

were about a dozen of the grads who have flown in the astronaut programs. The Alumni Hall gala continued with dancing, refreshments and fun for all.

We also attended this year's Masquerader's production of South Pacific. What a show!! Mahan Hall was decked out like the hanger bay of a WWII aircraft carrier hosting a USO show. Fake passageways, watertight doors, IMC announcements, great combat slides and of course, a talented cast, made the evening memorable. What a bunch of talent in this place! The Academy is certainly not a haven for actors but you can't match the enthusiasm and raw energy of these kids.

Okay, new topic... I'm looking for stories...not just any stories....great ones! Let's see who has the funniest story of an "encounter" with the dreaded OOD or AOOD while a midshipmen. There must be a million funny tales out there and we want to hear them.... I think I'll get Tim to work on a new topic each month and, if you guys cooperate, you won't have to listen to my rambling!

I'm sorry we don't have any news on individuals "out there" but you know, "Nothing in....nothing out!!" Everyone take care and WRITE!!!



Chuck in his spare time as volunteer statistician for Navy Basketball! [editor's note: he's going to kill me-Nancy]

**Keep the Spirit, the Spirit of '76, that is!!!**

**Chuck**

# 77

**Membership: 80%**

Pres., Cdr. **Owen G. Thorp III** USNR  
Sec'y, Cdr. **Bill Millward** USN  
200 Windstone Dr., Portsmouth RI 02871

Shipmates, other than an occasional report that the sun is still rising in the east and setting in the west, there has not been much mail bag activity.

**Stanley Gray** sent a terrific note, though, from his new home in Scottsdale, AZ:

I must admit it has been a while since I gave you an update, so please excuse the babble. First off, this has been a transition year for me. I was working with Phillip Morris in Chicago enjoying life — getting ready to visit Australia on vacation, when I got a job offer from a company that was just too good to be true. Being the opportunist that I am, I accepted and moved to the east coast. After I settled in sunny Camden, I surmised that the story was not going to have a happy ending so I left them, and am now with REVLON. All of this took place within a two month period; what a whirl wind of events. The Lord takes care of fools and children, so one can see that I have yet to grow up.

I am now living in Scottsdale, and between work, being on Boards for Valley Big Brothers and Big Sisters, the City of Scottsdale (Personnel) Board, and the Chairman of the Toys for Tots Drive for 1994, I am plenty busy. I really like it here so far, I have yet to make an Alumni meeting, but I am sure that my participation is right around the corner.

**Jim Coulson's** update of the mighty twelfth company was most appreciated. I might add that **Fred Kinkin** and family are still doing well and have settled in Atlanta. He is still with AIRCO and I am

sure that between work, children, spouse (the wonderful May Ruth), and the reserves he too is quite busy. As I understand, his present job has him traveling a great deal. My other roommate, **Jim George**, is still working for the Navy in the Washington Navy Yard, and doing quite well. Jim and his crew were able to stop by and see Fred Kinkin this summer in Tennessee before Fred left. I got a Christmas card from **Jeff Patterson** who is down in N.C. showing the Army how things are done.

**Charles Ivey** is still with MOBIL and is now in Pittsburgh. He too, is still active with the reserves. I understood that **Joe Harrington** is back in the DC area, with MOBIL and drilling. Did you hear that **Clint Holman** passed the bar after completing law school at night? He is with MOBIL, in their patent law department utilizing his new skills. I still hear from **Everet McNair** on a constant basis. He and Patricia are down in NC loving life. **Colin McKenzie** is still into that investment thing and living in Chicago. We are trying to get together in February and play golf with the men in his family.

**Jim Lee** is doing well in Dallas. He has left his position practicing law and started his own corporation, a medical billing company. I wish him the best. Although he did not graduate with us, his spirit and determination is a bond and tribute to our Class.

I hear that **Chris Dory** is in the Norfolk area doing what employed M.D.s do. I would appreciate it if anyone knows his whereabouts, as I would like to get in touch with him.

Well, I am going to shove off for now. Remember if you are ever in the Scottsdale area give me a call. I am in the book and would love to chat, break bread, or make some holes in the ground in the name of golf.

Take care.....Stan. ((602)-314-0487)

For a final note, we received a couple of Classmate Christmas cards. The first was from **Claude Barron**, wife Sandy and their three boys. They are in Pearl Harbor, and should be ready to roll into the PCO pipeline in April. The second card was from **Pete Knoetgen**, wife Sue and two boys. The Knoetgens are living in the Atlanta area.

**Owen Thorp** reports that we have made the second purchase of weight room equipment. This acquisition included new mirrors, and signs. Additionally, the commemorative plaque is nearly complete. On the down side, we are running about \$20,000 behind in pledge receipts from those who have yet to make their first donation — as opposed to those who have already been making payments. If you are having difficulty meeting your commitment, please either reschedule or renegotiate your obligation by contacting Owen.

Until next month, Happy Trails... Bill.  
(millwardwh@npt.nuwc.navy.mil)

## SACC Service Academy Career Conference

Arlington, VA  
28 & 29 April 1995  
410-263-0096

**BE SURE AND VOTE YOUR  
TRUSTEE BALLOT INCLUDED  
INSIDE THE FRONT COVER OF  
THIS ISSUE. MUST BE  
RETURNED BY 15 APRIL!**

# 78

**Membership: 85%**

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

Is it that time again?! Well it must be, the papers have piled up and the Microsoft Word alarm just went off. It's saying, "Okay three-fingers, get to hunting and pecking that keyboard — column's due." One of these days I'm going to learn to type like all the normal people do — hire a typist. In the meantime, I'll just be content to fake it and rely on the spell check. Of course one of these days I'll get organized and be ahead of schedule, but where's the thrill of that? Since I've stopped flying helos I have to get some sort of rush. It's like being in the middle of the one minute chow call! Well let's rush through the paper...

**Charlene** and **Skip Bayes** are living in Orange Park, FL, back in their own home. Well actually Charlene, Ken (14) and Angela (8) will probably wind up living there more. On September 9th Skip took over as XO of HS-15 in JAX. The airwing is attached to the ENTERPRISE. Since the Big "E" recently finished up the docks it looks like there'll be plenty of sea time for Skip. He'll pick up the squadron some time late this year. They'll have to give us alot of advanced notice since Charlene invited everyone she sent a Christmas newsletter to. Their house and pool holds only so many. I need to get an early start at a lounge chair poolside.

They're all enjoying the fun and sun of the Jacksonville area after having spent the past three years contending with the blizzards of Washington. With the kids activities, her job in patient accounts for a physicians clinic and squadron activities as the wife of the "damn XO" (It's the traditional title) she's been catching up to Kathleen Sullivan in the great svelt-down race.

On a sadder side, were sorry to hear that Skip's dad passed away just before the Christmas holidays. Our condolences go out to him and all his family.



Bayes Family- Homeport

Among the annual Christmas newsletters was one all the way from Okinawa, from **Annette** and **Tom Sudbeck**. Suds is lucky he has an accompanied tour and all the family is along. While on the "Rock", they and the boys (**Nathaniel** (12) and **Joshua** (13)) have been engaged in a regular cultural exchange tour. They've been active in Homestay Programs in which you host Japanese families and let them experience American family life. Annette and the boys are cool but with Tom you might as well let Homer Simpson play host. Fortunately, Tom's job in Plans with the senior Marine Command in Pac has had him travelling to Hawaii, the Philippines, Korea and Thailand, so these families have only been exposed to the more normal aspects of an American family. What Annette can't figure out is that now that they're all together overseas — why is it that Tom now gets



sent to CONUS? He's spent six weeks in California for refresher training in CH-53Es and another six at Safety School in Monterey. The boys are doing the typical things: school, band, sports, baseball, tag, basketball and collecting cards. These activities are universal and great ways of bridging languages and cultures. Of course with it, they have picked up a great bit of the language.

Annette still continues to beat Marines and dependents into physical submission with her step/aerobics fitness training programs and nutrition seminars. She's got her eyes set on Coach Lenz's job someday! I can just see her now, "Come on '01! Push it! Two More — UUUUUURRRRAAAHHH!" I once made the mistake of sitting in on one of her classes in Quantico. (Hey, I got tired after awhile.) I heard so many things snap that I think I shrunk another inch. Yikes! On top of it all, Annette's also been involved in the Oriental equivalent of crew — Dragon Boat Racing. Her boat came in 3rd in a recent competition. The Sudbecks enclosed a picture which shows they seem to be enjoying life on the "Rock". I had someone translate the writing on the monument in the picture. It shows they haven't quite gotten the language down—I think it says "Keep off!"



The Sudbecks—On the "Rock"

Donnarae and **John Curtis** sent a quick note to submit a suggestion for a Class project (Where are the ideas from the other nine hundred and something of you?) and to report that they are back in town. With their three kids they are living out in Odenton, MD. It's just twenty minutes from the yard. John's working at the Naval Research Lab in DC as the Remote Sensing Division Military Deputy. Being so close, we got him as another volunteer for any arrangements the Class might need (tailgate coordination, meeting attendee, or sweatshirt purchase). Thanks for the offer, John. You're on! By the way, being so close to the yard has allowed John to make a few trips around the yard. It has also allowed him to become more aware of the passage of time. As John put it, "as I was wandering around the Academy, I noticed a bunch of young kids all over the place — dressed as Midshipmen! Man, we were never THAT young when we went there, were we?" Yes we were, John. But as some of our wives might claim, we were also more mature then. (Well, we thought we were.)

**Charlie Hautau** dropped me a quick note and a photo of the "Big Four" on the GEORGE WASHINGTON—**Bruce Bole** (XO, VS-31), **Dave Buss** (XO, VA-34), **Alex Hnarakis** (XO, VF-142), and himself.



Big Four on the GW

The gang returned from their cruise in mid-November. Not wanting me to be too repetitive in these columns, Charlie just wanted to provide an update. He's the CO of VA-34, one of the few remaining A-6 squadrons around. **Dave Buss** is his XO. It's just like in school, helping out your Classmate! Actually, Charlie says it's great. Dave got held up at a joint billet, otherwise things could've turned out the other way around. With our active duty numbers thinned out in the fleet, Charlie said it was nice having Classmates like Alex and "Baja" around on the boat with them. At least someone else knew what sanity and insanity checks are! As for other '78ers in action, Charlie reports: **Al "Aldo" Koontz** is CO of VA-115 on the INDEPENDENCE. **Chris May** is continuing his studies toward a doctorate at the University of Washington. He reserves at Whidby Island on the Reserve Staff of CARGRU 5 on the INDY. Chris and Denise live in Paulsbo, Washington, with their two boys, Jamie and Nate. **Case Runolfson** is the Operations Manager for a law firm in DC. Bev is still in the Marines. Along with their son, Reid, they live in base housing in Quantico. Just like at school, Charlie had to go run, but we thank him for the quick gouge. Before I end, I found the clip from *U.S. News & World Report* in which Charlie was mentioned. Here's the extract:

ABOARD THE GEORGE WASHINGTON - Navy pilots call it "bad-guy territory." Most days last week, jets lifted off America's newest nuclear-powered aircraft carrier and streaked across southern Iraq, policing a no-fly zone and practicing bomb runs. On one sortie, Cmdr. **Charlie Hautau's** A-6 Intruder penetrated 120 miles into Iraq to the city of Tallil. From 5 miles away and 22,000 feet up, the navigator, Lt. Craig Clapperton, fixed a concrete military command center in the cross hairs of the infrared sight in his laser-guided "smart bomb" system. "I have the target," he said. This time, Hautau didn't push the red trigger button on his black control stick. Instead, he said, "Simulated bombs away..."

The clip went for another couple of paragraphs, but you get the message — real world melodrama — Clancy and Koontz can't make up this stuff.

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Well, looks like that should wrap this up if I ever expect to even get close to making a deadline. I can't wait for the next year to be over with. I'll have my masters out of the way, things a little more stabilized around the office and get familiar with these people who hang around my house — oh yeah, my family. It may also help me find my sense of humor. I was catching up on my columns the other day and thinking — "Did I write that? Yuuuuuhhh!" I know that any news is better than no news. (How many times did the mail get hoisted aboard with stuff just for "Occupant"? Looked pretty good after a while.) Still I gotta watch out so that the Hometown News Releases don't start looking better.

In closing, I didn't jinx **Steve "Jock" Maloney's** chances at the Marine Corps Reserve 53 Squadron Commander's job at Willow Grove, PA. He's it. The change of command was in early January. But did I get an invite?! — As the Classmate who lives just up the road, a fellow Marine, bubba, noon time B-ball teammate, fellow Class officer, lying cheating contractor-who-will-build-his replacement-aircraft next year? NO. Well, that's okay, we already gave him some phone grief. Besides, I'll just send the new aircraft to Alameda first.

I gotta get going, there's a FEDX plane with my name and this column on it. Hold that plane Steve Podowicz! It's coming. I'm launchin' Spot Four. Oh ya, oh ya... lastly, here's that photo of **Misti and Art Athens** and their EIGHT kids which I've been talking about for the last couple of columns. Now I know how they juggle all those kids. Look closely at the picture—they're in front of a TRAMPOLINE. See you later... (personal to **Dennis Reilly**... I'm looking for it!)



The Athens Family

**79**

Membership: 94%

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

210 South Main Street, PO Box 380, Arlington, SD 57212 (605) 983-4777

KIDS!! Well, as much as I wish I were writing this from home (that would be South Dakota), I'm stuck here in Taxifornia doing my bit for democracy, living on that keen razor's edge at the tip of the sword of the Reserves, burning drills, SPECAC and ACDUTRA so that you can rest easy, keeping your doors and windows unlocked. I'm in such a darned Give King mood that conjugal visits are authorized during the whole time your reading this. It's time to get off the feeble attempt at a comedy intro (yeah, sure like I could ever come close) and get on with the good stuff. So let's put on the garden gloves, grab a hula-hoe and get on with it, shall we?

