

numerous occasions. John is a spt plr ldr of an arty bn. He's the same old charmer—just some camels to charm out here, though. **Eric Newman** is working in the S-4 shop of 2/7 Inf. He always complained he never got to use his Arabic—surprise, surprise. **Tom Upp** is the XO of C Co, 124 MI Bn; I see him daily. **Dexter Monroe** is still in the div somewhere—I think he disappeared about 6 mos ago! My wife had dinner with the irrepressible **Roger Carstens** awhile back. Roger had just completed a trip to Japan and the Himalayas, and Thailand as well. His latest look includes a goatee and long hair. He sent me an audio cassette describing how he tried to volunteer for Desert Shield, but he couldn't go. Rog had completed SF selection, thus locking himself in. (That took 10 mins to discuss.) The rest of the tape describes Rog's tales of combat in Panama—a true American hero. **Andy Napoli** showed me his living qtrs, which was a como net and a cot covered with sand. Andy is the XO of an Engr Co. Read Mark Vakkur's book while over here. Any one of us reading it could be in that book. I think we all should sue him; he'd be defenseless. I did enjoy the book. Before deploying I linked up with **Phil Yost** (who is a civ now) and attended **Neil Costello's** wedding in Columbus, OH. Neil married **Vera Olvey**, John's sister. Phil is doing great—married a super gal named **Marsha**. **Jon Wilson** is out of the Army. He is in KY and his wife just had a child, but I can't remember the baby's name. . . . Take care!"

**Tom Wenneson** says, "Howdy from Saudi! I'm still with the 5th Sqdr, 6th Cav Regt, the Apache unit I've been in since flight sch. **John Harwig** is here as our S-4 and **Forrest Carpenter** is holding down my old job as S-1. I finally got my **Aeroscout Plt** that I whined and begged for after a yr as a staff weenie. We deployed from Wiesbaden in early Sep with most of 12th Av Bde. Also deployed here are **Steve Ethen** and **Michele Mahody**. We're currently living in a parking garage that is under construction. After mos of living out of rucks and seeing civ vehicles drive by, I'm starting to feel like a bag lady. Many soldiers have set up 4-5 drawer bureaus with real sliding drawers made out of MRE boxes. The quest for physical perfection has led others to construct complete weight rooms—wooden benches, steel bars with sandbags attached for barbells, pulley type weights made with D-rings and 550 cord. It's pretty bizarre stuff, resembling medieval torture instruments or something from the S&M world. Life has become relatively boring—the greatest excitement being mail call. But after a long wait, John, Forrest, and myself pinned CPT bars on 1 Nov and 1 Dec, respectively. For those living in the open desert, they have my admiration

and sympathy. Let's pray for a happy ending."

The gang of **John Recke** (H-2), **Wade Jost** (B-4), and **Kevin Kimsey** (D-1) send their greetings to all of us stateside. All of them are serving in the 2d Bn (Mech) 5th Cav, 1st Cav Div, whose nickname—believe it or not—is the "Black Knights." John and Kevin have been in the unit since Apr and Jun 87. They are serving as the Bn S-1 and S-4, respectively. John is still dating **Rebecca** in AL, while Kevin left **Robin** in TX. Wade was leaving 2AD with **Kim** for the Adv Course, but volunteered to go with 2/5 Cav on Desert Shield, much to the dismay of **Kim**. Wade is currently working as the XO for B Co.



1986: Recke, Jost and Kimsey rapping in the desert

**Maryellen (Conway) & Jack Picciuto '84** send word about their current situation. "Our daughter **Kelsey** is now 8 mos old—how time flies! She is a wonderful baby and my greatest joy. Kelsey and I will be flying together to Ger on 5 Dec. Hopefully we'll be able to spend Christmas as a family before either Jack or I deploy for Saudi Arabia. When we do leave, my parents will be taking care of Kelsey (and spoiling her, no doubt) at home in NJ. I know this all sounds so matter-of-fact, but I'm heartbroken at the thought of leaving her. We simply have no other options and we're trying hard to make the best of a bad situation. Jack & I hope that "Desert Shield" will soon be behind us so that we can become a normal family again."

**Rich Gabaldon** wrote first off to set me straight about some facts that were printed in the Jun 89 ASSEMBLY. Rich has never been in VA and never dated a girl from the state of lovers. However, he did meet and marry a Savannah, GA girl named **Becky**, on 24 Jun 89. Sabre bearers at the wedding included **Steve Moniz** (A-3), **Trip Miller** (Citadel), **Kirk Gill** (D-3), **Conrad Boyle** (Washington and Lee), **Brian Samela** (I-4), **Mitch Carney** (Jax U), **George Ennis** ('85 G-4), **Barry Diruzza** (I-4), and **Bill Philbrick** (Citadel). The wedding was a blast and the honeymoon in Jamaica was even better. The other reason Rich wrote was to lay out some tentative plans for our reunion this fall. (Can you believe 5 yrs

have almost passed by?) The reunion will be 11-13 Oct 91—the football game against The Citadel. **Brian Samela** is presently making coordination with AOG and local motels to accommodate our Class. Brian is out of the Army, working near Albany, NY for Gen Elec. Hopefully sometime in the spring, Rich and Brian will have a package of info together with ticket forms so we can make arrangements. Anyone living near WP who wants to help Brian and Rich, let Rich know by writing or calling him at 1439 Whisperwood Dr, Columbus, GA 31907; tel (404) 569-7763.



1986: Rich & Becky Gabaldon's wedding day

It's very important that we update our addresses with AOG. To do so, just send a card with your class, co and new address, and AOG will plug the data into their computer.

Keep the ltrs coming.

'87

1LT Wayne A. Green  
944 Dixiana Domino Road  
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Notice to the Class of '87—Wayne, your Class scribe, will be serving in Saudi Arabia and has asked me to take charge of this article until he is able to do so again. Therefore, I am calling upon this great Class to come to Wayne's aid. I need a volunteer who will be willing to write the '87 Class notes—maybe an off of the Class or someone who's always wanted to do this. Now this is your chance.

I have received ltrs and photos from your Class scribe and I will see that your news gets into the Class notes.

Thank you for your cooperation. Please write to Mrs Harry I. Green, 944 Dixiana Domino Rd, Lexington, KY 40511, if you are interested in writing this article.

Keep the ltrs coming!

'88

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Well, if half of the Army is in SWA, then so are half of our classmates. How about a ltr?

Cindy Nobles found a place in her heart that **Bill Bureson** could occupy. Bill & Cindy were married 21 Apr 90 at Ft Sill, OK. **John Schwab** got to welcome



1988: Cindy & Bill Bureson, 21 Apr 90, Ft Sill, OK

Cindy into the Army. **Jay Crawford**, **Andy Juknelis**, **Clay Scherer**, **John Thurman** and **Chuck Shifferd** kept Bill from backing out. Cindy & Bill are living in Monterey, CA, home to Ft Ord and the 7th ID.

**Karen Burgin & Mark McLaughlin** got hitched on 18 Aug 90 in Asheville, NC.



1988: Karen & Mark McLaughlin, 18 Aug 90, Asheville, NC

Karen is currently a flight plt leader at Ft Lewis. Mark is working as a private mgt consultant in Tacoma, WA. Although half of their wedding party was sent to Saudi 3 days before the wedding, they still managed to pull it off. **Rocco**



1988: Scott Braaten, Mark McLaughlin and Rocco Minicucci

**Minicucci** (the aide to the ADC at Ft Ord), **Scott Braaten** (SMAB), and **Inku &**

**Caroline Hwang** were in attendance. The big Hwang is a second-yr med student at Northwestern and is back in the Army. Father Steven Virginia performed the Wedding Mass.

There are surplus '88 *Howitzers* available to USMA alumni. The price, including shipping, is \$38.00. If you wish to purchase a *Howitzer*, mail a request and payment to Directorate of Cadet Activities, Eisenhower Hall, ATTN: Publications, WP, NY 10966.

It seems, in the past few mos, that the world has changed gears more often than racers at Indy. We have achieved peace in Europe, but are building up to the brink in SWA. The Army is moving so fast now that most of us can neither find the time nor the will to stop and reflect. Please reflect on this. Another one of our classmates has left us with the charge to carry on. **Bill Stallworth** lost his fight with cancer on 23 Oct 90 in Wash, DC. Bill is survived by his parents, Mr & Mrs Charles F Stallworth. Bill's warmth, humor and friendship will be sorely missed by all who knew him. Save a spot for me, Bill—I will miss you. Five mbrs of the Class of '88 have died since grad.

'89

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In case you have not noticed, many of us are a bit distracted by world events. As I write this from Graf in early Dec, we are all holding our breath. Let's hope for the best in the coming wks.

Many thanks to COL Anthony **Hartle** for the nice ltr he sent me. His son and our classmate, **Chris**, married the lovely



1989: Chris & Patricia Hartle

**Patricia Reed** at WP in Aug. They are now in Augsburg, Ger, where Chris is a plt ldr in C/1/36 FA.

**Nathan "The Voice" La Mar** is back to his activist role. While at DLI in Monterey, CA, he has represented our Class on an issue back at WP over class offs having the rank of Cadet CPT. Nate argued that they should, and we are awaiting the decision. Give 'em hell, Nate!

We were all glad to see Army romp

over Navy (again). I watched with my plt from a Sony watchman on Range 118 at Graf.

Well, sorry for the brevity of this column, but everyone is busy. I hope you all have had nice holidays, and keep pulling for those in the desert. Remember, WE STRENGTHEN THE LINE.

'90

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On 8 Dec 90, the Army team redeemed itself against Navy, tying the series. I saw a few of our classmates at the game: **Rick Diaz**, **Mike Hassman**, **Deb Kotulich**, **Paul Hester**, **Paul Kuznik**, and **Neil Minihane**. I also bumped into **Fi Decosti** and **Jeff Jack**, both of whom will have said goodbye to cadet gray by the printing of this article. Congratulations to Fi, Jeff, and the rest of the Class of '90 who decided to take a few extra credits.

Over Thanksgiving, **Tom Jones**, **Jeff Hagler**, **Mike O'Toole** and I were in Columbus, OH for the MI-OH State football game. Go Blue! Tom and Mike have finished their duties as grad asst coaches, and will be moving on to Flight Sch and FAOBC, respectively, after Christmas. Jeff was finishing up with IOBC and could not wait to get on to Ranger Sch. Speaking of Inf troops, **Keith Hattes** sent me this pic of our "ugly" classmates at the 90 Inf tailgate at the Army-Wake Forest game.

**Michael Foster's** sister, **Melanie**, called me a couple wkends ago when she was in town. She just wanted to tell me how proud she was of her brother for earning the EIB at IOBC. Don't worry Foz—unfortunately I already had plans for the wkend.

In yet more Inf news, **Jerry McGinn** called me from Benning as he awaited the start of the next Ranger class (here is a new one for the **Fighting Cocks**, **Ranger McGinn**!). He said that a couple hundred too many people showed up for the Ranger class starting late Nov, and that a bunch of our classmates are stuck in the GULAG waiting for the next class. **John Berry**, **Michael Foster**, and **Kevin King** did make it into the Class, so good luck to them and the rest of our classmates who are tired, hungry, and on patrol.

Here are a couple of pics from FAOBC. **Joe Owczarek** gave me this one of the infamous Ft Sill toga parties. Pictured are **Ted Reich**, **Bill Carrier**, **Tom Jones**, **Steve Stark**, **Stan Johnson**, **Joel Roberts**, **Rob Decker**, **Brian Trammell**, **Mike Brown**, **Joe**, **Pete Vo**, **Dave Roberts**, **Darby McNulty**, and **Johnny Knighten**.

Also from Ft Sill, **Dan King** sent me this pic of **Garret Lipecky**, **Greg Pease** and himself trying to fit into the breach of a 155mm howitzer. They finished