

Shipmate November-December 2017
Duke Longworth
24 September 2017

Lots to report this column! The Navy football team is off to a superb start – 3-0 with the new quarterback at the helm. Here's to a successful season for Navy! I'm looking forward to my fall visit to USNA – I always enjoy the fall beauty of Yard!

First up are notes about our Another Link in the Chain (ALITC) events this past summer. Here's the first: "The first official Plebe Summer P-rade for the class of 2017 was held in honor of the Another Link in the Chain (ALITC) for classes 1971-2021. Our classmate, VADM **Kevin Green**, USN (Ret.) was the reviewing official representative of the over 35 Class of '71 guests and their wives. Other honor guests were BGEN **Steve Cheney**, USMC (Ret.), RADM **Joe Enright**, USN (Ret.) and **Chris Weaver**, RADM, USN (Ret.). It was a typical hot and humid summer day on Worden Field in Annapolis on 5 August as the Class of '71 once again showed up in force as part of the ALITC to show their support. Classmates present were (in addition to the flag officers listed above) **Perry Martini, Cass Young, Pete Zaudtke, Bill Butler, Bob Capra, John Enderle, Lou Hirsch, Tom Gross, Ken Marks, Jim Hergenroeder, Hugh Strain, Bob Stuart, Greg Heath** and **Bill Zapf**. Plebes from 2021 were impressive and we all commented on how they would have been given high marks by the P-rade graders!



CAPTION: USNA '71 supporting ALITC

Our class Webmaster, **Steve Brighton**, has uploaded and updated our class website with photos from the summer 2017 ALITC events. Please add this link to your bookmarks and enjoy! <http://1971.usnaclasses.net/>

Next is a note from **Ed Bouton**: "Hi Duke, Here's an update on our ALITC kickoff down here in the Fort Myers / Naples area of SW Florida. I represented our Class at an informal lunch given by the USNA SW Florida Parents Club on Saturday June 10th. We had about 50 parents, current mids, junior officers and the three members of the Class of 2021 in attendance. I told them all not to worry, USNA is a piece of cake now compared to when we went thru! I was impressed by the SW FL involvement in their mids USNA careers. I have engaged with the 2021 parents and offered to help them however possible over the next four years. Unfortunately, we did not get a group photo with our new plebes, but that's on the "to do list" for the future. Best, Ed." Sounds like you represented our class well!

Next is a note from **Jim Waddell**: "Duke, In May I attended a 'Hail and Farewell' event hosted by the Naval Academy Parents' Club of Central Ohio. We said farewell to the graduating class of 2017 and hailed the incoming plebes of 2021. I gave a short

spiel on the ALITC program and presented the newly admitted candidates with a challenge coin. Attached is a photo of yours truly (the guy with grey hair) with the local 'soon to be' members of the class of 2021 - Daniel Butchko, Cooper Halliday, Allysin Marsico, Brooklyn Pritchard, and Leah Roach.



CAPTION: Jim with Central Ohio selectees

“In my speech I compared how things had changed between the classes of 1921, 1971, and 2021. Of course I noted that the admission of women was a big change since 1971. I said that the admission of women to USNA was good for the country, good for the Navy, and good for the Naval Academy, but it could have been really bad for me. With all the additional competition, I’m not sure I would have been admitted! Best Regards, Jim Waddell.” Jim, I concur on all accounts! I’d likely be on a farm in MO!

The last note on ALITC concerns the grandson of our late classmate, **Neil Kinneer**. **Ken Marks** sent this note which connects '71 to '21: “During the distribution of honor coins (the second in a series of ALITC events), our class president, **Perry Martini**, spotted Jacob Kinneer’s nametag and asked if he was related to Neil. Jacob replied, ‘Yes, he was my grandfather who passed away when I was one.’” Ken sent this note to Jacob’s father, Adam Kinneer: “Adam, You may be pleased to learn that I was

honored to be in attendance at the first and third ALITC events; i.e., I-Day and the Plebe Summer. All in attendance were impressed by how well the plebes marched and how sharp they looked after only five weeks. The Lieutenant Colonel in charge of plebe summer was quick to tell us how great the class of '21 is shaping up and how well they are performing as a team. You have every right to be proud of your son. I know your father would.” Adam replied: “Jacob is having a great time and was quick to tell us in a letter that he was at the ALITC ceremony. He remarked, ‘Dad, I told everyone there I was Neil Kinnear's grandson and they knew him.’ If anything my dad was memorable.” The Hampton Roads Chapter hosted Neil as part of the ALITC dinner in June. He’s sharp young man who, no doubt, will make his grandfather proud!



CAPTION: Perry Martini with Jacob Kinnear

Next are notes from our international travelers. Here’s what **John Ball** sent: “Duke, In May, Gay and I spent two weeks sailing around French Polynesia aboard cruise ship Wind Spirit. After an 8-hour flight from LAX to Tahiti, we embarked on a relaxing 10-day sail to 8 different islands. The weather was wonderful, the ocean warm, sunsets incredible, and the colors nearly indescribable. I now know why it’s often described as Paradise. I was thrilled to snorkel in five locations, with abundant colorful fish, manta rays, (harmless) sharks, and moray eels. If you have the opportunity, I strongly recommend a trip there.

“In June, I had lunch with my company roommate **Pat Kelly** in Coronado. Pat recently retired and was keeping busy catching up with house projects. He and Sherrie have six grandchildren!” John, Tahiti sounds very inviting! It’s on my do list!

John continues: “Attention Classmates: Save the date next year for the weekend of 27 October 2018 for the West Coast Reunion in San Diego in conjunction with the Navy-Notre Dame football game. **Tom Hammons** is leading our San Diego steering committee as we plan reunion weekend events for the class. All the best, John Ball. Sounds like retirement is suiting you well! See you at our 47.5 reunion next fall!

Here’s a world traveling note from **Eric Benson**: “Duke, Here’s a photo from our recent trip to Cuba. This was taken in Havana (the end point of our 11 day journey) in front of the oldest fort in the Americas (1519, I’m told).” Wow, you’re getting around! That must have been a most interesting trip!



CAPTION: Eric and Sally Benson in Cuba

Tom Galloway sent this note: “Duke, in May I was in Los Angeles and spent time with **Randy Hartshorn**. He hosted me at a Sunday Dodger's game, followed by an overnight at his home in Signal Hill, overlooking Long Beach. On Monday, we made a full frontal assault on the local batting cage where Randy showed off his prowess from BOTH SIDES of the plate. After wearing out the pitching machine for 90 minutes with line drive after line drive, we adjourned to his patio for several cold, adult beverages as our reward. I have attached a couple of photos of the two of us: one atop Signal Hill with Long Beach in the background, and one in front of the batting cage establishment, where they are STILL marveling at our performance.



CAPTION: Randy Hartshorn with Tom Galloway

“If you have enough room in your Shipmate space, please include the following information and notice to ALL in the Class of '71 who ever toiled at Max Bishop Stadium. The Annual Baseball Alumni Game is Saturday, Oct 21st, Homecoming weekend. We assemble at 0830 to change into Navy baseball uniforms, batting practice begins at 0900 and the Alumni Game begins by 0930. We typically finish by 1130, providing ample time to shower, change and get to our appointed tailgates well before the 1530 kickoff time. Duces Virum, Tom Galloway.” Sounds like this game could be lots of fun. If you and Randy bat '71 will hit some home runs!

Several of my 36th Company-mates met in Lake Placid 5-8 September as we adjusted our annual company reunion from February to September. So, this year 36th Company had two reunions! The outdoor activities changed from downhill skiing and snow shoeing to hiking, golfing, canoeing, and kayaking. The meals remained the highlight with lobster one evening and steak another! Of course, delicious wine was served with both compliments of **Mike Trice**! Here's a report from our company local, **Sonny Naple**: “Our trip to Lake Placid this year included two great hikes. Friday's trek was an eight mile jaunt to the Ausable Lakes through a beautiful woodsy road. Saturday we ventured to Lake Placid Landing on the Connery Pond Trail, a six mile hike. Since we're all in such great shape, we'll be introducing a high peak climb next

year, probably up Cascade Mountain. It's a 2000 foot vertical, so start training now. A few of us took advantage of the canoe and kayak s at the lakeside house (which, by the way, reminds me of **Jan Milligan's** parents' camp in the Poconos) to explore the waters of Lake Placid. Next year we hope to have a complete flotilla rounding one of the big islands in the lake. See you in the Adirondacks next year!" Sounds like lots of fun! I should be able to make this trip next year!

Bruce Gallemore had this to say about the reunion: "A great weekend at a beautiful house on the Lake. Late summer is the right idea. Good golf and easy walks in the countryside." Craig Welling sent the photo below of the assembled crew (L-R): **Robbie Roberson, Don Beaudette, Craig Welling, Sonny Naple, Mark Horgan, Jim Barron, Bruce Gallemore, and Garry Holmstrom.**



CAPTION: 36th Company-mates enjoying dinner and wine

Looking for a '71 *Lucky Bag*? Dale Hower, brother of our late classmate, **James D. Hower, Jr.**, has a copy which he will mail to the first person who responds for the cost of postage. Contact him at dcwoodworking1@yahoo.com.

Sadly, it is my duty to report the passing of three classmates since my previous column. May they rest in peace.

Duane "Duke" Brunelli died on 21 July following a short battle with cancer. Duke graduated out 21st Company and followed his dream to be a Naval Aviator receiving his wings in 1973. Flying S-3's he served numerous tours aboard aircraft carriers and various shore commands. He retired in May 1994. Duke then spent the

next 20 years as an airline pilot with Polar Air Cargo flying 747's then with Southwest flying 737's. In his 40 years of flying he accumulated over 20,000 flight hours. He is survived by his mother, Gloria, his wife, Denise, and daughters Amanda, Nicole, Lora and Jennifer.

Vince Conroy died of a heart attack in his sleep August 22 in Woodville, Florida. Following graduation out of the 33rd Company, Vince served with the US Marine Corps until 1983, and then as a representative of the defense industry until his retirement. Recently, Vince wrote our Class of '71 history which was published in the Class of 2021 Reef Points and given to the new plebe class on I day – 29 June 2017. Vince is survived by three sons, Collin, Evan & Cecil and one grandson. Collin is a USMC veteran who served for 4 years in Afghanistan. Vince is also survived by two siblings, Helen and Harry. A Memorial Service was held in Grayson, Georgia on Saturday 9 September at 1300. Donations may be made to Make-A-Wish Foundation or Children's Defense Fund.

James "Bill" Luckey passed away peacefully at Chagrin Falls, Ohio on 7 September 2017. A Colorado native, he was a member of the 16th Company. Bill spent his career researching substance abuse treatment. He loved spending quality time with his family, fly fishing for trout in Colorado and steelhead in Ohio, protecting his garden from groundhogs, and becoming a loyal Cleveland sports fan. He is survived by his wife Heather, four children and four grandchildren. A memorial service was held on Monday 11 September at the United Methodist Church of Chagrin Falls, Ohio. Bill was eulogized by his 16th Company classmates, **Steve Ayers** and **Paul Timmins**. The eulogies were poignant, humorous and highlighted what a great classmate and friend Bill was to so many who knew him well.

Too soon it's time to close. Please keep our classmates and their families in your prayers for good health, healing when needed, and safety in their travels. Life is precious and too short –love passionately, give and share your blessings generously with others – as we are richly blessed so may we richly bless others. As much as ever, this is the time for us to be actively shaping the future of our great nation. Now is a good time to seek not so much to be understood, but to understand others. There is plenty of work remaining as we increase our wisdom! Time, tide and column due dates wait for no man!

Duces Virum, Duke