

distances to visit me. Jessica Bagley (company-mate **Ned Bagley's** daughter) brought my family donuts the day of my operation.

**George Voelker** stopped by countless times at MUSC, Charleston, SC to make sure I was doing well during my "Plebe summer-ish" post-operative therapy sessions. Ellen and **Kerr Smith** dropped by in Atlanta "just because" they heard I had been hurt. Same for Barbara and **Dave Hogen**. But Sheila and **Alec Fraser** were a Godsend. They live in Atlanta and Alec was in my hospital room the second day I was there. He and Sheila opened their home to us and made sure my wife, Liz, had a break from the difficult hospital environment. They made us feel like we were members of their family. What a Classmate!

When we returned home, Greyhounds Gene Uricoli, Bill Graham, Steven Ingalsbe, Dick Lee and Ed Wardlaw came down to southern MD to welcome us back. Barbara Ingalsbe made me a 26th Company Greyhound logo cross-stitch as you see in the picture.

Some of those gentlemen mentioned above I vaguely remembered as Classmates. The same for them. It did not matter. I was a member of the great Class of 1972 and they came to support "their Classmate." Along with the hundreds of cards and website well wishes from other Classmates, shipmates and alumni, I never experienced a deeper appreciation for the strong bond USNA has provided us. So, thank you, thank you Classmates! I remain truly inspired by all of your encouragement as my recovery continues. Liz and I will see you at our 50th Reunion. Beat Army!"

'Nuff said. Keep plugging, Steve!

I received a note a few months back from **Chris Lee**. You may recall that Chris left USNA during 1/c year. After serving enlisted time, he received his commission through the AOC program in Pensacola and went through flight training with **Jim O'Keefe** and **Mac McLaughlin**. During an exchange tour with the Coast Guard in Corpus Christi, he applied for an inter-service transfer and subsequently served 20 years

in the USCG, retiring with the rank of Commander. Chris credits **Tom Jones** for encouraging him to come back in the fold, and he became a lifetime alum member in 2014. Chris provided the following information about his old 34th Company roomie:

✉ Congratulations to 34th Company's new author, **Paul Shemella**. His first novel, *Jungle Rules*, came out and is an exciting, fast paced read. Paul introduces us to Carl Malinowski who, "is a mercenary with a midlife crisis. After leading his team on a daring mission to capture Colombia's most notorious drug lord, he is confronted with a choice between the life he has and the life he wants." The book is available on Amazon.com in either Kindle, hardcover or paperback. **Tom Jones** was given a copy by **Tom Schuler**, who loved it. Rumor is, this will be part of a trilogy! Let's support this."

This is great stuff! Congrats again to Paul, and thanks to Chris for the note.

**Bob Hahn** reports that he, **Skip Kohler** and **Jeff Beard** proudly represented our Class at the 20th Company Dining Out back in March, which was held at Buddy's Crabs and Ribs in Annapolis. During that event, they presented the annual Class of 1972 Leadership Award to Midshipman First Class **Marie Valenti '19**, who hails from Pennsylvania and is Captain of the record-setting USNA Women's Lacrosse Team. Congratulations!



Kohler, Hahn and Beard presenting the Class of 1972 Leadership Award to Marie Valenti '19

On the subject of important events at USNA: Your attention is directed to the accompanying illustration of the crest for our Another Link in the Chain class, the Class of 2022. Gents, this is a noteworthy honor for the Class of 1972 and, to my knowledge, the first time a USNA class has

officially recognized its ALITC sponsor in so lasting and conspicuous a manner. Our appreciation and continued best wishes to the Class of 2022 as they move forward to Youngster Year!



The Crest for the USNA Class of 2022

One sad note to pass along this month: **Glenn Pruden's** wife, Leslie, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, 9 February 2019. A graduate of Tennessee Technical University, she served five years as a Supply Corps officer in the Navy, had great success as a transportation manager for several companies, worked as a pre-school caregiver and substitute teacher/library assistant, and loved to hike...twice participating in the Susan G. Koman 3-day walk to support breast cancer research. The Class extends its deepest sympathy to Glenn and their family.

That's about it...the mailbag is empty. Have a great month and drop me a line with a few photos when you're off on your summer sojourns! More to come. D. O.

**Tried and True with '72.**

# '73

**Life Membership: 65%**  
**Donor Participation: 5.56%**

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

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 well and remember back 50 years to that glorious day you reported to the Academy! I am sure we all were

thinking what it will be like 50 years from then! I still remember that nice second class who helped me check in! I am sure you have some special memory of that day. Please pass it on. I have a lot of news and a few photos to remind us of Induction Day so let's get to it.

The first is from Andy Pease.

✉ Jim, In February 2019, Connie and Larry Carello hosted their 2nd Navy BBQ at their rental place on Coronado. Diane and I, along with John and Rosemary Buttermore stayed with Larry and Connie only 2 blocks from the beach. Also in attendance were: Dr. Ade Dillon, Jane Stewart and Alice & Phil Strong (Ade's sisters), Jim and Barbara Garban, Mike Lettieri (Class of '69. Our Plebe team QB coach) and 1st-time attendees Gary and Juliette Nowak. Lots of great stories, superb food (Barbara Garban makes a great carrot cake), a "bit" of alcohol and of course excellent company. Many thanks to our excellent hosts: Larry and Connie.



Ade Dillon, Gary Nowak, Mike Lettieri, John Buttermore, Andy Pease, Phil Strong (Ade's brother-in-law), Larry Carello and Jim Garban

asked Andy what he was doing and received back;

✉ Jim, I am doing great. I retired in the summer of '16 but I am still on the company's board of director's. I am also on a non-profit board called Sweetwater Spectrum, an adult autism community up in Sonoma where our youngest daughter has lived since it opened in 2013. I am staying very active and healthy to try and slow down the effects of my Tremor Dominate Parkinson's. I am very fortunate that my disease has not progressed beyond a tremor in my dominate left hand. I have volunteered to help Bill Short with his very noble cause of helping our classmates who were negatively affected by exposure to Agent Orange during our youngster cruise.

## 73/73 CLASS NEWS



'73: The wives of 9th Company at the Dark Ages party L to R Front to Back. Susie Chapman, Patti Golay, Bev Ritacco, Barbara Architzel, Lynn Johnson, Karen Elliott, Kathy Hartling, Mary O'Connor, Marq Orr and Joy Etro.



'73: The guys of 9th Company at the Dark Ages party L to R, Mark Golay, Bob Hartling, Dave O'Connor, Jim Chapman, JJ Parus, Steve Ritacco, Rick Elliott, Dave Architzel, Jim Etro, Bill Marsh and Bryant Orr

Andy, Thanks for the great input and your help with the class's Agent Orange effort.

I have mentioned before there are three events I can count on; the 28th Company golf tournament, the 7th Company Seadogs cruises and the 9th Company Dark Ages party hosted by Patti and Mark Golay. Again this year we had a great time and here are some photos. There was a big turn out with several folks coming from DC and North Carolina

One of the great things at the party besides seeing several folks I had not seen in years was the arrival of a new classmate; Midshipman Door. A great gift from Rick and Lynn Johnson. Pretty cool!



Our newest classmate, Midshipman Door and me!

I think we can say we are officially in our 50th anniversary countdown. Over the next four years I'll try to add some pictures and stories of our time at the Academy. Maybe some of the stories behind famous sayings like; "They can't fry us all!" If I remember correctly THEY did! I thought it would be fun to put some pictures in of our first day at the Academy. If you would like to share any pictures or memories you have please send them on. Here are a couple of great photos.



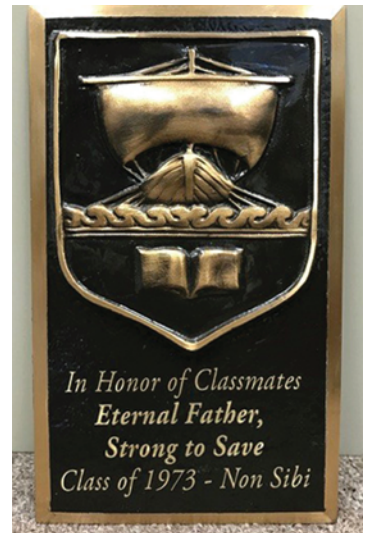
The Class taking the Oath of Office 30 June 1969



9th Company receiving their gear. L to R Bryant Orr, Dave O'Connor, Bill Evans and Bill Comly

I received the following from Dirk Mosis.

✉ "Classmates, when next in Chapel, center aisle, pew 73, please see what has recently been added as a result of \$25,000.00 anonymous donation to the Chapel Fund!"



Navy Crew celebrated 150 years of rowing at its annual spring banquet this February. On a Dark Ages evening, over 650 firsties, alums, spouses, friends, joined us to celebrate. '73 was represented by Jim McGarrah, Tom and Cathy Gallagher, Chuck Munns, and myself. Coach Carl Ullrich and Becky were at our table. Earlier in the day a crew shell was christened to honor Frank Montesano '71. Chuck and I attended. Interestingly, the Heavyweight Crew won the Eastern Sprints in 1971, with Frank in that boat. That is the last time the Heavies won the Sprints - 48 years ago. '73 had four oarsmen in that Champion boat coached by Carl - Chuck at stroke, John Kiser, Larry Doerflein, and Steve Bernasconi. Row Navy! Semper Fi and Non Sibi, Dirk '73



I have some sad news to report. James John Masterson, 30th Company, of Boca Raton, Florida passed away March 7, 2019. Look for more on Jim's life in Last Call and please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

I have contacted the Alumni Association and Nimitz Library trying to get pictures from our time at the Academy. If anyone has a suggestion where I can get more, I would appreciate you passing it on. Also please send me your pictures or you are going to see a lot of 9th Company photos over the next couple of years! And you do not want your wife and kids asking, "Why don't we ever see you in Shipmate?"

I am at my limit so I will stop. I appreciate all the great news and inputs. Just a reminder if you have not signed up for emails on the Alumni association website please do. It's the best way to receive news and update. If you are looking for ways to help our wounded service members I encourage you to check out Operation Mend administered by UCLA. As always, Go Navy and Semper FI! General

## '74

**Life Membership: 58%**  
**Donor Participation: 3.97%**

Pres: **John Yaeger**  
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I always get excited when it comes time to submit the June column to *Shipmate*. Out here on the left coast spring has sprung, and warm temperatures are becoming the norm. And knowing that when everyone reads this column it will be the start of summer. Even in retirement, I always get excited about summer!

This year is especially exciting, with the 45th reunion four months off. I just reviewed the registration list, and we have 139 classmates registered here in the last week of March. I was a little disappointed to not see a larger number. Hopefully most of you have sorted out your schedules for the autumn and have registered for the reunion by now.

It's been just one month since the last column was submitted, and I have received just one input since then. Fortunately it was from **Neil Rondorf** (30th Co.). Over the last 3 or 4 years Neil has been a regular contributor, and those of you who know Neil, he does things in a very thorough manor. So, I'm going to do something I have not done before. I'm going to take a verbatim contribution as publish in the main body of this column. You may recall that Neil spent most of the later years of his professional career traveling around the world attending conferences on various aspects of Oceanic issues (if I say any more than that, I'll get it wrong, as his work was well over my head). He and Cheryl finally put his professional traveling career behind them, and have taken up traveling as their primary retirement activity. I'm glad to see that he is recovering well from his surgery last summer and is getting in a lot of golf. Gives me hope for the future. So, without further pontification, here's Neil's report:

✉ Shipmates: Cheryl and I took a few week road trip to Florida to take some real time off and connect with some classmates. Sometimes they are under deep cover and need to be visited to ensure they are doing fine. Retirement can be tricky with health, activities, loving life and getting re-acquainted with the spouse. Deployments are over, Tee times to be set, healthy classes attended and doctor's visits to be held not skipped. Wow, semi-normal existence. An interesting phenomenon. I will admit I sometimes envy those still working but then **Steve Burich** (14th Co.) sends me a note asking if I am going to play golf on Wed and after wrestling with myself I surrender and go enjoy myself.

We spent the first week in New Smyrna in a time share condo on the beach. Morning walks on the beach were a wonderful break. We picked up sea shells for our grandson and enjoyed the warm weather. While the weather in Virginia Beach was not terrible we managed to trade 40 degrees for 75 so it was a good swap. I managed to play 18 holes of golf w Steve Maas [Radm, SC USN Ret shipmate on USS

Indianapolis (SSN 697)]. This was my first round of golf since my surgery in July. We had to ride and that was probably a good thing. I usually walk with Steve Burich, **Dick Costello** (14th Co.) and **Kevin Dilley** (18th Co.) at Oceana NAS. It was a morale booster for me. We did not keep score so don't even ask.

I did some homework and tracked down **Mark Milligan** and **Joe Belinski** (both 30th Co.). Mark lives in Melbourne FL and is still hanging onto his wife Deb. Yes, she is patient as a saint and has her hands full keeping Mark in line. Mark did a bit of teaching and coaching baseball at a local Melbourne school. He was very happy and Deb seems to be able to tolerate his increasing presence around the house. We will have to see how long that lasts.

I saw the Article on Joe Belinski's son graduating from USAF in the Shipmate recently and knew he was hanging out in Orlando. He and Alta have been in FL for some time working on finishing raising the kids. We arranged to have a lunch in Melbourne and Joe having a certain amount of seniority, authority and general shtick he arranged to be there in spite of a full-time job, multiple responsibilities a wide geographic area of influence. Mark, Deb, Joe, Cheryl and I had a great lunch together and hours of catching up and story telling. Joe told stories of scholarly and intellectual success. Mark told stories of strength, endurance, and valor. I told golf lies.



30th Company Mates

As long as we were in the Melbourne area we decided to drop in on Tom Dion (26th Co.) and wife Lisa. While Mark and Joe were company mates, Tom and Lisa were married while Tom was a classmate in Nuclear Power School. That was in the good old days at Mare Island. Lisa was a wonderful hostess and

quite proud of her culinary skills which were excellently executed in several outstanding presentations. Tom focused on beverages and I must say makes a very nice vodka and tonic. Tom and I were able to schedule another 18 holes. We kept score but only for 10 holes. The randomness of my game resulted in running out of space on the score card so we ditched it. Distance and direction remain a random function of my game.



Lisa and Tom Dion

I had worked on making arrangements to meet **Dave Goulette** (30th Company Mate) in Tampa. I did not realize how far it was between Naples FL, and New Smyrna. We just could not find the time and location that made any sense. Although, we could not make it work I made a note to work on details for a visit next year. Dave has the coolest job in retirement of anybody I have come across yet. Starter at a gold course. Man, what a gig - the hours must be rough but the benefits are without equal. Way to live Dave.

When we started home we needed to make one more stop. **Dave Igyarto** (30th Co. mate) and wife Marge recently left the elite society in Atlanta and moved to be near children and grandchildren near Hilton Head. Dave spent decades in the energy industry and is working on mostly retiring. He then immediately agreed to travel to Japan to participate in an international energy symposium. Sounds like new adventures rather than retirement. Fortunately, he was wise and set Marge up in a nice new home. Dave has spent years refining his skill as a griller using "the Egg". He clearly demonstrated his skill with an exceptional dinner presentation. We really enjoyed our time together and it was a great visit.