

Station. He resides in Pennsville, New Jersey, with his wife Ginny and their recent addition, son David (one year).

Mark Bradley and his wife Linda live in Buena Park, California, where he works for the Hughes Aircraft Corp. They have two daughters, Laura (five-and-one-half yrs) and Stephanie (three yrs). Mark, please write or call me regarding your thoughts on the database. **Bill Bristow** (770934!) is working for IDS/American Express as a Financial Planner and Registered Representative in Virginia Beach. He and his wife have settled in Chesapeake, with their two daughters, Kendall and Whitney. **Dave Armitage** and his wife, Linda (former Navy Nurse) live in San Diego. He is stationed at ComNavSurfPac as the Nuclear Type Desk Officer. Tracy and **Pete Ayotte** live in Pacific Grove, California.

Fleet Home Town News reported that **Bary Willcox** reported for duty at NAS Atlanta in Marietta, and **David Williams** reported for duty at 1st Marine Corps District, Garden City, New York.

That is about all for this column. Remember, Fall is over, the kids are ready for the Thanksgiving Day class performance . . . take some time and drop a line. It would be good to hear from you. Keep those cards and letters coming! Happy Trails . . . **Bill. BEAT ARMY!!!**

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Membership: 83%

Pres., **Steve Maloney**
Sec'y, **Vince Balderrama**
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This month marks the 213th Anniversary of the founding of the United States Marine Corps. To those of us who made the better choice during service selection night, HAPPY BIRTHDAY, Marines! As to wisdom of our decision, let's not debate. Instead, let us who share the proud Naval traditions toast this occasion and pour a spare glass in remembrance of Classmates and friends who gave their lives in the service of their country and Corps.

On to the news . . .

The mail bag was a little thin this month. A couple of Fleet Hometown News Releases came in at the end of August (a couple of weeks ago). Thank goodness for "Ma Bell," as a few last minute phone calls supplemented the slim pickings.

The first News Release reported that LCdr. **Robert M. Stuart** was already through the mid-point of a WestPac-IO Cruise. Bob is flying with VA-145 out of Whidby Island but now by way of USS RANGER. According to the report he should have enjoyed "several ports including Pearl Harbor. . . .

Philippines..Singapore..Diego Garcia (Yup that great liberty port) and Perth, Australia." Of course I remember one time when the newspapers said I was enjoying the usual Med liberty spots too . . . then I was aboard USS "Boat" off the coast of Lebanon. Hopefully Bob got to enjoy all of his ports of call. By the time this comes to print he should soon be returning to CONUS. The other FHTNR stated that Lt. **Stephen J. Holman** reported to Bethesda Hospital for duty. Steve recently graduated from the Uniform Services University of the Health Sciences and is beginning his new career as a Navy Doc.

I got a rather clever birth announcement from Linda and **Will Kramer**. It proclaimed the birth of their new son like an ad for the new Fall movies. It announced, "The second smash hit 'The New Arrival' starring Andrew Mark Kramer, World Premiere July 25, 1989." The producer and associate producers were of course dad and mom respectively. (Elizabeth thinks the titles should be the other way

around.) The "technical advisor" of course was the doctor. Andrew and his parents are "running daily" at their home in Pittsfield, Massachusetts.



Paul Russo, Mike Dyer, Mike Dasovich

I was in Quantico the other day and visited **Mike Dasovich** in his cellar cubicle at the Warfighting Center. I caught him during a hectic time as he was dashing out to meet **Mike Conklin** to pick up some important military equipment—soda, ice and beer—for their unit picnic. Boy, things sure have changed since I got out! He just managed to shout a "good to see you"; quickly mention that he'd had a get-together with **Paul Russo** and **Mike Dyer**, "and they looked great"; and tossed me a Polaroid as proof before he dashed off. . . . I'll have to schedule a quieter time to meet with Mike, like when he has some work to do!

Congratulations to **Tom Crowley**. Tom was among the lucky 55 selected for the Navy's Advanced Education Program. That means that the Navy will let Tom go to the college of his choice to pick up a secondary degree . . . oh yes, they'll also let him pick up the tab. Still he'll be drawing full pay and allowances during his academic tenure. Hey, that sounds just like our stint at Mother B, except the pay is better! (Remember when our Plebe "allowance" was \$40 a month?) I'd suggest you pursue a business degree, after all Gretchen has the gouge! Just tell me what it's like to go to a real college, Tom.

I spoke with our former Brigade Commander and my fellow TBS fooze ball partner, **Art Athens**. Having completed the White House Fellowship Program last September, Art returned to the "real" Marine Corps. He's now the HAWK Missile officer at MAWTS-1 in Yuma, Arizona, teaching student Weapons Tactics Instructors about what aviators fear worse than eye exams—air defense missile systems! Art, Misty and their four children are living the serene life of desert dwellers . . . Yes, I did say *four* kids. Born this past February, Jonathan really upset the sibling balance of power between his two brothers and sister. However, I'm certain Art and Misty can maintain "arms control" in the Athens household. Art and I were scratching our heads, asking the \$64,000 question—"Where's Gerry Corey?!" Seems there are several theories: one has him completing law school in Georgia; the other has him getting an advanced degree in ops analysis and making a mint somewhere around Atlanta; while a third theory, though plausible for Gerry, is unprintable for *Shipmate*. If anyone has a clue to his whereabouts please let us know (and your local FBI, too). Art did say that his company mate and brother-in-law, Skip Root is loving it in Jacksonville, Florida, as an Instructor in the P-3 RAG. Art, I heard that when SECNAV was looking at how to improve Naval Academy graduates standings at The Basic School one proposal was to get rid of all fooze ball games. He settled on establishing the Bull Dog

Program after Second Class Year instead. You didn't happen to have any input did you? By the way, you have a challenge the next time I'm in Yuma!

John Storvick is still in the Navy as of this writing. Seems the Navy lost his resignation paperwork along with about four others at Groton. Somewhere there's a yeoman hiding out from some officers. John had bought a new house in Gales Ferry and had a job lined up as a civil servant at the Naval Undersea Systems Command (I hope I got that right, John). As if things weren't bad enough during his discharge physical he was asked "Does your family have a history of diabetes?" Now he's going through a medical discharge vice the standard release. John's taking it all in stride. He said he'd just thought the symptoms were typical aches and pains, after all "everyone in my family has lived into their 80's." Besides, he's was linking up with Schmerm to get the gouge on the Med Board. Hopefully, by now he's out of the Navy and into his new job. Fortunately, he'd already accepted the position and so it had to be held for him.

I got a call from **John Huesman** just in time to make my deadline. John's the Director for Marketing of Fiber Materials, a composite materials company in Bedford, Maine. After graduation he spent a tour as a black shoe. First, he was an Ops Officer aboard a frigate and then served on a DesRon Staff. His final Navy days were spent back on the shores of Severn on the faculty of the Department of Seamanship and Tactics. John taught Midshipmen the rudiments of the Naval Sciences and the intolerance of the "real world Navy" to being two hundred years off PIM in their navigation. (Yeah, I never bought that one either!). After his commitment John returned home to St. Louis and worked for a while for McDonnell Douglas, where he padded his resumé and obtained an MBA. Hearing of opportunity in Maine and prompted by a taste for lobster, he packed up his family (and his old hockey sticks) and headed for Scarborough, Maine, where they reside today. During our conversation we had to speak some "three piece suit" (after all you have to justify the call as a business expense.). John got the better part of the deal as he invoked the "Classmate rule" and obtained some free business consulting without charge. By the way John said he's always looking for good people, so give him a thought. Of course as for me, John, you could be right, I might want as much as you make . . . then again, how much *are* we talking? . . .

As for the Balderramas, we were busy these last few months traveling about the country as "Crew Gypsies." In August we put some heavy mileage on our mini-van and ventured to Canada two weekends in a row. The first trip was to the Canadian Henley Regatta and next weekend to the Canadian Master National Championships. My old boat club in Virginia, remembered my affiliation (and proximity to the Canadian border) and asked me to coxswain a few of their boats. We garnered a couple of second place finishes at the Henley but really pulled in the medals at the Championships. My boats picked up three golds and two silvers, and overall the boat club threatened to ruin the recent open trade agreement by coming away with the lion's share of the medals. It all went to bolster my fading ego and prove again that coxswains never get old, they just gain weight. I did get enough advance notice to work off a little weight and minimize my damage to the boats' trim. However, just to assure victory, I did make sure I had some good horses to pull my aging and heavy carcass! Michael's started preschool three days a week and Elizabeth's taking a sewing class so she can take in all my sleeves and cuff my trousers. Ahhh, it's a never ending story for us sandblowers . . . "It fits, sign the book (as eight inches of excess fabric dangle from our arms)!"

Hey, that's all she wrote folks. After all, one can only stretch a few clippings so far, even one as natu-

rally verbose as me . . . so send in those cards and letters! Once more to all you Marines, HAPPY BIRTHDAY! See you all at Army Navy! . . . Semper Fi!

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Membership: 92%

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Hello 79!

Have you recovered yet? Quite the good time last month. If you still haven't paid your share, you know who you are, please send it to **Jeff Johnson** or myself ASAP. Don't be a one way. Actually it appears that everything is going to turn out OK. I would like to thank **Jeff Johnson**, **Dave Krueger**, and **Don Hubbard** for all their efforts.

As many of you probably know, we lost another Classmate in September. **Ed Abel** was killed when his helicopter crashed off the coast of San Diego while flying to his ship. Ed is survived by his wife and four children. Please let me know if we can do anything as a Class.

I realize most of you have seen each other just last month so this news may be redundant to you. **John Jolliffe** and his wife, Sylvia, are living outside San Francisco. John is working on the overhaul of USS **PINTATO**. He will be heading to Hawaii in December or January to be part of the ORSE Board. Tough duty assignments there John. Meanwhile **Rich Reynolds** is down in Mobile with a printing company. Can life be fair?

Hey just got a news flash from Anne-Ferrell and **Bob Tata**. **Mike Van Horn** and Dr. Lori Morgan got married in mid-September. Mike is working on his doctorate in Russian studies. Lori is finishing her residency before going to the Air Force for active duty. **Herb Wilson** and Stephanie are in San Diego on shore duty. **Peter Johnstone** is at the Naval Medical Command in Bethesda. **Ken Wartick** is at Camp Pendleton and **Dave Soranno** is on USS **OLDENDORF** in Japan.

Move over McConkey's! We can also eat Chinese at Ping's in Venice, Florida. **Bill Pong** and **Armando Gonzalez** are somehow both involved with a restaurant and I think they own it? The letter was cryptic. I got a picture with a letter of Armando and Ping's. I hope it can be reproduced for this column. **Rob Wray** is in real estate development up in Connecticut. He seems to be developing sites in North Carolina off golf courses. He is married with three children. **Dan Bursch** is in Monterey working on the Space Systems Engineering Master's Degree. Colleen and **George Spencer** are living in Houston but I actually don't know anything else. Jean and **Dave Krueger** just had a baby girl named Kaitlyn. Darlene and **Pat Wasilewski** are up in Amherst, New Hampshire. He is with Sanders Associates which is a software development group. Karen and **Chad Sain** just had a boy named Nicholas. **Greg Reinhardt** and Luly have a girl named Libby and she is two years old. Sorry that some of this information is so disjointed but most of this column was written off phone notes.

Larry K
East Coast

I wish at the request of **John von Gohren's** wife Amelia, to print here John's corrected obituary. Amelia asked that I especially emphasize the fact that John was not in the astronaut program, and that he died of natural causes and not of a heart attack.

John Edward von Gohren died unexpectedly on 10 April 1989 of natural causes in Memphis, Tennessee, en route to his new duty station. His remains

were cremated and following services on 17 April at the United States Naval Academy Chapel, he was interred in the Columbarium at the USNA Cemetery. A memorial service was held at the Naval Air Station (NAS) Oceana, Virginia Beach, Chapel on 28 April 1989.

Born in Munich, Germany on 19 October 1957, John was a 1975 graduate of Bowie Senior High School and was appointed to the Naval Academy that same year. A member of the 3rd Company, he graduated with Merit in 1979.

Commissioned an Ensign, he attended flight training in Pensacola, and received his Naval Flight Officer Wings in June 1980. He subsequently completed F-4 Fighter training with VF-171 and reported to VF-151 on board USS **MIDWAY** (CV-41) homeported in Yokosuka, Japan in September 1981. He completed several deployments with VF-151 including the first extended North Pacific operation.

Selected for Test Flight Officer Training at the Naval Test Pilot School, he graduated with distinction in December 1984. He served as a Project Officer with Strike Aircraft Test Directorate until September 1986 when he reported to VF-101 for F-14 transition training and was subsequently assigned to VF-32 at NAS Oceana on board USS **JOHN F. KENNEDY** (CV-67). In March 1987 he was one of the few Naval Officers to compete as a finalist for Astronaut training with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

LCdr. von Gohren was selected as an Aviation Engineering Duty Officer in October 1988. He was to report to the Naval Space Systems Activity at the Los Angeles Air Force Station.

LCdr. von Gohren's military decorations included the Navy Achievement Medal, various service medals and unit awards. He was a Life Member of the Naval Academy Alumni Association and the Tailhook Association.

He is survived by his wife, Amelia Fisher von Gohren of Bowie, Maryland, and three daughters, Lydia, Helen and Anna. He is also survived by his mother, Margaret L. von Gohren of Laurel, Maryland and father Col. Edward J. von Gohren, USAF (Ret.) of Montgomery, Alabama and one half-brother and three half-sisters.

Amelia and her children will be moving soon to California, Maryland, just up the road from NAS Pax River, and she would love to hear from any and all of you.



Armando Gonzalez

I thought it appropriate, in light of this very sad news, to reprint here the contents of a letter sent to me by **Gary Stahl** back in March after the passing of **Mike King**. Gary kindly granted his permission to have the letter reprinted.

Dear Jeff,

I received my issue of *Shipmate* yesterday and read of Mike King's death. I can't really say that I knew him well, even though he and I were both in Second Battalion, and both Marines. I had to look him up in the *Lucky Bag* before I could put the right

face with the name.

I was surprised at my reaction when I saw his face on the page. Yes, I remembered him, and much more. I guess I thought that when I left the service nearly 18 months ago that I could distance myself from it, but seeing his face there, among the others I'd known took me back to when we were Plebes.

I remembered the smell of starched white works, mixed with sweat, the sounds of marching feet and the cadences that echoed off the walls of Bancroft Hall. I remembered the smell of the wardroom, the clanking of the rigging on the sailboats in Santee Basin, the smell of the fresh-cut grass on the drill fields, the stench of the boxing gloves and headgear and a thousand other smells that owed half their essence to sweat.

I remembered when **Dan Luce** was killed, and nearly every man in our Class gathered in the Chapel. Adm. McKee told us then that he would not be the last Classmate we'd lose. I felt then that that service was not just for Dan, but for lots of others as well who would meet their premature deaths in the service of our country.

Frankly, I've lost count of them now. Quite a few have died in aviation accidents. One of ours was shot down over the Bekkha Valley by Syrian anti-aircraft missiles. Automobile accidents have also taken a few. With every one we lose I feel a certain diminishment. The feeling lingers until I can compose myself and think of how much each must have added by his life.

I remember the day we all threw our caps into the air. Some flew much higher than others. They all seemed to hang there in space, suspended as if in slow motion. One by one they all fell back to earth. So shall we all, but a wonderful and worthwhile flight we will have taken, no matter how long, or how short.

I had to write this . . . We are Classmates, and always will be.

Ruth and Roger Royston wrote to announce their transfer down to Homestead AFB in Florida. Roger is now the commanding officer of H Company, a Marine Detachment there. The Royston's two boys, ages 7 and 4 are enjoying the endless Summer by swimming and playing baseball.

Down in Long Beach, Mississippi, Barbara and **Ken Gray** are celebrating the arrival of their second child, Michelle Elizabeth, born on 11 July. Ken is the Resident Officer in Charge of Construction in Gulfport, and was very pleased with the results of the FY 90 LCdr. list for CEC officers. He reports that the list contained the names of six other 'Niners: **Mike Doyle** (at PG school, Penn State), **Rob Eadie** (XO of Underwater Construction Team One in Little Creek), **Fred Gerheiser** (at PG school, Georgia Tech), **Larry Linn** (in the Ocean Construction Office at NAVFAC HQ in DC), **Rick Marrs** (Assistant Public Works Officer at NAVSTA Roosevelt Roads), and **Greg Shear** (instructor at the CEC officer school, Port Huemene).

Ken also wanted to know the whereabouts of **Jim Edmondson**. Jim graduated from the Georgetown University Law Center in May of 1988, was subsequently admitted to the Virginia bar, and is now an associate at the law firm of Finnegan, Henderson, Farabon, Garrett & Dunner in Arlington.

My best wishes for a happy and restful holiday season. Please keep in touch. **Jeff**

80

Membership: 94%

Pres., Lt. **William W. Crow** USN
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HELLO 80

Boy it sure is great to finally write two columns in a row for a change. Not that anyone has noticed, least of all—Ellen Lowe. Well, Navy football kicked off