60/60 CLASS NEWS

'60

Life Membership: 69% Donor Participation: 36.40%

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From Mike Schery '63:

™ "In the early1980s, I worked for the late VADM Mike Colley (3) as his Chief Staff Officer in SUBRON 2. We stayed in touch years after I was transferred. I remember a phone conversation we had in '87 during his first flag assignment as COMNAVCRUITCON. Typically, I questioned him as to what the Navy was thinking by letting David Robinson '87 out early to join the NBA. Mike admitted he was a principal voice in letting Robinson out of his full commitment. Rationale? Sports are a major college recruiting tool. The Service Academies lose out on recruiting many good athletes who belief they may have a shot at the pros. Most of those young aspirants never do make it, but won't even consider a Service Academy because they forfeit their potential pro opportunity up front. When they don't make it, they become great Naval Officers. As with Roger Staubach '65, Robinson gave Navy a superstar when he was a Midshipman, some years of active duty, land a whole lot of super recruiting publicity while he was in the pros. In the end, it was a good deal for all.

Excuse me while I digress because there is a relevant moral here. It's also a tribute to a fellow alumnus, Mike Colley (3) - the most straight shooter I ever worked for. David Robinson '87 was not the reason for Mike's phone call that day. Back in our Squadron 2 days, we had several differences of opinion, but one of the biggest involved a sailor who'd been thrown off his boat for popping positive on a drug test. So he was assigned administratively to the squadron waiting transfer or discharge. For lack of anything better to do with him,

we assigned this kid to be the Commodore's driver. Somehow he got Mike's ear on the idea it was a bad rap. Mike comes into my office one day and says: "I want to let him off." And pulling down hard on my "non-yes man cap" I promptly gave the boss all the good reasons why he was dead-wrong. Result: "I'm the Commodore and it's my decision." I do believe that is an exact quote.

Four years later I'm in my cabin shuffling through in-port paperwork and the ship's office calls up and says: "Admiral Colley wants to talk to you." I pick up the phone and the first thing I hear is not "hello", or "how are you?" It was: "You were right!" Seems that as COM-NAVCRUITCOM, the entire Navy's drug bust traffic crossed Mike's desk, and as a card carrying Nuke he speed-read every line. And his driver, the one he'd let off in spite of my arguments, had popped positive again.

I've got to ask: How many people have you've ever worked for, called you up four years after the fact to say "you were right and I was wrong"? So as a Colley fan, I'll go with Mike's rationale. He may have been wrong on the druggy, but he was dead right on with David Robinson. True: The USNA mission is to develop midshipmen morally, mentally and physically and to imbue them with the highest ideals of duty, honor, and loyalty in order to provide graduates who are dedicated to a career of naval service. But you've lost big time if you cut yourself off from a large segment of potential midshipman and great naval officers who will likely fulfill those ideals if they never make their pro-sports goals. Mike

From Doug Johnston (5)

■ "Our October lunch proved particularly timely, coming as it did the day after the elections. Our speaker was Former Congressman Joe Sestak (USNA '74), who provided a range of provocative insights on what takes place behind the scenes in such elections, drawing both on his experience in the U.S. Congress and his later run for the Senate (in which he trekked the full length of Pennsylvania on

foot, meeting and greeting along the way).

In discussing the general absence of accountability in the political arena, he was able to strike a number of meaningful comparisons between that reality and his Navy experience, from Junior Officer to Battle Group Commander. As his Faculty Advisor way back when he was a LCDR preparing his master's degree at Harvard, I was particularly pleased to see Joe's great success in the Navy (where he retired with 3 stars), in the Congress (where he initiated 10 pieces of bipartisan legislation that were signed into law), and more recently in academia and the non-profit sector.

It was a lively discussion, and a great time was had by Tom Solak (2), Grant Sharp (19), Dennis Hickey (22), Bob Traister (2), Barbara and Ward O'Brien (22), Dolly and Gene Tucker (9), Martha and George Dowell (19), Charlotte and Bob Stevenson (2), Bob Matulka (2), and Darlene Lebedev, and yours truly.

From Harry Lewis (15):

"Bill, the 15th Company was well represented at the Notre Dame game recently by J.J. Garrity (15), Tom Glew (15), and me. Wives Mimi and MaryAnn were also with us, but JJ's wife, Helen, was out of town at a pickle ball tournament. After an outstanding win, we all travelled to JJ's home for a grilled steak dinner prepared by his daughter, Theresa.

From Bob Osmon (17):

™ "Dear Bill, on Monday 5 December, the Hampton Roads Chapter of the Class of 1960 held its annual Christmas party dinner at Le Yaca Restaurant in Williamsburg. This year's event was named the Ed McCaskill Memorial Dinner in honor of our well respected and admired classmate whom we lost several months ago. This year we experienced a record number of attendees: 66. It appears that the influence of Gloria & Bob Antonio's (14) move to Williamsburg is bringing more classmates in from the Annapolis and DC area.

After an hour long cocktail party and photos to get us all in the mood, we moved to the dining room for an elegant meal of salmon, pork, or steak, and you could pick blindly and get a great meal. Topped off with either a chocolate to die for or Crème Brulee, it was good to the last crumb. Le Yaca is a Five Star restaurant in town and the best in the eyes of many of us. To the delight of our Virginia Beach group, a new Le Yaca branch is due to open there this spring.

We had a brief program of introducing the people attending our soiree for the first time, recognized two of our widows who attended, Alice Meinicke and Sarah McCaskill, and were most please to see **Frank Kay (8)** with us after his bout with some heart problems just two months ago.

Also **Rod Friedmann (5)** was recognized for his efforts all year long to arrange luncheons which so many of us eagerly attend. Jan Chabot was recognized for searching out and developing the wonderful



'60: Lewis, Glew, Garrity & wives at ND game

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'60: Oz & Jack Suddath

oyster shell ring holders that each lady present was given. Then we had brief words by our four Admirals present, Clexton, Claman, Parcells and Chabot, and a few words by our President John Michalski (6). Above all, it was the camaraderie that made the evening and their words reinforced that feeling.

Attendees were as follows: Gloria & Bob Antonio (14), Jan & Pete Chabot (14), Joyce & John Claman (3), Sue & Paul Cooper (5), Jane & Jim Eilertsen (21), Joanne & Bob Gamba (11), Muriel Greenhalgh, Joy & Dick Hamon (8), Ruth & Frank Kay (8), Sandra & Bill Manning (14), Sarah McCaskill, Alice Meinicke, Nancy & John Michalski (6), Paula & Rod Friedmann (5), Karen & Tom Inderlied (21), Linda & Bill Lewis (5), Mike McCullough (14), Eleanor & Jack Suddath (6), Prissy & Wick Parcells (12), Sarah & Bob Powers (8), Barbara & Don Schlicht (23), Marianne & Joe Sestric (21), Nancy & Skip Sweetser (6), Joan & Mike Treacy (20), Inge & Al Whitaker (16), Bob Osmon(17), Beverly &Ken Batchellor (12), Bobbie & Bob Brenton (12), Catherine & Ed Clexton (10), Beth & Jim Knorr (20), Pamela Kelly, Mary & Henry Von Kolnitz (22), Sue & Ed Mangan (20), Linda & Bill Townsend (19), and Ginger & Jim Philbrick (23).



Dick Hamon & Skip Sweetser



Joe & Marianne Sestric



Jim Eilertsen w Bobbie & Bob Brenton

CLASS SECRETARY COLUMN DEADLINES

Send to classnews@usna.com

 ISSUE:
 DUE DATE:

 May 2017
 27 Feb 2017

 Jun-July 2017
 24 Apr 2017

 Aug 2017
 30 May 2017

 Sept-Oct 2017
 24 July 2017

 Nov-Dec 2017
 25 Sept 2017

'61

Life Membership: 70%

Donor Participation: 33.15%

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I have a large amount of inputs this time, so because of SHIPMATE space limits each class has, some of you may have to wait until the next issue to see yours. Connie & I made our annual journey down to Florida from Penna. by Autotrain back in mid-November. However, using a handy Board meeting up in the DC area, I flew up on their nickel, and my son and I got to go to both the Temple league championship game, as well as the Army game. Wouldn't you know it, we lost BOTH. We were in-situ witnesses to see the cause, which was the second OB this season who was knocked out (early in the Temple game) with a broken leg. The young 3/c QB did his best, but Temple, a VERY good team, walked over us, and won the league Championship. We came in second (not bad). The Army game wasn't much better, but let's face it, they have been laying in wait for 14 YEARS, and they finally won.

On to better things...

This in from Jim Richardson (16) and Chuck (Saint) St Laurent (21):

™ The Southern CA '61 group gathered at the San Diego Yacht club (see image on next page), hosted by Bill Kraus (12) and Jim Richardson (16) to watch the A-N game. Attending included: Boyd and Nikki STEELE (18); Chuck and Arilla ST LAURENT (21); Ralph ZIMMERMAN (18): Alan and Helene PETERSON (17); Steve PERRY (16): Phil and Janet MERRILL (9); Bill and Patsy KRAUS (12); Ted and Michelle GURNEE (18); Bill and Molly ELDREDGE (13); Gary and Corky CARLSON (10); Tom and Betty BAILEY (16); Roger and Terri GOODALL (11); Arnie KLEBAN (12); Anchors Lauree MCKEOWN (14) and Mary Beth FENICK (20); Milt and Claire BOUDOV (13); Jim and Hanna RICHARDSON (16); Dick and Ann ROTHWELL (7); Joe and Toni MAIDEN (10); Dave BRUMMERSTAD (14); Joe MATALAVAGE (21); Bob SHERIDAN (24); Bruce and Melanie MAXON (15); Leo and Kathryn WILLETTS (5); George and Veronica WORTHINGTON (2); and Jack and Judy ALLEN (13). Despite the final score a good time was had by all. See last article for info on their plans for a West Coast reunion.

Sent in from Ned Kuhns (07):

➤ To get ready for another Army Navy Game party at Bob & Peg
Graham's home on Saturday, the
Tidewater 1961 group held their
December 2016 luncheon at
BRAISE restaurant in Virginia Beach
on the second Thursday of the
month. Another good monthly
gathering to which all 1961

