

Chuck Trude received Vigil Honor in the BSA Order of the Arrow at the National Capital Area Council Amangamek Wipit Lodge #470 banquet on 3 January 2004. Vigil Honor is the highest award in the Order of the Arrow.

Late breaking news just received from Kevin Stone:

Chris Ames is being assigned as commander, Amphibious Group Three, San Diego, Calif. Chris is currently serving as director for Strategy, Plans, Policy, and Programs, J5, U.S. Transportation Command, Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

Derwood Curtis is being assigned as commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group Five, San Diego, CA. Derwood is currently serving as commander, Naval Surface Group Two/deputy commander, U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command, Mayport, FL.

That just about does it for the news. I need to get back to work to determine if there is life after Hubble Space Telescope (anyone have any job openings?).

exciting time for us all as you can see in the fine picture below.

From the Mail Bag

Well, it's happened again, Classmates—no mail in the mailbag. It's times like this (with the column deadline only hours away) that I thank you for greatly reducing the pressure that I usually experience when writing this column. For some reason, I have this uncharacteristic tendency to wait until the last minute each month; either I work better under pressure or I'm hoping for more mail to arrive just before the deadline. In any event, nothing else to say this month, but I'm sure you'll have a lot more to say in April.

Closing Remarks

Spring's just around the corner and with that comes summer whites and the start of the Annapolis sailing season. My big hope for this summer is that new daddy's can continue to sail, so if anyone has any suggestions on how to convince a new mother to watch her baby while her husband races around the bay each week, feel free to pass them on. Until next month, Go Navy! —**Bob Sanderson**

into the journalism school. She plans to major in advertising. John recently had lunch with **Tom Littauer**, another 27th Company Classmate who left during Youngster year. Tom was in town to support a "road show" presentation at John's firm. They hadn't seen each other in 28 years. At first, Tom didn't recognize John. But then John threw him for a loop when he stuck his hand out and asked Tom if he would find a potato in my tailpipe when he left to get in his car. (The other 27th guys will know what that is all about!) The recognition came back quickly! John said it was "awesome" to see Tom and reminisce with him. As for the gouge on Tom, he has had a successful career since he left USNA: All-American wrestler at Wheaton, president of Scudder Mutual Funds and now president of Dreman Value Funds. Tom has five kids and his oldest son, coincidentally, works as the speechwriter for fellow Classmate (and John's old roommate) **Joe Schmitz**.



Graduation Day for the Huesmans

Tom Crowley and Boxer recently departed for Iraq "redux." Officially, the press release said they were deploying "to the Central Command area of responsibility in support of the global war on terrorism." Tom said, [it's] "just like old times, except faster and lighter." I gave Tom the same wish I pass to all of you deployed out there—stay safe.

Out of the cold comes another Classmate author—**Marty Zimmerman** (martyz17@aol.com). (Some of you may remember Marty under his previous alias—he was MIDN **Martin Elsaesser** through Youngster year, 29th Company, then changed his last name to Zimmerman before Second Class year.) After graduation Marty went Marine Corps. He stayed on active duty for nine and a half years; then he rolled into the Reserve for the balance of a career. He retired in September of 2000 as an Oh Five. In December of '02, his company cut him and his entire department due to lack of business. While unemployed for the first time in his life, he took the opportunity to write and publish a book. It's called *In Their Presence: Best Practices and Stories of Role Model*. Marty believes it supports the aspects that lie at the foundation of our Annapolis leadership heritage. The book details the stories of business leaders rated as role models across inspiration, communication, visionary, risk taking, decisiveness, integrity, client relationships, negotiating, leadership, and more. It clarifies and gives practical examples of global role model leadership. I ordered a copy of the book to support a Classmate—paperback (because I'm cheap). But I also ordered it because it sounds interesting and besides, I wanted proof to you Sailors that some Marines can write (unlike me). I also had hoped there might be a remote possibility that maybe *I'd be mentioned in it*. (Oh well.) You ought to check it out for yourselves at

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Annual Membership: 6%
Life Membership: 65%

Pres: **CAPT Richard "Rick" White, USN**
1404 Hunting Wood Road, Annapolis, MD 21403
w: 202-781-0938; h: 410-295-0089
we: WhiteRW@navsea.navy.mil;
he: bettyrick@comcast.net
Sec'y: **Bob Sanderson**
210 Autumn Chase Drive, Annapolis, MD 21401
h: 410-571-6267
e: bob.sanderson@1977.usna.com

From the Yard

Not much going on in Annapolis this month other than experiencing some of the coldest days in recent history. Both Navy basketball teams have been struggling to achieve respectable records all season, and the Dark Ages are quickly drawing to a close. Michelle, Alec, and I did have a welcome break from the Dark Ages during a recent weekend in Atlanta, GA, for her cousin's wedding, and we were even able to catch-up on the latest happenings of my former roommate, **Bob Vogel** (robert.vogel@1977.usna.com) during a Sunday brunch at the world famous Café Intermezzo. It was quite an

78

Annual Membership: 3%
Life Membership: 75%

Pres: **Glen Woods**
Sec'y: **Vince Balderrama**
45 Little Fawn Drive, Shelton, CT 06484
e: VBalderrama@SIKORSKY.com
web site: <http://usna1978.org>

Got a great email from **John Huesman** who passed along some news a family photo. Last year was a double celebration for he and Nancy. It was the 25th anniversary of our graduation and the 25th anniversary of their wedding (well just under the wire—30 December to be exact). Similarly, while our reunion found them swimming due to the hurricane, their anniversary also found them swimming. But in the latter case it was in the warmer clime of a second honeymoon in Kauai. In May, their oldest daughter Heidi graduated from the prestigious School of Journalism at the University of Missouri. She is now a magazine editor and living and working in Kansas City. Their other daughter Kelly, is a sophomore at "Mizzou," and just got accepted



*77: Enjoying brunch in Atlanta, l to r: Bob, Michelle, and Alec Sanderson, with former roommate Bob Vogel

<http://www.1stBooks.com/bookview/18500> or drop Marty a line.

Sean Coffey took time off from “giving good quote” on Martha Stewart and other scandals in business ethics to the *Wall Street Journal*, CNN, and all the various news and info stations, to play “Professor Coffey” at the University of Connecticut. Sean finally caved in to my pleas to pass on “sea stories” from his trial experience in leading the case against Arthur Anderson in the Baptist Foundation of Arizona failure last year, as well as what he could say about his current effort in leading the charge against WorldCom. Sean joined a panel of two *real* professors from UCONN’s School of Business in an evening seminar and Q&A on business ethics. He was the highlight of the evening and got a great response from the over 130 undergraduate and post-graduate business students (not to mention a spattering of business types from around the Stamford, CT and New York areas). **Tim Dowding** joined me in providing the local Classmate support of Sean. (Tim’s an associate professor in residence, for UCONN’s School of Business at Stamford. He teaches in their Department of Operations and Information Management and works with research in their Connecticut Information Technology Institute.) After listening to the panelists’ lectures, horror and sea stories, I have to say that none of the guys at those disreputable companies would’ve made it through our honor system let alone Plebe Summer. That takes character. (It also made me think twice about using the “Sealy Posteurpedic Bank” instead of investing.) I’m sure Sean appreciated the small token of thanks the school gave him over the one their campus “Jimmy Legs” left him on his windshield. Seems he parked in the wrong spot and got a campus ticket and fine for it. Next time, I’ll see about getting the special parking spot for you, Sean.



Professor Coffey



Sean, Vince and Tim

Had a chance to bump into quite a few of you athletic supporters, I mean, Classmates supporting Navy athletics. Back in November, I joined an annual excursion of Classmates to the “Big Apple” to attend a boxing smoker sponsored by the New York Athletic Club. Over the last few years a gang of classmates have attended the event and cheered on some of Navy’s best boxers in their bouts against other colleges. **Jock Maloney**, **Eddie Reid** and **Kevin “Grinch” Lynch** have spearheaded the “road trip.” I was



'78: Navy boxing fans



Class of '78 at the Houston Bowl



'78: Even the cow is a fan

finally able to make it this year, because Jock was finally able to give me advanced notice and Elizabeth was able to grant me an overnight pass. Besides the three previously mentioned and yours truly, Sean Coffey, **Byron Marchant**, and a couple of friends of Grinch’s—Dale Walter and former Black Shoe Navy man, Peter Quick (a '78er—but University of Virginia) were some of the Navy fans. I know I’m leaving somebody out, but after the post-bout party at the Irish Pub across the street from the NYAC and the passing of months, that’s all I recall. Apologies to Classmates, Alumni or boxing fans whose recollection went the way of the Killian’s and clock. (By the way, Navy won two out of their three bouts and overall had the best skilled boxers.)

I wasn’t able to make it to Army-Navy, but kudos to you folks that braved the bitter cold to

see Army set an NCAA record for most losses in a season and Navy get a game closer to evening up the overall record. Not only that, but they earned themselves a place at the Houston Bowl. That being said, I *did* make it to the Houston Bowl. It was a Christmas present to myself. While the game itself didn’t turn out the way we all hoped, the experience itself was. Navy had billed their four-hour pre-game tailgater as the world’s biggest barbecue tailgater and it certainly seemed like it—beer and beverage stands, multiple serving sites for some delicious ribs, pulled pork and all the fixin’s and entertainment by the Chief’s band (who were better than I ever remembered)! The music was so foot stomping motivating even the ‘Dant joined the Navy cheerleaders and lead singer in busting some moves. (Yup, Joe was inspiring!) Still the best tailgaters of the day had to be Navy '78!

Sponsored by Patti and **Glen Woods** and Patti's folks (her dad's one of the first SeaBees) the post game celebration stayed so long after the game that they had to be invited to leave. I was amazed at the attendance—**Matt Elias** came down from Dallas (He brought his daughter Sarah (16) to her first Navy game since she was about five); Janet and **Bob Schmermund** and the Schmermund clan. (They had rented a Winnebago from which they operated as a parking lot home base and from which they dispensed some great jambalaya (perfect for a chilled evening). At the tailgater were **Faris Farwell** and **Jeff Ewin** (whose wives gave them tickets to the game as Christmas stocking stuffers), Becca and **Ray Kwong**, **Steve Hincks**, **Bob "Bubba" Destafney**, **Ray Baltera**, **John Kovalcik**, **Terry O'Brien**, **Joe Martin**, **Vance Berry**, Kevin "Grinch" Lynch, **Chris "Doc" Dougherty**, **John Young**, **Joe Lynch**, **Aaron Watts**, and **Corky Gardner '77**. Rumor has it **George Tyree** and **Jay DeLoach** were around too. I know I may have missed a few folks who also may have been there but I'm sure you'll let me know the error of my ways.



In the luxury box



Inside the Navy tailgate



Celebrating with the Leidigs

Congrats to **Maurice Tose** as his TCS Telecommunications Company continues to grow. I noted a recent press release about Mo's bid to acquire Enterprise Mobility Solutions Division of Aether Systems, Inc. Mo hopes the acquisition will better position TCS for carriers and government customers, as a leading

provider of wireless data solutions for enterprise customers as well. In a related, but way older, bit of news, a *very* belated congrats to our other Captain of Industry—**Jon Kutler**. At the end of 2002, his company, Quarterdeck Investment Partners, LLC (which had already been recognized as a leading investment banking firm, specializing in mergers and acquisitions in the global aerospace, defense, and federal information technology industries, and named "2002 Boutique Middle-Market M&A Firm of the Year" by The Mergers and Acquisitions Advisor), was acquired by the Jefferies Group, Inc., a major holding company with global enterprises. Jon has continued to run Quarterdeck; after all he founded the baby, and leads this Jefferies effort. Best wishes for continued success to you guys. As for the rest of you out there, drop me a line on your onward and upward developments too—I need to know to whom to send my resume.

Our sincerest condolences go out to Connie and **Mark James** on news of the death in January of Connie's mom, Mrs. Alfreda Maier. Mrs. Maier was able to spend her final days under Connie's loving care in the James' home. While I never had the pleasure of meeting her, **Rich Polek** recounted many memorable conversations with Mrs. Maier over drinks and dinners at the James' house and his house. He said she was a gracious and classy lady, who will be greatly missed by her family and friends. The family has asked that donations be made to the American Cancer Society in her memory.

Until next month, with a prayer and a wish for all your safety and happiness, I'm launchin' Spot Four.

79

Annual Membership: 0%
Life Membership: 89%

Pres: **LCDR Sean Cate, USN (Ret.)**
e: Sean.Cate@1979.usna.com
Sec'y: **LCDR John "Wiz" Withers, USN (Ret.)**
22445 Bluebird Court, Leonardtown, MD 20650
h: 301-997-1980; w: 240-725-7751
e: JDWithers@1979.usna.com
web site: www.usna79.com

Greetings, '79!
It was one of those rare afternoons: I actually took the time to sit down and watch some NFL football. I'm a big fan, and if there's a game being broadcast, it's usually on at least one TV in the house. Very seldom, though, do I actually park myself in front of the tube for more than a few consecutive plays. This time, I watched pretty much the whole first half.

Somewhere around the two-minute warning, the station cut to a commercial. It showed three to four guys running excitedly from different directions, cheering loudly. They all converged in the living room of a house. In the corner was a bright green tree (like a Christmas tree, except it was lime green) trimmed in green ornaments. There were several boxes below the tree, each wrapped in green packaging with green bows. The guys rushed over to the tree, grabbed a box, and began ripping off the paper. Turns out the

box was a case of Guinness Draught beer. But what caught my attention was the tagline. As the box was opened, the commercial went to freeze-frame, and the following tagline appeared accompanied by a voice-over: "This year, celebrate St. Patrick's Day like a real holiday."

Now what's up with that? The obvious inference is that there are some poor, misguided individuals out there who think that St. Patrick's Day is not a "real" holiday. It just occurred to me: these folks must have spent too much time at sea, where "Every day's a holiday, and every meal's a feast." That must be it. I'll have to take this up with our resident Surface Warrior and Chief Leprechaun, **Sean Cate**, at the next libation summit, er, Class Officer meeting...

This month was a little "retro," in that I received an actual letter. Really! In the mailbox. Delivered by the Postal Service. Typed, even (shades of Snagglepuss). Seriously, **Don Quinn** (or perhaps it was his wife, Jean) (dqunn2@midsouth.rr.com; 901-861-7101) was kind enough to send a copy of the family's Christmas letter. Last summer Don turned over the reins of CAG 9 with an in-flight change of command, and after a couple TDY trips, the "Quinn Clan" moved from Lemoore, CA, to Collierville, TN (just outside of Memphis). Don is now the head of Naval Aviation Detailing at BuPers in Millington. Yep, he's the detailer that everyone loves to hate. I'm assuming he's already had the forked-tongue surgery, and he should have completed all the advanced courses in talking out of both sides of one's mouth simultaneously.

Don and Jean report that the rest of the brood is doing quite well, and everyone seems to be adjusting to life in the Land of Elvis (**Tom Phelan**, eat your heart out!). Their son, Matt (21), is working on a business degree at a local college. Kevin (19) is also in college, starting his freshman year at the University of Memphis. Caitlin (17) is a high school junior and soccer star. Brian (13) is an eighth grader, focusing on the concert band and the school wildlife club. Word is that his best day so far was the one spent cataloging the "take" at the local deer tracking station. The Quinns wrapped up their letter with an open invitation to all Classmates who find themselves in the Greater Memphis Area.



The Quinn clan: Matt, Brian, Jean, Don, Caitlin, and Kevin

About the only other news I have to report is that, after several emails and a series of missed attempts, I finally hooked up with **Rick Lynch** (RLynch@anteon.com). Rick retired from the Navy a couple years back, and is currently working for Anteon Corp. as a systems engineer on NavSea projects. His office is right across the street from the Washington (DC) Navy Yard, which means he commutes daily from Northern Virginia. Rick passed that **Willy Quintong** is stationed in Japan (although I don't know