

Shipmate January-February 2012
Duke Longworth
29 November 2011

What a superb 40th reunion! And, I surely hope Navy prevailed at Army – Navy! There are several notes below which capture the success of our reunion in words and photos, so keep reading! The midshipmen are bundled up for winter as you read this column. Winter in Mother B was a season of indoor activities for most of us. My memories are of indoor meal formations, plebes doing come-arounds, the pre-reveille window opening for upperclassmen, and 100th night. Not all of these are “fond memories!” On to the real story!

The first reunion note is from **Dave Miller**: The golf outing was a success - at least that is the feedback I got - no injuries, beautiful day, great venue and everybody had fun bonding and enjoying the day. We had 113 out of 120 signed up to play show up. That was 105 Classmates, 6 wives, and two adult children, phenomenal! I was fortunate to be the winner which is the most unbelievable thing about the day - fortunately my roommate, **Mike Lynch**, can putt lights out and **Oz Fretz** can hit the ball straight 250 yards, usually. It was a tough match though as **Pete Zaudtke**, **Brian Finegold** and **Warren Cole** also shot the winning score - 63, but only got a par to our birdie on the 2nd hole of the scorecard playoff. I'd like to thank everyone who signed up and played what a great bunch of people! Duces Virum and Beat Army, Dave.”

Here's a superb note from **Mike Gaffney**: “First, I would like to add my appreciation to the Class of 1971 40th Reunion Committee and spouses --- **Tom Gross** - Chair; **Jim Hergenroeder** - CoChair; **Bill Butler**; **Bob Capra**; **Finley Foster**, **Dave Miller**; **Cass Young**; **Pete Zaudtke**; and **Jane Wilhelm** (Mrs **Skip Wilhelm**). They put on a first class event. Martha and I enjoyed everything.

“I would also like to add my public appreciation for the 31st Company leader, **Joe Enright**, who organized our company dinner with the help of **Steve DiAntonio**. They both made a tremendous effort to get our entire company to attend. We achieved great results! Of the 27 graduating members of 31st company, 16 attended! I certainly think 31st company had the best attendance and would challenge others to match our numbers. They were: **John Barry**, **Charlie Carroll**, **Steve Comer**, **Steve DiAntonio**, **Joe Enright**, **Mike Gaffney**, **Jim Heil**, **Fred Jacobs**, **John Meister**, **Tom Mendenhall**, **Mike Nordin**, **Steve Penner**, **Dave Robertson**, **Warren Schultz**, **Guy Snodgrass** and **Ludwig Sorrentino**. **John Closs** and **Eric Rychener** graduated from 33rd company but were plebes with us and attended our company dinner. We were having such a great time at the company dinner that we forgot to take a group picture. Thanks again to the Best USNA Reunion Committee!” Mike, see the note below – 26th Company won on percentage reporting, but 31st won on total attendees! Regardless, the outcome (lots of classmates there) is remarkable!

Next note is from **Bob Pearce**: “Duke, I suspect **Tommy Galloway** sent these along, but I wanted to be sure we at least had a chance to get the photos of these

young-at-heart '71ers into the column. Back in Montana after a great weekend, it took me about a week before I could throw the ball for the dogs or squat to pick up anything off the floor. It was great to catch Gallos again--he still throws strikes--and to run around Bishop Stadium for a few innings. Thanks again to all who made it possible. Bob Pearce."

Tom Galloway added this to Bob's note: "It was GREAT having you behind the plate for the Alumni Game. Lots and lots of wonderful old memories. Best regards, Tom." Nice photo below!



"Randy Hartshorn, Tom Galloway, Peter de Vos, Bob Pearce"

John Ball sent this note: "Duke, Gay and I had a memorable few days at our 40th Reunion. We were so pleased at the huge turnout and the chance to catch up with so many friends and acquaintances. The tent party was my favorite; crowded and fun with more delicious food than we could possibly eat. I especially liked the spontaneous meetings with long-lost friends, such as fellow Ohioan **Chuck Lemieux** who grabbed my arm as I was weaving and which sparked a short catch-up. The thousands of interactions that weekend are surely memorable and an indication of the continuing camaraderie we share. From my perspective it seemed most of the conversation, naturally, centered on grandchildren and retirement.

"Our 26th Company dinner was in a private room at Harry Browne's restaurant on State Circle – thank God for valet parking – with 14 of our 22 graduates in attendance, a remarkable feat considering how busy we each are now. Carol and **Bob Adkins** live in Ohio - not far from my home – and spend the cold months in Arizona. Barb and **Fred Becker** live in Alexandria where Fred is the CEO of the National Association of Federal

Credit Unions. Suzy and **Steve Dmetruk** took time out to come to Annapolis from unpacking boxes at their new home near the beach in St. Simon's Island, Georgia. Norma and **Mike French** live in Virginia Beach in an idyllic setting on a golf course. We were pleased that Jackie and **Scott Gessis** drove down from New Hampshire. Scott has made wonderful progress recovering from his stroke and set a jaunty pose with his cane and eye patch. Our hats were off to Jackie for her tireless help she has given Scott in his recovery. Sue and **Tim Gilman** came from Oregon where Tim is in sales for a local company there. At the dinner, Gay and I sat with Mary and **Jeff Hemler**, who live in Burke, Virginia, and entertained us with stories of their daughter **Joslyn Hemler '04**, a Marine captain. Noreen and **Mike Hichak** live in Atlanta. Mike is flying the big iron as a 747 Captain for Atlas Air, flying interesting cargoes and charters all over the world including Afghanistan. Sharon and **Ed Kaiser** live in Michigan and own their financial services company. Rosann and **Joel Lassman** live in Washougal, Washington where Joel teaches school but plans to retire to Arizona soon. Joanne and **Frank "Rocco" Montesano** live in Corpus Christi where Frank is CEO of the USS Lexington museum there. **Dave Poyer** was at the Mid Store signing his latest book. Steff and **Mike Stephens** spend much of their time on their sailboat on the Chesapeake and plan to soon move from Atlanta permanently.

"Since I knew my roommate **Randy Wagner** could not attend the Reunion due to a family commitment, Gay and I made time earlier that week to visit Ruth and Randy at their country home west of Charlottesville, VA. We had not seen each other for decades, as Randy was in the Silent Service and I was a brown shoe. They live on 22 acres in a huge house atop a wooded hill - out a gravel road and up a steep curving driveway. They often see deer and have even seen bears in their yard! After a career in submarines Randy ended up with Washington duty, then retired to Charlottesville and built their present house. After a time working for the Army locally, Randy is fully retired and they are now happy grandparents six times over.



Photo caption: John and Gay Ball, Ruth and Randy Wagner

“Other snippets of class news from the Reunion: I did catch up with 3 of our 4 astronauts –**Dave Leestma**, **Bob Cabana**, who is Director of Kennedy Space Center, and **Frank Culbertson**, who lives in Centerville, VA and works at Orbital Sciences. **Scott Burd** and his wife have moved down the mountain from Idyllwild to Palm Springs. Scott enjoys his job traveling as an instructor in Management and Leadership. Linda and **John Long** live near Dulles airport. John works for TASC on government contracts, and they dote over their grandchildren in the local area. **Jim Waddell** related that he had recently come upon a photo of the two of us from the Cleveland Plain Dealer upon our graduation in 1971. Jim snagged one of the few class billets for SEALS, then later had a successful career in banking in Columbus, Ohio, and is now retired there.

“I chatted with Tom Gross, Chairman of the Reunion Committee, who was working at the tent. In his spare time, Tom commutes to Pax River where he works on the F/A-18 program. A snappy salute to Tom and the Reunion committeemen and spouses who made this a memorable event for the Great Class of 1971. John Ball.”

Here’s a football note from **Mike Marks**: “Duke, Had a great time at the San Jose State game. Saw a few classmates there including Donna and **Tom Galloway**,

John Nevins, Ron Michelsen, and Denise and **Duke Brunelli**. The Sup was kind enough to allow us to take a photo which is enclosed. Beat Army! Mike.”



Mike Marks, VADM Miller, Duke Brunelli, and Ron Michelsen

Here's some significant news from **Perry Martini**: "It is with great pleasure that I proudly announce the selection of our classmate, **John Sattler**, as the next United States Naval Academy Distinguished Chair of Leadership. This selection places the Class of '71 in both positions of leadership directly influencing the Brigade of Midshipmen as he joins our now fully funded Distinguished Military Professor position currently held by CDR **Kevin Haney**, '81. John undoubtedly will be the premier representative of our class motto, *Duces Virum*, and carry out our class legacy of leadership."

Bob Capra has a short reunion note: "Duke, I have a pair of ladies sunglasses that were left at the tailgate on Saturday. If anyone is missing a pair, please have them contact me at bobcapra@verizon.net or call me at (410) 757-2028. Second, if anyone missed the opportunity to order Company pictures taken in Dahlgren Hall on Friday evening or the 22 page photo Memory Book from our 40th reunion they may contact Ray Mitchell via email at PhotoOp1@verizon.net or by phone at (410) 757-7103. Thank you, Bob." Good gouge! Thank you!

Superb note from **Perry Martini**: "Classmates, now that our 40th Reunion is in our 'rear view mirror' we can look back and as I am sure you will agree it was certainly a fantastic gathering. For those that could not attend this reunion - you should know that we had nearly 60% of our living graduates in town and the tailgate on Saturday hovered around 900 for our largest get together yet to date. Many of you have communicated your appreciation through email, phone calls, Facebook, etc., but the full credit for all of this belongs to those responsible --- our Class of 1971 Reunion Committee. I have included my personal note below to this great group of classmates, thanking them on behalf of the many of you who sent regards. It was great seeing so many of you. I hope you have a great holiday season in 2011 as we ring in our 45th year together in 2012!

"To the Class of 1971 40th Reunion Committee and spouses --- (**Tom Gross** - Chair; **Jim Hergenroeder** - CoChair; **Bill Butler**; **Bob Capra**; **Finley Foster**, **Dave Miller**; **Cass Young**; **Pete Zaudtke**; and Jane Wilhelm (Mrs Skip Wilhelm): I can't express clearly how gratifying it was to have so many classmates come up to me to thank me or to ask me to pass to the appropriate folks who were responsible for the 'Best Reunion' gathering ever for our class. I never tired of saying that we have a great team that was responsible and I had absolutely nothing to do with it. You all did a magnificent job in covering all bases and all contingencies -- the registration, gift shop, and transportation needs were superb - the golf outing went without a hitch, the dinner dance was great with superb food and live music; and the tailgate was by far the best of the past seven reunions. I couldn't have asked for a better gathering at our class meeting and celebration of our Class Legacy Gift (check presented to USNA for \$4,040,019.71!) and for all the support you gave in ensuring we had a good crowd (standing room only) --- I believe we all can see why that was a highlight of the weekend in getting us jazzed for the game and making all of us feel good about why we support our Alma Mater. Simply said -- Bravo Zulu. In deep appreciation and on behalf of the Great Class of 1971. Perry Martini President."

"For those classmates who were unable to attend our 40th Reunion in Annapolis in October or who could not make it to our class business meeting - I wanted to personally extend my heartfelt thanks for the absolutely superior results in raising funds toward our Class Legacy Gift and to the ultimate goal of \$4,000,000! We not only exceeded the goal but on the way to going over the top, 67% of you made a contribution. We have now established the necessary financial support of \$3.0M plus for the Class of 1971 Distinguished Military Professor in Leadership and Ethics at USNA and raised over \$1.0M to the Annual Fund to support the numerous unrestricted projects that the Superintendent needs to have the added value that our alma mater continues to offer. My hats off and Bravo Zulu to each of you and if I could have arranged it I would have had all of you in the photo of the check presentation to the Superintendent that accompanies this column. Duces Virum! Perry."



Captain Bob Clark '84 (Commandant); Byron Marchant '78 (President/CEO Alumni Association/Foundation); Walt Havenstein; Peter de Vos; VADM Mike Miller '74 (Superintendent); CDR Art Gibbs (USNA PMP); Perry Martini

NOTE: We will be posting photo's on our class website sometime next month taken by the Alumni Association Photographer. A short note will be sent to you when the photos are fully loaded.

My last note this column is an announcement from the Superintendent, VADM **Mike Miller '74**: "I am pleased to announce that I have selected Lieutenant General **John Sattler**, USMC (Ret.), to serve as the Naval Academy's 4th Distinguished Chair of Leadership. In this position, General Sattler will work with the Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership—teaching and mentoring midshipmen, staff and faculty, as well as representing the Naval Academy and Stockdale Center at prestigious national and international leadership conferences and events. Lieutenant General Sattler is a 1971 graduate of the Naval Academy and during his 37 year career as a Marine officer he commanded units at all levels from a Platoon to a Marine Expeditionary Force. Additionally, he served as an instructor at The Basic School, the Marine Corps' Congressional Liaison Officer to the U.S. House of Representatives, the Director of the Public Affairs Division and Commander, Combined Joint Task Force, Horn of Africa. Prior to his retirement in August 2008, General Sattler served as Director of Strategic Plans and Policy, Joint Chiefs of Staff and the U.S. Representative to the Military Staff Committee of the United Nations. He is a graduate of the Marine Corps Amphibious Warfare School, the Marine Corps Command and Staff College and the Industrial

College of the Armed Forces. Please join me in welcoming Lieutenant General Sattler as he returns to the Naval Academy to serve in this important and influential position." VADM Michael H. Miller, Superintendent." What an honor for our class! BZ to John!

Too soon it's time to close. Some days it's hard to believe more than 40 years have passed since graduation. Lots of water under the keel for sure. I hope all had safe journeys home and that Navy beat Army! Please keep our classmates and their families in your prayers for 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. There is plenty of work remaining for us as we increase our wisdom! Time, tide and column due dates wait for no man!

Duces Virum, Duke