



Pat, pictured in his office, is currently engaged in finishing his XO tour.

We'll close the month on a personal note by mentioning the imminent deployment of our oldest son, 1st Lt. Jonathon McKee, USAR (Ugh!). Jon is currently completing three weeks of weapons training at Ft. Hunter Liggett in California, which will be followed by two months of pre-deployment preparation at Ft. Lewis. He'll deploy to Camp Taji, 27 miles northwest of Baghdad, some time in late December. We know many of you remember our troops overseas in your prayers, and asking God's protection for Jon specifically would be greatly appreciated....particularly as Dad has yet to collect on the \$60 young Jon owes him on the last six Army-Navy bets!

Until next month, fair winds and following seas!
Mago

78 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 2%
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 77%

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Fred Butterfield wrote to say that at the end of September he had taken a new position at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Environmental Management. He had had been shuffling for a while, back-and-forth during the week, between his new office at DOE (located in D.C., at L'Enfant Plaza) and his former Environmental Protection Agency office near Metro Center. For Fred it was sort of a Yogi Berra "déjà vu all over again" experience as he had previously served in DOE-EM from 1994 to 2002. In his new job, he's working closely with the Oak Ridge [TN] Operations Office on defense environmental cleanup and nuclear facility decontamination and decommissioning issues. While he looked forward to the new opportunities and challenges of the position; he found his six years on the staff of the Agency's Science

Advisory Board (SAB) (primarily, as the Federal officer managing the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee) to have been among the best and most rewarding of his professional career.

Speaking of new challenges, **Sam Tangredi** retired from the Navy this June. He now works as Director, San Diego Operations for the consulting firm Strategic Insight (obviously in San Diego). Sam and Deb have a 5 year old daughter, a beautiful little girl they adopted from China in 2004. Sam's last tour of active duty was in DC where he was the Director, Strategic Planning and Business Development for the Navy International Program Office (Navy IPO3)—a billet he stood up. I got to see Sam at Navy IPO on some work related matters. If any of you need any help and advice on international business, technology transfer, COCOM and partner country requirements, etc., he's the man and in fact would be happy to help. He kind of wrote the book (or at least the brief) on it. It was a very good tour for Sam with the exception of being geographically separated from his family (in San Diego) for much too long. Hey, Alidade Press announced the release of Sam's new book—*Futures of War*. The press release describes the book as an analysis of "the perspectives of federal agencies, military services, war colleges, NGOs, public committees, think-tanks, and individual experts, to fashion a consensus view of the future of American national security in the years 2010-2035...a superbly comprehensive view of the future international security environment." Sounds beyond my GPA, but then again so are the Sunday funnies. This is Sam's third book. His others were *All Possible Wars* and *Globalization and Maritime Power*, not to mention the over 100 articles, reviews and book chapters he has to his credit. His work has won eleven literary awards, including the U.S. Naval Institute's Arleigh Burke Prize and the U.S. Navy League's Alfred Thayer Mahan award and Sam was called the "Navy's uniformed futurist" by the late Admiral Art Cebrowski. Still, I think we all like calling him classmate best. Good luck with the new book and new job, and finally being home in San Diego with your family, Sam.

Speaking of San Diego, Lena and **Lafayette Norton** spent last Thanksgiving there. His son and his pretty wife live in San Diego where he works for a door/window company called Jeld-Wen. Lena and I will be there for the

reunion. Their daughter, Jenna, graduated from Portland State University in June and is living and working in Portland, OR. Lena and Lafayette traveled out a week early for the reunion. They stayed in Williamsburg, VA and traveled around a bit to see the fall colors. It's something they don't get in Central Oregon where their foliage is mostly pine trees and juniper trees which do not change color in the fall. Oregon is home to them. Lafayette is a Program Manager with Central Electric Cooperative, Inc. Lafayette's mom joined them from Fredericksburg, TX. This year would've also marked Lafayette's dad's 60th reunion, but he passed away in 2003. I'm sure Lafayette hoisted one in remembrance of that occasion as well. Here's a look at the Nortons in San Diego (the brunette is their daughter-in-law).



The Nortons in San Diego

Here are some stray rounds—**Ray Luevano**, his brother, James, and eldest son, Josiah completed a 500 mile bike ride from Palo Alto to Los Angeles to support a worthy cause www.nuruinternational.org. That's a venture started by Jake Harriman ('96) to provide sustainable water, medical and educational resources in remote African villages. Altogether, Ray, James and Josiah rode six days. Ray mentioned it would be great to *ride* (not race) next year with any classmates/alums who want to see the California coast up close while getting some aerobic exercise. **Ted Null** is a Director for CCA Division of WESCO Distribution, Inc. in Midlothian, VA. He's a grandfather four times over (anybody have more?). **Bob Schwaneke** is now in Rolla, Missouri as his Mom passed away this past April. Bob said he's "not sitting on 40 acres tending the homestead, and working part-time with LCE from a distance." He may also do some substitute teaching at the high school there in Rolla. The house needs a lot of work, and he has only had one of five tractors currently working. But he reports that at least the '74 Cadi that was in the garage is getting fixed up! Our Class Treasurer,

Kevin Liddy and his wife, Cassie still live in Milford, CT. Fittingly, Kevin is a Venture Capital Investment Specialist with IBM. Cassie works retail at a women's clothing specialty store, *J. Jill* in Milford. Their eldest daughter, Ashley (20) works at Home Depot in Stratford, CT; saving to buy a car and back to college. Their youngest daughter, Caroline (17) is a freshman at Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC. Caroline is on a full scholarship. She's the fastest female X country runner at Wofford—which might have come in handy for her "Rush Week". Their 8 year old female yellow Lab, Sassie, still acts like a puppy. Some of you may recall a picture of Kevin and Sassie from a column of a couple of years ago. Sassie was Kevin's "campaign manager" as he ran for state representative. Well, Kevin is running again this year. He is the CT Republican party's candidate for State Representative in the 119th District. We wish him luck!

Got a note from **Joe Peterson**. The family and he went to Wilmington, DE, to my nephew's (actually his wife, Ynez's nephew) graduation from high school. Arriving shortly before the start of the

graduation ceremony, Joe dropped Ynez and their children, Jayne and Joe Joe, off at the entrance and then parked the van. Ynez met him as he headed in to the convention center entrance. She asked me if he knew that **Andy Winns** was the guest speaker. Talk about surprises! Joe reported that, as expected, Vice Admiral Andy Winns gave an outstanding speech at the Delaware Military Academy Commencement Ceremony. As always, Andy stayed after the ceremony to give encouragement and mentoring to the graduating class as many of them and their parents greeted him after the ceremony. Nine days later, the Petersons had the pleasure of Jayne graduate from Kempsville High School. It just happened to be Father's Day so that was one of Joe's special presents—a proud graduate. Those two events—and life in general—for Joe, made for a sweet and good month of June—about as good as it was 30 years earlier in 1978.

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Well that's it for the month. Probably lots next month as I'll have a bunch from the reunion (When this goes to submittal our reunion is just two weeks away). In all likelihood there'll a lot to use for the next couple of months. Everyone have a safe and joyous Holiday Season. Launchin' Spot Four with Toys for Tots (Support your local Marine Corps Reserve toy drive!)

Alumni Profile

The 100 Mile Relay: The Naval Academy's Quest for a World Record

In the 1970s, distance running began experiencing extraordinary growth as a participation sport among Americans. By the fall of 1976, due in large part to the efforts of Midshipmen Dave Wilson '78 and Chuck Wright '79, and faculty advisor then-Lieutenant Steve Ries '68, USN, the Naval Academy's Distance Running Club was established. This brought organization to individual midshipmen efforts to participate in new events like the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Marathon in Washington, DC, and races steeped in tradition like the Boston Marathon.

During this time, Midshipman Wright learned of the 100 Mile Relay event while reading a *Guinness Book of World Records* and soon thereafter the idea of Naval Academy runners attempting to establish this record became a mission. There were at least three Naval Academy attempts during this time to claim the 100 Mile Relay world record — 100 individuals running one mile each consecutively — in 1977, 1978 and 1980.

The 11 April 1978 event began right at 8 a.m. in Halsey Field House. Hours had been spent working a schedule that matched runners' free periods and provided back-up runners strategically placed throughout the day—with good reason since six of 13 backup runners were used. With 100 runners over an eight hour period of mandatory classes and other

required events, the unexpected was going to happen and we needed to be prepared. Tim Murphy '80 led the effort with a 4 minute and 46 second mile. Every few minutes another runner would arrive and another would move on to class. Throughout the morning the gold baton was passed from runner to runner without applause or fanfare. Each runner's time was automatically and manually recorded to document individual splits and cumulative time. Runner number 30, Joe Suggs '81, pulled off the day's fastest split at 4 minutes, 21 seconds. Runner number 100, Jim Cheever '78, sprinted the world record's final laps as an emotional crowd roared. The final time was 7 hours, 50 minutes, 46.8 seconds, minutes faster than the previous record. The Naval Academy runners averaged an incredible 4 minutes, 42.5 seconds per mile.

Unfortunately *Guinness* would not be satisfied with supporting documentation submitted for this 1978 event. Unlike the record setting 1977 and 1980 Naval Academy efforts, the 1978 effort, despite being the fastest of the three attempts, would not enjoy official recognition. Fast forward to 2008, however, and the 1978 runners are now commanding aircraft carriers, carrier battle groups and carrier strike groups. Others have become their own company's chief executive officer, or senior executives at major corporations. Among this group literally hundreds of marathons have been run, along with numerous 50 mile runs and triathlons.

For the extended version of this article by Michael McCrabb '78, visit "Sea Stories" at www.usna.com.