72/73 CLASS NEWS

If you have questions or are considering donating your Class ring for this event, please contact Gary at your earliest opportunity at Gary.Coyle@ihuapl.edu.

We were saddened to learn that **John Timony's** wife, Yvonne, passed away on 26 June after battling breast cancer and metastatic breast cancer for a number of years. They had been married for 46 years and had lived in 14 different states. Our deepest condolences go out to John and their family.

Well, here we are at the end of another year, dear readers. Count your blessings every day and make a point to keep those men and women now on active duty—particularly those serving with honor far from home—in your thoughts and prayers during this Holiday season. We thank them for their commitment and look forward to their safe return.

And one more very important thing. Let us <u>never</u> forget...to **BEAT ARMY!!**

More to come...next year. D. O.

Tried and True with '72.

'73

Life Membership: 65% Donor Participation: 16.74%

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Happy Holidays Classmates! Susie and I hope you have a great holidays and a wonderful New Years. I have received a lot of great stories about our I-Day and first year which is super but unfortunately it also means it is taking me longer to publish your inputs.

I am not sure how many know about the Another Link in the Chain (ALITC) Program. **Joe Stewart** leads our efforts and has done an outstanding job with the program and the Class of 2023. I asked Joe for a summary of our efforts and he provided the following;

■ Hi, Classmates, as many of you know, this year we launched our Another Link In The Chain (ALITC)



'73: Members of the Great Class of '73, spouses and family on I-Day

Program. The Great Class of 1973 has officially taken the Class of 2023 under our wing. As their "Half Century Elders", we are making ourselves available as mentors until the last Mid of '23 graduates. Thanks to you, our ALITC Program is off to an exceptionally strong start. By all measures, our participation has far exceeded participation by previous classes. Well over 100 of us have participated to date, as well as scores of spouses and family members. To mention each of you by name is not practicable for this article. Nonetheless, you have put us on the map with the Class of 2023, their parents and the new Supe.

We have had four major events this year:

* The first occurred this spring when Classmates volunteered to represent us at more than 40 USNA Parents Club "Welcome Aboard '23" events across the country. Some Classmates were active in more than one state to represent our Class. We made a memorable and favorable first impression on the future Mids and their families. When the Parents of '23 were in The Yard for Induction Day, they were already very well aware of us. These early engagements, more than any other event, were responsible for creating the momentum we needed to launch ALITC. We could not have achieved all that we have so far without our Classmates who volunteered for these engagements.

* Then there was I-Day for '23 on June 27th. More than 70 Class-



'73: The Classmates at the Honor Coin Ceremony

mates mustered in The Yard, many with spouses and family members. The day began early on Hospital Point where the parents and families of '23 attended the Expo and Picnic while their soon-to-be Mids were processing in. Several thousands were in The Yard during the day and our Classmates and spouses were fully engaged with anxious families. Later in the day, we assembled at T-Court to witness the Class of '23 take the Oath. There is much more pomp and ceremony than our I-Day. But it all ends the same - the last member of the new Fourth Class Regiment eventually marches into Bancroft Hall and its great doors slam shut. The day ended with a Class Happy Hour at the Fleet Reserve Club along City Dock.

* The next milestone event was the Honor Coin Ceremony on July 15th in Alumni Hall. This highlights the Class of 2023's commitment to our Honor Concept. About 30 Classmates were witness to this signature occasion. To mark this commitment, Jim Campbell represented our Class to the Fourth Class Regiment. He delivered a highly relevant address emphasizing the lifelong dedication to the ideals we still embrace. At the conclusion of the Ceremony, our Classmates handed each Plebe an Honor Coin designed by our Honor Coin Committee -

Jim Campbell, Rick Elliott, Tom Gallagher, Tim McClay and Bob Wakefield.



Our Honor Coin

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Jim Campbell presenting an Honor Coin to a Plebe of '23

*The last official event for this year's ALITC Program was the Turnover Parade on August 15th. About 20 Classmates, several with spouses and family, met on historic Worden Field as the Fourth Class Regiment was formally accepted into the Brigade. We, along with the entire Brigade, witnessed this event which was pretty much unchanged since our Parade 50 years ago. Our Classmate Eric Olson represented us as the reviewer. To Eric and all our Classmates who have taken time from their schedules this summer and returned to The Yard (many traveling great distances), your contribution to our ALITC commitment is greatly appreciated.



The Regimental Staff with Admiral Eric Olson

The next events aren't until May 2020 when the Class of '23 conducts its Sea Trials and then climbs Herndon. In due course we'll be posting all the relevant gouge on the ALITC page of our Class website and via emails from our Class President. In the meantime, please keep in touch with the Parents Clubs in your areas to remind them of our commitment to the Class of '23.

Looking back since the beginning of this year as awareness of our ALITC Program grew, I have had a privileged vantage point to see all that you have made happen on behalf of the Class of '23. I believe we have set a benchmark for the classes who come after us. In the meantime, we're in it for the long haul, at least until the last Mid of '23 graduates. At the end of Stribling Walk, in front of our Class bench, is our Class' time capsule to be opened in 2073. I have shown it to parents and Mids of '23, telling them that when the Class of 2023 is our age this will be theirs to open for their ALITC Class. They react emotionally to this and I think they realize that "this place" of legacy and tradition is like no other. And they express appreciation that we are part of all this.



Our Time Capsule

Our last event this summer and arguably the greatest occurred on August 19th, when our Classmate Bob Wakefield became the first member of the Great Class of '73 to be presented with an Honor Coin. Previously, the only other recipients have been members of the Class of 2023. Bob is a member of our Honor Coin Committee, Despite ALS, Bob was fully engaged with the design of our coin. Most significantly, he ensured that our Class motto "Non Sibi" was prominently centered on the coin's face. Classmates also conveyed appreciation to Bob's wife Susan. Thanks to Susan, Bob was ready and able to make this lasting contribution to our "Another Link in the Chain" effort. Our sincerest appreciation to Bob and Susan Wakefield for the exceptional example of "Non Sibi" in action.



Left to right: Kevin Callahan, Tim McClay, Tom Gallagher, Bob Wakefield, Bruce Hargus, Susan Wakefield



The ship is USS Constitution

The plaque at the bottom reads:

"Robert Wakefield
USNA 1973
"NON SIBL CLASSMATE."

Joe, Bob, and all the volunteers for ALITC, On behalf of the Class thank you for your Great efforts with ALITC.

On to other news. Dave Stacy passed along news of a 28th Co mini-reunion. "Jim, In July three groups of roommates converged on Portsmouth, NH after a successful running rendezvous of detachments arriving from Kansas, South Carolina, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire and (we have yet to figure out where the Zimet's actually live...their yacht is all over the East Coast but they call Oriental, NC homeport). Mike and Mari Zimet cruised north with the Mari Mi, mooring her in the Portsmouth Harbor while the second detachment gathered at Logan Airport before making an approach into Portsmouth where Dudley and Nancy Outcalt make their home. Great food, plenty of adult beverages, communion of 28th Co spirits, feats of days past and vast amounts of sea stories (some of which could be true) were all on the Plan of the Day. Of course, Nancy and Mari provided adult supervision to prevent any unintended stay at the Portsmouth Naval Prison located iust across the river...the ladies did not inform us it was closed until the last day: smart."



Dave Stacy, Mike Zimet, Chuck Stevens, Dudley Outcalt, Joe Stewart and George Watt outside the Naval Prison

I have some sad news to pass on. **Jim Russell**, 7th Co, passed away on 1 August 2019 from complications of Huntington's Disease. A Service of Committal at the Columbarium is planned for 25 October 2019.

Dave Herr, 17th Co, passed away in May. I will pass on additional information when I receive it.

Please keep Jim's and Dave's families in your thoughts and prayers and look for more on their lives in an upcoming Last Call.



I'm over my limit again and have to stop. Keep the news and stories coming. Again, we hope you have a Great Holidays and as always; Beat Army and Semper Fi! —General

CLASS SECRETARY COLUMN DEADLINES

Send to: classnews@usna.com

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