



CNC NEWS

For Alumni and Friends of Christopher Newport College

Volume 2 Number 1

Newport News, Virginia

Winter 1990

Creech Computer Lab Dedicated

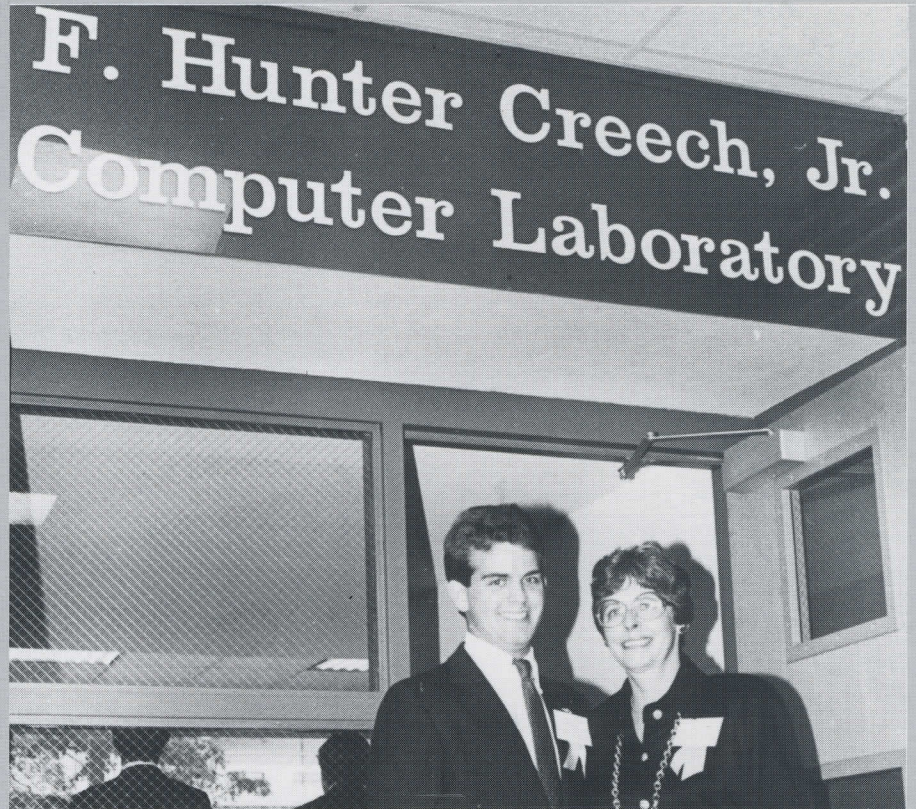
Christopher Newport College dedicated the F. Hunter Creech, Jr. Computer Laboratory on October 25. This university level facility is for the use of the College's Department of Applied Physics and Computer Science.

Designed for the use of undergraduates and for faculty research in connection with grants from CEBAF, NASA, the National Science Foundation, and the State Council of Higher Education, this laboratory was established in memory of F. Hunter Creech by combined funds from Newport News Shipbuilding and Christopher Newport College.

Hunter Creech, a Vice President of the Shipyard from 1974 until his death in 1983, served on the College's Advisory Council and was a member of CNC's Board of Visitors at the time of his death.

Creech was a brilliant lawyer who believed that education was the road to success for Virginia's young people. A caring man of unbending integrity, Creech is fittingly remembered in this unusual memorial.

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Betty Creech Watkins and F. Hunter Creech, III pose at the dedication.

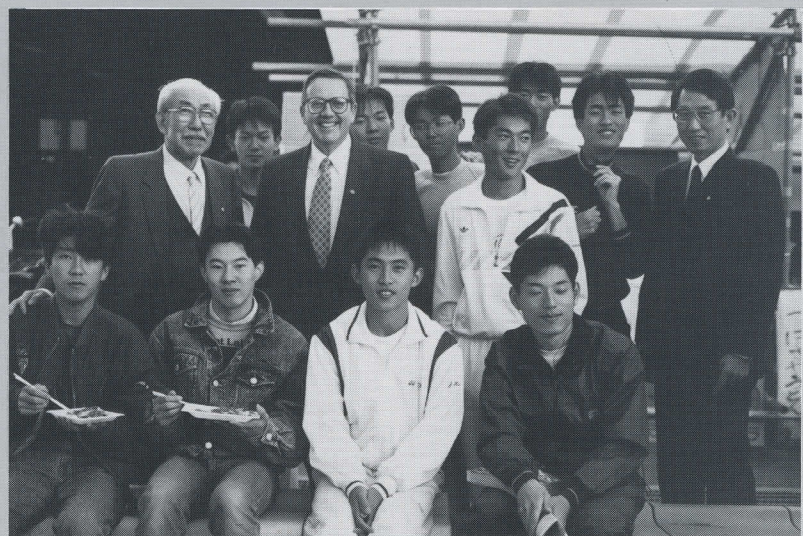
(Donna DeGrace)

CNC Signs Japanese Exchange Agreement

On October 29, Dr. Anthony Santoro, President of Christopher Newport College, and Mr. Jim West, Chairman of the Newport News School Board and President of CNC's Alumni Society, arrived in Japan to begin a week-long visit with Newport News' "sister city", Nayagawa, in the Osaka Prefecture. Dr. Santoro and Mr. West completed a week of official activities as members of a delegation representing the Newport News Sister Cities Commission.

"The purpose of my visit was not only in the capacity of a delegate member, but also as President of the College," said Dr. Santoro. "As a representative of the Sister Cities

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President Toshio Makimoto of Setsunan University with CNC President Anthony R. Santoro, university students and academic dean.

From the President...



Dr. Anthony R. Santoro

We're well into an important New Year as I write this message; a belated Happy New Year to all of you from all of us at CNC! This year marks the beginning of the last decade of our century, and we are making plans for Christopher Newport's entry into the 21st century.

On October 25, the Creech Computer Lab was dedicated. Through the generosity of Mr. Creech, his family, and the Newport News Shipyard, we have a marvelous facility that assists greatly the work of our faculty and students in computer science and physics.

Recently I had the opportunity to visit Japan as a member of the Newport News Sister Cities Commission. In addition to my commissioner activities in the "sister city" of Neyagawa, I made visits to a number of Japanese universities and to Virginia's Department of Economic Development branch office in Tokyo. I am pleased to report to you that an exchange agreement has been signed with Kansai Gaidai University in Hirakata City in Osaka Prefecture. We look forward to having Japanese students here and to having our students go to Japan. In the future we also plan to work out exchange agreements for faculty as well.

In one of our earlier newsletters, I reported to you on the appointment of a special commission by Governor Baliles to examine higher education into the 21st century. The Commission on the University of the 21st Century has now completed its work and issued its report to the Governor and the citizens of the Commonwealth. The major conclusion of the Commission is "that fundamental changes in Virginia's system of higher education are necessary in order to strengthen Virginia's leadership position among the states." Each college is being asked to develop its response to this plan by June of 1991, we will keep you informed.

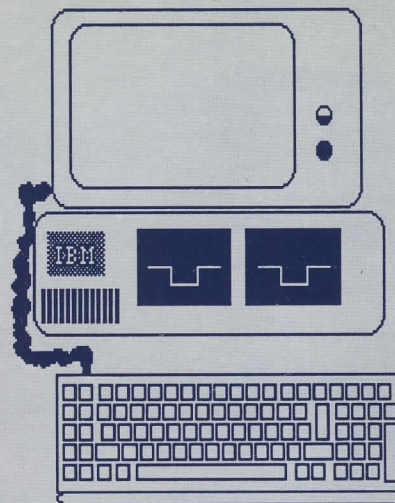
Again, please accept our warmest wishes for a healthy and prosperous new year.

Creech Computer Lab

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In conjunction with the dedication ceremony, CNC's Falk Art Gallery displayed a collection of wood carvings and photographs by Robert H. Burgess. Often referred to as the Dean of the Chesapeake Bay, Burgess and his work were well-known by Creech, who had a strong interest in the Bay and its watermen.

A reception followed the brief dedication ceremony, which was free and open to the public.



Exchange Agreement

Continued from Page 1

Commission, my activities included visits to Japanese schools, hospitals, and cultural events. But I also took the opportunity to visit three Japanese universities and to sign preliminary agreements with one of them to begin an exchange program with CNC."

On November 6, Dr. Santoro met with the President of Kansai Gaidai University, Sadato Tanimoto, and signed a preliminary agreement for a student exchange program between the two institutions. Kansai Gaidai University, located in Hirakata City in the Osaka Prefecture, is a private university with an enrollment of 9,000 students.

"Kansai Gaidai has an excellent Asian Studies program," said Dr. Santoro. "We chose this university for an exchange program for reasons of acculturation. They are remarkably geared toward Western students."

Currently 250 Western students, mostly housed together, attend Kansai Gaidai for their Asian Studies program. Dr. Santoro said that political science and history majors

at CNC would be able to attend Kansai Gaidai for up to two semesters starting as soon as September 1990. Other CNC majors may attend Kansai Gaidai for one semester at the same tuition rate as CNC.

Mr. Jim West also visited Neyagawa as a member of the Sister Cities Commission. "As Chairman of the Newport News School Board, I attended and observed the teaching methods of Japanese elementary and junior high schools," said Mr. West. "The differences between us and them are remarkably interesting."

Both Dr. Santoro and Mr. West agreed that their visit to Neyagawa, Japan were "great!" Dr. Santoro and his wife, Carol, and Mr. West, and his wife, Margaret, all stayed with Japanese host families during their visit. Dr. Santoro and Mr. West said they are looking forward to the Japanese delegation's visit to Newport News next year. Japanese members will then stay with host families in Newport News.



President and Mrs. Santoro attend a City Council meeting in Neyagawa.

Faculty Spotlight

Drs. Koch and Paul Promote Theatre and English

Over the past eight years, Christopher Newport College has hosted over 12,000 high school students, from Matthews County to Virginia Beach, for its Fall theatre productions. The College has been sponsoring its theatre productions for high school students since 1981 when Dr. Bruno Koch of CNC's Theatre Department and Dr. Jay Paul of CNC's English Department collaborated on the idea and "decided to see if there would be anyone interested in coming."

"In the beginning, we had to call all of the local high schools to see if they would come," said Dr. Paul. "However, during these past few years our phones have started ringing at the end of the summer before school even starts. They call us to make sure they're invited!"

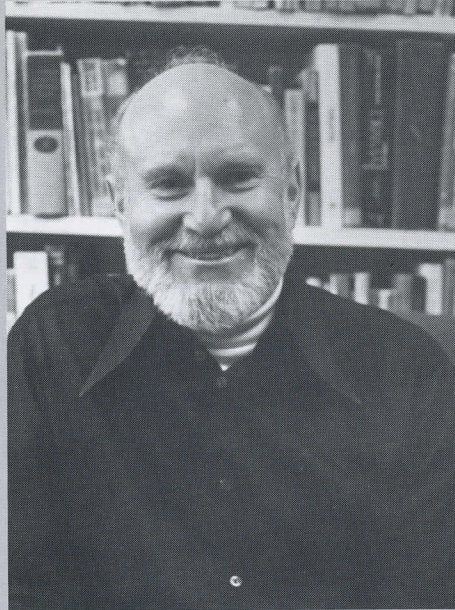
The Theatre Department usually produces a play each semester. Local high schools attend the Fall production. Productions open to the public are held for four nights over two consecutive weekends. The decision to invite high school students to the plays meant adding on extra performance times during the weekdays and in the morning.

Dr. Koch and Dr. Paul are very proud of the entertainment service that they provide for the community and of the additional performances that they present to the high schools. Christopher Newport College is the only college in the Hampton Roads area that holds weekday morning theatre productions for high school students.

After the play, the cast comes out onto the edge of the stage and takes questions from the audience of 350 to 400 high school students. "Sometimes we invite a psychology professor, history professor, or philosophy professor to give a five or ten minute presentation of their different views on the play," said Dr. Koch. "It's always a very exciting and enriching time of exchange between the audience and the production staff."

According to Dr. Paul, the majority of the plays performed are ones most often read by juniors and seniors in their high school English classes. "This year, because Moliere's *Tartuffe* was performed, we had a large number of students from French classes attend, as well as the junior and/or senior English classes," said Dr. Paul.

During the question and answer period after the play, students are encouraged to ask about aspects of the theatrical production as well as aspects of the play as literature. "The students were very interested in the costumes worn in *Tartuffe*," said Dr. Koch. "They're period costumes designed and made here at CNC by Laurel Tsirimokos. They are fabulous! They could appear on any stage in the world."



Dr. Bruno Koch



(Matt Riebe)

Dr. Jay Paul

(The Captain's Log)

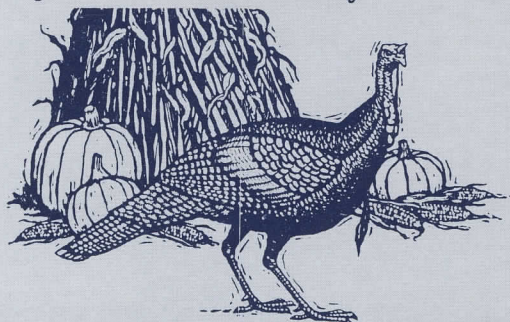


Scenes from Moliere's *Tartuffe*.

(Matt Riebe)



G. W. Dameron and Mike Andreas do a perfect imitation at the "Turkey Trot"



"Spirit" of Giving Alive and Well

The College community at CNC really got into the "spirit" of giving for the holiday season. Six campus organizations collected food, clothes, and money for needy families and the homeless.

The Hunger Task Force contacted students, staff, faculty, and administrators, and collected enough food and money to supply 39 needy families in Newport News with "A turkey, ham, and all the trimmings!" The Minority Student Association also collected food by sponsoring a dance in November, and then a Thanksgiving Food Drive for the Peninsula Food Bank.

Sigma Tau Gamma held their annual Casino Night on November 18. Admission was two canned goods, and guests "gambled" for the Peninsula Food Bank. The brothers collected \$326.17, 169 lbs. of canned goods, and one 14.13 lb. turkey.

The Intramural Recreation Department sponsored their 8th annual "Turkey Trot" on November 21. Registration included a canned good, and over 60 individuals, including students, faculty, and staff, participated in the walk/jog/run. All proceeds from the "Turkey Trot" also went to the Peninsula Food Bank.

The Captain's Players sponsored "Homeless Benefit" performances on December 18, 19, 20, and 21. Admission to the series of skits was anything from health and beauty aids to baby products. Canned goods, clothing, blankets, and money were also accepted.

"The cast was extremely dedicated. A lot of the skits were written by students," said Myra Vazquez, Chairperson of the Homeless Benefit Committee. "We also contacted Comic Relief in New York and asked for copyright releases to use some of their material. They were extremely supportive of our endeavors!"

The Student Virginia Education Association organized a project to help clothe the homeless. The Clothing Closet began on December 5, and will continue through the Spring term. All sizes of clean, used clothing is being collected, and monthly distributions will be made to area shelters.

CNC truly found the meaning of giving this holiday season, and area good will organizations were extremely grateful for their support.

Education Program Undergoes Major Change

In compliance with the recent state mandate, CNC has altered its teacher certification requirements so that students who will graduate after May 1992 will not be able to obtain a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education.

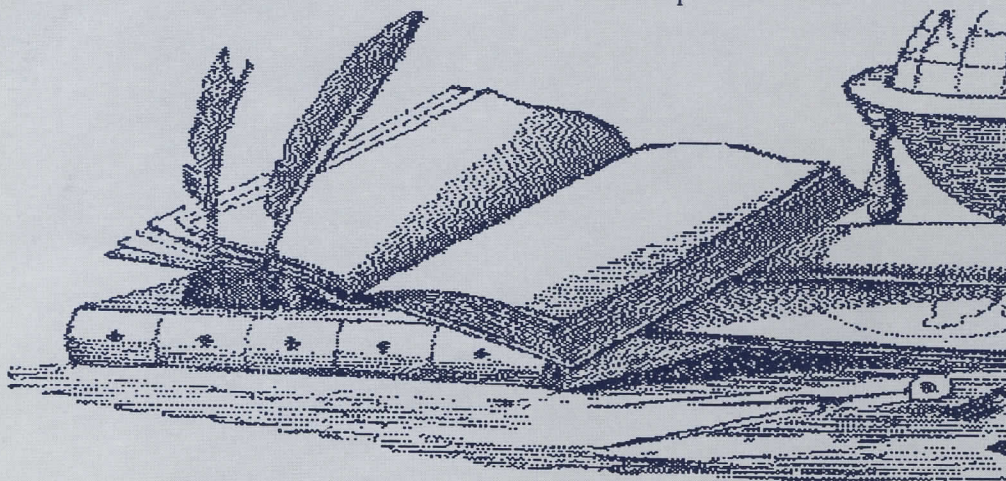
"The Elementary Education degree has been totally abolished here in Virginia," said Dr. Lora Friedman, Chairperson of CNC's Education Department. "From now on, all future teachers of elementary and middle schools will be required to have earned a degree in a liberal art or science to be eligible to complete a course of study for teacher certification."

This change does not affect the degree process for those students who want to teach high school. These individuals have always been required to major in a specific discipline and take education courses to qualify for certification.

The change in the teacher certification process will add an approximate 18 credit requirement plus lab experiences on the student wishing to teach in either elementary or middle school. "This means an extra year of studies for most students," said Dr. Friedman. "Students will be required to take professional studies, methods courses, and an internship."

Methods courses "teach students to teach" reading, writing, science, math, etc., said Dr. Friedman. This is important since elementary teachers must teach all courses, not just their subject area.

Virginia is condidered a leader in the education reform movement that began eight years ago with the publication of *A Nation at Risk*. It is because of the state's concern over the quality of education in elementary and middle schools that the teaching certification requirements were altered, and CNC is doing its part to comply with the state's mandate.



CNC NEWS

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Newport News, Virginia 23606-2998

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Writing Intern: Lisa Reagan

CNC is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.

5:30 p.m. Women's Basketball Game vs. Averett College
Ratcliffe Gym
Special Section for Alumni

7:30 p.m. Men's Basketball Game vs. Averett College
Ratcliffe Gym
Special Section for Alumni

Alumni with Society membership card
admitted FREE.

All others: \$3.00

Following the game

SAFFIRE-THE UPPITY BLUES WOMEN
Christopher's "Coffee House"
Campus Center



"This unique musical group plays a natural kind of acoustic 'down home' music of every genre from jazz, gospel, bluegrass, motown, and, of course, the blues. A unique and fresh change of pace in entertainment that will leave you feeling...real good."

7:00-9:00 p.m. Alumni Cocktail Party
New Conference Room
Campus Center
\$7.50 per person/cash bar

Reservations must be received by February 7, 1990

Make checks payable to **CNC Alumni Society** and mail to:

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Newport News, VA 23606-2998

9:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m. Semi-Formal Dance

Featuring Live Entertainment by
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Sponsored by CAB, SGA and THE ALUMNI SOCIETY. If you need more information, please call the Office of Alumni Relations at 594-7712.

Alumni Spotlight

Steve Tross, '85 – Alias Santa Claus

At 27, Steve Tross, '85, has been the main attraction for the Hampton Christmas Parade, appeared on cable television shows like "Reflections of You", ridden in a Shriner's go-cart through a local mall, and visited children in the hospital on Christmas Eve.

"I guess it's because Santa's a real popular guy, everyone loves him," said Tross. "I've never considered playing Santa a job because I love doing it so much."

Tross said one of his fondest memories of "playing Santa Claus" occurred a couple of years ago. "That Christmas I rode through Coliseum Mall in a Shriner's go-cart to their big Christmas stage. Children and grown-ups grabbed at me and tried to touch me as I drove by."

"The greatest part was when they were all waiting for Santa Claus (me) to go on stage. Everyone got really quiet. Even He-Man and the Masters of the Universe, who were also there, weren't as popular as Santa!"

Another place Tross, as Santa, is very popular, is with the children at Mary Immaculate Hospital. "I usually go there on Christmas Eve and visit the children who have to stay in the hospital over the holiday," said Tross. The nurses go with me and let me know if it's okay to hand out the candy canes I usually bring along."

Tross started playing Santa in 1980 for the Virginia Beach area malls, but in the past couple of years, his "work" as Santa has been on a voluntary basis.

While attending CNC, Tross was a brother of Sigma Pi Fraternity, and from 1984-85, served as Vice President for Administrative Affairs in the Student Government Association. He graduated with a B.S.I.S. degree, and presently serves on the Alumni Society Board of Directors, as Chapter Director for Sigma Pi International, and is a member of the Sigma Pi Chesapeake Bay Alumni Association. He is currently employed by Virginia Power at the Surry Nuclear Power Station where he "really works" as a Nuclear Health Physics Technician.

NNS Alumni Reception Held

On November 13, Newport News Shipbuilding hosted an alumni reception for CNC graduates currently working at the Shipyard and at Newport News Industrial. Sponsored by the Shipyard to promote their matching gift program, Y. B. Williams, Vice President for Community Affairs, explained the policies which allow employees to have their gifts to educational institutions matched dollar for dollar.

Moderated by Jim West, Alumni Society President and NNS employee, the program



Steve, as Santa, and sister Donna, '89. The "real" Steve shown below.



also included a welcome by Bill O'Neill, Rector of the Board of Visitors and retired Executive Vice President at NNS; a dormitory slide presentation by Dr. Charles Behymer, Vice President for Student Affairs; and an athletic update by C. J. Woollum, Director of Athletics. The program concluded with door prizes being given away by Liz Bryant, Director of Alumni Relations.

After the program, alumni enjoyed refreshments and becoming reacquainted.

Alumni President's Corner

I was very pleased to travel with Dr. Santoro and represent both the Newport News School Board and Christopher Newport College on the delegation sent to visit Newport News' "sister city", Neyagawa, Japan. This was a most interesting and informative experience, and I hope you have read about the visit on pages one and two. My appreciation for CNC's International Studies Program with the Japanese Initiative has been significantly strengthened as a result of this trip.

I was also pleased to moderate the Newport News Shipbuilding Reception for CNC graduates. As a shipyard employee, I am proud of the yard's commitment to higher education and CNC, exemplified through their Matching Gift Program and contribution to the Hunter Creech Computer Laboratory. CNC continues to prosper through the support of many local businesses, and we appreciate their commitment.

Homecoming has been planned for February 9 and 10, and I sincerely hope everyone will make an effort to attend the festivities. Every year the number of alumni attending Homecoming increases, so please mark your calendar and get your reservation in early.

Another very important announcement is the establishment of the Distinguished Alumni Award by the Alumni Society. Information and a nomination form are on the back cover of the newsletter. I encourage you to give this careful consideration, and nominate a truly worthy candidate.

I hope everyone had a happy, joyful holiday season. The era of the 1980's is behind us, and we need to look ahead to the 1990's. Please include in your New Year's resolutions plans to be a part of the growing numbers in the Alumni Society.

Jim West, '75

Alumni Notes

'67 **Jane Colonna Newton** received her B.A. in Elementary Education from William and Mary in 1969, and is currently a receptionist for Griffith Clinic, PC in Mt. Holly. She and her husband, Edward, live in Kinsale with their three children.

'73 **Beatrice (Bea) Thomas Ray** works at Vulcan Materials Company in Birmingham, Alabama. She adopted a baby girl in 1987.

'74 **Mary E. Tyrrell Gray** lives in Newport News, and recently started her own freelance editorial service - Over the Transom.

'74 **Ronald P. Ponzo** received his M.A. in Humanities from Old Dominion University in 1981. He has been teaching French and English in York County Public Schools since 1974, and resides in Newport News.

'74 **Paula Clark Rankin** earned her M.A. from William and Mary in 1975 and Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University in 1984. She is currently an Associate Professor of English at Hampton University, and resides in Newport News.

'77 **Jerry R. Karwac, Jr.** received his M.S. in Computer Science from George Washington University in 1988. He currently resides in Grafton, and is employed by UNISYS Corporation in Hampton.

'80 **Eric D. McKnight** is a Juvenile Probation Officer for Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. He resides in Springfield.

'81 **Susan Fiorella Smith Hogue** was recently promoted to head the city wide recycling program at the city's recycling office in Newport News. She resides in Suffolk.

'81 **Susan Awalt Mantz** is the co-founder of Laundry Services, Inc. in Portsmouth. The company serves apartments, dormitories, restaurants and hospitals.

'81 **Ellen Rankin Powell** is a first grade teacher in Chesterfield County. She lives in Midlothian.

'81 **Maureen T. Connors Robertson** is working part-time as a Computer Operator at Granger, Lent and Hawthorne, CPA's in Williamsburg. She is pursuing an associate degree in Nursing at Thomas Nelson Community College.

'82 **Philip A. Rosche** is a Senior Material Analyst for Arthur D. Little Program Systems Management Company. He and his wife, **Debora M. Pickering Rosche**, '82, have one son, and live in Virginia Beach.

'83 **Tom Bailey** is employed with Kaiser Permanente Health Plan of Georgia in Atlanta. He lives in Alpharetta.

'83 **Claudia D. Ward Melgaard** is a Lab Analyst for Newport News Waterworks. She lives in Hampton with her husband, Bill.

'83 **Donna Newsome Owens** is a teacher at Dare Elementary School in York County. She and her husband, Grant, have two children.

'83 **Steven M. Ritenour** is employed as a Computer Programmer with Computer Data Systems, Inc. in Rockville, Maryland. He lives in Manassas.

'83 **Paul B. Robbins** is owner of the Hilton Deli in Newport News, and the Hilton Deli II in Poquoson.

'84 **Joseph L. Dunford** is a Senior Zoning Inspector II with the City of Hampton where he and his wife, Julie, also live.

'84 **Bobbie N. Cullar Long** after five years of working for the U.S. Navy in Naples, Italy, has returned to Philadelphia to work at the Navy Regional Contracting Center. Her son, **Bill Curby**, '86, is managing the Ensemble Theater of Cincinnati in Ohio.

'84 **D. Scott McPherson** opened his own law firm, Berry and McPherson, on July 1, 1989 in Atlanta, Georgia. He is married to **Angela Marcopoulos**, '84, and they reside in Marietta.

'84 **Jack V. Ottofaro** is a Software Engineer for McDonnell in McClean. He is married to **Patricia Ann Smith**, '85, and they live in Springfield.

'84 **Cynthia J. Freed Pittman** is a Social Worker for the Emergency Services of the American Red Cross, and Facilitator for the Peninsula ASAP. She resides in Newport News.

'85 **Sandra Michener** is employed as an Auditor for the U.S. Department of Treasury, Office of the Inspector General, in Washington, D.C. She lives in Waldorf, Maryland.

'85 **Carolyn E. Reynolds** is a Budget Analyst Intern at Ft. Monroe.

'86 **Kiki Georges Giannopoulos** is the Benefits Coordinator for Signet Bank's metro region in Vienna. She resides in Stafford.

'86 **Steven Karnes** is the District Manager for Snappy Car Rental in Newport News.

'86 **Jeff P. Meyer** is the Vice President of Operations and Treasurer for Hughes Investments in St. Spindale, North Carolina. He resides in Forest City.

'86 **Douglas W. Packard** is a Contract Specialist for the Department of the Army at Ft. Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis, Indiana. He is also working on his M.B.A. from the Florida Institute of Technology.

'87 **Kenneth C. Gillespie** joined the Navy in February 1989. He recently completed Recruit Training Command in Orlando, Florida.

'87 **John S. Meckley, Jr.** graduated from William and Mary in 1989 with a M.S. in Computer Science. He currently works for Data General Corporation as a Software Engineer II, and resides in Durham, North Carolina.

'88 **Linda Gordon** was awarded a University Fellowship to study at Old Dominion University, and began this study last Fall. She resides in Newport News.

'88 **Sandra J. Rhew Hennessy** is the Business Administrator for Price and Booker, DDS, in Newport News. She has one son.

'88 **Karen S. Humphrey** lives in Richmond where she is pursuing a degree in Pharmacy at the Medical College of Virginia.

Alumni Update and/or Address Correction

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Name | Maiden |
| Home Add. | City |
| State | Zip |
| Bus. Name | Phone () |
| Bus. Add. & Phone | Class |
| News | |

Distinguished Alumni Award Established

The Board of Directors of the Alumni Society approved the establishment of a Distinguished Alumni Award at their November 16 meeting, and now needs your help in soliciting nominations.

Any graduate of CNC who has distinguished himself/herself through personal or professional accomplishment or who has rendered outstanding service to CNC or to the Alumni Society is eligible for the award. Members of the Board of Directors are ineligible.

Alumni and friends of CNC are requested to nominate individuals for the 1990 Distinguished Alumni Award by March 1, 1990. The recipient will be announced at the Annual Alumni Society Dinner Meeting on May 5.

Mail nominations to CNC Alumni Office, DAA Domination, 50 Shoe Lane, Newport News, VA 23606-2998.

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Nomination Form

Name _____ Class _____

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Brief list of qualification

(more detailed information will be requested from the nominee).

Nominator's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____