

CHATTER FROM THE CHAIR
MONTHS: November - December 2008
December 29, 2008

These notes are intended to provide useful information between NDSA Board meetings.

NDSA GOD COUNTRY & ND SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The subject fund has been established in an agreement executed in November by John Sejdinaj, UND VP for Finance, and Frank Whitton, Committee Chair, on behalf of NDSA. The next step is to raise \$50,000 in seed money, before a broader solicitation for funds is undertaken. No scholarships will be awarded until at least \$100,000 is in the bank. Scholarships are intended for military men and women, and their spouses and children, who meet specified criteria. Kudos to Frank Whitton for his tireless work.

HOSPITAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

The alumni office, working with the NDSA Alumni Network Committee, has distributed brochures and business cards to all alumni clubs and NDAA Regional Directors. Anyone who wants to receive these should contact Katie Zakas at kzakas@nd.edu. Explanatory information about the workings of the program have also been distributed.

The Houston ND Club recently provided substantial support to Art Cabico, ND '86, from Phoenix, and his family, during his treatment at a Houston cancer center. Art had e-mailed the alumni office in early November from information provided on the NDSA web site. Regrettably, Art died in early December. The family expressed on numerous occasions their appreciation for the help given them by ND Club members.

WINTER MEETING 2009 – SAN DIEGO

Preparations are in full swing for the Winter Meeting, to be held January 15-17, 2009, in San Diego. Dolly Duffy, Associate Alumni Director, and Holly Colman, President-Elect of NDAA, plan to join us. All former Board members are welcome; we are going to have a good turnout at this wonderful location, Manchester Grand Hyatt on San Diego Bay. A full agenda covers all day Friday and Saturday morning, with Saturday afternoon available for a visit to a veterans hospital and the USS Reagan, one of our newest carriers. Mass will follow. Dinners are planned for each evening.

BOARD CHANGES

Robert J. (Bob) Meuleman, ND '61, from Rockford, Illinois, has been appointed as Region 6 Director. Bob will be introduced to his fellow Board members at the Winter Meeting, along with Jim Crowe, the new Region 5 Director from St. Louis.

Phil Roehrig, NDSA Vice-Chair and Chairman-Elect, has resigned for health reasons. An election for his successor will be held at the Winter Meeting. Tony Wallace, Region 11 Director, has resigned because he is moving from Massachusetts to Florida. Candidate(s) for his successor are under review, and nominations are still being accepted. Both Phil and Tony will be sorely missed; we thank them for their past efforts on behalf of UND and NDSA.

PACE PROGRAM

PACE (Prostate Awareness & Cancer Education) continues to be actively promoted by Paul Scagliarini, Immediate Past Chair. Paul has published an excellent summary of the program – its history, plans for the short and long term, and details concerning the “Bat for the Cure”. This will soon be available on the NDSA web site; you will be advised.

DIOCESAN SUPPORT PROGRAM

This NDSA Initiative is getting priority attention by the Alumni Network Committee, under Emil Herkert. Consideration is being given to broadening the program beyond dioceses per se, e.g., Catholic Charities, seminaries, schools. You will be hearing more about this in 2009.

A HAPPY 2009 TO ALL!

Bill Kreps
NDSA Chair