

Shipmate January/February 2011  
Duke Longworth  
08 December 2010

The Christmas season came and went like a whirl wind. Hard to believe it's already February! Although Navy lost the Commander in Chiefs trophy for the first time in eight years, we had a great season! Hope your Christmas was joyful and filled with family and friends! Lots to report this column.

First up is **Bob Walter**: "Duke, the following note and pictures are from Wendy and **Mike O'Rourke** following the Air Force game. '71 was well represented with 8 from 3<sup>rd</sup> company and Doug and me from 7<sup>th</sup>. Our seats were very close to the field, so we got to interact with **Tim Keating** who was on the sidelines representing '71 for some of the ceremonies. This is at least the second mini-reunion for 3<sup>rd</sup> company during the Air Force / Navy weekend. Pam and I live near Denver, so we crashed their party two years ago and had so much fun we returned this year. Some arrived on Thursday and some on Friday and stayed through Sunday, giving lots of opportunities for catching up, telling tales, eating and drinking. The '71ers in the attached picture back row: **David Nichols**, **Mike Marks**, **Brad Closson**, **Fred Myers**, **Carl Josefson**, and front row: George Skirm, **Doug Conklin**, **Mike O'Rourke**, **Bob Walter**, and **David Whitman**. Plans are underway for two years from now, so put the word out in case anyone wants to join us. Beat Army, Bob." Great report! Navy will crush AF next year!



Here's an upfront thanks to **Steve Ayers** for reminding me that I needed to get the annual TESTFEST report in the column: "Hey Duke, This is the 22<sup>nd</sup> consecutive

year that we've gotten together. **Mike Bluestein, Bill Luckey, Paul Timmins, Roger Young** and me (Paul McIntire couldn't make it) gathered at the Bluestein's in Davidsonville. They live near the spot on Rte 50 where you needed to re-uniform yourself on returning from DC (Where I got caught doing just that in the back seat of my date's car one Saturday night early Youngster year – cost me a Class A and 8 weeks' restriction). Blue's wife and daughter get Good Sports of the Year Award for vacating the house; bonus points for living with Blue in the first place. We spent the weekend trying to act our age....not our IQ, which has now become easier with the numbers so closely aligned.

"On Friday the three golfers in the group went to Renditions. This is a course with pretend famous holes, so we fit right in as pretend golfers. This was followed by a group outing to Whole Foods. Here we observed today's Mids gathered around the salad bar attempting to pick up dinner, and maybe somebody to have dinner with. This seemed much healthier than standing out on Church Circle with an open raincoat. That evening we polished off some Duty Free liquid Blue got during a Tel Aviv stopover and stayed up a little later than usual. Maybe 11:00?

"Saturday we drove to Cantler's to eat crab cakes (fresh from the bay -in Thailand) for lunch. Later, after mandatory naps, we discovered that Blue still has the 16<sup>th</sup> Co Brigade Flag. This banner has been well used during the past 39 checkered years as wallpaper in Annapolis, a race car drop cloth in West Virginia and a shower curtain in Nebraska. This day it was photo-op bunting: Photo left to right – Timo, Rog, Blue, Lux, and me. That night we saw the AA Bowie Bay Sox vs. the New Hampshire Fisher Cats. The ballpark is right next to Rip's on 301 so we knew how to get home.

"On Sunday, we left. But not before discussing Prof Bruce Flemming's NY Times piece entitled "The Academies' March Toward Mediocrity". We are all a bit too close to this to render an objective critique but here's a thought for Prof. Flemming. We'd like to thank him for crafting an article in clear and complete sentences as we, as USNA grads, are still capable of reading and thinking in clear and complete sentences. This is despite being among the most mediocre Midshipmen of our day. Have a great summer. Steve." Way too much fun – I should crash Testfest!

Next note is a superb update: "Duke, I am sending this just following Navy's awesome trouncing of Notre Dame. Last Saturday night, after another splendid victory, over SMU, Mary and I were privileged to have dinner in Annapolis with four of our class company-mates - **Ron Hewett, Bill Hall, Judge Mike Rand, Jim Theis** – and spouses. No one looked a day over the 17 or 18 we were when we first met 43 plus years ago! (And none of us needs glasses, either!). Of particular interest, Bill Hall's son, U.S. Army Major Christian Hall, and his friend were with us for dinner – Maj Hall departs for Afghanistan shortly, on his third deployment into the combat zone. God bless him and all his brave comrades-in-arms!

"This past June I retired as Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force (International Affairs). It was a great job and I was honored to lead a fabulous team of Airmen, uniformed and civilian, but, after eight plus years of being an Air Force official, I decided it was time to return to the private sector and start yet one more career! Mary and I have launched "LEMKIN International, LLC, Consulting and Advisory Services, Aerospace-Defense-Government Relations-Energy," leveraging my international

relationships and credibility to help U.S. industry expand its global market share and grow our industrial base. We have been gratified by lots of interest and a growing list of clients/board memberships.

"We are looking forward to next year's 40th, and, as Annapolis area residents, to hosting our 32<sup>nd</sup> Company classmates to celebrate our reunion and remember those who are no longer with us. All the best, Bruce." Awesome report from my GOODRICH shipmate and fellow Pentagon branch chief! Hope to see you soon!

Bruce is keeping busy with several tasks as you will read here: "Secretary of the U.S. Air Force (International Affairs), announced that effective October 1, 2010 he has joined the Board of Directors of Military Parts Exchange (MPX). Eric Klar, President and CEO of Military Parts Exchange commented, "It is indeed a distinct honor to have Bruce Lemkin join our Board of Directors. Bruce's vast experience will provide guidance as our company implements its business strategy for the future." Nice work, Bruce!

A company-mate, **Jan Milligan** checked in: "Hello again Duke, Thought you might like a picture of some great aviators. They let me be in the picture too. In my third set of candidates as a Blue and Gold Officer (now on my 18th) was **Frank Weisser '00** who is on my left in the picture. He is the Lead Blue Angel Solo and has had a stellar career despite the fact that I was his BGO. He was kind enough to let me get a picture with the Blues when they came to Atlanta this October. Jan." Nice to see your status upgrade to friend of the Blues!



Next is a note from **Pat Doyle** (which is sure to ignite more conversations!): "Duke, I got a kick out of **John Ball's** comments about his Company mug, so I decided to contribute my two cents' worth. I still have both of mine, from 5th and 23rd Companies, and they're proudly displayed in my den. Both of the Company logos from the time are pretty tame, but I'm betting that the handles certainly wouldn't pass muster in today's Brigade. both handles are what we might describe as the classic 'ship's



figurehead style, female, naked' that may be what John means is too X-rated for his grandsons, unless the '8 Ball' logo contained something besides an 8-ball? Pat Doyle." Seems the 36<sup>th</sup> Company mug was lame, too – Pink Panther with no scantily clad babe!

The North County Times, Escondido, CA provided this update: "15Sept10 - The San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station's new top manager is no stranger to solving the kinds of problems that federal regulators have been highlighting at the plant for the past two years. **Joe Sheppard**, 61, recently appointed to serve as San Onofre's interim chief nuclear officer, took the position after retiring from a company that runs a pair of reactors in South Texas." Nice work, Joe! Keep those trons running!

**Carl Josefson** sent along this note: "Duke, last Sunday I finished the Marine Corps Marathon—for the second time, the first being 27 years ago. I didn't set any land speed records, but finishing was my only real goal anyway. Attached is a picture taken after the finish that has the wishes of the season. Duces Virum, Carl." Way to go!



Here's a nice note from **Brian Horias**: "Duke, I ran into **Dave Janiec** my long-lost roommate from the Naval Postgraduate School (NPGS) this past October at Barber Motorsports Park in Birmingham Alabama at the Vintage Motorcycle Races. Dave and I got hooked on motorcycles while at NPGS Monterey in the Immediate Graduate Education Program after USNA and both of us have stayed involved in motorcycling since. I have to admit that Dave has taken his hobby to a much higher level; he races vintage motorcycles and is Chairman of the Western Region Board of Trustees of the AHRMA (American Historic Motorcycle Racing Association). Dave has done quite well

in vintage motorcycle racing, becoming the highest points winner in vintage motocross for a number of years. In recognition of his outstanding contributions to vintage motorcycle racing Dave was awarded the AHRMA's highest award, Sportsman of the Year, in 2007. Shown in the picture (left to right) are Brian Horais and Dave Janiec with one of Dave's racing bikes (plate number 6x) in the middle. In his spare time Dave is still working full time in the Senior Executive Service (SES) as Director of the Weapons and Energetics Department at the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division, China Lake, California. I'm retired in Tennessee and spend some of my spare time restoring vintage motorcycles. Brian." Sounds like Dave enjoys living on the edge! That's just too much fun!



Eileen Proulx, USNA Reunion/Class Coordinator, sent along the photo below. Classmates easily recognizable include: **Bill Butler, Chuck Boyer, Steve Brighton, Finley Foster, Cass Young, Pete Flannery, Harry Sheffield, Brian Feingold, Perry Martini and Dave Laws.** GO NAVY!



Another 36<sup>th</sup> Company-mate note, this one from **Rich Naple**: "This year's 36<sup>th</sup> Company get-together will be devoted to Admiral George Dewey, the great Naval Academy graduate from Montpelier, Vermont. There will be a prize this year ("The Life and Achievements of Admiral Dewey") to that Lake Placid participant who most closely expresses the qualities of this great officer. So far we have one nomination for the prize, and that came from **Ron Spratt**- he nominated himself. Have a great Thanksgiving, Sonny." Next issue will have a full report on the snow adventure!

Our own **Dave Poyer** just released another thriller, *Ghosting*. Ron Samul, from *Library Journal*, said, "Poyer draws on his nautical expertise to create a thrilling and disturbing portrait of what people will do when they have nothing else to lose. This dynamic sea thriller casts plot twists, conflict, and fear into the dark waves of uncertainty. Nice work, Dave!"

Unfortunately, we two classmates passed away since the previous column. **Mike "Hams" Hambleton** passed away suddenly of an apparent heart attack at his home in New Hampshire and is survived by his wife and friend of many years, Jan, and children Ryan and Laura. Mike was a proud member famous "Dirty Dozen" of 29th company. Mike was interred at Westview Cemetery in Hampton Falls New Hampshire on 22 November.

**John "Griff" Hume** passed away of an apparent heart attack over the Thanksgiving holiday while visiting his family in Georgia. He is survived by his wife,

Yolanda. A memorial service for Griff was held on Saturday, 04 Dec 2010 in Waldorf, MD.

Too soon it's time to close. I hope to report a victory over Army (BEAT ARMY, SIR!) and the San Diego State Aztecs next column. It is now only nine month until our reunion, October 2011. 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 column due dates wait for no man!

Duces Virum, Duke