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After a two-month sabbatical, it's time to take what was supposed to be the April issue and get it in for June . . . and some people have the nerve to say I procrastinate.

You just never know what you'll find when you're cleaning up your house for a visit from your mother-in-law, like **Skip Bayes'** letter to me dated 4 August. Hey, it's just like formal room inspection First Class Year when you find that 3-wood you've been missing since Youngster Year . . . or the roommate you thought quit during Plebe Summer. It just goes to show, ya never know. Know what I mean? Anyway, helo hero Skip told me about his harrowing experience losing the port mainmount of his SH-3 during night touch and go landings at Imperial Beach, California. For you non-airdale types, it's kinda like having three of your four car tires blow out travelling on Ritchie Highway on your way back from liberty . . . it ain't great. With some guts, great maneuvering and a little luck, Skip set the helo down with all aboard safe and sound, and didn't even get a scratch. Boy was USAA ever happy to hear that! For his efforts, Skip received the Air Medal with Bronze Star, and all kidding aside you should be mighty proud of yourself Skip, I know your wife Charlene is, and she's glad to have you safe and sound. Way to go.

**Bruce "Bubbles" Geary** reports that all is safe in the Supply world. I know I for one am relieved to hear it. Bruce finished decommissioning USS MONTICELLO in the Fall and is mid-way thru his SUPPO tour on USS HOEL. Next he, Mrs. G. and the kids, Shawn 4, and Michelle 2, will be heading to Monterey in the fall for PG school. Bruce also reports that **Vance Berry** is porkchoppin' on USS PEORIA, and adds that he'd like to find our next mystery Mid of the month, "Where are you, **Gary Seamon?**"

**Charlie Dawson** wrote an exciting epistle from Brazil that his Class Ring was stolen. As Charlie says it, "Even the thieves in Brazil know quality when they see it." Anyway I'm working on a replacement for him. Anyone else needing help just let me know . . . my fees are reasonable. On the Marine Corps side of things, **Jim Buckley** reports that the single life in Virginia Beach is tough to take, but he's adjusting as Adjutant for Marine Aircraft Group 46 in Norfolk. After three years at beautiful "Swamp Lagoon", and Lunar Landing Base 29 Palms, with side trips to the Asbury Park of Lebanon, beautiful Beirut, Jim has found civilization in Virginia Beach more to his style. Fellow 29th company mates **Dave Whittlesey** and **Scott Thomas** are still back at Lejeune where Whit is raising havoc at infantry Training School while Scott decided to become an ambulance chaser with the JAG Corps.

**T.L. Wright** (28th) was working for the Base Inspector's office and raising hell with the supply system because they wouldn't issue church keys for troops to use on their beer cans. Now there's a guy who has his priorities straight! **Ted Null** (18th) was flying Huey's over Beirut when Jim last saw him, but rumor has it he has departed the Corps for civilian life in Tennessee. **Bob Ryan** (30th and '77's Ron Cooper are also at Norfolk with Jim in RVAW120. Jim says that unlike former 29th company bachelor **Jack Carpenter**, who bit the proverbial marital bullet in January,



Skip Bayes



Mike and Bernadette McGee



Charlie Nickell and Family



Kevin White and Family

Jim is still cooking at the Breezy Point O-Club every happy hour doin' his part for America.

A note from Maureen and **Kevin White** from beautiful Hawaii reports that all is well with the White family. Kevin is still flying with VP-17 at Barbers Point, but may well be back in the D.C. area as of this issue. Kevin Jr., and Christopher John are both doing well, but grandma Jane Young is anxiously awaiting their coming to the East Coast. In the interim, she's keeping tabs on Maureen's brother **John Young**, who is Grand Pooh Bah and military liaison for Gulf Power in Pensacola. John has yet to succumb to the whims of a wonderful woman, but for some inexplicable reason they're still after him. Maureen also reported to Whiting Field at the end of '85.

Jeanne and **Art Porcelli** report from Mayport where Art is instructing LAMPS III helos. After getting married in June '79, Jeanne and Art went to Bermuda for a two-year tour where Art was Moped Officer. They then spent three years in Norfolk and recently completed a six-month stint in Coronado where Art was in training for LAMPS III. During their time in Coronado, they met up with a number of Classmates including Lisa and **Dan Keuhlin**, and their son Nick, and Barb and **Mike Crum**, and their baby son Mike. Speaking of children, Jeanne and Art have two of their own, five year-old son Art and three year-old daughter Lauren. Additionally the Porcelli clan reports that **Mike McGee** got married in Oct. '85 to fellow Navy pilot Bernadette (I'm sure the Four Tops will be pleased). They're both serving with the Big Blue in Pensacola. On the West Coast Sally and **John O'Dwyer** report that they're "still in Monterey." We all have our burden to bear. Thanks for the poop Jeanne and Art.

Down Aiken, South Carolina way, childhood home of my illustrious roommate Dr. Dwarf **Christ Nichols**, we hear from another '78er **Charlie "Nick" Nickell**. Nick, his wife Dana, and one-year old son Ryan are enjoying civilian life as Nick has embarked on a new career with DuPont as well as pursuing an M.S. in mechanical engineering at the Univ. of South Carolina. As you'll recall, and hopefully voted for, Nick ran as Trustee-at-Large in the recent Alumni Association elections, so hopefully Nick will join **Art Athens** as one of the Trustees. Somehow voting for Nick and Adm. McDonald on the same ballot was a little incongruous, but I guess '78 has hit the big time now in Alumni affairs, and so we should. Nick also reports that 21st company mate **Scott McKee** has flown the Navy coup and is now flying for Northwest Orient.

Cindy and **Dave Wilson** have also departed the Navy and rumor has it Dave may be trying to team up with **Ed Kee** somewhere on the West Coast, though my last report on Ed said he was part of the Wall Street scene. Speaking of New York, **Scott Mobley** has completed prototype in Ballston and should now be in Monterey at PG school. Misty and Art Athens remain in Annapolis with Art teaching computer science. . . I wish he was teaching our Lax boys how to beat Maryland and UVa, but we're having a decent season and at least they beat Army. Nick also reports that Terry and **Jerry Swartz** and their daughter Lindsay are still in P-cola with Jerry flying P-3's. Further west, Pat and **Dave McCain** are in Dallas where Dave is an engineer at Texas Utilities corporate headquarters. Thanks for the scoop, Nick, and hopefully we'll be calling you Mr. Trustee this fall.

Lastly, a note from **Mat Leavitt** from sunny Spain reports that Matt, Maria and the three Leavitts (5, 3 and 1) are enjoying Matt's Olmstead Scholarship tour to the University of Deusto in Bilbao. After tours on board subs USS SEA DEVIL and USS SALT LAKE CITY, Matt's happy to spend some time with the family again. Matt is feverishly studying bullfighting while Maria teaches English at a local school and does volunteer work at a clinic. Matt is another one of our foolish overseas stationed Classmates who wishes to make his phone and address known to any Classmates on European travel so by writing to Matt at: Calle San Nicolas 8, Algorta Vizcaya, Spain or by phoning 011-344-469-6294 you'll get in touch with these gracious hosts. Matt would particularly like to hear from any 23rd Company brethren. He also reports that **Tim Dowding** has left the Surface community for Oceanography and that Lena and **Lafayette Norton** had their second child, Jenna, who is now a year old. Laf, as I mentioned in a previous col-



Art Porcellie and the Coronado Army Party

um is in Lovington, New Mexico, working as a petroleum engineer. Thanks for the skinny from the Med, Matt.

And speaking of the Med, for all you Classmates, and Classmates' families who took part in our recent operations off of Khadafyville, we salute you all! And that goes for all you '78 all-stars wherever you serve above, on and below the sea, and even for you mean green machines; those of us lucky enough to get home every night (however late that may be) don't ever forget what it's like to be "out there." So for whatever it's worth, there's a lot of people around here who think you're doin' a helluva job.

So until next time when we hear from **Fred Shutt**, **Scott Provow**, and **Jerry Yoder**, this is Al Cantello saying, "Amicarella, my mother could do a better handstand than that!"

## 79

Membership: 90%

Pres., Lt. **Alex L. Urrutia** USN  
Corr. Sec'y, **Larry Kihlstadius**  
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East Coast **J.E. McFadden**  
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Has it really been seven years since we left the banks of the Severn for more distant shores? I can still see my combo cap arcing across the blue like some unstable flying machine (in my exuberance, I tore my service dress white sleeve loose at the shoulder). I trust that the times have brought each of you your share of happiness and achievement both personally and professionally. It is good to know that so many of you have made the effort to make the fraternity a living thing. I think we all left a piece of our souls in Annapolis, and it is through keeping in touch that the Spirit of '79 lives on. So my friends, tell me what you've been up to.

Our spirit extends well beyond ourselves, to our families and friends. I recently received a letter from Jean Rose, **Bill "Budman" Rose's** mom. As a faithful reader of this column, she wrote to express her dismay over not seeing much about the men from 27th Company. So c'mon you guys, don't let Bill's mom down! Bill, by the way, lives in Brunswick, Maine with his wife Linda and three-year-old son Brian, and flies P-3's with VP 11. Jean says that Bill loves his work.

Down the coast a piece in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, **John Quigley** (LCdr., gents) has his

hands full with three children: John, age 6, Katie, age five, and Jimmy, age three. While wife Suzanne watches over this brood, John watches over a more unruly brood as engineer officer on **SIMON BOLIVAR**. John is overseeing a refueling overhaul, so don't be surprised if John has torn out all of his hair by the time you next see him. The Quigleys plan on heading back to Charleston in about ten months, and John is looking for any news as to the whereabouts of **Bob Wiesenberg**.

One of the guys who is probably stringing radcon boundaries all over John's boat is my best bud **Rob Wray**. Rob left the service and the wilds of Idaho last October and brought his wife, Tina, and two-year-old son, Bobby, to a 200-year-old farmhouse in the New Hampshire woods. He works at the shipyard as a radcon engineer and is working toward his PE license.

Finally, I would like to ask Robin to please pick up the batphone and give me a call.

Have a safe, happy summer, and drop me a line while you're sprawled out on the beach.

## 80

Membership: 94%

Pres., Lt. **William W. Crow** USN  
East Coast, Mr. **Gerald G. Smith**  
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NE Sec'y, Lt. **James Bradford McGee** USNR  
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Hello 80

Seems like just yesterday that I was writing last month's column. I guess the old adage that no news is good news wasn't meant to apply to Class secretaries. The only letter I got all month was from the Alumni House sending us a past due bill. I did hear that **Cal Shintani** has really gone off the deep end. Cal submitted his resignation one day and got engaged the next. Must have learned that from **Sean Obranski**.

The Navy home casual season opened this past weekend and the usual group was in usual rare form. **John Huckepoler** slept through most of the first half but did manage to awaken and announce his resignation from the Marine Corps. **Monte Burke** has decided that when he departs the pattern in May that he would like to be a bondbroker in New York. Now all he needs is someone to offer him a job (small detail). **Tim Koboskowas** was

running all around the parking lot. Must be something about a woman in uniform that attracts Timothy. Veronica and **Ernie Styron** loaded up the stationwagon and also made it out. Others in attendance, but not any less sober, were Jasper Craig, Becky Olds, Dave Whitlock, Herbie Frerichs, Tony, Peggy, and Kara Verducci, Kool and the Gang, Doc, and John Vorndik.

Marine Capt. **John G. Taylor** recently received a Letter of Appreciation from the Marine Corps for outstanding performance.

One final note. There will be a Board meeting at **Tony Verducci's** house on 18 May. Please call if you would like to attend. Beers on Crowdaddy. Take care and please write so that next month I'll have something to say. **Smitty**.

## 81

Membership: 93%

Pres., Lt. **Dennis A. Sawyer** USN  
Sec'y, Lt. **Peter Sciabarra** USN  
4735 Woods Edge Road  
Virginia Beach, Va. 23462

Greetings Gang —

This was a short month for correspondence. I am trying to get this column written before catching my C-141 to Sigonella tomorrow night. Carol and I had plans of a long summer together here in Virginia Beach, but once again the needs of the Navy are altering our plans. For the next few months (through the end of August) please address all of your mail to me for *Shipmate* as follows:

Lt. Peter J. Sciabarra USN, HC-8 Det 4, USS DETROIT (AOE-4), F.P.O. New York, NY 09501-5658.

Needless to say this was not an expected deployment. Hopefully I will be back in time to see many of you at the home opener against Virginia in September. Upon my return, Carol and I will have about one month remaining here in Virginia before heading West to San Diego for shore duty. I will be at HC-3 at North Island starting in November.

I recently returned from the Naval Helicopter Association Convention in San Diego where I ran into several Classmates. Del and **Bill Cone** are with HS-8 in San Diego. They have a seven-month-old daughter named Michelle. **Dan Quattrini** is married to a lovely girl named Mary and is on shore duty as an instructor at SWOS on Coronado.

In the mail this month I received an announcement that **Todd Molloy** was engaged in February to Lt(jg) Denis Gruber, a Navy nurse. Todd is stationed on **HALSEY**. They are planning their wedding after Todd finishes Department Head School in Newport, Rhode Island. Judy Schanuel also wrote a quick note to report that she and Mark are the proud parents of David Christopher born on 29 October '85. Mark is currently on deployment with VP-22 in the Philippines and is due home in May. Mark and Judy will be heading to DC this summer where Mark will be working for the JCS.

I received a note from Donna Hammond who is this year's program chairman for the Naval Academy Women's Club. She is attempting to locate the Color Girl from our Color Parade. She was Gail Ann Fletcher. It is requested that anyone with any information on her whereabouts contact Mrs. Hammond through the following address: Naval Academy Women's Club, P.O. Box 3208, Annapolis, Md. 21403.

I finally heard from my long lost roommate **Chip Cravaack**. Chip and Jill are still in the Philippines with VC-5. They would love to hear from any of our old gang at Pensacola or at Club