

may be in the area for Homecoming or the last two games of the season this year. If you can't make it this season, put it on your calendar for next year.



Betsy Dobbs and Lois Flynn

Good Times:

Jack London (15) presented two academic awards at the U.S. Naval Academy in May 2015; the Sons of the American Revolution Prize for the best research paper in American History, and the Captain Samuel Nicholson Naval and Marine Corps History and Leadership Award for academic excellence in the field of history and leadership within the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. Jack created the Nicholson award in 2014 and has ancestral ties to Nicholson who served in the Continental Navy and was the first commander of the USS Constitution ("Old Ironsides").

In Memoriam:

Verne B. Whitehead (22) Tucson, AZ
Sept. 27, 1937 to Aug. 1, 2015.

Jerry Elwyn Jensen (non-graduate) was passed from this life Saturday, July 25, 2015.

■ Jerry Elwyn Jensen was born October 29, 1937 in Oklahoma City, OK to Cecil & Lucille Kolb Jensen. He passed from this life Saturday, July 25, 2015. An above average student, he graduated from Classen High School in 1955. With the recommendation of Oklahoma Senator Mike Monroney, he received an appointment to the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD. He left the Naval Academy in January 1956 to enter the US Army. He completed the US Army Military Police School, Army Language School (Chinese-Mandarin); and served the US Army Intelligence Corp, the Army Security Agency where he received Top Security Clearance. On active duty until May 1967, he was evacuated from Vietnam following a parachuting accident. He miraculously survived a 3,000 ft. fall when his parachute failed to open. He always attributed his survival to his military training and to God. The

military taught him to, "land on his feet and roll to the right". He believed God put him on this earth for a specific purpose. He was badly bruised, 1" shorter, pelvis broken in 27 places & tailbone shattered. Amazingly, he sustained a broken leg, arm, back or head injuries. He was in traction for months. Many of his health problems in later life were related to this fall & exposure to Agent Orange. He was a decorated war veteran awarded with military medals and honors too numerous to list. In 1967, he left the Army to join the Norman Police Force. During this time, he met the love of his life, Maudie Louise Riley. They married July 6, 1968. After serving two years, he left the police force to work as a Wage & Hour Investigator for the US Department of Labor in Baton Rouge, LA. In 1990, he was appointed Director of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for the state of OK. Returning to OKC, he served in this capacity until retiring in 1992. After a brief retirement, he accepted a position as Assistant to the Affirmative Action Officer for the University of Oklahoma. At the age of 53 he enrolled at OU, graduating in 1995 with a Bachelor of Liberal Arts. Upon receiving this degree, he was appointed Affirmative Action Officer for the University of Oklahoma working directly for President David Boren. He retired again in 2010. After only one year of retirement, President Boren asked him to return on a part-time basis. Honored at the request, he didn't hesitate & returned to work. He served in this position until his permanent retirement in 2013. Jerry was an extraordinary man, the epitome of a loyal patriot, proud veteran, faithful husband, loving father, devoted servant who put others before himself. He was witty with a great sense of humor. He will be missed. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Maudie Louise. ■

Rise and Shine!

60 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 1%
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 67%

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From **Rod Friedmann (5)**:

■ Who says we're not having fun at our luncheons in Virginia Beach? Check out the photos below. In Jul, sixteen classmates showed up to experience what a

"Gastropub" had to offer, plus a well stocked tap bar. No one was disappointed. Different luncheon selections were available, service was very attentive and a very nice choice of craft beers were available for the beer drinkers.

Attending were: **Pete Chabot (14)**, **Bob Osmon (17)**, **Jim Eilertsen (21)**, **Bob Powers (8)**, **Al Ablowich (16)**, **Paul Cooper (5)**, **Frank Kay (8)**, **Geo. Van Houten (24)**, **Torry Rogers (3)**, **Tom Inderlied (21)**, **Arky Vaughn (21)**, **John Mendelis (14)**, **Al Bissell (8)**, **Ed McCaskill (8)**, **Ed Clexton (10)**, and **Rod Friedmann (5)**. Some classmates that have not been able to attend previous functions were able to attend adding to the camaraderie.

Bill, here are a couple of photos for SHIPMATE. Check out the smiles. Rod ■



Bissell, Mendelis & Van Houten



Inderlied, Chabot, Kay and Clexton

From Lt. Ronnie Battle USN '10 (Class Pres.) to **Bob Osmon (17)**:

■ "CAPT Osmon, I hope this email finds you well and in the midst of planning your 55th (!) Reunion. It's hard to believe a few years have passed since we last connected. I apologize for not formally inviting members of the Class of 1960 to participate in 2010's upcoming 5th year reunion sooner but 2010 would be honored to have any and all of you celebrate our first reunion. I understand it is late notice and will work hard to give more advanced warning of future events. It is not my intention to leave you all out of 2010 class events; '60 is an important part of our USNA experience and we

hope to foster our relationship well into the future. I've copied our Reunion weekend schedule to pass to your classmates. If there is enough interest or you would like to have the information I can forward you more detailed registration instructions. Hope to see you soon!" ■

(Note) The message was addressed to some of the Annapolis folks as well and hopefully, some were able to check out if our Reunion/tailgate talents were passed on the 2010.

From **Ted Parsons (18)**:

■ "Bill, I forward this picture of a rather excellent tribute to Charlie One Eye, sent by LCol Greg Boyington, USAFA '60, as an addendum to my proffering of a written memory that was written up in the May-June issue of SHIPMATE. They must have collected a lot of nickels in the grass! The truth is I didn't get the issue. For some reason after receiving it for eleven years at this address May-June issue didn't come. None the less, I have received eight very kind responses from classmates, including a snail mail from that Irish reprobate **Jim McCusker (14)**. I wonder, just what did I write? Best, and Beat Army, Ted ■



Della Peruta memorial

Also from **Rod Friedmann (5)**:

■ "Bill, our Aug. Class luncheon included the gathering of our Williamsburg and Hampton Roads classmates at one of our favorite haunts - Burtons Grill in Virginia Beach. Attending were: **Pete Chabot (14)**, **Joel Febel (5)**, **Tom Inderlied (21)**, **Frank Kay (8)**, **Bob Ianucci (16)**, **Wick Parcels (12)**, **Bob Powers (8)**, **Bert Johnson (10)**, **Al Bissell (8)**, **Jim Eilertsen (21)**, **Ed McCaskill (8)**, **Mike McCullough (14)**, **Geo. Van Houten (24)** & **Rod Friedmann (5)**. A good and lively turn out for a lousy golf day. As the saying goes "when two or three get together...and old stories be retold"-we had plenty of those plus an eye witness account of the drought conditions in CA from a recent visit by

Al Bissell (8). He also described some unique proposed solutions to divert the jet steam to bring water to the SW. A very interesting, technical & lively discussion ensued. Meanwhile, we had an enjoyable and filling lunch with ample refills of water. As you can see in the photos, we had plenty of opportunities to cross-talk with other classmates. ■



Eilertsen and McCaskill

From **Ed Mangan (20)**:

■ "Classmates, here is information regarding the Class of 1960 Tailgates for this football season. For your information and to quell any unrest, the tent will be there in all its splendor and glory. **Jim Knorr (20)** put together the following note that includes **John Michalski's (6)** and my thoughts. Special thanks go to Jim for his continued efforts in keeping our tailgate tradition alive and well! See you there, Ed ■

'60 Tailgates for 2015 –

These may not be the major Social Events on your calendar for '60 classmates, but to many they are special. The Class officers want you to know that we are hell bent to make them Very Special and do appreciate the Team Effort that is needed to make them Exciting and Tummy fulfilling. Our Tailgate Staff of Suzie (Knorr) Clifton and Theresa Duffy (Daughter in Law of Jim and Carolyn) have been making our '60 tailgates eventful for a few years now. They have both had some medical setbacks that dictate that our first game in 2015 - Navy vs. Colgate on September

5th at 12:00 PM will be cared for by Linda & **Jack Paepcke (11)** and Doreen & **Doug Johnston (5)**. They promise to have our usual location, Site 17 on the Stadium Parking Map, off of Farragut Road ready for food and drink consumption from 10 AM - 11:30 AM. The Paepcke's and Johnston's will have **BEER, WINE AND SODA and some light snacks** for your consumption, but here is where you need to read carefully and work with us on making this tailgate and future 2015 gatherings memorable:

1. Everyone come with their game faces on and a friendly hug and smile to share with others attending.
2. Local (could include; DC, Northern Virginia as well as Pennsylvania classmates and their ladies) folks are asked to bring nourishing food that works well for late morning consumption.
3. All are asked to generously fund the "donation container", usually found in the middle of the food tables, and make your donations to help pay the bills associated with the tailgates.

This Tailgate Plan of Attack has worked for years, but you must know that the Class Treasury has to pay for any shortfall in costs versus donations. Costs include tent stowage/set up and take down, drinks and other expenses, and our Site 17 location at the Stadium. We want to continue our Tailgate Socials and Fellowship as long as possible, so please come and enjoywe will do our best to make you want to come back. As always, you family and guests are welcome at our tailgates. —Tug

I heard from **Randy McHenry (7)** in Florida via **Bob Osmon (17)**.

■ "Oz, thanks for the picture. Flying in Pensacola certainly was motivational as well as a lot of fun. Does seem like yesterday! A lot of water has gone over the dam since then. We look forward to seeing you on your next visit to New Smyrna Beach. — Randy ■



'60: Tidewater group

I've heard from **Ray Fitzgerald (21)** as he undergoes his battle with the big C.

■ “After 5 months of stone style days we experienced a super diamond day this morning. Before explaining, I would like to confirm that it would not have occurred without the love, support, energy, prayers and kind thoughts that you all extended. Overwhelming doesn't even touch our feelings! As far as how I am feeling, the trend is good. We were in Whistler and did some hiking at 6000 feet. It was a challenge and very slow but I was able to handle it.” —Ray ■

Ray provided other details, but suffice it to say, he's had some down months and treatments and support have helped him immeasurably.

With the above in mind it we are all facing the “end of the trail” situation and how long and how smooth it is depends on many factors. Prayer and support from family, Shipmates and Classmates can't hurt. It can be very disappointing that the first time we hear that someone is having a problem when the Alumni Association sends us news of an obituary. We've lost more than a quarter of the class so far and quite a few were surprises.

61

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 3%
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 69%

PRES: **RADM Jerome F. Smith Jr., USN (Ret.)**
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Suggestion: take a little time, and get me a SHIPMATE input! I have had *very* good response from guys who are running local Class meetings, some big, some little, and usually accompanied by a group photo. These are great, but I also kind of like the ones sent in by individuals/families out on a vacation of some kind. Those photos are also good to put in. So, if you've done any traveling lately, and especially if you've taken some photos, send it in. I can't put in a whole bunch of photos, but you may have a favorite or two. And, if you'd like to send in an update on yourself, that is *always* of interest, as well as a photo or two from our deep and dark past...

Here is a nice, unexpected quickie in from **Chuck Davis (23)**:

Taken from the **Bravo Zulu** 1960s decade section of the Jul-Aug



'61: San Diego classmates

SHIPMATE - '61: “**Ernie Moreno (23)** has been inducted into the Class of 2015 Brookline High School Athletic Hall of Fame in Boston, MA.” Chuck goes on to say: “Those of us who know Ernie will remember that he is certainly one of the best athletes in our class, as well as among the most successful in the business world – BRAVO ZULU indeed [my personal reaction was, what took Brookline so long?]” ... and I had totally missed this which showed up in another section of SHIPMATE; thanks, Chuck.

Here is a “groupie shot” sent in by **Jim Richardson (16)**.

■ “The San Diego classmates recently headed North to Oceanside for our bi-monthly luncheon hosted by **Frank Butsko (1)** and **Ralph Zimmerman (12)**.

Guys in the photo are: starting with **Joe Maiden (10)** on the left, then **Dick Rothwell (7)**, **Jack Allen (13)**, **Alan Peterson (17)**, **Bruce Maxon (15)**, **Tom Bailey (16)**, **Mike Von Radesky (7)**, **Frank Butsko**, **Don Coullahan (6)**, **Ralph Zimmerman**, **Chuck St. Laurent (21)**, **Roger Goodall (11)**, **Bill Kraus (12)**, **Jim Richardson**, **Ed Oleata (10)**, and **Jim Cavanaugh (11)**.

Our next event is our annual Beach BBQ, before this SHIPMATE issue hits the street, at the La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club (<http://www.ljbtc.com>). We always have a great turnout for any of these events. We would be delighted if anyone planning to be in the San Diego area could join us. Just drop me an e-mail and I will be glad to provide details of the event. My e-mail address is <mailto:jim.richardson@1961.usna.com>. I have asked Howie to post our schedule of events for the next year on the class website and we look forward to anyone in the area joining us for any of them.” ■



Sent in by **Ned Kuhns (7)**:

■ “As shown in the attached photo, the Tidewater 1961 classmates held their monthly luncheon on 13 August, the second Thursday of the month at the usual T. K. TRIPPS restaurant in Virginia Beach. Those attending from left to right were: **Ken Craig (7)**, **Bob Graham (18)**, **Tom McNicholas (9)**, **Marc Bruno (1)**, **Charlie Stewart (6)**, **John Pearson (8)**, **Ned Kuhns (7)**, **Kurt Rohdenburg (20)** and **Buzz Needham (12)**. Bob and Peg Graham have just returned from a golfing excursion to Ireland with their son who traveled from Indonesia to be with them. Buzz and Karla Needham have just returned from a driving trip to Texas another points before leaving again for a visit to Maine. I'll be departing on 9 September for three weeks of hiking in Wales.” ■

And, from our Class 55th Reunion Coordinator:

■ “Thank you to all Classmates and Anchors who completed the recent Survey. Your inputs were a big help in our final planning. We are working on the ‘GOUGE’, everything you wanted to know about anything associated with the 55th reunion. We will post it on the class website before the 2016 firm football schedule is announced in Feb. so you can do more detailed planning. You will then be ready to register when the bell rings.” ■

David Wright (03)

As I write this, and as some of you may know, our 14th Co. classmate and football and Brigade boxing standout, **Ron “Mugs” McKeown**, now is in the hospital, in what is one of the hardest fights of his life. Mugs has the guts to get through this, and he is in many of our prayers. ... **Ron Carlberg (20)** writes:

■ “Another update from Jack Ensch, Mugs's back seater during his dogfight with the MIGS. You may remember, Mugs was re-assigned as Skipper of ‘Top Gun’ right after the dogfight when he and Jack shot down two MIGS, after being jumped by six MIGS over the North.