

Shipmate March-April 2013
Duke Longworth
25 Jan 2013

I love winter! It's football season! Navy won the Army – Navy game and the Commander-in-Chief's trophy. It was a rousing game as the Black Knights had a shot at the trophy for the first time since 1996! The game was decided by a Navy drive late in the fourth quarter after an Army fumble near the Navy goal! What a good game. My money is on a even better Navy team next season and another nail-biting Army-Navy game! After the game a few of us gathered at La Fournio for dinner and good fellowship. Here's the photo proof!

My first note is from **Brian Finegold**: "Duke, we had a great time watching the Navy win over Army yesterday! **Joe Enright**, **Ed Bouton** and **Pete Zaudtke** joined me for an Army-Navy Party at my house with great chili, fine wine and even better camaraderie. All the best, Brian." Thanks for the update and the photo!



"Joe Enright, Brian Finegold, Ed Bouton and Pete Zaudtke celebrate after Navy's winning touchdown."

Next is an update from 36th Company's **Jan Milligan** regarding the annual Snowfest: "I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year. This year we have twelve classmates joining in the Lake Placid fun: **Robbie Roberson**, **Mark Horgan**,

Garry Holmstrom, Lee Burgess, Bruce Gallemore, Jim Barron, Don Beaudette, Craig Welling, Ron Spratt, Mike Trice, Duke Longworth and me. We have to be careful what we say because it will show up in the *Shipmate* recorded for posterity. Anyway, I'll be getting more info soon and asking what everyone will be bringing as far as food. If you want anything new or anything we have had in years past that you want repeated, now is the time to put in your orders. Also, bring your birthday... errr swimming suit because this place does have a hot tub. Jan."

Ron Spratt followed up with an organizational note: "Gentlemen of the Disorder, Let me first extend a hearty 'Welcome Aboard' to our Company Mates and new Lake Placid shipmates – 'Armadillo' Trice, 'Duke' Longworth and 'Robbie' Roberson - your joining us makes the upcoming weekend that much better and even more enjoyable! As you come aboard, I would appreciate your full support and loyalty for any and all of my ideas and suggestions. Yes, **Sonny Naple** and now, Jan, have served with honor as our esteemed leaders. But, over the past several years, there has been a growing undercurrent of covertly undermining my seniority. I have stoically stood by as my name has been tossed about like flotsam on the sea of life. Well, the time has come to bring order to chaos, logic to delusion and hope to uncertainty. I have several income producing ideas that are in the conceptual phase. More to follow on this topic."

"I am pleased to report that Anne is preparing another combination of culinary delights to include her highly acclaimed lasagna, authentic garlic bread, Texas style (for Armadillo) chili, and high-cal chocolate sheet cake. And, of course, the Saturday evening Grand Feast will, with Jan presiding at the Head Table, feature an evening of gluttony, excess and over consumption. With the superb backing of my revered Sous Chef, Don Beaudette, we will once again prepare a meal for the ages and aging. Guys, this is truly a great weekend and many thanks to Jan for making it happen. See you soon and may the power and joy of good friends always be with us. On station, Lake Placid here we come, Ron." Well, last year I committed to attend, so I have the airline ticket and have coordinated rides to and from Albany to Lake Placid. You'll receive a full, unadulterated report in my next column! This should be a fun-filled weekend!

Next is a note from **Mike McDanold (Cavell)**: "G'day mate, it's hard to believe it has been more than a year since the 40th reunion. I just finished reading the latest issue of *Shipmate* and wanted to touch base with you and wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a successful and healthy new year! Reading about you guys and hearing about the plans for the winter sojourn to Lake Placid (I noticed that somebody, probably Ron or Jan, convinced Mike Trice to attend) made me miss everyone so I thought I would touch base with you. I hope all is well and that your family continues to enjoy good health. Hopefully I can arrange another trip to the US and a visit with you and some of the other guys before the next reunion in 4 years time. Cheers mate! Mac." Great hearing from my Segundo roomie! I'm sure we will hoist a

few in your honor during our Lake Placid retreat! Surely hope to see you and Wendy before our 45th reunion. Perhaps 36th Company needs a summer retreat to Australia!

Perry Martini sent the following note: "Classmates, the great Class of 1971 won outright the class that donated the most tickets for the 2012 Kraft Fight Hunger Bowl held in San Francisco last Saturday. We were behind late in the week and thanks to many of you who came together at the very end to push us toward the finish line - but we were singularly led by classmate **Pete de Vos** who made sure we were winners by his last minute large donation of tickets. As you know the donated tickets made it possible for over 1000 midshipmen to attend the game as well as 1000's of members of the armed forces who reside and work in the San Francisco Bay Area. Once again - '71 sits at the top of fellow alums as the class that sets the tone for excellence. Bravo Zulu and Duces Virum!!" Great work by a great class! '71 donated 51 more tickets (our total 576 tickets) than the next highest contributing class - '78 - who contributed 525 tickets. Other top ten contributing classes donated less than 200 tickets each.

Here's a superb note from **John Ball**: "Greetings from the West Coast. I retired from Northrop Grumman here in San Diego at the end of September by taking an enticing 'early out' offer. Gay and I have been enjoying ourselves by traveling and spending more time with grandchildren, while I have been catching up on my to-do list. I was even able to go surfing on my November birthday since the Pacific Ocean was still warm enough for me. Here is some recent news from the 26th Company guys.

"**Joel Lassman** wrote that he has 'been experiencing the life' since June 18th when he retired from teaching after 18 years. He and his wife, Rosann, will be moving back to Arizona as soon as she retires in June, 2013. **Fred Becker** plans to retire next year from his position as President and CEO of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions in DC. He and Barb will be moving to a house on Lake Norman in Charlotte, NC. They are already moving things down there to get it at least partly furnished by the time they arrive. Steff and **Mike Stephens** are now fully moved into their condo on the Piankatank River in Deltaville VA, east of Richmond, from where they sail frequently on the Bay in their nice sailboat. Mike's admitted passions are sailing, golf, and family. In October, Sherrie and **Pat Kelly** married off son **Robert '10** in Coronado. Robert is on MILIUS doing local ops out of San Diego while his new bride Megan is at UCSD hospital, so Pat and Sherrie are happy to have them nearby. **Jeff Hemler** traveled from Burke, Virginia for the Kelly wedding, since, as Pat stated, 'Jeff and Mary kept my son in cookies and beer during his time at our old school. I don't know if he would have made it without their help.' **Tim Gilman** reports that he too plans to retire soon. He and Sue are already building a retirement home in Southern Oregon. As Tim wrote, 'We deserve to enjoy some years of fun activity while we can still enjoy them.' That's all for now, Duke. Have a great holiday season." Thanks for the update. Really sounds like retirement can be fun!

Too soon it's time to close. Life is short, so love with all your heart, give generously to those whom you love, and speak words of peace and life to all. Please keep our classmates and their families in your prayers for good health and safety in their travels. We have several classmates in business and government leadership who can use our thoughts and prayers, too. 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