

Pete notes it was nice of **Pat Walsh (12th Co.)** to rig impressive and convenient “77” on the port side of the island. Seeing as Pete was a P-3 wonk, we’ll forgive his not knowing “77” simply comes after “76”, and they number generally number carriers in an increasing numerical sequence! In response, we’re sure Pete will note yet again P-3’s regularly performed carrier ops...flying by on their way back for beer in Signonella! We will digress just this once from the third person to say, “Bite me, Pete!”

Since we’re on the subject of former Presidents, **Jerry Miller (19th Co.)** sent the following pictures from the Army-Navy game:



Jerry noted, “No box but the seats weren’t too bad”! His wife, Laura, in the foreground, likely agreed!

Finally, **Mark Sobczak (35th Co.)** (Mark, you’ll be glad to know I can still spell your last name without referencing my Lucky Bag!) sent his greetings from the City of Brotherly Love, where, as of the date of this column, he is now the Director of the Prostate Cancer Treatment Center of Excellence at Philadelphia’s Fox Chase Cancer Center...which should make him a popular point of contact for many of us as we advance into our mid-50’s! It should be noted Mark promised NOT to ask us or any other classmate to bend over and spread ‘em next time we meet! Are you kidding; and pass up a free prostate exam from an expert!?

Anyway, Mark and his wife will now be back within 30 minutes of their three lovely daughters and grandchildren, and that’s a good enough reason for any job change, let alone one as prestigious as this!

I know you’ll all join us in wishing Mark and his wife all the best in his new position...as well as urging him not to forget to change gloves between exams!

Until next month, Go Navy, Beat Hopkins!

Magoo

78

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 2%
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 77%PRES: **Glen Woods**SEC’Y: **Vince Balderrama**

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Been a long cold winter thus far...not too much going on in the way of news, I guess. Of course works always seems to have me inundated and conflicted with any free time—Ah, *free time* - a term of which I heard some speak! Absent something tangible, I’ll resort to a few stray rounds, recovered memory “bursts” and pictures from the reunion. Here goes.

Tom Trudell had spoken with **Scott Hoffman**. Scott regretted he missed the reunion but like many of you—there was a work conflict from which he couldn’t get away. In Scott’s case he had a big project ongoing—something to do with lasers looking down into the water for mines and submarines. Scott still works for Northrop Grumman Corporation out of Melbourne, Florida, but was on that special project in Indianapolis, Indiana. Are you as confused as I am? I mean, let’s see, subs, mines—Florida...or Indiana?...Hmmm. Sometimes the working of industry and our government just baffle a simple Marine like me. Those of you who knew Scott’s family might be interested to know Scott’s mom lives south of Tampa/St. Petersburg on an island community. Tom thought it was St. Maria. Scott’s father is now deceased. Thanks for the quick blurb, Tom. Drop me a line on yourself too. Scott send something else to fill in the gaps—like when you and your fiancée’, Beth, plan on getting married.

“Reverend” **Tom Hamilton** [tommyhamil@yahoo.com] sent a note on the status of his congregation at Sozo New Covenant Fellowship in Tucker, GA. They have taken on two new enterprises. Every fourth Wednesday, they feed 300 people at SafeHouse Outreach. They provide music and preaching for the worship service and food. They also hired a full time youth pastor to help. They have 20-25 young people now in addition to the children that were already attending. They meet Sunday nights. These are NOT the honor roll kids but kids who need the special attention and outward reinforcing signs of love and concern. Ninety percent of them come from single-parent homes and their lives are in constant turmoil. Somehow they squeak by with outside donations (not a single

family in his congregation makes anything close to \$50K a year, so while the till is not empty, it doesn’t overflow with bounty.) Tom sends thanks to those who’ve helped him out before and prays for more. He hopes they can somehow buy the property they have been using and turn the rent into mission. Drop him a line if you can help, or simply send some words of encouragement. Even the Pastor could use some help once in a while.

Hey! A flash from the past. The LOG is back and they were taking subscriptions. Ah, remember “Midshipman Regs”, “Salty Sam”, the Company gals? Well maybe not *all* of those are sections are back, but once again mids will have an outlet of release from life at Mother B. By the time this hits your mailbox they’ll have only one edition left. Still, if they were successful they’ll be back and you might want to subscribe to academic year 2010-2011. Midshipman Whitney is the editor in chief of the resurrected Humor Mag. Drop him a note at their website www.usna.edu/thelog. Hmmm, wonder what they are saying about the Supe or Dean of Admissions?

Two last drive-bys: **Mike Huber** is with Kaye/Bassman International Corp. in Plano, TX. It’s an executive search firm and Mike is with the Military Specialty Practice. Speaking of jobs, **Ed Henkler** (ed.henkler@1978.usna.com) was in the process of identifying his *next* career opportunity. After 21 tremendous years at Merck, Ed is seeking that next opportunity/challenge. (I know how he feels, I am also seeking my next opportunity. Of course, in my case, I really want one that pays a lot but doesn’t *demand* I do a lot. Yup, I’ll keep looking.) While Ed’s open to staying in the pharmaceutical industry, his senior level experience in strategic and capital planning and business integration lends himself to be able to transition to any company that values leadership and people skills. Besides—that USNA ’78 means he’s a *get things done* guy, right? Good luck, Ed. And if anyone knows of a position like the one I described, drop *me* a line. Hey, just had a thought for all of you— we have a USNA 78 Group on the business networking site www.Linkedin.com. Check it out. Of course the group is aptly named— “U.S. Naval Academy Class of 1978”.

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Steve Kinney, Ted Plautz and Bob Vogt



Anthony Cardoza and his daughter, Sara



Blues Baker, Bob Goodman, Steve Koronka, and Larry McCracken



Craig Cowen and family



22nd Company

Well that's the short of it. I'll close with some images of the reunion. Launchin' Spot Four!

79 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 0%
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 90%

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80 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 0%
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 96%

PRES: Tim Kobosko
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Greetings Classmates. Once again I'm on the road – this time out west and it's raining in San Diego – what is the world coming to? I'm out here to attend AFCEA West along with several thousand of my closest friends. Not a bad place to be for a week at a trade show. It's always fun to see people that you've been working with or served with over the years, however, somehow, all of the folks that used to be young naval officers look like 50 year old men and women. What happened! The worst part of it is that I know that I must look just like that too!

Speaking of old...I just had lunch with **Jim Pietrocini** who is keeping the world safe for democracy and working on a bunch of Navy Projects with Tech Team. He knows everyone and has his finger on the pulse of just about everything that is going on. We've been trying to partner on a bunch of deals – hopefully something will come through soon and it will happen.

It was a very sparse mailbag this month. I'm pulling from some of last month and my snippets of e-mail traffic that I intercept. Time for the Class to send in regular updates! Anyway, I received a Christmas note from our good friends Brenna and **Bert Nelson**. Bert has been working hard on getting his superconducting Technology Company going. They had a good test of their technology in October 2008. They are working hard on introducing their first commercial products. They've been traveling along and Brenna's been able to accompany Bert on many of them. Most recently they went to Cardiff, Wales and London.

In my own neck of the woods, Corine and **Mike Serafin** are doing really well. They have bought a farm (never a good expression) on the North Shore of New Orleans and are really

settling in to "country living." Mike spends a lot of time working on the tractor, putting in wells, fences, raising his wife's horses and just enjoying life. They still have their home three doors up from us here in New Orleans but he is spending more and more time at the farm. Their business is a Marine Business that deals with electronic charting, charts, chandlery stuff and a host of other items in the shipping world. After the storm Mike sold the 45' Hatteras boat and bought a similar sized RV Yacht for land Yacht – I guess an even exchange.

I also received a short e-mail from one of our Flags, RDML **Mark Guadagnini**, mark.guadagnini@navy.mil, who is CNATRA, reporting on another one of our Flags. Guad sent in a photo of our own RDML **Earl Gay** with our new Commander in Chief. Here's his note:

■ Joe,

Attached you will find a picture of RDML **Earl Gay**. Earl served as the Deputy Chairman of the Inaugural Committee – one of the toughest 1-star jobs there is. Earl is the man!!!

I drove up to St Louis recently and watched the football games with **Greg Hightain** (Doc Octane). We had the '80 Lucky Bag out and took a long trip down memory lane. Was very fun. Octoman and Deb are doing well – he works for Boeing's IT division, doing Human Resources support. They have two children at Mizzou and an 8th grader at home. Octo and Deb are living the American dream!

Scotty Sanders is over in Bahrain doing great work for COMUSNAVCENT.

Scott and Jane's son, Matt, is a 2nd Classman at USNA.

A bunch of us got together in the fall out in Coronado for dinner at **Rich Carlquist's** wife's Thai restaurant (superb food!). **Sanders, Guad, Quisty, Q-bear, Episcopo, Stein, Padilla, Neubauer, Conehead, Pet, Size, Jamison**. A very good time was had by all. Nubs has the pictures...but he hasn't shared them with anybody – I think that is a party foul. at altitude, guad ■

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