

# U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY, CLASS OF 1975, SHIPMATE COLUMN

## MEMBER SERVICES, AUGUST 2017

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Dear 'mates: Congratulations to **Bill Squires** — the newly elected Eastern Region representative to the USNA Board of Trustees. Bill sent along a note of thanks.

"I want to thank the members of the great USNA Class of 1975 for your support during the election for the Eastern Region Representative on the United States Naval Academy Board of Trustees, especially those of you who live in the Eastern Region and who voted for me. I am honored and privileged to serve on behalf of all alumni — especially my classmates. I will make you proud. All the very best!"

<photo 75#1: "The new Eastern Region Representative">

Joining Bill in Annapolis for the USNA Alumni Association and Foundation meetings were **Steve Clark Hall** (Western Region Trustee), **Wayne Bergman** (Cleveland-Northeast OH chapter), **Kerwin Miller** (Past Board of Trustees member), **Alex Plechash** (Upper Mid-west chapter), **Fred Weber** (Chicago chapter), and **Craig Quigley**.



<photo 75#2: "Flower Children in USNAAA Leadership positions">

<photo 75#3: "Chapter officers—Bergman, Plechash, and Weber">



Diane and **Chris Cikanovich** were on their annual trip to Key West visiting friends and warming up from the winter in Maryland. Chick's former back seater in RASCs and his wife live there full time. Since you can't





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drink and sunbathe all day when in Key West (at least that is what Diane says), Chick joined his RAN (Reconnaissance Attack Navigator) for a Friday luncheon of a men's group. A pleasant surprise—**Rob Wilcox** is also a member. Rob retired from the Marine Corps and settled in Key West. His wife, Dr. Sharon Ward, is the local OB/GYN and Rob manages the practice. If you are in Key West and need a good OB/GYN (now what are the chances of that?) call Rob.

<photo 75#4: "Wilcox and Cikanovich in Cayo Hueso">

I've seen recent studies that say social media in general (and Facebook in particular) are not good for you. "They" say that Facebook makes you depressed, angry, and generally *anti-social*. I won't argue with the experts, but I will say that for a class scribe on a *Shipmate* deadline, Facebook is downright handy. A quick visit to the USNA '75 page tells me that our Herndon record (fastest time for a greased monument) is still intact after 45 years. It also made

it clear that  
this May  
was the  
month that

several companies decided to hold mini-reunions. A few cut-and-pastes and — *voila!* — the column is complete.

<Photo 75#5: "Fifth Company Florida mini-reunion">

<photo 75#6: "Marty is ready for any boating emergency. Duct tape in hand!">



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**Grant Begley's** wife Peg kindly sent us a quick summary of 5th company's get-together in Welaka, FL.

"The guys and their wives in attendance were Mickey and **Paul Barreto**, Barbara and **Tom Reilly**, **Marty Mason** (Debbie was in Annapolis on a trip), **Mike Darland** (Joanne couldn't make it down), Ceci and **Dennis Poulos**, **Sam Dennis**, Glenna and **Chalker Brown**, Diana and **Rob Glendinning**, along with Grant and me. Paul and Mickey, with Tom and Barbara Reilly's help, organized a wonderful weekend at the Barreto home, located on the St. John's River in Welaka, FL. Their gorgeous home is a little less than an hour southwest of Jax. Chalker brought his boat over and we had a river cruise to Silver Glen Springs. It was delightful. The meals were amazing—and catching up with classmates of Grant's priceless. I hope we have more of these opportunities. Sam Dennis, Chalker Brown, Tom Reilly, and Rob Glendinning live in Jacksonville, Paul Barreto just south of Jax, Grant and I purchased a home in Orlando on a beautiful clear lake, and Dennis and Ceci are building a great home in Melbourne, FL."



<photo 75#7: "35th Company in Italy">  
<photo 75#8: "The guys found barrel #35">



Two other companies held mini-reunions a little farther away—in the Tuscany region of Italy. Rhonda and **Chuck Geyer**, Debbie and **Phil Troy**, Elizabeth and **Mark Milliken**, Jeanine and **Rod Repka** spent a week in a country villa as their home base for a grand tour of Italian wineries. The guys had a cooking lesson from an Italian chef. Everyone survived with all fingers intact ... and the finished product was delicious.

At about the same time, five members of 22nd company were in the same region of the same country. Margie and **Harry Lee**, Chris and **Brian Schires**, Diane and **John Mauthe**, Toni and **Bob Meunier**, and Lisa and **Mike Lake** made side trips to Florence, Pisa, Siena, Rome, Venice and toured the Impruneta area. They also visited the Florence American Cemetery and Memorial and posed at the grave sites of our



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fallen heroes from WW II. No photos with barrel #22, but they did find a 1975 bottle of LaQuerce Chanti in the wine cellar of their villa!

**<photo 75#9: "22nd company in the Florence American Cemetery">**



**<photo 75#10: "75 was a very good year">**

Enjoy the rest of your summer travels, Classmates and by the time we meet on these pages again it will be the beginning of academic year 2017-2018 ... and football season!

'75 Sir! Larry

