



Twelfth Company Gathering—Doyle Kitchin's Wedding

twins were headed for Mather AFB where John will take further training prior to going into P-3s.

Terry and **Bob Peranich** sent news from Chula Vista. Bob deploys to WestPac in September aboard USS DAVID RAY. **Andy Yates** deployed to Okinawa in May. **Ed Gilmore** and **Ron Clipp** are both in San Diego; Ed is aboard USS REASONER and John is aboard USS JOHN YOUNG. **Jack Coverick** is at NAS North Island flying E-2s; he deploys aboard NIMITZ in October. Congratulations to **Dave Carlson** who tied the knot this Summer—sorry, I don't have the bride's name.

Debbie Pearsall is anxiously awaiting Blaine's return. He's been doing quite a bit of flying while deployed. Debbie had some news to pass on. Congratulations to **Bud Jewett** and **Skip Zobel**—both of them joined the list of newlyweds in recent months. **Mark Trenor** is a RIO with VF-84 flying F-14s. Debbie says that he did some flying for a film starring Kirk Douglas and Catherine Ross. Mark will be deploying aboard NIMITZ along with **Bud Jewett** and **Gary Hentz**. **Bryan Dolan** is aboard NIMITZ as nuclear control officer. **John Kolbeck** is in Norfolk aboard a nuclear sub.

From the Navy Hometown News Release Program I have the following news: **Jonathon Wade** returned from a Med deployment in May aboard USS BRUMBY and **Scott Jenkins** was aboard USS BATON ROUGE returning at the same time. **Scott Goodson** cruised under the North Pole aboard USS ARCHERFISH. **Mark O'Hare** returned from a WestPac deployment aboard USS NIAGRA FALLS, homeported in Alameda. Lynn and **John Rader** are now stationed at MCAS Yuma. **Joe Haggerty** has completed the non-lawyer course at Naval Justice School, Newport.

Until next time—best of luck to all of you. Keep in touch.

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We'll start off this month with a letter that **Mike Beck** sent for the column, followed by an example of the missive that he forwarded to the Speaker of the House. Similar letters were sent his representative and the President.

Dear Classmates:

Presented here is an example of the letter each of us must write to our Congressmen, Senators and President Carter concerning the Class of 1977's Veterans Educational Benefits. We must take action to have Section 1652 of Title 38, U.S. Code amended. In order to amend this Section, we're dependent on each other. One person seldom can make for a success: it takes a number of them merging into one perfect whole. This Section will not be changed except for the help of all concerned. Please write three letters—at least satisfy the voice of conscience! Our task is not impossible. I thank all those who have responded thus far—let's all get in the act! Take care and God Bless.

Mike Beck

The Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill
The Speaker of the House of Representatives
2231 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Re: H. R. 9783

Dear Sir:

I am writing to you regarding the concern that has arisen in the area of educational benefits for graduates of the U. S. Naval Academy, Class of 1977.

At the present time, the Class is under the new Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP). The bill states that all persons entering active duty after 31 December 1976 may use the new VEAP, that is, the government gives two dollars for every dollar the participant gives up to \$2700. The Class is *not eligible* for the old VA Educational Assistance (G. I. Bill) which gave forty-five months of educational assistance.

As a member of the Class, it is my contention that the U.S. Naval Academy, Class of 1977, was committed to seven years of active military service after having mustered for the first class in September of 1975 at the Naval Academy and, therefore, the Class *should* be entitled to the "old" G. I. Bill. Congress, in a one line addition to the new bill, said that the U.S. Naval Academy graduates of 1977 are *not eligible* for the old assistance benefits.

It is my hope that your support can be gained in changing the "old" G. I. Bill to include the Class of 1977. We spent two years at the Naval Academy with the understanding that we would receive the "old" G. I. Bill benefits.

The bill is H. R. 9783 set up to amend Section 1652 of Title 38, U.S. Code.

It's a bird! It's a plane! No! It's mail!!!! Well, I needed an opening after Mike's news. I guess everyone can afford stamps since they got promoted. Let's start with Surface Line. **Greg Colton** is in USS CAYUGA as the MPA along with **Jim Kear**. They keep giving free rides to Marines like **Everrett McNair** and **Mark Tucker**. **Mike Hamner** is electrical repair officer on board USS HUNLEY in Guam. **Jim Miller** is in USS DUPONT in Norfolk where he and his wife Robin had a baby girl, Jennifer Lynne, in February! **John Geary** and his wife Kathye had a baby boy, Robert Baldwin, in February also. John is fire control officer in USS TOWERS in Long Beach. **Dan Thompson** is the ASW officer in USS CONNOLE out of Newport.



Ray and Mandy Tranchant

Now on to those defying gravity. **Ray Tranchant** and his new wife Mandy are living in Virginia Beach where he is an NFO with VF-171 along with **John Althans**. In the Spring, some NFOs got their wings at Mather Air Force Base. **Bow Dawson** was one, and then it was on to Jacksonville. **Mike Brown** received two things this Spring—his wings and a baby boy born to him and his wife Kathy. **Ray Simmons** and **Steve Harper** got their NFO wings and are in the RAGs. From there they go to Barber's Point and Jacksonville respectively. Well, that's all for now folks!

Now the secretary needs a little help for his records. What I need is a 3" x 5" card from members of the Class with name at the top and the rest of the card filled out with wife's name (if married) and children's names, duty station, current address and USNA company. This will aid both me and the Alumni Association in locating people and getting them certain news faster. Well, I hope all of you will help me. See you next month!

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Sec'y, Ens. **Peter A. Husta** USN
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Well, we have done it at last. I am told that we now start working for a living. Hope so!!!