

hole in the NAS Whiting lacrosse field one week before his last winging. He is headed for San Diego to fly the ubiquitous H-3. Mike, have you seen Mrs. Rowan?

The last of the sub drivers are now finishing submarine school in New London. Here's the list: John Burton, CINCINNATI (SSN-693), Norfolk; French Caldwell, PARCHEE (SSN-683), Vallejo; Dennis Haines, POGY (SSN-647), Pearl Harbor; David Hall, NARWHAL (SSN-671), New London; David Jones, PLUNGER (SSN-595), San Diego; Mark Kenny, SEA DEVIL (SSN-664), Norfolk; Jeff Lee, GATO (SSN-615), New London; Tim Lorentz, JAMES MONROE (SSN-622), Charleston; Morgan McQuisten, SAM RAYBURN (SSN-635) New London; Ren Miller, GUARDFISH (SSN-612) San Diego; Dan O'Lone, LAFAYETTE (SSN-616), New London; Mike Schmitt, SCAMP (SSN-588), Groton; Dennis Simon, DANIEL BOONE (SSN-629), Charleston; Bruce Smith, HADDOCK (SSN-621), San Diego; Richard Snead, NATHAN HALE (SSN-623), Charleston; John Spencer, SKIPJACK (SSN-585), New London; Charles Swinton, RUSSELL (SSN-687), New London; and Myles Toguchi, OMAHA (SSN-692), Pearl Harbor.

The only other news from the nuclear field is that **Bill "Ricketts" Stubb** is now stationed in NIMITZ out of Norfolk. Billy, you have enough trouble walking; how are you going to get around on all those decks?

From the Surface Line stalwarts the only word is that **Mindy** and **Dan Busch** added a baby girl, name Amy Melissa, to the family on 30 December. Dan is stationed aboard CONE out of Charleston.

Okay out there—pick up something in your paws to write with and drop me the news. I know that it takes a while to get out, but better late than never. 'Til next month, take it easy!!

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Sec'y, 2nd Lt. **Michael Conklin** USMC
6115 N. Davis Highway, Apt. 49A
Pensacola FL 32504

Percent Members: 65

Well, we took the giant leap on the 3rd of March. The former Linda Duley made an honest and poor man out of me.

To quote a former bachelor, "Jimmy you're

a fool! . . . Hell, I'll wait until I'm 28 and marry some 19-year-old girl . . . I can't get married I'm engaged to Hymie."

Well for you that haven't figured it out **Kevin "Ragman" Ryan** married Debbie on the 13th of February.

Pat McCormick extended his duty in Phoenix while trying to impress the young ladies on the slopes. He did always want to be like **Jimbo "Elrod" Degree** and now he has a scar too. Good luck, and we all wish you a quick recovery, Pat.

A small Irish Catholic wedding took place at St. Pat's Cathedral in New York when **Bob Fallon** married Margaret Reid (Eddie "Wildman" Reid's little sister). Sword bearers included Stephen "Jock" Maloney, Mark Boensel, Joey Lynch and Eddieman.

Congratulations to **Hank "Dr. K" Kuzma**. He has made the all-Navy Basketball Team.

Apologies for the shortness and lack of news, but info was lost in transit from Washington to Florida.

Note the new address. Waiting to hear all the latest news. Congratulations to all who have recently married or have become proud parents. But let us hear about it.

Chapter News

DEADLINE: For July-August—21 May; for September—11 July

ANNAPOLIS

LCdr. **Ronald E. Ruys** USN
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Adm. Robert L. J. Long USN '44, Vice Chief of Naval Operations, was the featured speaker at the 14 March 1979 meeting of the Annapolis Chapter of the Alumni Association at the Officers' and Faculty Club. Admiral Long spoke to the seventy members and guests on three aspects of the modern Navy—a) the Washington Issues, b) the People's World, and c) Readiness in the Navy Today. He prefaced his remarks by stating this closeness to the Naval Academy, for not only is the technology in the Navy at a high standard today, but the leadership, especially as exemplified by the Academy graduate, is also at an excellent level.

As is known to any individual who makes a purchase today, the question of money—where it is coming from, how much there is, and where it is going—is all important. The Navy has been fortunate in receiving a lion's share of the military funds available, some \$43 billion, 32% of the military budget. Nevertheless, in the last two years, some \$40 billion has been lost. The funds available, therefore, must be used for the basic forestructure of the Navy—the Fleet and the Marine Corps. Ships and weapons of a higher quality and at an available basis must be the principal usage of the funds at the disposal of the Navy.

As regards the carrier debate, Admiral Long said that the Navy is likely to have but one carrier built until the 21st century; present thinking is that this carrier should be nuclear-powered. However, it is unlikely that such a carrier will be funded and the choice will then lie between a newer class 65,000 ton ship or

another 85,000 ton KENNEDY-class. The latter is the most acceptable because of its greater power potential.

Both the Navy and the Marine Corps have come up short in efforts to man their assignments with the all-volunteer force, but both are dedicated to the concept and are not in favor of a draft of young people at the present time; however, registration of the 18-year olds to implement the draft if necessary is acceptable.

As regards the present strategic system, the present SALT negotiations are most complex and, needless to say, are being given the closest attention.

As regards personnel, recruiting is still a problem for all of the services except the Air Force. The Navy would like to enlist 95,000 people this year, people of high standards and with a high-school education. There is likely to be a shortage of several thousand in this figure, and about 10,000 women will be included in the year's quota, this figure to double in five years. In the early 80s, there will be fewer men available, and women will have to take over more and more of the Navy functions. Thus far the women at shore have done a good job, but there has been a low shipping-over rate. At sea there will be problems, but it is too early to foretell how women will work out on board ship.

One of the main personnel problems has been the retention of Naval aviators. Whereas about 45-50% had been retained in past years, that figure is now down to less than 33%, the chief reason being that commercial airlines are hiring some four thousand a year. An increase in flight pay and a bonus for aviators is being considered. On the bright side, nuclear submarine officers are being retained in higher numbers than in previous years.

There is a definite shortage of trained petty officers, especially those with 9-16 years of

service. A greater effort must be made for the retention of these valuable personnel.

Admiral Long said that the Fleet is in a high state of readiness, in good material condition and with high morale. However, although ready for any eventuality at the moment, it could not be maintained in that status for a long period. The available money that is now being spent must go for training, spare parts, aircraft and ships, and this in turn will cut down on ancillary services.

As regards the future, he stated that our present purchase rate can result in nothing but the number two position as a maritime power. However, he felt that the recent events in Iran and other areas have brought to the attention of the media, Congress, and the public the importance of the retention of sea power, and he urged his audience to speak out for the Navy as frequently as possible when able to do so.

Cdr. M.C. Colley USN '60, chapter president, announced that there would be a Spring cocktail party for the Chapter in May and that RAdm. Robert W. McNitt SC USN (Ret.) '38 is preparing a slate of officers for the coming year.

ATLANTA

Dr. **W. Waverly Graham**
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Atlanta GA 30327

RAdm. William Lawrence USN '51 spoke to enthusiastic Alumni at an Atlanta Chapter breakfast meeting on March 6. He presented a comprehensive perspective of changes at the Academy and some very encouraging news about the excellence of its facilities, faculty, and the Brigade. Especially well-received was the Superintendent's assessment that today's midshipmen are eager to hear about such timeless virtues as patriotism and integrity.