

Around the World with *The Andover Beacon*



By Jessica Pine
For the *Beacon*

This photo with the *Beacon* is from my recent trip to Nigeria. I am currently working as an Education Consultant and Director of Study Abroad at American University of Nigeria (AUN). Our family lived there last year, and this year we are back in Andover, but I am still employed at AUN.

A few months ago I spoke about our experience in Nigeria at Salisbury Elementary School. The students in Jennifer Fish's fifth grade and Shalisse Godfrey's

fourth grade classes donated backpacks for the children at the school in Yola, Nigeria. The backpacks had letters and books.

When I went back to Nigeria a few weeks ago to do a teacher training, I delivered the backpacks, letters, and books to the children I work with in Nigeria. The children in Africa were very excited to receive the gifts! They immediately responded to their letters, and we have now started a pen pal program with the two schools.



Anne Hewitt and her son Greg paused for a photo with the *Beacon* at Canyons Ski Resort in Utah. Greg is a sophomore at Westminster College in Salt Lake City, majoring in Environmental Law (and skiing!).



By Bart Green
For the *Beacon*

My son, Lieutenant Commander Stuart Green [inset photo], invited me aboard the aircraft carrier USS John C. Stennis for its last leg home after a seven-months' deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan. It returned to San Diego on February 27.

It was an amazing experience and one that I shall treasure forever ... seven days of fun and learning what these ships and sailors actually do. I was humbled by the dedication of all the crew members. I met so many of them and had so many talks and laughs that I lost count.

I met a few people who had served in my VP-40 squadron, and that was very special for me. The Navy has changed quite a bit since I was in during the late '60s, but the men have not. They are nothing short of wonderful.

My only bad experience was a nine-hour bout with nausea and tummy problems caused by a bug going around, which gave me a down day. I never got seasick, but there were those who did.

Plenty of entertainment and show-and-tell displays provided enough brain matter to keep from getting bored. I walked on average about four to six miles a day, according to my pedometer ... it is a *big* ship. I also did some mean StairMaster routines in the ladderwells leading from deck to deck.

I am so very proud of Stuart ... very proud ... and thankful for the opportunity.

New York Times journalist Chris Chivers (whom Stuart met) was also aboard the *Stennis* with two of his children. He describes this Tiger Cruise "on the *Stennis*, with relatives packed from bow to stern," at TinyURL.com/6t4jjcp.



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