

If you have kept up with the *Navy Times*, you are well aware that Congress is jumping on the GI Bill bandwagon. This new found support is only for the all-encompassing "big" GI Bill. Very few are willing to support our cause due to the recent budget slashes of veterans' programs by the new administration. Thus, our legislative avenue of redress appears to be drying up. We still have one method left, and that is through the legal system. **Marc Watson** had had a suit prepared for about a year, but has held off filing it pending our legislative outcome. A loss in the courts would have effectively canceled any support we had in Congress, therefore our Class organization concurred that our greatest chance for success was not to file until we had a strong indication either way from Congress. We received this indication from Rep. **Traxler** in May, at which time we recommended to Marc that he initiate his suit. As was discussed in last year's *Shipmate* letter, a class action suit would be too costly and unwieldy to the extent of possibly being prohibitive for us to pursue. For this reason, Marc is suing on his own with the intention of setting a precedent for the rest of us. Inherent in a one-man legal suit is a one-man bill for legal services. The Class officers are strongly urged to contact Marc to provide him with the appropriate funds, as our entire Class stands to benefit from his suit. The rest of us should drop him a line registering a vote of confidence, as he can surely use our support.

What's the bottom line? We apparently struck out on Capitol Hill, but we feel confident about Marc's suit. Fortunately for us, courts are not concerned with the budget in assessing judgment. If you are right, you win—and we are right.

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Corr. Sec'y, 1st Lt. **Michael J. Conklin** USMC
120 Carolina Cir.,
Jacksonville NC 28540
Percent Members: 94

Steve Sutton leads off this month's *Shipmate*. He is now serving as the DCA in SHASTA. Steve is now a lieutenant, like most of '78ers who wear Blue Pants. (Maybe you Lts. could spoon the guys who wear Green Pants 1stLt.) Steve had an interesting meeting with **Mark Boensel**; Benz is stationed with VS-19 in KITTY HAWK, so when they crossed paths in the Indian Ocean, Steve hopped on a helo and went to visit Benz. Benz is a NFO, on S-3s; he bought a house in the San Diego area, and is looking forward to marrying Karen Beers in the near future. Rumor has it he is trying to hide his nose with a new mustache. Steve would like to hear from some of the old boys of 21st Co. You can write him in USS SHASTA (AE-33) c/o FPO, S.F. CA. 96678.

Dorie and **Randy Dickinson** are the proud parents of **Michael Nolan**, born 30 June 81. Ann and **Don O'Keefe** had their second addition on 22 November 80. Shannon has plenty of people to look after her since big brother Christopher (2) helps out. Dan is about to depart San Diego for the sunshine of Okinawa for two years. He will be the XO of the Military Sealift Command there. He is very happy to finally get some shore duty.

Charlene Boyes sent the following info and a picture from **Skip Boyes'** surprise party. Pictured are: **Tom Hamilton**, **Mike McKinley**, **Skip**, and **Dan Mori**. Mike McKinley is in the Jet RAG



Tom Hamilton, Mike McKinley, Dan Mori, Skip Bayes—at Skip's party

in Hawaii. Tom Hamilton is in Okinawa until October, looking forward to his wedding to Brenda in San Diego (sorry no last name included). Dan is on WESTPAC aboard HALSEY. Skip is flying H-3s out of North Island. Skip and Charlene are the proud parents of **Kenneth Shelley** born 9 Dec 80.

Pat Witt is out to sea along with **Wayne Lachowicz**. **Al Kuntz** is up at Whidbey Island flying jets. **Virginia** and **Kevin Cheezum** are the proud parents of their 2nd son, **Michael**. Thanks for the info, **Charlene**.



Everybody Happy!

Kelly and **Duane Schoon** sent the adjacent picture taking in Norfolk. Top (top L-R) **Mike McNish**, **Duane Schoon**, **Kelly** and son **Andrew**, **Lisa** and **Dave Heintzman**, **Nathan Heintzman**, **Charles Nickell**, **Julie McNish** holding **Sara Heintzman** and **Dana Nickell**. The McNishes are in SPADEFISH out of Norfolk, **Heintzmans** in Groton on board OHIO, **Schoons** in Charleston in SIMON BOLIVAR, and **Nickells** in Norfolk in SOUTH CAROLINA. Special Note: **Ken Harisey**, where are you?

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Sec'y, Lt.(jg) **Peter A. Husta** USN
USS MT. BAKER (AE-34)
FPO Miami FL 34092
Percent Members: 87

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Sec'y, Ens. **Woody Stanley** USN
3100-A Bravura Ct.
Orlando FL 32807
Percent Members: 94

The following article appeared in a David W. Taylor Naval Ship Research and Development Center weekly plan:

Another True Rub-a-dub Tale

Last week while cruising up the Severn River on an official Center Training Mission, Ensigns **Glenn Ziegler**, **Howard Lock** and **Jim Boyle** encountered an 18 foot overturned Hobbie Cat. After fishing the water-soaked 18 ft. Hobbie Cat instruction manual out of the water and making some simple Righting Moment Calculations on their waterproof calculator, the three ensigns went about the task, of raising the boat. Using the latest Bowditch maneuvering techniques, they positioned the Center's 20' EPA boat perfectly. With limited resources available, they reverted to the standby "use the stern line" technique as spelled out in *Knight's Modern Seamanship* and attached the stern line to the raised pontoon of the Hobbie Cat. In seconds the mast was raised and the sail boat righted in full view of the 200 Severn River boaters looking on. After the typical gentlemanlike acknowledgement to the standing boat ovation they received, our three ensigns powered their way into the sunset, humming "Navy Blue and Gold." Appropriate award ceremonies will be held for these young men sometime later in their careers.

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Sec'y Ens. **Peter Sciabarra** USN
2670 East 19th Street
Brooklyn NY 11235

Hello Again, Classmates:

Right now I'm recovering from a Change of Command party at which **Chuck Coughlin**, **Bill McGuinness**, **Mike McLaughlin**, **Pete Perri**, **Jim Murray** and I attempted to outdo all the invited officers and guests. Needless to say, we did not succeed; however we had a great time trying. We are all up here in New York, working for Naval Recruiting District, New York, along with **John Kelly**, **Art Hough**, **John Pierse**, and **Bob Peyreigne**. The recruiting business may never be the same when we get through with it. Apparently East Coast recruiting isn't the only area in deep trouble. I have also heard of the "rough" 9 to 2 job which **John McCandlish** and **Steve Chambers** are putting in in Los Angeles. Don't those three-hour lunches get boring after a while, guys?

I was glad to see some mail coming in from some of the Company Reps. **Chuck French** came through with some good info from Moffett Field. Chuck is on TAD at Moffett working in the legal office as discipline officer. It sounds a little strange to have a rugby player in charge of discipline. Chuck's rugby pal, **Mike Mahre**, is also out there working in the admin office. Also on TAD at Moffett Field are **Steve Kim**, **Craig Riddle**, and **Dave "Arlo" Guthrie**.

Our one and only "Salty Sam," **Dennis Murphy**, is also out in sunny California enjoying his hometown TAD. Murph is working on ROTC recruiting in Oakland. Congratulations are also in order as **Dennis** and **Julie** have announced their engagement. Best of luck from all of us to both of you.

Wedding announcements continue to come in slowly. Here is my latest update on our newlyweds: **Debra Lynn** and **Mark Landers**, **Arlene** and **Steve Richter**, **Jane** and **Gary Wittman**, **Arlene** and **Ernie Gonzales**, **Carol** and **Chris Forbes**, **Mary Ellen** and **John Giles**, and **Julia** and **Chuck Chandonnet**. Congratulations and best wishes to all.