have several days off before they return to prepare for Graduation Week and summer cruise.

SUMMER CRUISES AND LEAVES

Every summer the Midshipmen engage in official training activities that help prepare them to make a decision about what they want to do after graduation. The summer training program changes slightly for every class, so check the USNA web site for current details and new developments. The information below should be "typical" but for your Mid it could be very different.

The Youngster Cruise:

This cruise is divided into two parts. Midshipmen are assigned a Petty Officer on a ship or submarine to learn what Navy life is like from an enlisted perspective.

The other phase of the youngster summer may include three weeks of training at the Naval Academy, usually sailing Navy 44-foot sloops.

Second Class Cruise:

This cruise is divided into two parts: four weeks of professional training for Midshipmen (Protramid) and a three week training period at the Academy. Protramid is composed of one week at each of the three major warfare specialties: submarines in Kings Bay, Georgia, aviation in Pensacola, Florida, and Marine Corps indoctrination at Quantico, VA and a fourth week studying public speaking at the Academy. The Mids are transported to each of these locations and each warfare specialty tries to show the 2/c Mids what their branch does, while giving them hands-on training. In Pensacola, Mids get to fly Navy jet trainers and helicopters. In Kings Bay they attend submarine briefings and then get to go underway on a nuclear-powered submarine.

The second phase introduces the Midshipmen to life at sea with a three-week cruise on one of the Academy's Yard Patrol craft. The object of this cruise is to provide an opportunity to practice the skills learned in the classroom.

First Class Cruise:

This final cruise focuses on the desired service selection. Midshipmen are assigned to either a surface, submarine, aviation, or Marine Corps. The object of this four- to eight-week cruise allows the Mid to focus on developing skills as a division officer. The Mid is assigned to a warfare-qualified lieutenant or lieutenant junior grade running mate.

First Class Midshipmen may also complete a four-week elective during their leave period usually focusing on small unit leadership. Midshipmen involved in certain selected Academy activities are only required to complete a four-week cruise; some of the selected activities include: plebe Detail, Command Seamanship Training Squadron, Atlantic Patrols, and Summer Seminar to name a few.

Summer Opportunities:

All Midshipmen are required to partake in the above mentioned cruises. Some Mids volunteer their summer leave time in order to further themselves academically and professionally. Currently, the following available summer programs are:

Summer School – Summer school is available all four years, whether it is used for those who want to get ahead of their academic program or those that are required to retake a course.

Special Cruises - Instead of taking regular 3/c or 1/c cruises, Mids can take foreign exchange cruises with other navies around the world. There are also yawl cruises where Mids sail to Bermuda and up and down the east coast.

Airborne Training - Mids go through pre-airborne training at the Academy in the spring and are then screened for Airborne School at Ft. Benning, Georgia, where they go through an intense three-week course, culminating in five static line jumps and receiving their coveted jump wings.

BUDS School - Basic Underwater Demolition Seal training - A few selected individuals go to the physically demanding school in Coronado, California, which is a training school for the elite Navy SEAL teams.

Scuba School - After a screening process at the Academy, Mids are able to go to a rigorous scuba school and receive military qualifications as a scuba diver.

MILITARY TRAVEL

The cheapest way for a Mid to travel is through Space Available or AMC flights flown by the Air Force and Navy. These free flights are offered to all active duty and reserve personnel of the armed forces on a space available basis. There are three terminals relatively close to the Academy: Andrews AFB, southeast of Washington, DC, the AMC terminal at BWI airport, and Dover AFB in Dover, Delaware, about an hour and a half away. The downside to space available flights are that sometimes one might have to wait several days to catch a flight, therefore, these flights are only recommended when one has plenty of time. Dover is the best bet for travel to Europe and California (Travis AFB near Sacramento). Andrews has both Air Force and Navy Space Available Terminals and they have several daily flights to many of the larger military bases around the country. If one doesn't mind waiting and possible sleeping in chairs (unless there are available rooms at the BOQ), "Space A" can save hundreds of dollars. It's a great way to get home and a good way to travel to foreign destinations while on leave. Minimal luggage is allowed, as weight is limited on various aircraft. Your Mid should get the most up to date information from the Air Mobility Command web site prior to planning Space Available travel.

CARS

Second Class year is the time for cars. Financial corporations start putting together packages for loans at excellent rates. Since Mids don't have to pay back the loans until after graduation, it seems to be an ideal time to purchase a car. Only 1/c are allowed to keep their cars on the Yard, so most get their cars right at the end of 2/c year. Plebes can only ride in cars with their parents or sponsors, 3/c can drive beyond the five-mile limit, and 2/c who have cars, keep them at their sponsor's home, at the Naval Academy Stadium, or rent a space outside the Academy grounds.

USAA Insurance Company deals only with the military and offers very reasonable rates, which most Mids find attractive. Cars may be registered in any state that the Midshipman can claim residency.

RINGS

During Plebe Year, a Class Ring/Crest Committee is formed. Each class designs its own crest. This tradition began sometime in the mid to late 1800's and continues today. These crests can be seen on display in the Preble Hall Museum and in the ring display in the TAP Room at Alumni House. The ring company usually has charms, pins, necklaces, and tie bars with the class crest ready in time for Mother's Day which many purchase as special gifts to give their mothers, fathers, girl friends, or significant others.

At the end of 3/c year, orders are taken for individual rings. Each basic ring is the same with the class crest on one side and the Academy seal on the other. Mids personalize their rings by ordering any stone they like, from gold plugs to diamonds. The rings are delivered for a week long fitting period in the spring of 2/c year, usually during spring break. After this trial period, the 2/c are not allowed to wear their rings until the Ring Dance.

The Ring Dance is the most impressive and symbolic dance at the Academy. After a special dinner, the 2/c and date walk over to the dance. A female date wears her Midshipmen's ring tied around her neck on a blue and gold ribbon, a male date may wear his Midshipmen's ring on a ribbon pinned to his lapel, or on his pinkie or carry it in his pocket. The "date" dips the ring in a binnacle filled with water that has been flown in from the seven seas, specifically for this occasion. When the couple passes through a giant ring replica, the "date" places the ring on the Mid's finger and gives the Mid a congratulatory kiss. In addition to dancing, there are boat cruises on the river and later in the evening, the most beautiful fireworks over the Severn River.

As a Mid, the ring is worn with the seal inside, but after graduation the ring is turned with the crest inside and the seal outside, so everyone can read the United States Naval Academy. They justifiably become very proud "ring knockers."

SECOND CLASS PARENTS' WEEKEND

All 2/C parents are invited to a special Academy weekend in the early fall. Plan to go if possible. You will be able to attend classes with your Mid and will come away with increased respect for this extensive education. Also planned is a football game, the traditional tailgates, dinner in King Hall, the Glee Club concert, and of course a chapel service.

This is your opportunity to visit with your Mid and his friends and learn about their daily lives at the Academy. If you're lucky, you'll already have secured your accommodations for the week, but if not, don't despair. Your parent's club may have suggestions for lodging. If at all possible, try to make your reservations at least a year in advance.

SERVICE SELECTION

Service Selection Night for individual assignments is conducted in late November for most of the graduating class. All 1/c participate with the exception of nuclear submarine and nuclear surface selectees. Earlier in the fall, those Mids interested in these nuclear warfare specialties apply for acceptance. Their academic records are screened and those found suitable attend a series of interviews in Washington, DC. After these interviews, final selections are made and the Mids go through their own selection night and pick their nuclear power training. This is the only service selection currently paying a cash bonus.

Unlike in previous years when service selection was based entirely on class rank, a few years ago the Naval Academy began holding selection boards to screen Midshipmen for their desired warfare specialty. After all selection boards are complete, Midshipmen are notified if they are not selected for their first choice of service selection and given an alternate assignment. After they all select, there is a huge party in Dahlgren hall to hopefully celebrate their newly selected and anticipated careers.

GRADUATION AND COMMISSIONING

Commissioning Week is an almost indescribably wonderful week of very special events, culminating with graduation and commissioning as a Navy Ensign or Marine Corps Second Lt. Families receive a schedule of planned events and you'll want to attend as many as possible, according to your Mid's preference.

Most of the hotels are booked way in advance, but many of the local townspeople go on vacation and rent their furnished homes. The rental fees vary and range from \$1000.00 to \$6000.00 per week, depending on the home size and the number of people accommodated. Those with sailing experience may be able to rent a yacht in the Annapolis harbor. Two excellent sources for finding accommodations are, "ROOMFINDERS" at (410) 263-3262 for houses and ANNAPOLIS ACCOMMODATIONS" at 1-800-715-100 or (410) 280-0900 for hotels and B&B's.

Many parents state that the week was continual series of fun events that they were privileged to enjoy. There are parades, ship reviews, special dinners, Baccalaureate in the chapel, the Blue Angels demonstration, the Superintendent's Garden Party, concerts by the various musical groups, the Ring Dance, Graduation and Commissioning, and more parties.

Most people take lots of pictures but you can also purchase a supplemental video of some of the week's activities with coverage of your Mid and his company receiving their diplomas and any other special honors. The local Annapolis, Maryland, newspaper, The Capital, has special features each day and an area photographer sells 8 X 10 copies of some of the events.

During this week, each Mid has to pack all of his Academy accumulations in large shipping cartons, plus the car and be ready to leave "Mother B" for the last time as a Mid. Somehow most Mids manage to do all of this nicely and still are available to do everything with their families. Some, however, don't. The important thing to remember is if your Mid still does not plan effectively, you may have to help with many of these things to ensure you have a nice time. In addition, Mids also want find time to be with their friends. While this event has been something you all have been looking forward to, it becomes very nostalgic for all.

Each new officer is usually given a thirty-day leave prior to reporting to his first duty station. The military system moves the new officers and all of their belongings from the Naval Academy to their new locations. This is the time for families to gather all of the things they will need to "set up housekeeping" and have them moved by the military shippers.

ON PARTING

After graduation, as parents, you will find that you really miss the direct USNA contacts and you'll be especially grateful for all the new friends you have made over the past four years, your memories, photos, and mementos. The Navy rightfully gains dedicated new supporters every year. Moreover, many parents remain active with the parent associations long after their Mids graduate. These parents continue to be a source of encouragement, understanding, and support to those of us who join the ranks each year.

It has been said that the service academies are the only colleges that hire all their graduates, and for the new military officers this is a real plus in many ways. Mids may find many of their former classmates are at the same duty stations and they now will have friends wherever they go all around the world. The traditions of the USNA continue in hearts and minds everywhere.

To all Midshipmen and USNA grads, your families and friends will always wish you "fair winds and a following sea." GO NAVY!

THE MIDSHIPMEN STORE (MIDSTORE)

The Midstore is located in the basement of Bancroft Hall's first and third wings. It is the primary place for midshipmen to do their shopping, with well over thirty-five thousand items including snacks, printers, cleaning supplies, and clothes. Generally parents will receive passes to shop here over I-Day weekend. During Plebe Parent's Weekend Midstore Shopping Cards will be available for pickup at the Midstore Office. Store hours are limited to weekdays with the exception of special events, but prices are great for the all important "Navy" gear.

HELPFUL WEB SITES

Here are some web sites that you could find helpful.

United States Naval Academy	http://www.usna.edu
USNA Navy Sports	http://www.navysports.com
U.S. Navy	http://www.navy.mil
U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association	http://www.usna.com
U.S. Naval Academy Parents Website	http://usnaparents.com
U.S. Naval Academy Mid Store	http://www.navyonline.com
Parent's Club of Northern Virginia	http://www.nvnapc.org
Parent's Club of Greater Washington	http://usnaagwc.org
Private USNA Parent's Website	http://www.usna-net.org
TRICARE (Military Health System)	http://tricare.osd.mil
City of Annapolis	http://www.annapolis.gov
Annapolis Visitors Bureau	http://www.visit-annapolis.org
Annapolis & Anne Arundel Co Chamber of Com	http://www.annapolischamber.com

GLOSSARY

Blue Rim - T-Shirt that Mids must wear as a part of "issue".

Bilge - to make a classmate look bad

Bill - Navy goat mascot

BOQ - Bachelors Officers Quarters - housing

Brace up - a plebe punishment consisting of sucking your chin into your adam's apple

Brick - an unattractive date

Bulkhead - a wall

Carry on - a relaxation of plebe rates; no more hassles

Chit - ticket for privileges; i.e., light duty, excused from shaving

Chop - to double time; outdated plebe mass transit system

Chow packages - food from home; plebes survival kit

Civvies - civilian clothes

Come Around - a grilling session where a plebe "comes around"

Cover - a Midshipmen's hat

Deck - floor (1st floor, 1st deck)

Dixie cup - a Mids' sailor cap

Eyes In The Boat - keeping your eyes straight ahead at all times

Fry - to be reported for a conduct infraction

Gouge - the correct information

Herndon - the monument in the Yard in front of the chapel that is most significant to plebes during Commissioning Week

Ladder - stairs

Leave - authorized absence in excess of 96 hours

Mother B - Bancroft Hall

Muster - to assemble the crew; roll call

NAPS - Naval Academy Preparatory School

Plebe - fourth class - that insignificant thing that gets all the sympathy and chow packages from home

PDA - public display of affection

QPR - quality point rating; GPA on a scale of 4.00

Rack - your bed; rack time is sacred!

Rate - allowances of ones class, something that you are allowed to do or have

Restriction - punishment for upper class who have to stay in their rooms on the weekend

Ringknocker - proud grads sporting academy rings

Sandblower - a short Midshipman; he who walks at low altitudes

SDB's - Service Dress Blues

Sea Lawyer - a Mid who always has an excuse for every error

Six-N - having classes all six periods of a day

SCUTTLEBUTT - Drinking fountain. Also a rumor (usually of local importance.)

Smack - to kiss up or "brown nose"

Spooned - plebe being on a first name basis with an upper-class

Striper - Member of the Class Chain of Command

Supe's List – List of Mids who have a GPA of 3.4 and A in conduct and performance, and at least a B in physical education

Sweat - someone who worries more than necessary

T-court - is where Tecumseh reigns

Tecumseh - "God of 2.0" bronze statue that is artistically painted for special occasions. Mids toss pennies at his quiver for the good luck of a passing grade.

Town Liberty - liberty to leave the Yard

Woop - gray inmate of that isolated government institution, which overlooks the Hudson

Yard - USNA Campus

Yard Liberty - allowed to go anywhere on the Yard

Y P's - Yard Patrol craft used for Mid training

Youngster- no classes after lunch; rack time or a 3/C Midshipman

Zoomie - one of our collegiate buddies who live at the government play school in Colorado Springs and wear a blue bus driver cap.