



'72: Summer '71 aboard Albany

But here is the best part of the deal! For every pen you buy, John will make a \$10 donation to our class fund and a \$20 donation to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. The funds John keeps will go to cover his expenses.

John is offering two styles of ballpoints: a Gatsby with either rhodium or titanium gold accents, and a more upscale Sierra Elegant Beauty with either platinum/black titanium or black and gold titanium accents. You can see samples of his pens at, www.wellturnedpens.com.

"The Gatsby normally retails for \$60 and up, and the Sierra Elegant Beauties for \$70 and up. Your cost for one of these pens is just \$55 or \$65 respectively, plus shipping. Each pen is individually hand crafted, carries an unconditional lifetime warrantee for workmanship, and comes with a top of the line Parker-compatible refill and a protective felt sleeve.

Bob Leib, Bill Boniface and I have seen samples of John's work and can attest to its quality.

You can order your pen today at www.wellturnedpens.com. Click on the USNA Class of 1972 menu option at the top. In anticipation of our 50th Reunion celebration, John suggests engraving the pen with our class crest and the inscription, 50th REUNION 1972 - 2022.

Once John has your order and payment, his goal is to have your pen in the mail within two weeks.

However, note that he is a one-man operation (no mass production capability) and is already making pens for his classmates and their own 50th class reunion. With your order you should stipulate whether you would prefer blue or black ink and if the intended user of the pen is a right or left-handed writer.

If you have any questions, John's email is jcmuncie71@epbfi.com. You can also view his work at www.wellturnedpens.com.

Jim advises that the Class received our first "royalty" check for \$330 in late July (funds went directly into our Class treasury), and that an \$825 contribution was also made to NMCRS. The Holidays are getting close—if you want one of these, now's a great time to move on it.

On a more somber note, we learned that **Jim Hines** passed away peacefully on 2 July at his home in Newport, WA, comforted by his wife, Carrie, following a bout with cancer. Jim came to USNA from Lemoore, CA and graduated with our Class as a member of the 12th Company. After flight school, he went on to fly S-3As, deploying aboard *Saratoga* and *Constellation*, and also had instructor duty at North Island. In 1980, he became a pilot with Delta Air Lines where he spent a 35-year career. Jim served as a county Fire Commissioner, a home-owners association president, a Grand Knight of the Knights of

Columbus and a parish advisory board member. He founded and was President of the Vintage Riders, a Honda 90 motorcycle gang of active adults who participated in local parades. He also enjoyed boating, sailing and snowmobiling. Jim's funeral service was held on 21 August in Newport WA; his family asks that memorial contributions be made in his name to St. Anthony's Parish of Newport, WA. The Class extends its deepest sympathies to Carrie and their family.

That's it for this month. Drop me a note and tell me about some of those escapades you've been on. Stay safe, my friends!

More to come. D. O.

Tried and True with '72.

'73

Life Membership: 65%
Donor Participation: 16.20%

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

Sec'y: **CAPT James H. Chapman, USN (Ret.)**
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Hello everyone, I hope you and your family are well and as you read this in October things are improving and returning to some semblance of normal. The pandemic has shut down just about everything so as you would expect I have not received any class news in several months (February). The good news is that I have not heard of anyone being infected with COVID 19. As I write this in July it is HOT in Virginia Beach. Being a resort city, our infections are higher than the surrounding area but so far things are going well. I do have a little information to pass on so let's get to it.

The first is from **Dirk Mosis**.

✉ Classmates, I am writing in July. I can only wish that when you read this, COVID is behind us for the most part, and that we are at football games!

First, please send Jim some mail! Second, our 50th Reunion Fundraising has progressed nicely under **George Watt's** leadership. The actual dollars raised are moving towards goals, but we need

everyone to give something, anything, to achieve our 73% participation goal. I know that even though you give to your place of worship, your law school, your med school, your cure of choice - all most worthy of your philanthropy - I know that USNA must have meant something to you, to have helped you be who you are, and in such appreciation you can give something to the Campaign. '73!

Company Reps, thanks for reaching out to your Company. You are most critical in communicating with the Class, asking Company Mates to update their usna.com info, tracking lost Classmates and keeping everyone up to speed and connected.

Personally, The Mosis' are well with a rising high school senior, Annie. Dirk Malcolm is in Baton Rouge with Novartis Pharmaceutical. Virginia is well with church, volunteer, tennis. And, I am at USAA Real Estate. I must tell you I get my real kicks out of staying in touch with Classmates. I am amazed at your varied activities, accomplishments, love of grandkids, golf, passions, selflessness, love of Navy and Classmates and Country. God speed! Non Sibi, Dirk

Thanks Dirk and on to other news. My family had the opportunity to go sailing with **Mark Golay** and his family on the 4th of July. With a little effort and planning we were able to meet the social distancing rules and have a great day on the water. The weather was good, not too hot and just the right amount of wind. There was a suggestion I needed to get a bigger boat to make social distancing easier but I think I will pass on that.

We have the 50th coming up and I thought it would be good to hear from the Class on any of their more memorable events i.e. sea stories from your time on active duty. I went through my old pictures and found this one. I think it was taken in 1995. It's **Bob Gibson**, me and **Dave Mericle** next to the island on GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73). I was Reactor Officer of GW. Dave was there doing an exam on



'73: Bob Gibson, Jim Chapman, Dave Mericle on CVN 73. Great Ship, Great Class!

the ship and Bob represented the Type Commander. I knew it was probably the most number of the Class of '73 we would ever have together on CVN 73 so I had a photo taken for posterity. It also took an hour out of the exam! I think I am the only member of the Class of 73 to serve in CVN 73.

If you want to pass on what you are doing in the pandemic, either for fun or not so fun let me know. I have run out of closets to clean and stuff to throw out and I am looking for new challenges! Please stay safe and I wish you all the best. The Holidays are fast approaching. Now is the time to start thinking about what to get that special ex-roommate for Christmas! As always, Go Navy and Semper Fi! —General.

CLASS SECRETARY COLUMN DEADLINES
 Send to: classnews@usna.com

2021

ISSUE:	DUE DATE:
Jan-Feb '21	Nov 30, 2020
Mar-Apr '21	Jan 25, 2021
May '21	Feb 23, 2021

'74

Life Membership: 59%
Donor Participation: 5.03%

Pres: **John Yaeger**
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I have long said, "Irony and Physics make the world go 'round". I stand by that axiom today.

After months of very little information coming in from the class, I received a note from **Ken Pisel** (3rd Co.) regarding his company's upcoming 50th I-Day celebration (online, of course). He wanted to know how much space he could take up in this column doing a write-up on his 3rd Company mates. I told him that if he was covering the entire company, maybe we could do a "guest column" kind of thing and let him have the entire 2000 words we are allotted. After all, I had so little info to pass on (at that time, anyway).

Of course, as soon as we made the deal, I started getting info from many of you. Well, that will have to wait for the next issue, Ken has demonstrated a concept I have

been espousing for 6 years: it only takes one guy per company to pull the entire group together, and stimulate routine and frequent communication between the entire company. And so, (with the cooperation of the *Shipmate* Staff, looking the other way that this intro takes us over 2000 words), here is Ken's 3rd Company update.

✉ Greetings from **Ken Pisel**. It has been some years since I last wrote to *Shipmate*. I assumed the duties of class secretary (1981-1984) and wrote every month. I had not written prior to that or since, so I guess it's time.

I served 22+ years. After graduation I became a helicopter pilot (H-46) and after tours in HC-6 (3 times), Sicily, USNA, USS INCHON, and NAVEUR in London (our favorite), I had my final assignment: the Joint Forces Staff College. Knowing I was going to retire, I went back to school, earned a doctorate, and accidentally created a job for myself at the college. I was there for over 27 years.

Andrea and I celebrated our 46th anniversary in June and settled in Virginia Beach. We have 3 kids and two grandkids.

In 2001 I was diagnosed with prostate cancer and have been playing that game ever since. After 5 clinical trials at Johns Hopkins, I achieved stage IV in 2016. Last year, my body informed me that it was no longer able to keep pace with travel at work, so I retired in January 2020. I made hunkering down an art form before it became popular.

On 29 June, I hosted a Zoom meeting celebrating the 50th anniversary of I-Day. We had 25 virtual participants from 3rd Company (the original Plebe 29th Company). Here is a breakout of who attended and a quick synopsis of the years gone by:

Bill Clark served 22 years as a SWO and had a tour at USNA teaching Thermo. After retirement, he worked another 27 years in civil service. In 2017, he retired for good. He and Susan live in Smithfield, VA.

Rick Mendenhall served 5 years as a submariner before getting out

to go back to school at Indiana University, where he earned a Master's and Doctorate. In 1985 he joined the faculty at Notre Dame for 33.5 years before retiring in 2018 and moving back to Franklin, IN.

Ken Huston flew P-3s for 5 years and then went on to put both Eastern and Northwest Airlines out of business before joining Delta. He is now retired and moved to Colorado to maximize his skiing.

Jack Hughes served with the Marines for 24 years alternating tours in the cockpit as an RF-4B RSO and tours with the grunts. Last tour was as Chief, EUCOM Airborne Command Post. After 5 years as a Quantico defense contractor, he finally retired and moved back to Denver, CO, where he tells us that, after 26 years, this was his last year working as a ski patroller. A number of guys noted that Jack is a great ski instructor.

Eric (Flash) Gordon was a SWO for 5 years and then worked with BellSouth in Louisville, KY, until he retired in 2013. He and Carolyn had been out cycling around the country; however, recent knee surgery has put a damper on that...for now.

Jim Boyer served for 27 years and flew the H-2 and H-60. He commanded HSL-47, and the ROTC unit at Rice University, his final tour. He then taught NJROTC in Spring, TX for 20 years and will soon retire. The Spring High School James C. Boyer NJROTC Building is named in his honor.

Mike Ryder (Salty Sam) served for 5 years as a surface nuke before moving into work with flight simulations. As PlayStation became popular, he started a company developing video games, ultimately working with Disney. He is in Seattle now and plans to retire at the end of the year.

Bob Thome is another P-3 pilot who went to the airlines. He stayed with Delta, retired from flying, and serves as an instructor. Poetically, he was up early on 30 June to see his next-door neighbor's son depart for I-Day at USNA (Class of 2024)... the circle is complete.

Don Patterson went from SWO to Aviator to SWO (something about trying to land a TS-2A