

# '73

**Life Membership: 65%**  
**Donor Participation: 15.78%**

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Hello all, I hope you are enjoying Navy football and it's starting to cool off. As I write this (in July) it is HOT in Virginia Beach! I have received several great inputs about our Induction Day so keep them coming. I have a lot of "good stuff" to pass on so let's get to it.

The first is from **Pat Fogarty**;

✉ Jim, I grew up with seven siblings and my father told me when I was a young teenager that he could not afford to send me to college. That caused me to look for alternatives. I did my research and decided to apply for the Naval Academy, not just for a "free" education, but for what it stood for. After a week of Plebe Summer, I called my Dad and told him that I was not sure I could endure four years of the discipline. He asked me to give it one more week and I did. I had a good week thanks to Midshipmen 2/C Brady who stood in for our company 2/C midshipmen who were on a long weekend. Brady ran us real hard but he was a great guy. After that weekend, I never looked back. I truly enjoyed my time at the Academy. My wife, former Jane Ripley, was the Color Girl for our graduation in 1973. She reviewed the parade with Admiral Mack. I was not the company commander. **John McHenry**, a great friend and company commander, asked me if Jane would represent the company and I agreed. Look Jane up - she is the centerfold in our yearbook. I later returned to the Naval Academy to be an instructor in the Mechanical Engineering Department 1983-1985. I returned again to the Naval Academy 1994-1997 to serve as Deputy for Management, reporting directly to the Superintendent, Admiral Larson. While in that position I had the honor to be the Chairman of the Naval Academy's 150th Anniversary. think my decision to join the Navy

was the best decision I ever made. Jane and I have four children. Our oldest, Cathy, joined the Army National Guard at age 37 and is deploying on a peace keeping mission to Kosovo in May of this year. Our other three children are all quite successful and we are very proud. I have had a blessed life and I am very thankful to all of you who have been part of it. Jane and I live in Fairhope, Alabama, where we enjoy the good weather, the boating and fishing and all of my seven sibling who are still alive. Life is good!

Pat sent a long a great picture of Jane, John McHenry and Pat that was published in the Annapolis paper just before graduation



Pat, Jane and John McHenry. Some PDA!

I asked Pat what he did out of the Academy and got another great input;

✉ I was a SWO on the USS William V. Pratt (DLG 13) later reclassified as DDG 44 out of Charleston, SC. I was the Damage Control Assistant. We had deployments to the Mediterranean and around South America while I was aboard. Then I had a year of graduate school at MIT before transferring to the Civil Engineer Corps. I had great tours of duty, including Public Works Officer on Adak, AK and three tours with the Seabees. I spent two, 9-month deployments on Diego Garcia, took a Seabee Battalion to Desert Storm as the Commanding Officer and took the Seabees to Somalia as the Chief Staff Officer of the Regiment. I retired in 1999 after spending my final tour of duty as Commanding Officer, Northern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command. I spent 10 years as the Facilities Officer at Texas State University in San Marcos, TX, retiring from there

in in 2009. On Halloween Day in 2013 our house in Austin, TX was flooded, taking on about 4 feet of water. This gave me a reason to return to where I grew up. I actually grew up in Mobile, AL but now live across Mobile Bay in Fairhope along with six of my siblings. One sibling still lives in Mobile. For the last nine plus years I have been visiting my siblings, four married children and 14 grandchildren. Jane and I spend 2-3 months a year at our cabin in Maine. Jane was born in Maine, but moved around because her Dad worked for an airline. I met her at Andrews AFB in early January, 1970 when returning from Christmas leave. To catch a free flight, me and other Midshipmen in the area flew out of Pensacola, FL to Andrews AFB onboard the Blue Angels Ground Crew Plane a day before leave was up. I met a Midshipman on the flight who knew Jane's sister, who was to pick him up at Andrews AFB. He asked me to entertain Jane while he courted her sister and I agreed. The rest was Destiny.

Pat, Thanks for the great story and picture.

I received an input from **Jim Sneed**. I think many of us can relate to his story.

✉ Jim, My short I-Day story/stories: I walked into my room for the first time and met **Barry Stark**. All I could think of was "How am I going to remember his name is Barry?" Needless to say, in four years time, I knew EVERYTHING about him. I didn't meet our "other" roommate, **Frank Saunders** until a few days later - he had been hospitalized on I-Day even before I had met him. In his absence, I was directed to put his Alpha Number on his gear when I was finished with mine. Being in La La Land, I put my number on half of Frank's gear before I realized what I was doing. That is why I will always remember both our numbers 738358 and 737770. Lastly, **Bob "Buba" Stephenson's** first letter home was very concise: "I don't like it here". My parents PCSed on I-Day so I didn't have an address or phone number for a week.

Thanks Jim. I think most of us can relate to being in La La Land that summer!

On to other news. I received the following great picture and input from **Tim Ellis**;

✉ Jim, I have been living in the Pittsburgh area since 2000 when work brought me here. I remarried after 12.5 years of flying solo to my beautiful bride, Vanessa. She has been Executive Assistant to the Chairman and CEO of Dick's Sporting Goods since 2005. We were "petitioned" to participate in the Pittsburgh Marathon when Dick's took over key sponsorship. It started with the relay in which my wife, older daughter and her husband along with me comprised our relay team. My son-in-law and I moved on to the half marathon subsequent to that initial race. The last several years, participation was a challenge for me given my extensive international business travel for Westinghouse. When my work at Westinghouse ended last June (2018), I asked him if he wanted to run together this year. He acquiesced and training began in January with the race always being run the first weekend in May. It was rainy and cool on race morning but we prevailed over the weather. I can tell you this, my emotions ran high a number of times as I thought about the Great Class of 1973 throughout the race, especially thoughts of those who have gone before us. I was running for them.



Tim Ellis and son in law Aaron Clark at the Pittsburgh Half Marathon

I received the following from **Dave Leather** on the memorial service for **Steve Sudkamp**.

✉ On Friday 28 June, we celebrated the life of Steve Sudkamp. The attached are a small sampling of pictures from dinner on Thursday night with a toast to Steve...to the service and then some pictures from the hotel party and finally a picture of the seven classmates that were in attendance. At the service, Mike Simon gave a wonderful eulogy. The service ended with all of us singing the Navy Hymn. An Irish Wake was held at Suds favorite place in Alexandria Bay NY (a short walk from the church) - The Admiral's Inn. Here Gail, Julia, and Karen hosted us to lunch and drinks. We told stories about and gave toasts to Suds. It was a great celebration; I know he would have enjoyed it! Suds would have been proud of the hotel party...we drank, we toasted, we told stories and we almost got thrown out (two guys came up to tell us to quiet down at about 9:30 PM).

Suds - thank you for all the good times and thank you for getting 17th Company and friends together for our mini-reunions. You will always be with us. Fair winds and following seas on your eternal journey!



Steve Sudkamp's memorial service. Front row: Denny Vito, Joe Doswell and Don Jones; Back row: Dave Leather, Jack Howard, Mike Simon and Bruce Metrick.



Sud's Irish Wake

I included a picture of some of the local 9th Company folks having dinner on 30 June to celebrate our 50th Anniversary reporting to the Academy and Susie and my 46th wedding anniversary. I got two checks in the block for the price of one!

I have some sad news to pass on. **Mark Brosseau**, 19th Co passed away on 13 July 2019. That is all the information I have. Look for information on Mark's life in an upcoming Last Call. Please keep Mark's family in your thoughts and prayers.



I am a little over my limit again so I will stop now. I appreciate all the stories of our I-Day and Plebe Summer.



'73: Around the table Susie, Kathy and Bob Hartling, JJ Parus, Mark Golay, me, Billi Parus and Patti Golay.

I try to balance the remembrances with the recent events so it may take a little longer than normal to get your submission in Shipmate. If you have not already registered with the Alumni Association website, I encourage you to do it. It will help get the word out on upcoming events. As always, Go Navy! and Semper Fi! General

# '74

**Life Membership: 58%**  
**Donor Participation: 18.62%**

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This issue is being mailed out as we convene the 45th Reunion of the Class of 1974. Not much to say about that. You will be there, or not. Sitting here 60 days in advance, I'm already feeling the excitement of seeing so many of you. If you miss out, it will be your loss, as well as ours. I've already heard from a few who are busy planning special get-togethers, making sure the quick pace of the weekend doesn't preclude spending some quality time with the guys they want to visit with.

But I get ahead of myself. I received a note from **Brad Moore** (33rd Co.) a few weeks ago relating a trip that he and **Chuck Beale** (also 33rd Co.) took to Normandy celebrating the 75th Anniversary of D-Day, along with wives Cyndie and Sally. It was a USNA travel

promotion they made with about 40 other alumni. Included on the trip were about 10 WWII veterans. They cruised from Amsterdam to Dover, then visited the actual landing locations on the beaches of Normandy, cemeteries and museums, and listened to several impressive presentations by WWII historians, and dined with the veterans. Brad said that it was incredible how the veterans were treated like rock stars by the people of Normandy. They remember the price that was paid for their freedom. I could see by his sincere comments, that Brad was deeply moved by the experience. He ended his note saying that 33rd Company had at last count 10 members that were already registered for the 45th reunion.



Brad & Chuck



Brad & Cyndie - Chuck & Sally

More recently, the Tidewater area had a great turnout for their celebration of the 49th anniversary of our I-Day, June 29th, 1970. **Rich Vizzier** (17th Co.) has been the Tidewater area coordinator, and does a great job at getting everyone together. **Ken Juul** (18th Co.) and **Jim Fry** (7th Co.) came through with some photos.

**2019 HOMECOMING**  
25 -27 October  
**Go Navy! Beat Tulane!**