

## '73

**Life Membership: 65%**  
**Donor Participation: 14.21%**

Pres: **Dirk Mosis**

Sec'y: **CAPT James H. Chapman, USN (Ret.)**  
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Hello everyone, I hope you are all doing well, enjoying the football season and Navy is winning. Now that the 45th reunion is FINEX I hope everything is returning to normal with you. It's time to start prepping for the next big event; The Holidays! and deciding what you are going to get your ex-roommate as a Christmas present! (Big Hint roomie) Enough with the frivolities let's get to the news!

The first item is from **Mark Kohring**.

✉ Jim, The Knoxville-Oak Ridge alumni chapter held its annual "Welcome Aboard" picnic for the incoming fourth-class midshipmen from east Tennessee on Saturday, June 2nd. There were five plebes-to-be from the Class of 2022 and one who will be attending NAPS. Technically, the NAPster is a potential member of the Class of 2023, the USNA class that we will be linked to for the next five years. The attached photograph was taken at the picnic attended by myself and **Skip Weitz** representing our great class along with Elizabeth Treece from Science Hill High School in Johnson City, Tennessee. I encouraged Elizabeth and her parents to mark the first Saturday in June on their 2019 calendar for next year's picnic when members of the Class of '73 will be conducting the Another Link in the Chain (ALITC) brief for her class. I also told her all about the time capsule buried under Stribling Walk to be opened by the Class of 2073 which is the USNA class that her class will be linked to fifty years from now. She was excited to think that she could be present when that time capsule is opened. I submit that this discussion and photo document the first ALITC brief for the Class of 1973 with a prospective member of the Class of 2023.



'73 at George Kerlek's interment

The following week our chapter held its monthly luncheon which typically falls on the first Wednesday of the month. It just so happens that this year, that date was June 6. Anyone remember that date? Four members of our class decided to attend the luncheon to commemorate 45 years since we threw our midshipman covers into the air to bid farewell to Mother B. It was a proud moment for me to pose with fellow nuclear submariners **Mike "Doc" Gouge, Ross Harding** and **Skip Weitz**. We are all retired after a collective 100+ years in the Navy (active and reserves) and our post naval career civilian jobs. Ross, Skip and I are still involved in some contract work locally and Mike is doing volunteer work with his church.



Skip Weitz, future midshipman Elizabeth Treece and Mark Kohring



'73's Knoxville-Oak Ridge contingent Mike Gouge, Mark Kohring, Skip Weitz and Ross Harding

Mark, Thanks for the great input and pictures. I received the sad news that **Fred Seebode** passed away on 17 June 2018. Look for more information on Fred's life in an upcoming Last Call.

I previously reported the passing of **George Kerlek**. His interment at the Academy's Columbarium was held on 18 June.

For those who have not heard the results of the class officer elections they are; President: **Dirk Mosis**, Vice President: **Tom Storch**, Secretary: **Jim Chapman**, Treasurer: **Chuck McKeone**, At Large: **Scott Krajnik, Doug Rice, Paul Ryan**. On behalf of the Class thank you to all who offered to serve and the off going Class officers for their service. Thank you.

That's all the news. Keep lost reunion pictures and stories coming. If you are looking for a way to help our injured service members I encourage you to check out Operation Mend administered by UCLA. As always, Beat Army! and Semper Fi! —General

## '74

**Life Membership: 58%**  
**Donor Participation: 13.30%**

Pres: **John Yaeger**

Corr Sec'y: **Roger McEvoy 745677**  
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*Hot town, summer in the city  
 Back of my neck getting burnt  
 and pretty  
 Sat down, to write this ditty  
 Ought to be playing every golf course  
 in the city..*

*All around, classmates must be busy  
 No one writing Shipmate, leavin'  
 me dizzy...*

It is the ying and yang of writing the class column for *Shipmate*. On the one hand, I have very little to report, because I have been given very little to report. On the other hand, I get to pontificate on various thoughts without having to worry about word count and how many photos I can fit in without exceeding *Shipmate* constraints. Editorial discretion, I think they call it.

First, **Mike Carnes**, one my 8th Company mates, called recently to discuss his plans to join **Travis Brannon** and company in Nashville in late August for the Service Academy Golf Challenge that you have read about in these spaces previously. Mike has participated in the past, but this will be his first time back in 3 years. Work was getting in the way the last couple of years, so he finally decided it was time to take appropriate action. On June 29th, Mike started a new phase of life as a retired gentleman. He figured that since the last time he decided to change his life on that date it worked out so well, that it should be a good date to commence his retirement. Congrats Mike. And wish I could join you and Travis in Nashville in August, but I just can't get away.

I did get a note from **Rich Vizier** early this month (July) forwarding a note from **Neil Rondorf**. Neil was getting ready to participate in a sprint triathlon; 750 yard swim in the bay, 10 miles on a road bike, and culminating with a 3 mile run. At some point during his training he visited his Doctor for his annual physical. Considering Neil's tender age of 65 the doc suggested they do an EKG to establish a baseline. 30 minutes later they were doing an ECG (Echo Cardio Gram) and a few hours later a Chest CT scan. Long story short...Neil underwent open heart surgery on July 23rd to have an Aortic Root Repair performed. The latest word Viz has passed on is that Neil came out of surgery in great shape is doing as well as can be expected. Neil, I know you'll be reading this in October when it is published. I thank you for asking Vi tot to forward your e-mail to the class. Neil's story is not only good news about his condition, but also a