

UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND FOUNDATION

SHIPMATE

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SHIPMATE

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Get the Goat

This Bill is hiding somewhere in this issue. Find him and email us at getthegoat@usna.com with the correct page number and you will be entered into a drawing for a prize from the Alumni Association. Good luck! The drawing is limited to the first 100 correct answers, so get reading.

Bill was hiding behind the Class of 1971 profile on page 85 of the March-April 2022 issue of Shipmate.

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Our Mission

To serve and support the United States, the naval service, the Naval Academy and its alumni by furthering the highest standards at the Naval Academy; by seeking out, informing, encouraging and assisting outstanding, qualified young men and women to pursue careers as officers in the Navy and Marine Corps through the Naval Academy; and by initiating and sponsoring activities which will perpetuate the history, traditions, memories and growth of the Naval Academy and bind alumni together in support of the highest ideals of command, citizenship and government.

SHIPMATE is the official alumni magazine of the United States Naval Academy.



On the Cover
2021 U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association Distinguished Graduate Award recipients.

Photo by Mike Morgan

CLANDESTINE COLLECTION

By Mike Berardino



MELTON '66 POSSESSES LARGEST PRIVATE ESPIONAGE ARTIFACT COLLECTION

When it comes to international men of mystery, Austin Powers has nothing on H. Keith Melton '66.

Having devoted much of his adult life to collecting and documenting virtually every aspect and artifact from the world of espionage, Melton has developed a worldwide reputation as an intelligence historian and specialist in clandestine technology.

Movie and television producers have enlisted Melton to serve as a technical adviser or consulting producer for more than 60 spy-related projects, including *The Sum of All Fears* and critically

acclaimed cable and streaming hits *The Americans* and *Spycraft*.

An estimated 600,000 annual visitors to the International Spy Museum in Washington, DC, owe much of their experience to Keith and Karen Melton's 2017 donation of some 7,000-plus spy devices, books and papers. Only about 4 percent of the collection is on display at any given time, so the revelations should keep flowing.

And devoted readers of Melton's 35 books on the dark art of espionage—including a popular children's series—have benefited from a fascination with



UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE INTERNATIONAL SPY MUSEUM

A motorized submersible canoe, codenamed Sleeping Beauty, was an underwater vehicle designed by the British SOE during World War II. The American Office of Strategic Services, the predecessor of the CIA, obtained this Sleeping Beauty in 1944. After World War II it was used as a prototype for swimmer delivery vehicles, still used today by U.S. Navy SEALs.

the craft that dates to his time at the Naval Academy. His first exposure to the topic came through reading *Of Spies and Stratagems*, Stanley Lovell's 191-page history of the American Office of Strategic Services, predecessor of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Chief gadget maker for the OSS, Lovell ignited a curiosity deep inside Melton's fertile mind that eventually sent him around the globe in search of such items.

"He was the master," Melton said during a phone interview from his home in Boca Raton, FL. "He was the Professor Moriarty of Sherlock Holmes (fame)."



This *Sleeping Beauty* manual is part of the International Spy Museum's exhibit.

In 1997, Melton was the keynote speaker at an event marking the 50th anniversary of the CIA's founding. In the early '80s, well after Melton had resigned his commission in 1970 and entered private business en route to becoming one of the top McDonald's franchisees, the CIA asked him to serve as a historical consultant.

Set to turn 78 in May 2022, Melton still works actively as a consultant in the intelligence community.

"It's nice to make small contributions for a very important cause," he said.

Academy's Impact

When Melton reflects on his vast experiences from a business and writing career now in its sixth decade, he often finds himself drawing upon the training he received at the Naval Academy.

"The chain of command is something I believe in," Melton said. "I think it's there for a reason. I think it's important. I would like to believe in my business career my organizations had almost a militaristic bent. That's worked very well."

He employed as many as 1,500 people across his McDonald's enterprise, which peaked with 36 locations before he retired from the restaurant business in 2010. After 32 years, Melton was among the first in that franchise to implement themed restaurants. His team also designed some

of the first point-of-sale computer systems in McDonald's history.

"A broad engineering degree has made me dangerous in multiple different disciplines," Melton said with a chuckle. "When I went through the Academy, we didn't have majors. Everyone had the same curriculum. Being conversant in multiple disciplines makes you pretty well-rounded."

Melton and the many Academy graduates in his circle, especially in the South Florida alumni chapter, often discuss this topic.

"If you could survive the Academy, most (everything) else seemed much easier," Melton said. "The Academy, as I've often described it, was much more fun to be a graduate (of) than it was to be there. It's a great place to be from."

Success and innovation naturally flowed from that education.

"I remain in awe of the skills and the intellect of my classmates," Melton said. "I have wonderful classmates. They are good friends and some amazing people. We truly had the best of the best. I hope that's not being lost in the current political environment."

He cites the scientific method as a key to his Academy training and subsequent success. Take, for instance, his long-running quest to compile the world's largest private collection of spy memorabilia. For that he used "reverse engineering" to enhance his understanding and awareness of the look and likely location of many of his ultimate acquisitions.

Multiple trips to Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union were maximized once Melton had acquired both the knowledge and the available funds to round out his hobby. His work as a prolific author also took off during his days of McDonald's ownership.

"I had a very good team, and it gave me the luxury to manage projects from wherever I was," Melton said. "The secret to McDonald's is you only had to do four things: You had to consistently have hot food, cold drinks, a clean restaurant and a fast drive-through."

Setting the Record Straight

Melton is less sanguine when discussing certain modern spy projects in popular

culture. Even his appearances on talk shows or documentaries can test his patience when it comes to the details of espionage.

“I’m not a conspiracist at heart,” Melton said, “so when people start talking about black helicopters and our evil government, I correct that foolishness.”

Part of his life’s mission, it seems, is to set the record straight.

“Every country in the world has an intelligence service, and they’re not assassins,” he said.

“The purpose of an intelligence service isn’t to kill people. It’s one thing: To help a government never be surprised the way it was at Pearl Harbor, the way it was at 9/11.”

When a breathless TV producer contacted Melton for his input on a show about CIA assassinations, the author coyly asked which specific events would be discussed. Melton asked the producer to name his top 10 assassinations, then slowly lowered that request to a single instance.

“He couldn’t do it,” Melton said. “The answer is there aren’t any because the CIA didn’t do that. It probably provided support to other governments that did, but the CIA was never good at killing people.”

Melton admittedly has such high standards when it comes to the portrayal of the “clandestine world” of spying, he and his wife, Karen, will walk out of a movie theater or switch off their TV at the first sign of inauthenticity.

“I don’t have much patience for bad research,” said Melton, a consulting producer for two upcoming Netflix projects, *SPY OPS* and *Spies and Traitors*.

He has often joked that any serious spy would do everything exactly the opposite of the way James Bond rolls in the long-running film franchise, and his skin crawls each time he sees a book or TV show misuse the term “double-agent.”



After Fidel Castro took power in Cuba, the CIA trained and equipped a group of Cuban exiles to invade the island and start a revolution. The 2506 Assault Brigade was meant to fly this flag as a symbol of victory in Havana following the 1961 invasion attempt. When the attempt failed, the flag was later presented to President Kennedy by the survivors of the 2506 Brigade.

Hint: To be a double agent, you first must be recruited as an agent.

“Language and vocabulary are very important,” Melton said. “They’re precise for naval officers for good reasons.”

Remaining Engaged

In addition to his work with the International Spy Museum, where he holds a permanent seat on the board of directors, Melton finds time for at least one new book project each year.

Cane Masters, the custom cane company where he serves as president and lead designer, is another outlet for his engineering and business skills. At CaneMasters.com, visitors can purchase

handcrafted walking canes made of solid wood and designed to serve as a means of self-defense.

“A cane is one of the most effective personal protection tools imaginable,” Melton said. “With a cane in my hand, I can dominate a room.”

Canes, he noted, are ADA-protected and thus allowed on any form of transportation. A YouTube channel features a series of clips in which Melton extols the virtues of the cane-craft, even demonstrating what he terms The Unstoppable Cane Movement.

Planning his days in half-hour blocks that typically include two 30-minute exercise periods, Melton tries to get 7.5 hours of sleep and starts his workday by 8 a.m. He doesn’t smoke and avoids caffeine, alcohol and carbonated beverages.

“I’m probably pretty boring in some areas,” he said, but his wife disagrees.

His younger wife, Karen, has given up on trying to get him to retire and enjoy his golden years.

“It’s real simple,” Melton said. “You retire, you die.” 🍷



“If you could survive the Academy, most (everything) else seemed much easier. The Academy, as I’ve often described it, was much more fun to be a graduate (of) than it was to be there. It’s a great place to be from.”

—H. Keith Melton '66

'66

Life Membership: 66%
Donor Participation: 2.84%

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Summer approaches and I hope everyone is looking forward to the return of warmth. Leah and I sure are. We've certainly had our fair share of snow this year. There hasn't been a great deal of activity to report, so this article will be short.

Clay Spikes sent the following write up and photo.

✉ On Friday 28 January, daughter, Courtney, and **Clay Spikes** made the trip from Annapolis to Pittsburgh to have lunch with Becky and **Bruce Bickel**. We had an enjoyable time, reminiscing and bringing each of us up to date on our life situations. Bruce and Becky have booked a room at the Westin Annapolis for our 55th+1 Reunion. Clay said that our Classmates attending would be happy to hear that the Bickels are going to join the rest of us for this joyous occasion that necessarily had to be postponed from 2021 due to the Pandemic. The picture shows, left to right: Courtney, Becky, Bruce, and Clay. Thanks, Clay.



Courtney, Becky, Bruce and Clay

Guy Mendenhall reported that Kathleen Grace (Reidy) Olsen, 76, of Ledyard, wife of **Wayne Olsen**, passed away peacefully 13 January 2022. Her passing closed the chapter on a decade-long battle against Alzheimer's Disease. Her services were held on 5 February and Susie and Guy attended. Please keep Wayne in your prayers, and thanks to Guy for the notification.

And that concludes this issue. Some things to keep in mind: the Class web site has had the capability for Classmates and surviving spouses to register for the reunion since 15 February. It's straightforward to sign up. I hope you will consider attending. The Reunion page is also supposed to be in this issue, so please review it. There are some great activities planned. Until June ... All the best ... Mike!!!

interviews, all very informative and, for me, highly educational. As a submariner who spent most of these years chasing Soviet subs, my Vietnam experience was limited to passing into "Vietnamese waters" one night on a nuclear fast attack submarine so that our crew could obtain combat pay and so that we could reenlist several sailors to provide them with tax benefits. In short, I know nada, but I am a good listener. So, I need your assistance. Specifically, I need to talk to you, probably via Zoom. I will ask you to sign a release so that I can freely publish any of your memories before you die. I hope to gather at least 40 stories prior to my return to our camp in Maine for the summer where I plan to write the book (no title yet) in much the same format as the Great Depression Book. Anyone interviewed will, of course, receive one copy free :) I cannot guarantee that your memories/stories will make the final cut, but I can assure you that your assistance will be greatly valued and appreciated. I told those in attendance at McGarvey's that I have no set questions, other than asking where you came from when you entered USNA and via which route (Congressional, etc). I find a free flowing conversation works best because we often end up on interesting side issues. The idea is to provide a historical snapshot of this particular class of USNA grads and what they did in Vietnam and how it affected them in later life. I will be dedicating the book to our classmates who lost their lives in this war/"conflict." You can reach me at any time to discuss this project at edlinz@edlinz.com or (703) 577-5175 or 9248 Rockefeller Lane, Springfield, VA. 22153.

From **Steve McDonald**, 13 Feb

I got my Florida USNA65 tag in 2002 after Gary Burrus gave it up. Here are my license tags from yesteryear. Someone else has all these tags except for my Florida "Navy65" tag, still on my Porsche. I am through collecting old cars. I recall Tom Murphy had Maryland's USNA65 tag.

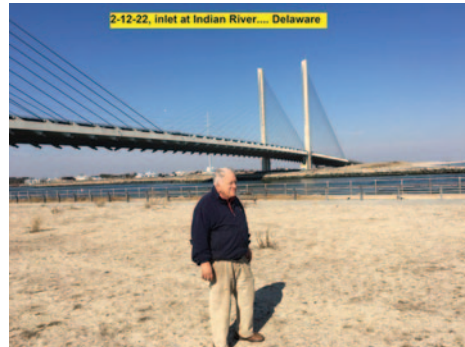
Steve



From **Phil Ferrara**, 13 Feb

We went down to visit **Sonny and Judy Harrison** at their beautiful new home in Rehoboth, Delaware, on 12 Feb weekend. **Linda** and I toured the Lewes and Rehoboth areas with them for nostalgia days and memories. In the photo Sonny is checking out

the canal and new cable-stayed bridge at the Indian River inlet. The great naval engineer waxed eloquently about the bridge design and use of stone barriers. Just like the old days building stuff around the world!!!



From **Dave Miller**, 17 Feb

Thought you might like this pic of Pat and me vacationing in Cancun.



From **Phil Ferrara**, 19 Feb

Navy won an exciting and crowd-pleasing wrestling meet against Army on 18 February. It was a nail-biting and close-fought meet with several matches won in the final seconds. '65ers at Alumni Hall for the meet were **Ted Nanz, Sam Dutrow, Chip Seymour**, and **Phil and Linda Ferrara**. Needless to say, Navy sang second!!!



Thazzit, Guys! Aloha, Dave



CLASS OF 1966
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY
55TH + 1 REUNION
1-4 SEPTEMBER 2022



OUR 55TH + 1 REUNION IS UPON US!

**IT IS OVER LABOR DAY WEEKEND IN DOWNTOWN ANNAPOLIS;
FOOTBALL TEAM OPPONENT IS DELAWARE BLUE HENS**

**WE HAVE CONTRACTS WITH THREE ANNAPOLIS HOTELS FOR ROOM BLOCKS.
RESERVATION INFORMATION IS POSTED ON OUR CLASS WEB SITE, USNA66.ORG.
OUR HOST HOTEL IS THE ANNAPOLIS WESTIN.**

THE WEEKEND'S FESTIVITIES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- | | | |
|-----|---------|---|
| THU | 01 Sept | Evening Regist. at Westin; Tour of Hopper Hall (5:00 p.m.);
Informal No Host Bar at Westin (7:00 p.m.) |
| FRI | 02 Sept | Morning Regist. at Westin; Personal Tours; Class Memorial Service
(11:00 a.m.); Supe Talk (1:50 p.m.); P-Rade (4:00 p.m.) |
| FRI | 02 Sept | No Host Reception at Westin (6:00 p.m.);
Evening Class Dinner Banquet (7:00 p.m.) |
| SAT | 03 Sept | Prayer Breakfast at Westin (9:00 a.m.); Personal Tours |
| SAT | 03 Sept | Tailgate before, during and after game at N Room of Navy-Marine
Corps Memorial Stadium (1:30 p.m. start 3:30 p.m.
k/o; 7:00 p.m. end) |
| SAT | 03 Sept | Evening Company Social Events (as scheduled by Company) |
| SUN | 04 Sept | Farewell Breakfast at Westin (9:00 a.m.)
or various Annapolis locations (Optional) |

**PLEASE GO TO OUR CLASS WEBSITE AT: USNA66.ORG FOR
MORE INFORMATION AND FOR LINKS TO SIGNINGUP FOR EVENTS.**

Notes:

1. Game Ticket Purchase Info and a link will be available on the Class Website in April 2022.
You MUST have a game ticket to attend the tailgate.
2. Buses will be provided for shuttle to events.
3. Anyone with special access requirements please contact Mike Baird: pmbaird@verizon.net or 410-279-1664.

LAST CALL

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them." —Laurence Binyon, 1914

Alan Spenser Lee '44

CDR, USN (Ret.)
16 January 2022

Richard Edwards Rumble '45

RADM, USN (Ret.)
1 March 2022

Isham Wiseman Linder '47

RADM, USN (Ret.)
22 January 2022

Thomas Bibb Hayward '48

ADM, USN (Ret.)
3 March 2022

Rufus William Robinson '48

3 February 2021

Thomas Frederick Blake Jr. '49

Col, USAF (Ret.)
16 July 2019

George Quigley Langstaff Jr. '49

3 January 2022

Bobby Roger Avery '50

Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)
8 March 2022

Frank Alan Stelzer '51

28 January 2022

Charles Allan Best '53

Col, USAF (Ret.)
20 July 2020

Robert Keith Coulter '55

Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)
9 February 2022

James Lewis DeGross '55

CAPT, USN (Ret.)
28 February 2022

Richard Bruce Gilchrist '55

CAPT, USN (Ret.)
4 March 2022

Aaron Bennett Jacobs '55

15 January 2022

John Melbourne Jones '55

1 March 2022

James William Brunner Sr. '56

24 January 2022

Richard Stanley Jensen '56

CDR, USN (Ret.)
8 January 2022

Algernon Sidney King Jr. '56

27 March 2021

Daniel Eubank McGlasson '57

CAPT, USN (Ret.)
12 January 2022

Joseph Francis Neary '57

CDR, USN (Ret.)
8 March 2022

Samuel Martin Purvis III '57

CAPT, USNR (Ret.)
6 March 2022

Charles Harry Collins '58

7 February 2022

Samuel Howell Swart Jr. '58

Maj Gen, USAF (Ret.)
4 March 2022

Daniel Harry Ziegler '58

Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)
21 February 2022

Edward Bigelow Baker Jr. '59

RADM, USN (Ret.)
26 January 2022

William Stephen Burgess '59

22 February 2022

William Donald Palmer '59

Col, USAF (Ret.)
14 January 2022

Donald Thomas Peters '59

15 February 2022

Carl F. Kuehne '60

15 February 2022

John Henry Rickelman '60

LCDR, USN (Ret.)
5 February 2022

Fred Robert Scalf II '60

LCDR, USN (Ret.)
16 February 2022

James Robert Gloude-mans '61

18 August 2019

Harold Cowan Griffin Jr. '61

3 February 2022

Alfred Ray Joyner '61

4 March 2022

Jared Prescott Kennedy '61

CAPT, USN (Ret.)
17 February 2022

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10 August 2021

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CDR, USN (Ret.)
17 February 2022

Thomas Michael Kincaid '62

3 February 2022

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16 February 2022

John Alan McAnally '63

17 February 2022

John Martin Costigan '64

3 March 2022

Jonney Lynn Barto '65

LCDR, USN (Ret.)
17 February 2022

John Joseph Smith '65

Maj, USMC (Ret.)
29 May 2018

Joseph John Castoro '67

CDR, USNR (Ret.)
14 March 2022

Roger Gavin Charles '67

LtCol, USMC (Ret.)
17 February 2022

John Philip Inman '67

CDR, USN (Ret.)
29 January 2022

Michael James Cummings '68

LtCol, USMC (Ret.)
9 March 2022

William Milnor Downing IV '68

18 February 2022

Thomas Nelson Inglis III '68

16 February 2022

David Hugh Ruddock '69

CDR, USN (Ret.)
8 March 2022

Kevin Thomas Fitzwater '70

27 February 2022

Thomas Joseph O'Leary '70

9 March 2022

Dan Lee Olson '70

25 April 2020

Robert Harold Stuhlman '71

CDR, USN (Ret.)
2 March 2022

Donald Hugh Atchison '73

27 February 2022

Finley Edward Nunn '76

5 October 2021

Micki Laine Fernbaugh '79

LCDR, USN (Ret.)
17 February 2022

Kevin Scott Roberts '79

30 November 2020

Lawrence John O'Connor '83

LT, USNR
16 February 2022

■ Obituary appears in this issue



This list consists of alumni deaths we have learned of since our last issue. Full obituaries will appear in Last Call if/when families send them in.

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