

U.S. Naval Academy, Class of 1975, Shipmate Column Jul - Aug Member Services 2016

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Dear 'mates, The deadline for the Member-Service *Shipmate* always seems to sneak up on me. [Wait! Didn't I use that line in the last issue? Well, yes ... yes I did.] This time it falls on the day after Nancy and I returned from an 18-day trip to the mid Atlantic. We went to Maryland for her 40th reunion at Hood College and followed that with a couple of weeks at the Outer Banks Beach Club in Kill Devil Hills, NC. We've been vacationing there for Nancy's family beach reunion for 34 years. Our son and his family drove from PA while our daughter and her family flew in from Seattle. We love the chance to get all five grandchildren together for some fun (and noisy) family time. At ages 8, 4, 3, 1, and 9 months, it can be a bit hectic ... especially when you add three other toddler cousins to the mix.



Photo 75#1: "Scribe and Nancy with the five grands"

Here is an update on the story reported in the last *Shipmate* about **John Kittler's** efforts to help out a disabled veteran named Dan in Bay County, FL. With assistance from **Mike Zeider's** Quality of Life Foundation, the roof of the foreclosed house was replaced, Dan's VA loan was approved, and he closed on his new home on 25 May. Dan had cataract surgery earlier in the month and was able to actually see the documents he signed. John's next step is to help Dan get a prosthetic leg for his above-the-knee amputation. Dan wants his new house to go to another veteran-in-need when he's gone. That gave Kitts an idea. As the Florida Homeless Veterans Task Force Chair for AMVETS, he is proposing a pilot program to get veterans into home ownership with the property eventually being passed on to a 501c3 charity for sale to another veteran. Best of luck with a great idea!

Here's a note from **Tony Barbieri** about a late spring guys' trip. Let's go fishing!

"Warrior '75ers (and a wanna-be, but had to wait until '99) sortie'd north to make a GREAT four-day sojourn to the fishing mecca of Sitka, AK. We spent three terrific days fishing with Kingfisher Charters. Kingfisher Charters is most highly recommended ... top-notch folks! We arrived on 24 May, then attacked the fertile fishing grounds on three 3/4 day trips. We were part of a four-boat, 18-person outing that saw each of us take six King salmon and 3 HUGE Halibut (40+ lbs), not to mention Ling and YellowEye cods. **Tim Harden** (with two sons and a son-in-law) and my stepson and I have made a couple

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trips to Sitka over the years. This year we were joined by fellow 20th Company mate **John Carman** (with son-in-law Conrad, son of classmate **Laverne Lovell**) and **Don Garrett** (10th Co.) and his two sons.”



Photo 75#2: “AK Fishermen: Matt Harden, John Carman, Tony Barbieri, Tim Harden, Don Garrett”

Heidi and **Brian Weaver**’s son, Captain Tyler Weaver, assumed command of Operations Company, Headquarters Battalion, 1st Armored Division, US Army (Old Ironsides) at a change of command ceremony at Fort Bliss, Texas on 25 May. Ty graduated from Mexico (NY) High School in 2005, and from Clarkson University with a BS in Mechanical Engineering in 2009. He received his commission through the Army ROTC program at Clarkson. After attending the Field Artillery Basic Officer Leader’s Course at Fort Sill, OK, he was stationed at Schofield Barracks, HI for three years where

he served in the 25th Infantry Division and completed his Master’s Degree in Mechanical Engineering. After volunteering for a tour in South Korea where he was stationed at Camp Casey for a year, he returned to Fort Sill to attend the Field Artillery Captain’s Career Course. For the past year, Captain Weaver has been serving as the Battalion Fire Support Officer for an infantry battalion in the 1st Armored Division at Fort Bliss.



Photo 75#3: “Captain Tyler Weaver”

In the San Diego area, RADM **Jim Beebe** was the featured speaker at Coronado’s Memorial Day ceremony in Star Park. Both **Dick Arnold** and **Bob Clark** offered their unsolicited opinions that Jim did an outstanding job. With the ceremony coming so close after the death in combat of Mac and Bob’s son-in-law Charlie Keating (an accomplished and well-liked SEAL), it was especially meaningful to the patriots living in “America’s Finest City.”

Thanks once again to 12th Company’s resident reporter—**JJ Cuff**—for this tidbit:

“Hey Gang, this one is just in from our company mate ... “the Kernel,” **John Langan**. His son, Justin USNA '10, got married last weekend in St. Louis. The rumor is they had

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to do it there because the Cards were in town for a home series and John did not want to miss a game by traveling to JAX. Check out the pic ... the guy on the left at the bottom of the steps—our own John Langan ... and someone gave him a sword! The folks in the uniform shop really enjoy having John as a customer. He is still buying Dress Uniforms for all the family functions. As for Justin, he is a Helo Instructor in the RAG at JAX. Not bad for a guy to go from one beach community (San Diego) to another on the East Coast. Justin is showing his detailer that he is not going to homestead on one coast. All the best to both of them. Before he left San Diego our company mate **Dan Zazworsky** and his bride Colleen, gave the soon-to-be newlyweds some pointers on enjoying the Navy, flying helos, living near the beach, deployments, and raising a family. Way to go Zaz!”

Photo 75#4: “Langan wedding”

Time to start thinking about the 2017 football season. Go Navy!
Beat Army! ----- 75 Sir! Larry