



'72: "Just sit right back and you'll hear a tale..." Elberling, DeVore, Clancy, Harrold, Peairs and spouses about to set sail that day, "...for a three-hour tour..."



'72: 36th Company: Smith, Osborne, Dilgren, Nordquist, Nichols, Heimbach, Neihart, Horstmeyer, Michael and Monahan



'72: 17 Mighty Mean: Margaret Smyth, Linda Wismer, Brianna and Julianne Tierney (and their Dad), Kitty Sexton, Sally Hartley and Chris Robison

DuPont, Westinghouse, Burns & Roe, Jacobs, and Ralph Engineering at several nuclear sites including SRS, Los Alamos, Y12 Oak Ridge, NFS. He was predeceased by his wife, Patricia, but is survived by his son, 3 step-children, a grandson, 2 sisters and a brother. The Class extends its sympathies to Jim's family.

Dion Clancy provided several items this month.

✉ "Here's a photo on the port elevator of the *USS Midway*. This was after the retirement of **John Harrold's** young bride, Capt. Beatrice Harrold, Nurse Corps, USN, after 36 years of service. Their three sons, all Marines, maintained order during the event. It was a brisk afternoon with a stiff breeze over the bow. It felt like we were underway. (The only way.)"

"Recently, a group of Fifth Batt Savages got underway on San Francisco Bay. It was a beautiful day to display our extreme nautical skills. Thanks to **Lance Eberling** for the use of his tricked out 42-foot sloop. After securing for the day we adjourned for beverages (the sun was over the yardarm) and an evening of great food and many lies. We hope this is the first of many such events."

Q: Here's a question for you. So, what do we have that members of the last bunch of graduating classes don't?

A: Members of the 36th Company. **Rik Dilgren** provided the accompanying photo taken at Harry Browne's during the 45th Reunion.

What a despicable bunch of rowdies. The gentlemen from 6th Batt need to take an example from this well-mannered group in 3rd Batt. (Of note: Not everyone in this photo are spouses. The two ladies directly behind him are **Mike Tierney's** daughters...)

Another Link in the Chain Dept. We expect a number of pre-Induction Day events with various Parents Clubs. Stay plugged into The Gouge, the Class web site and the Class Facebook page for details as they become available.

That's it...the mailbag is empty! More to come. D. O.

Tried and True With '72.

'73

Life Membership: 64%

Donor Participation: 5.73%

Pres: **Kevin Callahan**

Sec'y: **CAPT James H. Chapman, USN (Ret.)**
769 Largo Dr., Virginia Beach, VA 23464-2417
p: 757-462-0344; e: chap769@yahoo.com

Hello everyone, I hope you are enjoying Spring and its warm where you are. I have some important news to pass on so let's get to it. For those who have not heard and contrary to my last article the 45th Reunion has been moved to 30 August to 2 September. Here is the note I received from **Doug Rice**, Reunion Chair:

✉ "Classmates, As we have discussed in the recent past, the football schedule for this year has been a moving target, regarding our 45th reunion. We finally have the schedule and as a result, after many consultations within the Reunion Committee and other classmates, the committee has decided to move the reunion from the weekend of Aug. 26 to the weekend of Sept. 1. Navy plays Hawaii on that day in Hawaii, which should allow us to at least watch a game on TV in the N* room at the stadium. We will not know the game time until the powers that be make that decision, but we are hoping that they will want a large audience from the mainland and thus will make it an early game in Hawaii and thus an afternoon game for us on the east coast. The Westin, which is our base hotel, has allowed us to shift to the Sept. 1 weekend and will shift all current hotel reservations to the same nights the following week. Unless you want to change your reservation with the Westin you will not have to do anything. Similarly, the N* room is available for Thursday nights Shipwreck Party and for the tailgate on Saturday, and the caterers have allowed us to shift our deposits to that weekend.

I know this change may inconvenience some of you and for that I apologize, however, the majority of the classmates that we have heard from wanted a football

game for the reunion weekend, even if it was an away game on TV. After the American Athletic Conference cancelled the game that was supposed to be Aug. 26, we did not have much choice, given our commitments to the Westin and our caterers. Rest assured we will not have this issue for our 50th reunion as we will have priority with the Alumni Association and will be able to schedule our 50th on homecoming weekend in 2023. I hope you can all join us August 30 – September 2 for another great Class of '73 reunion!"

I realize most of you have heard this change already but there are still several hundred folks who are not on the class email list. I again encourage you to add yourself to the email distro. You can register on the alumni website. Thanks. General.

I received a short update from **Dirk Mosis** on progress toward the 50th Class gift.

✉ "As of 31 December 2017, 190 Classmates have contributed \$560k towards our 50th! The Gift Committee will now focus on determining a specific gift, for most of our contributions to support, over the next few months."

Dirk, Thanks again for all your hard work for the Class.

Now on to other news! The first is from Royce Engler which includes a great picture and some history trivia.



'73 Contingent at the Texas Gulf Coast Alumni Chapter Luncheon. L to R Steve Ogden, Thom Holt, and Royce Engler

I asked Royce what he and everyone where doing and he wrote back;

✉ Steve runs an oil company up in College Station (Ogden Resources), Thom runs an HR consulting company also up in College Station (Fairwinds), and I'm working with a

startup making conductive wire out of carbon fiber for oilfield applications (Advanced Conductive Devices). We see each other from time to time at Texas Gulf Coast Chapter functions, but today, we decided to take pictures. Steve and Thom are both living up in College Station, and I live about 30 miles north of Houston on a golf course. I'm devoting much of my spare time to chasing golf balls, and I'm happy to report that my handicap is no better than it ever was, but I've learned to accept my limitations. Suzan and I now have 9 grandkids, with the first great grandson due in July!

Royce, Thanks for the great update. You maybe the classes' first great grandparents! Congratulations! Now for the trivia. Royce and I exchanged a couple of emails and it turns out we were both DCAs' at the same time, he was in BAINBRIDGE and I was in SOUTH CAROLINA. I think they were still DLGNs then. We both were prototype instructors, Royce was in New York and I was in Idaho.

I also got a note from Steve who added;

✉ "Jim, I want to thank Royce for taking the initiative and contacting you. As for me, I retired from the Texas Senate in 2013-undefeated and unindicted! Now running my small oil company and intend to do it until the big 70 birthday, oldest son Lt. Col. Mike Ogden '98, is attending the Army War College as a marine, go figure, wife Beverly doing well as are our six grandchildren. Looking forward to reunion. Steve Ogden '73.

Steve, Royce, Thanks for the update and the great news on your families. My son in law is also a Lt Col in the Marine Corp. He is an Osprey pilot presently deployed to Kuwait.

I received a short note and great photo from fellow 9th Companyer **Bob Smith**;



Bob Smith and Tom Martin with a cool "corn hole "board

✉ Hi General, Just dropping a line to say hi and ask that you forward the attached pic and article to Shipmate. **Tom Martin** visited Bob Smith's home for a weekend in Venice, Florida this January. A rousing game of corn hole was on tap with Tom as the victor. Someone really must tell him about not bilging the host. Anyway, a fun time was had by the guys and their wives. Not much else to report since last contact. Looking forward to the reunion in August."

Thanks Smitty. We look forward to seeing you and Lynn. Another piece of trivia, Smitty relieved me as DCA in SOUTH CAROLINA after our cruise to Rio de Janeiro in 1977 where we both became Shellbacks!

On to other news. I received the following great input and picture from Neil Beck;

✉ "Hi Jim, I just wanted to pass this along. First Class roommates **Dave Young, Neil Beck** and **Tom Feeks** 11 Co. got together at the Tampa Bay Frogman Swim to honor Tom's son SO1 Patrick D. Feeks (SEAL) who was killed in Afghanistan in 2012 during combat operations. Dave and I did Coach Lawrence, our Plebe Coach, proud swimming the 3.1 miles in smooth but cold conditions. Ever the Marine, Dave swam in a sleeveless wetsuit in 54-58 degree water. On the beach, we were proud to have classmate **Eric Olson** show up for support. This event is a fund raiser for the Navy SEAL Foundation that supports the families of the fallen and wounded SEALs.



Eric Olson, Dave Young, Neil Beck, Tom Feeks at the Tampa Bay Frogman Swim

I asked Neil what he has been doing and received the following;

✉ "Well after five years in Naval Air, I joined the exodus to the airlines and went through TWA, Eastern, and then United Airlines. Since we must retire at 65, I've been splitting time between Pennsylvania and Florida trying to stay warm but not too warm. With my extra time I've been competing in several triathlons including Mont Tremblant Ironman and this year Eagleman 70.3 on the eastern shore of Maryland in June. My wife loves my long training rides and runs as it gets me out of the house. I've also been studying for several years now, American Indians of the Susquehanna Valley in PA."

Neil, Thanks for the great input and update. You realize how old mentioning TWA and Eastern make us!

If you have not provided an input to the Classes' Agent Orange database I encourage you to consider doing so. The hope is that with good information we can help folks receive their VA benefits. It is sort of like; "From Knowledge Sea power". Please contact **Bill Short** or **Jim Murphy** who are leading this effort. Thanks.

I am about at my limit. Again, I encourage you to sign up for class email to get info quickly, helping Dirk and the Gift Committee and registering with the Agent Orange group. As always, Go Navy and Semper Fi! See you at the 45th. General

ALUMNI HOUSE

Bring your event home!
Ogle Hall is ready to host your special event.

events@usna.com or 410-295-4018

LUCKY BAG OF BOOKS

To check out all the options for your reading pleasure, visit usna.com/LBB