

Shipmate Nov/Dec 2009  
Duke Longworth  
30 September 2009

So far, this has been a beautiful fall. I always enjoyed fall in the Yard. Stripling Walk was a favorite avenue enroute to Hubbard Hall. Those halcyon days are among my favorite!

Navy football is off to a good start with a near victory over Ohio State. Who would have thought that possible? This promises to be an exciting football season. Remember - this year's Army-Navy game is played Philadelphia on December 12<sup>th</sup>. Also, Hawaii hosts Navy this year on 28 November. There is a lot to report, so I'll move right along!

The first note is from **John Ball**: "Duke, Gay and I took another cruise on Wind Star in the Med recently. It was a photogenic time of year in Europe. We had a spectacular trip - this time from Athens to Venice. We spent two days in Athens and enjoyed the new Acropolis Museum. After boarding our ship we sailed to Milos, a small, uncrowded island with beautiful scenery and ancient sites. On Crete we had a tour along the coast, past Iraklion, where I had spent some time on cruise in the 70's - the grey kind of ship...the kind with no swimming pool. Near Iraklion we visited the Temple of Knossos, built by the Minoans, and saw the oldest road in Europe.

"Leaving Crete, we sailed near Souda Bay, another nostalgic site. It was there on Thanksgiving Day, 1973, that the good old USS Mount Baker weighed anchor and steamed into heavy seas, sending me from the wardroom with my closest encounter with seasickness. On lovely Corfu we toured the city and enjoyed people watching. We anchored at Dubrovnik on a picture-perfect hot day, and walked through this historic walled city, from where we toured the beautiful Croatian coast. Our cruise ended in Venice, where we spent two wonderful days enjoying this truly unique city. It all ended too soon, but we are now enjoying summer in San Diego.

"We also enjoyed our son's family annual summer visit from Colorado to Nana and Papa's, where I again played tour guide for our grandsons on a personal tour of North Island - they are hard-core aviation fans already. We'll head to Colorado soon for a visit - before it gets cold. Last evening we toured the San Diego Zoo on its last after-dark weekend of the season. Well, who should I see licking ice cream cones, but Pam and **Jay Minnich**. We discussed Navy almost beating Ohio State, and plans for our annual San Diego Army-Navy game party. Pam is soon heading on a sightseeing trip to Peru with 15 other women - Jay was not invited. More later, John." Your cruise on the Wind Star is one Lisa and I hope to take soon. Perhaps the class could book the entire ship. That would be too much fun!



By the time you receive this issue our last continuously commissioned officer standing - Admiral **Tim Keating** will be retired. Tim was relieved and then retired from his post as Pacific Command (formerly CINCPAC) on Monday, 19 October at Camp Smith, Hawaii. I hope to have a top quality photo of Tim and Wanda for the next issue.

You may not know that **Bob Anderson** is our last man on active duty. Here's Bob's note to keep the record straight: "I don't retire until 25 March 2010 from the reserves. I was just at Pearl Harbor a few weeks ago had the opportunity to have dinner with **Loren Shim** and his lovely lady. MSG RES USAR USARC Robert Anderson." Bob, to the best of my knowledge, you've been to Iraq and Afghanistan more than any of our classmates. You can take great pride in the work you've accomplished for our nation. Please do send along a retirement ceremony photo!

Here's a nice article from the Chattanooga Times Free Press: "28Sep09 - **Rick Ector** remembers the exact day and time he met **Peter de Vos**. It was June 28, 1967, and the two were introduced as roommates at the U.S. Naval Academy. 'I don't know many people that can trace friendships back that precisely,' Mr. Ector said. Today Mr. Ector, founder, president and chief operating officer of wind farm builder Tennessee Valley Infrastructure Group, is proud to call his longtime friend a colleague. Recently, Mr. de Vos was named chairman and CEO of Chattanooga-based TVIG. The two spent four years

together at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., then served together in the submarine force. After they got out, the two friends went in different directions -- Mr. Ector to the Tennessee Valley Authority and Mr. de Vos to Stanford University for business school.

"Rick's been trying since 2005 to convince me to come in and join TVIG," Mr. de Vos said. 'I decided once oil prices went over \$100 a barrel that I really thought this country was committed to building alternative energy, and he was still pursuing me, and I decided this was the time to go do it.'

"Mr. de Vos earned an engineering degree at the Naval Academy and started his career working in nuclear engineering. During his investment banking career, he was head of U.S. investment banking for RBC Capital Markets and several other investment firms. He said his financial experience will be especially useful as demand for wind energy grows. Growth in the industry has slowed dramatically in recent years as funding for projects has dried up. 'With the passage of the federal support, the product and investment tax credits, it looks like 2010 and 2011 will be strong years for wind farm business, and we think strong years for us,' he said. His investment experience could help secure financing for developers looking to build wind farms in a market where credit has been shut down, he said. 'I'm so used to working with emerging growth companies, helping them to merge with other companies; I bring all those things to the table. TVIG has between 10 and 15 staff here and is one of the top general contractors for wind farm construction. In 2008 the company built one of the largest wind farms in the United States in Big Spring, Texas. Since he started at TVIG at the end of August, Mr. de Vos has been overwhelmed with all there is to learn about the industry. 'I describe my job right now as drinking from a fire hydrant.'" he said. Nice to see these two classmates creating new business! There's lots of life left in '71!

Coach **Tom O'Brien** was highlighted in this Roanoke Times article: "Coach Masterminds Turnaround. Tom O'Brien graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and spent nine years in the Marines. Little wonder, the guy knows a little something about righting a sinking ship. Few would contest that O'Brien has done just that in his first two seasons as head football coach at North Carolina State. Since succeeding Chuck Amato the no-nonsense O'Brien has firmly taken command of a program that appeared lost at sea in 2006. The Wolfpack lost its final seven games to finish 3-9 that fall, the school's worst season since 1959.

"You know exactly where you stand with Coach O'Brien," said senior defensive end Willie Young, speaking at the ACC Football Kickoff preseason media gig. 'He's a straight-shooter, no doubt about that. When he talks, we all listen, believe me.' After a successful 10-year run at Boston College, where his last eight teams were a combined 67-31 and won a bowl game every year, O'Brien has restored legitimacy at State. The Wolfpack won four of its final six games to finish 5-7 in 2007, then won the last four regular season games last season before losing to Rutgers in the Papajohns.com Bowl. O'Brien, the stern taskmaster, has plans to keep raising the bar in Raleigh. 'We're going into our third year and we should be better,' O'Brien said matter-of-factly. Totally

prepared for everything and anything - it's the military man's way." Nice work, Tom! You know your classmates are watching your team closely.

Our own **Richard Fisher** made headlines in this article: "24Aug09 - The following was released by the University of California - Santa Barbara: Richard W. Fisher, president and chief executive officer of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, will speak at UC Santa Barbara on Thursday, September 3. His talk will focus on current economic issues and the economic outlook.

"As the chief executive of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Fisher serves as a member of the Federal Open Market Committee, the Federal Reserve's principal monetary policymaking group. After beginning his career at the private bank of Brown Brothers Harriman and Co in 1975, he became assistant to the secretary of the Treasury during the Carter administration. In that capacity, Fisher worked on issues related to the dollar crisis of 1978-79. After returning to Brown Brothers to found their Texas operations in Dallas, he created Fisher Capital Management and a separate funds-management firm, Fisher Ewing Partners, in 1987. From 1997 to 2001, he served as a deputy U.S. trade representative with the rank of ambassador, overseeing the implementation of NAFTA and various agreements with Vietnam, Korea, Japan, Chile, and Singapore. Additionally, he was a senior member of the team that negotiated the bilateral accords for China's and Taiwan's accession to the World Trade Organization.

"He attended the United States Naval Academy, graduated with honors from Harvard University, read Latin American politics at Oxford University, and earned his master's degree in business administration at Stanford University. In 2006, Fisher received the Service to Democracy Award and the Dwight D. Eisenhower Medal for Public Service. In April of this year, he was inducted into the Dallas Business Hall of Fame." Wow! Sounds like another '71 classmate doing good things for our great nation!

Our class Executive Board met on September 11<sup>th</sup> at the Alumni House Tap room. All class officers and sixteen trustees were in attendance. Highlights included an update on our class Legacy Gift Campaign and the 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion October 20-23, 2011. We are well on our way to achieving the gift goals. The gift supports the Ethical Character in Leadership Chair. You can expect to hear soon about the 40<sup>th</sup> reunion as we hope to make it the most memorable of reunions. Included in the reunion are plans to create a Lucky Bag with an update on the lives of all classmates – grad and non-grads. This will be a fun reunion at the new Annapolis Westin Hotel!

Here's a note from Susan E. Connell: I am looking for contact info for **Tom Dussman**. He was the roommate of my late brother, **John Allen**. Thanks! Susan." Tom (aka BirdDog) responded and along with his response was an excellent start on an intriguing mystery novel. Here's Tom's note (without the mystery part): "The glamorous airline life continues. United Airlines will finish parking all our 737s in October. So, I'll be taking my Captain's hat over to the 767

soon after that. I plan to fly international for awhile. After retiring from this job, I'm going to work on my short iron game in anticipation of joining the 'Super-Seniors Tour'--hopefully not as a caddy. BirdDog." Tom, I hope you write the novel between rounds on the links!

Last month's column got me started on my search for a fellow lightweight crew mate, **John Brandes**. John is in Riviera Beach, FL working for Lockheed Martin. I'm hoping John can make the 40<sup>th</sup> reunion. Perhaps the '71 lightweight crew team will reconstitute for a row along Weems Creek. That would be fun.

As many of you know by now, **Stan Mahoney** passed away August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Stan will always be remembered by many as the President and lead drummer of the "Jay Gees" our first class year. He had a sterling Surface Warfare Officer career and was the Commanding Officer of the USS KIRK (FF 1087). A sudden heart attack in 1986 cut his career short. He returned to Foley, Alabama where he was a driving force in many community projects. In 1996, Stan received a heart transplant and became a passionate promoter of organ donor organizations as well as veterans groups and community events. He had a passion for Navy sports as he was on the varsity athlete fencing team and was forever proud of beating Army. He is survived by his beloved wife, Jessy.

Such an interesting time! Our families experience joys and disappointments. 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.

Duces Virum, Duke