



Jeff Sander and Joe Mobley—66



Theodore Roosevelt Group



John Kruse and Wolf—75

mand of Medium Attack Weapons School, Atlantic (MawSlant) at Oceana during May and was headed back to the FRS for some refresher flying and CQ before reporting to VA-34 (CVW-7 on IKE) as XO sometime during August or September. Bud also passed on that Bev and **Stu Hinrichs** are living in Miami and that Stu was flying for Pan Am. He also noted that **George Standridge** was over in London on the CinCUSNavEur Staff. Blaine also got a letter from **Dan Simons**; Dan and Sherri have three children—a twelve-year-old daughter, a nine-year-old son, and a newborn baby girl. Dan is finishing up a tour as the Marine Corps Liaison Officer at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren, Virginia and White Oak, Maryland. In July, Dan is returning to the FMF for a one year unaccompanied tour with 3d Marine Division on Okinawa. **Desmond Fretz** sent Blaine a short note from Claremont, California, where he lives with his wife Jane; Dez works for XEROX, Market Development, in Los Angeles. Blaine got word from **Roger Seedorf** who is the head of the Submarine Assignment Branch at NMPC. In August, Roger is headed for the Naval War College and then on to a CO tour. His last tour was as XO of USS

TREPING in New London. Roger has three children—a boy 13 and two daughters 7 and 5. **Dan O'Brien** wrote Blaine a letter from San Diego where he is currently living with his wife Deborah and their two girls ages 3 and 1. Dan is the aviation officer with Fleet Training Group San Diego. One final piece of news from Blaine—**John Kolbeck** is the XO of USS PENNSYLVANIA (SSBN 735 Blue) homeported out of Kings Bay, Georgia. John and Eileen have four children, Ellen 14, James 10, Janine 6 and Emily 3.

Jeff Neufeld has carried on the fine work of **Dennis Dilucente** as 2nd Company rep with an update on a few folks he has heard from recently. **Tim Sprowls**, his wife Laura, and their three-year-old daughter, Julia Leilani are now living in Groton, Connecticut, where Tim is the Comptroller for the Naval Submarine School, and Laura is the Staff Intelligence Officer for Submarine Group Two. **Gary Littlejohn** is in Pottstown, Pennsylvania (near Valley Forge), where he now works for the State Department on a rotational assignment with the Commerce Department (International Trade Agreements). His assignment in Pennsylvania will end this Summer, and he expects to transfer to Miami where he will be part of a team that provides diplomatic representation to small Caribbean Islands where there is no U.S. Embassy. Gary and his wife Sarah have two children.

I have just a few final notes to pass on. Congratulations to **Joe Sheppard** who opened his own Law Office in Burleson, Texas. I heard from **Pete Siwek** who left the Navy about seven years ago. Pete is working for a company co-owned by **Ron Clipp** and another former Navy Officer. I got a note and a picture from N. Nielsen '57; he ran into **John Kruse** over in SWA. I saw **Phil Newman** this past week at an OV-10 Logistics Support Review Conference held here at Camp Pendleton. Phil is the Supply Officer for MALS-29 at MCAS New River and spent a few months in SWA. We're doing great on the Class Project—as of the end of April we were a little over \$300 away from our goal; however, we still owe about \$19,000 in pledges. Everyone is again reminded that we will hold Class elections this year. Please pass on your nominations for the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. I hope to see many of you at the reunion—please keep in touch, **Joe**.

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Membership: 81%

Pres., Maj. **Keith Tibbitts** USMC
Sec'y, LCDR. **Bill Millward** USN
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Shipmates, as you can see by the above address change, the Millward family is on the move again. Jane and John moved all our earthly possessions into Quarters in mid-June—one week before I returned from my six-month deployment. Boy, do I owe her BIG for that one. But now we are all settled on the Naval Base and are really enjoying our Charleston Summer.

I received a note from **David Harding** who reports that he is living in Annapolis where he is Director of Data Network Services at ARINC. He also retired from the Marine Corps Reserve in December 1990 and wonders if he is the first Class retiree. Anyone out there know the answer to that one? Thanks for the letter, David.

Rob Wilson also checked in from Troy, Michigan. He and his wife, Betsy, are the parents of three girls—Amy 8, Katie 7 and Allison 5. Rob left the Navy in 1985 after shore duty as an NROTC Instructor at the University of Minnesota where he got his



Rob Wilson Family

MBA. He then joined Procter & Gamble in Cincinnati, Ohio. Last Summer the Wilsons were transferred by P&G to Troy where Rob is now a Senior Marketing Analyst, working closely with Kmart. The only thing he asks is that we all buy our Crest toothpaste at Kmart. Rob is in the Reserve, in a CinCUSNavEur unit out of Detroit. Rob included lots of info on other Classmates: **Dirk Debbink** and family are doing well in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, where Dirk is with his family's construction company. **Heinz MacArthur** is still in the USMC, stationed in Norfolk at the CinCLANTFLT compound in some HQ Marine computer job. Heinz and Cynthia are the proud parents of David 6 and Michael 4. **Pat Fallon** is also in the Michigan area working at some nuclear power company (name unknown). Rob also ran into **John Althans** in 1990 when they did their active duty time together in Roosie Roads. John lives in Cleveland where he sells some sort of corporate insurance. It was great to hear from you, Rob, after 14 years. Please don't wait so long between letters next time!

The only other thing I have is one Hometown News Release. **Mike Tryon** reported for duty at the Naval Supply Center, San Diego. He received the Meritorious Service Medal for his exemplary performance as the Executive Assistant to the Vice Commander, Naval Supply Systems Command, Washington, D.C. Job well done, Mike!

That's it for now. Please use our new address as an excuse to drop me a line. I have nothing to fall back on for next month, so . . . Until then, happy trails. **Bill** (by Power of Attorney)

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Membership: 83%

Pres., **Steve Maloney**
Sec'y, **Vince Balderrama**
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Shelton, Conn. 06484

Okay, okay, I haven't met **Leo Klikier's** stunning wife, Elisabeth (I certainly would've remembered) and I haven't been harassed by the President of the Northeast Chapter of the NRA, **John Gardiner**, as last month's column may have led you to believe. There appears to have been a printing error (I would never say an editorial error . . . hey, don't bite the hand that gives you immense deadline latitude . . . No barbs thrown your way, Wes, uh-uh, not me!). Go to page 77 of June's issue. The third to the last paragraph of that first column should've gone before my last full paragraph . . . That means everything in between was from **Sean Coffey's** letter and should've been in quotes. Now a lot of you may not have even noticed the error—but I did, and I'm sure that Sean and everyone else he mentioned may have too! I have the proof that it wasn't my fault. So I hope Sean real-

izes there was no intent to "misrepresent" or deliberately plagiarize; and will call off the Honor Board Gestapo and lawsuit . . . I do, however, make great use of "constructive editorial license," which I will now apply to some great mail . . .

The first one out of the hopper comes from **John Klose** who sent an "Aloha from another Classmate who got recalled to active duty for Operation Desert Shield/Storm." John wasn't exactly in the burning sands of Saudi Arabia but was working for the Military Sealift Command office in Naples, Italy. At the time he wrote he was TDY up in Northern Italy as the local MSC Rep in Livorno where he "husbands ships." That's not playing Yenta either, but looking after them by making sure they can get the repair parts and fuel they require, water taxi and van pool service to the Army's PX, etc., etc. He mostly coordinated with the Army to schedule the loading and offloading of the ships and then continued the ship liaison. Not one to look a gift horse in the mouth, John considers himself luckier than our other Classmates who were sent into the fray. After all Livorno/Tirrenio is a great place—it's a seaside resort area! But there is a major Army ammo storage facility there and excellent railheads to Europe, so a large part of the Desert Shield/Storm cargo (tanks/ammo, etc.) out of Germany came through Livorno. The only discomfort John felt was a bitterly cold and wet Winter and a hectic schedule. Now that the redeployment is on, the pace is much slower and the time for extra letters existed.

John credits **LCdr Ken Hamilton**, USNR (23rd, I think) with getting him into this "mess." Ken was in Ad Damman as an MSC port engineer. John, Ken and two other LCdrs Reservists from their unit in Pensacola were called up together. Out of the 30 folks called up in his 24 December '90 deployment group, 29 went to the desert and John got sent to Naples. The joke is: "We still don't know if it was because I'm so good or so bad." It all started when Ken, who is the XO of our MSC Southwest Asia unit, convinced his CO to handpick four aggressive officers to roundout the manning of this new MSC unit last December 89. Ken knew John and the others because they all lived and worked around the Naval Coastal Systems Center in Panama City, Florida. Starting up a new Reserve unit in December '89 seemed like a good thing at the time and a helluva lot more challenging than just sitting around on his training folder. After all, last January, nobody paid much attention to this Saddam Hussein character and the Middle East was as quiet as any other place; and the chance of requiring strategic sealift was as probable "as getting struck by lightning." Well, 20/20 hindsight has shown us the fault of that logic and the probability of being hit by a bolt is better than one thinks—so John is "smoked now." At the time this all started, Ken was actually John's boss at NCSC. Ken had been promoted to branch head for NSW Systems Development in late '88 after doing a fine job working for the Navy SEALs. In Feb '89 he recruited and hired John out of Washington, DC to become one of his project managers.

John also wrote that **H. Lowe Pruitt**, **Bob Schwanke**, and their wives are working for CTF63 down in Naples. Bob had just reported aboard in January of this year. Lowe has been there about a year after leaving the Navy Experimental Dive Unit in Panama City. Lowe was surprised as hell when John showed up in Naples. They didn't expect to see each other quite so soon after leaving Panama City.

Because Ken and John are working in the logistics chain, they don't expect to return to their civilian lives anytime soon. Their one year mobilization orders presently run out at the end of December, but that is no guarantee that they'll be going home then, especially if the redeployment isn't finished. John thought they'd probably be stuck until it is. At least the ops tempo has slowed such that he can learn Italian and German, catch up on his correspondence and

do some sightseeing (Remember, it's a seaside resort with a VERY liberal dress code . . . swim wear optional . . . and the beach is right outside his hotel . . . Life is GOOOD!).

With DS squared and the normal deployment, a lot of wives have taken care of you guys and this column, by writing me. I got one letter from **Tom Rentz's** wife, Anne. Tom had finished an overseas PEP tour in Australia and reported to the Philly Naval Shipyard in August of last year. A month later, their son, Dominic, was born (13 September). Prior to the Australian tour they had been stationed in Maine where Tom worked at SupShip, Bath. Their other boys, Michael 6, Patrick 5, and Conor 3 were all born in Maine. The lone girl, Katie 2 adds an international flavor to the siblings by virtue of being born in Canberra, Australia, a distinction, Dominic just missed. Anne's brother, **John O'Dwyer**, is in Rota, Spain where he puts his Commander Cody secret decoder ring to work in cryptology. John, Sally and the kids have another year and a half to go in Rota before they can all have a family reunion in the States. "The Twins," Peter Brian and Kathleen Elizabeth are almost 2. For their 2nd birthday, Mom and Dad are giving them another brother or sister. Just doing a little math here, Anne . . . Let's see . . . Michael, Patrick . . . hmmm . . . Holy progeny, Bat Man, that's five kids in all!! Well I know how busy your days are and REALLY appreciate your taking the time to jot a note and send a picture. Thanks loads!

Unbeknownst to **Doug Schultz**, his wife Jann



Rentz family

wrote me from the UK. (Oooops, I guess the cats out of the bag now, Jann!!) It seems several times over the past few years he has talked about writing a general "Hello, this is what I'm doing" type letter, but he never got around to it. The catalyst for her writing was his inactivity plus a copy of *Shipmate* with a blank '78 section (Okay, so I belw it one time, besides, it got you to write!!) Anyway, they left Lemoore, California, in January. Doug was the Maintenance Officer for VA-27 (flying A-7's), and helped pave a smooth way for its transition to F/A-18s. Currently, he's attending an English finishing school. Well actually it's the Royal Air Force Staff College, in Bracknell, Berkshire, England. He's the lone US Navy Officer in the course. The aim of the school is to prepare you to work on a British Staff, but the emphasis is multinational. (Of 92 total students, 32 are from foreign countries.) Doug has been working to perfect the art of point papers and public speaking, not to mention walking and chewing gum at the same time and how to pronounce schedule as "SHedyuel" instead of "SKEjel." Exercises take them to Greenwich or Sandhurst, and even Europe (aka The Continent).

Their children Chad 9 and Suzie 5 are in a British School and Scotty 3 is at the British Pre-School on "camp" (base). Jann reports that they are benefitting from the opportunities of school and play with all the international kids! She says it is wonderful! They're going to make the most of their year there and try to see as much of Britain as possible. Each weekend finds them at another castle, historic site or in London. They spent Easter Break in Cornwall and

plan to spend a week in Scotland during August.

Doug hopes for a Staff Tour on the Continent after he finishes the course and the entire Schultz clan will continue to take full advantage of their stay in Europe. If any '78'ers want a tour of Windsor, Jann says just call or write them! Until December '91 you can catch them at: Doug and Jann Schultz, 5 Fox Road, Bracknell, BERKS, RG12 3DS, Phone: 011-44-344-56395 (from US) or (0344) 56395 (from UK).

Dave Hall sent me a page from the Mar/Apr issue of *Surface Warfare Magazine* along with a note to tell you that the USNR FFs are being decommissioned. USS MILLER (FF-109) is first on the hit list. That's Dave's baby. He's its SELRES Admin Officer. He thought **Rich Valenstein** might be interested to know this because Rich is the first name on the SWO Designator board which still hangs in the wardroom. As for the magazine article, it denotes that **LCdr Donald Urquidez**, USS BAGLEY, and **LCdr Glen T. White**, CinCPac, received their "Command at Sea For Command at Sea" designation. This is that "Star Pin" you couldn't quite remember in your Plebe rates. It's a bix "X" in a Black Shoes career and a prerequisite to command at sea in the rank of lieutenant commander and commander. So Bravo Zulu to Don and Glenn!

Those of you who still follow the space program and for whom shuttle launches still hold more excitement than the latest episode of *Star Trek*, the *Next Generation* may have recognized **Ken Bowersox** voice welcoming home the Discovery Crew as they returned to earth in May (in case you didn't, a newspaper clipping at least identified him.) Ken was the Mission Control Director, and the "voice" of Mission Control. This could mean his time in the "can" may be coming up soon. Let me know Sox, as there's something I may want you to take up there for me. No need to bring it back. It's just this annoying little . . . well, naw, never mind . . .

Bob McMasters wrote and sent a picture as proof that you CAN find uses for some of that stuff you accumulated over the years at Mother B. Resting securely on his office door as Chief of Engineering at Sawyer Air Force Base is his Plebe issue door tag. As a matter of fact, it still has a little bit of left-over tape from the ICOR tag!!! Bob was promoted to the job last November but I guess a name plate didn't come with the title. He still represents Navy athletics on the Civil Engineering Squadron's Nordic Ski Team and has been churning up the snow—In fact the newspaper clipping he sent attests to the fact that he won the Base Cross Country Skiing Championship! He's competed in two marathon ski events this season on the open circuit, but the competition is a little stiffer there. It's with mixed emotions that he, his wife Mary, and four boys anticipate moving 400 miles South this Summer, to Lansing, Michigan. Bob's been accepted into the Ph.D program in the Mechanical Engineering Department at Michigan State University while Mary has been accepted into their Medical School. He hopes to also have a job offer from the University physical plant. They'll truly miss the wilderness surroundings of their current home in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, but hope to be able to return when their schooling is complete.

The FAX machine is an amazing piece of technology which a lot of us can't do without! Many of us get more use from it than we do from our microwaves . . . Come on, admit it. Who REALLY cooks meals with their microwave aside from the defrost button and popcorn blasting what else do you with it!!! But that FAX machine, yes sir reedy McCreedy . . . it's a life line of communication wonder. It keeps us from having to keep track of the latest postage rates (which seems to change more often than our waste sizes and hairlines) and helps us from busting deadlines . . . This month I got two of those electronic "mailgrams" . . .

Here's the FAX from **Dennis Reilly** . . . On 23 April, he and Denise had their fourth child, Brian



Bob McMaster ICOR

Matthew. Like with all "newbies," the baby's doing great . . . mom and dad, on the other hand, get no sleep! While dropping off **Glenn Flanagan's** Class of '78 Directory in June, Dennis got the scoop on Glenn from Margie. She, Glenn Jr. 5 and Mia 21 months were still living in Woodbridge, Virginia, while dad was deployed to the Med as XO of USS VIRGINIA. Margie reported that Glenn says it's the best job he's had in the Navy. (Why not? There's only ONE guy who can tell him what to do and EVERYBODY else jumps at what the XO says! Not at all like being a lowly husband or dad. Who ever listens to them? Glenn was due home at the end of June and that's when they all would move on down to Virginia Beach.

Dennis saw **Mark Hubal** and **John Painter** on a recent trip to Crystal City, Virginia. Mark is with System Planning Corp in Arlington doing radar work for the Navy. He spent several weeks in the Persian Gulf last December heading up a team of Tech Reps. He got out just before the bullets flew. In his spare time, he's doing his part to save the earth too, as an active member of Clean Fairfax County, a nonprofit organization dedicated to responsible waste disposal in Northern Virginia. John Painter reported to the Submarine-Launched Cruise Missile Program Management Office at NAVAIR (PMA-284) last December. John, Jennifer, and their daughter, Amy 10 months can expect to be there for a two-year tour. In that time John plans to be a regular at the '78 luncheons at Ft. Meyer.

Dennis also got a letter from **Tony Balestrini's** wife, Kim, who wrote to tell him that Tony had returned to Peru after a two-year exchange assignment with the US Navy in Norfolk. Kim and their daughter Gina will join him this summer. The Balestrini's visited Tony's old roommate, **Jorge Ortega**, in New York last Fall. Among the sites the foursome visited was chinatown, of course Jorge still thinks those pancakes in Moo Shu Pork are really tortillas. (Me too, Jorge.)

In closing, Dennis added that **Kenny Greene** has graciously volunteered to relieve him as 22nd Company Rep. So you can start readdressing those cards and letters to Kenny at: 960 Rockhill Ct., Leonard, Md. 20657, or phone him at (301) 586-2856. Thanks for the news, Dennis and especially for all your work as the Company Rep this past year.

The last FAX was from **Kevin Liddy**, who is a regular contributor to my in-basket. Kevin was given a personal tour of USS WISCONSIN by LCDR **Ken Roey**. Ken was in New York for the annual Fleet Week, in conjunction with the Welcome Home ticker-tape parade. He's the MPA on "Wiscon" and was

Kevin's old roommate when they were aboard USS CAPODANNO (That's why the personal tour.) After Ken left the Happy Cappy, he served on a PhibRon staff in California; followed by teaching school in Eastern Maryland. That's where he picked up his attractive wife Margaret. (They now have a two-year-old daughter.) After teaching, he went off to PG school to pick up his MS. It was there he "saw the light" and changed to Engineering Duty, and was promptly dispatched to his current tour. He just spent eight glorious months in the Gulf, where temperatures in the fireroom and engineering spaces would stay around 130 degrees. Ken's next tour will be at SUPSHIP Portsmouth, Virginia. He isn't planning any more sea tours, but with the shortages of EDOs on carriers what's the likelihood of that? Kevin also sent me an article from a sailing magazine which shows that **Pete Craig** is a crewmember onboard AMERICA CUBE. Pete participated in the World Cup and was to be with the team through the America's cup in May '92.

A letter from **Jock Maloney** also elaborated that Pete invites anyone in the San Diego area to give him a call at home at (619) 490-2255 or at work at (619) 221-2100. While visiting Pete, enroute to Okinawa, Jock got the chance to watch the World Cup from a VIP boat. What a waste, as we all know how much we Marines know about sailing! Jock also saw **Dave Ireland** in Oki on Dave's last day of ATD. Though Dave is really a Delta pilot living in Atlanta, he was flying P-3s in the Reserves. At the El Toro O'Club he saw **Al "Blues" Baker** and **Claude Weiller**. Al, as you all know is a "sky pilot" while Claude works for Proctor and Gamble in Orange County. **John Rudzis** had left with the 15th MEU out of Camp Pendleton. He was having a great time and was looking forward to the next two years with the grunts. Tone, Kimberly and Laurin are holding down the home front. Jock reminds all of you to earmark your contributions to the Academy this year for the '78 Class Fund (unrestricted). This way the money is specifically set aside for our Class Fund. Barring that it goes directly to the general fund . . . Of course, if you prefer you can just make it out to Jock or me, just refer to the proper spelling at the beginning of this column . . . Elizabeth and I are still house hunting and could use the bucks, while Jock needs it for his homecoming party.



Jorge, Kim, Gina, Tony

Chris Jensen sent an article from the Annapolis "Crab Wrapper" (aka *The Capital*) on Maj. **J. J. Spegele** being the recipient of two Academy teaching honors. He's the first recipient of the Class of 1951 Military Faculty Teaching Excellence Award and the William P. Clements Award for Excellence in Education. Congrats, J. J., I'll put details, along with the news from **Marty Drake's** letter in next's month's column. I'm out of space and out of time . . . *Adios!!*

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Membership: 93%

Pres., **Mike Finley**

Corr. Sec'y, Lt. **Kenneth Russell** USNR
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I'm going to have to start this thing off with a very important "subliminal message" warning to those Niners with 1 to 2 year olds. My son, Bryan speaks quite well, using perfect sentence structure, syntax and inflection except that he doesn't know any English words. Naturally, Vicky and I assumed that he was speaking the standard Greek-Hebrew-Sino-Yugoslavian dialect, but were we ever wrong. The reason being is because when we taped Bryan's voice and played it backwards, we heard, in perfect English, things like, "Give me more strawberry ice cream; take me to Chuck E. Cheese; Dad, you moron, the Sesame Street character's name is GROVER, not, That Furry Blue Guy." Folks, especially Dads, it was very scary. So when you mindlessly change channels from a Dodgers-Reds game to Mr. Roger's Neighborhood and sing the "Won't You Be My Neighbor" song, it could be pure subliminal or maybe a spin-off of that UFO abduction deal, I don't know. Whatever the reason, let's get on with the rest of the story and stop all this lead-in filler nonsense.

First off, **Tom Smith**, I wrote back to you last January but the ship returned the letter. Please send your new address or if the Navy's mail system is as efficient as the U.S. Postal Service, leave 'em out of the loop and call me.

Vince Bousa sent a great letter from Freed Kuwait. Vinny decided to stick around and remain one of the Finest despite the millions of major corporations' offers. Come on VB, be honest, you picked up major and figured you could stand on your head for seven more years. Congrats to yas! VB wrote about one of his Mighty War Frog flights in which he was to fly an A-6 guy around to check out the BDA over some destroyed Iraqi positions. Who should show up for the pleasure of sitting in back of a 46 but none other than **Dan Lyons**. Vince flew Danno around for a little over eight hours but found no destroyed targets. Could it be that the jocks didn't hit anything at all? Hey, it was nighttime during the strike and the Iraqi's . . . moved the destroyed targets . . . to . . . Cleveland, yeah, that's the ticket. Still, makes the BDA 100 percent, right Dan? Vinny also got to dine with **John Byzewski** enjoying those gourmet MRE's. The Bazoo was the Camp CommanDaddy for the 8th Marines. Back home, Vince's big boss, Maryann, is an agent for Century 21 in Jacksonville and is keeping the home fires burning while VB flies for HMM-266. Maryann, Vicky sends her best and said another crab boil would be great if we could just get back there. Vince sends blanket Thank Yous to all the pals who helped him try to find a job when he was thinking of pulling chicks. VB, thanks for the letter.

Bob Tata wrote an interesting letter about his doin's at work as a trial lawyer for Hunton & Williams in Norfolk. Bob represents the guys who discovered and recovered SS CENTRAL AMERICA which sank off of South Carolina in 1857. The skipper of CENTRAL AMERICA was Cdr. Herndon, the namesake of the Herndon Monument. Herndon's heroism during the sinking of the ship will bring new light as to why a monument was erected in his name if you pickup a copy of *An American Tragedy*. Bob also sent word of a few Niners. **Phil McConkey** is involved in several business interests in New Jersey. If you remember, Phil ran for Congress last year and was narrowly defeated. **Bob Leszczynski** is a partner with Xelan; a conservative financial planning group for medical professionals. Bob is still free from the hellish nightmare of marri . . . Oops, I mean Bob is