

Aug 03 Class of 80 Notes

After folks get these notes most folks will have shifted berths, for this transfer season. I will be in DC and will be looking to start some sort of gathering, at least in the cafeteria, if I can convince all those folks striking for Admiral to pull suction from some other place other than their office. We'll see.

I received some last minute news that I wasn't able to get in the last notes but the fact that it's history now means it can't be changed. Coast Guard Academy coach **Steve Hargis** was named New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference Coach of the Year in voting by the league's coaches early in the spring. Steve is in his fourth season as the head coach of both the men's and women's programs, and in his fifth year as Director of Rowing at Coast Guard.

He led the women's team to its first Florence Smith Cup for the most team points at the 2003 NEWMAC Rowing Championships. Coast Guard's second varsity eight (undefeated this season) and third varsity eight boat won their respective races at the NEWMAC Championships while the first varsity eight placed second and the novice eight finished fourth. Overall, Coast Guard earned 40 points to clinch the Cup, six points ahead of second place Wellesley. Good job Steve!

Chris Mills checked in after we missed each other as he was attending the Society of American Military Engineers Conference and USCG Civil Engineering Summit Meeting in Seattle. He was part of a mini reunion in Portsmouth with **Austin Callwood**, **Christine Quedens**, **Frank** and **Joanne Alberio** had planned to attend but had a family commitment to attend to. **Bret McGough** (LANTAREA) was TAD. They were hoping to say goodbye to **Dan Riehm** before he departed for HQ (Work-Life), but alas Dan must have been embroiled in some last minute ISC XO business so he could not attend. Christine is over at CINCLANFLT (actually she wears several different hats in dealing with JFCOM and NORTHCOM). She's been heavily involved in the CG support to Operation Iraqi Freedom. Austin is retiring from LANTAREA International Affairs on 20 June. He's just returned from the Caribbean after coordinating the Maritime Phase of the Tradewinds Exercise for SOUTHCOM. Austin will be staying in the area so we'll be able to keep tabs on him in retirement. Frank will also be retiring this summer from MLCLANT Personnel Division. Joanne still has another year at MLCA Shore Division, where she's doing a fabulous job supporting FDCCLANT (she keeps Millsy out of trouble!!) and our CEUs. **Dan Conty** is still in the Portsmouth area working for the Navy and sent his regrets on the luncheon due to a prior commitment with one of his ships. Millsy is still enjoying life at FDCC. After Haiti how could he have any complaints?? Speaking of **Austin Callwood**. **James Maes** sent a great newspaper article on Austin's exploits in the Caribbean. Austin has been the Coast Guard Atlantic Area International Operations Section Chief. Based out of Portsmouth, he is responsible for Coast Guard international engagement in Europe, Africa, the Americas, and the Caribbean. His last hurrah was Exercise Tradewinds. Tradewinds is a USSOUTHCOM-sponsored exercise in cooperation with the nations of the Caribbean, designed to improve coordination and interoperability of the international partners in the Caribbean Basin to respond to natural or man-made disasters (hurricane, earthquakes, terrorism) or transnational threats (drug and arms smuggling, and illegal migration) that may affect the region. In addition, he is directly responsible for the deployment of the Coast Guard's Cutter Support Tender, Coast Guard Cutter Gentian. The Cutter Gentian is the Coast Guard's only multi-nationally crewed ship, with the unique mission of providing maintenance and technical assistance, training, and logistics support to the maritime services of the Caribbean Basin. The Caribbean is not going to be the same without their own St Thomas native at the helm!

Larry White checked in saying that he'll be elected President-elect of the Institute of Management Accountants (he automatically becomes President next year.). It's the second largest accounting organization in the US with 67,000 members and 270 local chapters and issues the Certified Management Accountant (CMA) designation. He's also a member (actually the token CPA working in government) of an American Institute of CPA (350K members, largest US accounting organization) "Special Committee" that is building a coalition to change US business financial reporting to avoid future Enron-like disasters. As a result of all this, he ends up giving a speech on some type of accounting issue every other week, and spending lots of time on airplanes going to meetings or conferences...yes, of accountants...does it get better than that???? Is this the same Larry that was such a party animal some 23 years ago? His current job: Chief, Office of Financial Systems.....LUFS, CGOF, CFO Act Audit....all him....but CRC & CFP are merging to create CG-8 and a reorg may change things a bit.

Stu McGough checked in with the following vacation notes: I got back June 3rd after being on vacation overseas for two and a half weeks. My wife, Vilma, and I went on a two week cruise with my twin brother and his wife and we made port calls in Estonia, ST Petersburg, Russian and the Scandinavian Capitols of Helsinki, Stockholm, Copenhagen and Oslo. All of the places were great except for Russia. It was the most restrictive on your movements and you had to be with an organized tour or stay on the ship. We went on tours for the two days we were there. We really looked forward to going to the Hermitage Museum in ST Petersburg when we planned the cruise, but we happened to be there on the 300th anniversary of the founding of the city. Not only was the city completely packed because of the celebrations, President Putin was there and at the last minute the museum (for the first time ever) decided to let ALL Russians visit the museum for free. To say it was crowded would be an understatement. We were REALLY glad to leave even though it took us two hours to elbow our way in. Before the cruise we spent four wonderful days in London. I wish we could have spent even more time there. It's interesting that we were there during the Queen's Golden Jubilee. The last time I was in London was when we were on a Cadet cruise and it happened to be the Queen's Silver Jubilee. Hopefully I'll go more than every 25 years. The cruise was a great experience in that I was on a big white ship, but didn't have to stand watch or be responsible for anything other than figuring when we wanted to eat chow and getting to Bingo on time. In addition to being multiple winners of some cash at bingo (hey, it IS a cruise) my brother was the winner of the cruise Blackjack tournament. He edged me out, but that's OK. It was a great trip in every respect but it's certainly nice to be back in the U.S. of A. While we were overseas we didn't experience any anti-American and in fact while we were transiting the Kiel Canal (between Germany and Denmark) there were people standing on the banks of the canal waving American flags when the ship went by. That was certainly a pleasant surprise. Everyone in Scandinavia was great and it really helped that almost everyone is multilingual and speaks English pretty well. Good thing the Russians didn't know that Stu was in charge of LANTAREA Operations otherwise they would have been making him march to some Gulag, most likely because they wouldn't believe him that we still have ships I service that are 30 years old. No navy in their right mind would do that!

Mike Raber checked in with the fact that he had run into **Millsy** at a baseball game holding a hale & farewell. Chris didn't pass the fact that his daughter was graduating from HS in Warwick, RI and was the class valedictorian! Now we know she doesn't have any genes from Millsy, except the short ones!!! She'll be starting at URI in the fall. Mike said he'll be traveling to Halifax and then London/Paris for 10 days in July. He's dragging Ally and Nick, and will be staying in **Dave Stirret's** place near Wimbledon in order to water his plants.

In addition to the note that **James Maes** sent on Austin he also took over as CO of Group Miami. He's been extremely busy doing all the things that the CO of one of the busiest groups in the CG has to do. Janna is still in DC but will be moving down later this summer to begin her training as a Starbucks barista, or at least so she says.

I ran into **Bob Day** at a briefing in Philadelphia on deepwater comms. He's still busy trying to keep afloat as the head communicator in PACAREA. I also ran into **Ralph Petereit** at a recent Puget Sound Officers Association luncheon. He's still working for a Civil Engineering firm up in Everett, doing primarily waterfront type jobs.

That about does it for this month's notes. The next ones will be coming from HQ.

