

*U.S. Naval Academy, Class of 1975, Shipmate Column
January - February 2016*

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Dear 'mates, Writing about current events in a column with a two-and-a-half month lead-time is usually a very bad idea. Nevertheless, I will break my rule and do so this month. (The deadline for this column is right before Thanksgiving.) The 2015 NAVY football team deserves all the attention they are garnering. The coaching staff, captains, seniors, and every last team member have carried all of us into uncharted territory. At 9-1, it is the best start since the Cotton Bowl team of 1963. Houston is the next team up on the quest to go 1-0 each week. A win over the Cougars will make Navy the host in the first ever American Athletic Conference Championship. Whatever happens for the rest of the season, 2015 will be the year Navy fans look back on proudly!

Webmaster **Andy Howard** has moved our web page to a new site that USNAAA supports. See the link above and update your favorites. (Just change “.com” to .net”) Special thanks to **Steve Hall**, who worked the internet communications issue with the Foundation. You can also visit the Flower Children's Facebook page (USNA '75) and two different Linked In pages (USNA 75 and U.S. Naval Academy, Class of 1975).

Photo #1: “Commemorative challenge coins for the 75th Brigade Boxing tournament”



Plans are moving ahead for the class to help celebrate the 75th year of Boxing at the Academy. Bidding for the boxing gloves and headgear totals \$550 at column deadline, with a goal of \$1200. That will pay for the commemorative coins that will be handed out by coach McNally throughout the year. Send your bids or contributions to **Kerwin Miller**, at Imkemlaw@gmail.com; bidding will end 31 Jan 2016. If there is enough interest (50 attendees), there will be a reception held at the Bo Coppage room in Alumni Hall two hours before the Brigade Final fights on 26 Feb 2016. All four Class of '75 boxing champs and our boxing coaches will be there. The crab dip alone is worth the \$20 ticket price. Send RSVPs and donations to **George Tusing** at bubbleo@hotmail.com. For any other questions, please contact **Tom Donaldson** at tdonaldson5@gmail.com.



The 40th Reunion was wet and wonderful. The response was unprecedented—resulting in sold out events all weekend. **Mike Lord** and the reunion committee did a wonderful job dealing with the enormous turnout. Yes, many of us ate standing up at the Friday dinner because we overwhelmed the capacity of the DoubleTree. But personally, I will trade a bit of overcrowding for the chance to see so many friends over a wonderful weekend. The N* Room tailgate lived up to exceedingly high expectations. Plus, it was warm and dry in there—unlike the conditions the team dealt with as they whipped Air Force. Here are just a few of the thousands of pictures that captured some of the weekend.

Photo #2: “Pat Sloan performs a musical chow call at Paul's Homewood Café.”

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Photo #3: "Herding wet cats. Posing in the chapel after the memorial service."



Photo #4: "Bob and Sheila
"Mac" Clark"



Photo #5: "Chuck and
Rhonda Geyer model
the alternate uniform for
dinner ... tux and
Chucks"

Photo #6: "Ninth Company"



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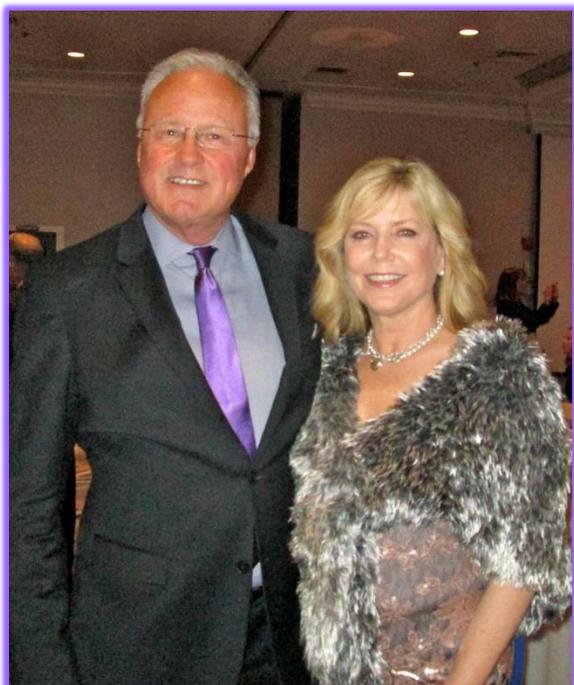


Photo #7: "Mike and Julie Langley"



Photo #8: "Jim and Lynn Tenuto"



Photo #9: "Wet goats prepare to beat Air Force"

Go to the following website to check out many, many more shots that were taken by our paid professionals:

<https://www.smugmug.com/gallery/n-xSwpQz/>

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The book-signing event before the Friday night dinner at the 40th was a success. We sold some books and had a lot of fun talking to classmates. If you weren't able to stock up, you can still get books directly from the authors.

- **Pat Sloan's** "One Little Train" is perfect for your grandchildren. Contact Sloaner on Facebook or via email at pfsloanesq@aol.com.
- You can contact **Jim Tenuto** to get his award-winning mystery novel "Blood Atonement" in hardcover or in paperback. Jim is on Facebook or you can send him an email at jtenuto@executiveforums.com.
- **Erwin Wunderlich** has an award-winning historical fiction novel entitled "Salvos on the Backwater." He also published a trilogy of children's books. Contact Erwin at erwinwunderlich@yahoo.com.
- I have copies of "Sea Stories: A Virtual Wastebasket of Random Memories" for each and every one of you. (If I run out, I'll get more printed!) It is a memoir made up of 111 sea stories that concentrate on my time at USNA and on active duty ... but also cover growing up in a small farm town and conclude with some stories of post-Navy years. Contact me on Facebook, or shoot me an email at usna75scribe@hotmail.com.

In the March-April Shipmate, we'll share a cool story about Steve DeWolf and his restored AT-6 Texan. Until then, here's to the Flower Children of the Brigade! ----- 75 Sir! Larry