

**USCGA CLASS OF 2020**  
**GRADUATION WEEK EVENT LIST**  
requiring reservation purchases

*Please note that items, dates, and times are subject to change*

**EVENTS**

- (1) **Gradfest Picnic** – Date: Sunday, 17 May / Time: 12:30-4:00 PM  
Place: Lower Athletic field (Roland Fieldhouse, in case of inclement weather)

Cadets and their guests will enjoy a catered picnic under cover of a huge tent so the party's on – rain or shine!! Music and games will make it fun for all ages. Soda will also be offered and included in the ticket price. Beer will be available for a small charge.

(Food line concludes at 3:00 P.M./other activities conclude at 4:00 P.M.)

Always a great afternoon of food, fun, music, and games for family and friends of all ages. Very casual attire is suggested along with a sweater or jacket and comfortable shoes. Although tables and seating under a party tent is available, you may want to bring a blanket, lawn chairs, or camp chairs for more comfort. Although usually held on Nitchman Memorial Field, an alternate location for Gradfest will be announced in case of inclement weather.

- (2) **Commencement Dinner and Ball** – Date: Monday, 18 May  
Time: Social hour at 6:15 PM; Dinner at 7:00 PM  
Place: Foxwoods  
at Foxwoods Resort  
Mashantucket, Connecticut

This is the last formal dress (black tie) event of the academic year and is held for all First Class cadets and their guests.

Please bear in mind that tables hold parties of ten with overflows going to another table. Every effort is made to keep tables next to each other but we cannot comfortably fit more than ten per table (11 is cozy; 12 is very cozy). Attire is “**Black Tie preferred**” (tuxedos for gentlemen and evening gowns for ladies) or you may wear your “dressy best.” In other words, if you own formal wear, it is certainly appropriate and you are encouraged to wear it; however, we do not wish to place a financial burden on anyone. Please be assured that you will not be alone if you arrive in a suit/cocktail dress, although khakis and a sport coat may be a little too casual for this event. Watch for a special note in the March mailing that will give info on tuxedo rentals that will make it very easy (and reasonable) to rent if you choose to do so. If you have any questions regarding appropriate attire for this event please contact your cadet. Like the cadets, parents who are in the military may also wear **Dinner Dress White Jacket** or its equivalent (military equivalents will be included in the March mailing and posted on the web). The civilian ladies and gentlemen being escorted by cadets are expected to come in formal attire (long evening gowns / tuxedos.) This is a lovely affair and is well attended by parents, aunts, uncles, and grandparents as well as older siblings. It is a most enjoyable evening and we urge you all to attend.

NOTE: Please be aware that the evening, while a treat and very enjoyable, can be a long event. Very young children may find it difficult to sit quietly through the formal dinner and are often very tired before the dance even begins. Although children are welcome at this affair, we want you to be aware of the situation so you can best determine whether or not they would enjoy it.

(3) **Awards Buffet Luncheon** – Date: Tuesday, 19 May/Time: 11:30AM  
Place: Chase Hall Cadet Wardroom

This luncheon is held in honor of those groups and organizations that have provided awards to deserving members of the graduating class. Members of the class of 2020 (soon-to-be ensigns!), their guests, and Academic Award Presenters will gather in the Cadet Wardroom before the awards ceremony at 1300 for a very special informal meal served buffet style by the cadet mess. Our caterer goes all out to provide a delicious luncheon prepared and served with style. Unlike the Awards Ceremony which is mandatory for all 1/c cadets to attend, attendance at the luncheon is optional ***except*** for those who are receiving an award. They are required to escort their award donor to the meal and dine with them.

Families are more than welcome to attend; in fact, as it is the last time they will have the opportunity to eat in the Academy wardroom, many of them are excited to do so whether or not their cadet receives an award. Notification to award recipients will be made after final exams are complete and grades are calculated, generally during pre-grad training week.