

The Gouge for updated information), and they would prefer that "in memoriam" contributions be sent either to the American Cancer Society (P. O. Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 73123) or to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The Class extends its deepest sympathy to his wife, Susan, their sons Daniel and Kenneth, and their family.

We also learned that **Jim O'Keefe** passed away in the early morning hours of 5 February 2019 in Elk Horn, IA following a battle with pancreatic cancer. Coming to the Academy from Wyoming, Jim was a member of the 34th Company and, following graduation and a stint in the blackshoe Navy, he became a Naval Aviator flying ASW and SAR missions in the Pacific. Later in life, Jim became deeply involved in a not-for-profit organization in Elk Horn, providing training in art and business to military veterans. A more complete and fitting tribute to Jim can be found in Last Call, and a number of individual tributes from classmates can be found at <https://www.pauleyjones.com/obituaries/James-O-Keefe/#!/Obituary>. Jim will be cremated, and we understand from his company-mates that a celebration of his life is being planned for late spring in Elk Horn. The Class extends its deepest sympathies to his wife, Phyllis; his son, James; his stepson, Howard Kurtz; his stepdaughter, Jennifer Kurtz; his mother, Pauline; his sister Barbara (Joe) Straining, and their families.

Which-Way-Do-I-Go Dept.

The accompanying photo of what is being referred to as "The Dahlgren Arrow" is a recent addition to the Yard, and no one seems to know why or how it got there. (Clearly, neither of the two learned gentlemen in the photo seem to have a clue...but, that's a different story.) Speculation is that it points north...uh-huh...but which north? Compass? Magnetic? True? Can Dead Men Vote Twice at Elections? True Virgins Make Dull Companions at Weddings? Rub Your... (belay that! ...all of those Luce Hall artifacts just come spewing out of the deep recesses of your Scribe's cranium...)



Max Mills and Larry Johnson trying to figure out where to go.

ALITC Dept.

It's hard to believe that the culmination of Plebe Year for the Class of '22 arrives in May, with Sea Trials on 14 May and the ever-anticipated climb of Herndon Monument on 20 May. Members of our Class will have an opportunity to attend each event; details will be promulgated through The Gouge and on the Class Facebook page and web site as they become available.

Well, gentle readers, the mailbag is empty and your (recently retired) Scribe is off to plan some other challenging adventures (like, marrying off our youngest daughter to a Zoomie...yeah, no kidding!) More to come. D. O.

Tried and True with '72.

'73

Life Membership: 65%
Donor Participation: 5.46%

Pres: **Mr. Dirk P. D. Mosis III**

Sec'y: **CAPT James H. Chapman, USN (Ret.)**
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Hello all, I hope you are enjoying Spring and doing well. Things are good here in Virginia Beach. I have one Dark Ages input and hope to get more. I have a lot of news and pictures to share so let's get to it.

The first is from **Bob Adams**.

✉ Jim, Please find attached some very cool pictures from the January 2019 10th annual Tampa Bay Frogman Swim. There were four Class of 1973 swimmers, (Neil Beck, Bob Adams, Eric Olson, and Dave

Young) that took the challenge, and swam the 3.1 miles in cold (wet suit required) Tampa Bay waters to raise money for the Navy SEAL Foundation. Also present were four other 73 classmates to add support. The team we all swam for, "Team Cry Havoc" raised almost \$40,000 for the Navy SEAL Foundation. The team swam in honor of SO1 (SEAL) Patrick Feeks, who is the son of our classmate **Tom Feeks**. Patrick was killed in Afghanistan. To have 8 classmates honor Tom Feek's SEAL son in this way is amazing. To have our first Class of 73 Distinguished Graduate, Eric Olson join us (with his daughter Aly providing kayak support), is in my opinion, historic. Blessings to all. Bob Adams

Bob, Thanks. This was a very special input and BZ on your highly successful fund raising!

The next item is from **Tom Storch**. Jim, **Don Sticinski** and I first cruised together on youngster cruise in the USS Guadalcanal in 1970. It took a few years, but we cruised together again with a USNA sponsored Med cruise (Barcelona to Athens). This cruise had better port calls than our youngster cruise. Best regards, Tom Storch



Don Sticinski and Tom Storch Showing 73 Spirit!



L-R Don and Deb Sticinski and Mary and Tom Storch. Youngster cruise was not like this!

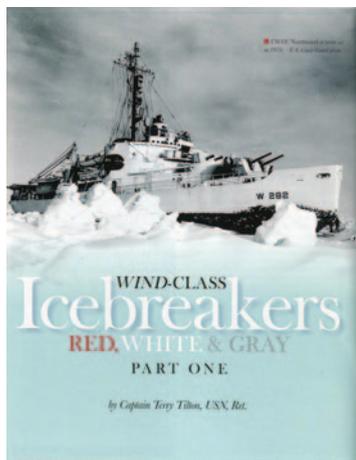
I received a nice update from **Terry Tilton** who wrote to tell me about a couple of his passions; ships and cars. Terry has served five years on the Board of Directors and Secretary of the Steamship Historical Society (SSHSA) based in Warwick, RI. He is a frequent author for the Society's historical journal, Power-Ships with feature articles on marine propulsion, shipbuilding and passenger/cargo ships. He is also on the Board of Directors for the San Diego Auto Museum and active in the San Diego Jaguar Club. He has three of the seven Jaguar cars owned over the last 35 years. He and wife Mary Pat travel extensively visiting maritime museums and historic ships. I asked Terry what he had been doing since the Academy besides writing about ships and buying Jaguars and got back; "I went to San Diego for service selection and never left. I went surface line and got a new LST in San Diego. I then did a split tour to a nuclear cruiser, USS TRUXTUN, while an Ensign. I had the standard split tour department heads, XO and CO of



'73 at the Tampa Bay Frogman Swim Fund Raiser. L-R, Ken Mayeaux, Tom Martin, Tom Feeks, Neil Beck, Bob Adams, Eric Olson, and Dave Young. Not in the picture but there both days was Terry Silva.

USS PEORIA (LST 1183). I got a propulsion subspecialty as a Lt. This allowed me to take jobs in San Diego which were not in such demand as the more career enhancing stuff in DC/Pentagon, etc. That helped me stay in the area for the two kids. Retired in 1998. After retirement, I took a job as the National Operation & Maintenance Director for RAL Transit Field Services; a company installing & maintaining public bus shelters in eight cities around the US. Two years later, I became West Coast/Hawaii regional manager for CORRPRO, a corrosion preventative company with a government contract to restore rusty and deteriorated spaces on ships and submarines. (Sailors never joined the Navy to chip paint.....) The program eventually ran out of contract money and I retired to managing my apartments and working with the non-profit maritime and automotive museum organizations."

Terry sent me a lot of information including a couple of PowerShip magazines. They contain a lot of good gouge and pictures on the history of various ships and shipping companies. I think it is safe to say Terry is quite a history buff and collector with a small museum of approximately 200 shipbuilder plates in his basement going back to the 1880's. I included a picture of one of Terry's articles on the WIND class icebreakers. Pretty cool. (It's a SWO thing!)



Terry Tilton's article on WIND Class Ice Breakers.



Mary Pat Tilton and a rare 2004 Jaguar XKR. I think only a 100 cars of this particular style and color were made.

I received the following from **Leif Hendrickson** who wanted to share;



Rob Bender being honored for his leadership and service.

✉ "I recently had the privilege of having dinner at a special event with **Rob Bender** and **CWO4 Hershel "Woody" Williams**, USMC (retired). At 95

years "young", Woody is the oldest living Medal of Honor Recipient from the Battle of Iwo Jima. An impressive, energetic and engaging Marine, at the age of 90, Woody started a foundation with the purpose of honoring Gold Star Families, Relatives, and Gold Star Children who have sacrificed a loved one in the service of their country. For his leadership, selfless service and role in the success of this Foundation, Rob Bender was honored at this event by this Great American Hero. Thank you, Rob.... you continue to make a difference and do us proud."

Rob, On behalf of the Class thank you.

I have included a picture from a Holiday Party we held at our house in December. Several 9th Company mates attended.



9th Company Holiday Party at the Chapman's L-R Dave O'Connor, Mark Golay, Dave Architzel, me, JJ Parus and Bob Hartling. A good time was had by all!

I thought I would share with you some general info I received on

the Academy. Some of you get this but not all. The Superintendent reported the overall applications are down slightly but the Academy still expects to have over 3000 fully qualified applicants. The next class will again be about 1150 Midshipman. Service assignments for the Class of 2019 are; USN: 75% (94.4% unrestricted line, 5.6% restricted line), USMC: 25%, Submarine force: 138 (28 women), Navy Pilot: 240, Navy Flight Officers: 49, Surface Warfare: 195, Surface Warfare (nuclear power): 41, Surface Warfare options: 26 (once SWO qualified can transfer to other communities, i.e. Intelligence), Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD): 15, Marines: 250 (Ground 153, Pilot 97). More wanted USMC than available billets. SEAL: 33 (an interesting statistic 80% of USNA graduate from BUDS versus only 10% rate for other candidates), 95.2% received their first or second choice, 87% their first choice.

The Academy has been recognized as having the 5th best STEM curriculum, the 8th best physics program and the best four year graduation rate (85.9%) of all colleges/universities in the country. The Class of 2019 graduation rate is expected to be close to 90%.

If you are interested in being a Blue and Gold Officer (BGO) please let me know. There are approximately 2000 BGOs right now. They are considered one of the most important recruiting and candidate evaluation tools. I also hear from many Blue and Gold Officers how rewarding being a BGO is to them so again, if you are interested in being one please contact Dirk or me.

I have several pieces of sad news to pass on. **Fred Zeile** passed away on 30 December 2018 in Slidell, LA, where he had lived after retiring from the Navy. **Paul Carstens** passed away on 18 September 2018. Unfortunately, I do not have any other information. Look for more on Fred's and Paul's lives in an upcoming Last Call and please keep the families of our departed classmates in your thoughts and prayers.

Planning for the 50th is underway! The Reunion Committee is working hard and is planning on a survey for

the class to "get our druthers". Please register with the Alumni website so you can get email updates and participate in the survey. Thanks.

Next edition (June) is the anniversary of a big day in our lives. I have some pictures from that day and will include in the June edition of Shipmate. If you have any pictures or stories from our I Day and want to share please pass them on. I am getting close to my limit so I will stop now. I appreciate all the great news and inputs. As always, Go Navy and Semper FI! General

'74

Life Membership: 58%
Donor Participation: 18.61%

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It will be the first week of May when you receive this issue of Shipmate. The warm spring, and all the activities that go with it are dearly welcomed this year, I'm sure. But sitting here on February 25th, I'm sure many of you have not begun to end your winter of hibernation. I know this, because of a significant lack of communication throughout the land. This winter has been difficult for most of you, and those of us lucky enough to have been set with only a little more rain than normal, sympathize with your plight.

It's been a month since I visited San Diego for the January Monthly Dose of '74. We had a good turn-out, with 12 classmates in attendance. **Steve Diamond** (12th Co.) and wife Robin came down from Napa and spent nearly the entire month in "The South County". They were gracious enough to open the doors of their condo to me for my stay in the sun. Rocky and Charlie, their two West Highland Terriers, were especially hospitable during my brief stay. In addition to Steve, **Bob Santos** (5th Co.), **Dan McCaughlin** (17th Co.), **Mike Donovan** (26th Co.), **Bob Foltyn** (34th Co.), **Gary Leupold** (4th Co.), **Frank Chabza** (32nd Co.), **Jay Wells** (16th Co.), **Tim Rastok** (19th Co.),