



Left to right: George, Bo, Skip, Paul, Magoo, Gator and Herb



Left to right: Deb, Tricia, Judy, Jenny, Susan and Ruth

Next up, Bill Bristow (6th Co.) checked in from Suffolk, Virginia where he's an analyst working with the Joint Forces Command. Bill and wife Vera love the thrill of the Hunt (sans any harm to actual foxes for all the animal lovers out there!), and as members of the James River Hunt have occasion to join with Geoff and Karen McFather (USNA '79) for regular rides in and around the Hampton Roads area. Geoff and Bill are shown below, along with their trusty steeds Chesapeake and Clyde.



Bill resides in close proximity to Rick Current (20th Co.), who, along with his wife Sue, live but a 1/2 mile down the road. Rick, also a GS, is employed as the Deputy for Training, Tactical Weapons and Tactical Development for COMSUBLANT. When not engaged in other activities, Bill and Rick moonlight modeling....

**Lucky Bag of Books** Check out all the options for your reading pleasure at: [www.usna.com/LBB](http://www.usna.com/LBB)



Current Labor Day 2010...leisure attire for the soon-to-be-retired. Bill notes this latter photo was cropped, lest the light reflecting off his legs distract from the contrasting Annapolis shirts Rick and he are sporting!

Finally, Bert Seither (16th Co.) recently got together with Dirk Debbink (23rd Co.) at Dirk's office at the Pentagon.



VADM Dirk Debbink and Bert Seither

Bert, who was representing Southwest Airlines as part of the ESGR Navy Reserve Appreciation Day, informed us Dirk was, as one would expect, a fine host, and followed up the Pentagon festivities with dinner at the CNO's house.

When not freely moving about the country with the nation's only profitable airline, Bert is often engaged with the Broad Bay Group supporting the Navy down in Norfolk, VA. The photo below shows Bert with J.T. Young (USNA '86), Broad Bay's COO and former Hornet driver during an exercise in May.



Bert Seither and J.T. Young '86

— Magoo

**78** ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 2%  
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 77%

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Another light month news-wise that was exacerbated by a hard drive crash. I'm hoping that the data-dinks will be successful in recovering much of my info. In the meantime, here's all the news I have to print.

There were a few transitions since the last column. Congrats to **Mark Ferguson** on pinning on the 4 star shoulder boards and assuming the role of Vice Chief of Naval Operations. It was a small ceremony in the passageway just outside the CNO's office in the Pentagon. Laure and their kids pinned on the boards with family and friends looking on. **Tom Abernathy** was in attendance as were **Tom Crowley** and I.



Pinning on ADM Boards- A Ferguson Family Affair

Speaking of Tom, he and his wife Gretchen were at VMI the first weekend of September. They attended the celebration of the completion of Hell Week for VMI Cadets. Their son, James, is a "Rat" with the Class of 2015. The special event is the New Market New Cadet Oath Ceremony that not only marks the end of the Hell Week but also honors the Cadets who fell in the charge of the Corps of Cadets at the Civil War Battle of New Market (this seems to be an enduring theme of the school). James' twin sister, Kelly, is at McGill University- the "Harvard of Canada" in Montreal. Older brother, T.D. - I believe - is a junior at William and Mary.



James and Tom Crowley

On 22 Sept 2011, **Mark Boensel** relinquished command of Navy Mid-Atlantic Regional Command and closed out his 33 year Navy-career. What Benz's plans are for retirement are unknown at the moment. The same goes for **Vic Guillory**, whom **Kurt Tidd** relieved as Commander 4th Fleet in Mayport.

**Chris Serio** corrected the fact that he's been "incommunicado" for far too long"! After his service obligation was up Chris worked in a couple of fields: teaching & Purchasing. The Purchasing role was spread over various companies including the old Westinghouse, Northrop Grumman, Hughes Network Systems (DirecTV), MedImmune (pharmaceuticals), and some smaller companies. As for teaching, Chris did a stint at Howard Community College, in Columbia, MD (a "stone's throw" from the "Yard"). He's now coming out of his several year "hiatus" from the Academy and classmates and he's looking forward to reconnecting with old Officers Christian Fellowship friends, and many of his 13th Co. mates! You can drop him a line at christianserio7@verizon.net. Looking forward to your "re-engaging" with the Class, Chris. Hope to see you around the yard, at a Navy sporting event and *definitely* our 35th Reunion in a couple of years!

**Steve "Jock" Maloney** reported that **Calvin Dixon** is still alive and that he still lives in Ashland, VA with his wife Lori. Cal is the COO for a company that provides law enforcement personnel on a contract basis.



Jack Maloney and Cal Dixon

I was in upstate NY and CT area and made a stop in to Milford for lunch with our Class Treasurer, **Kevin Liddy**. (Well, it wasn't just to see Kevin but also to pick up some tasty brownies and other great baked goods from our favorite bakery near the old neighborhood.) Kevin and the family are doing well. Kevin is still with IBM. He's now the portfolio manager of IBM's venture capital investments. Very much involved in the local community, Kevin also occupies an elected position on the Milford, CT

Planning and Zoning Board. He's also been a long time Blue and Gold Officer. You may see Kevin zippin' around town with his Subaru. You can tell it's him by the Naval Academy and his daughter Caroline's Wofford decals but most especially by the "7879" on his license plates. You can ask him its significance.



Kevin Liddy and his License Plates

**Mark Miller** dropped a quick note from Mt Arlington, NJ. He and Ann were among the parents who attended I-Day and Parents Weekend – "for the second time in [his] life". Their daughter, Julie, is a Plebe in the class of 2015. Talk about your small worlds– she is a Plebe in the 30th company. That means she is a companymate to the two Plebes that Elizabeth and I sponsor! Mark reported that his impression this time around was that the Academy was "a lot more impressive as a visiting parent than [he] remembers it as a plebe". Well, Mark that's probably because back then we were deer-in-the headlights in awe of the place and those Firsties yelling at us to notice much of our surroundings (especially if we kept our "eyes in the boat!"). Looking forward to seeing you around the Yard sometime, Mark. If Julie ever wants to join our Plebes, Trey and Eric, at our house for a relaxing moment the offer is open.



Mark, Julie and Ann Miller at Parent's Weekend

Well, that's all there is for now. Since this is a dual month column– a belated Happy Birthday and Semper Fi to my fellow Devil Dogs on the occasion of the Marine Corps Birthday and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone as the holiday season approaches. May it be a joyful time for

everyone as we find ourselves surrounded– and in some cases reunited– with family, loved ones and friends. For those "on watch" around the world, we pray for their safekeeping and return home.

Launchin' Spot Four with a return in 2012!

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

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Greetings, 79ers!

When I was a kid, one of my favorite movies was "The Ten Commandments" with Charlton Heston and Yul Brynner. I loved how Moses would call up one catastrophe after another to get Pharaoh to release the Israelites: poisoning the Nile, locusts, plagues, flies, burning hail – you name it, Moses threw it at him. It was great theater.

This last month, though, I started wondering if Pharaoh was visiting the Chesapeake. On one Tuesday afternoon I was standing in my home, when I started feeling a vibration in my feet. I thought, "Hmmm. If I was in California, I'd think an earthquake was happening." Right about then the whole house started shaking side to side – and then stopped. What? An earthquake in Maryland? About that point my wife – a geological engineer by training – rushes in as excited as a kid on Christmas morning. "Did you feel that???" Umm, yes I did, dear. She runs off and hits the USGS site to get all the latest, while I watch our neighbors come running out of their homes.

Two days later, a line of thunderstorms rolls through – complete with tornadoes. Fortunately none of them touch down, but the storms did drop a couple of inches of rain. Three days later Hurricane Irene waged her warfare along the eastern seaboard. In addition to her winds, she dumped 11 inches of rain on us in 48 hours. We only lost one tree (fell away from the house, fortunately). Within a week we were then visited by Tropical Storm Lee. The winds had died down by the time it got here, but it left rain, and more rain, and more rain. I was no longer thinking about Pharaoh – I was thinking