

Congratulations to Dirk on a well-deserved promotion.

Dave Frederick (11th Co.) checked in with a rather unique story. Seems Dave and wife Mindy headed to Italy this past May to participate in the 2008 Mille Miglia, a 1,000 mile race from Brescia to Rome and back. The event initially ran annually from 1927–1957, when it was terminated over safety concerns. The current commemorative format is run at a much slower pace than the original race, but entry requires participants drive vehicles identical to those that originally competed. Dave saw a picture of the '53 race some five years ago, and found a Chrysler identical to the one entered by two Belgians in Wamega, Kansas. After four years of dedicated refurbishing, Dave is ready to rock and roll!



Dave with his Chrysler

That's all for now. Please keep those cards, letters, emails and, most importantly, photographs coming!

Magoo

78 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 2%
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 77%

PRES: **Glen Woods**

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By the time this column reaches your mailboxes we are two months away from our reunion. Registration and information on everything is on-line at our class website (www.usna1978.org). Just follow the links.

There's a great article on **Tom Hamilton** (tommyhamil@yahoo.com) and of his ministry at http://www.ajc.com/living/content/living/stories/2008/04/14/preacher_0415.html. Tom was my choice for Winner of the "Most Changed" award at our -25th reunion—if we had given such an award! Well the article highlighted how much he had changed. Here are few extracts

■ "Preacher's Hard-Line Harmony; With Tough Love, Harley Man Leads Marginalized On Road To Faith, Financial Responsibility (J. Thomas Hamilton '78)...Biker dude — not preacher — comes to mind when you meet Tom Hamilton. He is indeed a tattoo-laden, leather-jacket-wearing Harley man. But motorcycles aren't the burly pastor's No. 1 passion. Jesus is. And he's in his element during Tuesday night Bible study at Sozo New Covenant Fellowship church in Tucker [Georgia]. The brightly lit storefront space serves as a sanctuary for nearly 50 worshippers, and rows of oversized loveseats and chairs are their pews. Standing on a platform, dressed in his usual liturgical attire — jeans and a T-shirt — the preacher dissects the Old and New testaments with church members..." ■

It goes on and you *have* to read it for yourself. The church, located at 4190 1st Ave in Tucker, Georgia has about 50-60 folks in attendance every week. As Tom puts it, "We are the 'church for people who don't do church.' We reach those in the marginalized community, all of whom are not in regular Christian fellowship." They also feed 140 people in downtown Atlanta every Friday night, have a prison ministry, are members of NETWorks Ministry (17 churches in Northlake, Embury Hills, and Tucker providing for crisis needs) and teach Crown Ministries (Biblically-based financial management course). It sounds like the little engine that could. It's tough going but as Tom says he's been blessed to have several outside donors help them squeak by and support them in their mission; including Virginia and **Kevin Cheezum** and one of his high school classmates, and Tim Stewart Ford in Atlanta. Without that outside support, he would have closed long ago. Tom could use your prayers in keeping the ministry going — and I hope I don't embarrass him by saying this — I'm sure he would appreciate a contribution or two.

Got e-mail from Brett Ayotte a while back who wrote that on Friday, March 21, 2008, he had traveled to New London to attend the Submarine Group Two Change of Command. At that ceremony, RADM **Cecil Haney** ('78) was relieved as COMSUBGRU TWO by RDML **Bruce Grooms** ('80). Brett thought he might have been the only classmate there. The presiding officer, VADM Jay Donnelly, Commander, Naval Submarine

Force, had some very nice things to say about Cecil's tenure and the outstanding impact he had on the Submarine Force, particularly the Atlantic Fleet's fast attack subs (SSNs). Cecil had a wide span of responsibility: Submarine Group Two (and all SSNs in shipyards on the Atlantic Coast); Submarine Squadrons Two and Four in Groton; Submarine Squadrons Six and Eight in Norfolk; Submarine Development Squadron Twelve in Groton; Naval Submarine Support Center, Groton; Naval Submarine Support Center, Norfolk; all new construction SSNs (at Electric Boat and Newport News), Naval Submarine Torpedo Facility; and Naval Submarine Support Facility, Groton. Whew! That covered pretty much any thing submarine and operational on the East Coast — other than the Boomers. Cecil was headed to the Pentagon, having relieved RDML Bruce Grooms as OPNAV N87, Submarine Warfare Resource Sponsor (yup — they traded jobs). The rest of the family will follow in the summer, after schools let out.



Cecil and Bonnie Haney

In more "flag updates": **Joe Leidig** dropped a note from Italy. He, Meg and their daughters are doing well. Liz (their oldest and UMBC graduate) is living in the Annapolis area where she is going to school to become a Physical Therapist Assistant. Their youngest, Jackie, just graduated from Goucher College on May 23 with a degree in Biology. Joe noted that Jackie—just like my son, Michael—graduated Magna Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa. Joe said he and Meg are truly grateful for the opportunity to serve in Europe. His NATO job as Commander Allied Submarines South has given them the unique opportunity to travel quite a bit and visit some wonderful places like Athens and the French Riviera (don't ask!). In addition, as Deputy Commander 6th Fleet role, he's been to Africa a few times as he works to improve the

maritime security and safety capabilities of our friends and partners in West and Central Africa. On a recent trip he had the chance to meet with the President of Liberia....a Harvard grad trying to help her country recover from 14 years of civil war. He even ran across a few JOs -former mids - that he had the chance to know when I was Commandant. In June, he and Meg visited Norway, Turkey and France! He hopes the Navy forgets he's there! Joe came across a friend of mine, Don Sheehan, who worked for him while on his active duty. Joe reported that my friend, former Foxtrot Company Plebe/fellow coxswain and roommate **George Billy's** brother— **Greg Billy** ('81) headed off to Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh to run the NROTC unit and work on his MBA. Joe recounted that besides being classmates that he and **George Billy** are connected since George ended his wrestling career at USNA when George whipped his butt in the plebe summer tournament! Watch out, George. Joe would love a rematch! Joe and Meg will be at the 30th reunion. He also has convinced his former roommate and now-Californian, **Greg Martin** to also come. Like many of you, it'll be Greg's first reunion.



Joe and former Mids

Got a Navy news release in May that reported Rear Adm. **Rick Wren** was assigned as commander, Navy Region Japan/commander, U.S. Naval Forces, Japan/commander, Naval Component, U.S. Forces, Japan, Yokosuka, Japan. Prior to the change of orders Rick was the commander, Carrier Strike Group Five, Yokosuka, Japan. Speaking of Carrier Strike Groups, **Kurt Tidd** now is commander of the USS EISENHOWER Carrier Strike Group out of Norfolk. After 39 months on the NSC staff, split between Combating Terrorism and Defense Policy Directorates, he's glad "for this sailor to return to sea".

Hey all you football fans- **John Semcken's** working at bringing an NFL

team back to Los Angeles. His new web site for the Los Angeles Football stadium is up and running at www.losangelesfootballstadium.com. If you are interested in the return of the NFL to LA, seeing the latest information on the stadium, and want to see what others have said about the stadium or want to put your name on the list to be called when the tickets go on sale log on to the site. John's optimistic about the return of the NFL to Los Angeles looking more likely with every passing day. I saw the stadium layout and it looks great! Now John, will this be a *new team* or will you coerce the Rams back or will Al Davis again make the flip flop from Oakland to LA with the Raiders! Whatever happens—the uniforms should look cool; the cheerleaders – hot; and the caliber of play – explosive and winning!

Cabell Greenwood thought that after 30 years he should finally submit something to this column. After flying 46's and then recruiting duty, he left active duty and moved to Minneapolis in late '84. There he worked for what was Honeywell Defense (now Alliant Techsystems) as a Quality Engineer. When he left in '94 he was as a Procurement Manager. It was then that he moved to Columbia, MD and has been there since. Cabell's had a couple of different careers there and returned to computer-based-testing a few years ago. He's VP for Business Development for Internet Testing Systems in Baltimore. The company offers solutions for organizations that want to convert their exams from pencil and paper to an online format. Business is very good as the focus on assessment has increased demand in the K-12 market, his fastest growing sector. Cabell has two children; Matt (17) and Erin (14). Matt is headed to Rochester Institute of Technology this fall and Erin will be a high school sophomore. Cabell's stayed active and Matt and he recently earned their black belts in karate. He said it was a bit of a last hurrah for him as some of his joints have been "loudly complaining about abuse". He says he's likely is going to settle for some lighter forms of exercise. Well, Cabell, you're doing better than a lot of us—okay, me.

Your House is undergoing an amazing renovation! To learn more about the Ogle Hall enhancements, check out: www.usna.com/alumnihouse.

ALUMNI HOUSE



Matt and Cabell Greenwood

Well, that'll do it for now. In the next edition, look for more last minute info on the Reunion, something on the great 30-year retirement ceremony in the yard (also look for something on our website) plus any news you guys send or I can create! For now, Launchin' Spot Four....

79 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 0%
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 90%

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Greetings, 79ers!

Hope all of you are having a terrific summer so far. Got some great stuff for you this month.

John Palmer (john@4palmer.com) was out cruising the Information Superhighway and found me on the business networking site LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com). Our paths hadn't crossed since graduation, so it was really great to hear from him. After we connected, John sent me the following update:

■ Wiz, good to hear back from you. Yes, it does seem like a long time since Canoe U days but I just keep telling myself that the only option to not getting older is a whole lot worse! As to reunions, I haven't been to one since the 25th a few years ago but I am planning to go to the 30th next year. Hopefully there will be a good turn out.

As for me, I am currently living in Chicago. I got to here a few years ago (2002). I originally came here to work for ABN AMRO (note: a Dutch bank that, at the time, one of the largest banks in Europe) but wound up as Merrill Lynch after ABN sold the business unit I was with in 2004. After that I spent a year out in San Francisco on assignment and then came back to Chicago 2 years ago. I am still employed by Merrill but not for much