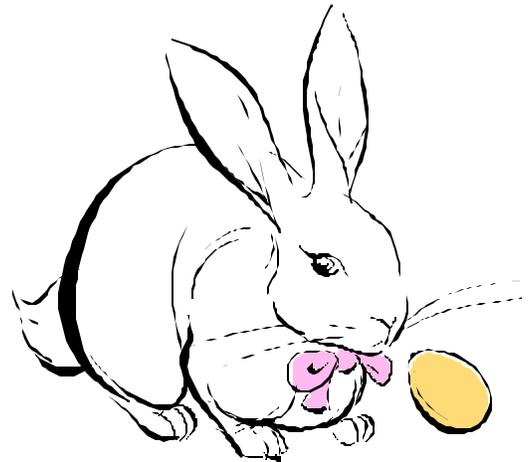


# SPRING BULLETIN



Congratulations Builders:  
The men's basketball team successfully defended their title this year becoming the second Builder squad to repeat as champs in a three year span. The Lady Builders made a two year run as champs and went all the way to the title game for the third year in a row. Great Job! For more information go to [www.gobuilders.com](http://www.gobuilders.com).

## **What's Inside**

**The Smallest Things**

**Dr. Hughes Unmasked**

**President's Words**

**Final Words of Wisdom**

**Who Said That**

**Plastic Surgery**

**HAPPY EASTER**

## *Is there a Doctor in the house?*

*By: James Stamper*

I recently had the pleasure of interviewing one of the hardest working men that I have ever met. If Dr. Hughes is not in a meeting trying to enhance all of our careers he is working in his office for his boss, Director of Training, Jim Wallace. In the capacity of Academics Training Manager, Dr. Hughes is responsible for the coordination of twelve apprentice academics instructors plus delivering all the courses in the World Class Shipbuilder Curriculum. In addition to these responsibilities Dr. Hughes also coordinates all instruction provided by Thomas Nelson Community College for selected courses in the advanced programs and any continuing education including transfer agreements with area colleges and universities. Some special projects that Dr. Hughes has been working on are the Leadership Development Program, which I wrote a feature article on in a previous issue, and the expansion of our course curriculum. This will move us closer to realizing an associate's degree in engineering technology and business administration.

When I asked Dr. Hughes what his inspiration was while earning an extensive educational background, he said that his parents and family were his driving force. His parents had really encouraged him and his brother and sister to excel early in life. His older brother had become a doctor and his older sister had become a nurse. This example of educational accomplishment had inspired him to further his own education. Dr. Hughes's educational background includes a BS degree in economics and history from Middle Tennessee State University, an MS degree in guidance from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, and a PhD degree in education from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. If this is not proof of setting the example for us all, I don't know what is. When I asked Dr. Hughes what was the most enjoyable thing about being an Academics Training Manager, he said that the interaction with apprentices and graduate apprentices as well as other faculty members makes his career very rewarding. He also stated that he likes the opportunity as an administrator because he gets to see apprentices mature and develop over four or five years, and then take their place in the company and the community. Speaking of taking your place in the community, Dr. Hughes serves as an usher for his church, Saint Bede Catholic Church of Williamsburg. He is also a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians to appreciate his Irish heritage and he loves to go canoeing with his friends in the Coastal Canoeists club when he has time. There are three key points of advice that Dr. Hughes wanted to share with brand new recruits. First, give yourself time to get adjusted. Don't expect things to fall into place right away. Be patient. Wait a while before you make some of those long-term financial decisions. This could limit your future options. Second, ask for help if you need it. Our instructors and administration are geared to helping you be successful in your apprenticeship, and finally take advantage of the opportunities that the Apprentice school and Northrop Grumman Newport News provide. Some examples he mentioned were tuition reimbursement, night school, ASSA activities and sports programs.

I really enjoyed interviewing Dr. Hughes. He really does have all our best interests and hopes and dreams in mind as he paves the way for our educations. I urge you to stop him in the hall at school or speak to him at an Apprentice School event and tell him that we all appreciate his contribution to our careers.

We all yearn for the day that we will finally be able to proudly say:  
“I am an Apprentice School Graduate!”  
That dream was realized by this year’s class and here are the  
departing words spoken by this year’s Homer L. Ferguson Award  
winner.

Graduation Speech  
Ozzy O. Reynolds –Class of 2002

Good evening friends, family and fellow graduates. When I was first notified that I would be speaking tonight, I thought of it as a duty or a chore. However, after thinking about all of the hurdles I faced during my Apprenticeship and the people who helped me jump over them, I realized that it was a privilege to speak on behalf of the Class of 2002.

This ceremony is the result of several years of hard work and determination both physically and mentally. We are here tonight because we have the initiative and motivation to succeed when given the opportunity. We have all learned that the Apprentice Program is a marathon, not a sprint. But tonight we have finally reached the finish line.

Graduates....let us not forget the faculty and staff of the Apprentice School who helped us finish this race, because without them we would have surely run out of wind. Throughout my Apprenticeship, I have been guided and motivated by the very finest academic and craft instructors. Each of them had a willingness to help that is unparalleled in today’s world. To the academic instructors: I remember the extra help you gave me at 6:00 am before normal working hours. I remember an entire day’s lesson being taught to me at your home because I was absent from class the previous day. I remember you helping me on a class that you did not even teach. I remember, and I thank you.

To the craft instructors I say: I remember the encouragement you gave me when felt overwhelmed and lost. I remember the confidence you displayed in me when you had a critical job to complete. I remember how you treated me as a person and not a number. I remember, and I thank you.

Now that we have reached this milestone in our career, we carry the distinct honor of being labeled Apprentice Graduates. We are regarded among the very best in the company and we must continue to set an example for future Apprentice Graduates. We must continue to set higher goals for ourselves because we are the future leaders of this company.

In closing, I would like to say this. I entered The Apprentice School immediately after I graduated high school. I knew nothing about my trade or the process of shipbuilding. However, I stand here tonight, 6 years later, representing a group of my peers as I embark on a great career. We all owe a debt of gratitude to The Apprentice School that can only be repaid through our success.

Thank you again for this privilege.

# Details, Details, Details

By:

Adam Madison

So many times when you take a step back and look at life, you realize it is the smaller things in life that are the most important. The main reason is everything in life comes down to the details of the small things. Everything in life, no matter how big, is nothing more than the smallest part. Even the biggest ship that we build is nothing but small pieces. Those small pieces get put together to make slightly bigger pieces. Then those get added to others, and the process continues until we have a 95,000-ton carrier. Then the process is furthered with the addition of fuel and equipment until it weights in over 100,000-ton. But what does that have to do with you. You are the one that makes those pieces. You are the one that puts those pieces together with the other pieces. Your attention to the smallest detail will get the job done faster. But it does something even more important than that. It will allow you to get the job done right, the first time. That is the most important thing in life, not only getting it done but doing it right. After all getting the job done right is the thing that allows you to develop your reputation, which will deliver the world to your feet. The second most important thing is doing it right the first time. I think the best way to explain this is by quoting a mind-boggling thought. Even though you will find as many people that think it is completely impossible as you will people that will say it could happen if all the things we know to be true become inverted, such as laws (scientifically speaking of course) that make life possible are suspended then there is a small chance. *If you take 100 chimpanzees and allow them to type aimlessly on a typewriter for eternity, then sooner or later one of the animals will type an entire work of Shakespeare with out a single typing mistake.* What makes that so amazing is that I know how to type, and I am an alright speller. But I cannot type a paragraph without a typo. But I do not have an eternity to type my works. All I am trying to point out is that anybody can get it right if they have an eternity to work on it. But to get it done right in the time frame we have to do it in means that you are capable of anything you put your mind to. That takes attention to the little things, the details. *Besides, if you don't have the time to do it right the first time how are you ever going to find the time to do it again?* Now you're probably asking what you should do with what I have said. But the power that may come of a message like this does not spring of off my words. It comes from the thoughts in you head. So you can do what ever you want; you can act like you've never read this. You can also use this in your work life and become a better mechanic, and an inspirational crew leader. Maybe you can take this thought and have a slight change in your all around life. The main thing is there are many ways to look at life, and sometimes we need the ability to look at it from a different perspective. If you can master the ability to look at it the way everyone else does, yet you also have the ability to take the entire situation apart and look at the problem or the situation as tiny bits of information. They are just glued together. You may also be able to use slight changes to fix it instead of redoing the whole process. *We are all only one decision away from a catastrophe. Make the right choices.*

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Contact me at [dunn\\_di@nns.com](mailto:dunn_di@nns.com) to place your add in The Builder Bulletin. It is totally free and picture adds are welcome. There is a \_ after dunn in my email address. It needs to be there for the email to be successful.

Dave Dunn

## FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Wow! It's April already. 2003 is off on a fast pace and the ASSA is right in step. January saw another smooth Graduation and our Annual Awards Banquet was great. Despite the record snowfall most of us received, attendance was up at both events!

It has been a pleasure to see so many new faces helping out this year. Whether it's the basketball games, wrestling matches or baseball tournament, your ASSA Delegates have been out in force baring the elements to sell concessions. I appreciate all the hard work and would like to thank all of you for a great start to this year.

But, just like the weather, we're just starting to get warmed up. April and May are right around the corner and will prove to be our busiest time yet! We have a Rock-N-Bowl planned for April 18<sup>th</sup> (tickets are on sale now). And, again this year, the ASSA will be doing our part in the fight against cancer through Relay For Life. Relay For Life will be at Todd Stadium off of Warwick, the last weekend in May, the 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>. We have several fundraisers planned including: car washes (that we always need help with) and a fish fry on May 10<sup>th</sup> at the American Legion off of Settlers Landing Road. Also, on May 17<sup>th</sup>, the Sarah Bonwell Hudgins Center will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and has asked the Apprentice School to come out and help with organization.

There will be more information coming in the future about these and other events. And, as always, if you would like to come out and help, or just have some questions, please feel free to call me any time!!

Doug Creps, ASSA President: 534-4346(W), 343-9694(C).

### Who said that?

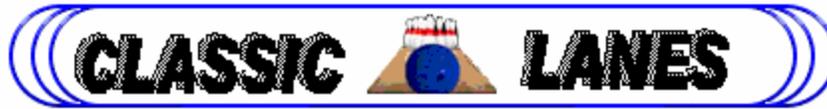
#### Brought to you by Nosidams Play House

- A. "Let the word go forth from this time and place, to friend and foe alike, that the torch has been passed to a new generation of Americans -- born in this century, tempered by war, disciplined by a hard and bitter peace."
- B. "I'd rather be a could-be if I cannot be an are; because a could-be is a maybe who is reaching for a star. I'd rather be a has-been than a might-have-been, by far; for a might have-been has never been, but a has was once an are."
- C. "Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration."
- D. "Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity."
- E. "People demand freedom of speech as a compensation for the freedom of thought which they seldom use."
- F. "Be not afraid of greatness: some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them."

### Math Quiz

By Adam Madison

You are in an orbit above the equator in which you are not revolving with the earth. The radius of the earth at the equator is 3963.19 statute miles. What would a radar-gun read as objects on the earth pass you?



## ROCK-N-BOWL

- Friday April 18th
- 10:00 pm to 2:00 am
- **Classic Lanes Bowling Center**
- \$3.00 person or \$15.00 Lane



### Classic Lanes Bowling Center

(757) 245-2818

630 79<sup>th</sup> Street, Newport News, VA 23605

### Calendar of Events

April 2003

5th Carwash @ Advance  
Autoparts on Hampton Hwy  
11th Delegate Meeting  
18th Rock-N-Bowl @  
Classic Lanes 10PM-2AM  
19th Carwash - Chi-Chi's  
20th EASTER

May 2003

3rd Carwash @ Advance  
Autoparts on Hampton Hwy  
10th Fish fry @ American  
Legion  
26th MEMORIAL DAY - NO  
WORK!!!  
30th & 31st Relay for life

July 2003

4th NO WORK!!!!

August 2003

23rd American Rover

September 2003

1st LABOR DAY - NO  
WORK!!!!!!!!!!!!

October 2003

31st HALLOWEEN

November 2003

27th & 28th THANKSGIVING - NO  
WORK!!!!!!!!!!!!

December 2003

6th Christmas Dinner Dance @ Omni  
19th Last Day of WORK!!!!!!!!!!!!  
24th CHRISTMAS EVE  
25th CHRISTMAS

# **Relay For Life**

Win ... **2003 Volkswagen Beetle Convertible!!!**

Drawing **May 31, 2003**

Blue with White Interior.....

\$5.00 per ticket

Sunscreen "not included"



*Raffle Tickets...* For sale at car washes and the fish fry

Car Wash APRIL 5<sup>th</sup>  
Car Wash APRIL 19<sup>th</sup>  
Car wash MAY 3<sup>RD</sup>  
Fish Fry May 10<sup>th</sup>

For more details Call... **Bob Prior @ 928-0351**

You can always find the most current information and Builder Bulletin at

<http://hometown.aol.com/NGNNASSA/Home.html>

For sports information go to [www.gobuilders.com](http://www.gobuilders.com)

# Publications after plastic surgery

By: Adam Madison

## Our fearless leader



Name: Dave Dunn

Alias: Issac

Hobbies: Softball, Bowling

Marital status: Halfway there

Dept: E06/E51

Something that's not true about me: I have 9 fingers and no thumbs

## Returning veterans



Name: Adam Madison

Alias: Mad dog, psycho, tank, others have been edited to protect the public.

Hobbies: Two words adrenaline junky.

Marital status: Now accepting applications.

Dept: X-31

Something that's not true about me: I do not hear voices, and I escaped from the circus.



Name: James Stamper

Alias: Joe

Hobbies: Piano,

Marital status: I claim it on my taxes

Dept: X-31

Something that's not true about me: I am the out come of a freak science project.



Name: Timmy O'neil

Alias: Timmy The Apprentice

Hobbies: Video Games

Marital status: Single

Dept: X-31

Something that's not true about me: I am NoT CrAzY !!!!!!!!

## The newbies



Name: Dave Culpepper

Alias: Dipdaddy

Hobbies: Sports, computers, Reading

Marital status: Married

Dept: X-31

Something that's not true about me: This one time at welding school.....



Name: Dave Mc Dade JR

Alias: McDaddy

Hobbies: Swim, Movies, Sports

Marital status: Single

Dept: X-31

Something that's not true about me: I invented the internet



Name: Marino Celli

Alias: Mariachi

Hobbies: Shooting pool, playing sports, blah, blah, blah

Marital status: Single and Broke

Dept: X-11

Something that's not true about me: I've always been competent.

I said that.

- A. Kierkegaard
- B. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- C. JFK
- D. Milton Berle
- E. Thomas Alva Edison

Math Answer: To answer this you take the circumference and then divide it by the amount of time it takes the earth to revolve one complete time. (24 hours) To find the circumference you take the radius, and multiply it by 2pi.  $C=2\pi R$  Or  $2 \times 3.14 \dots \times 3963.19$  which equals 24901.457 miles. Take that and divide it by 24 hours.  $24901.457 \text{ miles} / 24 \text{ hours} = 1037.5607$



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