

U.S. Naval Academy, Class of 1975, Shipmate Column
Member Services 2015

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Dear 'mates, The great 40th Reunion is almost here! 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 2nd. Golf and Crab Feast at Mike's are on Thursday. Important note: Tailgater will be in the N* Room inside Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium, so you WILL need game tickets. All Flower Children planning to attend need to do three things ASAP (if not sooner): 1—Get yourself a place to sleep. 2—Buy game tickets. As of 30 June, very few tickets remain. Our block of tickets was almost sold out but we were able to add some more. A majority of the remaining tickets are "standing room only" but they will allow you to enter the stadium and the tailgater. Click on the "Hill" section to order these if the regular tickets are sold out. 3—Register for class events (golf, Crab Feast, Friday evening dinner, N* Room Tailgater). To register, log in to the USNA Alumni Association website (www.usna.com), click on the **Classes** link under **Stay Connected**, and select **1975** from the drop down menu. Once on our page, click on the **Events** tab, and you will see the link to the registration. After all of that is checked off your list, you can visit the Class of 1975 USNA store at www.usnaclasstore.com/75store.html.

Calling all authors! We are going to set up a Flower Child Book-signing event at the DoubleTree before the Ice Breaker dinner on Friday, 2 October. Shoot me an email if you'd like to participate. **Erwin Wunderlich, Jim Tenuto, Pat Sloan, Rick Gribble**, and yours truly are all published authors ... and I am sure there are others in the class as well. Bring books to Annapolis and share your creations with your classmates!



Photo #1: "Golfers: Dan Zazworsky, Rick Lindsay, Tim Naple and Steve Laabs"



Photo #2: "Foursome #2: Craig Solem, Don Garrett, Tom Dlugolecki, and Dick Arnold"

San Diego classmates, led by **Dick Arnold**, marked the 40th anniversary of our graduation and commissioning with a golf outing and dinner on 4 June. Nineteen 'mates attended. In addition, they were fortunate to have Sue Joller and Nancy Burd (now Laabs) as well. The final count, including spouses, was 36. Attending Flower Children included: **AJ Ronacher, Mark Regn, Rick Lindsay, Speer Ezzard, Steve Laabs, Ted Spilman, Tim Naple, Tom Dlugolecki, Tom Gadzala, John McTighe, Bobby**

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Clark, Chip Stratmann, Craig Solem, Dan Zazworsky, Dick Arnold, Don Garrett, Ed Zapolski, Jim Tenuto, and Tom Davilli. The group—under the influence of excessive brotherhood and possibly assisted by adult beverages—crafted an illustrated poem entitled *“The Hearts and Souls of the Children of the Flower.”* I’m saving a copy in the *Shipmate* locker for use in a future issue.



Photos #3 and #4: “4 June 2015 in San Diego”

Three 12th Company folks who live in the Tampa-Orlando area visited with our classmate, **Larry Newcomer**, at this home in Port Richey, FL. Newk has Multiple Sclerosis and is working hard to continue with his normal life. **JJ Cuff** talked to him in May. Larry was still considering coming to the 40th. He has not totally ruled it out but has not committed either. Our prayers continue daily for him and his family.



Photo #5: “**Jim Crandall, Newk, Gary Miller, and Fred Bremer**”

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Photo #6: "St. Louis Navy League Luncheon—4 June 2015"

Joanne and **John Langan** attended the St. Louis Navy League event in June, where they enjoyed listening to CNO **Jon Greenert**. Here is a report from Da Kernel:

Jon and his wife Darleen visited our area for their first time. One of the events that kept him busy was providing ALCON with a current and future Navy overview at our local Navy League luncheon. Jon was a real pro and a huge success in his mission. How blessed our class is to have such a stellar leader at the Navy's helm. Included in the photo in addition to Jon and Darleen are my wife Joanne, and our youngest son, Justin, a 2010 grad. Justin had just flown home from San Diego, where he is assigned to HSM49. He recently got engaged to his best buddy, Jen Voges (also from STL) and wanted to introduce her to the Langan Clan. I did throw him a slight curve when I told him to bring his whites even though on leave, as all of us were going to attend a CNO luncheon the day of his arrival. Naturally he didn't believe his pop, but he humored me anyway. Afterwards the young LT was pleased that he listened to the old O6, especially after being "coined" by the CNO. One last note: this luncheon took place exactly 40 years to the date of our commissioning. Joanne and I are looking forward to seeing all at our 40th reunion, where in addition to remembering good times and friends we will celebrate (on 4 Oct) our 40th wedding anniversary.

On 25 June Nancy and I joined a whole bunch of friends and family in a courtroom in Reading, PA. Our son Jim and daughter-in-law Liz officially adopted our newest grandson, Nathaniel James Warrenfeltz. They have been Nathaniel's foster parents since birth and are very happy to add a son to the family, joining their two daughters. I now have a "son of a son of a sailor." 75 Sir! Larry