



Roger, Roger and families getting ready for a little spin around Red Square

Roger Hill retired not too long ago as CO of NAS Pax and is now converting his AEDO and test pilot experience into a lucrative job with a small, high tech California Defense Contractor working with a bunch of recycled hippies who can do pure magic. They also spent time with Patti and **Bob Reich**, who flies for United and is just getting around to retiring from the Reserve. Roger's (Jake's) daughter, Christine, is obviously more of a thespian than dear old dad. He writes that she's just hanging around until her driver's license arrives, at which time she can ditch her dork dad and hit the road, until her funds run low, which might be, ummm, like, you know, every other day, sort of. Dad spends his time flying FedEx DC-10s, retired Reserve and other "dadly" things. His health is good (only old people can say that) and he did manage to complete this year's San Francisco Bay-to-Breakers race with 70,000 of his dearest friends, some of whom even had their clothes on.

Kent Hamlin and **Ed McKenny** managed to be in Tokyo and find someone with a camera. Kent is still in London as deputy director for WANO, and Ed is managing director for Shin Caterpillar Mitsubishi. They are all planning to come to the Reunion and have requested a huge, extremely valuable prize for the person traveling the farthest distance. Kent is hoping his Plebe roomie **Dick Reese** comes from Tanzania just to bust Red's chops.



Kent and Ed, two handsome devils, lovers, fighters, submarine riders

Bits and Pieces

Jodi Startari's daughter was in a movie on Lifetime back in August called "The Price of a Broken Heart." Jodi got some crowd scene work in it too. We have two more politicians in the bunch, **Russ Hauck** is running for mayor of Altamonte Springs, FL, and **Tom Marsilio** is running for District Attorney of Luzerne County, PA. Both could use your monetary encouragement. And a former (I almost said old) student of mine **Jill Votaw '80** is the PAO out at Point Loma, San Diego. She writes that our own **Charles B. "Chuck" Reigner** just took over as CO of Naval Base Point Loma. Chuck has had command of **PUFFER**, and Submarine Squadron Eleven, as well as tours as Chief of Nuclear Arms Control Division in J-5 Directorate and Chief of staff for Carrier Group Seven.

Finally, **Robert Awtrey '44** wrote me to set the record straight that his daughter, Karin, is the

"Dan's wife" referred to some months ago when I relayed information about **Jim Perry** and **Dan Akerson** celebrating their 50th birthdays. To the Perrys, Jim and Linda; the Akersons, Dan and Karin; and most of all the Awtrey's (whose wife was not identified either) I submit my abject apologies. What can I say but: Ring-A-Ding-Ding!

71

Regular Membership: 51%
Life Membership: 16%

Pres: **CAPT Perry Martini, USN**
Sec'y: **CDR Brian Horais, USNR (Ret.)**
11234 Cranbrook Lane, Oakton, VA 22124
e: bhorais@schafercorp-ballston.com
http://www.erols.com/horais/USNA1971.htm

Scott Burd sent a note recently on his visit with **Rick Baxter** in Redwood City, CA. Scott was working with Oracle as a professor for George Washington University traveling the world teaching project management courses. Scott pointed out that his passport is so filled with stamps and visas that he had to get a new one. Rick filled Scott in on his recent trip to New Zealand, including some impressive digital photographs. Scott reminded Rick how he could go on three or four hours of sleep while they were at USNA and Rick indicated he still keeps that same habit. Scott maintains his mountain chalet residence in the southernmost part of the Sierra's outside of Palm Springs.

Scott recently saw **John Ball** in the Palm Springs airport. Funny how you meet our wonderful fraternity in all parts of the world. John sent in a note and photograph from his latest aviation adventure. Shown in the picture next to the Met Life blimp, Snoopy 2, is John Ball. The blimp was at the airport in Arlington, TX, for a week doing TV coverage of a local golf tournament. John was able to convince them he had the piloting skills necessary and had a wonderful short flight in Snoopy 2.



John Ball as Snoopy 2, with the Met Life Blimp

Jim Smoogen dropped a short note to update me on his address. Jim works for KPMG (Peat Marwick) in San Diego in their Public Services Consulting/State and Local organization.

John Bowen also sent a short note with an update on his address. He currently lives in York, ME.

Steve Bruce is back in the D.C. area with a new job as the Chief Marketing Officer for Intuit Insurance Services. Steve says that **Jim Searing**, who works as a headhunter for Korn Ferry, helped out with his recent job search. Steve and Conni look forward to getting involved and seeing fellow Alumni now that they are back in the D.C. area.

John McCorkle sent in a short note indicating that he is interested in locating some members of the Class of '71. John entered with the Class of '71 and was in 3rd Company. He left USNA in

April of '69 and went into the Army, serving as a Rifle Platoon Leader in Vietnam. A more detailed summary of John's activities is located on his Web site at: <http://www.geocities.com/~pointmen/PMIMJohnM.htm>.

Perry Martini and I had the good fortune to meet up with Class author **Hank Turowski** at USNA for Parent's Weekend. Hank was signing copies of his book, *Plebe*, in the Mid Store. Hank took the opportunity to present the Class of 1971 with a check for \$750 as part of the proceeds from the sale of his book. Thanks, Hank! He stated that one of the best comments he received during the book signing was from the Plebe that asked to shake his hand. Hank asked him why, and he said he wanted to thank me for writing the book. It had prepared him like nothing else could have for the experience. **Mike Hallahan** was also on hand to support Hank and to act as the poster boy, walking around the Mid-Store carrying a copy of *Plebe*.



Perry Martini (center) with his book *Plebe*, Hank Turowski (left) and Brian Horais

I received a note from **Ed Tilden** letting me know he just completed a new Web site for the United Way of the Midlands, Midlands Literacy Initiative (MLI) as a volunteer member of the MLI Advisory Board. The Web site is located at: www.uway.org/mli/mli-index.html. Ed's real business is TQL Associates, a training, quality and leadership development consulting firm located in Columbia, SC.

Ed pointed that **Don Jenkins** was featured on the front cover of the Sunday business section of *The State* newspaper in Columbia, SC, with an article about his new business, SpaceBoard, building composites out of paper by-products. Don, **Chris Osier**, and Ed are all members of the local USNA Alumni Midlands Chapter, and they just happen to all be former Drum & Bugle Corps mates. Their Alumni Web site is: www.brickandivy.com/alum/restricted/directory.html.

Tom Hammons sent in an update from his recent retirement ceremony along with some news on Classmates. The photograph of his retirement (provided by **Jim Yeakley**) ran in last month's column. His retirement ceremony was held on 9 June on the flight deck of *CONSTELLATION* (CV-64) with a reception on the hangar deck. Five Classmates were there to see Tom off into retirement. **Kevin Nicolin**, who retired in 1991 and is now an Associate Pastor in Edmond, OK, pronounced the invocation and benediction. Tom's former roommate, **Rick Smith**, served as one of the sideboys. Rick is still on active duty and is the Chief of Staff for Commander, Surface Group Mid-Pacific in Hawaii. **Ed Kelly**, **Jim Yeakley** and **Pat Doyle** were also there. Ed is the commanding officer of the regional support organization in San Diego. Jim and Pat both work on the LPD-17 program for what use to be Hughes Aircraft. It was a terrific "Chamber of Commerce" day in San Diego and Tom says he couldn't have asked for a better time or place to leave the Navy. As far as life after the Navy, Tom has accepted a position as Executive Vice President with Armed Forces Bank of California, a privately held community bank focused on the mili-

tary market. Tom pointed out that it's an interesting opportunity to learn a new industry while maintaining some contact with the Navy; not to mention staying in San Diego.

That's all I have for now. Keep the inputs and photographs coming via email and regular mail.

72

Regular Membership: 42%
Life Membership: 16%

Pres: **CDR Dave Hogen, USN (Ret.)**
Sec'y: **CDR Rich Robison, USN (Ret.)**
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Once again, I must begin the column by announcing that we have lost another Classmate. **Randy Bent** conveyed the news that **Skip Hogue** passed away on 20 July after suffering from Alzheimer's Disease for about 18 months. This disease is very unusual in someone of his age and, unfortunately, it progressed rapidly. Skip's wife, Gail, was at his side, as she had been throughout this ordeal and for the past five years, since their marriage. Services were held on 24 July at the Palm Springs Mortuary in Cathedral City, CA. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Gail and his family. Those of you who wish to send a card to Gail can reach her at 35200 Cathedral Canyon Drive, #82, Cathedral City, CA 92234.

New Career Dept

Everyone's gotta retire sometime... **Ed Wallace** did it back on 25 June. Following is the firsthand account:

I just wanted to drop you a short note about my retirement ("transition") ceremony, held in Memorial Hall, here at USNA, on Friday, 25 June 1999. One day short of 31 years ago, the day that will live in infamy, our "I" Day for the Class of '72! Seems like only yesterday.

What a great ceremony we had. The guest speaker was ADM **Charles R. Larson '58**, former Superintendent of the Academy, whom I worked for, both as Chief of Staff/Deputy for Operations, as well as the Director of Admissions. I also had a number of Classmates come in for the day, both from around the local area as well as distant parts of the country. My sideboys were six recent '98 grads, including my son, **Ken Wallace '98** (in flight school), and two recent '99 grads. Also had a "surprise" Scottish bagpiper (our Wallace heritage!) who led our procession after the ceremony from Memorial Hall, across the Yard and over to the O'Club for the reception. A great time was had by all!

Just for information, I've taken a new job at the USNA Alumni Association, with the Naval Academy Fund, as the "Director of Corporate and Foundation Programs." Looking forward to staying in the Annapolis area and working with many of our fine Alumni.

Line up at the door with those contributions, boys and girls! You can contact Ed at 410-293-1956 or email him at ed.wallace@usna.com. Congratulations and best wishes!

This and That Dept

Mary and **Harry Ulrich** are back in Mayport (it's as though they never left!) where Harry has assumed the reins of Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Group 12. Congratulations!

"**Big Ed**" **Jatho** (ejatho@bellsouth.net) reports that his son, **Edgar Jatho III '03**, has entered with the Class of 2003 (and says that this one is a lot smarter than the first). Ed has owned his own business, "The Computer Emergency Room," for ten years. They perform maintenance and repair of PCs and manufacture their own line called "F&E Micro Computers." If passing through New Orleans,

give him a shout: 1513 Michigan Ave., Kenner, LA 70062; 504-467-2619.

Doug Roulstone (flank171@aol.com) relinquished command of **JOHN C. STENNIS** on 27 August at NAS North Island.

Deb and **Dave Fulwider** are doing well in south Florida, despite having two sons in college at the same time (**Ryan Fulwider '00**; **Brandon**, Indiana University '04) while daughter, Heather, is a high school junior. Dave is working for Esso Inter-America in Coral Gables. Their address: 7740 S.W. 182nd Terrace, Miami, FL 33157; 305-254-3183; dvfulwider@email.msn.com.

Kevin (Casey) Cassidy departed the Pentagon in late July 1997 to stand-up a new organization as a result of BRAC closing down Bayonne, NJ, and Oakland, CA. He is the Director, Afloat Personnel Management Center, Military Sealift Command, in Virginia Beach. His address: 2064 Bierce Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23454; kevin.cassidy@smtpgw.msc.navy.mil.

Tom Padden (who claims to be completely retired twice—once from the Marines, second from the Escondido Police Dept.) says he has "95 acres only 40 miles from Branson, MO... Plenty of room, boats, motorcycles, ATVs and other toys (even a tractor). Anyone passing through give a holler." His address: HC1 Box 106, Gainesville, MO 65655; 417-273-2067; Padden@OZCool.com.

Tom Jones was appointed president and chief executive officer of Stratasource.

Perry Dempsey (dempsey@ims.msn.com) is in Pottstown, PA, until March 2000 or so, and is making football plans. He's looking for Classmates at Air Force, Homecoming, and Rutgers. Although he doesn't have Army tickets, he does have a spare bedroom if anyone wants to spend the weekend for the game.

First Timer Dept

From the North Country—the latest from **Rob Saunders**:

The news from the frozen tundra of Minnesota has never seemed quite as exciting as the normal contributions to *Shipmate* from my Classmates, but I finally decided it was time. Renae

and I departed the Navy in September 1978 after a tour on **GRAY (DE1054)** (Vietnam) followed by (NFO) flight school and a tour in F-4s and F-14s with VF-114 on **KITTY HAWK**. We returned to our Podunk to raise our family, which we are getting close to completing. Liza Jane, our oldest (22), helped Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology (Terra Haute, IN) go co-ed in 1996. She graduated this June (chemical engineering/chemistry double major) as the Hemingway Medal Scholar (first in the Class academically)—not her father's daughter! She also received the John T. Royce Award as the "Outstanding Graduate of Rose-Hulman." She will start grad school this fall at the University of Minnesota in chemical engineering. Wedding plans for next June. Holly, the baby, is much more like her father except she gets good grades. She will be a sophomore at St. Olaf College in Minnesota this year, and hasn't chosen a major yet, but has had a good time at school. She is looking forward to her second year of school and all the fun she is planning to have. Renae and I have spent most of our time raising the kids and developing our accounting practice in Bird Island. We just completed our new office building in the "booming" downtown of Bird Island—everything is in your outlook!

Finally, what triggered the thought of writing was the recent visit from Philadelphia by Kathy and **Wendell Gift** and their son, **Phil Gift '02**.



The Gifts and the Saunders



The Clan Wallace at Ed's Retirement

We spent a great week at our lake cabin in northern Minnesota catching up on all the Navy news and what has been happening, as we missed the 25th Reunion. When Wendell/Kathy, and Renae/I got married 27 years ago, we promised each other we would do some traveling together once we became kid-less. It looks like the 30th Reunion with a cruise afterward would be a great time, so we are planning for the trip already. Wendell and Kathy had a wedding this May where Scott (number one son and soon Penn State graduate) married his local Philly sweetheart. Phil, who accompanied Wendell and Kathy to Minnesota, just finished one year at USNA and Dan, their youngest, just received recognition as the third son to be an Eagle Scout. Now Wendell can retire from being a scoutmaster and take a vacation with Kathy instead of all those guys.

Thanks for the letter, Rob, and don't wait so long to write next time! His business address: 145 S. Main St., Box H, Bird Island, MN 55310-0168.

Chuck Weigand reports that he ran (quite unexpectedly) into several Classmates last week in San Diego and sends this report:

The Class managed to monopolize attendance at a recent meeting of the Submarine Tactical Oceanography Review Group, sponsored by SubLant and SubPac, at SpaWar in San Diego. I ran into **Dave Schneider**, but that wasn't too surprising since he is at the Naval Oceanographic Office and we often cross paths at these type of meetings. Somewhat more surprising was when **Paul Bienhoff** walked into the room. Paul just recently retired from the submarine service and is now at JHU Applied Physics Laboratory and appears to be acclimating to civilian life quite well. The group received a briefing on Arctic submarine operations from **Jeff Gossett**, head of Ops at the Arctic Submarine Laboratory in San Diego. I was representing the Naval Atlantic Meteorology and Oceanography Center here in Norfolk. Jeff, being the shy type he ain't, was quick to point out during his briefing that this foursome of '72ers were there to take over the meeting which brought a hearty round of cheers from this largest contingent in the room. It was gratifying to see that although none of us are still in uniform, we all are continuing to serve—and making a difference.

Thanks for the note, Chuck! His email address: Weigand@nlmcc.navy.mil.

Speaking of **Paul Bienhoff**...the following arrived in your scribe's email basket:

I retired on 30 April, started a new job and now commute 50 miles each way (until my son finishes his senior year in high school in Springfield, VA). Started work at JHUAPL on 3 May—Note: took the weekend off! Looking forward to the 30th Reunion (but can't believe it's even being thought about, much less planned). Still living in Springfield near the scene of the largest interstate highway construction project the world will ever see (except for recovering from earthquakes, I suppose).

Paul's new work address: Undersea Systems Program Area, Strategic Systems Department, Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, 11100 Johns Hopkins Road, Mailstop 24W445, Laurel, MD 20723-6099; 240-228-4323. **Easy Rider Dept**

Here you go, folks, from the skipper's cabin on HMI BRENTON REEF, the following from **Mike Tierney**:

Greetings OOG. Looking through the latest copy of *Shipmate*, and it gave me the motivation to drop you a line. Writing from off the coast of Mexico where we are presently heading north bound for Los Angeles with a load of JP-5 for the airdales down in San Diego. Just took command of the newest ship in the U.S. Merchant Marine, the HMI BRENTON REEF. She is a 45,000 DWT double hull product/chemical tanker, built in Newport News, and just delivered in June of this year. After coming off a 30 year old chemical ship (which is going to the ship breakers as we speak), this is quite a change! The bridge has

a Sperry vessel management system with all the bells and whistles, such as electronic charts, differential GPS, and a windshield washing system that actually works! She is powered by a 15,500 hp direct drive slow speed B&W six-cylinder diesel, and will do almost 17 kts loaded, which won't impress the Navy ship drivers, but it's quick for a merchant tanker. We have been running between Houston and the West Coast for our first two trips, but we are on what is called the spot market, so we go anywhere the market is good and the profits are high.

I've worked a lot the last year and a half, so haven't had much time to get ashore and get into mischief. The few sea stories I do have will have to be told over a few beers at the next Reunion. I did ride the motorcycle cross country last year from south Florida to Oregon and had a blast. I sought out all the curviest roads I could find and put the Beemer through its paces.

I'll be getting off the ship in late October, so will be able to spend Christmas at home for the first time in five years. Looking forward to that! My email address here on the ship is brentonreef@super-hub.com.

Who'd have thought that he'd give up a TR6 for a chemical tanker? Thanks for the note, Tiers, and stay in touch!

Marines on our Shoulders Dept

It's not every month that your scribe receives emails from not just one, but two former roommates. The following from **John Sexton**:

The Sexton family is doing wonderfully well in southern California. Kitty, Faye and Tim enjoy the many terrific recreational activities that Camp Pendleton has to offer. Because Marines work hard (then frequently get in trouble on liberty), the base has been outfitted with recreational services to keep them happy and "at home." I wish I had the time to join them in these pleasure pursuits, but the Mental Health Department is very busy. (Did I mention Marines frequently get in trouble?) We look forward to retiring in Coronado, where there are more retired Admirals per square inch than any place on earth, but I think my detailer wants to keep me at Pendleton 'til I die. (Since many people hope for that, it shouldn't be long.)

Yo, John, there are *worse* places to be! Contact John via email at: Rxpsy@aol.com.

Web Check-Ins Dept

Lee Willis (snowwill@aol.com) is still living at 115 Phoenix, Terre Haute, IN 47803. **Clarence Willis** (ccwcom@aol.com) lives at 2612 Puritan Court, Herndon (Oak Hill), VA 20171-2440; 703-391-9180. **Bill Morris** (MorrisWD@navsea.navy.mil) is at PMS411 in Crystal City and lives at 2603 John Milton Dr., Herndon, VA 20171-2545; 703-620-4646. **Bob Loeffler** (upf10@email.msn.com) is with the H. E. Butt Grocery Company and lives at 17228 Fawn Cloud Lane, San Antonio, TX 78248; 210-492-8443. **Mark Schickner** (schick09@earthlink.net) is at 1309 Hatton Walk, Marietta, GA 30068. **Rob Hardy** (robhardy1@hotmail.com) works with Community Counseling Services. His address: 124 4th Avenue South, Columbus, MS 39701-5643. **Denny Whitford** (whitford@nadn.navy.mil) is still at USNA and can be reached at 572M Holloway Road, USNA, Annapolis, MD 21402; 410-293-6552. **Bob Cook** (lindanbob@mindspring.com) works at the Applied Physics Lab at Penn State, and lives at 1428 Chestnut Ridge Drive, State College, PA 16803; 814-867-1886. **Jack Skolds** (windermere8@msn.com) is with South Carolina Electric and Gas Company in Columbia, SC, and lives at 424 Old Course Loop, Blythewood, SC 29016. **Tom Moore** (moorewt@aol.com) lives at 1916 Creole Drive, Austin, TX 78727; 512-310-8010. **Mike Hutfless** (Hutflessfam@juno.com) lives at 1702 Robins Lane, Falling Waters, WV 25419; 304-274-2732. **Dave Crouse** (dsmcrouse@juno.com) lives at 6606 Granby Street, Norfolk, VA 23505; 757-489-1163.

Tom Clarkin (trclarki@bechtel.com) is on the Seismic Retrofit Toll Bridge Program with Bechtel Infrastructure Corp., and lives at 1115 Continentals Way #203, Belmont, CA 94002. **Dave Brown** (DKBrown37@aol.com) has just closed out the last nuclear powered cruiser, SOUTH CAROLINA, and lives at 7924 Bayberry Drive, Alexandria, VA 22306; 703-765-2523. **Ben Tenaglia** (bmtiii@aol.com) works for Janney Montgomery Scott in Philadelphia, and lives at 27 North Main Street, Telford, PA 18969-1702; 215-721-4040. **Bob Kyser** (rkyser@icte.com) lives at 14717 20 1/2 St. SE, Erie, ND 58029-9751; 701-668-2364. **Dale Feltes** (feltes@mindspring.com) is with the Tidewater Occupational Center in Suffolk, and lives at 908 Royal Oak Close, Virginia Beach, VA 23452; 757-340-7106. **Bob (Skamp) Ryskamp** (ryskamp@aol.com) is with Undersea Cable Engineering and lives at 4300 Berwick Place, Woodbridge, VA 22192; 703-590-6853. **Mike Candalar** (candalar@erols.com) is with Logicon in Reston, VA, and lives at 8227 Running Creek Ct., Springfield, VA 22153. **Ken Costigan** (costigan@exis.net) is with First Union National Bank in Portsmouth, VA, and lives at 2588 Landview Circle, Virginia Beach, VA 23454; 757-496-0419. **Joe Bridgeford** (JoeNavy72@aol.com) is with Ultrafab in Farmington, NY, and lives at 4914 Bramblewood Trail, Canandaigua, NY 14425; 716-396-1045. **Bill Sandvig** (MGPGasOps@aol.com) is with Matheson Tri-Gas in Parsippany, NJ, and lives at 952 Evergreen Drive, Somerville, NJ 08876; 908-218-1172. **Gregg Hamelin** (hameling@aol.com) is with Lockheed Martin in Valley Forge, and lives at 469 Margo Lane, Berwyn, PA 19312; 610-647-4949. **Sel Laughter** (sellaughter@aol.com) is with UAL IMC, Indianapolis, and lives at 11597 Trail Ridge Place, Zionsville, IN 46077; 317-757-2784. **Wally (Bruce) Walter** (walwal@nosc.mil) lives at 1918 Verbena Terrace, Alpine, CA 91901. **Chuck Wood** (cwood@acecomm.com) works for Ace-Comm Corp in Gaithersburg, MD, and lives at 6011 Schoolhouse Woods Road, Burke, VA 22015. **Dave Gorden** (www.dgorden@golynx.com) lives at 2055 Hutton Point, Longwood, FL 32779; 407-788-6793. **Tom Breiner** (tbreiner@cinbell.com) is with Cincinnati Bell and lives at 2609 Mapletree Court, Cincinnati, OH 45236-1156; 513-984-3101. **Warren Musselman** (wmussel@tadvestl.com) is with Adecco TAD Technical in Binghamton, NY, and lives at 14 Highland Drive, Apalachin, NY 13732-4220; 607-625-2296. **Rosy Rosenzweig** (darosen@earthlink.net) is with the HR Dept. of Sandia National Labs in Livermore, CA, and lives at 223 Sheewood Lane, Alameda, CA 94502; 510-522-5122. **Fred Pottschmidt** (pottschmidt.fc@pg.com) lives at 9435 Bainwoods Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45249; 513-677-0988. **Larry Kraker** (lkraker@aol.com) lives at 2303 Hill St., New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169. **Joe Phillips** (jphillips@zentox.com) works for Zentox Corporation and lives at 10 Martha Court, Poquoson, VA 23662; 757-868-7743. Sally and **Tom Hartley** (thartleyjr@worldnet.att.net) recently moved to 10999 East Karen Drive, Scottsdale, AZ 85259; 480-419-6758. **Jim O'Keefe** (jimokeefe@paragonsolutions.com) lives at 5205 S. Jasmine Circle, Sioux Falls, SD 57108; (w) 312-543-5788. **Pat Dunne** (patdunne@earthlink.net) lives at 10308 Towlston Road, Fairfax, VA 22030; 703-385-3443. Other email addresses: **Todd Nichols** (toddn@cnrlaw.com); **Chip Newhart** (newhart@wans.net); **Jim Applegate** (jim.applegate@alaskaair.com); **Bill Gregory** (wmgregory@aol.com).

The mailbox is empty and it's time to wrap it up. Give special thanks this Thanksgiving for the men and women of our Armed Forces, and espe-