

From The Editor

Fall Into This Issue

Summer is over, and so is the fiscal year—almost. Already the budget gurus are figuring out how little money we have to operate with for the next year. To live within these budgets, we must constantly find more economical and efficient ways to do business.

One way is to lease expensive equipment instead of buying and maintaining it ourselves. However, while leasing may represent cost savings, there are dangers associated with that practice. Meg White, an intern here at the Safety Center, tells what responsibilities the lessees and lessors have. See pages 10 and 11 for what she has to say.

One of our staffers was walking around with a “fanny pack” that contained a pump to automatically dispense antibiotics via an IV installed in his arm. When we asked him what happened, he replied, “My cat bit me.” Read his story, which starts on page 28.

If you think that your mishap in the wilderness is nobody’s business but yours, think again. If you get hurt or lost in the woods, others risk their lives to rescue you. Read about how a SAR crew came to the rescue of people who were climbing their own stairway to heaven.

In this issue, we also have a story about how a squadron developed a way to make liberty safer for its members. Another story tells how a Sailor lost cash and sight because he wasn’t with a buddy. Look at the center spread to find out how people died while they were on liberty. And see what happens when a worker, who was in a hurry to go on leave, took shortcuts on his job.

We don’t have Short Takes or Shore Things in this issue because of all the articles we wanted to print. Look for those features in our next issue. You’ll also notice we don’t have many letters from our readers. We would really like to hear from you about comments or suggestions for the magazine, or— your favorite topic—safety errors in our photos. If you find them, let us know. No matter what you have to say, we want to hear from you.

Virginia Rae Mack