



'72: Bob Sonnenberg explaining the "Nancy" letters to his "Plebes" and spouses

Great stuff—thanks to Ed and AI for sending this along!

45th Reunion Dept. Your Reunion Committee has been quite busy planning this year's event. If you have not received Reunion Announcements through The Gouge, seen it on the Class Facebook site, heard about it from your Company Rep or seen it on the Class website, then...*Where you been?* You can find details at any of those locations. Here's an overview:

**Thursday 19 October:**

1600-2000 Welcome Reception (and Reunion Registration) at the DoubleTree Hotel

**Friday 20 October:**

0900-1500 Reunion Registration /Check (Dahlgren Hall)

1100-1200 Class Meeting in the Yard (Location TBA)

1350-1500 Superintendent's Briefing for all classes (Location TBA)

1600-1715 Dress P-rade (Worden Field)

1900-2330 Reception/Dinner (Loews Hotel)

**Saturday 21 October:** (Since Navy is now in the American Football Conference, we will not have a kick-off time or a scheduled opponent until sometime in March, but we do know this is a home game (Homecoming), so plan accordingly.)

Tailgate N- room at Stadium Football: Navy vs. ?  
Company Parties

**Sunday 22 October**

0900-1000 Catholic Service (Main Chapel)

0800-1000 Brunch in King Hall

1015-1045 Class of '72 Memorial Service at the Levy Center  
1100-1200 Protestant Service (Main Chapel)

Our hotel room blocks are reserved at the Annapolis Double-Tree (Parole) and Loews (West Street) hotels. Reservation details and codes can be found on the Class website or in any of the Announcements. As always, the Class will provide bus service at both hotels for scheduled events.

There will be no "Goodie Bags" for the reunion. Instead, you will be able to build your own Class memorabilia bag through our on-line Class Reunion Store and sent to your home.

It's important to note that your Reunion Planning Committee consists of Classmate volunteers who have offered their time to set up a great weekend for everyone. Volunteers are always needed, and you don't have to live in the Annapolis area to help (e.g., registration at the check-in tables.) Please contact Rick Rubel (rubel@usna.edu) if you'd like to help.

That's about all your old scribe can cram into this month's column. Stay warm! More to come. D. O.

**Tried and True With '72.**

**SHOP. CONNECT. ENJOY!**

Shop through our Amazon Partnership portal.  
[usna.com/amazon](http://usna.com/amazon)

# '73

**Life Membership: 63%**

**Donor Participation: 17.51%**

Pres: **Kevin Callahan**

Sec'y: **CAPT James H. Chapman, USN (Ret.)**  
769 Largo Dr., Virginia Beach, VA 23464-2417  
p: 757-869-6889; e: chap769@yahoo.com

Hello everyone. I hope you survived the "Dark Ages" and if you have any pictures or stories please send them on. I don't have a lot of news to pass on but did get a great input from **Bob "Smitty" Smith.**

✉ General, Greetings from the Sunshine State. A few classmates and company mates enjoyed a well played Navy victory over Notre Dame this past weekend. Bob Brathune and his wife Carol hosted us with a tremendous post game tailgater aboard their boat "Navy-Gator." What a sweet craft; those aviators know how to live it up. We celebrated the victory with appropriate libations, terrific hors d'oeuvres, embellished sea stories and finished off the evening with a fun group dinner on the Jacksonville waterfront. BZ to Bob and Carol for preps, execution and making all us feel genuinely welcomed! In attendance from 9th Company were Bryant and Marq Orr, my wife Lynne and I, Bob and Carol Brathune and Nick and Susan Smilari. Also in attendance were Bob and Jane Preston and Doc and Linda Hemberger from '73 and Chris and Diane Cikanovich and Rex and Pam Estilow '75.



**Bob Preston, Bryant Orr, Bob Smith, Bob Brathune, Nick Smilari, Doc Hemberger**

I asked Smitty what he was doing and received the following:

✉ Lynne and I moved to Florida three years ago but retired a year and a half ago. Doing some consulting work but mostly projects at the Florida home and summer cottage

in upstate NY. All is good with 3 boys in San Diego: Brian- IT manager, Adam- surf instructor and Zach Navy helo pilot and instructor.

Smitty, Thanks and if you are in the Hampton Roads area lets go sailing! General.

I received the following from **Tom Storch.**

✉ Classmates, I am again soliciting nominations for the U.S. Naval Academy Distinguished Graduate Award. This award is given to the living graduate whose character, distinguished military and civilian service and stature draw wholesome comparison to the qualities that the U.S. Naval Academy strives for in keeping with its ideals of duty, honor, loyalty, and integrity and "From Knowledge Sea Power," as well as the core values of the United States Navy and Marine Corps; honor, courage and commitment. With the purpose of identifying to the public and to the Brigade of Midshipmen, the broad national significance of the Naval Academy as one of the Nation's most cherished institutions, candidates for the Distinguished Graduate Award will be living graduates of the United States Naval Academy who:

Have demonstrated a strong interest in supporting the Navy, Marine Corps and the United States Naval Academy

Have provided a lifetime of service to the Nation or Armed Forces

Have made significant and distinguished contribution to the Nation via their public service

Those classmates wanting to nominate a member of the Class of 1973, should first notify the Chairman, Class of 1973 DGA Committee NLT April 1, 2017 of their intent to submit a nomination package. The purpose of this notification is to eliminate duplicity in effort and coordinate effort if more than one classmate is planning to prepare a nomination package for a class member.

Complete nomination packages should be submitted digitally in Microsoft Word to the Chairman, Class of 1973 DGA Committee NLT July 1, 2017. Tom Storch, at tomawacs@aol.com is the

current Class of 1973 Committee Chairman. In many ways the selection process for a Distinguished Graduate Award is as comprehensive as the selection boards we experienced on active duty. Here is a link delineating the requirements of a submission package:

<http://www.usna.com/document.doc?id=95>. When making a nomination, please be sure to provide your name and contact information as well as that of the person being nominated and the following information:

USNA and Military career highlights

Government/Civilian/Business/Community career highlights and awards/certificates

Summary of support of service to USNA and the Brigade of Midshipmen

Summary of support for the Alumni Association and/or Foundation (gifts of time, talent, and/or treasure)

Why this classmate deserves the Distinguished Graduate Award

Within the 3-page limitation, packages shall have a minimum of two endorsements.

The class selection of the Award recipients is made by the Alumni Association's November deadline. However, prior to that time a Class of 1973 Distinguished Graduate Awards Committee will meet to review nominations, select nominees and work with the nominating individual(s) to submit application packages that meet the requirements for submission. Feel free to contact Tom Storch at [tomawacs@aol.com](mailto:tomawacs@aol.com) if you have any questions.

Tom, on behalf of the Class thanks for your work on the DGA, Jim.

Finally, here is a great picture of Karen and **Leif Hendrickson** from the Notre Dame Game.



That's all the news. I hope you are all doing well. Please pass on any news and consider supporting both Tom Storch on the DGA and Dirk Mosis on the Class Project.

As always, Go Navy! and Semper Fi! General

## '74

**Life Membership: 56%**

**Donor Participation: 17.83%**

Pres: **John Yaeger**

Corr Sec'y: **Roger McEvoy 745677**

p: 559-905-7362; e: [usna745677@hotmail.com](mailto:usna745677@hotmail.com)

December 27, 2016. As the year comes to a close, I'm sitting here at the keyboard with the Zaxby's Heart of Dallas bowl game, featuring Army and North Texas State. It keeps the haunting thoughts of the end of this year's Navy Football season at the top of my mind. As you all know, the season did not end as we had hoped, but considering the number of injuries to key players, I hope you all feel the pride in this team that I feel. I missed the get-together at the American Legion in Encinitas this year, but according to **Stu Cvrk** (10th Co.) and **Marsh Nadel** (2nd Co.) everyone had a great time, despite the outcome of the game.



**Stu and Judy Cvrk**

A week before the Army-Navy Game, we received word from **Dennis Tate** (22nd Co.) that **Rick Navarro** (16th Co.) was in the ICU in New Orleans with Pneumonia following prostate surgery. It was great to see how quickly so many rallied to send Rick their best wishes. Rick's wife, Carey kept everyone informed, and Rick recovered quickly and was home in less than a week. Hope you are continuing to improve, Rick.



'74: Left to Right: **Stu Cvrk**, **Dick Plush**, **Al Lerchbacker**, **Councilman Mike Donovan**, **Jay Wells** (16th Co.), **March Nadel**.



'74: Left to Right: **Steve Gilmore** (17th Co.), **March Nadel**, **Dick Plush** (31st Co.), **Bruce Lowman** (16th Co.), **Jimmy Barrett** (33rd Co.), **Dick Costigan** (33rd Co.), **Al Lerchbacker** (20th Co.), **Stu Cvrk**, and **Bob Santos** (5th Co.).

In last month's column I reported that **Mike Donovan** (26th Co.) had been elected to the Coronado City Council. His swearing in was Tuesday, December 20. The San Diego Monthly Dose of '74 met for lunch that day, then walked across the street to witness Mike's Swearing In. He was well supported by classmates, as can be seen in the attached photo.



**Mike Donovan - Post Swearing In Comments**

I also received a note from **Andy Scontras** (7th Co.). Evidently there are a number of avid party-goers, including a good portion of 7th Company, have been meeting in Las Vegas every December to celebrate Andy's birthday (or at least THAT is their excuse) and have a good time doing things that stay in Las Vegas. He said there were about 40 folks there this year, and he sent the following photo of the 7th Co. contingent, which includes, left to right: **Pat Haney**, **Duke Snyder**,

**Andy Scontras**, **Bruce Brunson** and **Max Legg**. Andy also noted that **Carl Gross** and **Larry Rein** were also in attendance from 7th Co. He said that, of course, **Al Lerchbacker** was there also. Of course! But what I didn't understand was how they hold a party like that with neither **Branch** nor **Loz** in attendance.

Truly a conundrum.



'74: 7th Company Birthday Celebration in Las Vegas

A couple of issues ago, I mentioned that I will be making an around-the-nation tour in 2017, and was hoping to meet numerous classmates for lunch or dinner as I traveled through various metropolitan areas. So far, I have received a response from **Hank Lane** (12th Co.), who lives in Frederick, MD. With the multitude of classmates living in the Baltimore-Annapolis-Washington area, I certainly hope we can set up a lunch with a good turn-out. I also hope to hear from more of you before I leave home in late April. I expect to be in Phoenix in late April.