



As shown above, the Hills currently have a kitchen and dining room which resembles a handball court, so their living, at least temporarily, in the bedroom, studies and TV room, accompanied by their two Golden Retrievers, Kam (aka, Kamehameha) and Lili (aka, Liliuokalani). Scott's also learning dining out every night ain't what it's cracked up to be. Still, for now, everyone's happy, healthy and looking forward to normalcy in the near future.

Here's wishing Nancy and Scott the best of luck in their new digs.

Finally, on a more somber note, we want to share Scott's thoughts and remembrances of Bo Henry (9th Co.), who's passing was mentioned in an earlier column:

✉ As I alluded to in my opening note, your March '77 Class News summary stayed with me in a good way, particularly your tribute to Bo Henry (9th Co.), a real stand-up guy who will be missed. I became better acquainted with Bo following graduation and later in our respective careers. During the early 2000+ time-frame after 9/11 when I was running US DOD Business Development for Nextel (before their acquisition by Sprint), I spent a lot of quality time with Bo. He was in Test Pilot School, then fleted up as Base XO and CO at NAS Pax River. While working with Bo and his staff to get a cellular antenna approved and installed onboard Pax, he remained a good friend throughout the process. Although Bo had a higher IQ than most of Congress combined, he still could laugh at himself, an addictive laugh that continually cracked me up.

Throughout a difficult, stressful process, he proved what a true, trustworthy classmate was all about. He was a family guy, very spiritual, thankful for his success, and said so at his Change of Command and Retirement. We continued to remain in touch over the years following his retirement as he put down roots in Southern Maryland with family.

Following a period of silence, Bo reached out to me a few years ago out of nowhere and informed me he had come down with leukemia. He didn't complain, wasn't bitter, and remained strong throughout his ordeal; a real fighter! He always saw the upside of his suffering, never letting on it was getting the best of him. As you might recall he went through an extensive rehab period (18+ months I believe) and a bone marrow transplant at Johns Hopkins. We stayed in touch both on Facebook with his numerous updates as well as via email. I spent time with him at our recent Reunion and he was thrilled to be there, glad to see everyone, and he shared with me that he hoped his recovery would continue. Sadly it didn't, and I remember clearly when he reached out to me a few weeks before he passed when things turned for the worse. His son advised everyone when he finally lost the good fight. Following his passing, Nancy & I travelled down to his viewing and visitation in California, MD, where we were fortunate enough to spend time with his Mother, sister, and his sons. When they found out I was an Academy classmate, and I believe there were others there as well, the family, though mourning, were thrilled and happy to see he wasn't forgotten. It was a tough day.

We found this not only a most fitting tribute to Bo and all the other classmates who've gone before us, but emblematic of the bonds which were forged in our shared adversity.
Magoo

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'78

Life Membership: 80%
Donor Participation: 5.81%

Pres: **Glen Woods**

Sec'y: **Vince Balderrama**
1320 Homewood Ln., Annapolis, MD 21401
e: canoeru78@aol.com

Website: usna1978.org

Not a lot in the mail bag the last few weeks. Let's just get to it.

Vance Moore (8th Co) reacted to the write-up in Nov-Dec 2018 Shipmate about **Brent "Lucky Boy" Obenour's** (34th Co) completion of his Appalachian Trail (AT) hike. Vance hopes to be the fourth 78-er to complete the 2,190-mile journey. He'd been practicing on the Florida and Pinhoti trails. He planned to start the AT thru-hike on April 9th and will be "flip-flopping" as well... Northbound (NOBO) from Waynesboro, VA to Mount Katahdin, ME, then return to Waynesboro to complete the trail southbound (SOBO) to Springer Mountain, GA. He got outfitted with his second bionic knee last year, so it should take him about 7 months. His 8th Companymate, Dr. **Steve Holman** will hike with him in New England for a bit. Vance would like to welcome anyone else who wants to enjoy a "walk in the woods" to get in touch with him. He'll be on Facebook

as "Vance Moore" (not "Vance Moore IV"). His phone number is 904-451-4011. Good luck, Vance and I hope you get some folks to hook up with you for portions of your hike.

Scott Burns (34th Co) wrote that he retired from Proctor & Gamble (P&G) almost 4 years ago. He now teaches Sustainability at Xavier University and does a bit of Sustainability consulting. He took off a semester this Spring and just returned from Spring Training in both Arizona and Florida. In Arizona he had the chance to visit Dixie and **Paul Susalla** (34th Co) in Peoria AZ. Paul has had some tough medical issues, but they are hanging in there. He said it was great to see him. Scott then headed to St. Pete's Beach with his son. While there he got to a few baseball games with another companymate, **Mike Clendening**. Mike just retired from Govt service and Scott reports Mike is now a happy triple dipper.



Scott and Paul



'78: Marcus Fisk (back row) and Games Afoot



Mike Clendening and Scott

The Merchant Marine Academy issued a press release in early April that CAPT **William "If" Fell** (He's really a retired Marine!) (34th Co) stepped in as Interim Director of Physical Education and Athletics at USMMA. Congrats, If!



USMMA's CAPT Bill Fell

Our class thespian **Marcus Fisk** (9th Co) acted in the "Games Afoot" a mystery-comedy play at the Granite Theatre in Westerly, RI. One review wrote "Marcus Fisk, in his third Granite appearance, is ridiculously funny and so well-suited for this role — he cracked me up over and over again". I keep waiting for you on Broadway, Marcus—okay, at least the Hallmark Channel.

Jack Fernandez (9th Co) sent a not to say the he and **Richard Jesmonth** (35th Co) caught up on some "legal issues" over dinner at Gautreau in New Orleans.

CLASS SECRETARY COLUMN DEADLINES

Send to: classnews@usna.com

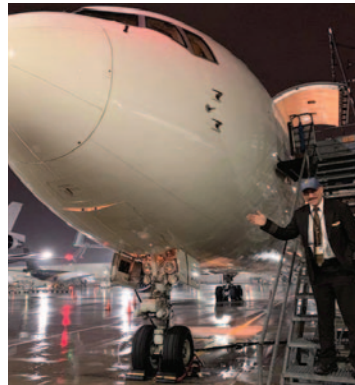
ISSUE:	DUE DATE:
July-Aug 2019	28 May 2019
Sept 2019	24 June 2019
Oct 2019	29 July 2019
Nov-Dec 2019	23 Sept 2019
Nov-Dec 2018	23 Sep 2018



Jack Fernandez and Rich Jesmonth

Congrats to **Rudy Costanzo** 16th Co) on his retirement as a UPS pilot. His last B757 flight was April 4th, to Fresno and his last B767 departure was from Louisville on April 5th. He saw a beautiful sunrise as he headed into Boston for his *final* flight on April 6th. After 25 NAVY years and nearly 22 UPS years — with nearly constant traveling —he said it's time and that he's ready.

That said, you'll probably find him flying his BONANZA to some fun place. One location will be to some airfield nearby Annapolis to make the '78 tailgaters and home games. Congrats, Rudy!



Rudy Costanzo last pre-flights

I close with a heavy heart, as I report the 4 April passing of 29th Company's, **John "Jack" Carpenter**. He passed away that Thursday morning after a long and difficult battle with cancer. It was a battle fought valiantly and the love and support of his family, classmates and friends.

As this goes to print, the family was working to arrange for his memorial service at the Naval Academy Chapel, followed by inurnment in the Columbarium in the Naval Academy cemetery. Please remember him and his

family in your thoughts and prayers. More to follow in another column. Jack joins too many other of our class as the "advance party" for our great reunion in heaven.

Launchin' Spot Four once more with the Sky Pilot and an abundance of prayers.

'79

Life Membership: 91%
Donor Participation: 3.93%

Pres: **LCDR Sean Cate, USN (Ret.)**
e: Sean.Cate@1979.usna.com

Sec'y: **LCDR John "Wiz" Withers, USN (Ret.)**
42498 Regal Wood Dr., Ashburn, VA 20148
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Social Network Links:
<http://www.linkedin.com/in/wizwithers>

Facebook Group: **USNA Class of 1979**

Website: www.usna79.com

Greetings, 79ers!

"And the last shall be first..."

Last fall, **Doug Mitchell** sent me a 36th Company update from the Navy-Notre Dame game in San Diego. Skilled scribe that I am, I promptly...

uh... mis-filed it. However, Doug's email recently resurfaced from among the flotsam and jetsam in my inbox:

The Notre Dame game and associated events in San Diego were a great opportunity for many reunions. About half of the '79 "men from 36" gathered for our annual "Man-cation" with the game as our anchor event. Bonus reunions included a great group of about 25 other classmates at the Social Tap in downtown San Diego.

Coincidentally, the Class of '76 was holding a get together at the Social Tap as well. So the '79 plebes of 36th Company took the opportunity to come-around and brace up with our 36th Company firsties. After 42 years apart and covering almost all the Naval communities serving the country, it was good to see that neither we nor our first class had changed a bit! Game day tailgater included a few more '79 guys hosted by legacy grad **Patrick "Patch" Finley '15** and many of his classmates.



'79: 36th Co. come-around: '79: Chet Wong, Mike Beauchamp, Doug Mitchell, Artie Johnson, Bill Kauffman, Emilio Abordo. '76: Brad Little, Chris Earl, Randy Large, Mike Donnelly, Greg Vaughn and Brad Speer



'79: 36 at Navy-ND: Artie Johnson, Mike Beauchamp, Steve Winton, Mike Finley, Doug Mitchell, Rich Fitzpatrick, Chet Wong, Bill Kauffman and Emilio Abordo