

Shipmate March/April 2011
Duke Longworth
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What a frosty winter here in the mid-Atlantic! The midshipmen are surely in the throes of the “Dark Ages” despite the Sup’s efforts to banish such thinking! Some things never change!

Our 40th Reunion is only seven months away! I hope you have your reservation at the Westin or alternate site by now. If you don’t I recommend making reservations as soon as possible. This promises to be our best ever reunion. Company representatives have worked diligently to contact our “lost” classmates so we can contact them. I know my company rep has worked hard to encourage the “lost” company mates to sign up and show up! I’m looking forward to our dinner in Dahlgren Hall as well as the tailgate during the game. I always see someone I haven’t seen in decades! So, be there! You won’t regret attending!

Here’s a belated photo of classmates celebrating Navy’s win over Army at “LaFourno” in Philly post-game: Greer Purdy and beau Andrew, Joyce and **Steve Purdy**, Lisa and **Duke Longworth**, Jean and **Perry Martini**, and Terri and **Dave Vandover**! This was Steve’s first Army-Navy game since he was a firstie! After completing his service obligations, Steve became a veterinarian and now has his own practice in the Boston area. One of his specialties is working with lamas! He has some very interesting stories about caring for those critters! Steve promised to attend our 40th reunion this fall – his first since graduation. You’ll have a great time, Steve, and I know you will be grateful you attended!



Next is a nice note with photo from **Mike Marks**: “Duke, pictured in attached photo are: Ginny and **John Sattler**, Diane and **Dan Nelson**, Jean and **Mike Marks**, Pat

and **Ted Fischer**, Gay and **Dave Whitman**. Bottom row: Jean and **Carl Josefsen**, Jane and **Bill Hoover**. We all were feeling pretty good about the Navy victory and the great weather we had for the game” Nice photo!



This in from **John Ball** in San Diego: “The San Diego Alumni Chapter held their now-traditional gathering at *Seau’s Sports Bar* on 11 Dec to watch Navy win a ninth straight victory over Army. Once again, the Class of ‘71 had the most attendees - 12 classmates, along with a number of family members and friends. The venue provided a great opportunity for a group photo of all. It was a thrill to watch Navy beat Army among all the Navy alumni. My plebe roommate **Pat Kelly** and I watched the game together and it was interesting to have a play-by-play analysis from a former player’s perspective. Here’s a photo of the motley crew: Front Row: **Jay Minnich, Greg Wright, Fred Mallgrave, Jim Yeakley** Second Row: **Pat Kelly, Tom Hammons, John Ball, Fred Myers** Back Row: **Rick Smith, Pat Doyle, Hugh Butt, Bob Pearce**.

John’s note continues: “Two weeks later, my son and I watched Navy play here in San Diego in the Poinsettia Bowl. It was a thrill to see the march-on, hat trick, Bill the mascot wearing 71, and the D&B, as well as our fine Navy team in person. At the game, sightings were made of Lana and **Tom Hammons**, Nancy and **Rick Smith**, and Sherrie and **Pat Kelly**. Here’s a photo of me and Pat Kelly.”



John Ball and Pat Kelly, plebe roommates.

“A recent *Aviation Week* article quotes our **Frank Culbertson**, senior vp for human spaceflight systems at Orbital Sciences Corp, which is competing to provide transportation to the Space Station. Meanwhile **Bob Cabana** serves as the Director of Kennedy Space Center in Florida.” Thanks for the update, John! Seems there’s a lot happening in sunny San Diego!

I received the following note from **Rick Plank**: “Hey Duke, I’ve thought about sending you a note for Shipmate more than once, and I’ve failed in all of them! I’m living in Seattle, in the golf business and trying to take an electronic device that I’ve invented and patented into production. I should be thinking about retiring, I suppose, but this is my baby and is where my passion is now. Check out my website: www.eSwingGolf.com. I’m looking forward, too, to our 40th next fall. Wow, that’s hard to believe! Take care and stay in touch, Rick.” Surely wish you much success with your golfing devise. I should take a trip to Seattle and check it out!

I received the following article from **Dick Enderly**: “Marquette College of Engineering Receives \$4.75 Million Grant to help Children with Orthopedic Disabilities: **Gerald Harris**, professor of biomedical engineering, is the principal investigator for the Marquette University - Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center (MU-RERC project), which will also involve other departments at Marquette, as well as the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the Medical College of Wisconsin, Shriners Hospital for Children in Chicago, the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Milwaukee School of Engineering.

“Harris, director of the Orthopaedic and Rehabilitation Engineering Center (OREC) at Marquette, has been working with these populations of children for more than 30 years. After completing five years in the U.S. Marine Corps, he enrolled in the Biomedical Engineering program at Marquette University. In 1981, he completed his doctoral requirements in Biomedical Engineering at Marquette. Following this, from 1981 until 1987, he was director of biomechanical research at The Shriners Hospital in Chicago. While there, he developed a pediatric orthopaedic research laboratory that concentrated on the special needs of children with cerebral palsy and spinal cord injury.

“In 1987, Harris joined the biomedical engineering faculty at Marquette University, where he has continued research with projects involving gait analysis, orthopaedic biomechanics, upper and lower extremity function, sensor development, bone remodeling, and studies of intramedullary bone rodding. In addition to being professor of biomedical engineering at Marquette and director of the Orthopaedic and

Rehabilitation Center (OREC), he holds a joint appointment as director of research in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the Medical College of Wisconsin." This is just awesome! Congratulations, Gerald!

I received the following note from my 36th Company-mate, **Craig Welling**:
"Duke, This is long overdue. Carter and I wanted to send you a wedding photo of our daughter, Anne, to Andy Graves on June 12, 2010 in the Airlie Center gardens in Warrenton, Virginia. We were pleased to have in attendance classmates **Jim Barron**, **Bruce Gallemore** and Meg and **Bob Wagoner**. As the night grew hotter short sleeves, and for the ladies, flip-flops, became the uniform for the reception and everyone had a great time. I am still working in the Office of Nuclear Energy at the Department of Energy. We hope to see you soon. Craig." Nice photo! And all the best to Anne and Andy!



As class secretary, I was saddened to see the obituary on a fellow classmate, John Fliszar. The record of his service was incorrectly documented in his obituary and should be set straight. John was commissioned into the United States Marine Corps, graduated from The Basic School and served as an infantry marine. His graduation from Quantico was too late to participate in the Vietnam Conflict. He was not a Naval Aviator, thus he was not shot down twice and did not earn Purple Hearts for injuries sustained when he was shot down.

Too soon it's time to close. It is now only six months 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