

*U.S. Naval Academy, Class of 1975, Shipmate Column*  
*Mar - Apr 2015*

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Dear 'mates, The 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion of the Flower Children of the Brigade is only a few months away! We will gather in Annapolis for the Air Force game on Saturday, 3 October. Class meetings, Memorial Service, and Ice-breaker Dinner will be on Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Golf and Mike's Crab House are on Thursday. Important notes: Headquarters hotel is the DoubleTree (410-224-3150; Group Code is U75). Tailgater will be in the N\* Room inside Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium, so you WILL need game tickets. The committee is doing their best to keep costs reasonable—but hey, news flash—Annapolis during Navy football season is expensive. This will be the biggest and best reunion our class has ever hosted. Can't wait to see all of you! Check the USNA '75 Facebook page or the web page for the latest gouge.

<photo 75#1: "The Kernel" and TRUMAN Skipper>

**John Langan** attended a Navy League event in St. Louis over the winter. The Commanding Officer of USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN-75), CAPT "Hyde" Roth, was the keynote speaker.

Captain (Ret) **George "Goose" Siragusa** presented a check for \$107,670.36 to Byron Marchant, president of the USNA Foundation. Goose says, "That check, made up of ExxonMobil employee donations matched 3 to 1 under the company's Foundation Educational Grant Matching program, is part of over \$900,000 donated to the Naval Academy through the company program since 2005." This year's matching program funds are earmarked in part to the Science, Technology, Engineering and Match (STEM) camps run "in the yard" during the summer. Some of the relevant modules are Cyber issues, Robotics and Aquaculture Engineering—taught in part, by midshipman. "This kind of exposure to these disciplines helps underserved children make smart course choices in high school

and be better prepared to study these subjects in college," says Natalie Brianas, U.S. Naval Academy Foundation Assistant Director of Corporate & Foundation Relations. She goes on to say that the "secret sauce in the USNA STEM equation is our midshipmen who can really relate to the kids." George ended his visit to the yard with a courtesy call on the Superintendent.

<photo 75#2: Byron Marchant receives the ExxonMobil donation from George >

Father **Rick Gribble**, CSC is a Roman Catholic priest in the Congregation Holy Cross. He is a



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professor of Religious Studies at Stonehill College in Massachusetts. This month the Catholic University of America Press will publish Rick's new book *Navy Priest: The Life of Jake Laboon, SJ*. USS LABOON (DDG 58) is named after Chaplain Laboon. Rick dedicated the book to the Class of 1975. I am looking forward to getting a signed copy.

<photo 75#3: The Carrizales family at Fort Stanton >

**Jay Carrizales** and family ventured south to Fort Stanton (near Ruidoso NM) just before Christmas to visit the fort for a history project of Jay's daughter. They knew the local re-enactors would be dressed in period costume (mid-1850's) during the visit but never expected to be invited to join in. Thus, JJ became a Private in the garrison while his wife and daughter were ladies at the post. It was a marvelous visit and far exceeded anything expected as the Garrison went all out to treat their guests warmly and introduce them to life in the fort. That night they were treated to a fantastic Christmas dinner before going on a



caroling hayride.

<photo 75#4: Fred Cohrs. Nice salute!>

**Dan Cohrs '72** sent a picture of his younger brother **Fred Cohrs**. Fred left USNA following Youngster Cruise and graduated from Michigan State before earning his M.S. and Ph.D. from Cornell. Dan found Fred's B-robe and cover in a closet in their childhood home. The Firstie brother made the Plebe brother don his gear and salute. Thanks Dan! Fred, we hope to see you at the 40<sup>th</sup>. ---  
 75 Sir! Larry

