

Class of 80 Notes Jun 2023

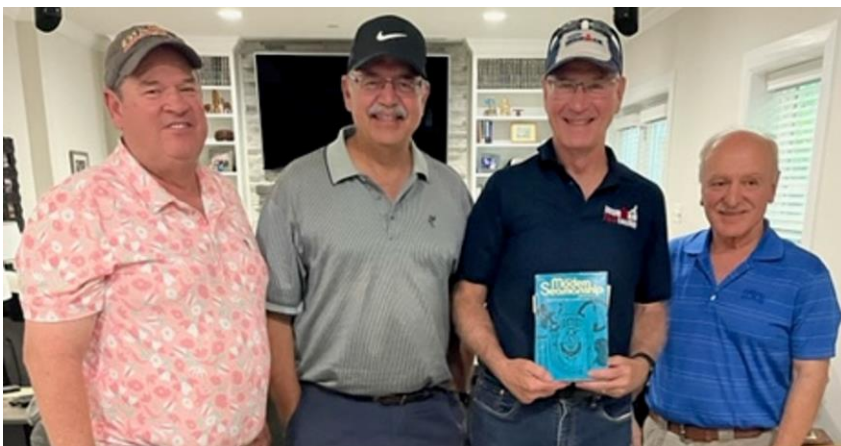
Unfortunately I have some sad news to report. For those that don't get on the Zoom calls or on Facebook, **Paul Benvenuto** passed away in April. He didn't let many people know, but he had been dealing with a blood disorder for many years. Despite his challenges he was constantly in the pool and was swimming until the very end. He was at the hospital for a blood transfusion and developed an infection and passed. He was my 3/c roommate and gave me my lifelong love of Jimmy Buffet. He will be missed.

John Cordes got some notes to me just a little late for the last Bulletin so I am including them here. He said he went 0 for 2 in trying to meet up with classmates. He and his wife were in Florida in Jan and Feb but came down with Covid before he could meet up with some folks in the Villages. Two weeks later he was supposed to meet some classmates in DC but was not testing negative so that was a bust as well. In March, Diane and he moved to rural Santa Cruz county from the hectic and crowded Bay Area. Their morning view is now of a corral, creek and the cows in the neighbor's pasture up the hill. John updated his latest travels saying that he was spending a month visiting the scenery in Utah. He has visited Zion NP, Kodachrome Basin SP, Bryce NP, Grand Staircase-Escalante NM, Canyon Lands NP. They plan to hit Arches NP before heading home. I can say from personal experience that visiting the Big 5 and the other parks on the Grand Loop is well worth the effort.



Rod Walker reported that he turned that magical number of 65 and celebrated in Vegas with wife **Dolly, Bret & Vilma McGough, Steve and Terri Mehling**. It was his 29th(!) birthday observance in Vegas. He said he enjoyed a great dinner, superb company, and wonderful stories!

Mark Yost reported the following: Big golf outing in DC last weekend: **Chris Mills, Tim Fields, George Asseng** and me. Chris had a hole in one. George probably had the low score. My



best hole may have been a double bogey. Tim was on the east coast to take depositions and he spent the weekend in DC. Tim is the managing partner in a 60-person firm in Albuquerque. I sought management advice for my one-person law firm where the boss is a jerk. Post-golf refreshments at the Mills mansion. Very cool home with gracious host Chris and hostess Ann. And a copy of Modern Seamanship around which we gathered and paid homage.

Lastly, congratulations to the Class of 1980 and thanks to everyone who contributed to the All Class Challenge, May 16-18. We ended up in fourth place with 48% participation, edged out of third after a recount. We raised over \$16,000, much of which was hopefully targeted to our support of the Maritime Center of Excellence. We're over halfway to our goal of raising \$280,000 – once we hit our goal, we'll have a classroom in the MCOE named for the Class of 1980. Thanks also to Mark Yost for being the diligent Clock Orderly and reminding us how much time was left in the Challenge. It was instrumental in our getting to formation on time!

Please take a minute and go to our class webpage, CGA80.org, and peruse the posts that classmates have been uploaded. We now have 66 of the original 328(?) people signed up and are looking for more to join. Remember, once in 80, always in 80, you did not have to graduate to join. Please pass the word to others than you might run across. **Tim Powers, Bill Zack and Christine Quedens** have done a superb job organizing the website and keeping it up-to-date. Keep those cards and letters coming and check out our Facebook page as folks post more things there than they send me.

