

events for \$90 per person.

Class member's children may attend the tailgater for \$10 per child. Children under 12 years of age are free.

Before I end, my apologies to our Marine brothers. I have been reminded that the Corp's birthday celebration is also this weekend and some of our Classmates may not be able to attend the reunion festivities due to these obligations. I hope you believe that this was unintentional. We never intended to preclude your attendance and hope you can still make special arrangements to be with us.

Tim Farrell will be handling the administration and receipt of funds for the weekends events. The mailing address for remittances is: USNA Class of '76 20-Year Reunion, 5622-G Ox Road Suite 105, Fairfax Station, VA 22039-1018

Hopefully you will have received all of this in a flyer as I mentioned at the start. It will include a reply form for inclusion with your money.

Please join us! I can't tell you how many folks have come back to Annapolis for a visit and left not only having had a great time but also took with them an even greater appreciation for the years spent here and the people they knew so well. Refresh those memories and those relationships with us on the twentieth anniversary of our graduation. **Chuck**

Until next month, Mara and I wish you all the best. May health and prosperity be with you in this new year.

77

Membership: 80%

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

Shipmates, welcome to the new year. We have a boat load of mail this month to pass along, so...hang on!

Late news is better than no news, so I must report **Phil Wisecup** and wife, Ann, produced the fifth in a series of five fine children. Announcing Paul Henry Forrest Wisecup (boy!), born to Ann on July 4, 1995 at a cherubic 8 pounds. Phil has subsequently gone back to sea as commanding officer in **CALLAGHAN** (DDG-994) and has written that he, **Dick Corpus** (CO, PORTSMOUTH), **Mark Kenny** (CO, BIRMINGHAM), **Ken Trass** (CO, FORD) and he had all deployed together in the same NIMITZ battlegroup! That has to be one for our books!! The last time Phil sent in a picture with Classmates **Jim Kear** and **Craig Langeman** going on deployment together, they were going to war! Phil also mentioned that **Craig Turley** was enroute to San Diego after a successful Arabian Gulf deployment as CO in **HARRY W. HILL**, and that **Dave Ziembra's** REID wardroom scored big in the local Surface Navy Association golf tournament. Is that any surprise? Good luck on deployment Phil. **Bill Venor** sent **Jerry DeMelo's** graduation announcement from Law School. Jerry's notable achievement was that he graduated first in his class from San Joaquin College in Fresno, CA. Bill went on to say that he is currently the Chief Staff Officer at Submarine Squadron 17 at Bangor, WA, and has the "best view in the Navy" as he looks out over the Hood Canal and the Olympic Mountains. Bill says he loves the area and intimated that summer is the best kept secret in the west! Other '77-mates in command in the Washington area include **Walt Yourstone** as the first Commander in command of a Trident submarine, OHIO (SSBN-726) (G), **Bruce Smith**, PARCHE, who is soon to be relieved by **Al Hochevar**.

Next to command, **Rich Gooner** has to have one of the best jobs going as VP, Marketing for Brown-Forman Beverages. He and his wife, Barb, moved from Glen Ellen, CA to Louisville, KY in May and there he has established himself as the top "hawker of spirit brands (Jack Daniel's, Southern Comfort, Early Times, Pepe Lopez, etc) in Japan and Western Europe." Rich mentions that Barb is keeping a close eye on him to decide whether he is "daddy material" (his words, not mine!), but that might be a tough since Barb is keeping more than busy working at Bittner's, a home furnishings/interior design store in town. Rich asked that anyone in the Louisville area or just passing through look him up at 810 Towner Place (40223). Thanks for the outstanding update!

Reliable **Stanley Gray** wrote a fine piece that I quote to you in its entirety.

It has been some time since I wrote you a line. First off, I finally went to Vegas, and can not emphasize the "lost" part of it enough. While I was there I was able to see **Jerry Hugh**, who is still active in the Marine Corps Reserves and works in the financial area of the health care industry. When we spoke, he was doing the geographic bachelor thing while shoring up his status in his new company and while waiting for his daughter to finish school.

I speak with **Everett McNair** and his wife, Pat, frequently. Both are doing well in NC—not Camp Lejeune. He is with a fiber optics company and has recently rotated to a marketing position. As we all know, Everett is a true gentleman and not prone to self-adoration, but the indications are that he will be a Senior VP in the near future (Stanley prediction). Any takers that he will be our first bearded Classmate to be a Senior VP of a major corporation? I have to keep up with him as he is the owner of one of my chocolate lab puppies. As he tells it, Lady has a PhD in dog obedience.

Fred Kinkin and I talked a couple of weeks ago where he is in Atlanta as one of the distribution folks for a chemical manufacturer (AIRCO). His job in distribution came after the opening of a new factory which was the first to be ISO 2000 certified. The ISO 2000 certification is an important international standard to have. Fred was always the smartest technical "bull" major that I knew during school, so his achievements in the technical world do not surprise me. He and his lovely wife, Mary, are doing well with their three southern reared children. My concern is that they will forget that I have dibs on being any of their children's agent; two of them are going to be BIG! Fred told me that **Scott Thomas** and **Bill Garland** have both taken command. He indicated that they were both doing well and quite happy with the Navy and its underway.

My fine childhood friend and Classmate **Chris Dory** and I finally hooked up a few weeks ago in Norfolk. Chris is a practicing pediatric radiologist, is recently married and has a child on the way. We had a lovely dinner and I hope to see him more often in my nearly monthly travels to Norfolk to see my children. Chris brought me up to speed on a few of our Classmates. **Charles Ivey** is still with Mobil and just relocated to the Columbus, OH area. **Joe Harrington** and **Clinton Holman** are also still with Mobil at the corporate headquarters in Fairfax, VA.

Colin McKenzie and I talk several times a year. We are planning mutual visits as I still like the shopping and restaurants in Chicago and he likes the golf in Arizona. Colin, and his new lady friend, went to the Air Force game and ran into **Corky Gardner**, who was the CO of the Reserve Squadron performing in the yard.

As for me, I am still a bachelor (though I had a real prospect a little while ago) and am fairly active in the long distance rearing of my two children, Anthea (13) and Buddy (11). We had a great summer as they were both active with camps and my daughter's new love of horses. I was proud to see her handle those large beautiful beasts. My son also developed quite a set of moves on the court this summer. Both are doing well and attend Portsmouth Catholic. I keep out of trouble through work

with no pay (smile). Again this year, I am the Chairman for the Toys for Tots program and am on the City of Scottsdale personnel review board. My affiliation with Big Brothers and Big Sisters has also lead me to the co-chairmanship of our superbowl-a-thon. If golfing won't bring you to AZ, come on down with the pros during the superbowl. Please give me a call if you are in town (602-314-3413).

Bill Hartman wrote his first *Shipmate* letter to tell us that **Gary Holst** was the one who wore the fake nose in his SWOS-basic class picture! I can't think of a better start!!! Further, Bill mentioned that he attended **Harry Rouse's** July retirement from the JAG Corps (who is now attending Georgetown), ran into **Tom Edwards** teaching Wires at USNA, and **Brad Barth** who is teaching Jr. High School math in Columbia, MD. Bill writes:

Ken Shearer is living in Evergreen, CO, running a trade-show display company. **Joe Harrington** is (in addition to Stanley's report) also working a side business selling long distance telephone service. **Craig Turley** (see Phil's input) has now relieved as CO in **HARRY W. HILL**. I ran into Craig in Newport last September. He and his wife recently had their first baby. **Dave Armitage** took command in August of the **PAUL F. FOSTER** while in the Long Beach shipyard. **Tim Jenks** lives in Germany now after recently being promoted to VP with Raytheon Corp. **Ben Sittler** is also with the Raytheon, but on the corporate staff in Menlo Park, CA. I am still living in Plymouth, MN having just accepted a senior marketing position with ADC Telecommunications. I have another year in pay for the Reserve, and then who knows what will happen. My shiny SDBs may make it yet!

I am off to sea tomorrow, so I must close for now. There are some terrific letters in the queue, so stay tuned for the next column. Thanks for writing everyone! Until next month...**Bill**.

78

Membership: 85%

Pres., **John Rudder**
Sec'y, **Vince Balderrama**
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This just in from the Dillingham Boulevard FHTNR folks, Lilly Tomlin's famous phone operator character has won the Warren Christopher look alike and sleep alike contest. I know a disappointed **Wiz Withers** should remember that sucking a lemon to get his lips to pucker up and his eyes to squint like Warren's really is not in keeping with contest rules. More from Wiz and the Info R Us folks at FHTNR later. Also, doctors in Washington are still perplexed with how they'll solve the Fourth Estate's persistent nose breaking and rebreathing syndrome everytime the current administration takes another unannounced sharp left turn. Some research physicians are theorizing that the press and this administration are actually Siamese twins joined at a very awkward and compromising location. Opponents feel that detachment would destroy their longstanding talent of "spinning." Go figure. All right, that's just about enough pathetic stabs at Draconian comedy for this month's intro!! (But really, where the heck else you gonna find someone similar to your Give King with this caliber of intro filler?) Let's all join hands, buy each other a Coke, sing Cumbayah and get right to the info, shall we?

First thing out o' the shoot is an old note I found under the Word Processor of Love from **Greg Baka**, who is currently the assistant Public Defender on SAIPAN. Greg's wife Cheryl keeps Greg in line and stays busy with their two man-cubs, Geza 2 1/2 and Bela Zoltan (BZ) 1. Greg extends an offer to all ambulance chase... I mean, lawyers who are looking for a change of venue. Greg tried to entice me into a possible move by reporting the present cooler temperatures in the 70's and 80's. Nice try Greg but freight costs for clay would be just too dang high.

Mary and **Mark Tempestilli** sent another note and photo being as how I screwed up and misplaced their original shot. Along with a richly deserved butt chewing, I also got some more recent info and another photo. Mark graduated from the NWC last November and after a few months in the RAG in Jax, will step into the XO/CO slot for VP-26 in Brunswick, ME this March. Mary's looking forward to getting back into their old and much bigger digs what with the two young'ns Emily 31/2 and Joey 1. Mary passed along that Peggy and **Chuck Doty** went to Guam last summer then went incognito. Read on Mary, you'll get Chuck and Peggy's address in a few paragraphs. Jill and Soviet Naval Officer **Butler Newman** along with their son Zach are expecting numero dos in December (remember the Home Office space/time continuum, by the time you read this, Jill and Butler will be doing that "Not Just a Job, It's a Doody" thing in addition to getting very little sleep. **Vince Bousa**, **Bill Enslen** and **Ed Francis**, that means they should have already had the baby by now.). Mary thanks for the additional info.



The Tempestilli Family

Gene and **Don Quinn** are stirring things up in the Pacific Northwest. Gene sent out her annual and much coveted Christmas form letter which once again was hysterical. The Quinlettes Matt 13, Kevin 11, Caitlin 9 and Brian 6 are intravenously connected to the bank account and local food and clothing stores in order to keep up with school and mega sports activities. Gene runs a limo service that makes no money but gets the kids to their soccer games, religious education, and school activities. DQ is the XO of VAQ 139 and will be taking the Skipper slot this June. Until then Don will continue to be responsible for keeping the heads clean, pushing paperwork and wearing the black hat in the squadron. He's also taking remedial NATOPS classes from Mr. Rogers who keeps asking him, "Neighbor, can you say PROWLER BALL? I like the way you said that Don." Gene, thanks again for another great update and terrific photo.



The Quinns

The next batch of doin's is comin' atcha via the miracle of that thing the Vice President keeps trying to take all the credit for thinkin' up, the Information Super Highway. With a little help from the mouse, the first cut and paste extravaganza is from **Tom Amiraault**:

Hi, Ken, glad to hear the escape from the Defense Monster worked; Grace and I have formed a 2 man escape committee ourselves and have started nuking out a variety of plans, all of which, so far, involve selling the house and moving west; not west like California West, but West like Idaho/Montana/SD/Oregon/WA—God's Country West, and then opening up some kind of business. Shields are at full power; we are ready for battle. (Grace lived in Idaho for awhile while growing up and her mother and one of her sisters lives there now) The two biggies appear to be 1) finding the right business, and 2) grabbing up the guts to Do It; you know: sell the house, dump the nowhere but decent paying job, the medical plan, the 401K, the pension, etc., the Security Blanket stuff, and striking off on the independent route. Don't laugh; right now we

are looking at gourmet/medicinal mushroom cultivation. We have a lot of homework to do. How to do a business plan, how to get money, how to market the stuff—you name it; how did you figure it all out? What is it about SD that makes it such a business friendly state? I guess I must have been asleep in all those business courses back at Boat School. I would like to hear your story if you don't mind telling it. Tell me about the jarhead stuff, too. Deep background: I qualified SWO on a destroyer in SDGO and then did sub school and got my dolphins on a boomer out of Groton/Holy Loch. (I read about the Grenada thing on the news, weather, and sports section of the submarine broadcast on the mid; I reported my relief at 0600Z; Sir, I have been properly relieved as Officer of the Deck by LT Tedrow. I have completed a tour of the ship forward of the Reactor Compartment and found all conditions normal. During my watch we got one satellite pass, encountered no hostile shipping and the United States invaded the small Caribbean island nation of Grenada. The Officer of the Deck requests permission to blow sanitary 1; there are no close contacts. Groggy Skipper: Great. Where the hell is that? Blow sanitary 1.) I got out in '84 and came to Glorious Peoples' Defense Collective Farm Raytheon as a Senior Project Engineer/Manager type (Hero of the Soviet Union Twenty-third Class). Things were pretty good for the first few years; lots of good raises, responsibility, etc., then the bottom dropped out of the market; I am sure you know the drill as well as I do; the facility dropped from 3500 people to around 1000 in a couple of years; grass growing in the almost empty parking lot, closed off, unlighted and unheated buildings onsite, and plenty of morale (all of it lower than whale poop); I don't think I will ever feel secure working for anybody other than me for the rest of my life as a result of the "downsizing." Of course, the real Navy deal is that Raytheon Co has never been stronger, the stock is at an all time high, great dividends, big bonuses for the Big Guys (Imperialist Stooges) but no raises for us glorious workers for a couple of years and increased contributions for health insurance, erosion of the bennies package, etc. For the guys pulling the oars, however, it's keep your head down, keep quiet, no raises, no promotions, and the floggings continue until morale improves. No sticking your head up out of the foxhole. Like I said, I am sure you know the story; sort of a *The Grapes of Wrath* for the 90s. It is not too fun and I occasionally look back and wonder where I would now be if I had stayed in (as I am sure we all do) but, hey, man, you play the hand you are dealt, etc. So...we are looking for The Way Out and we are happy as hell that you guys have made it; you are an inspiration to us that it can be done. We have 3 kids: Claire Jeannette and Mathieu Philip are 9 year old twins, and Mary Catherine is 6 yr. old. I teach 6th grade CCD. Grace is doing well and was really happy that we made contact, too. Her father and one of her sisters still live in that Garden Spot of California's Answer to The Fertile Crescent but we haven't been there since we moved to Groton from Sandy Ago. So...let's get some more details from you: how many troops? names? ages? Address? Phone number? My address: 26 Maple Street, Warren, RI 02885 (H) 401-245-5681 (W) 842-5119 Ken, it is really good to hear from you; it seems like only a few months have gone by, but, hey, you look at the clock and it has been 16+ years; BUT, you are one of the few people I have been fortunate enough to know that the passage of time will make no difference; we are true brothers, and I am sure that the next time we meet we will just pick up where we left off. I will always treasure our friendship. (But, enough with the mushy stuff...) I still hear from **John Albiso** on a regular basis and send e-mail back and forth with **Al Whiting** on an almost daily basis; he is doing that stuffy British scholar thing; good for him; he is one smart dude. I did a Power Lunch with **Scott Belanger** a few weeks ago when he came to Raytheon to visit a few of the Serious Power Wielders. Scott had gouge on **Ray Riley**, **Paul Kaus**, and **Dave Meeder**. We also heard the **Ken Van der Horst** story and were glad it turned out false. My love to Vicky. Best regards in warrior-

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