

## 72/73 CLASS NEWS

that we gave to each member of the Class of 2022 during their plebe summer!

We used the company reps to help facilitate the effort, and said we'd run the campaign through the end of the 2019 calendar year (December 31st). Well, the company reps did a great job...we've now pulled together the year-end data, and the result was an **increase in participation to a new total of 340 classmates** that have now participated in the campaign, which increases our overall rate of participation to **46%**... awfully close to our goal! Regarding the winning company, **congratulations go to 4th Company, which zoomed up (from 7th place) to 1st place with 26 classmates**, followed by 12 other companies that achieved double digit participation results. Very impressive!

In my recent e-gouge, I provided the final standings for the top 13 companies that broke through the double-digit participation level...and I'm happy to provide the final standings for any other company if anyone is interested. The 26 classmates from 4th Company will all receive one of our "link-in-the-chain" coins as a token of our Class's appreciation.

I'm including a one-page summary of our campaign's status, as we now enter its third year. We should all consider this latest "participation" campaign as a "win-win" as we've had, in total, greater participation in this final campaign by our Class than in any previous campaign that we've ever run! We blew through the (what we thought) unrealistic goal of \$5 Million, and our totals now exceed \$6 Million (\$6.11 Million to be exact). **THIS IS A RECORD - NO OTHER CLASS IN USNA HISTORY HAS RAISED THIS MUCH FOR A CAMPAIGN!** My thanks to all of you (and especially our anonymous donor who set a "matching" goal of \$2.5 Million that we all met). Our collective effort has allowed us to contribute to the moral, mental, and physical dimensions of midshipmen development through the funding of four separate projects, which are listed on the slide on the previous page:

Bravo Zulu classmates!

Jeffrey Beard

(jeffreyb72@icloud.com)

We learned that **Jeff Nelson** (10th Company) passed away on Wednesday afternoon, 19 February 2020, at his home in Kennesaw GA. He was surrounded by his wife, Leslie, his daughter and his sister, while listening to *Victory at Sea*. Jeff had been suffering from pancreatic cancer. At the time of this writing, we understand that an inurnment at Arlington National Cemetery is planned. Details can be found at <https://www.southerncremations.com/obituaries/Captain-Jeffrey-Robert-Nelson?obld=11503208#/obituaryInfo>. The Class extends its deepest sympathy to Leslie and their family.

The Class has a limited number of Honor Coins available for purchase. The price is \$22.72 (note the clever pricing). The money will be used to support the "A Link in the Chain" program. The coins are available from **Gary Coyle**. To order, send a check for \$22.72, made out to **USNA Class of 1972** to:

Gary Coyle  
ALITC Honor Coin  
11204 Silver Tree Place  
Columbia, MD 21044-5703

You can also contact Gary at: [sherman2c@aol.com](mailto:sherman2c@aol.com) or 443-745-2231. Orders will be filled as received. If orders exceed the number of coins available, you will be contacted to see if you want to wait for a new striking of the coin.

Also, once again, we have partnered with Anchor Enterprises, our Reunion merchandise supplier, to offer Class of '72 gear online. If you are interested in '72 merchandise for the spring and summer, please place your order now. This store will be open for a limited time...so if you want to order ball hats, polo shirts, etc., visit the Class of '72 Ship's Store at: <http://www.usnaclasstore.com/72store.html>. If you have questions, contact **Jim Grover** ([jcgrover72@gmail.com](mailto:jcgrover72@gmail.com)).

One last item: *Our 50th Reunion is only 30 months away*. Save the date: **28-30 October 2022**. Details will be forthcoming.

Well, ladies and gents, that's about it for this month. Guess it's time to get out on the old John Deere and mow that lawn.

More to come. D. O.

**Tried and True with '72.**

## '73

**Life Membership: 65%**  
**Donor Participation: 8.58%**

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

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Hi all, I hope you are well and are enjoying spring. Things are good in Virginia Beach. We had a mild and pretty warm winter. I have a lot of "good stuff" and many pictures to pass on so let's get to it.

My first item is the wedding of Bruce Hargus and Pat DeLeon. Mark Kohring sent the following pictures and news of their wedding.

"In September, Bruce Hargus and Pat DeLeon were married in a small ceremony at Ogle Hall. You will recall that Bruce lost his first love, Vivian, back in 1988. Pat lost her husband Ralph in 2011. Bruce and Pat have chosen to make their home together in Bruce's house in Annapolis."



Bruce and Pat Hargus at their wedding reception. A great looking couple!



'73 at the wedding Mark Kohring, Dan Musmanno, Mike Trent, Kevin Foskett, Bruce Hargus, Tom Collins and Tom Gallagher

Pat and Bruce, on behalf of the class Congratulations! We wish you the best.

On to other news. **Mike Kalas** sent the following; "Dear Jim, Gathering for their 1st annual reunion, the 21st

Company "Blackjacks" met on the banks of the Mississippi River in Memphis, Tennessee September 26th for the Navy-Memphis football game. Attending the event were 11 classmates and 9 wives, including Mike and Deborah Kalas, Liz and **Chris Tompkins**, **Tim McClay**, **John Pilli**, Jill and **Ken Picha**, Kim and **Ed Carr**, Rhonda and **Glenn Klein**, Mara and **Geoff Griffiths**, Susie and **Jack Reeves**, Sheila and **Mark Devane**, and Lisa and **Jay Carothers**. We enjoyed Thursday night's game even though it wasn't a Navy win, and during the 4 day long weekend attended the Alumni Association tailgate, took in Graceland, Sun Records, the Duck March at the Peabody Hotel, music on Beale Street, and the fabulous BBQ at The Rendezvous and BB's. The weekend was so successful and enjoyed we are already planning for 2020. Stories were told and retold late into the night and those who could not attend or have passed on, were fondly remembered, as we will always be, "we few, we happy few, we band of brothers" 21st Company Blackjacks." Mike, Thanks for the great picture and input. Reunions are a lot of fun!



21st Company Blackjacks 2019 First Annual Reunion!

I have news of another Company reunion. 9th Company held its annual Dark Ages party at Patti and **Mark Golay's**. It was a great time (as always) and we had a large turn out. We had folks come from as far away as Boston and many from northern Virginia and Delaware. Unfortunately a few had to cancel due to the flu.



'73: Class of 1973 and 2020 Capstone. What a good looking group!



9th Company Dark Ages Party Bottom to Top Bill Evans, Steve Ritacco, Dave O'Connor, Dave Architzel, Mark Golay, Leif Hendrickson, JJ Parus, Bob Hartling, me, Bill Comly.



The wives of 9th Company Bottom to Top Susie Chapman, Patti Golay, Mary O'Connor, Kathy Hartling, Bev Ritacco, Kyppee Evans, Barbara Architzel, Lynne Comly, Billi Parus, Karen Hendrickson



In case you have forgotten what the Dark Ages was like here is a reminder!

**Jim Hillenmayer** sent a great update and photo; "Jim, Christine and **Ray Boyd** and Liz and **Bob Carlson** joined my wife Wendy and I in Tucson for the Army Navy game. The Southern Arizona Chapter of the Alumni Association hosted a game day at a local sports bar. Ray and Christine flew in from Seattle and Bob and Liz drove over from San Diego. We had a great time catching up while watching the big game. Ray's working for an engineering firm in Seattle and Bob is still practicing law in San Diego while also keeping an eye on his winery (Carlson Creek) in Willcox AZ. I, on the other hand, have been fully retired from Raytheon for over two years. Worked there for over 18 years after retiring from the Navy. With family, kids and grandkids scattered all over the country, Wendy and I RV it a lot. Spent 2.5 months and drove almost 9,000 miles this summer alone. Summer is a good time to be away from Tucson."



Back row (L-R) Jim Hillenmayer, Ray Boyd, Bob Carlson. Front row (L-R) Wendy Hillenmayer, Christine Boyd, Liz Carlson

**Leif Hendrickson** sent the following about the Class's efforts with the Capstone program. "16 January 2020 marked the end of the Class of 1973's participation in the USNA Capstone Program for 1/C Midshipmen. Our

Class has been staunch supporters of this program for years routinely receiving laudatory feedback from both staff and Midshipmen. Please allow me to thank everyone who has participated in this program giving unselfishly of their time over the many years to support this special program. BZ! Pictured are the Class of '73 participants in "our" final program. Additionally pictured are the Class of '73 participants and the Midshipmen from Class of 2020 at our sponsored "Happy Hour." These "Happy Hours" have been an extension of the experience for the last several years — an innovative initiative that has also been the recipient of laudatory feedback. As a parting anecdote, at the Happy Hour during a conversation with one of the Midshipmen, they commented to me, "You guys really love each other don't you." Does it get any better than that ??"



Bill Gravell, Jim Campbell, Leif Hendrickson, Rich Kramlich, Tom Kilcline, Steve Ritacco, Bill Montgomery, Jere Carroll, Ken Reightler

The January-February edition of Shipmate had the recipe for cannon balls. I suspect it brought back

many memories. If anyone tried the recipe or have stories of cannon balls from our time at the Academy please pass them on.

I am just about caught up and the inbox is empty. Keep those great inputs and stories coming. As always, Go Navy and Semper Fi!

## 74

**Life Membership: 59%**  
**Donor Participation: 2.29%**

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Greetings. Although nearly half the nation is inundated with snow, ice and cold as I write this column, I trust you are all enjoying typically warm May weather and the beginning of six months of warm weather as you sit and read this note.

With feelings of warmth and renewal, I pass on the news that **Jay Wells** (16th Co.) and his lady, **Marty Spiena**, were married on February 15th at the World Golf Hall of Fame in St. Augustine, Florida. Marty has been living a bi-Coastal life style with her man in San Diego and her job as an American Airlines Flight Attendant based in Charlotte, NC for several years. With her retirement in sight, we look forward to seeing Marty at events in SoCal on a much more frequent basis. The nuptials were the rallying point for a number of 16th Company buds, as the attached photo shows: **Rich Pyell, Brian Corcoran, Jerry Cerny, Bob McCabe, Marty, Jay, John Erardi, Barry Morton, Larry Pierzchalski**



'74: Jay & Marty with 16th Co Buds