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CLASS OF 1948 SHIPMATE COLUMN

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As I glance through the emails, letters, and the notes on phone calls that provide bulk of the column, I see that this month is not exceptional. What is becoming more evident is that, as we are getting older, it seems that activity is declining, and people are migrating out of their longtime digs into smaller and more carefree environments. What is good is that of those whose mobility is still available are traveling and tripping. Please share your fun with your Classmates by dropping me a line or an email.

The Washington area Classmates gathered as destined for the March luncheon on Friday the 13th at the Army Navy Country Club and were entertained and informed by Chet Gladchuck, the Director of Athletics, who tore over from Annapolis between sundry duties and gave us a broad look at athletics, especially football, in his usual high energy style. He was fun and informative, and he left no doubt that the Navy sport program is booming, and it is not about to slow down as long as he is on board. On hand with wives were, Reed, Tony Duncan, Heid, Villarreal, Ball, Munly, O'Connor, Deeley, Carruth, Corley, Goldman, Rasmussen, Harkins, Beggs, Prichard, and Conable. Singles were Graham, Morgan, Ghormley, George Sullivan, Cab Davis, Geiger, Sisson,

Sumner Moore, Bill Arnold, Andrus, Olson, Buhner, and Borlaug. Eddie Welch escorted Diana Keenan, and Rosemary Hogg was there.

Meanwhile, in Newport, Frank Snyder, who maintains strong ties with the Naval War College, and is in demand locally as a historian and raconteur, has developed an excellent lecture on the Legacy of Trafalgar, with which he has entertained Newport groups, most recently, the English Speaking Union. Frank continues to stock his encyclopedic mental archive as no one else I know, and at any gathering, can be found spellbinding groups of avid listeners.

Guy Buck rings in from Sarasota where he and Bebe have survived the passage of the various storms. "We have had a fairly good year other than the invasion of cancer in our extended family. Our eldest son, Ed, lost his wife in Houston to cancer a year ago. My youngest son, Sean, '83, took over and planned a beautiful funeral and was of inestimable assistance to us and his brother. We have 3 other extended family members fighting this blasted disease that takes young and old. We both golf 2 or 3 times a week at TPC Prestancia and enjoy this fabulous weather. I attach a photo taken on my 80th birthday in front of the 27 foot sculpture of the famous kiss in Times Square, which is creating a lot of interest on our waterfront.

Angus McDonald sent along a photo of himself with Tom Hayward at Navy League dinner in Seattle.

Jack Chapman, 8th Company, called from his home in Doylestown, PA, with the news that fellow Doylestown Classmate, Charles P. Smith, 5th Company, died on 7 January from the effects of Alzheimer's disease. He was a local

publisher and published the local newspaper "The Intelligencer" for 32 years. He was quietly involved in a number of charitable and volunteer organizations and frequently did things for others. He grew up in Hartford, CT, and served at the Academy at one point in the Navigation Department. After leaving the Navy, he became a manager at the Philadelphia plant of the Container Corp of America. In 1966, he married Carolyn Calkins of Doylestown and entered the publishing business. He leaves his wife, two sons, and two grandchildren.

Herb Benton, lives in Chauvin, LA, and Scorchy Smith reports that the Bentons survived Katrina in good shape, quoting a letter from Herb: "The recent floods only caused minor damage to our landscaping. Chauvin is 30 miles south of Houmas, which is 30 miles southwest of New Orleans, is a fishing village of some 200 shrimp boats. Aside from having a boathouse with two boats, we live in a conventional four bedroom, two bath recently built house set 13 feet above the ground on pilings. In addition to waterborne sports, we are in the heart of real Cajun country, with opportunities for side trips to areas you may not have experienced before."

I am very sad to report that Dudley Holstein (20th Company) died of heart failure while visiting a daughter in Pennsylvania on 18 December 2005. He was a Brooklyn boy, graduated from high school there in 1940, and enlisted in the Navy in 1941. He found his way to NAPS In Bainbridge and joined the Class of 48 in '44. He served in the Midway and then in minesweepers in Korea. He left the Navy in '53 and worked for the family construction business, then for BuAir and NASA, Cape Canaveral, then for Army Intelligence until retiring in 1980. He then

worked for ARINC Research in Annapolis. Dudley is survived by his wife Leila, a son, Michael of Rockville, a daughter Carin Cooper of Bethesda, daughter Marla Pierpoint of Blandon, PA, and nine grandchildren. Dudley was a pillar of the Annapolis 48 group for many years, and worked tirelessly for the Class, always being able to arrange the details of our Reunions and Homecomings with the finest of accommodations and food. He had a lock on the Boat House for the Class, and his passing is marked alas by the Academy's plans soon to completely revamp the Boat House for different usage. Dudley was one of a kind. He always knew how to find a way to accomplish whatever he saw needed to be done, when others would not. He loved his family, his Class, and the USNA. He is missed. His funeral was held in the new Naval Academy Commodore Uriah P. Levy Center and Jewish Chapel, and was an impressive service in a very impressive facility. Dudley would have been proud.

Another missing Classmate, sought especially by Bob McClinton and Ed Cummings has been found. Jonathon R. Warren, 33 Linda Ave, Apt 2511, Oakland, CA 94611-4820, 510-655-5601.

Bob Bonnell has some assorted news items which I will display below. Thanks, Bob. Herb Green recently received the Distinguished Educational Leader Award from the Rutgers Graduate School of Education, along with the Board Chairman of Verizon, for his helping elementary school kids learn to read and for his continuous leadership in the prestigious Public Education Institute, which he founded 25 years ago at Rutgers to pursue issues of elementary and

secondary education. The institute presents programs monthly, attracting 100-500 education oriented NJ citizens.

Herb reports that Ben Conroy recently retired from playing piano in the evening at a club 90 miles from home in Austin, TX. Fred Horvath, PhD, has been teaching psychology and is parent to a most attractive and certainly the youngest Class offspring (they were at our 55th Reunion). Ski Falevski has become an honorary member of his country club on Staten island after 55 years of golf there, and where he continues to watch with anxiety his real estates taxes escalate as new residents gut and replace large, lovely old Staten Island homes with huge new mansions...Sound familiar??

I am most sad to report the death of Bob Chew (Robert Smith Chew, Jr), 5th Company, in Houston, after a brief illness on 13 December 2005. Bob was a Navy junior, born in Jamestown, RI. He went to St. Albans School in Washington and joined 1944 classmates Bill Chandler, Len Mulbry, and me in becoming members of the Class of 48. Bob and Bill became aviators, Len became a doctor, and I stuck to the ocean. Bob was a career carrier pilot, test pilot, made the first hands-free landing on a carrier, served 2 tours in Vietnam as XO and then CO of VF-194, Red Lightnings, and was shot down in an F-8 Crusader. He was CO of VF-124 at Miramar, XO of America (CVA-66), and CO of NAS El Centro, after 4 years at the Pentagon. Bob's first wife, Elinor, and his second wife, Patricia, predeceased him. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn, his son, Robert III, of Springfield, MA, and 2 grandsons. Bob was a good highschool football player and an excellent soccer player, varsity at Navy. As a continuing family

Jamestown, he was a member of the Conanicut Yacht Club and the Kiwanis. He was a member of the Society of the Cincinnati and St. Luke's United Methodist church, Houston. Bob was an aviator and a fighter pilot, but he still was a sailor with the sea in his blood.

John Marshall Perkins and his wife, Eleanor, provide a shot of themselves in Budapest, standing near someone's castle.

Charlie Butler furnishes a photo of Rosemary and himself at the Lodge at Sea Island, GA. They live in Coral Gables FL and I excerpt his letter. "We have managed to survive another bad hurricane season, with no damage to our home of 35 years. Our 2 ancient live oaks and Cuban mahogany lost some branches.. Last Spring we took a leisurely trip to Virginia with stops at favorite inns discovered over the years; The Lodge at Sea Island (the Cloister), Woodlands Inn near Charleston, The Inn on the Biltmore Estate at Asheville NC, Fearington House near Chapel Hill, the Tides Inn, Irvington VA, and the Williamsburg Inn. In the fall, we drove north as far as the Biltmore Inn when Wilma struck South Florida. Good timing."

Dick Rubenstein called from Kansas City to note that Dave and Mary Lane Hartshorn have departed the Jacksonville area and settled in a retirement community at 645 Forest Park Blvd, St. Augustine FL 32092. Jax will never be the same.