



77 Classmates at Doug Isleib's Change of Command/Retirement Ceremony (L-R): Corky Gardner, Cindy Isleib, Doug Isleib, Dave Williams, and Eli Turner

Apparently Doug's retirement didn't last too long ("It only took Cindy [his wife] a week to be tired of having my retired butt home all day"), and now he has a new job as the Program Manager for the Presidential Helicopters, very much like his last job except as a civil servant. In Doug's words, "You know my motto - be like Breeze!"

And speaking of Breeze, it seems that **Jim "Cool Breeze" Gould** (jgould@san.rr.com) and his wife, Cary, are the proud parents of son #2, Jack Christopher Gould. Jim mistakenly solicited name suggestions from the skaters, but fortunately none of them prevailed and they decided on Jack. Jim wanted to thank his fellow skaters for their responses and the "always lively banter." He said that between the skaters and Jim's collective families, "Jack" got the most votes and "Christopher" got the second most, so they said, "Hey that sounds pretty good together" and that's what they named him. Jim also wanted **Mark "Koz" Kozicz** to know that their neighbor said Jack's name sounded like the starting tight end for the USC football team, to which Cary immediately responded, "NO FOOTBALL!" Jim believes that Jack is the latest and probably the last baby of the USNA (18th Company) Class of '77 ("unless, of course, Eli Turner or **Dave "Mankirk" Kirkman** (dkirkman@holdengraphics.com) are still busy"). And as for Jim, "I'm done, unless there is 'divine intervention.'" [Editor's Note: For those of you who are wondering if there are any other '77'ers still in the procreation mode, I should remind you that Michelle and **Bob Sanderson** (yours truly) are expecting Baby #2 in early July. Alec can't wait to be a big brother, and we're pretty excited

about having another Navy fan in the family.]



Cary and Jim Gould with their latest arrival, Jack Christopher

It looks like we've got four new flag selectees (along with some photographic evidence of their existence)! **Gar Wright** (gar1234@aol.com), who was nominated for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half) along with fellow classmates **Julius Caesar**, **Mike Frick** (mfrick0853@aol.com), and **Phil Wisecup**, wrote-in recently to let us know that he had the privilege of attending the All Flag Officer's Training Symposium (AFOTS) held at USNA's Alumni Hall on 4-7 April 2005 with the aforementioned selectees as well as many of the current Class of '77 flag officers; namely, **John Bird** (john.bird@js.pentagon.mil), **Dirk Debbink** (dirk.debbink@navy.mil), **Mark Kenny** (mckenny@aol.com), **Joe Kernan** (KernanJ@socom.mil), **Sam Locklear** (samlock77@aol.com), **Joe Walsh**, and **Pat Walsh** (walshpna@cs.com). On the last day they gathered the participating classmates and took the nearby photo. Gar said that he feels lucky to be associated with such a dedicated group of winners. Rounding out our "already distinguished '77 flag wardroom" were the following classmates who missed the symposium (excused absences, I suspect): **Kevin Quinn**, who was supporting Tsunami relief efforts in Singapore, **Mark Hugel** (eastview1@cox.net), who was testifying before Congress at the time of the picture (a likely excuse if I ever heard one), and **Mark Skinner**, whose whereabouts were unknown. Please let me know if I missed anybody on our flag list; it's getting so long now I'm going to have to start a new Post-It Note. In any event, congratulations to our four new flag selectees (and for the rest of you guys, keep up the good work)!



Class of '77 Attendees at the "All Flag Officer's Training Seminar" in April 2005 (Front Row, L-R): Mark Kenny, Gar Wright (new selectee), and John Bird; (Back Row, L-R): Dirk Debbink, Joe Walsh, Sam Locklear, Mike Frick (new selectee), Phil Wisecup (new selectee), Joe Kernan, Pat Walsh, and Julius Caesar (new selectee)

### Class Communication

Slow month once again in the Class Communication area. I expect things to pick up once we start to make preparations for our 30<sup>th</sup> Reunion, which is just around the corner (two years from now for those of you who are numerically challenged at this stage of your life).

### Closing Remarks

Another month, another column; at this pace, I'm ready for a month or two off! Ironically, I actually had the pleasure of doing just that thanks to a recent job switch in May. During my job transition from Capital One to Booz Allen Hamilton, I was fortunate enough to be able to take-off the entire month of April, which turned-out to be a nice combination of family time and catch-up work around the house. I have a feeling that I now know what retirement is going to feel like, and I must say that it's a pretty good feeling. Hope your summer's going well and I'll see you again next month. Go Navy!—**Bob Sanderson**

**78**

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 2%  
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 76%

PRES: Glen Woods

SEC'Y: Vince Balderrama

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**Jeff Clites** (jeff.clites@navy.mil) sent in his 25 year news flash. He retired from the Navy last year with 20 years of active service. He said he took a different path by becoming a SELRES (Drilling Reservist) in 1989. He then drilled for about 7 years, before getting back on active duty where he finished out and finished out his 20 years. He definitely got



to see the world with 2 WESPAC deployments with HC-11, overseas tours in Guantanamo Bay and Korea, "Active Duty For Special Work" tours in Pensacola, New Orleans, Italy and England, plus a TAD in Germany. Jeff especially enjoyed his last set of orders was to Training Air Wing FIVE at Whiting Field as a flight instructor with HT-18. While he said it was lots of fun flying with the flight students and that they sure taught him a lot, under closer questioning he admitted that they gave him a lot of gray hairs in the process. He and his wife, Ha Jeong, like it there in northwest Florida but they haven't really retired yet. Jeff works at the Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training at NAS Pensacola and Ha Jeong is very active in the local Korean community. Their son, Lawton, graduated from Mary Washington University last year and is working in the greater Washington, DC area. Daughter, Beth is doing great and will graduate in May 2005 from William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.

#### Marty Zimmerman

[marty@intheirpresence.com] is the sole proprietor of his leadership consulting business. Activity has been picking up over time. His primary focus is delivering best practices leadership development seminars, speaking engagements and 360 performance feedback coaching. Sales of his best practices book, *In Their Presence* have been secondary for him but the back has helped establish his credibility. Last year, he spoke to over 70 service organizations in MI, WI, KY, and NC and Very well received. (He often gets comments "by far best program of the year", but wonders—"I bet you say that all the speakers!") If anyone needs a motivational speaker or business organization guy—Marty's your man.

Classmate dominated this year's Navy Rear Admiral one-star selections. Here are the newest members of the constellation: **Bill Burke**— Bill is currently the Executive Assistant to the Vice Chief of Naval Operations. One son is trotting through Plebe year. **Mark Fox**— Mark is the Acting Director, White House Military Office. Looks like he'll continue there as a flag which we hope means they can delete the "Acting" part of his title. **Chuck (Chuckles) Goddard**—Chuck is currently the Major Program Manager

for DD(X) Destroyer Program for Program Executive Officer, Ships. **Dave Mercer** — Dave now serves Executive Assistant to the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, Mons, Belgium. **Clarke Orzalli** — As mentioned in an earlier column, Clarke is "King of Puget Sound", aka, Naval Shipyard Puget Sound and Intermediate Maintenance Facility Pacific Northwest, Bremerton, Washington. **Dave "Deke" Philman** — Deke currently serves Head, Appropriations Matters Office, Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management and Comptroller). I guess that means he'll definitely have the dollars for a wetting down—provided it's also been "authorized". Damn those budget rules! Congrats to the latest flag selections. That brings the count for the class to something over 20! (I also noted a couple of '79 buddies—11<sup>th</sup> company mate—**Tim Giardina** and Lightweight Crew Team Mate and craziest 7 man ever—**Bob Harwood**).

My youngster year room mate, **George Billy** (GeoBilly@aol.com) and his family are doing well in Northern Virginia. His son, "young" George is quite the wrestler. He won his league championship and the MD-VA state championship in his weight class. He said it was pretty neat sight as they wrestled in the USNA field house! We hope there were some Navy wrestling coaches who were watching and that perhaps they could picture young George wrestling for Navy in a couple of years! Daughter, Elizabeth, and a girlfriend are renting a house in Manassas near where she works. She plans on going to community college this fall. George's wife, Thelma, takes care of an elderly couple. As for George the elder, he works unmanned undersea vehicles stuff for that "other" company. He said he's looking forward to getting the mixing bowl and Wilson bridge work done. Despite there being little traffic disruption over the last year or so, he says it'll be good to be done.

**Scot Miller** (Scot.Miller@iraq.centcom.mil) dropped a March e-mail from Iraq. Last August he received an email from RADM Nancy Brown that "invited" him to join her as their first Knowledge Manager at the Multi National Force Iraq (where she served as the C6). The correct answer was of

course, "aye, aye!" That got him to Camp Victory close to the Baghdad airport in October. By now he's safely back home in San Diego and has resumed command of the Navy Center for Tactical Systems Interoperability (which explains why my response e-mail got kicked back). He and Wendy still leave in Coronado, where their son Jeff is a ninth grader and football player. Scot said that the elections in Iraq gave him hope that our efforts there are worthwhile. Many Iraqis risked life and limb to vote, and all were very proud to have participated. He reported one story that told that after a suicide bomber struck one poll, the citizens helped the wounded, then got back in line to vote, despite the threat of violence. Thanks for the inspiring words, Scot. Welcome home to you and everyone else completing the hard time duty and safe keeping to those of your still on watch.



Scot Miller

**Charlie "Nick" Nickell** sent a "St. Patrick's Day" Newsletter greeting (since it was too late to be called a Christmas, Presidents' Day, or even Valentine's Day newsletter) from Aiken, SC. (Hey, my wife Elizabeth lived for a while in Aiken when she was a child! Do the school's still let out for the Masters?) They've been in Aiken for almost 20 years. Nick works for Washington Group International at the Savannah River Site. He's the manager of a chemical facility that processes radioactive material. (They produce Neptunium powder (sounds fictional!) that will be placed into nuclear reactors and then used to provide electricity for NASA's deep space probes.) Spare time finds him working repairs on their aging home; coaching kids in basketball and soccer and serving on his church's board of elders (but that doesn't necessarily mean he is [or we are] elderly?). Dana continues to home school her youngins but with two kids in college her class size is steadily shrinking. She still



pulls out her flute now and then to play with the church orchestra and a few duets here and there; and helps with Bible Study for junior high girls. Ryan is more accurately at an "UNCOLLEGE". He's a class of '07, Systems Engineering major at USNA. He's working to make the Academy's Triathlon Team. This summer he heads to Navy Dive School in Hawaii. Cole (18) finished high school a year early. After an incredible summer mission trip to Uganda, he enrolled as a Biblical Studies major in Covenant College (located at the top of Lookout Mountain, Georgia). He hopes to enter the seminary after graduation.. Chad (16) is a junior at the "Nickell Academy". He's already finished all his required high school courses but with two boys graduating in two years he'll make it easy on momma and spend his senior year taking courses at the local university. Julia continues to grow up quickly. She is a fifth grader at the Nickell Academy; just turned 11 and has the maturity of one twice her age. She enjoys piano, basketball, soccer, swimming, soft cuddly things (like guinea pigs), taking care of small children and babies. They invite anyone in the area to call or stay with them. [nickellfam@bellsouth.net](mailto:nickellfam@bellsouth.net). In closing, Nick mentioned that he recently talked with **Mark Ferguson**. Mark is completing his tour as the head detailer in Millington TN. By this time he's back in DC as the Chief of Legislative Affairs for SECNAV. Thanks, Charlie.



The Nickell Family

**Cecil Haney**, ([cecil.haney@navy.mil](mailto:cecil.haney@navy.mil)) recently had a lot of sightings of his 29<sup>th</sup> company roommate, **Jay Deloach**. He met him in mid-March in San Diego at the ASW improvement program conference. Jay later came out to paradise – Hawaii – where Cecil is stationed at COMPACFLT. Jay is approaching a major milestone. His daughter, Jessica, will be

married this summer. As for Cecil, he continues enjoy life in paradise. He expects to pin on his star late summer or early fall. He recently attended the All Flag Officer Training Symposium at the Academy. He'll be sending me a group photo of those from '78 who also attended the "charm school". Wow, "Admiral roommates"—I'm sure mids will be vying to get that room in the next room raffle. There's good career karma in there! Thanks for the news, Cecil. Now to figure out how to work a business trip to Hawaii for that promotion and wetting down...



29th Company roommates

Well, that's all the news for this month. Apologies for the April absence. Still trying to figure out my bust. Anyway, keep those e-mails—and even some real cards and letters coming in to keep me up to date. Until then, Launchin' Spot Four.

**79** ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 0%  
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 90%

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Greetings, 79!

In my tenure as your humble Corresponding Secretary, I've had many occasions to announce, publish, and otherwise bring to your attention some truly significant accomplishments of the Class of 1979. And this month, I get to do it again.

Last month I wrote that **Mark Heinrich** was the 8<sup>th</sup> 79er to be selected for flag. I am very pleased and excited to tell you that he now has a lot more company. The flag list for this year is out, and the Class of 79 is extremely well represented. Allow me to present this year's Navy flag selectees:

**Nevin Carr**, who is currently serving as Executive Assistant to the Commander, Fleet Forces Command, Norfolk, VA.

**Phil Cullom**, who is currently serving as Chief of Staff to the Commander, Second Fleet, Norfolk, VA.

**Tim Flynn**, who is currently serving as Commanding Officer, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, San Diego, CA.

**Tim Giardina**, who is currently serving as Chief of Staff to the Commander, Seventh Fleet, Yokosuka, Japan.

**Bob Harward**, who is currently serving as Deputy Commander, Naval Special Warfare Command, San Diego, CA.

**John Miller**, who is currently serving as Policy Division Chief, J5, Joint Staff, Washington, DC.

**Don Quinn**, who is currently serving as Director, Aviation Officer Distribution, PERS 43, Navy Personnel Command, Millington, TN.

**Steve Voetsch**, who is currently serving as Executive Assistant to the Commander, U.S. Northern Command, Peterson AFB, CO.

If you're counting, you'll see that in one fell swoop we DOUBLED our number of class flag officers! The Class of 1979 is truly leading the Navy into the 21st Century. Congratulations to all the selectees! This has the potential to be one phenomenal wetting-down!

Back in April, when the list was first released, **Sean Cate** sent out an email announcing our class selectees. If you did NOT receive that email, it's because Sean does not have your current address. If you would like to be included in future class-wide emails, please do two things. One, send Sean an email (see address at the head of this column) asking to be added to his list. And two, log in to the Alumni Association website ([www.usna.com](http://www.usna.com)) and update your profile information. Sean is VERY judicious when he sends a class-wide email, and your email address will never be sent to anyone without your permission. The last time I asked, I think Sean told me he had addresses for about 475 classmates, which is somewhere in the neighborhood of 50%. I know he'd like to bump that percentage up a bit, so if you can help, please drop him a quick email.

As we pass yet another anniversary of our graduation and commissioning, a few more of our active duty brethren are opting for transition into the civilian