

# The Cable

Official Newsletter of the IUSS CAESAR Alumni Association

**IUSS / CAESAR**



**Alumni Association**

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## Letter From CAPT Arno Laux, USN (Ret)

Dated: 26 April 2000

Dear Ed: (This is for inclusion in the next Newsletter; so do it.)

Just a few words of appreciation from one of those who has been a welcome recipient of the Newsletters and Directories you and Ellis and Jack have put together for the old gang. From personal experience, I know what kind of effort that takes.

And I don't mean to embarrass you, of the banjo sandwiches, but it takes a special type of person to do what you have done for all of us; a person with special feeling for those who have served in the system and especially for those who were lucky enough to serve with him. I'm sure I speak for those who wouldn't be in touch with one another or couldn't keep up with all our movements if it weren't for all your efforts. Everyone I have spoken with looks forward to the next issue and appreciates what you guys are doing.

/s/

Arno

*Editor's note: This letter was sincerely appreciated. I had planned to ask Arno to let me out of his request to publish this but as many of you know Capt Arno Laux passed away on July 21<sup>st</sup>. I, and our community, have lost a valued and close personal friend. EKD*

## **DIRECTOR'S CORNER**

*Ed Dalrymple*

I was sorting through the Association files recently and came upon the original documents setting up the IUSS/CAESAR Alumni Assn bank account which is probably the best milestone to use as our anniversary date. **As of 24 July 2000 the Association was 7-years old.** It is hard to believe we have been around that long. We are now at 330 members; we have had a renewal rate of 98% thus far. Only two members contacted me and indicated they no longer wish to participate. You will be notified when your membership renewal is due. Thank you for your continued support. **WE STILL NEED YOUR INPUTS FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES.** George Widenor recently raised this issue with me and provided some examples of potential articles: too much diesel fuel relative to the burning of grams at San Nic in the 60's; OT1 VanAlstine executing a Phase drill on the Shallow Water complex by himself and Hurricane Betsy Labor Day 1965 at Eleuthera, etc. George suggested if each member could dig deep within him or herself and come up with some short, interesting, tasteful, and non-embarrassing to another person type article about daily life within the "System" the Newsletter would be greatly enriched. Give it a shot! I thank those of you who have contributed to this Issue and those in the past.

Sandy Sanborn initially put forth the idea for creating a permanent memorial to the deceased members of the IUSS Community. Subsequently, Nick McConnell and others have also mentioned this. This is something the Alumni Assn could sponsor if the membership was willing to take on the initial cost and then the expenditures required to keep the memorial up-to-date. The idea is to have some sort of monument or plaque located at CUS or NOPF Dam Neck. This of course would have to be discussed with the Navy and must have their approval. A plaque that could be easily added to would most likely not be prohibitively expensive nor would be the required update costs. I would like any comments, suggestions, etc.

*continued on next page*

## ***Director's Corner (cont)***

I would think it prudent if we had an Assn member in the NORVA area who would be willing to serve as the Chairperson and work with the Navy to determine what would be required to obtain Navy approval; identify a fitting venue and research types of monuments/plaques available and costs to create and install as well as continuing cost to update. I would envision that donations from Assn members separate from Assn dues would be the prudent way of funding this effort if it comes to pass. It would be a fitting and lasting gesture of respect and appreciation to the deceased members of our community.

As you are aware we lost a close personal friend and professional associate this past July with the passing of CAPT Arno Laux, USN, (Ret). We extend our sympathy to Arno's wife, son and daughters and would like them to take comfort in that those of us who served with and knew Arno are better persons for that experience. Also, I remind you that many of our members and their families are battling some very serious medical problems and ask you to remember them in a way of your choosing. Until next time.  
EKD

### **22<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL IUSS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND CAMPING TRIP CHEATHAM ANNEX, WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA**

*Submitted by Ed Haven, Jim Lapp & Doug Simon*

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual IUSS Memorial Day weekend campout was held 26 – 29 May at Cheatham Annex, Williamsburg, Virginia. Several active duty and retired personnel attended.

This history of this camping excursion began with a small group of COSL staff members and their families at Sanger's mountain in central Virginia on Memorial Day weekend in 1978. Since then groups of IUSS personnel have continued this tradition over the past several years. Some camping trips were held at a private campground near Farmville, VA and at Northwest Communications Station in Chesapeake, VA. Since the early 1980s the group has met at the RV Park at Cheatham Annex.

Cheatham Annex and the surrounding areas offer many interesting sites and recreational activities. The annex has an 18-hole golf course, cabins, children's playground, swimming pool, RV sites, nature trails, bike trails, gym, bowling alley, and 3 lakes for fishing/boating. Water Country USA, Busch Gardens, Colonial Williamsburg, Yorktown, Jamestown, and several factory outlet stores are only a short distance from Cheatham.

Some of the planned activities during the campout include golf, fishing, venison (ala Master Chief Ed Smock, Sr.) stir-fry on Friday night and roast beef on Saturday night. Everyone brings a covered dish on both nights. Later in the evening most folks gather by the fire and roast marshmallows and tell lies, or sea stories. Sunday night is usually an unplanned "leftovers" dinner.

Some of those attending this year were: **Don and Inger O'Dell**, (they came from Key West, FL); **Ed and Pat Haney** with daughters April and Pam and their sons Jordan, and Chris and Nick; **Tony Martucci and Drema Parsons**; **Mike and Barb Moseler** with grandson Coleman; **Doug and Sally Simon** and son Dean; **Jim and Shirley Lapp**; **Ed and Renee Haven** with granddaughter Kelsey, and **Ted and Ginny Haven**; **Ed Smock** with son Keith; **Mike Weir**; **Denny and Kara Conrad**; **Rick and Sandi Bly**; **Joe and Marilyn Morra**; **Gene and Terry Peters**; **Bill and Barbara Stead** and friend Barbara Quinn; and **Ray Eason**. We even had a surprise visit from a retired **Captain** named "**Scratch**".

*Next year we would like to see more folks from the IUSS community participate. The letter requesting reservations for campsites, popups, and cabins will be sent in December 2000 for the 2001 Memorial Day weekend. If anyone wishes to attend next year please contact Doug Simon, Jim Lapp, or Ed Haven.*

# GHOSTS OF BYGONE DAYS

## "The WECO Resident's Monthly Report"

by Jim Weinel

*Editor's Note: As most of you will remember each site in the System had a Western Electric Company Resident Engineer whose primary mission was to keep the Sonar Sets and associated equipments in working order. The unofficial duties of these Residents was to help the Navy personnel with any technical issue/problem/situation that may arise; from helping with the generators, communications suite, station rec boat to fixing the NEX ice machine. These Residents were an integral part of everyday life in the operation of a Naval Facility. They were required by contract to submit a monthly report to their supervisors in Greensboro, N.C. Jim Weinel, a former Resident in his own right, provided a couple historical reports representative of their tell-it-like-is style. The first is from 1958, the second from 1975. In the 1958 report it mentions the late J.R. Boyett, a WECO resident in training. Most of us remember Jim Boyett as a Government engineer and manager. As stated in the report Jim was respected in his early years as he was throughout his career. In 1975 Jim Boyett was a Government employee.*

### **Report #1: 15 October 1958**

SEMI-MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: Location 17W,  
Oct 1 through Oct 15, 1958

General: J.R. Boyett 632-1 WECO plans to depart on Oct 17, 1958

Visitors Oct 1 to Oct 2, 1958:

CDR W.S. Bradqay Jr. CSO, OCEANSYSLANT STAFF  
LCDR D.L. Bailey, OPS Officer  
LTJG J.C. Stamler, Comm Officer

W.J. Keane WECO Engineering Rep.

The visitors made an inspection of the station and the results were good, the CO was pleased at their comments.

J.R. Boyett nears the end of his assignment here for in-service training. The results have been quite pleasing to me. He has been quite attentive in receiving his instructions and in his training. Further he has quite definitely demonstrated his ability and initiative in carrying out his assignments and projects. He has been subjected to a well-rounded field-training course and has made many friends here in both the officer group as well as the enlisted group with whom he has come in contact. He has been briefed in all phases of the development projects that I have planned and he has assisted me in furthering some of them along.

This has provided a good practical background for his use in future assignments. He should make a good resident engineer and if he follows through, his work will be beneficial. It is now up to him.

/s/

Charles W. McCoy 632-1  
Resident Engineer 17W

### **Report #2 Dated: March 6, 1975**

ACTIVITY REPORT for NAVFAC Point Sur

The visitors since my last report were CAPT D.W. Jackson of NAVELEX, and Bob Zak.

CAPT Jackson was in civilian clothes and his visit was a surprise. The CO didn't know who he was and wasn't going to let him visit the T-Building until the Operations Officer called COSP, and they said to let him do anything he wanted.

The CO brought him by my desk and he started asking questions. After I found out how much he knew about the System, and who he knew, I realized he was *THE* CAPT Jackson.

We told him about the paper drive motors; he took one and said that he was "going to stick it up Jim Boyett's a--". He also said he would check into it at a meeting Tuesday at Guildford Center, so I called headquarters to warn everybody to have their story together.

Bob Zak was here for four days to look at our equalization. He decided our present options are the best available. I had just changed one option about a month ago.

I have just moved to a small house in Carmel. It has a fireplace, which is nice on these cold wet spring days. It rained and the wind blew last night, and there was a boulder about four feet in diameter in the road at Hurricane Point. There is a house just below the road that could have been hit.

/s/

Michael R. Conoley - 7446  
Resident Engineer

# IN MEMORIUM

## **CAPTAIN ARNO HOLLAND LAUX, USN (Ret)** **1926 – 2000**

Retired U.S. Navy Captain Arno H. Laux of Dunnellon, Florida, and formerly of Virginia Beach, Virginia died Friday, 21 July 2000, in the Citrus Memorial Hospital, Inverness, Florida. He was predeceased by Gertrude Greaves Laux, his wife of 43 years.

Born January 17, 1926, in Philadelphia, Pa, he was the son of the late Arno H. Laux and Helen Veronica Holland. His Naval career spanned 37 years. CAPT Laux joined the Navy in 1943 at age 17 and in the ensuing years advanced from seaman recruit, through Chief Petty Officer, to Captain, U.S. Navy. He held a Master of Science degree in International Affairs from George Washington University.

Over the course of his career he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Unit Commendation, American Theater World War II Victory Medal, World War II Navy Occupation Service Medal and two National Defense Medals.

CAPT Laux's System tours included: Commanding Officer NavFac Argentia, Director of Operations - COMOCEANSYSLANT, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations - OP-0951, and Commanding Officer NavFac Brawdy, Wales.

His wife Marilyn Laux of Dunnellon, Florida; a son, Arno J. Laux; two daughters, Jacqueline Laux and Deborah Laux Stolle and her husband, Ken, all of Virginia Beach, Virginia, survive CAPT Laux. Also three grandchildren, five stepchildren, five step-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial services were held in Florida and at the Chapel of the Good Shepherd, Oceana Naval Air Station, Virginia Beach.

CAPT Laux requested that his body be donated to science. Memorial donations may be made to the International Multiple Myeloma Foundation, 12650 Riverside Drive, North Hollywood, CA 91607-3421.

# The Day I Became an Analyst

By STS1 (SS) Brett Beedles  
(Ex-OTAI)

There was always a mythical talent that OTAs either had or didn't have. The measurement of that talent was vague, with no real rules established. If you had this talent, you were untouchable. If you didn't have it you were just a face in the crowd. I always figured it was based on others' opinions of you; based on how many exotic sounding tactics and propulsion lineups you could theorize as you PA'd that contact around the roller and far into the other guy's watch. That other guy, needless to say, definitely did not have the talent. Then one night in Brawdy I realized that the talent was based on one's own opinion of oneself. That night I learned the talent: I became an analyst.

I had developed some sort of reputation I guess, as an up-and-coming-OTA-who-may-someday-truly-become-an-analyst. I was in the QA Division, under the tutelage of OTA1 Dave "Bergie" Berglund (if you have never heard of the legendary Bergie, believe me...he was definitely an analyst).

Shortly after I made Second Class, I was made a Command Duty Analyst. Suddenly I was thrust into the big leagues. As a Duty Analyst, I was one of the four most powerful people in the department, heck, one of the most powerful people in the Atlantic Ocean! I was granted the authority to represent the CO on all operational matters. I could countermand the decision made by the Watch Coordinator, normally a much more senior OTA than me. Those were heady days. I was scared to death.

On my very first duty day as Command Duty Analyst, things went okay. By the time I went home, I was thinking, "Hey, this isn't so tough! Look at me! I'm the Duty Analyst! Whoo Hoo!" In those days we were allowed to go home, but we were on-call for our entire duty day. Sure enough, around ten o'clock that night, I got called in for something. The whole drive back to NAVFAC from my house in Johnston was a panic-ridden series of worst-case scenarios, each with me at the end standing in a mass of grams, saying "Oops".

When I arrived, the Watch Coordinator briefed me on what was going on. The section had reported something that they were sure was one of the guys we had been looking for. He led me through the entire process of their decision, and steered me into their opinion. COSL didn't agree, and had ordered the Duty Analyst (me!) to send analysis comments. After the

Watch Coordinator finished showing me everything, I was left to work. I spent a few minutes looking at grams, trying to look like a real analyst, and then I quietly slipped out the cipher lock door, took a right, and walked to the pay phone at the end of the passageway. Then I called Bergie.

"Hi Bergie, this is Brett...sorry to call you so late, but I got called in to send comments on something, and the Watch is convinced it's him, but COSL doesn't agree, and I have to send comments and I don't know what to do, and..."

"Brett, do you think it's him?"

"Well the Watch Coordinator and the section are convinced it's him, and everything seems to fit, but COSL doesn't think it's him, and I don't know what to do, and..."

"Brett, do you think it's him?"

"Huh? Oh...well, no, I don't."

"Fine. Then send the comments, make sure you have all the data to support your decision, and I'll look at it in the morning. I trust you. Just calm down and do what you think is right."

After that, I went back to the watch floor, gathered some more information, made some notes, then told the Watch Coordinator what I thought, and why. He was disappointed with my decision, and he and the array supervisor argued with me for a few minutes, trying to convince me I was wrong. But I knew I wasn't, and I wouldn't let them coerce me into their decision. I went back to the UCP in the QA office, and typed my comments, and then I went back out and asked the OWO to release them. Then I went home.

The next morning I came in and found out that I had been right- the guy had shown up somewhere else. Later, my Division Officer, LT Buddy Kriebel came out with a message he'd received from the COSL QA Officer, LT Gretchen Specht. The message said that the comments I'd sent were the best analysis comments they'd ever received. Bergie puffed his pipe and winked at me. At that moment I realized that the previous night I had become an analyst.

STS1 (SS) Brett Beedles  
USS KEY WEST (SSN 722)  
FPO AP 96683-2402

# CFS SHELBURNE OCEAN OPS MEMORIAL

By Cathy Holmes

As published in The Coast Guard, Shelburne, N.S.

November 24, 1998

Mary MacKenzie, Jan Blades and Jeanette Heinerman attended a memorial service recently - for their former jobs. All three were stationed at the former CFS Shelburne military station listening to and tracking submarines. An official memorial service, a standing down of the Oceanographic Operator 191 Trade, was held at Stadacona on November 14 in Halifax.

MacKenzie first came to Shelburne fresh from her training in Key West, Florida at the United States Navy Fleet Sonar School.

The "scariest moment" of her military career came in October of 1962 during the Cuban missile crisis when the United States and the Soviet Union came perilously close to war. Tracking Russian Submarines was MacKenzie's and other Oceanographic Operators job. Sonar surveillance continued for 30-some years during the Cold War, until 1994 when its duties were taken over by the new undersea center, HMCS Trinity, at CFB Halifax.

The demise of the Oceanographic Operator 191 Trade was marked by the November 14 memorial service, along with the burial of a time capsule filled with pictures, badges and "basic paraphernalia" used in the job - parallel rulers, red pencils, maps, dividers. The box was buried in front of the Stadacona Military Museum.

Stadacone-trained personnel would work at the secretive trade at CFS Shelburne, Argentia, Newfoundland, and Norfolk, Virginia. A few "lucky ones", says MacKenzie got postings to Bermuda and Portsmouth, England. MacKenzie spoke briefly at the gathering of some 50 Oceanographic Operators, mostly retired women (the Oceanographic Operator 191 Trade was all-woman until 1976), at the Stadacona chapel. She told the group about arriving off the flight from Key West the day after a February blizzard. Picked up by the CFS Shelburne bus, they were taken to the Sandy Point base, where Quonset huts awaited them amidst the freezing temperatures and blowing snow.

While accommodations in the Quonset huts were less than luxurious - one tub and two sinks for seven women - MacKenzie remembered feeling a little sad when the permanent quarters became their new home in 1962. When CFS Shelburne was operating a sound

surveillance system, it was directly in contact with Maritime Command Operations in Halifax via Teletype, in a back room off the main operations floor. The Ocean Ops room was large and very bright with fluorescent lights. About 80 consoles lined the walls; each with its own "electronic stylus" that received scribed signals from submarines on carbon paper. It was the Oceanographic Operators job to pinpoint a location to go along with it.

Carbon, Mary says, filled the air. As soon as you walked into the building you smelled carbon. For a time, when the military was particularly sensitive about what its members were breathing in, a large brown paper bag hung just inside the Ocean Ops door. "You blew your nose when you went in, and when you went out again," said MacKenzie. The powers-that-be wanted to know how much carbon the operators were breathing in.

CFS Shelburne Ocean Ops received the only peacetime presentation of a U. S. Navy Unit Commendation to a foreign nation "for exceptionally meritorious service while conducting oceanographic operations in the North Atlantic." That, according to Mary MacKenzie, was for tracking the new Russian Yankee Class submarine, which carried 16 ballistic missiles. "We were a very important entity to the defence of North America," said Mary Mackenzie.

But how important, we may never know: The old Sound Surveillance System (SOSUS) was a very secret operation, as CFS Shelburne's motto, "Serving in Silence," indicated. At times a military photographer, MacKenzie went through her vast archives of slide and photographs and came up with a very few of the operation at CFS Shelburne, where cameras were forbidden. Today, she still has to think hard about how much she should disclose about how she and her co-workers transcribed sounds and pinpointed actual submarine locations.

Oceanographic operators still living in Shelburne County, besides Jan Blades, Canada Hill and Mary MacKenzie are Sharon Butler and Jeanette Heinerman.

*This article was provided by OTCM David Dittler, USN (Ret) who still resides in Nova Scotia.*

## EVENTS of NOTE

### 2000

#### Spring

**RADM Benjamin T. Hacker, USN (Ret)** retired as Senior Vice President, Mid-Atlantic Region, USAA Property and Casualty Insurance Company. RADM Hacker was Ops officer at NavFac Argentina in mid-'60s and Executive Officer then Commanding Officer, NavFac Barbados in 1968-1970 timeframe.

#### June

**9<sup>th</sup> - STCM Tony Martucci, USN** retired after 30 years of faithful service in ceremonies at Dam Neck, Virginia.

**15<sup>th</sup> - RADM Peter Marshall, CEC, USN** relieved as Vice Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command and Deputy Chief of Civil Engineering Corp in ceremonies at the Washington Navy Yard.

#### July

**17<sup>th</sup> - CAPT Leslie J. Skowronek, USN** retired after 28 years faithful service in ceremonies at the Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C.

**21<sup>st</sup> - CAPT Arno Laux, USN (Ret)** passed away in Dunnellon, Florida.

#### August

**18<sup>th</sup> - RADM A. Byron Holderby, CHC, USN** relieved as Chief of Chaplains, U.S. Navy in ceremonies at the Washington Navy Yard. RADM Holderby was the 1<sup>ST</sup> Navy Chaplain assigned to our System, NAVFAC Brawdy, 1977.

#### October

**LCDR George "Chuck" Gagnon, USN** retired after 30+ years of faithful service in ceremonies at NOPF Dam Neck, Virginia

## PROJECT CAESAR OCEANOGRAPHIC SURVEYS CIRCA 1950'S

*Submitted by  
LT Eugene H. Ruark, USNR (Ret)*

I was the deck officer on the USS MAURY (AGS-16) from 1951 to 1953. In the fall of 1952, the ship began examining possible locations from Nova Scotia to Puerto Rico. The purpose was unknown to me, except that the belief was that we were looking for seamounts. This was called "Project CAESAR". I was in charge of one of the MAURY's four "sound boats" which did shallow water surveying. In the spring of 1953, I was transferred to the USS NEPTUNE (ARC-2) as navigator. The ship, formerly known as the BULLARD, was then in the process of being commissioned at the Bethlehem Steel shipyard in Baltimore (not Sparrow's Point). It was commissioned on July 1, 1953 and after a brief shakedown we went through the Panama Canal and up to the Todd Shipyard in Seattle where the size of the bow sheaves was increased. After this was completed, tests were run in Puget Sound on the operation of the bow sheaves. We then reversed the earlier trip, ending up at the Simplex Cable Company in New Hampshire. We picked up a load of cable and ultimately placed it during the early summer of 1954 at the Grand Turks location.

In 1953, AT&T put out a call for volunteer cable splicers among its regional operating companies and, possibly because of money, got a lot of volunteers. NEPTUNE did have a number of civilian cable splicers on board who ate in the Wardroom. We also had a company of SeaBees on board at Grand Turks for manhandling the cable. But, it was definitely a Navy ship at that time. That ended my contact with Project CAESAR and that part of the Navy.

*Mr. Ruark resides in Geneva, Illinois where he is a practicing attorney.*

# PEOPLE NEWS – FALL 2000

\*\* = New Member

**LCDR Norah Anderson, USN, (Ret)** writes that she has thoroughly adjusted to the smaller-town atmosphere of Ashtabula, Ohio. Daughter, Adrianna is a high school sophomore and is active in band and lettered in soccer as a freshman. Son, Damien is in Springfield, Virginia. **\*\*STGC Christine Barnard, USN** is at NOPF Dam Neck with the IUSS Sea Component EAST. **\*\*STS1 (SS) Brett Beedles, USN** and wife Karen (Ex-OTA1 Karen Hoover) are in Ewa Beach, Hawaii. Brett cross-rated in 1996 to STS and has been stationed on the USS KEY WEST (SSN-722) ever since. Brett was at Bermuda, Brawdy, RTF Dam Neck and Keflavik during period 1985 to 1996. Says he wishes he could return to being an OTA. **\*\*OTAC Christine Benn, USN (Ret)** is with AUTEK and living on Andros Island, Bahamas.

**OTMC Rick Bolin, USN (Ret)** and wife Glenda wrote in April that they had just spent a week fishing at Cape Hatteras. Fishing wasn't so good but they met old friends and caught up on the past 20-years or so. They recommend The Quarterdeck restaurant owned by Rus and Gina Ochs if you get to the Outer Banks of N.C. where they met for dinner with **CAPT Leslie Skowronek**. Leslie still has her beachfront home on the Outer Banks. Rick is interested in obtaining aerial photographs of each NavFac and has been searching for copies. **OTCM Tony Martucci**, whom they also saw in Hatteras, indicated he may have a lead on some NavFac photos of which many may now be seen on the Assn's website. Will keep you informed. Just a note: Tony retired in ceremonies conducted at Dam Neck on 9 June 2000.

**\*\*CDR Daniel L. Boucon, USN (Ret)** is semi-retired and resides with his wife and two 3-year olds, a boy and girl in Ewa Beach, Hawaii. Dan was on COSP/CUSP staff 1984-1986 & again 1989-1992. He teaches part time for Hawaii Pacific University on the Pearl Harbor Naval Base. **Ms. Wanda Bradley, CNO-Sponsor (N874) Secretary Emeritus** is enjoying her retirement and residing in Springfield, Virginia. She is doing all the things she always wanted to do but didn't have time; sound familiar? Interesting note, Wanda plans to visit all 42 U. S. President's birthplaces, libraries and/or their historical homes; 5 down and 37 to go. **OTCM Phil Brown, USN (Ret)** recently retired from TRW, Inc. after 18 years. He remains in the Northern Virginia area and now works for TELOS, Inc. located in Rosslyn, Virginia. **\*\*OTA/STGC (SS) Randy Brown, USN** is currently stationed on Staff, Commander Naval Forces Japan. Randy's last NavFac was Keflavik ('94-'96).

**\*\*RMCM Joe Brunner, USN (Ret)** resides in Lemon Grove, CA. Joe served onboard the USNS (USACS) ALBERT J. MYER in 1957 installing some of the southern NavFacs and the 5000 mile Missile Test Range to Ascension Island. Joe was a radioman onboard as part of a liaison unit. He was stationed at NF Antigua ('60-'62) and NF Cape Hatteras ('63-'64). "Back in those days we had many different ratings working in the operations area and most of the Radiomen were pretty good "gram" readers", so says Joe. **\*\*Ex-OTA1 Phil Burnett** is located on Maui, Hawaii and is employed by Boeing Rocketdyne Tech Services. He is to complete his BS degree for the University of Phoenix in 2001. He is studying for a degree in Information Technology. **OTAC Chuck Cable, USN, (Ret)** has relocated to the Bahamas where he is working for NUWC Det. at AUTEK.

**CDR Lisa Carey, USN** has embarked on another tour of duty in WASHDC. Lisa is now the Deputy Commander of the Global Network and Operations Security Center at DISA. **\*\*CDR Roberta Carr, USN (Ret)**, is in Poway, California. She and her husband both retired from the Navy in 1998. She says she is a "stay-at-home" Mom for 4 dogs, 12 parrots, 2 goldfish, 3 motorcycles and an RV. Roberta was the first OPSO at NOPF Whidbey Island ('87-'88) and the last Commanding Officer, NavFac Guam ('89-'91). **OTAC John Cassidy, USN (Ret)**, recently retired from NORTEL Networks in Norfolk area and is looking to relocate to Iceland, his wife's homeland. John and Gudbjorg have six grandchildren in Iceland and nine in the U.S. ranging from Virginia Beach to Tenn., Colorado and New Mexico. **\*\*Brian Cesoro, (Ex-OT2)** is in Warrenton, Virginia. Brian was in Barbados ('72-'74) and Brawdy ('74-'77). His wife, Eileen is from Haverfordwest, Wales. Brian is currently working for Sprint and previously worked for IBM Federal Systems on the development of the FDS and SDS Systems.

**\*\*OTACS Gary Clarke, USN (Ret)** is a Logistics Engineer for Systems Integration & Research, Inc. in San Diego. Gary resides in El Cajon, CA (no ocean breezes there). **CAPT Steve Conn, USN** has returned to WASHDC. Steve is the Director of Enlisted Plans and Policy for the Chief of Naval Personnel (OPNAV N132). **\*\*OTM1 James Cork, USN (Ret)** and family are in Wichita, Kansas. Jim retired in 1996 after a tour at JMF St. Mawgan. He is currently working in the Avionics Laboratory at LearJet. **\*\*STCS John Cormack, USN (Ret)** is in Mesa, Arizona. John was stationed at NavFacs San Salvador and Cape Hatteras in 1956 and 1957 respectively. **CAPT Duane Cox, USN (Ret)** and his wife Carole are relocated in Plymouth, Minnesota. Duane and Carole were given a proper sendoff at a farewell party hosted by **CDR Tom & Austine Eversole, USN (Ret)**. **OTAC Wendy Craven, USNR** has relocated to Tampa, Florida. Wendy has left her job at Public Storage and is now an Asst Property Manager at a Mobile Home Park in



Tampa. **CDR Steve Davis, USN (Ret)** and wife Ruth still own and run a Pet Shoppe in Roswell, NM.

**\*\*CDR Mike Davidson, USN (Ret)** and family reside in South Weymouth, Mass. Mike's first tour ('76-'78) in the System was as an OWO at Lewes and last tour ('83-'86) was as OIC Special Project, CNFJ. Mike is now the Director for Sales & Marketing, Barclay Water Management Co., which produces water treatment chemicals. **\*\*CDR Shari Deems, USN (Ret)** has settled in San Diego and is working at SAIC as a Program Manager for a SURTASS-related program. Shari retired in 1998 after having served as Commanding Officer, MSC, T-AGOS Unit PAC. **LCDR Amy Doggett, USN (Ret)** continues to enjoy retirement in the Northern Neck area of Virginia. **\*\*Ex-STG 2 Ed Dornig** resides in Orange, Massachusetts. He is a retired IRS Agent. Ed was in Argentina '62-'64 and Barbados '64-'66. **CWO4 Bob Dufford, USN (Ret)** and wife Maureen visited with **CAPT Arno Laux, USN (Ret)** and **OTCM Nick VanHerpen, USN (Ret)** and spouses at Arno's new home in Dunnellon, Florida prior to Arno's untimely passing.

**OTA1 Ray Edmondson, USN (Ret)** and his wife Janet have relocated to Blackshear, Georgia. Ray shared some information on Brawdy as it is now. All of the buildings are rented to local businesses and each building is named after a local town. The last that Ray knows is that the TEB is not rented. Bowling alley is still there and still managed by Graham Dalton. It's more of a free house than a simple bowling alley. The bar is extended across the front of the old slot machine room and they sell beer, wine and hard spirits. **OTCM Jack Fessler, USN (Ret)**, has relocated to Milford, Delaware. Milford is about 20 miles north of Lewes. **CAPT Jerry Fogle, USN (Ret)** is helping wife, Maureen, in managing her School of Dance. Maureen continues to capture 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> place in many of the dance competitions she enters around the TN, KY, NC, and MO. area. Maureen's forte' are the Scottish dances. **CDR JoAnne Gilchrist, USN (Ret)** has left sunny Florida and now resides in Ellaville, Georgia. Since retiring in November 1998 Jo Anne, husband John and their two children, Ensley (14) and Jack (10) moved on to their sailing catamaran "Free Bird". They enjoyed a six and a half month cruise to the Caribbean where they spent last Christmas in Antigua and Carnival in Trinidad. Their next destination is Newport, R.I. Jo Anne says that home-schooling and boat maintenance are more work than they anticipated but it beats commuting in rush hour traffic. Sounds like a fantastic post-Navy life.

**\*\*LT Gerald Giles, USN**, is in Honolulu, Hawaii. He is attached to the Afloat Training Group, Mid-PAC located on Ford Island - his home away from home as he puts it. He became an LDO in 1992 after having risen to E-8. His last tour in the System was at NOPF Whidbey Island ('94-'98) where he was an OWO and Current OPS. **\*\*LCDR Janet Glover, USN** and **OTACS Scott Glover, USN (Ret)** are in Norfolk. Scott retired in 1996 after 22 years of

service and is currently a Program Manager on a government project for Alpha Solutions, Inc. Janet was recently selected for LCDR and continues to serve as the first OIC, SURTASS LFA Det. 1 at NOPF, Dam Neck, VA. Their daughter Amanda is a junior at Lake Taylor High School.

**\*\*OTAC Bob Godin, USN (Ret)**, is fully retired and lives in Milton, Florida with his wife Karen. Karen is a private secretary (civil service) for the OinC, Medical Clinic, NAS Pensacola. They have two grandchildren, ages 4 and 19 months. Their daughter Pam is the mother. Youngest daughter Robin is married and a teacher in Louisville, KY. **\*\*CAPT Bill Green, USN (Ret)** continues to reside in Coronado, CA having retired after 14 years with VISA International where he was VP for Worldwide Procurement. Family, tennis and travel now fill his time. **OTAC Greg Gustafson, USNR** has returned to active duty and is on a ship homeported in Norfolk. He and his family will move there in January 2001. **\*\*Mr. Mike Hall, ex-AT&T now Lockheed Martin**, is currently a SURTASS ship rider for L-M. Prior to this Mike was an installer for AT&T having been at Argentia, Centerville Beach, Keflavik, Bermuda, Ford Island, a Special Project and JMF St. Mawgan. He says his line of work for IUSS has kept him single. Mike resides in Hillsville, Virginia.

**CAPT Kathy Harger, USNR**, has left her position as Vice President, Potomac Institute and has formed her own company. She is President and CEO of Research Analysis and Engineering, Inc. (RAE, Inc.) and is supporting the office of the Navy's Chief Technology Officer in assisting him in moving technology into Navy acquisition programs. Kathy maintains her ties with Potomac Institute as a Senior Fellow. In her reserve assignment she serves on the CNO Executive Panel. **LT Robin Hood, USN (Ret)** and wife Brenda have moved back to Maryland, Catonsville to be exact. Robin has returned to Johns Hopkins, APL where he is an Associate on the Professional Staff. **\*\*CDR Frank Hunt, Jr., USN (Ret)** and wife, Jean, reside in Greensboro, N.C. Frank supports the SOSUS/FDS programs at General Dynamics, ex-Lucent, ex-AT&TT. Frank has been in Greensboro since retiring in 1986 from PME-124 as Ship Operations Officer. **CAPT Bob Jacob, USN (Ret)** writes that he recently read the book "Blind Man's Bluff". Bob is of the opinion that the "System" didn't get the proper recognition in the efforts to locate the USS SCORPION (SSN 589). Many of us who were involved support Bob's opinion relative to the SCORPION incident. He and Nancy are stilling enjoying their retirement lifestyle in Southern Pines, N.C. He indicated his grandson Michael is an accomplished golfer and most recently spent a week at the Duke University golf school. Michael is considering an option to attend Duke School of Dentistry. I can speak from experience that Duke is an excellent school; just send \$\$\$.

**\*\*CAPT Susie (French) Jannuzzi, USN** is stationed in Hawaii. She is Deputy Strategic War Plans Branch Chief

(JS41) CINCPACFLT. Susie, then Ensign French, was at Brawdy 1978-1980 then COSP, then to RTF Dam Neck. After that her career track changed to the communications community. She was promoted to CAPT in 1999. She had a Dept head tour on the USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN 72) as Combat Systems Officer and a command tour at NAVCOMTELSTA, Sicily. She also had an XO tour on Diego Garcia. (XO on Diego Garcia, bet that was interesting).

**Dave Johnson**, ex-COSL CDO and Admin officer (60's era) has moved to northern San Diego county (he still has condo in Coronado). Dave is now a gentleman farmer with orange groves located 45 miles north of downtown San Diego. **\*\*Mr. John Kalberer, WECO/AT&T Engineer**, is in Voorhees, N.J. John was a resident engineer at NOPF Dam Neck, Coos Bay, Bermuda, Argentia, Keflavik and CUSL. His last IUSS-related assignment was on the SURTASS Field Support Team (1991-1995). **CDR Suzy Kruppa, USN** has departed SPAWAR in San Diego and is now at DISA PAC, Wheeler Army Air Field, Hawaii. She is the Division Chief for DISN Support Services. San Diego-to-Hawaii; tough duty CDR! **\*\* Ex-OTA2 Heike Knispel** is retired from the U.S. Army and resides in Killeen, Texas. She had tours at Argentia (79-80) and Keflavik (80-81). Her last tour in the System was at RTF Centerville as an instructor.

**OTCM Chuck Lohmann, USN (Ret)**, writes that he is still in Pensacola, Florida and works for Ever Touch, Inc. which does contract work for Gulf Power. Chuck, like those that knew him, was shocked and saddened by the passing of **Jerry Moons**. Chuck related that he, **Bobby Wisdom, Phil Brown** and several other fine OTs went through Maintenance "C" School with Jerry. They all vied for top spot but Jerry edged them out. "We never became friends socially, but there was something akin to friendship because of our experiences I consider more important. I will miss him". Chuck said he runs into **Dave Wakeman** once in awhile who now sports a large white handlebar mustache'. Dave is still a GS-type doing programming at the NAS. Chuck said he did his first tour in Guam (1968-1971) with **Rick Matthews**, our illustrious Webmaster. Also there at same time were **Larry Wilcher, Richard Larson, Terry Losey, Walt Jackson, Jay Koch, Tommy LaPrade, Ed Lyle, Gary (Andy) Anderson and Cliff Walz**.

**OTCS Doc Manney, USN (Ret)** writes that he retired from the engineering trade in 1998 and he and his wife Mary are enjoying country living on 20 acres of southern Michigan. Mary is just finishing her second round of chemotherapy treatments and is coming along fine. They traveled to Newfoundland in August to see what has changed in 35 years. His youngest son, Doug is now 22. Daughter Mary Anne is married to a P3 pilot and is in Rota, Spain. Daughter Karen is married to a visual effects "wizard" who does work for TV commercials ("morphed" red Chrysler products) and his daughter Laura is

approaching that ancient decade, the 30's. Doc says **OTCM Dick Stow, USN (Ret)** stops through every couple of years and they maintain contact a couple of times each year by telephone; Michigan-to-Arizona. Doc says this friendship has spanned more than 30 years.

**CDR Gerrit Mayer, USN** and family are now located in Yokosuka, Japan. Gerrit is the Operations and Special Projects Officer, Code N34J on CNFJ Staff. **CAPT Bob McWethy, USN (Ret) – COMOCEANSYSLANT (1965-1968)** writes from Annapolis that he has recently passed the 80-year young mark and wonders if any COSLs' previous to his tour are still alive and well? Unless proven otherwise I concur with OTCM Jack Holdzkom's idea that we bestow on Bob the title "*Grey Neptune*". After graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy Bob served in submarines during WWII and commanded the **USS PIPER (SS 409)** from 1952 to 1954. He knew **CAPT (then-LT) Joe Kelly, USN** as the **USS PIPER** was tasked to provide services for the site survey for NavFac Bermuda. Bob still keeps in touch with Valerie Caton, widow of **LT Bill Caton, CF**. Valerie resides in Victoria, B.C. Bill passed away while serving on COSL staff and was buried-at-sea from a US Navy ship. Bill always vowed that he was going to find a way to get **SOSUS-Emeritus Ernie Castillo III** out to sea. Probably not the way Bill envisioned but Ernie did go to sea, as part of the ceremonial group that participated in Bill's burial-at-sea.

**\*\*STGC/Ex-OTM Paul E. Mikovits, USN** is located in Chesapeake, Virginia with his wife, Brandi, and sons Jon and Daniel. Paul is currently stationed at CUS. **\*\*OTC Max Morris, USN (Ret)** is fully retired and living in San Diego. **CAPT Mary Mosier, USN (Ret)** has assumed a new position as Operations Manager for the USS WISCONSIN (BB 64), to be berthed at Nauticus in downtown Norfolk. **\*\*OTAC Steve Norberg, USN (Ret)** and wife HMC Sandra Dunbar-Norberg, USN (Ret) are in New Port Richey, Florida. Steve has his own business, SSN Specialties and has completed an AA degree in Technical Arts. He is currently remodeling his new home.

**CDR Diane Oliver, USN (Ret)**, has left her position as an Asst Program Manager at TRW, San Diego to become the Chief of Staff/Administrator of the Vietnam Center at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. Diane will complete her Ph.D. in Education (emphasis on international education) in winter of 2002. **Christine Osborn, Ex-LT, USN** separated from the Navy in January 2000. Christine and her husband Rob welcomed a daughter into the world October 12, 1999, **Paige Emily Osborn**. Congratulations! Christine and Paige have relocated temporarily to Orange Park, Florida while their new house is being built in Pennsylvania where her husband Rob is employed by The Vanguard Group.

**CAPT Baker Peebles, USN (Ret)** writes that he is recovering from a triple bypass operation and subsequent heart attack. He said he is back at work but his aspirations for an NFL-level quarterback career are fading. Baker's

sense of humor is going to serve him well as he continues on to complete recovery. **\*\*Ex-OT1 Dick Railton, USN** is fully retired and living in Hobe Sound, Florida. Dick left the Navy in 1971. He was a police officer until 1983 in the small town of Hillsboro, Florida and then spent 5 years in N.C. Dick was an Investigator for The Florida Department of State from 1990 – 1999 when he was forced to retire due to back injuries resulting from an on-the-job car accident. He said he has recently started to run down ex-Navy shipmates and discovered the Assn's website through Mike Royse and Dan Cushing. **\*\* OTCM Ernie Rasmusson, USN (Ret)** is in New London, N.C. Ernie went through "O-School" in 1955 and spent most of his career in the Atlantic "Facs" Cape Hatteras and South, except for a tour in Argentinia and SURTASS school in Maryland. Ernie had 4, that's right, 4 tours at Hatteras. He fully retired in 1989. Ernie shared that he was diagnosed with prostate cancer in June 1995 and given 6-months to live; then had heart attack & triple bypass surgery in Nov 1995. He writes that he is still around, enjoying retirement and doing whatever he enjoys doing!!

**Phil Rost** is still in the WASHDC area and now working on the IMAT Program at NSWC Carderock, MD. Phil experienced his first COD flights from the carriers USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64) & USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74). He even was lucky enough to spend two weeks in Bahrain. **\*\*OTCM (AW)/STGCM Susan Sanson, USN** resides in Silver Spring, Maryland and is currently the senior female OTCM (STGCM) still on active duty. Susan is currently the Claimancy Force Master Chief at the Naval Computer & Telecommunication Command, WASHDC. Her System tours spanned 16 years; starting at NavFac Eleuthera in 1975 and ending at COSP in 1991. She was the first female CMC of a Combat Squadron, VS-22. Susan deployed on the USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69) ('94-'95) and has been an instructor at the Senior Enlisted Academy. Her family includes: daughter Jessica, 21; son Jeffrey, 19 and grandson, Shawn, age 5. There is another grandson on the way. **CDR Charlie Schindler, USN (Ret)** is fully retired. He and his wife, Betty spend much of their time traveling to Germany to visit daughter and family.

**\*\*LT Mike Schleis, USN (Ret) (Ex-OTCM)** resides in Silverdale, Washington. Mike's last System tour was at COSP ('83-'87) where he served as the TYCOM 3M Coordinator. He was commissioned in 1987 as CWO2 (Elect Tech-Surface). He retired from Naval service as LT (LDO) Elec. Tech. in 1996 on board the USS NIMITZ (CVN 68). **OTCM Fred Schwanz, USN (Ret)** with his wife, Linda left Virginia Beach and now resides in Springfield, MO. **LCDR Bob Soper, USN (Ret)**, has moved to Chesapeake, Virginia. After a couple of years as a Defense Contractor Bob completed his Masters Degree in Education through the "Military Career Transition Program" and has been teaching, or rather "molding" as Bob puts it, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders for the past three years. **CAPT Joe Swaykos, USN** has relocated to the Naval

Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. **Ex-OT Bill Turner** visited Norfolk for the first time since he was stationed there in '70-72. He was totally impressed with all the improvements and development that has taken place in the downtown area. While there his son, Brian, successfully auditioned for the Navy Band at the Navy School of Music at Little Creek. Brian will be a senior piano performance major at Ohio Univ. and is considering joining the Navy when he graduates.

**\*\* STGCM Christopher L. Weller, USN** writes that he has survived through the rating merger and is enjoying his tour back overseas as the QA Officer at JMF St. Mawgan. **OTAC Dick Whetstone, USN (Ret)** writes that 7 July 2000 was his last day working for the City of Virginia Beach's Commonwealth Attorney's Office, a position he held for five years. Recently he has been involved in a project with IBM in developing a computerized Case Management System for the Commonwealth's Attorney at the State level. This year the Commonwealth of Virginia created a new position to administer the system on a statewide basis. Dick was selected to fill that position. His new title is Virginia Commonwealth's Attorneys' Information System (VCAIS) Lead Engineer. Congratulations Richard! **CDR Larry Wilcher, USN (Ret)** and wife Susan are enjoying retirement in Wickes, Arkansas. Susan is working part time in nursing and Larry is helping his brother-in-law in mobile home and RV sales. Larry is on 32 acres of land he has owned for 30+ years and writes that he is trying to square-it-away after 30+ years of being non-attended.

**Bob Zak**, retired WECO/ATT&T Resident Engineer, writes that he and Ann now have seven grandchildren. They recently returned from a cruise to Alaska; a trip they highly recommend. **\*\*CDR Sara Zak, USN (Ret)** is in Annapolis, MD. Sara's System tours included Cape Hatteras, COSL, Brawdy and COMUNDER-SEASURPAC  
Until next time!! **EKD**

**Association Website – Rick Matthews,  
Webmaster**

<http://pobox.com/~iussalumni>

# Hear Ye! Hear Ye!



**Submit your stories and tales about life in the System.**

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