

Shipmate Jan/Feb 2010
Duke Longworth
2 December 2009

What a beautiful fall we've had along the Atlantic. The football games have had mostly pleasant weather. The outcome of the games has been great for Navy! The team continues to break records and win the big ones! The only game left as I write this is Army-Navy and that has all the makings of a great game played with passion by both teams! Meanwhile, our classmates continue making the news as you'll read below.

The day was inevitable and finally arrived. This note is from **John Morris**: "At 1045 Hawaii Standard Time, 19 October 2009, after 15,454 days of active duty, ADM Tim Keating '...closed this chapter for the Class of 1971' when he read his orders detaching as Commander, Pacific Command and reporting to his home of record! With an emphasis on Honor, Courage, and Commitment, Tim was quick to graciously recognize and thank, in his humble, inimitable style, all the men, women and families serving our great country in the military service. Five Classmates were fortunate enough to attend the ceremony and be recognized by Tim." If you would like to send him best wishes, he can be reached at his personal email address - tjk@tjkeating.com.

Here is an article about Timbo that appeared in the Hawaii Advertiser on 4 Oct 09: "Admiral Ponders Retiree Options - by William Cole: Admiral Timothy J. Keating, who will step down as the commander of U.S. Pacific Command at Camp Smith on Oct. 19 and will retire shortly after, is weighing his options. He'd like the Cincinnati Reds to know he's available." I have lots of eligibility left, so if the (Reds) are looking for a second baseman. ..." Keating said last week at his Halawa Heights office overlooking Pearl Harbor. The four-star admiral, 60, threw out the first pitch at the Sept. 11 Cubs-Reds game in Chicago. The Dayton, Ohio, native didn't exactly bring the heat, but it was in the strike zone. Cubs manager Lou Piniella gave Keating a compliment, which the admiral may have mistaken for a contract offer." I'm standing next to Lou Pinella as the 'Star-Spangled Banner' is being sung, and as the song concludes, he goes, 'That was a pretty sweet strike' - and that's from Sweet Lou," Keating said, referencing Pinella's nickname. "So, my arm's in good shape. I got lots left."

Keating was at the Pentagon during the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The Cubs learned he was in Chicago and invited him out to the game in recognition of the eighth anniversary of the event that changed the nation." We lost 26 kids with whom I had taken the morning operations update. ... I left, the airplane hit," Keating recalled of the Pentagon attack, involving an American Airlines jetliner.

Keating, who has a down-to-earth humility, recently told a Pentagon reporter that his parents taught him "that if you figure that everybody is senior to you, and regard them that way and give them that respect ... it will allow you to develop the capacity to listen, to pay attention, and to learn."

Keating said he and his wife, Wandalee, will head to Virginia Beach, Va., where their children and grandchildren live, "and we'll see what happens." That's

if the Reds don't call." What a great career! Timbo, you know the entire class wishes you and Wandalee all the best in "retirement." Somehow, I suspect you'll be busy with many important issues.

Here's a note from **Dick Enderly**: "Duke - Got the email below from **Dave Luengen**. Like I mentioned, he and **Jack Crowther** were both my roommates at different times at USNA and I correspond with Dave quite often. Best regards, Dick."

The note: "Aloha Dick, attached are some photos from Tim Keating's change of command ceremony. The photo of classmates are L to R, Dave Luengen, **Mike Feeley**, Jack Crowther, John (J. T.) Morris and **Pete Devos**. Pete's e-mail address is pdevos@tvigroup.com and he lives in New York City (near Central Park). He commutes to Chattanooga, TN to work. Dave." Note that Tim did not stay for the reception, so he didn't get into the photo op!



Perry Martini sent this reunion re-cap: "The first ever reunion for old 'Tiger' 29th/9th company(AKA the Dirty Dozen (plus 2)) was held in Sonoma, CA 14-19 October. Hosted by Lyn and **Dub Hay**, eight couples were part of a five day special reunion of nearly three quarters of those who survived the 29th company fall out during our plebe year. Word has it that Dub Hay's special wine cellar will never be the same as the Dirty Dozen and spouses tried to drink all the best wines from Sonoma and Napa valley that was stored for the occasion. Class

of 71ers are pictured during one of their special wine tours: Left to right, Paula and **Jim (Stein) Smoogen**, Peg and **John (JT) Morris**, Sybil and **Bill (Pappy) Yocum**, Miss Lyn and **Dub (Baby) Hay**, Nancy and **Tom (TR) Dalton**, Jan and **Mike (Pig) Hambleton**, Tamara and **Don (Hawk) Brewer**, Jean and **Perry (Wop) Martini**. Special evenings events included a Mexican feast (even had a live Mariachi band), Italian dinner, Lobster bake, and California Ribs and BBQ. In addition to the Wine tours there was special golf event held at the Sonoma Golf Club (site of the Schwab Senior Open) and pictured left to right: JT and Peg Morris, TR Dalton, Dub Hay, Jim Smoogen, Perry Martini and Don Brewer. It might be urban legend by now, but rumors abound that many if not all in attendance stopped at various detox centers proclaiming "vinoveritas for the PBs". Dub and Lyn Hay outdid themselves for this first ever special reunion of the Dirty Dozen and hopes are that more to follow in the coming years. Perry sent the above note.





This excellent note is from **Doug Sameit**: “Duke, thanks for forwarding the e-mail from Ben Forrest. He and I were RAG LSO's together in the mid-70's in VF-121 at Miramar. He's now the Chief Pilot at Alaska Airlines and it was good to touch base with him.

“Now my update: I took an early retirement offer from Northwest Airlines last year after a 30-year airline career. Mary and I now split our year between our long-time home in Virginia Beach and our summer home on the shore of Flathead Lake in Montana. In Montana I try to play golf three times a week, and this year I joined a Soaring Club there and renewed my Flight Instructor rating in gliders.

“Our three sons are all married and well-established in their careers: **Dan, '94**, with GE Power Systems in Atlanta, **Paul, '97**, President of Jetpool, LLC, in Charlotte (an aviation management company), and Mark, CAPT USMC, a JAG officer at Camp Pendleton in California. Paul has two daughters, our only grandchildren so far.

“This spring I was able to take a trip with Paul to the Embraer factory in southern Brazil to pick up a new Phenom 100 executive jet and fly it back to Charlotte.

“This September I received my first Navy retirement check for my 28 years of active and reserve time, the highlight of which was command of a Reserve adversary squadron here at Oceana. At the time I was doing it because it was fun, but little did I know how important that check and the medical benefits would become today. We are most fortunate to be enjoying retirement in good health.

Doug.” Great note – thanks! Sounds like you have a very solid Naval family. I need to get up to MT and do some golfing and fishing!

I received the following note from my former VA 87 squadron mate, **Mike Rohrbaugh**: “Duke, all is well, remarried years ago with three teens, one who hopes to enter the Academy next July. I retired from American almost a year ago and really I don’t miss it. Hope all is well with you. It has been way too many years ago. Thanks again, Mike.”

This was followed by a very brief note from another VA 87 squadron mate, **Karl Athow**: “Duke, **Frank Wnek** retired from American Airlines on 16 Oct after 23 years. You might be able to track **Al Kemp** down through **John Chihusky** (sp?) who lives in Crystal Lake, Il. Both of them fly for AA.” Nice to receive notes from two of my fellow department heads in the same month. Must be something good going on!

Here’s a photo of **Jim Gosma**, Perry Martini and **Kevin O’Connor** taken at the Homecoming Weekend golf tournament. I’m told that Jim and Kevin are still flying for Delta Airlines.



I have an update regarding our class participation in alumni affairs: We now have four members of our class who have been appointed to the United States Naval Academy Foundation. Please join me in congratulating one of our

board members, **Walt Havenstein**, who has joined **Peter deVos** as newly appointed directors at the Foundation. **Alan Ptak** and **Dan Nelson** are both currently on the Foundation Athletic and Scholarship Board of Trustees. Way to go!

You may have heard about this already: “**Bill Hoover**, CEO of American Systems Corp. was named 2009 Greater Washington Executive of the Year in the \$75-300 million annual revenue category. The awards, given annually by the Professional Services Council, the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, and *Washington Technology* magazine, recognizes executives and firms for their innovation, dedication, and commitment during the past year in the region’s government contracting community.”

Perry Martini sent this note of thanks: “I had a chance to attend a couple of home games this year and want to say that over the years that we often forget how nice it is for classmates to arrive at the perimeter of Blue side parking at the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium and see the big banner Class of 1971 flying and the class tailgate in progress. Many thanks go out to Maryann and **Tom Gross** for their continued efforts in making sure we have a tailgate and tent set up at every single home football game – rain or shine! Many thanks also to members of their faithful committee, Joana and **Bob Capra**, Kathy and **Bill Butler**, Chickie and **Pete Zaudtke**, Philomena and **Bill Zapf**, and a special thanks to a ‘68er, Bill and Sandy Paine. Look forward to many future home game ‘71 tailgates.” Here’s a hearty CONCUR from me. All do a great job keeping our class the best!

I hope the Christmas season was blessed for all. It is a credit to our class that we have classmates who continue in leadership of major corporations. Please keep our classmates and their families in your prayers for safe travel and good health. Pray, too, for the success of our missions in Iraq and Afghanistan as well as for our classmates in business and government leadership. Time, tide and the sunrise wait for no man!

Duces Virum, Duke