

78

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 1%
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 79%PRES: **Glen Woods**SEC'Y: **Vince Balderrama**

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The Dark Ages have arrived and I am pretty much feeling it these days. I am like a duck in the water- looking smooth and graceful above the waterline but paddling like a son-of-a-gun below the surface. For that reason this edition will be sparse. Look for a *lot* more in the next "Stewardship" edition.

Here are a few LinkedIn extracts:

Joe Martin is now an Account Executive with Crowley Maritime. **Glenn Flanagan** is now Director, Naval Forces Government Relations at Northrop Grumman Mission Systems. **Rob Cloutier**, Ph.D. is now Professor at University of South Alabama, College of Engineering. **Fred von Ahn** is now Special Assignment at FirstEnergy. **Gary Rupp** is now Senior Program/ Project Manager (Subcontractor) at Information Innovators Inc. (Triple-i)

Ed Henkler dropped a note that he and Diane and have relocated to Chapin, SC. Classmates passing through the area (near Columbia) are welcome any time, especially if they want to spend some quality time on or beside Lake Murray. They've wanted to live on the water for a long time (wonder where that comes from?) and realized they could finally realize their dream. It's not retirement as his wife has developed a very successful blog, InMyOwnStyle.com and Ed has an evolving website and business, TheBlindGuide.com. He is also involved in a venture that he hopes everyone hears about this year. It's a smartphone app which will provide beaconless turn-by-turn navigation and augmented reality in complex indoor environments. Although the product will eventually serve everyone, it is initially being developed for people who are blind or visually impaired. It will make indoor environments as accessible as GPS has made the outside environment. Watch for a Kickstarter campaign in March-April 2016.

Please remember Betsy and **Mike Shinego** in your thoughts and prayers. On Nov 13th, their oldest daughter, Carrie, lost her courageous battle with cancer. She was just 31. Carrie battled melanoma for two years through clinical trials, different treatments - mostly immunotherapy based, and chemo/ radiation. Things would work for several months and the tumors would start shrinking and then it would stop working and the tumors started growing/spreading again. It was a devastating emotional roller coaster this past year for the family. When the last available treatment stopped working this past September and the tumors in her brain started to grow again, she went into home hospice. She remained active until the last week when her condition degraded significantly and thankfully passed peacefully. Betsy and Mike were with Carrie and Brian/grandkids for the last week and said their goodbyes to her while she was still conversant and able to engage with them. She was strong and courageous to the end ... never once did she say "why/woe is me." Her final words focused on making sure that her family, including the pets, were going to be OK. It was a very, very tough day - something no parent should ever have to experience. I know I have written of many of our '78 family who have lost or had someone dear lose their lives to cancer or other cause. We have always rallied to one another, offering our time, help, prayers and best wishes for consolation and healing. We do the same now for Betsy and Mikey. We also remember two other members of our '78 family who passed away a while ago- but of whom we only recently became aware: We lost a classmate widow on 10 May, Lori Ann Huff Teufel. Lori's brother, Ken Huff, just sent notice to the Academy. Lori is rejoined with her husband **George Teufel** (22nd Co) whom we lost in April of 2009. Her obituary can be found here: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/pilonline/obituary.aspx?pid=174846364>. There was no other information provided. A year ago from December, we lost non-graduated classmate **Richard R. Schimizza**. Rick, a NAPSTER, died on December 29, 2014 as a result of an airplane accident in Port Clinton, Ohio. *Eternal Father, Strong to Save.....*

Another way we rally about each other is by making efforts to help find cures so no one else is lost to any affliction- like **Alex "Dawg" Callas'**

annual Gold Day for MDA, or participating in Runs for Cures or even just making someone's life better with community service like helping in soup kitchens, food and clothing drives. Like many of you who help in various ways, **Chris DeMarche** is doing *his* part to fight cancer. He'll be running the Boston Marathon in April as a member of the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge (DFMC) team. Your support of his run will help fund essential cancer research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. If you wish to help another classmate out in doing their part you can support him by giving a gift to his run at: <http://www.runDFMC.org/faf/r.asp?t=4&i=1141651&u=1141651-410331614&e=8620028404> In doing so, help bring an end to the challenge of cancer. Thanks for your effort, Chris, and everyone else in '78 who participates in making our world and lives better- whether still in uniform and out of it. We've always led from the front and by our examples.

Proud to be your Classmate.

Launchin' Spot Four.

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 0%
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 90%PRES: **LCDR Sean Cate, USN (Ret.)**E: Sean.Cate@1979.usna.comSEC'Y: **LCDR John "Wiz" Withers, USN (Ret.)**

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 0%
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 96%PRES: **Tim Kobosko**SEC'Y: **CAPT Joseph A. Grace Jr., USNR**

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Greetings Classmates,

Today is the 1st of February 2016; deep in the heart of the Dark Ages. The boat has still not made it back to Washington it's still in Deale, MD in the Shipyard, Washington has just come through a record setting blizzard and people are still digging out from the snow. Navy beat Army again, the super bowl is next weekend and Mardi Gras is next week. Where does the time go?

Speaking of the Blizzard, Jim Huck still pulled off the Class of 1980 Happy Hour. It wasn't quite as well attended as usual - but hats off to the hearty souls who made the trek:

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