

Shipmate November-December 2011  
Duke Longworth  
29 September 2011

You'll be reading this after our 40<sup>th</sup> reunion!. That was great fun and hopefully a victory for Navy over the East Carolina Pirates! It was good seeing so many of our class. This was the largest reunion we've ever had, so my hunch is you saw classmates you haven't seen in many years! I'm especially pleased that so many first time attendees were there! Our bonds are strong and last the test of time. I'm already looking forward to our 45<sup>th</sup>! Soon enough we will prepare for the "link in the chain" turnover with the Class of '21! Those are future thoughts!

If you missed our reunion meeting, you will be pleased to note our financial accomplishments as we achieve our class fund raising goals: we have raised over \$2.8M toward our Distinguished Military Professor (Ethical Character of Leadership Chair); over \$4.4M total support to USNA since our 35<sup>th</sup> reunion in 2006; and, our lifetime giving is over \$7.1M which is 16<sup>th</sup> place in total giving among classes who have graduated in the past 77 years and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the decade of the 70's. We are a charitable group! Well done!

I recently traveled to Atlanta for a weekend of family and friends. Shortly after arriving, **Karl Schwelm** met me with his grandson, Isaac, at the Marietta Diner for lunch. Karl is doing great as you can see by the photo. He recently started a new business and keeps abreast of the political landscape of the local area. Isaac wants to be a Navy jet pilot, so we had plenty to talk about. Two Naval Aviators surely should be able to recruit a new generation of aviators!



After lunch, Lisa and I met with my VA-87 Golden Warrior squadron-mates for an enjoyable evening of stories and updates to careers. I made three "back to back" deployments with VA-87 and the INDEPENDENCE from August 1983 to February 1985. Those were some very busy flying years for sure! Although not a Golden Warrior during my tour, **Mike "Foot" Wilson** was there too. Mike is living in Atlanta and continues flying with Delta Airlines. He says life is good!

Here's a nice note about **Michael Feeley**: "25Apr11 - SAN DIEGO - Michael Feeley has been named vice president and general manager of Lockheed Martin's San Diego site for its Mission Systems and Sensors (MS2) business. Feeley also will serve as vice president of Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Intelligence within MS2's Undersea Systems business area." The article points out Mike's leading position within Lockheed Martin in furthering the company's leading position in the open architecture computing domain and in extending this innovative business model across multiple platforms in the U.S. and allied navies .

Here's a superb update from **Dan Hickey**: "Duke, in early July Jeanne and I took a respite from marina life to attend a lively mini-'71 reunion hosted by Sharon and CAPT **Dan Welch**, USN(Ret.) in scenic Door County, Wisconsin. The special occasion was the colorful and unique wedding of their son, Kevin, to a Swedish beauty named Jennie Bexell. Rosemary and CAPT **John Barry**, USN(Ret.) and Jeanne and I flew in from Virginia, and CDR **Mike Masica**, USN(Ret.) '69 and Denise came from Monterey, California to join thirty members of Jennie's family who had traveled from Sweden, and other friends and family from South Dakota to Virginia Beach. Set in a rustic rural art gallery, the bride made her entrance in a dramatic fuchsia and teal dress that she had designed. Swedish traditions, including a shot of schnapps thrown back with a bite of herring accompanied the bridal toasts in several languages, and laughter, food and dancing went on into the wee hours. Wisconsin traditions of brats, beer and rock music followed the next day!

"Sharon and Dan had an additional reason to celebrate since, the day prior to the wedding, their son Chief Petty Officer Todd Welch, USN, and his wife, Kerry Clifford Welch, daughter of Cdr. and Mrs. **Bill Clifford**, USN(Ret.) '69, presented them with their first grandchild, James Clifford; born in Charleston. Needless to say, Dan had to pinch hit as Best Man!

"Dan is now V.P. and General Manager of Southeast Shipyards AMHC Inc. (BAE Systems) in Jacksonville, Florida. He took us on a tour of the former site of Sturgeon Bay Shipbuilding, where he was SupShip a few years back. Condominiums with a super view have replaced the industrial complex. Sharon and Dan like it so much up there that, to put the icing on the cake, they bought a condo (of course, it is near a golf

course!) I guess this means more mini-reunions, but we're hoping they don't include ice fishing!

"Since we were in close proximity, Jeanne and I continued north to Washington Island where Jeanne visited the gravesite of her great- great grandmother and rattled a few skeletons in her ancestral closets! The seafaring heritage and retro aspects of the island, reminded us of our quiet Northern Neck, but without the barnacles.

"John is currently a consultant with Strategic Insight in DC. He kept us laughing as he recounted stories ranging from Youngster cruise, to the latest who's-who he's run across on the golf course. Meanwhile, Rosemary regaled us with stories of their four children and life with John.

"Summer in Virginia has been the usual, blistering hot, but maybe we just notice it more as the guys building our new addition are on tropical hours. The marina (Smith Point Marina, Reedville, VA) continues to be busy with mechanical work, but we'd like to see fuel prices fall soon and an influx of new slipholders. Living on 'the rivah' puts a positive spin on just about everything, but having our two grandchildren and their parents, other family, and friends come to visit makes it even better. Our 'watchtower' out to the Potomac and the Bay should be complete by 2012, so come on down to see the view! Cheers, Dan and Jeanne Hickey." Really nice update, Dan! Hope you continue the mini-reunions!

Fred Mallgrave sent the following note and photo: "Duke, here's the remembrance of 'Chic' at my home in Carlsbad, California. Let us never forget. Duces Virum. On a personal note, I retired from Booz Allen Hamilton (San Diego) on 10 June and am enjoying my three little surfer dude grandchildren who live close by in San Clemente (ages 4, 6,8), traveling the world with Colleen, golfing, attending away Navy games, and being home group facilitator (North Coast Calvary Chapel Carlsbad). See you in October. Fred." Thank you, Fred!



If you didn't notice while at the 40<sup>th</sup> reunion, Dave Poyer had a book signing for THE TOWERS during Homecoming, Saturday Oct 22 at the USNA Store.

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. 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