

Dallas are **Hank Wischmeyer** and **Van Davis**. Andy recently attended the wedding of **Bill Venohr** in Kirlin, Indiana. Bill was married to the former Betty Walker (also a lieutenant, USN) shortly after Bill detached from Navy Recruiting Area Five, Great Lakes. Classmates participating in the festivities were **Jerry DeMelo** (now playing nuke for GE in Newark, Delaware), **Pete Varvaris** (an IBMer living in Germantown, Maryland) and **Andy Wilson** (public affairs officer for Navy Recruiting Area Seven, Dallas). Bill and Betty are getting an early start at saying good-bye as he attends Submarine Officer Advanced Course (SOAC) in New London and she continues to work at Military Enlistment Processing Command, Chicago. In spite of the temporary obstacles, Bill enjoys married life, finding it even more exhilarating than "periscope libs!"

Rick Self has arranged for the manufacture and distribution of some very high quality bronze class crests which are mounted on fine-grained wood plaques at a most reasonable price, with a slight extra charge for an explanation of the design on a silk screen on the back of the plaque. The crest itself is about five inches in length. Now here is the catcheroo: a minimum of thirty (30) orders is necessary to initiate production. If interested, please write or call Rick at SMC, 2884 NPS, Monterey CA 93943; tel., 408/373-8565. Hope we have enough interested to get this project moving.

Thanks for all the news. Hopefully, Dan will be doing the presentation next month — if I can just get him home for awhile.

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Membership: 76%

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As I write this epic, Summer is just arriving in D.C., and it's hot and muggy already. No doubt



Melanie Dana Manzo relaxing in her Amsterdam home it's a tad cooler in Amsterdam where Lora and **Guido Manzo** and their new addition, Melanie Dana, are residing. Guido reports that **Bruce Carter** is still stationed aboard a Belgian frigate doing his part for the Big Blue. Rumor has it Bruce is rolling in July or August to attend the October Department Head School, where Guido may also be heading. **Jim Carr** is still "studying," and I use the term ever so loosely, in Grenoble on his Olmstead scholarship. Apparently Jim is pretty upset because his study time interferes with his skiing, tennis and hiking time. Relative newcomers to the Continental scene are Libby and **Craig Diffie** who is an aide to the senior naval officer at SHAPE in Belgium . . . I believe it's some sort of health spa. On the 15th Company scene, Guido reports that Sue and **Billy Hanna** and daughter

Leslie should be out of the Navy now, but are still residing in the D.C. area. I understand Bill is a consultant for a public speaking firm.

Heading north, Jody and **Mike Makowicz** are enjoying life in Berwick, Maine. They recently had a baby boby, Brendon Michael, and Mike is now working for a shipyard up there. **Aaron Watts** is still Swosketering in Coronado, (no, Dwarf, he's not a student anymore), lending his infinite sea wisdom to hundreds of up and coming naval officers . . . frightening isn't it. Speaking of frightening, the rumors of **Rico Blanco** making a remake of Rocky Horror Picture show are absolutely false. He's recently been on a deployment with CORAL SEA and is happily married to the USMC.

Another '78er, **Harry Harris**, also dropped me a line. Harry and Kathy are still in Japan where Harry is aide to COMNAVFORJAPAN. The biggest news Harry had was a storm warning from Okinawa where none other than LCol. Hodory is stationed . . . I think I'll postpone my Pacific vacation. Harry reports that a number of Far East Aide-types have disembarked including **Dave Bennett**, who I now believe is in the D.C. area, **Don Hamblen**, who, Harry reports, is working for Proctor and Gamble, and **John Kutler** who is expanding his mind at Harvard Business School. On the USMC side **Ned Davis** left Yokota for duty at 8th and I here in D.C., and **Randy Dickenson** is in Okinawa. **Jon Sears** was Adm. Crowe's aide at CINCPAC and **Mike Crisp** was in San Diego. Harry also mentioned bumping into **Bob Romaine** who is flying F-4s off USS MIDWAY and **Elton Kelley** who is with Desron 33 in Pearl Harbor. Harry also mentioned that another ex-15th Company Officer, LCdr. Mel Kaahanui ('70) is XO on board JOSEPH STRAUSS. 15th Company news continues with a note from **Dave Rodriguez** who sends his regrets for missing our 5-year reunion, but explains he was taking an unexpected vacation in Gitmo and Grenada . . . lucky guy. Dave's still onboard ship out of Mayport. And a final 15th tidbit comes from a former company mate, none other than student-radical **Carl Freuburg** who sends greetings to all. Carl is living in sunny San Diego — ever the California boy.

An interesting letter from Barb and **Rich Paulsen** reports that we have a defector in our midst . . . Rich has joined the Air Force (don't worry; he told me he still roots for Navy). Anyway, Rich switched from Nuke subs to Air Force Captain at Kirtland AFB in Albuquerque, New Mexico. They live at 11720 Arroyo DeVista in Albuquerque and invite anyone foolish enough to be in the area (I said that, he didn't) to give them a call at 505/292-6165.

A note from a certain newlywed's proud Mom included a clip of the wedding of Elizabeth Anne Bernet and **Jim Jones**. They were married at the Chapel last December, fellow '78er **Gary Leaman** acting as an usher. Jim is presently at PG school in Monterey, while Elizabeth, a Lehigh grad — sorry I went to Lafayette for a year — is trying to keep Jim out of the vineyards and at the books.

Moving right along, **Hall Van Vlack**, late of the Retired Support Division at NMPC in Washington, reports some 27th Company news. **John "JAWA" Aclin** married the former Charissa Ann Smith in November in Charleston. The newlyweds took off for Japan where John is assigned to PAT-WINGONE, which I believe is a small Japanese electronics firm. Lisa and **Dave Heintzman** are the proud parents of their third child, Matthew, born on 1 February '84. Matthew, no small prize, weighed in at a solid 9 lbs. and joins brother Nathaniel (5) and sister Sarah (3½) in terrorizing the neighborhoods of Bremerton . . . only kid-

ding, Lisa. Dave is tactical systems officer on board USS OHIO (Gold) out of Bangor. Back of the European front, these two are coming back home. Denise and **Dennis Reilly** should be at David W. Taylor Naval Ship R&D at Carderock, Maryland, as of this writing. Dennis is returning from a three-year turn in London-hell; somebody had to do it. Dennis said he had met **Prum "Percy" McNaughton** in Rota in March and that he and wife Barbie were doing well along with daughter Holly (3). Dennis also heard news about **John Watley** who got married in October. His wife also goes by Barbie. Both John and "Percy" are with VQ-2. A final note from Dennis states that our student-athletes, Captains **Bill "If" Fell** and **Bob "Bubba" Destafney** lead the U.S. Armed Forces Rugby Team to victory over the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. I'm sure they did equally as well in the party afterwards!

A letter from **John Carpenter** says that '79 is taking over USS TICONDEROGA while '78 fades into retirement. John was relieved by '79er Eric Sweigart as MPA and **John Young** was relieved by '79er Mike Hawley as DCA . . . boy, did that engineering department go to hell. Anyway, John is putting all the modern electronic info he gained on board TURNER JOY and is utilizing it for Raytheon in NEWPORT. Younger meanwhile is in working with Gulf Power in Pensacola. "Carp" also reports that all is peachy in beautiful Camp LeJeune with Captains **James Rathbone Buckley III**, otherwise known as Muttley, **James "Pinpoint" Daly**, and **Dave Whittlesey**.

A short note from **Tom Harper** says that he, Lynn and the kids are doing well in Oceana at Virginia Beach. Tom had some exciting news that his new book *I Choose To Fight*, about his battle against cancer, has been published by Prentice-Hall; that's the publisher, guys. Speaking of the "real" **Prentice Hall** he's got a new job and is heading to Chicago with his lovely new wife.



Bill Martin and Roxanne Thompson — Big Day, 22 September

Speaking of lovely new wives, or wives to be, none other than **Bill Martin** will take the proverbial plunge this September 22 with Miss Roxanne Thompson who, as you can tell from the photograph, is much too attractive to marry someone like Martin. It must've been Bill's personality . . . Anyway, Billy explained that he was lucky enough to have Bethesda operate on his knee for the 4th time, but unfortunately it was unsuccessful and Billy is getting a medical discharge from the Navy. Bill and I will have to start the Early Retirement Club of '78. Bill ran into **Chip Ridenour** down P-Cola way and also had a dietbeer with the aforementioned John Young. Otherwise Willy is looking forward to his Big Day in September with Roxanne, who will have as her bridesmaids **Mike Moore**, **Craig Lile** and **Joey Lynch** . . . or will they be ushers? I always get so confused, but I always thought Joey looked so good in lace . . . well, judging by the last line it's time for this American to head for home, or be put in one, whichever the case may be. Keep those cards and letters comin'

I may not be fast, but sooner or later you get your info in. Which reminds me before I close. **Bill Timme** sent me a fabulous news letter from England, where I gathered he had been visiting while on a Med cruise on board USS ARCHERFISH. Anyway, it must have been delivered by Jacques Cousteau and 'iz cousin' 'enry because by the time it got here I'm afraid everything was too dated to use. So please give it another try, Bill, and thanks to all of you who have taken the time to write. I will get those cards and letters in.

A final note: The mysterious, and ever clandestine **Kenny Waldie** has been located in Andover, Massachusetts. We're getting our proverbial poop together and as I promised three eons ago, we will finally conduct elections, hopefully to be completed by the end of the year. Have a great Summer and Jan and I look forward to Butting-In with all of you again this Fall! Beat North Carolina!

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Membership: 89%

Pres., Lt. **Alex L. Urrutia** USN
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 USS MISSISSIPPI (CGN-40), FPO NY 09578

Hello, '79.

Well, as you read this I am a civilian. I know a few Niners that have bid adieu to the adventure called Navy or Marine Corps. **Tom Hicks** will be the new rep for '79 in this locale. He surprised me with a phone call in mid-April. He has gone with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and will be in Wilmington, North Carolina, and it was a pleasure to meet Tom's wife, Claudia.

The word on Jenny and **Mike Neller** is that they should be parents by now. They should also be at Cornell where Mike will be part of the ROTC staff. Congrats on both accounts.

I got a very nice, if slightly confused, letter from **Gary Stahl**. Please keep in mind that I definitely write most of these columns tongue in cheek. I realize that my wit is sometimes so subtle that it sounds like I'm serious but that is the price one pays when you want a column that reads above the high school reading level. I do accept constructive criticism. I don't read it, but I do accept it. Just kidding folks; please feel free to comment. Gary, I did know that you were kidding and so was I in my column. Don't even think that I was offended by anything you said. I was just joshing with you in the column in question.

Gary will be transferred to Norfolk in August and is looking forward to Homecoming. Speaking of which, I ask of all '79ers in the Academy area to contact me so we can get the ball rolling if actions haven't already been taken. Plans need to be made now and I urge everyone to make flight and hotel reservations as soon as possible.

Don Brummett is making the transition to A-10s and is at Holloman AFB in New Mexico. He and Cheryl should have had a baby in June and will be heading for duty in England. Beth and Scott Pursley had a baby girl, Erin, on 12 March. Scott is an instructor at the Trident training facility. Terry and **Sean Stackley** are due to have a baby by now. And the winner of our hardship duty award goes to Nora and **Doug Patton** stationed in gloomy Key West. Doug is flying A-3s.

Ray Griffith dropped a line and a picture of some handsome couple getting married. Wait a



Ray and Cindy Griffith

minute! It's Grif and his new bride Cindy. Ray, you look so good on film I didn't know it was you. They got married in February. The best man (cough, cough) was **Bob Lesczynski**. Also present were **Brad Rhors** and **Simon Boocock**. Ray is in KITTY HAWK along with such incorrigibles as **Russ Nevitt**, **Rick Lopez**, **Tom Walsh**, and **Bob Lesczynski**.

Craig Majkowski has been stationed at USNA since April. Bridget, his wife, is loving it there and welcomes any visitors. They live right across from Gate 8 on Perry Circle. Craig and Bridget have a little girl named Leigh Ann. Craig will be the new Midshipman disrupting officer. By the way, unlike **Bobby Tantrum**, Leigh Ann likes my columns. She says they are real tasty.

NEWS FLASH . . . Dom (I do read) **Gorie** finally wrote me a letter. Wendy and he are out in Lemoore (CA) enjoying all the culture and missing Jacksonville. He has given up A-7s for F/A-18s. He is in a newly commissioned squadron, VFA-132, which will be moving to Jax at the end of this year. **Phil Perozzi** will also be in his squadron while **Scott Morrison** and **Jimmy Vanlangen** will be in VFA-131.

This afternoon while I was working on that competitive tan with Karen, there was an unsolicited rap upon our door. Claudia and **Tom Hicks** have now moved to Wilmington and live about two miles inland from us on the same road. Tom was off for a couple weeks, so they were going to try to catch a hop to Europe.

I recently received a very nice letter from **Vinny Bousa**. He was on a cruise. **Paul Gehring** and **Ken Russell** were out there with him. They are all at New River air station, flying CH-46s. He tells me that they flew rescue missions over Grenada and it was a very intense situation . . . big sky, little bullet theory. While out in Beirut, he and Paul were transports for the Bob Hope show and saw **Ken Gigliotti**, **Alex Sharp**, **Kerry Shanaghan**, and **Tom Gehrki**. Vinny and Maryann have two children, Jonathan, three, and Kimberly, one. Paul and Mimi have a son, Taylor.

Charlie Gittins wrote to fill us in on the whereabouts of **Dan Streich**, **John Millot**, **Bill Jones**, **Kevin Womack**, **Skip Larson**, and **John Pedigo**. Skip is a RIO in Beaufort with his wife, Janet. If you saw the movie *The Big Chill*, then you saw the community they live in — that is where the flick was filmed. John Pedigo is flying A-7s out of Cecil and is single. Charlie is also a RIO for F-4s and is out in Iwakuni, Japan, with wife Karen. John Millot is being a good boy out in El Toro, or at least that's what she said. Anyway he is enjoying the beach . . . I love LA. Dan Streich and his wife Janis have a baby girl, Jaelyn. Dan is off in Okinawa but the family is planning to get together soon.



The Franks Family — George F. III, Pamela W., and Abigail W., at the latter's christening

Ken Panos sent me a lengthy missive. He is assigned to USS PAUL, a fast frigate. Ken expressed his concern over the inclusion of our Classmates that have been killed in the line of duty to the Memorial being established now. Rest assured action has already been taken to insure that '79 is represented, but I will double check with the Alumni Association to be sure. He also updated the location of a multitude of Niners. **Rusty Mirick** and **Pam** are living in San Diego where **Rusty** is assigned to USS PIGEON as a salvage officer. **Gil Shuga** is teaching SWOS in San Diego and in the "I'll believe it when I see it Dept.," **Gil** may be getting married in the next couple of months to **Debbie Holloran** of Phoenix. **Linda** and **Frank In-scoe**, who better be at Homecoming this year, are still in Jax. **Tom Facer** and **Mike Shatynski** were reportedly doing time in San Diego, but no firm word on their assignments in that hardship city. **Lisa** and **Dana Martinez** were trying to arrange orders to NJ, but no firm word on that item either. **Vahan Chertavian** is an SH-2 pilot out of Norfolk.

Bob Solik, **Abe Ellis**, and **Glen Krummel** all A-6 pilots with VA-75 in KENNEDY. Also aboard were **Ken Kropkowski** and **Stan Hudson**, H-3 pilots. Ken and Karen are happy in Jax.



Herb and Kim Wilson

On my way to an interview I gave **Herb Wilson** a call. He is doing just fine in Va Beach after another cruise. Kim and little one-year-old Erica are happy to have him back too. It looks like he'll have to go out to sea one more time on this tour. Everyone was looking forward to getting together at **Bob** (I'm really a nice guy) **Tata's** wedding held in June we think. It was great talking to ya, Herb; hang tough 'cause better times are coming.

I got a letter from a former '79er named **George Franks**. George spent two years in 23rd Co. before moving on to Pitt. He and his wife Pam have a daughter named Abigail. George works for AT&T and they are living in Fairfax (VA). George says hi to MJ, Wardo, and JJ. He informs me that he will be at Homecoming, so look out for Tracy the third.

The infamous McGiffin, **Tom McPhillips**, wrote to tell me that he and Robin have answered the