

Best of luck, shipmate. You'll be the best!!! In attendance were JC's lovely wife, Karen, and two children, Christopher and Jessica. Also there were **Greg Byrd** and his wife, Wanda. Greg teaches at the Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk.

From: **William K. Bristow**, wbristow@erols.com

Well, it only took 19 years; but given the ease of e-mail, I figured I was about out of excuses for not keeping the Class secretary updated on my whereabouts. Though I left active duty in '88 following three sea tours (Reactor Controls Division, CALIFORNIA; Reactor Mechanical then Reactor Training Assistant, DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER; Weapons Officer, MOINSTER) with a shore tour as a Company Officer back at USNA somewhere in there, I find myself back on Active Duty in support of Operation Joint Endeavor (that Bosnia thing!). I'm stationed at U.S. Atlantic Command in Norfolk, the Unified Command of choice for warfighters in the know. Home of General J.J. Sheehan, the first USMC Commander in Chief, and VADM. Hal Gehman, our soon-to-be-confirmed Vice Chief of Naval Operations. I was recalled under the Presidential Selected Reserve Call-Up program. I'm having so much fun, I have asked for another six months. (Well, at least I don't have to figure out what to wear in the morning.) I missed **Chris Cain's** change of command back in June. I found myself on the way to the hospital to check on Mom. All turned out okay. Chris took command of CLARK. I know you must have an e-mail address, Chris. Drop a line. This "Joint" thing is most interesting. I work for an Army one-star, via an Air Force O-6. For those that haven't had the pleasure, Joint is here to stay. Any and all are welcome to e-mail me at "wbristow@erols.com" for more info on Jointness. Check out USACOM's home page at "http://acom.mil/". Kind of slow, but informative. I'd be happy to help with e-mail listings of Classmates. As most with a MODEM have probably found, USNA has quite a series of very good home pages, thanks in great measure to our own **Ray Trygstad**. I am also assigned to the Tactical Training Group Atlantic Reserve Unit along with fellow Classmate **R.W. Wood**. We are both leaving the unit at the end of September for who knows where. I live in Suffolk, VA, one wife, two daughters, station wagon, dog, cat, etc. Hope you find at least part of this suitable to print. My dad, **Bob Bristow '44**, won't believe I actually wrote! His name or picture is in *Shipmate* about every other month. (Hi, Dad!) Good surfing.

Finally, I would like to congratulate **Phil Wisecup** for receiving the prestigious **VADM. Stockdale** Award for inspirational leadership. Phil commands **CALLAGHAN** and recently completed a deployment to the Arabian Gulf. During that deployment, he responded to the Gulf of Taiwan standoff between China and the US. BZ shipmate. We are very proud of you.

Keep your cards, letters and e-mails coming. Thanks for all the support! Happy trails...**BEAT ARMY, Bill**.

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Membership: 85%

Pres: **John Rudder**

Sec'y: **Vince Balderrama**

45 Little Fawn Drive, Shelton, CT 06484

Sale "Bubba" Lilly dropped a line and a photo of the Lilly family [Bubba, Lilly and their sons, Sale IV (13) and Reid (11) and daughter Sarah(9)] demonstrating their Navy pride in, of all places, Tasmania. It was one of those Christmas vacation experiences one never forgets—wombats, koalas, echinids and "taz" devils. My holiday travels to DC and Maryland with tolls, traffic, and road kill pales by comparison. Bubba left Texas Instruments about four years ago, leaving **Charlie Love** among the '78ers in the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) area with TI.

But Bubba still keeps in touch with the TI gang. In fact, he reports that **Mike Huber** and **Jim Bethman '77** have initiated an Alumni breakfast networking group that meets on a monthly basis. Grads from the early '60s to the late '80s pretty much make up the morning McMuffin Group. **Jim Cheever** has returned to TI. He and Sale still call each other annually on 8 July. It's a tradition that's gone on for about the past ten years. It sort of commemorates that I-day meeting they and a thousand plus of us had on a sweltering day in T-court. Actually, Sale, Jim and **Bob Guy** bumped into each other at BWI on 6 July 1974 as they headed to Annapolis. (For me it was sharing a room downtown with **Bob Gillette** the night before.) Today, Bubba's the managing director of the U.S. office of a Madrid, Spain-based import/export company. He gets up to Sikorsky a couple of times a year as a result of his business. He has several contracts with the Spanish Navy that involve the SH-3D and SH-60B. He's stopped by to try and see me on a couple of occasions, but we haven't made the link up yet. With more of a heads up...maybe next time we'll finally connect. Thanks for the gouge Bubba, the family looks great! Sorry for the extreme delay, but as you can tell, I'm still playing catch up.



The Lilly Family

In some more dated material, the '78 *Shipmate* "Poster Child," **Jeff Fowler**, dropped another quick line and a photo. As he quickly pointed out, "he's had a lifetime worth of pictures in *Shipmate*"...If it wasn't for all the other '78 folk (and my need for news) you might have gotten the Shepherd's crook. Still, I guess I still have penance to make for my mistype of your (and two Admirals) homestate. Anyway here's the list of the Howlin' Hula Cos. and PCOs, and their brides (as indicated). Keep in mind that since some of this is dated news, some of the

PCOs may actually be COs...if you can follow that you can understand Einstein's theories, relatively speaking that is...ow, did I really try to make a physics pun?! I better not tread where my QPR fails me. To continue, Jeff notes the following: **Bob Guy**—PCO, GREENVILLE (SSN-772), Suzette and **Bill Timme**—CO, HELENA (SSN-725), Meg and **Joe Leidig**—CO, CAVALA (SSN-684), Katie and **Jeff Fowler**—CO, CHARLOTTE (SSN-776), **Dave Eyer**—PCO, MONTPELIER (SSN-765) and **John Cooke**—PCO, OKLAHOMA CITY (SSN-723). I've enclosed both pics, those with spouses and those without, whichever's contrast is better will probably be the one to make the final print. I hope it's the one with your wives, cuz they sure make you guys look better looking. Of course, on the other hand, since they look much younger than you, they also make you look a lot older. Oh well, there's the trade off.

Other Classmates in command who couldn't make the photo op were **Al Gonzalez**—PINTADO (SSN-672), **John Cohoon**—BUFFALO (SSN-715) and (with pre-apologies for any potential mistype—you ought to see Jeff's scribble) **Keith Sails**—SANTOY (SSN-639). With '78 in charge of the sub force in Pearl, no wonder things are all quiet on the Western Front. Aloha, Jeff.

Finishing up on the **Matt Elias**-gram from last month. Leigh and **Marty a.k.a. Poodle Drake** are homesteaded in Virginia Beach, anxiously awaiting Marty's CO tour on THORN. Leigh is still the coast to coast jet-setting superwoman exec. Every time I use my ASPEN voice mail, I think of her. All the hurricane brewing in the Atlantic must have Leigh and Marty recalling last year's lighting strike on their home and the serious damage it did to their toy collection—phones, AC, electric garage door opener and the like. Supposedly there's a hilarious Portugal trip that Marty, or Leigh will have to write about. Matt begged off, claiming an inability to do it justice.

Paula and **Mike Lewis** still live in Virginia Beach. I think Mike was among our early retirees. Earlier this year he was undergoing training for a local police force. By now he may be our get out of jail free pass in VA Beach.

Jennifer and **Phil Winters** are still loving the collegiate life in California and living in Moffett Field. In between hitting the links, Phil is also hitting the books hard, now into his one MS in Business and Management fellowship at Stanford. Phil claims to be putting his business lessons to work. Specifically, he's been using the barter system with some of his classmates—trading golf lessons for course work help. Phil, the graduate level application is to trade those lessons to the *Profs* for grades. After gradua-



'78 in Pearl Harbor

tion next Summer, Phil is slated to assume command of the Reserve P-3 squadron at Point Mugu, CA. Jennifer completed her master's studies last year. She's working at Stanford University in one of the Nation's leading pre-school education lab programs as the head teacher. Chris is in seventh grade and quite the jock. Unfortunately he's been sidelined since last Summer as the result of some serious surgery. By now he's recovered and back racing 10Ks and looking forward to the next ski season.

Kathy and **Steve Brashear** are still in Colorado. Steve is an instructor on 777s for United Airlines. Kathy is the homemaker, keeping tabs of their two girls, Sarah (11) and Laura (8).

Kathy and **Scott "Beamer" Laser** (scottlaser@aol.com) are among the Virginia Beach contingent. We were all sorry to hear that Scott's mom passed away a couple of years ago and he lost his father this past March. Those in the company and Class for whom they were surrogate parents and tailgate hosts are especially saddened but carry fond memories. But things are still on the up for the Laser family. Kathy has a full time English teaching position at a high school in Chesapeake. It's the high school that "Zo" graduated from. Jared (3rd grade) and Zach (1st grade) are thriving in school. After two years in the water treatment business, Beamer moved on. He's now doing some marketing with a couple of friends. He stays in shape by swimming a mile a day at the local pool.

Pam and **Terray Wood** (TWOOD@taro.poi.net) have been in Hawaii for over a year now. They're a little insulated by the commissary and exchange from the economies inflationary price. Pam is teaching school at the Army base, Schofield Barracks. The kids, Joey and Sara are both well.

Holly and **Gary Lovgren** (gary.lovgren@ccgw1.hq.dla.mil) have relocated with the boys to Northern Virginia. Gary is working with DLA at Fort Belvoir. According to Matt, Gary claims to have gone "from having 'little to do' at War College to 'little else to do' at DLA." Matt wasn't exactly sure what Gary's job function was, but Gary did say he was sending reservists to Haiti and Bosnia. Matt opined that's a prudent thing to stay on Gary's GOOD side, if you're in the Reserve.

Walt Brown was selected to be the Reserve Commanding Officer of a disposal unit in Columbus, OH. Angela and **Rodger Welch** were expecting a child in February. No details on the "Stork trap." Speaking of traps, Rodger hit the jet jock milestone of a 1,000, so congrats. Slammin' the metal that many times is a BIG accomplishment. Bravo Zulu. Rodger is still the CO of VA-25 at NAS Lemoore, so that's even more of an accomplishment.

Trina and **Mike Kreyenhagen** are in Rota. By Matt's count, this is their third European tour. Trina says they could stay there forever. Three of their kids, Rob, Kristi and Steve, all go to a Spanish public school so they are fully immersed in the Spanish experience. Their youngest, Emily, just started preschool. Mike screened for command.

Pat and **Bart Buechner** are still in Napa Valley and doing very well. Bart is still with the Veteran's Home in Napa Valley and just completed his command tour in the Reserve with a PAO Unit. (You may have caught a picture a few columns ago with Bart, **Mike Holden** and **Don Brutzman**.)

Pam and **Scott Rodgers** hopefully survived the Olympic tourist invasion this Summer. They live in the Atlanta area. Scott commutes to Chicago where he is based as a Captain with American Airlines.

Matt heard of Barb and **Jim Vanderkamp** in roundabout fashion from **Sam Sowell** (10th Company). Jim still flies for JAL and is now the only non-Japanese pilot flying for the parent company. The subsidiaries use non-Japanese flight crews. Jim's ascendance is reportedly attributed to his ex-

pert use of Japanese over the intercom during a flight in which JAL's CEO was aboard. It must have been far better than Marlon Brando's version in the movie *Sayonara*. Just think of Gomer Pyle making the attempt and you get the impression. Anyway, way to go Vandy! It's also reported that Barb and Jim have a baby girl.

Gretchen, **Tom Crowley** and their kids TD and twins, Kelly and James are doing well. They were living in Arlington, VA. Tom's orders for SCOTT, a DDG out of Norfolk, got changed. Instead, he picks up an Arleigh Burke, HOPPER out of Bath, ME. It's ultimately destined for San Diego, CA sometime next year. Tom should be taking over sometime this month. Gretchen is looking forward to getting back north. That wrap's up Matt's news.

Looking at the length of the column I'm relying on the "Give Queen's" good graces. I'll close this now with a pic from last month's column—the gang from the Big E—**Mark Fox, Craig Diffie, Rudy Costanza, Alex Hnarkis** and **Skip Bayes**.



Mark Fox, Craig Diffie, Rudy Costanza, Alex Hnarkis and Skip Bayes

Now to get this column in the pipe, on the screen and into your magazines. See you at Homecoming or next time... Launchin' Spot Four.

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Membership: 94%

Pres: **Mike Finley**
Sec'y: **Ken Russell**
210 South Main Street
P.O. Box 380, Arlington, SD 57212
(H) 605-983-4777
E-mail: gone2pot@juno.com

So I'm throwing (throwing means making pots from lumps of clay on a potter's wheel) some dinnerware sets for Dollywood the other day, listening to National People's Republic Radio like I always do. The special interest show I heard was hosted by, I don't know, some lady with a name like Judith ?????? I think the name of her spot was *Hold My Hand*. Anyway, she's interviewing some political consultant who gets paid ten grand for every opponent candidate's personnel file he can get for the candidates he's working for. I'm thinkin', "Wow, ten grand to come up with somebody's personnel file." At the same time, I was deeply concerned about how the heck I'll come up with the cash to fly the Brigade out here for the '99 Homecoming extravaganza here in Arlington, SD, (dubbed by your Give King, "The Un-Homecoming Gala.")

So, being in a bit of a funk, I go to my Spiritual Adviser, Koko the Signing Gorilla, and ask her what she thinks Eleanor Roosevelt or Gandhi would do to raise the cash. Koko tells me channeling famous dead people is out; channeling famous *living* people is the hip new thing to do. So Koko transmogrifies me into **Craig Livingstone's** living room where Craig gives me this fantastic money-making idea. He tells me to put in an application for a new job in DC he once

held and knows is vacant and says that it requires the same experience he had for it: None at all! He could also hook me up with some politicians who'll pay big bucks for the personnel files I'll get access to once I'm in. At ten grand a pop and the ability to get thousands of files, I'll have twenty million in no time!! Shoot I'll be able to charter 747s configured for famous people, AND have enough left over for a wicked good tailgate! And you wives, forget about sleeping on cots in the basement of the local food store. You'll be styling on Select Comfort air mattresses!! I'm even thinking about giving out two Buffalo Nickel key chains per couple. What's left will be turned over to the Ronster and his Home for Formerly Wayward Boys...and now girls. Is that a great scheme or what? I'll tell ya, that Koko's a keeper.

Now, all the stuff **Frank Dombrowski** wanted me to pass on to anyone interested in planning for the Twentieth at Navy, is really moot, isn't it? If you think there's a snowball's chance to overcome the incredible power and influence I have for a '99 Un-Homecoming Game against Yankton's Mount Marty College, go ahead and give Frank a call at 540-341-7882. I think you'll be wasting as much time on that as you've already wasted reading the dorky intro filler. So let's move on to the real reason we're here and that would be the real reason I'm here: Classmate Info!

First out of the hopper o' fun is a big congrats to **Don Quinn**. DQ is now the Skipper of VAQ-139 and is also on the briny flying off CARL VINSON. Good on you Don! Speaking of Skipper's, here's an e-mail note I got from **Jim Giggliotti**:

Ken, Greetings from the East Med. I'm actually just trying out our new e-mail system and decided to drop a test line to you after reading the recent *Shipmate*. Currently underway aboard ENTERPRISE with CVW-17 as CO of VA-75, the Navy's last A-6 squadron. Yes, they are still around and get the bittersweet honor of being the last CO. We return from Deployment in December, and I get to disestablish the INTRUDER community in March '97. Kenny (**Ken Giggliotti**) is currently CO of NSA Gaeta and having a great time enjoying southern Italy. He expects to be back in the States about the time I shut down VA-75 in the Spring. Also with us out here on ENTERPRISE are **Bob Garcia** (CO VAW-125) and **K.C. Albright** (XO, soon to be CO, VFA-81). Will try to drop a longer line later but I've just been called to go fly...Bummer. If you are still with HCS-5, say hello to Raybo for me. My e-mail address is VA75CO@Enterprise.navy.com.

Thanks for the note Jim. I couldn't get your e-mail address to work so I have a reply floating around here in the Word Processor of Love with nowhere to go. I'm not in HCS-5 anymore, but I'm sure **Ed Francis** will pass on the word to Ray. (Doc, that means you need to say hi to Raybo for Jim).



The Gehrki Family

Oh boy, as usual, I REALLY screwed up and forgot an incredibly good 7th Company update from **Tom Gehrki**. You all should have seen this in September; however, being as how your Give King is pretty dang unprofessional and unintentionally insensitive to others (by doing things like taking ad-