

traditions of our great country. It is a tradition that is as well founded as the customs of law and justice which have been the pillars of modern civilization. The tradition of which I speak is the tradition of moral accountability. At sea, men face the elements as equals before the laws of nature. The sea has taught men for centuries that in times of peril there is no place to hide. A ship is only as stout as the stout-hearted men who man her, and in times of danger every last man aboard is held to ultimate account for his part in bringing the ship through storm and siege.

"This is the philosophy of the Navy. It is the time-honored tradition of men who must meet the challenge of the sea. It is the philosophy inherited by the United States from those who have braved the seas to find freedom and fulfillment, and it must be your philosophy as Americans if you are to serve the larger purposes of free men on earth."

More to come. D. O.

**Tried and True with '72.**

# '73

**Life Membership: 65%**  
**Donor Participation: 12.38%**

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Hello all, I hope you are well and enjoying summer. As I write this edition in mid-March a lot is going on. I hope by the time you read this things are settling down and returning to normal. I do not have a lot of news this month which will allow me to catch up on some items I received but did not have the space to publish earlier and I also thought we could have "a stroll down memory lane".

The first item is from Bob Hartling aka my skeet shooting partner and fellow 9th Company mate.



**Mike Trent, Tom Gallagher, Bob Hartling, Gerry Porcello, Bruce Hargus at Tom Gallagher's for his 11th Annual Go Navy-Beat Army Wassail Bowl.**

My second article is from Leif Hendrickson, fellow 9th Company mate. "Jim, Two Baseball Carpet Baggers (**Dave Architzel** "Yankees" and **Leif Hendrickson** "Pirates") met in Palm Beach to enjoy Washington Nationals Spring Training Baseball along with the celebration of the 2019 World Series Trophy. We do have a history of rooting for the home team Nationals over the years but are still considered Baseball Carpet Baggers. Great time — Great friends. Cheers, Leif"



**Leif and Arch at the Nationals spring training!**

Remember, I warned you if you don't give me inputs you are going to see a lot of 9th Company!

I got a nice update from **Don Price** who wrote;

✉ "Jim, I retired (quit as I like to say) from work in 2011. I spend most days running, biking and hiking here in Boulder. A great place for all three! Did a 240 mile bike



**'73: Boxing Smoker on the GUADALCANAL**



**'73: Swim Call on the GUADALCANAL**

ride across Iowa in July with some running friends, just got back from two weeks in Europe (Sheri and I did a barge/bike trip in Germany and then visited a former Severna Park HS exchange student from Montenegro and a Boulder HS exchange student from Serbia). Our two kids, Sasha & Kyra, are surviving...son Sasha (who developed into quite the jock playing football and wrestling at Boulder HS) is going to college to be a physical therapy assistant and daughter Kyra, who decided college was not for her, is living on her own in Denver doing her own thing but happy. Among other volunteer activities I'm also president of the USS Colorado Submarine Association supporting the crew and family of SSN 788 out of New London (and btw, we're always looking for new members...we have several who are not from Colorado,

only requires a desire to support the boat...just say'n...we are at: USSColoradosubassoc.org). I was at the commissioning and have made several other trips out there as has Sheri. I took over the Association from JJ Mackin, a '68 grad. I try to make it back to USNA every year, often for the President's Club Weekend which we missed this year due to being in Germany but will pick another date. I'm a BGO with 3 kids currently at USNA (1 in '23 so would like to be at Herndon, at least, this May) and so it's fun to come back just to visit them for a day. I think that's about it.

Don, Thanks for the update. I am sorry it took so long to publish it.

As promised, here are some pictures of Plebe year and Youngster Cruise. If I did the math correctly this is about 50 years from our cruise.





Sailing on the Knockabouts.

If you have any pictures of our time at the Academy please pass them on. I think most of these pictures are courtesy of **Bruce Hargus**, so a big thanks to him for sharing.



I have some sad news to pass on. **Donald (Don) William Jones**, 17th Co, a resident of Davenport, Iowa died Wednesday, 26 February 2020 at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. Look for more on Don's life in an upcoming Last Call and please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Thanks for all your inputs and pictures. The mail buoy is riding high again so please pass on any news and pictures. If you are looking for ways to help our injured service men and woman I encourage you to check out Operation Mend run by UCLA. As always, Go Navy! And Semper Fi! General

## '74

**Life Membership: 59%**  
**Donor Participation: 3.10%**

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It has been just four weeks since the previous column was submitted. I just re-read that column and realized that the CORVID-19 Pandemic was not mentioned once. What a difference a month makes. It's March 23rd, and the nation is in a virtual lock-down condition. There is obviously little news about classmates getting together. About three weeks ago **Rich Vizier** (17th Co.) sent the Tidewater contingent a note relating that he and Bev had just returned from a river cruise on the Nile, and that they had returned feeling ill, and both subsequently tested positive with the virus: presumably the first of what I suspect will be a significant list of '74 classmates similarly stricken.

I spoke with Viz this morning and both he and Bev are recovering very well (thank you, Lord). But by my deductive reasoning powers, the youngest in our class is already 67, which puts our entire class in the high-risk, vulnerable category. Doling out advice now, when you won't read this column for about 10 weeks, is pointless. So I'll just say that I hope everyone is staying safe, and by the time you do read these words, the major threat is behind us, although that is being incredibly optimistic.

With movement curtailed, I do not expect to receive much news in the coming weeks. But remember that you don't have to sit down to the computer to send a note. Pick up your phone and give me a call. It's fast, and I sincerely appreciate hearing from everyone. A few of us actually trained for this situation back at school. Zach [**Dave Zacharias** (8th Co.)], Branch [**John Branchflower** (19th Co.)] and I spent more time on restriction in the 4th Batt during plebe year than most companies' combined compliance of '74 classmates. So perhaps we are a little better prepared for

quarantine conditions. But I know it can be boring watching *Andy Griffith* reruns on Cable/Satellite TV. So give me a call. And if I don't answer, leave a message.

I did get a note from **Neil Rondorf** (30th Co.) last week. He had played a round of golf with **Steve Burich** (14th Co.) earlier in the day and was in the process of running out on Cheryl as she was putting the final touches on their Irish Boxties and Cottage Pie for St Patrick's day dinner. So I suspect he used writing a note to me as his excuse for bailing out of the kitchen at a strategic time. He related that before the virus became the defacto story of the day he and Cheryl made their annual trip south to Florida in search of warm (golf) weather. They stopped to see Bob Kernan (30th Co.) and his wife Carol in Jax. Neil relates that Bob and Carol have five daughters. One of them fell in love with the idea of having a bakery. Bob and Carol did a great job of helping her get started. Then she up and married a navy guy and off they went to Japan (you really have to keep an eye on those Navy guys!). By the time she moved, Carol had fallen in love with the bakery, so now Bob runs the register (makes him think he is in charge) and Carol runs everything else.



Bob Kernan - Head Cashier



Neil , Bob , Carol and Cheryl

Later they visited Naples to see old friends and were able to track down **Dave Goulette** (also 30th Co.) and his wife Terri. Dave has a unique retirement plan. He is the starter at the Ritz Carlton Golf Club in Naples. Not a bad gig.



Dave & Terri Goulette, Cheryl and Neil Rondorf

Bob and Dave were my teammates on the swim team at school. So Neil's comments about the help he received from the two of them made me smile. Neil's comments verbatim:

✉ The unique thing about Dave and Bob was that they were both on the swim team and I could not swim. Yes there we were at USNA and I could not swim. That summer 20 min float survival thing was almost my doom. Bob and Dave took pity on me and help me by teaching me how to float with a little less effort so I would last the 20 minutes. Actually there were about 30 guys trying to keep me from drowning without the observer disqualifying me for being "assisted".

Later, I would see the gifted swimmers as they went to morning swim practice and I would be doing my remedial work to learn how to swim. It was a long year in the water for me. I will be forever grateful for the help and encouragement that those who could swim gave me. The oddity of this was that during First class swim test I did the swim and the timer said "Hey you missed the National Life Guard time by 4 seconds, do you want to swim in again - I declined - if you get in trouble with water on a submarine, swimming will not be how you survive. The last bit on swimming was that a few years ago I