

and **Chris O'Connor** just graduated from the State Department Orientation Course (Class A-100). They are now Foreign Service Officers and are ready to set off for their Embassy assignments. Chris, Mari and daughters Gabrielle and Abi are on their way to the U.S. Embassy in Santiago, Chili, for a two-year tour. Benny, who is single, departs for his two years in Santo Domingo. Both are anxiously looking forward to new challenges in their new careers. Good luck to both of you . . . if any of us get down your way, you can count on some visitors!

That's all for now. Here's hoping some Christmas cards will come my way with all sorts of exciting "Navy News" or is that too much to expect. Again, have a safe and blessed Christmas. Happy trails, **Bill**.

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Membership: 83%

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Everybody must have taken this Santa Claus stuff to heart because I got a full bag of mail—so much in fact that I'll have to get down to it, no HO, HO, HO, stuff.

I got a letter from **Matt Leavitt**. After finishing a three-year tour as Combat Systems Officer on USS **HAMMERHEAD** out of Norfolk, he's now at Sub School attending the PXO Class. It's an Interim stop while en route to be XO of USS **TECUMSEH** in Charleston. He's a geographic bachelor while his wife, Maria, finishes up her master's in biology at Old Dominion U. Besides Matt others are **Bill Burke** (destined for XO of USS **CAVALIA** in Pearl), **John Cohoon** (USS **ARCHERFISH** in New London), and **Larry Olsen** (USS **SAN JUAN** also out of New London).

Here's a correction to an error in September's *Shipmate*. There very well may be a Gary Martin in Pensacola, Florida, but he doesn't work for SRL and he isn't a Classmate of ours. No, that distinction belongs to **Billy Martin**. (No not of Yankee and Easy Method Driving School fame). Billy works for SRL and engineered the Pave Low III hydraulic SLEP and subsequently became the program manager of the Shipboard Ops contract. Thanks for setting me straight Billy. By the way the blame is not on **John Young** (though he did a few brews when we last talked. I'll fault my tech rep who misstated your name. I should've gone with gut feeling that told me Gary Martin was not correct.)

I got a press release from the law offices of Holland & Knight in Jacksonville, Florida. It announced the recent addition of three attorneys to the practice, one of whom was our own **Jack Fernandez**. Jack got his J. D. (magna cum laude) in '89 from Cornell Law School, where he was editor in chief of the *Law Review* and was named to the Order of the Cof (what is that some kind of Sassoon award for the best "do"?). Before joining the firm Jack clerked for a judge of the Court of Appeals in the Fourth District. Jack gave up his F-14 days and is now swooping in on all those loopholes and debt liquidation protection clauses as a bankruptcy specialist. By the way Jack, next time your firm sends out a notice, PLEASE write on the envelope that this is *Shipmate* business. There's nothing more unnerving than a letter from an out-of-state law office (law suit, ex-girlfriend?)

I got a lengthy report from **Matt Elias** who chided me for replacing him as the 11th Co. rep. Hey, not me, *senor*. Answer the mail, answer the phone calls, and these things do not happen. Anyway it's a workable issue. You and Dad Brown in a pit, Cross Pens in Hand . . . the survivor with the least pen marks and ink blots, retains the rep slot. Anyway, Matt came on



Sean and Billy Martin

like gangbusters and sent me a ton of info on USNA South (aka-NAS JAX). Here we go:

After back-to-back tours and five years overseas (Scotland and Japan) Matt, Brenda and their daughters, Claire and Sarah are now back in ConUS and living with the VP community of Orange Park, Florida. Back in July he organized a no-host happy hour for '78 and got a fair turnout though it wasn't quite as much as he expected (Hey, come on "Chew" what did you expect when they had to buy their own brew?!). Anyway, we are going to make another first in this column—**Rich Chapman**. There, I said it and now his bragging of never having been mentioned in this column is now an idle boast. Okay, now on to somebody else . . . **Leif Konrad** is also with Matt in VP-24. In fact Leif, Laura, and Joy, 6, moved in just down the road from the Elias clan. Prior to reporting to the "Batmen" of 24, Leif was in D.C. at NMPC (officer promotions) which could explain his early date of rank (just kidding). Among the "Mad Foxes" of VP-5 are **Jack McCourt** and **Kevin White**. They finished the RAG together and joined the Squadron in July. In February Jack and Kay provided Devin, 5, and Brandon, 3, with a sibling to boss around, Kaitlin. Jack was just coming off a tour at the Academy. Kevin and Maureen also have three children, Kevin, 8, Christopher, 6, and Katy, 3. Matt thought that **Jerry Swartz** is also going to VP-5. He was in the RAG when Matt wrote. Jerry is flying solo these days but his daughter fortunately lives nearby. Before the RAG he did a short stint on the wing staff. VP-16 has **Skip Root** and **Ron Lovelace**. Skip came from VP-30 where he was an instructor. Skip and Judy were expecting their first child. Ron, Debbie, Stephen, 8, and Eric, 5 came from Norfolk where Ron was doing his joint tour thing at CinCLant Staff. **Glenn Fogg** is only "Woodpecker" (What squadron is that Matt, or is it some dysfunction?). Glenn and Ellen have two boys, Alexander, 2½, and Miles, 1.

Andy Winns, **Ray Miskowski** and **Bill Duncan** are in VP-56 and are anxiously awaiting Matt's arrival to relieve them in Keflavik. Andy screened for commander. He, Vee, Tamara, 13, Tony, 8, and Alena, 1½, have previously enjoyed a short tour at PG School in Monterey while Bill, Pamela, Kimberly, 8, and Will, 5, came off a tour at the Academy. As for Ray, he had finished up a tour as Flag Sec on CarGru 6. He and Kim have three children, Megan, 6, Kelly, 4, and Casey, 2. Parenthood abounds in VP-56. Passing through VP-30 en route to Lobster Land (Brunswick) were **Bob Novak** (coming from VX-1 and going to VP-44), **Rich Link** (also destined for VP-44), **Glen Woods** (possibly to VP-8). Matt also ran into Lori and **Jim Koslow**.

Matt says it's great being co-located again with his old roommate, nothing's changed, still the same bad jokes and even the same nicknames. The only problem is fitting their families in the same houses . . . Let's not push this roommate reunion tooooooo far guys.

Okay, I'll kill the suspense . . . I am going to do more than just mention **Rich Chapman**'s name. Rich is the Boy Wonder with the Batmen of VP-24. Rich, Laura, Caroline, 4, and Alexa, 2, came from VP-30 where Rich had been instructor in the RAG. Prior to that Rich wore a leash as the Aide to the Commandant at Boat School (it was his pennance for being Company Officer of his old company-8th). Now that that's done we can leave Navy Airlines and all this discussion of fine wines and furniture moving and get on to real fleet aircraft. Matt continues . . .

The S-3 world in JAX includes **Bruce Bole** and **Don Alken**. Kathy and **Bruce Bole** and daughters Katy, 4, and Molly, 1½, were coming from USS **MIDWAY** in Japan via a one-year vacation at the Air Force's Air War College in Montgomery, Alabama. Don and Linda just had their first child, Don Jr. . . . Don had completed Naval War College at the Newport Country Club. Bruce is going to VS-32 on **AMERICA** while Don is going to one of the Squadrons at Cecil.

The macho machines of the rotary world has **Skip Bayes** in HS-7. Skip had been the Assistant Navigator of USS **NIMITZ** last year. He and Charlene have two kids. Also in the JAX HS community (temporarily) is **John Rosa**. John left his wife in D.C. and is "geo-batching" it in the BOQ at Cecil while going through the RAG. John finished up his tour as the VH-3 (Presidential Bird) class desk. After the RAG he'll head out to HS-12 on **MIDWAY/INDY** in Japan. Elias also ran into **Chip Walston** while Chip was going through the H-3 RAG. Chip is probably gone now and in a squadron in San Diego. The HSL community in Mayport has **Wayne Lachowicz** and **Lew Wolfrom**. Wayne was getting ready to deploy. He and Bess have three children, Stephanie, 10, Wayne,

7, and Tracy, 3. Lew is deployed and Kathryn has moved back to Norfolk to keep the candle lit there. **Art Porcelli** was also in Mayport but left in the Spring to attend the War College or so Matt was told. **Dan Holloway** was in Mayport on DesRon Staff but left in the Spring to teach at the Academy.

Quite a few 78ers are flying fast movers down there. In F/A-18's are **Rodger Welch**, **Shawn Tallant**, **Bill Larimore**, **Jim Clager** and **Mark Fox**. Rodger, the true Californian that he is, finds himself on the East Coast for the second tour in a row. Rodger had been a CAG LSO on the **TEDDY ROOSEVELT** before moving on to VFA-88. Sean and Joanne have a boy and a girl and have homesteaded at Cecil since finishing up a tour in Puerto Rico. Sean is with VFA-132, which Matt believed was presently without a deck (Tough break, no boat from which to deploy.) **Bill Larimore** is with VFA-131 which recently got back from cruise with the Ike. Matt had spoken with Bill's better half, Carmen, who mentioned that Bill had previously been a shooter on the **NIMITZ**. She also noted that they have two kids, Emily, 3, and Michael, 6 months. Rita and **Jim Clager** are in VFA-82 after a staff duty in Norfolk. They have two sons, David, 2, and Derek, 6. Matt missed **Mark Fox** who was out on SARA with VFA-81 but Priscilla Fox filled him in on their latest. The Foxes had just come from a split tour as an Aide and Detailer and have four children, William, 11, Collin, 8, Mason, 6, and Abigail, 2.

Still flying A-7's and not always screaming for gas are **Eric Lindstrand** and **Lloyd Prince**. Eric and Sharon have two girls, Austin, 4, and Morgan, 8 months now. Eric is flying in VA-72 on JFK and deployed on short notice to you know where. (So much for his looking forward to 18 months of nice easy transition to F-18's.) As for Lloyd, he comes from mighty **MIDWAY** as the Flight Deck Officer. Now he is with VA-105. Carolyn and Catrina just about commuted from JAX to Japan for most of that tour. Fortunately, they were around in May to help Matt and Brenda in their house search.

Other folks in town include **Jim Vanderkamp** (Who returned from a second stint in the Navy flying F-18's to become a captain with Eastern Airlines) and **Mike Gurney** (selling acoustic materials for Goodrich). Mike and Janice have a son, Kyle, who turned one last Summer. Mike told Matt that **Chris Burgin** is also in town, living out at the beach actually, but no one could say what it was he was doing. Matt also saw **Steve Bartie** from a distance at a local Alumni function. He thought that Steve is a civilian working for the state of Florida.

Matt had spoken with Sherry and **Bill Hession** a few times over the last few months. Bill is out of the active Navy, but still flies Reserve H-2's. Bill, Sherry and their four girls live in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, but I can't recall what exit. The Hessions provided Matt with the low-down on the rest of their old Pensacola apartment complex: Pat and **Tim Murphy** are in Memphis where Tim flies for Federal Express. They have two children and are expecting their third (if it hasn't happened already). Stephanie and **Bill Soer** live near Sherry and Billy. The Soers also have three children. Bill is out of the Navy and Matt was pretty sure he's not flying with the airlines. Matt saw **Marty Drake** in JAX and in Key West where the Poodle is CO of the hydrofoil **PEGASUS**. Marty and Lori are settling into Margaritaville with Ryan, 7, and Jason, 4. As for Marty's old roommates, he said that Patti and **Rusty Cone** are still outside of Dallas where Rusty works for Marlowe Industries. Mona and **Prentiss Hall** are still working with Proctor and Gamble in Milford, Ohio. Lastly, Matt talked to some Air Force LCol. in Plattsburgh. According to this source **Steve Brashear** is out of the Air Force and flying for United Airlines in Denver. We're all

surprised by that, so anyone who can confirm or deny that report let us know. Whew, that about does my column for me, Matt. Thanks for the scoop and we'll work on that rep thing.

I have one more letter here that I'll try to squeeze in before my deadline. It comes from Dennis Reilly and he is chocked full of 22nd Company news:

Denise and **Dennis Reilly** had the privilege of being the proud godparents of Barb and **Scott Eckert**'s second daughter, Lindsay Denise, in October. Scott, Barb, Elizabeth and Lindsay just moved into a beautiful new home in Annandale, Virginia. Janet and **Fred Butterfield** are living in Summerville, South Carolina. Fred is Senior Ship Superintendent at Charleston Naval Shipyard. He's working on an interesting project—converting USS **DANIEL WEBSTER** into a moored training ship. Jane and **Mike Crisp** are in San Diego where Mike is introducing the new F-14D to fleet squadrons at NAS Miramar. Mike's hopeful as he awaits the CO/XO screening results (good luck!). Diane and **Joe Fitzgerald** are in Newport where Joe is the Regimental Officer at OCS. Fitz was taking about 250 of his candidates to witness what I hope was Navy's history-making victory over Notre Dame at the Meadowlands!!! Joe's family of four will really have an opportunity to know the Newport area well, as he'll be going to the PXO course there and moving on to **SIMPSON** (FFG-56), also homeported in Newport. Fitz reports that **Roger Kaplan** is on an exchange program in Edinburg, Scotland, but will soon return to the good old USA as XO of W. S. Sims (FF-1059) in Mayport, Florida.

Miki and **Ken Greene** are still doing well in Leonard, Maryland. Ken enjoys his job as a performance engineer with Baltimore Gas and Electric. He keeps fit by ref'ing high school football and basketball games. Carol and **Mike Duncan** left Dallas and moved to Edmond, Oklahoma, last year after Dunc' took a promotion with Prudential. They're looking forward to the 15th Reunion. Mike is also asking all fellow Texans for forgiveness. He admitted to Dennis that both his sons now cheer for OU! (Just don't become a turncoat at Army-Navy and all your sins will be forgiven!) Martha and **Clark Goodlett** left the Navy in '88 and are now living in the Silicon Valley area of California. Clark is the gas cabinet manager for Scott Specialty Gases. Send resumes because Clark is hiring!!! He still serves proudly in the Naval Reserve and coaches in a youth soccer League in his spare time. **Glenn Flanagan** was recently spotted at the Navy-BC game. He just left NMPC as a Nuke Surface Detailer for the PXO course en route to Nuke Cruiser **VIRGINIA**. **Lanny King** is finishing up at the Naval War College before heading to Mayport in June and the XO billet aboard **LEYTE GULF**. Lanny and Gini just celebrated 11 years of marriage and eight Navy moves!!! (Let's hope their furniture stayed as intact as their marriage with all those moves!) Dennis reconfirmed Matt's news about Carmen and **Bill Larimore** but added that Bill is the Admin Officer with VFA-131. They couldn't make Homecoming but send greetings to all. Dennis spoke with **Earl "Kevin" Mosely**'s wife, Marcie. She's holding down the fort with their three children in 29 Palms, California, while Earl is playing in that even bigger sand box in Saudi Arabia. He's the S-4 (Supply Officer, beans, bullets, and bandages for you non-Marines) with the 11th Marines. Adena and **Eric Nelson** are enjoying their tour in Honolulu where Eric is a member of CinCPacFlt's Nuclear Propulsion Examining Board. Eric will take over as XO of **BREMERTON** in January. Adena is a CPA in Honolulu and the Nelson's say visitors are welcome! (Good, I'll see you guys at a business convention next year!) Donna and **Bill Poole** are also in Pearl, while Bill finishes up his tour as the Diving/Salvage Officer at Combat Support Squadron 5. Erin and **Arch Griffin** are in Bonn, Germany,

where they must be enjoying exciting times while Arch serves as the Assistant Naval Attaché. **Bill Girrier** is drilling weekends as the Admin Officer of NR SIMA, Newport. Bill and Denise live in Bristol, Rhode Island, with their two daughters. Bill is Ass't VP of Marketing with Globe Manufacturing, makers of Spandex, the material used in many bathing suit, brassieres, and girdles (Can I have a job?). Denise continues her work as a dental hygienist and says guests are welcome to use their extra bedroom. **Stewart Copeland** is doing well back home in Washington state. He and his wife Dawn are both teachers. Stew left the family apple business in '88 and is putting his USNA major to good use as high school history teacher in Yakima. Dawn teaches first grade. The Copeland's second daughter, Kari, was born this September 15th and they'd love to have visitors. Call them at 509-678-5148. Perla and **Larry Harper** are living in Garland, Texas, where Larry is a System Analyst with Texas Instruments' Defenses Systems Electronics Division. He also teaches a microcomputer course at a local community college part-time. Dennis asks for lost sheep assistance in locating **Jim Shulson**, **George Teufel**, or **Chris Slack**. Give him a call if you know anything (h) 703-690-8548 or (w) 301-907-2293 or write him at 8502 Heron Pond Lane, Fairfax Station, Va. 22039.

Whew, I never thought I'd squeeze all that in but I did (only a few lines over my limit but I beg the editor's indulgence and plead for a little Christmas Spirit help). Thanks for all the input this past year, keep it up in the coming ones. Best wishes to you and your families and keep our classmates, comrades, friends, and all those servicemen and women on duty around the world and especially in Saudi Arabia, in your prayers and thoughts for safe keeping.

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Membership: 93%

Pres., **Mike Finley**
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In the process of makin' a list, checkin' it twice, Santa got a little teed off at us Niner's this month. Because of whatever it was we did, we're only getting one Fleet Home Town News release. Folks, it could have been my fault from last month's not-so-existing FHTNR kick-off, but if anyone else out there's been naughty, like not reading the whole article if you don't see your name in bold print, please take your share of the blame. And don't blame it on Santa. Those are international laws and he HAS to abide by them. Don't let that put a damper on those yuletide spirits though, especially since Kenny and Dolly have both decided to look into chest reductions according to last month's *Star* tabloid (I know I'll be sleeping better). PLUS, we have LOTS o' Classmate stuff to talk about so here goes.

Al Kuong is still alive and kicking up in Maine while attending medical school at the University of New England. Al's started his second year. All our eccentric uncle requires from him while at med school (besides millions of hours of studying) is a 45-day AcDuTra during the Summers. Al, all I require from you is to find Vicky and I a house with five wooded acres for around fifty grand. Thanks for the post card and good luck with your studies.

Kirk Michealson sent me an update from a past FHTNR and he also won the "I'm Really Reading This Thing" contest. I purposely said that John Baskovich reported aboard USS **COWPENS**. Well congratulations Kirk, for paying attention because there is no one in our Class named John Baskovich. Kirk probably knew that since John is his step-father.