

77

Membership: 80%

Pres., Cdr. **Owen G. Thorp III** USNR
Sec'y, Cdr. **Bill Millward** USN
1026 Magnolia Ave. Norfolk, VA 23508

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Membership: 85%

Pres., **John Rudder**
Sec'y, **Vince Balderrama**
45 Little Fawn Dr., Shelton, CT 06484

Wouldn't you know it? Just when I put that All-Marine issue to rest, guys come crawling out of deffolade (that's hiding behind some obstacle for you Naval types with nothing but ocean to hide on). The very next day, I came across **Ned Davis** and **Lon Yeary** at the Marine Corps League Trade Show at Quantico, VA. Of course, did I expect to NOT run into Marines at Quantico?! Anyway, Ned took the 15 year retirement from the Corps and networked his way into a second career as an arms merchant for the HUM-VEE guys out in Michigan. The job seems to suit him, though right now he's paying a little bit of new guy penance by doing some traveling. Still it's a necessary evil to get to bigger and better things — not the least of which is quality time with the family (a key factor in his decision to take the money and the "(Ret.*)" title and leave active duty.)

As for Lon, he's probably the last of our year group to the Command and Staff resident course. In his case, he did the right — making the X for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel yet still being junior to someone else in the class! He's privileged without the responsibility of having to be Class President and play "daddy serious" for all the other junior oak leaves.

I may have mentioned my foray into the world of quasi-active duty, a.k.a. Selected Marine Corps Reserves. Last week I joined the boys at Marine Aircraft Group-46 in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania. I'm an excess body to help support a Norway exercise "at some undetermined time" next year. That's officialese for "can't tell you or I'll have to kill you". My reasons for getting more active in the Reserves were simple — I missed the camaraderie, the smell of real operations and the excitement of visiting foreign lands in a uniform (dodging rocks and bottles and hearing "Yankee go home" in a variety of languages) and to be more exact — I really missed the retirement credit points. Not that I didn't get points in the IRR. It just seems points in the SMCR are easier to justify, track and, I've learned, considered more REAL by the guys on reserve promotion boards. Oh, what we do for the love of the Corps (and the retirement beer money). To get back on track, while at MAG-46 I saw the guys I mentioned last time (**Steve "Jock" Maloney**, **Alex Dimitrew** and **Chris "Doc" Dougherty**). There's no additional news from them except to add that Doc's "Paper Chase" looks like it may be leading to law partnership. For now he's under the scrutiny of the microscope. Good luck, Doc, we hope you look good enough to have your name added in gold leaf to the firm's door.

To finish up the Marine Corps theme, the Commandaddy came out with the LtCol command selection list and a few Classmates showed up. On the west coast: **Herb Hopper** gets a battalion with the 1st Marine Division. **John Page** a heavy lift helo squadron with the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (probably a 53D one in Kaneohe Bay). **Mark Bolin** was picked for a Harrier squadron which just reinforces

the difference between the Marines and the Boy Scouts. **Rick "Finner" Findlay** got an A-6, all-weather squadron. While he may become a CO, Jenny still has the major command — home. **Dave Barile** gets a cannon cocker battalion with the 3rd Marine Division. Dave's highly qualified for the job, after all artillery's just like the shot put. The objective's pretty much the same, to put metal out as far as you can. Except with artillery it's gotta be put out farther, on target and go boom. **John Wissler** gets a blatin busy-beaver combat engineer unit with the 2nd Division in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Lastly, **Tim Hanifen** is going to have to get his shoe horn out to help squeeze him back into a CH-46E cockpit and command of a medium lift helo squadron at MCAS New River, North Carolina.

We won't know which exact unit these guys will actually get until probably next year. It'll most probably be when the invitation gets released. In the meantime, congratulations to all of you and stay way from any swords — even the cocktail weenie kind — lest you accidentally trip and fall on it.

I don't want you guys to feel I'm deliberately neglecting the Navy component of our Class, it's just that I haven't seen too many of you lately. I did cross paths with **Alex Hnarkis** at the tourist trap gift shop at Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Alex diverted his F-14 cross country back to Virginia Beach to boom in to see a former squadron-mate launch with the Columbia shuttle. I burned some frequent flyer miles and plastic to take my family down to watch **Ken Bowersox** launch as well. Needless to say the shuttle didn't go off as planned. In fact, it took a good seven attempts before they lit the fuse and ventured into space. Sox is beginning to think that there is a connection between my presence and an aborted mission. I however blamed Dave Olson '79 who was also present and part of the failure trend. Sox thought it over again and concluded it's both of us — like the proper, or improper alignment of stars. Also present at the launch (or first launch attempt) was **Jim Butler**. Jim is part of the Classmate work program known as Telecommunications — **Maurice Tose's** booming business based in Annapolis. I don't have the exact list of who's working for Maurice. At the rate he's growing I may just only have to pull out the *Lucky Bag*. I'll have more on the launch and pictures next month. (I'll try and pick a good one, Mrs. Bowersox.)



Mark, Tula and Matthew Hub



Dinn Wedding Daybard in front of Hamilton Hall @ PSU
19 August 1995



Mark Hubbard and Bob Jackson on MERRIMACK (AO-179)
4 August 1995

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Jim "Doc" Doherty and Mark Hubbard on Doc's Dad's sailboat moored by the Annapolis City Dock 12 August 1995

Mike "Gunga" Dinn sent me a letter to announce that he got married in Long Beach, California! His lovely bride is the former Frances Anne Sealey. Their relationship began not quite like Aerosmith's "Love in an Elevator", but they did meet in one. I can't say exactly whether it was love on first sight. But from the looks of his new bride I'd venture to say there's a high probability that it was for Mike. With Mike, you had to know that the wedding wasn't your ordinary run of the mill ring and cake fling, but a first class affair. True to form and in naval fashion, he and Frances were wed aboard a luxury liner, the Queen Mary. Being a true ship's wedding, it was conducted in the chapel with the ship's Captain as the minister. As Mike put it, it was the "ultimate come-around". Judy and **Bill "Dietz" Dietzler** surprised Mike and his bride with a last minute appearance on the promenade (along with Doc and Gopher too). Bill and Judy got to use his Northwest Airlines pilot perks to fly in from their home in Alexandria, Minnesota to make the wedding. After brandy and cigars, Mike claimed that he and Dietz tried to get underway for a little harbor cruise, but as Mike said, "the Class ring didn't impress anyone from security". Now if you had flashed a SWO pin or better yet, YP command pin — that would've been the ticket! As IF! It's been nothing but onward and upward for Mike since he left surface warfare back in '86. After five years of destroyers and three years at NROTC at the University of Washington where he got his MBA, he got involved in big stakes real estate. He currently works for Ryland Homes. Right now the Dinns reside in Aliso Viejo, just outside of Laguna Beach. But Mike's got his eye on a Sales Manager position and hopes to transfer back to the East Coast next spring. Of course, he'll miss those California TV. murder trials, earthquakes and brush fires, not to mention that he'll have to get used to believing that you can actually breathe air that CAN'T be seen. With Ryland being the number three home builder in the U.S. and headquarters in Columbia, Maryland, Mike's chances are looking pretty good to wind up in Maryland or Virginia. We'll look forward to seeing him and Frances as permanent fixtures at future Navy tailgaters.

That about covers it for now. I'm frazzled by midterms and have entered the dark ages well before it was ever intended. I need my own little goat court to poke my head into and shout the ever soothing AAAAAAAAAAGGGGHHHHHH! There, I feel much better. With that I'm launchin Spot Four. See you next month, when I hope to find that little sock I squeezed everything into. Oh, yeah — Merry Christmas. — Merry Christmas?! YIKES — gotta go — I forgot Christmas shopping too! Thank heaven for the "Quicky Mart". Launchin' Spot Four with a Ho, Ho, Oh.....

Thank You! Your support built Alumni Hall!

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Membership: 94%

Pres., **Mike Finley**
Sec'y, **Ken Russell**

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I was talking with my personal therapist, Koko the Signing Gorilla, (she helps me "find my voice") when she enlightened me as to the true meaning of life: When you can't come up with pathetic filler to kick things off, go straight to the info. However, one side light before we begin; to be read at the next AOM with apologies for abusing the powerful Sec o' '79 position: **HEY, WHERE'S MY PLAQUE????!!** Okay, let's put on some garbage haulin' clothes and get ready for a dumptruck load o' data, shall we?

First up is a richly deserved flame from Mary and **Mark Tempestilli**. Having misplaced the superb photo of Mark and the kidsters, you should see it right about now. Mary, sorry about not getting it in to the Home Office but I misplaced it here at the Word Processor of Love shrine. Don't worry though, when Vicky reads this, she'll abuse me for you.



Mark Tempestilli, Emily 3, Joseph 5 months

Oh man, speaking of blown photo send ins. I forgot to send in **Lanny Glover's** photo FIVE months ago and that means a visit by the South Carolina militia. Wendy added a new young'n last April and now Virginia 4, and Dorothy Claire 2 have a new brother named Daniel. Congrats you two! While on Annual Training, Lanny saw **Steve Payette** who is doing the Beltway bandit thing yet living in West Virginny where wife Sherry and daughter Stephanie don't have to put up with all the "Drakonian" nonsense inside the wasteland. ("How bad are the cuts senator?" "Why, they're DRAGONIAN. How else would we be able to spin a none issue?") The Glovers also recently saw Lilia and **Greg Darroca** and their two kid units, Anjula and Gaven. Lanny, I sheepishly say thanks for the letter and photo. Uh-huh, I'm performing this sec stuff like a real stellar performer, eh?

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Lanny and Daniel Clayton

Former NAPster, CO of VF-111 and famous denture wearer, **Tom Joyce** now has new digs across from Warden Field. TJ is the Second Battalion Officer. Hey isn't a lot of 2nd Batt in the 3rd Wing where God used to speak to us at night across Smoke Park during finals? Remember? If you can hear me, yell Hose Bag? Tommy, if every light in the 3rd Wing goes out at around 2030 during finals, just go home.

That 'Bama lovin' nut **Pete Parsons** sent an update via a recent trip to Seattle. He and Melinda got together with Jean and **Dave Krueger** and Debbie and **Nat Green** while gallivanting in Washington on Boeing's dime. Nat is an attorney for a Seattle law firm and Dave is stationed at Bremerton. Pete recently spoke with Daryl and **Grant Thornton**. Grant just retired and is spending his time sorting his many job offers. Bummer. **Tom Rychlik** is the XO of H&S Company for BLT 26. Tom's on a brand new, knee knocker free, big gray thing with a pointy end and no doubt LOVIN' it. Tom's wife Lynn is working on her Masters while Tom preps for some main brace splicin' on the WASP. When I think of those times from hell while I'm at the wheel in the pottery, I laugh out loud. Life's REAL simple now. Pete is still working on the Space Station in Huntsville quite near his beloved Bubbah and he just completed his MBA at Vanderbilt. Now with all the free time Melinda, Pete and 'acourse Bubbah hit the links quite often. Pete, thanks for the note and photo and as always, ROLL TIDE.



Parsons, Kruegers, and Greens

Denny Fox sent an addition to the last 21st Company update. **Dave Walker** retired this October and