

Shipmate September 2018
Duke Longworth
19 June 2018

Summer is here in full force, but when you read this column fall will be here with cooler temperatures. The trees in the Yard will be turning colors, Tecumseh will be painted, and the midshipmen will be filling the sidewalks between classes! Fall is a favorite season with many good memories! I hope you are doing well and that you enjoy the update below!

First up is a note from **Hank Turowski**: “Greetings Classmates! As many of you already know, Elaine and I just returned from a Round the-World Cruise! Why did we do that? Because we love to travel and wanted to do something spectacular before our knees and our brains went haywire. A cheap (all things are relative) cabin on a long cruise seemed the perfect way. Many of you followed our adventures and my many misadventures.

“The statistics: 113 nights. Panama Canal Transit! Four equator crossings. Nearly 40,000 miles. Four Polynesian Islands! Four Stops in New Zealand! Nearly 50 ports of call. 10 dress-up events. 127 separate Facebook blog essays. Five stops in Australia! Daily Mass. Bali! 30 different countries. 7,000 photos. The Philippines! Two nights in Hong Kong! Water more than fifteen thousand feet deep. Two nights in Singapore! One small Tropical Storm for excitement. Sri Lanka! 70 stage shows. The Seychelles. Three Nights in Cape Town! Five stops in Africa! And the last night at dinner – a waterspout following the ship as we plowed through thunderstorms. And I lost weight to boot.

“Now we have returned none the worse for it. In fact, Elaine kept her feisty nature and seemed to flourish as the cruise progressed. I will continue to work on my novels and the writing projects for the Class of ‘71, and of course to send out essays as my heart urges. Thank you to everyone who followed our travels and travails. God Bless everyone! Your humble servant, Hank.” I followed Hank via Facebook on his voyage. I thoroughly enjoyed the daily update and photo. Really was very adventurous! Thank you Hank for the adventure!



CAPTION: Hank and Elaine's favorite cruise photo!

Next is a note from **Carl Josefson**: "Duke, I finished the 'Tunnel 2 Towers' climb and did better than I expected: finished in just under 32 minutes. I'm glad I didn't have to do it twice or go up AND down. Wouldn't have made it! Although the climb is great, the best (and most emotional) part of the whole experience was seeing the memorial and looking up the names of a couple of people mentioned by donors, reading a newspaper story about 9/12 in an Irish Pub that was right next door to the towers but survived, and talking with people who were climbing for colleagues from the FDNY who died that day. Many of the retired firefighters I climbed with knew either Stephen Siller or Billy Burke, whom the climb memorializes, and many of the active firefighters were wearing t-shirts from their engine companies. Here is a link to a brief description of Stephen Siller and 9/11: <https://tunnel2towers.org/stephens-story/>, and a link to the story of Billy Burke: <http://fdnymemorial.com/today-remember-firefighter-william-burke/>.

"When I read about these two men who ran toward the sight, sound, and smell of tragedy to help others, it made me pretty humble, and appreciative that there are people like this serving others as firefighters, law enforcement, and in Navy, Marine Corps, Army, and Air Force. I haven't thought much about 9/11 for the last couple of years, but this really immersed me in all of it again - even details I hadn't been aware of before. I'm really glad I decided to do this and I'm glad I was able to help others as part of the climb. By the way, I found out just last week that the link I sent out my climb was changed, so the best way to donate is to go to: <https://www.crowdrise.com/t2towerclimb>; Click the 'Donate to a Fund Raiser' button; Click the 'Select a Team' drop down menu and scroll down to Carl Josefson

(alphabetical order by first name); and Donate! Remember all those who serve and still need our help, Carl.” This sounds like an excellent way to remember those who served us so bravely on that tragic day. Thank you for sharing with us!



CAPTION: Carl at the Tunnel 2 Towers climb!

How about this note from **Jerry Byrnes**: “During an extended weekend in May ten 7th Company members held a mini-reunion in the Charleston, SC area. The remarkably well-preserved and young looking classmates were joined by their lovelier brides. Evidently, the 7th Company had found Ponce De Leon’s Fountain of Youth! The group included: Susan and **Rick Blake**, Audrey and **Rich Burman**, Ellen and **Denny Bruwelheide**, Pat and **Jerry Byrnes**, Linda and **Doug Conklin**, Inga and **Greg Hedderly**, Sally and **Bill Nold**, **Mike Morrell**, **Bob Walter**, and Elaine and **Jim Ward**. Since we had not seen Greg Hedderly since graduation, it was great to have him back in the group. This was a weekend for get togethers while exploring the #1 tourist attraction in the US - Charleston SC.



CAPTION: 7th Company enjoying Charleston



“While not at group gatherings, we enjoyed the cuisine and night life in Charleston, explored the local antebellum plantations, and some visited the CSS Hunley. The first submariners! Of note, Mike Morrell revisited Plebe Summer at the rifle range. He shot an authentic M1 Garand and a 45 caliber pistol. His training kicked in as he did well with both guns.

“We enjoyed wonderful group dinners - Jerry and Pat Byrnes hosted a lasagna, mac and cheese and salad gathering with cold beer and wine. Bill and Sallie Nold hosted a classic ‘lowcountry boil’ aka frogmore stew consisting of local shrimp, corn, sausage, potatoes and wonderful spices. A gastronomical delight! No one walked away hungry. Some even had leftovers!

“It was great to get the group together. It was also a primer for either the 47.5 or the 50th reunion!” Sounds like a most excellent reunion!

Here's another note from **Hank Turowski**: “Greetings Classmates! Unfortunately, I will not be able to join you for the Reunion in San Diego, but I have been hard at work on the writing and the editing for the Class of '71 Academy Stories and the Class of '71 Navy Sea Stories books.

“Thus far I have received submissions from about half the companies of the Class, and many are outstanding tales to be sure. I am in awe at how many talented story-tellers we have in '71. But, half of the Class still has not participated. Our goal is to have at least one submission from every Company in each of the books. So, I am writing this to solicit input from the missing groups: Company by numerical order - 1, 5, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15 18, 19, 22, 25, 28, 30, 31, 32, and 36.

“Not all the stories submitted thus far have been heroic tales, although some certainly are. Many have been stories of humorous incidents or missions gone awry. Some have been family or classmate reminiscences. All submissions are welcome and nearly all will be published depending on space limitations. My job is to edit the stories, put them all into a coherent publishable format, and produce books that are a professional effort we can all be proud of. I am here to help. I will do the very best I can in this effort. Over the years I have made all the classic writing mistakes, and used the knowledge I've gained by my missteps to improve my storytelling and to lead several writing improvement groups.

“The criteria for submission is listed on my web site at paradigmpress.com. Please contact me if you have questions at hankturowski@hotmail.com. Go Navy! Your humble servant, Hank.” Looks like there's some more writing to do! Thank you Hank!

36th Company will meet in Lake Placid! Here's a note from **Mark Horgan**: “Hey, company-mates, as Spring wanes and Summer approaches it's time to confirm our plans to reconvene on the shores of Lake Placid this September. Plan to arrive Tuesday, 4 September, departing on Saturday, 8 September after three full days of hiking, boating and golf. Enjoy the summer and I look forward to seeing all of you after Labor Day.” Sounds like a fun time is on tap! I've marked my calendar and have started the planning for September 2019! I'll miss again this year, so I'm looking forward to the photos and the tales!

Next up is a very good idea from **Jeff Albright**: “Last fall I was desperate for a special Christmas gift for Beth and after 45 years of marriage, my brain had stopped working. So, after some serious negotiation with Jostens® I had a special mold made for a '71 Class Charm. You can see in the photo below the relative size. It will fit on a “Pandora-type bracelet” – although it is NOT a Pandora charm. Jostens' will accept orders if someone wants to order one - - - And just to be clear - - - I GET NO \$\$ FROM THIS and don't want anything. You should be able to buy at whatever Jostens is charging for these. If there is any kind of a markup (other than their normal profit), let me know, because that was not our agreement.



CAPTION: 71 Beaded Charm

“Sorry I did not get this out sooner; however, there are many special occasions to give gifts including the 47 ½ coming up soon. Contact Dawn Braaten (800-852-9353), or e-mail address Dawn.Braaten@newellco.com. Just ask her for the 1971 Beaded Charm. Jeff Albright.” Great idea Jeff! Thank you for the superb gift idea and the legwork that went into getting this arranged for us!

It is my sad duty to announce the passing of **Mark Beck**, LtCol, USMC (Ret.) who died on June 1st in Lansing, KS after a lengthy battle with prostate cancer. A graduating member of 34th Company, Mark joined us on June 28, 1967 determined to follow in his father and brother’s footsteps in the USMC. Graduating from Quantico High School he lived the life of a ‘military brat’ in CA, IN, IA, Hawaii, and VA. Mark served as 34th Company Commander, as well as summer plebe detail during both our second class and first class summers. Commissioned a 2nd LT in the Marine Corps, he was selected for flight training, earning his Naval Aviator wings in March 1973.

“During his USMC career, Mark enjoyed several challenging tours, including a three-year assignment with HMX-1, the Presidential Helicopter Squadron. He was appointed to the White House Liaison Office, and had the honor of flying both Presidents Carter and Reagan. He flew Nancy Reagan from Paris to Normandy to commemorate the D-Day landing and transported Great Britain’s Prince Charles while the prince was on a diplomatic mission to the U.S. As a LtCol, Mark commanded Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363. He retired from the USMC in August 1993 and settled in Lansing, Kansas near Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas.

“Mark will be best remembered as a loving and devoted husband and father and a cherished brother and son. He is survived by his wife of 27 years, Marta, his son, Matthew Todd Beck, and daughter Adriane Beck Nada, two grandchildren, brother **Barry N. Beck '67** and two sisters. May he 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. Our classmates in leadership as well as those in volunteer organizations need our thoughts and prayers, too. For everything there is a season and a purpose. Today is the gift of “the present.” 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. Remember, too, that words have the power to elevate and to destroy, so use your words carefully! Give thanks for your many blessings, especially for family and of citizenship in our great nation. 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