

**U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY, CLASS OF 1975, SHIPMATE COLUMN**  
**OCTOBER 2019**

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Dear 'mates: Uh—oh! Deadline is here. I'm here. You are out there doing fun stuff, but nobody has the time to write. Guess I'll just steal ... uhh, plagiarize ... uhh, borrow ... some stuff from our USNA 75 Facebook page so that the October issue doesn't go straight from '74 to '76! Good thing that President Chick was busy in July, and that he shares some things with Mark Zuckerberg.



<photo 75#1: "Flower children at the Brody wedding">

The first event was the wedding of Susan and **Bob Brody's** daughter. Also enjoying the festivities along with Diane and Chris Cikanovich were Pam and **Rex Estilow**, Carol and **Roy Hawkens**, and **Steve Urich**. Congratulations!

You may not know it, but the class used to have a gavel that was passed from president to president. At some time in the distant past, it disappeared. Prompted by Chick's query at the Brody wedding, Roy Hawkens returned home and searched a box in his attic containing USNA memorabilia. It accompanied

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Roy on four moves and had not been opened for over three decades. The gavel is found! (Roy placed himself on report.)

### <photo 75#2: “Britt and Cikanovich”>

On their way north to Niagara Falls, Diane and Chick had brunch with Maria and **Larry Britt** in Saratoga Springs.

Congratulations to Navy Rowing on a great season, topped by summer competition in Europe. The 2019 Henley Royal Regatta closed with great excitement as the United States Armed Forces team (made up of Midshipmen from the United States Naval Academy and Navy's heavyweight, lightweight and women's programs), went head-to-head with the German Bundeswehr team in the championship final of the King's Cup trophy event. After wins over Canada and France in the first two rounds of knock-out competition, the American team found itself in a memorable contest against the highly-regarded German squad. At the completion of an ultra-competitive race, the Midshipmen team came from several seats behind to win by three quarters of a boat length. Each co-ed team included at least two women in their competition shell. (Thanks to **Rich Luke** for keeping us up to speed on everything happening with Navy Rowing.)

As you undoubtedly know, every June there is a competition between all service academies to see which school's alumni can reach the highest percentage of contributors to their academy fund. Congratulations to perennial winner—the Merchant Marine Academy—on another victory. **John Kittler** found a way to have some fun with the whole thing. He discovered that a contributor can designate any name to his contribution. John suggests that for \$75.00, each of us can make 13 five-dollar contributions. Thanks to Kitts, every class of 1975 member of 10th company contributed this year—including those men who left Annapolis during plebe summer. Rumor has it that W.T. Door also made a contribution on behalf of '75.

Kitts also reminded us to search online for “Veterans Benefits Navigator.” There are a lot of programs out there that we can use. We can also use them to help our fellow veterans who may not be as fortunate as we are.



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<photo 75#3: "At USNA for the Supe's Retirement">

**Jon Greenert** joined Chick at USNA for VADM Ted Carter's change of command and retirement.

Time for a *mea culpa* from your Scribe. I never answer our landline. Consequently, classmates occasionally leave me a message. I wondered why you all didn't just use my cell number ... until I checked the latest *Shipmate* only to find that the only number I had listed in our column header was our landline! So I made the switch. See the mobile phone number listed above. See y'all next month! '75 Sir! Larry