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In Our Midst

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In Our

Happiness at the Naval Postgraduate School is . . . a husband willing to gain many of his day-to-day rewards from his curriculum and a wife accepting the challenge of independent time to develop her mind, her creative talents, and her capacity to serve the community. This philosophy was adopted by Steve and Barbara Balut upon their arrival at the Postgraduate School more than four years ago and is still working as their secret to a successful tour here.

Lt. Cmdr. Balut began his Naval career on the USS Kitty Hawk CVA-63. Following this tour he was assigned to CIC/AIC School at Glynco, Georgia with a subsequent tour aboard the USS Tattal DDG-19, as CIC Officer. His next duty was Destroyer School at Newport, Rhode Island. Then, after serving as the Engineer Officer aboard the USS Stribling, DD867, homeported in Mayport, Florida, Lt. Cmdr. Balut, upon advice from his superior officers, accepted orders to NPS.

Arriving here with a Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics, he first completed two quarters in Engineering Science, then entered the Operations Analysis curriculum where he recently was advanced to candidacy for the Ph.D. Degree. Scheduled to complete his period of independent doctoral research in March of 1973, Lt. Cmdr. Balut has, in the past year, presented research papers at two national conferences of the Operations Research Society of America and is planning to deliver another at the Society's November meeting in Atlantic City.

Also upcoming is the publication of a portion of his doctoral dissertation in the periodical "Management Science Journal."

Lt. Cmdr. Balut's wife, Barbara, mother of three active daughters, Michelle, 6; Alison, 5; and Elizabeth, 1½; is known to many "Classmate" readers through her position as advertising director. Her flair in this area carries over to the civilian community where, during the past three years, she has capably handled the advertising duties for the Carmel Bach Festival; the National Horse Show, an annual event at the Monterey County Fairgrounds; and the Eastwood Tennis Tournament.

Active in military circles as well, Barbara has served as the O.S.W.C. Ways and Means Chairman, Vice President and President. In 1971 she was selected as Military Wife of the Year for the Twelfth Naval District and subsequently became a finalist in the national competition for this distinction. Along with two other members of O.S.W.C., Mrs. Balut will be

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Midst

included in the current listing of "Outstanding Young Women in America."

Having a special concert for organizations benefitting children, Barbara acted as President of the Navy Nursery School Association at NALF and served as one of the Monterey chairmen for the Mothers' March of Dimes.

An interest that brings a special measure of warmth to their home is their sponsorship of an international couple. For over a year, the Baluts have hosted Lt. and Mrs. Eduardo Agueyo of the Peruvian Navy, and enjoyed a variety of activities together.

Aside from this busy schedule, Steve and Barbara enjoy several hobbies, among which is bowling. Competing as a couple, they were trophy winners in a recent "Friday night league." Steve, with as high as a 193 average, has been a member of the NPS Bowling Advisory Committee for over three years. Another hobby they enjoy, and one for which there is virtually unlimited opportunity on the Peninsula, is experimenting with new and different restaurants.

Since coming to Monterey, Steve earned his private pilot's license and is now working toward a commercial license. After that, he will be working toward an instrument rating, multi-engine rating, and certified flight instruction rating. Everything but the private pilot's license is paid for by the GI Bill.

Whether it be the classroom, the career, or the community, energetic Steve and Barbara Balut are definitely a couple that's "going places."

— Angela Holm



Barb and Steve Balut with their 3 1/4 children. (John Perkins Photo)



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