

Kevin Brock (banjo_man@hotmail.com) of 10th Company decided to check-in after a few years. He is still in Waynesville, NC, in the Smokies, where he's now a principal shareholder in a 15-person mechanical/electrical engineering design firm. Much of their work right now is in the public school arena, designing both new schools and conducting upfits/renovations of existing schools in the Carolinas. As Kevin put it, "Like everyone else, we're working much too hard for too little!" Kevin and his wife of 16 years, Donna, are very proud of their 14-year-old daughter, Rachel, and 11-year-old son, Phillip. Both of them are running Kevin and Donna around with school, soccer, basketball, and all the other activities they are into. The Brock family is especially into hiking and backpacking, and they think that North Carolina is a great place for that!

Kevin and Donna have asked that anyone who visits the Asheville area to please get in touch with them. Their address and phone number are 55 Sunset Street, Waynesville, NC 28786; 828-452-7269. They said that it's really a great place to visit—and to live, for that matter—and they can direct you to all the interesting things to do, especially hiking trails, campsites, etc.

Henry Brus (Brus@jsc.mil) of 6th Company writes to say that he's been stationed across the river from the Naval Academy for the last 18 months as the operations officer at the Joint Spectrum Center. He's in the windowless half of the building that has "David Taylor Research Center" on the outside of it. According to Henry, the Center's mission is to make certain that radio frequency concerns are taken into account for the DoD's "stuff." They perform spectrum analyses for new purchases (both new platforms and add-ons to existing platforms), HERO effects mitigation, and build spectrum management databases and software. Henry's department, operations, provides direct support to the CinCs and JTF Commanders, and manages the DoD's radio (spectrum) interference resolution program. The operations department's mission requires that they be able to deploy world-wide within 48 hours of a support call from a CinC or JTF commander. Since he's had this job, he's had only one complete calendar month at home (last December)—and his guys (seven NCOs and an Air Force captain) travel longer and more often than he does!

Enough about Henry's work. He also wants everyone to know that he frequently makes it to a sport in the Yard. He reported that basketball was a lot of fun to watch over the last two years, and so was football and cross country. He even made it to the annual croquet match against the Johnnies at St. John's College. He hopes that perhaps he'll run into one of you at a sporting event.

Dave Vail (DVail@Periniwest.com) reports that his wife of 20 years, Mary, was recently invested as a Dame of Grace in the Order of St. George for her humanitarian efforts and ongoing support of numerous charities and foundations in the United States and abroad, many of which were performed at the military locations where they were stationed (Hawaii; Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; Texas, and California). Dave and Mary's children, Sean and Ashly, attended the investiture, which was presided over by Prince Henri Constantine De Vigo Paleologo and Princess Franciose of Cannes, France. Dave and Mary's address and phone number are: 1105 Enderly Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89144-6504; 702-242-4495.



Sean, Ashly, Prince Henri, Mary, and Dave Vail at the 2000 Imperial Byzantine Conference, Investiture and Ball

In case you missed it in the "USNA in the News" Section of the Alumni Association Home Page (which you may want to occasionally check-out at www.usna.com/News/news.htm), CAPT **Kevin M. Quinn** relieved CAPT Richard L. Wright as ComDesRon Two Eight In Norfolk, VA, on 4 May 2000 in a ceremony held aboard Ross (DDG-71), the squadron's flagship. Kevin previously served as the executive officer of LAKE CHAMPLAIN (CG-57) and as commanding officer of BARRY (DDG-52). As squadron commander, he is in charge of six ships, PETERSON (DD-969), HAYLER (DD-997), ELROD (FFG-55), RAMAGE (DDG-61), ROSS (DDG-71), and OSCAR AUSTIN (DDG-79).

Class Communication

OK, gang, here's the latest information about our continuing effort to establish and maintain a Class email address list, which will help us more effectively disseminate timely information to everyone (especially as we get closer to events like our 25th Reunion). We still plan to use the Alumni Association records as our central database to store, update, and maintain everyone's demographic information (like name, address, phone number, email address, etc.), so it's important that you keep that information up-to-date, and you have several options to update your records. If you have Internet access, you can either go directly to the Alumni Association change-of-address screen using the following link, www.usna.com/forms/change_of_address.htm, or go to the Alumni Association Web site at www.usna.com and click on "Change your Address" under the "Membership" heading. If you don't have Internet access, then you can send your information to "Soup" (see his email address above), who will ensure that your information is updated in the Association's records. In addition, because we know how naturally proactive everyone is, we've asked for a volunteer from each Company to help "beat the trees" by actively soliciting and verifying the email addresses for their Companymates. Several people have already volunteered and we will publish the list in next month's column, but in the meantime, if anyone else is interested in being the coordinator for their Company, please let "Soup" know.

Closing Remarks

Here ends another month's column. Since this is a double issue, you won't be hearing from me again until September, which will kick-off another season of Navy football. Speaking of football, some people have asked about getting together this year at the Army-Navy game, which is being held on our home turf at PSINet Stadium in Baltimore, MD. If anyone has any ideas on a central hotel or Class meeting point that they want to pass on to their Classmates, please let me know and I'll make sure and get the word out. Also, just in case it doesn't make it to the column header, my new email address is bsanderson@docHarbor.net. Hang in there and keep in touch! —**Bob Sanderson**

Pres: **Arch Griffin**

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Okay, let's see what Mustafa has brought in the old mail bag. Let's see, there's good news, inspirational stories and lots of general news bits. Here we go.

Billy Martin (BILLUSNA78@aol.com) dropped a long email. He left American Express in November of '98. That summer Billy's son, Sean (13), had a stroke and lost the entire left side of his body. Every test known to man was given Sean but the doctors never could find the cause of the bleeder in the back of his brain. After six months of very intense physical and occupational therapy, and lots of prayer, Sean had an almost complete recovery. He still has a little lethargy in his left hand and leg when he gets tired, but thank the Lord, he is doing fine. Sean used to be a lefty but has since learned to be a righty. His neurologist calls him a "miracle child" and has written several articles on him for the medical journals. The stroke hasn't slowed him down either. He is a straight A student, Junior National Honor Society, placed third in the county swim meet in the 200m freestyle, and plays a mean trombone! Billy says that whenever he gets down he thinks of Sean and gets inspired. Troubles seem to pale in comparison. As for Billy, he was recently promoted to be the Southeastern VP, Health Care, for MetLife Resources. His group handles the retirement and pension plans for some major hospital and health care organizations. He's headquartered in Pensacola and his offices are on the campus of Baptist Hospital (just rated in *USA Today* as the number one hospital in the country for patient satisfaction). Billy gets to see his old 36th Company buds Dr. (PhD type) **Jim Pointer** and CAPT **Drew Nienhaus**, on a regular basis.

Karen and **Dave Williams** also sent a quick update. Dave's just finishing up his tour with the Joint Staff. He's been doing hard time in the "Big House" fellow captains **Tony Winns**, **Harry Harris**, **Jerry Roncolato**, and our other fellow Foxtrot Companymate (12th Co.) Col **Tim Hanifen**. Karen enjoys working for UNISYS. Together now for 28 years since their high school sweetheart days, Karen and Dave have two sons. Their oldest, Joshua, will be attending the University of North Florida (Jax, FL) this fall. Josh says he wants to be a USMC pilot. It leaves Dave wondering where he went wrong. (On the other hand, Tim Hanifen and I just think Josh must be a pretty smart kid!) Dave and Karen's second son, Kyle, is moving through the middle school ranks. He talks about going to the Boat School. About this time Dave and his family should be heading up my way. He's got orders to join the faculty at the Naval War College.

Bob McMasters (mcmaste7@msu.edu) wanted to "update" his "service record" too. Bob is still in East Lansing, MI, where he teaches for the Department of mechanical engineering at Michigan State University. Right now he's teaching the dreaded "engine math" course, which all you ME and EE (and flailing Aero) majors painfully remember at Canoe U. Bob also takes on a number of consulting projects throughout the year. His wife (since six days after graduation) Mary Lynn, has just completed a residency in internal medicine and will be



The McMasters family

taking a break for a few months before starting with a practice in the Lansing area. Their oldest son, Bobby, started college this year at Wentworth Military Academy in Lexington, MO. Most of the students there are on Army ROTC scholarships, but not Bobby (so far). Their other three boys are in high school (a freshman, sophomore and a junior). The junior has already begun the application process to USNA. They'll see how things go in the next year to and find out if he will be joining the ranks of '78 juniors at Mother B.

Doug Meyer (Doug.Meyer@morgankeegan.com) has a feel for how Navy spouses feel when their mates are on deployment. His wife, Ginger, had been in Germany visiting her Army dentist brother. Fortunately (for Doug) when she returned, her house was still standing and her little dog was still breathing. In July, Doug and Ginger celebrated their 19th wedding anniversary. They have two daughters, Ginny (17) and Erin (14). Both girls played basketball for their respective school teams this past winter. Ginny earned her first varsity letter on a team that reached the "Sweet 16" for the third year in a row. They hope to get over the hump and make it to the "big dance" next year when she is a senior. Erin has also had tremendous success on the hardcourt. Her seventh-eighth grade team went 35-1 over the last two years. Erin has an excellent chance to make the varsity next year as a freshman. Doug has visions of both daughters on the varsity team and calls of "Meyer to Meyer for twooooooo!" For our next Reunion he's thinking of the multi-purpose gym and his team of Meyer, Meyer, Meyer, **Chris "Doc" Dougherty**, and anyone else who just wants to run, pass, and rebound! Doug is throwing down the gauntlet to **Craig Diffie** and **Glen Ives** to start working out now! The Meyer family has been in Memphis for nearly 17 years. It was Doug's final active duty tour with the recruiting command in late '83 that brought them there. He's had a great career in a private insurance and investments practice, earned the CFP designation. Two years ago he made the move to his current employer, Morgan Keegan and Co., Inc. It's a regional brokerage firm with about 650 brokers at 40 locations throughout the south (NYSE listing MOR). Doug's responsible for all insurance prod-

uct marketing throughout the firm. He's happy in a great job with a great company.

Rich Polek (Richpolek@aol.com) provided news of **Bryan Livingston**, 34th Company. Bryan was Rich's roommate at Nuke Power School. Bryan's wife, Barb, is expecting identical twin girls in August. They already have one daughter, Molly. With the arrival of the twins, Bryan has lost any hope of male company in the Livingston household.

Lloyd Prince (Lprince@aol.com) ran into **Skip Root** (sjroot@fcol.com) a while ago. They were both commuting to work, trying to get onto an AirTrans jumpseat. Since Lloyd actually works for the airline and Skip's a FedEx guy you can guess who got first dibs on the seat. Still, Lloyd was a gracious host and let Skip have the seat while he took the flight attendant seat waaay back by the lavatories and peanuts. Is that a glorious job or what? Lloyd's daughter, Catarina, survived her third year at Harvard. She's studying biological anthropology with an emphasis on primate evolution. After visiting her classes and professors earlier this year for a parent's weekend, Lloyd realized that he is totally late in telling her about the birds and bees! He's anxiously waiting to read her latest report on "Hip-to-waist ratio in women and the male's sexual preference!" Got news for you Lloyd—no matter when you plan to tell a kid about that stuff—it's too late.

George Tyree (TGeorge678@aol.com) reported that his son, Michael, entered the Yard with this summer's new batch of Plebes. He and I are also wondering how many more of you have sons and daughters in this class of 2004? George was hoping to link up with **Joe Britain** and **John Hawk**, sort of a mini-reunion.

Congratulations go out to **Sam Tangredi**. Sam won the U.S. Naval Institute's Arleigh Burke Essay Award for his article entitled, "The Fall and Rise of Naval Forward Presence."

On some other stray notes I heard that **Ray Bracy** left Boeing China and is now working for them in Washington, D.C. Don't know what he's doing but it's probably something big. Rumor has it that Ray is on the fast track to the top at Boeing.

Speaking of "fast tracked," this year's flag rank selection hit the streets and with it goes a special

congratulations to our first flag officer—**Tony Winns**. His selection is not only a great personal accomplishment (way to go, Tony!) but it means that we as a Class have broached that next plateau of accomplishment. Can we really be getting that old? Say it ain't so? I don't know how long he'll remain at his current slot at the Pentagon (with **Dave Williams** and company, remember? Just seeing if you were paying attention) as Chief, Policy Division, Strategy and Policy, J5, Joint Staff Washington, D.C.

Speaking of leadership, over the past year our Class has taken on the role of leadership programs for PORTER (DDG-78). During graduation week, The Class of 1978 recognized two PORTER crew members while the ship was visiting the Yard in Annapolis. Thirteen of our Classmates were on board PORTER as the Class recognized LTJG **Bryant Trost '96** and EM1 Sybil Rhodes as "the best of the best" and "leaders and accomplisners" of CDR **Ken Spiro '81's** crew. Ken had a nice ceremony set up for event on the flight deck and in the wardroom. Speaking on behalf of the Class were Captains **Chris Nichols** and **Bob Novak**, and **Ed Reid**. CDR Spiro returned the honor to by recognizing Ed Reid as PORTER's first honorary plank owner for his continued active support for the ship and crew. Of those representing the Class, eight were still in uniform. Not only was PORTER's crew treated to the added stripes and sea stories but so too were the tourist and families who visited the Yard and PORTER. Telling tales and talking "history" were CAPT **John Cohoon**, CAPT **Tom Crowley**, CAPT **Clarke Orzalli** (all the way from Maine!), CAPT **Terry O'Brien**, CDR **Dave Brown** (a PORTER descendant!), CAPT **Chris Wode**, **Hank Kuzma**, **Bob Schermund**, our Class President **Arch Griffin**, and the aforementioned CAPT Bob Novak (our Class VP), CAPT Chris Nichols and Ed Reid. Also in attendance were Mary Novak, and Bob and Mary's daughter, Mary Evelyn. Our thanks go out to CDR Spiro and his crew for their hospitality and assistance. It's obvious Ken had a Plebe Year and was taught well by his Firsties. These awards are just the beginning of our sponsorship and support for PORTER and her crew. They are the first of many to come in which we hope to promote leadership and professionalism and help her skipper recognize the personal accomplishments of her crew. To make this worthwhile requires your continued support. Contributions to this cause can be sent to our Class Treasurer, **Kevin Liddy**, at 55 Knobb Hill Rd, Milford CT 06460-7244.

Well that's about it for now. I'm gonna wrap this thing up and send it out. I hope it's the last column to be sent from Turkey. The 'trons move a lot faster back home so the email moves faster and looking at your emails from my AOL account at home is certainly a heckuva lot cheaper! I've been away so long some folks back at the plant in Stratford, CT, are probably wondering if I still work at Sikorsky. I heard someone claim they even saw my picture on a milk carton. That's it—time to wrap up the contract negotiations and get home. Besides, fall is just around the corner, football and home games loom and this year I have a few tailgater kegs with my name on them! With that I'll see you around the Yard and at the Navy games. Launchin' this column from Spot Four and bustering home!

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