

JOY Receives Award



Due to a family commitment, LTJG John Junek could not attend the Association's Spring Conference in Kansas City to be recognized as the Drilling Reservist Junior Officer of the Year for 2004. Recently, LTJG Junek and his wife Annette visited Headquarters to receive his plaque from RADM Keith. The award

presentation was preceded by lunch at a local Alexandria restaurant. LTJG Junek is an Aerospace Engineering Duty Officer assigned to Naval Air Systems Command 6066. He was the recipient of the Naval Reserve Air Systems Command JOY for 2004. LTJG Junek and his wife reside in Leonardtown, MD. ⚓

A Proud Captain with His Sons



As Captain Chuck Jindrich (VP Membership, 9th District) helps grow membership in the Naval Reserve Association, he has just enjoyed the fruits of his personal professional mentoring which include his four sons pictured here at the recent Naval Academy graduation in Annapolis.

(L to R) Midshipman 2nd Class Richard Jindrich, USN; newly commissioned and 2005 USNA grad Ensign Joseph Jindrich, USN, (currently in flight training); Army Specialist and Iraq veteran Matthew Jindrich; F-18 pilot Captain Chas A. Jindrich III, USMC; and Dad.



VR-53 Capital Express Celebrates Change of Command

On 6 August, Fleet Logistics Support Squadron Five Three (VR-53) celebrated its change of command when Commander Ken Deakin relieved Commander Tim Fox. VR-53 flies the C-130 Hercules transport aircraft and is based at Naval Air Facility Washington, D.C.

Commander Fox, who assumed command in August 2004, led the squadron through one of its most successful periods on record. The squadron flew over 6,300 mishap-free hours, transported over 8,700 passengers, and moved over 9.3 million pounds of cargo. Additionally, the squadron operated in every major theater while flying missions that provided relief to tsunami victims as well as operating in direct support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. In recognition of its incredible accomplishments, VR-53 was awarded the 2004 Department of the Navy Safety Excellence Award as the Navy unit with the best risk management program and overall safety record. Furthermore, the squadron was awarded NRA's RADM Phil Smith Operational Excellence Award for outstanding resource management, deployed operational effectiveness, fiscal efficiency, and overall operational excellence.

Commander Deakin, a graduate of Marquette University, challenged the squadron to continue its tradition of excellence in the future. In the coming year, VR-53 will deploy to Bahrain, Sigonella, and Japan and will begin flying joint aeromedical evacuation missions with the Air Force. ↓

SEPTEMBER ISSUE CORRECTION

Page 6. (REMEMBERING . . .)

- Flight 175, rank should read
LCDR Victor Saracini, USNR (Ret)
- RC Sailors lost in Iraq, rank should read
HM2 Jeffrey L. Wiener, USNR