

team. All in all, I have very little to complain about and am very proud of how the young Holland Ladies are progressing. ■

As previously reported, **Guy Langley**, a member of 1st Company, died on 1 July 2005 in Orange County, CA, at the age of 51. He served 4 years in the Marine Corps as a 2nd Lieutenant and Platoon Commander in Artillery. Guy worked as a Sales Manager and Owner of an electronics firm based in Anaheim, CA. In his recent years, he served as a Blue and Gold Officer and made recruiting students to the Naval Academy his life. Guy's remains were inurned at the Naval Academy Columbarium with full military honors on 1 August 2005. In attendance in the accompanying photograph, from left to right, are **Rich O'Hanlon, Kevin Stone, Scott Pugh, Norman Davis, Bob Hammond, Clayton Hill, Vicki Wesneski** (sister), **Kaitlyn Wesneski** (niece), **JD Engels, Craig Decker, Bruce Stutsman**, and **Brian La Rue** (nephew).

Congratulations are in order for **Fred Byus** who has been assigned as oceanographer of the Navy/director Net-Centric Warfare, N71, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, D.C.

That's it from the mailbag for this month. Looks like I didn't get near or go over the word limit this time. Look forward to hearing from more of you in the near future. GO NAVY!

77 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 5% LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 67%

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78 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 1% LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 75%

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Changes of command, retirements and transfers seem to be the order of the day.

As I mentioned in the last column, on July 29th **Bob Novak** gave up command of the Tomahawk All-Up-Round Program Office (PMA-280) in what was billed as a triple header ceremony that saw him being relieved, the relief and retirement of the PM for PMA-282 and the consolidation of the two into PMA-280.

By Marine math standards shouldn't that be a quadruple? It was definitely a Navy affair. Attended primarily by the "all Naval Academy" Novak-Kilcline family. That would be Bob's wife, Mary, Mary's mom, Mrs. Kilcline (wife of the late **VADM Tom Kilcline** ('49)), her brother **RADM Tom Kilcline Jr.** ('73), and their daughters **Kathleen** and **Mary Evelyn**. Their son, Ensign **Patrick Novak** ('04) was unable to attend as he started helo training at Whiting Field (smart kid—He can have spot 5 if he wants). Our first class year Supe **VADM Bill Lawrence** ('51) was also there and the guest of honor was Bob's boss, **RADM Tim Heely** ('75). From the great class of '78 I saw **Jock Maloney, Mike Fralen, John Painter, Chris Powers, Roger "Kappy" Kaplan, Bill Duncan, Glen Flanagan** and yours truly. Bob and Mary will remain in their house on Pax as he heads up something called Air Speed. Not quite sure what the heck it is as a program but if there's one thing I remember from the collective and cycle (and stick and rudder) days, it's something that you need, can sometimes never have enough of and can trade for other good stuff (like altitude for one).



Bob, Mary and Mary Evelyn Novak

Steve "Jock" Maloney also attended **Jim Harbison's** retirement on the 21st of July at Harry Lee Hall in Quantico. He reported it a "Great affair!" and commented that although those twenty-seven years went by quickly he didn't think Jim slept at all during that time as he had an amazing career — Quantico-North Carolina-Okinawa—Philippines-Washington DC-California-Hawaii-Saudi Arabia and numerous places in between. He was the Marine aide to the Vice CNO, a Fellow at the Advanced International Studies (John Hopkins), earned an MA at George Washington in International Relations. On top of all that, Jock was amazed that Jim still knows his Oath of Office. In retirement, Jim heads to the Family farm in Nashville,

TN. His wife the Doc Beth, is in residency at Vanderbilt, and they have three children: Katie, Greg and Laura. I'd bet we'll hear more wonderful accomplishments of Jim, after a little respite. Best of luck (and again apologies (publicly this time) for an error several years ago, when I mistyped you as "Mike Harbison". While the other "Harbs" I knew was appreciative of the error, I know you wondered what the heck got into Vince.)

Ralph Scaffidi (ralph.scaffidi@navy.mil) and his wife Ann attended **Drew Nienhaus'** retirement ceremony at the Academy in the mid-July. Drew ended 27 years of service as the Naval Aviation Reserve Supply Corps Program Coordinator at NAVSUP. Ralph reported that **RADM Stone, COMNAVSUP** and Chief of the Supply Corps, spoke at the ceremony. Besides Ralph, there were six other 36th Company classmates present: **Jim Carr, Bob Engel, Walt Haberland, Mike Moore, Jim Pointer,** and **Les Wallace**. Three other classmates were present and participants in the ceremony: **Pat Curtis, Walt Brown** and **Gary Lovgren**. Ralph said it was a pretty large turnout altogether (considering that Drew's staff was coordinating this from Mechanicsburg and that he worked until about 2000 on his last day, Tuesday 12 July). The week before Ann and Ralph were in Hawaii for PACFLT CoC and ADM Doran's retirement. It was also a drill weekend for Ralph. He's got one more year as CO of NR USPACOM DET 120 in Honolulu. He assumed command of the Unit this year, a week after my CoC as CO of NR COMPACFLT DET 120, also in Honolulu. After that, he's not sure what's up for him, possibly retirement. He's had two fabulous back-to-back Reserve Unit commands as a CAPT (it will end up being 5 years straight), and found them both very challenging and rewarding. If he's to retire, it will be a great finish to his service. Besides, it sure makes for a lot of air miles despite the tired weeks. While in Hawaii, he and Ann saw Meg and **Joe Leidig**. Joe was there making the rounds at PACOM and PACFLT as the new COMNAVFORMARIANAS and also to attend the aforementioned ceremony. They also saw **Cecil Haney** and his wife. ADM Doran had just pinned on the new star on Cecil that Friday, July 1st. Cecil had just taken over as the CPF-N5 (Plans and Policy). Ralph's in Ventura, CA, which according to him is an "easy drive to rendezvous" if you ever get out

there. (Yeah right, I've seen and lived the SoCal freeway traffic!). In closing his e-mail, Ralph mentioned **Chet Seto** has his own business in Ventura. Chet's also been coordinating informal USNA networking luncheons every other month at NBVC in Port Hueneme. Other 78ers in Ventura are **Marv King** and **Jim Oldham** (in fact, Jim works downstairs of Ralph in the same building at NSWC-PHD ("NEMESIS")). Thanks for the news, Ralph. Regards to Ann and yes I will provide you a meal when you visit Syracuse. I've got a case of MREs in the garage for just such a special occasion.

Bob Engel provided some additional notes on Drew's retirement. Besides classmates already mentioned by Ralph, he noted **Kurt Tidd**, **Dan Brown**, **Al 'Blues' Baker**, and **Tom Trudell** were also in attendance. He said those few wearing choker whites as sideboys for the ceremony were reminded of a few other hot and humid July days in Annapolis. Bob reported that there was "spiked punch and food in Smoke Hall...good time had by all". He also commented on how times have changed at USNA. The plebes were wearing a batman utility belt, complete with a water bottle holder and a holder to stuff Reef Points and other things into. Hmm, guess they'll never know how much stuff you can hang around the waist of properly cinched white works trou.

My good buddy, **Ray Luevano** sent a quick note to say he and Sheri celebrated their 25th Anniversary this year. Ray's working again at www.datadomain.com to help provide "cushion" for the boy's college. Eldest son, Josiah's a senior with no interest in USNA, but that still doesn't detract from him being a great son. Sheri asked him what he would think if Josiah had wanted to go to Woopville. Ray said in that case I only had one son...she thought was serious. Funny, but that's what my Marine father said to me when I asked him what if I went Navy instead of Marine at service selection time. Being a Sergeant Major, I really think he *was* serious! Here are the Luevanos with both sons.

Sec'y Column Deadlines

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Sheri and Ray's 25th Anniversary

Mel Williams is the director, global operations, U. S. Strategic Command, Offutt AFB, Nebraska. He's passed the gouge on his previous job as deputy commander, Joint Functional Component Command for Space and Global Strike, U. S. Strategic Command, at Offutt AFB to **Dave "Deke" Philman**. On August 12th Deke passed the job as Director, Congressional Appropriations Liaison Office (FMBE) to his relief. He thinks his fleet experience and training as a Nuclear Weapons Delivery Pilot in the A-7E and F/A-18 will come in handy in the job. Maybe, but I say it's more likely going to be good gouge from Mel! In the beginning of December **Mark "Benz" Boensel** will give up his job in the Pentagon as director, Environmental Protection, Safety and Occupational Health Division (N45) to be "King of Jacksonville" (or as the Navy terms it Commander, Navy Region Southeast, Jacksonville, FL). Looking at the two jobs, I guess that means Benz can't complain too much about any stupid directives that may have been issued by N45 that he has to live by. Hmm, as this column is released there are about 60 days or so left for a "directives review and streamlining". Good luck to all of you on your new assignment.



Lena and Lafayette Norton

Joe Kavale ('68), Secretary for the Oregon and Southwest Washington Chapter of the Alumni Association, was kind enough to send me a photo of Lena and **Lafayette Norton**. They had

driven all the way from Redmond, Oregon to attend a chapter BBQ held at the home of Joan and **Jack Kohl** ('65). Now that's dedication! Thanks for the note and photo Joe.

Frank Hunt (frankhunt@cox.net) sent an update. As he put it

■ "I'm a GS puke and a Weekend Warrior with USJFCOM's J9 & J7 respectively. Keeps the car on autopilot regardless of weekdays or weekends as they're co-located. Not sure how much longer I'll hang as a reservist though, came up short in the Billet Lottery. The good news here though is that my daughter is kicking both my & the spouse's butt in terms of collegial performance at East Carolina University, and my son Patrick earned Eagle Scout this past spring. Also, Debby is up for either a Gold Medal for Patience or Self-Inflicted Pain as she and I look like we'll make it to 25 years this coming December 6th, the day before the Day that Lives in Infamy". ■



Frank, Katie, Patrick and Debby Hunt

Looks like the bird's filled up. Until next month—Launchin' Spot Four.

79 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 0%
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 90%

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"If fear is cultivated it will become stronger, if faith is cultivated it will achieve mastery." - attributed to John Paul Jones

Greetings, 79!

As we said in our Plebe Summer chow calls, "Time, tide and formation wait for no man!" I leave early tomorrow morning for a week-long business trip to Toronto, Ontario, and there still remain a sizeable number of items on my "to-do" list. So here we go!

Remember the "Qualifications of a Naval Officer" we memorized as Plebes? I think most of us would agree that Naval