

Shipmate September-October 2017
Duke Longworth
24 July 2017

Lots to report this month! Not only several notes, but the “Another Link in the Chain” (ALITC) events which provided input! Meanwhile, the reporting members of '21 have gotten an excellent taste of the heat and humidity of a scorching summer in Crabtown!

First up is an excellent note from my O'HARE shipmate, **Jeff Albright**:
“Greetings, Duke. Recently, Beth and I took a short trip from the ‘Land of Enchantment’ (that's New Mexico for those who haven't memorized our state's motto) to visit Margaret and **Will Fritchman** in Henderson, NV. We spent a delightful day with them, reminiscing about days past in the 16th Company. Will has had some recent medical challenges, but his sense of humor remains. We broke out our Lucky Bag yearbook and compared updates on many of our company/classmates. Attached is a picture of Will and me in front of some of his Navy assignments including the USS Pasadena (SSN 752), Will's command. A good time was had by all, including hearing how Will had spent part of his Admiral Rickover interview confined to a closet - to ensure Will could handle the confined spaces of our silent service. I know that Will and Margaret would really enjoy hearing from members of the class. Here is their mail and e-mail address: 375 Hoskins Ct.. Henderson NV 89012; E-mail: downscope71@cox.net. See you in San Diego in 2018. Jeff Albright.”



CAPTION: L-R – Jeff Albright and Will Fritchman

Jeff added this following our email exchange: “We just returned from a two week trip to France – mostly Paris and Normandy. We had a WONDERFUL time. Nice memorial ceremony at Normandy. Saw the Louvre, Malmaison (Josephine’s home), Eiffel Tower, Monet’s Garden and we ate lots of great French food. To top it off, one of our French tour guides had taught French at the Albuquerque Academy here for two years! What a coincidence! Back to work. Twenty years now in the practice of law. I’m an equity partner in our law firm, and I chair the Intellectual Property Section of the State Bar (an oxymoron, I think). I received the NM State Bar’s Distinguish Service Award a couple of years ago (one awarded a year), and have a very busy practice - - which FUNDS OUR TRIPS! Probably looking to retire (from law this time) in the next couple of years, and even with the kids and grandchildren here, Beth would like to move back to the MD/Delaware area, I figure that she followed me around all of those years in the Navy – so SHE gets to choose where we finally park!

“Beth and I plan to fly down to Florida in the fall to visit Jane and **Paul McIntire**. Will go out to see Will and Margaret again, too. Hope you’re doing well, too. Jeff.” As

newly minted Ensigns Jeff and I had a superb tour on O'HARE. I look forward to seeing them at our reunions. Lisa and I should make those overseas trips with them!

Next is a note from **Jerry Geil**: "Duke, There was not enough time at the reunion to talk to everyone, so I thought it about time to check in via *Shipmate*. After retiring from the Marine Corps I spent 18 years at the Lockheed Martin Skunk Works in Palmdale, CA. This was an excellent second career that kept me in aviation. I was a safety engineer on the X-35 during the JSF competition. After Lockheed won the contract I worked in F-35 tactics development. While developing tactics I flew about 100 sorties in the F-35 tactical simulator and another 100 simulator sorties as an aggressor against the F-35. Take my word, it's a lot more fun flying the F-35 than flying as an aggressor against it. I finished my years at Lockheed doing cost-benefit analysis on projects beyond the F-35. While working for Lockheed I remained current on USNA as the area Blue & Gold Officer, and chairman of my congressman's Service Academy Selection Board.

"My wife and I selected Pensacola for our retirement after a vacation there. My company mate, **Glenn Montgomery**, had already retired in Pensacola and he gave us the great gouge on the area. Being a black shoe, Glenn lives out on the gulf. Being a Marine, I moved inland to the 'high ground'. I went with my Marine Corps TBS training and live above the Hurricane Ivan inundation lines.

"We have a very active Alumni Chapter. During football season we take over part of the best sports bar in town to watch Navy football. There are of course many grads in the Pensacola area going through the flight programs, and some are among my 23 candidates appointed to the Academy. It is especially rewarding for me to re-connect with alumni I interviewed during my Blue & Gold Officer days in California. It is very gratifying sharing a beer with these wonderful junior officers and discussing USNA and their future plans. It is a different and far better connection than it was mentoring them as candidates.

"I spoke about my experience on the X-35 and F-35 programs at one of our Alumni Chapter luncheons. Glenn introduced me while his wife, Suzy, snapped the attached picture. In the picture with us is **Charles Krupnick '68**, who was our second set company commander during plebe year. Small world! Charlie was a good guy and we had a great time remembering some of those days. Two X-35 points of interest to the alumni were 1) the number of USNA alumni working on the X-35 program and 2) the Naval Academy fly-by of the X-35 that did not go over very well with the JSF Program Office. Unlike we alumni the JSF Program Office did not fully understand the importance of getting a picture of the X-35C over the Naval Academy. Nevertheless, we got the picture and still won the program.



CAPTION: Charles Krupnick, Jerry Geil, Glenn Montgomery

“Pensacola has changed a lot since flight school and all for the better. NAS Pensacola is still the most beautiful NAS I have ever seen, and the city has seen a lot of improvement in the downtown area. I cannot think of a better place for military retirement if you want to be near the sea. I volunteer at the National Naval Aviation Museum as a docent. It is a great museum and interacting with the public is a very fun activity. Many reunions are held in Pensacola, and not just aviation reunions. If any classmates are considering a command reunion, they might want to consider Pensacola. For Pensacola gouge they can contact me through my email address on the alumni website. Go Navy! Beat Army! Jerry Geil.” Wow! Working on the F-35! That had to be every bit as exciting as Jerry says!

Speaking of Pensacola, here’s a note from **Glenn Montgomery**: “Last Saturday we had a welcome picnic for the class of 2021. I was invited to welcome them as ALITC. These two young men are following in our footsteps 50 years later. We had 60-75 folks at the outing ranging in classes from '58-21. If you get a chance to participate with the youngersters DO IT! Great fun. Glenn.”



CAPTION: Glenn Montgomery with '21

Here's a nice note from **Chuck May**: "Duke, **Bob Annis**, **Dan Brown**, and I represented '71 for Another Link in the Chain at the Vermont USNA Parents' Club send-off gathering for the 2021 candidates from VT on June 11th. By the time you get this the candidates should be on the way to Annapolis for Induction Day.



CAPTION: (L-R) Dan Brown, Evan Doe '21 Candidate, Chuck May, Jack Loucy '21 Candidate, Bob Annis, and Louisa Oney '21 Candidate

The Hampton Roads Chapter of USNA held its annual Plebe Recognition Dinner on June 8th. Below is a photo of '71ers attending for this ALITC event (L-R) Duke Longworth, **Mark Hess**, **Ken Marks**, **Dick Enderly**, and **Joe Wargo**.



CAPTION: 71 at PRD for ALITC

Here's a note from **John Closs**: Duke, Attached is a recent photo of **Mike Nordin** & me. Mike & his family were in Minnesota to celebrate the marriage of his younger son to a MN gal. Also in attendance were Mike's older son, **Brian Nordin** '97, and several of Mike's siblings [including his brother, **Jack Nordin** '64]. Besides the wedding, we all enjoyed several days of catching up on news & reliving 'The Good Old Days.' John." Nice photo! Sounds like a most enjoyable time!



CAPTION: L-R John Closs, Mike Nordin

Here's a note from **Hank Turowski** regarding the publication he is working on for our 50th reunion: "The Class of '71 Sea Story Process is accepting submissions in both the Academy Stories and Sea Stories categories. The criteria for submission are listed on the 'Sea Stories' Page on the Paradigm Press website at paradigmpress.com at the link, <https://henry-turowski-chf9.squarespace.com/config/> and a running list of submissions in process will also be posted on this site. A sample submission with biography is also included on the website. There is no rush, but if you think you will be submitting, please let me know at hankturowski@hotmail.com so I can save you a space. Hank Turowski." This sounds like fun. I know my 36th Company-mates have some real doozies to tell!

Have you heard the news? **Tom O'Brien** will be inducted into the Boston College Hall of Fame October 6th. Tom is winningest coach in BC football history with an impressive 75-45 record while five of his teams ranked in the Top 20. Tom mentored 23 assistant coaches, had 26 players drafted by the NFL, six first round selections and had 18 players appear in Super Bowls. He coached three consensus All-Americans (Mike Cloud, William Green and Jamie Silva) and three All-Americans (Chris Hovan, Matt Ryan and Paul Zukauskas). Also, Tom will be announcing at the home football games!

As a prelude to the ALITC events the San Diego '71ers were aboard THEODORE ROOSEVELT for the annual Ethical Character in Leadership Award ceremony on June 9th. Here's the note from Tom Hammons: "Duke, We had seven attendees at the onboard the TR in the CO's In Port Cabin as well as a significant number of officers. The awardee, LTJG Jared Chambers, had not been told he was going to receive the award. The look on his face when the XO announced his name was absolutely priceless. Jared is a Reactor Department LDO who not only qualified for all his engineering watch stations but also found time to become a qualified OOD. The CO was out of town, so, the XO presented the award. This was a great way to celebrate the 46th anniversary of our graduation.



CAPTION: (L-R) **Pat Kelly, John Ball, Tom Hammons, Bill Nevitt, LTJG Chambers, Bruce Nichols, Vince Zabala, Pat Doyle**

'71 kicked off our ALITC with '21 on 29 June in Annapolis. Many classmates volunteered to help and under the direction of our VP and ALITC Chairman, **Mike McNallen**, the events went off without a hitch. Those in attendance: Cathy and **Bill Butler**, Jona and **Bob Capra**, **Ron Cornelison**, Martha and **Mike Gaffney**, Kate and **Kevin Green**, Maryanne and **Tom Gross**, **Mike Hallahan**, Peggy and **Greg Harper**, **Jeff Hemler**, Kathi and **Jim Hergenroeder**, **Al Jacobs**, Mary and **Charles Keating**, Marty and **Dan Lyons**, **Ken Marks**, Mary and **John Martin**, Jean and **Perry Martini**, Pam and **Mike McNallen**, Patty and **Dave Miller**, Ruth and **Charlie Perkins**, Ginny and **John Sattler**, Margy and **Bob Stuart**, Karen and **Cass Young**, Chris and **Chris Weaver**, and Chickie and **Pete Zaudtke**. We celebrated our I-Day anniversary as we gathered at the McNallen's for a 50 year celebration (28 June 1967 – 28 June 2017). All present renewed their Oath of Office as Midshipmen followed by short remarks by Perry Martini including the speech made by our Superintendent, **RADM Draper Kaufmann '33**. On I-Day, '71 hosted a Parent Picnic and gathering on Hospital Point for the parents and families in town for their sons and daughters induction day. Hundreds of parents stopped by to chat with '71ers and their wives as well as view all the '71 era memorabilia including the Army-Navy 11-7 Game Day 1970 football (shared by our winning QB Mike McNallen), a piece of a goal post from that winning day (shared by Bob Stuart), a Sextant used in Luce Hall in the 60's, a slide ruler (remember those?), and a number of photo's of our I Day, Herndon Monument, and graduation. The day was completed when several classmates were hosted by the Superintendent and Commandant at the '21 Oath of Office on T-Court. Senior classmates attending were VADM **Kevin Green**, LtGen **John Sattler**, and RADM Chris Weaver. VADM **Ted Carter '81**, Superintendent, addressed the Class of 71 and recognized our start for the

ALITC and described the class as 'the leaders among USNA alumni in support for the success of midshipmen who attend today's Naval Academy.' Photos taken during this two day event are on our class website.



CAPTION: Kneeling (L-R) - Bob Capra, Bill Butler, John Martin, John Sattler, Ken Marks, Mike Gaffney, Chris Weaver. Standing (L-R) - Cass Young, Charles Perkins, Al Jacobs, Kevin Green, Jeff Hemler, Greg Harper, Bob Stuart, Mike McNallen, Perry Martini, Pete Zaudtke, Tom Gross, Dan Lyons, Ron Cornelison, Mike Hallahan, and Charles Keating

"Next event was the Honor Coin Presentation to '21 on 17 July. 40 of our classmates participated giving the coins to selected '21 plebes. Attached is a picture of the Honor Coin. We will offer this coin for sale on the Alumni website.



It is my sad duty to report the passing of Val Cushman on Monday, July 2, 2017, in Ames, Iowa. He attended one year at NAPS and two years at USNA. He then worked as a conductor for several smaller railroads before joining the Chicago Northwestern Railroad which later became Union Pacific Railroad. Val retired in 2010. Survivors include his three sons, two grandchildren, four sisters, and many nieces and nephews. A memorial service was held July 15. For online obituaries and condolences visit: www.carsonstappfuneralhome.com. May Val rest in peace.

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. There is plenty of work remaining as we increase our wisdom! Time, tide and column due dates wait for no man!

Duces Virum, Duke