

(SSN687). Around the early 1980's Jack and Ruthie were living in Annapolis. My wife Marilyn and I were in Maryland. We and a few of our close buddies from the 21st company would have annual mini reunions. Jack was always volunteering and helping with the plans of the class-wide 5 year reunions. Later on when he moved to Willow Valley in PA, Jack would be the guy to help shovel snow from the cars on the lot. He'd also be the one to take other friends back and forth to the hospital to visit a sick spouse. I think his main contribution to all those friends at Willow Valley was that he would also do their income tax returns. He was still doing this big time this past spring while he was taking shots for the leukemia. Yes, I mean it, Jack was a great guy and everyone who knew him will sorely miss him. ■

Frank Young (12) reports:

■ On Friday 18 December Carol and I attended the interment of Tom Habermas (12) in the USNA Columbarium. The eulogy was given by his youngest, Steve, who gave us a humorous and full description of Tom's life. There were also both a religious ceremony and full military honors. There were at least 75 people in attendance. These included in addition to us company mates Dave Calhoun (12), Wayne and Sharon Rickman(12) plus Les Palmer's widow Joanne(12). In addition there were classmates: Frank Pip kin(11), George Simmons and wife (15)and Gary and Ann Smith(21). ■

Dennis Moynihan (23) reports:

■ With Valentine's Day over, I am now free to send you a summary of my current status. In addition to my duties at friend Jeanne's floral shop, I play a little golf and do projects in my garage. Last year I spent many hours building a pedal plane for my 5 year old grandson who was happy with the gift but was disappointed that no matter how hard he peddled it would not really fly. For the most part my life is unremarkable, I am in reasonable health and with some prodding from Jeanne we manage to go ballroom dancing weekly. After several years of that I am getting better but no threat to the entertainment industry, even with Fred Astaire gone. ■

With the leadership of **Lloyd Adams, the 23rd Company** is trying to organize a fifty ninth company reunion. I am surprised that that effort seems to be such a chore for some of my fellow Bancroft Hall mates. One would think that the

memories of incarceration 59 years ago would excite some action.

I do hold an annual party for the Notre-Dame football game each year to which all are invited. Old friend and classmate Duane Stratton attended regularly with his wife but now Jane's physical condition precludes that. If any 59ers are in the area on that day please consider this invitation to include you. **Rise and Shine!!**

60 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 1%
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 69%

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From **Bob Osmon (17)**:

■ "Hi All, Franko (**Frank Bessinger (17)**) and I got the chance to spend an evening together during my trip to Florida to see my son's team play in the State tournament. Had a wonderful meal, great conversation and story-telling, and the smoothest bourbon I have ever tasted. Melinda is as cute as ever and Franko is doing rehab on his knees and losing weight. It felt so blessed to see my former Supply Corps roomie and Company mate. Our time is running out, so each meeting is more blessed than the one before. God bless. Oz ■

Oh, Chris' team had a blowout in the first game, but had to go into overtime to win the second one. They keep getting tougher. Next game next is Thursday. Three more games to the finals. They are now 22-0. Amazing!!!

Tidewater Christmas Party: Classmates, attached are the first set of photos taken during our fun-filled Christmas Party at Le Yaca. The photos are a combination of **Tom Wishart's (22)** and my camera. I have clipped, cropped and enhanced the photos and deleted the embarrassing ones. They are all in a "jpg" file format.



Frank and Oz



Tidewater Christmas party Selena & John Swanson



Bob & Sarah Powers



Barbara & Al Bissell



Doug & Dureen Johnston and Bob Osmon



Mike & Joan Treacy



Marti & Bert Johnson

From **Doug Johnston (5)**:

■ “Dear Bill, for better or worse, there has been regime change in Washington. After several selfless and highly effective years of keeping the flame alive, **Gene Tucker (9)** has stepped down. We drank a well-deserved toast to him in absentia at this month’s luncheon (he and Dolly having capitalized on his new-found freedom to bask in the Florida sunshine), both for his exemplary leadership in orchestrating the lunch bunch and for his service as a Silver Star-toting aviator who ate MIG 21s for breakfast.

After the word leaked out that my wife and I were relieving Gene, I received the following from **Paul Cooper (5)**:

“Hey, Doug! When I read that you were volunteering to take over the DC lunches, I thought “What a good guy.” Now I see that your long-suffering wife, Dureen, is doing all the work and you are getting all the credit. Tsk, tsk... —Cupa”

He should have known better, having roomed with me more than long enough to ever have such nice thoughts. Anyway, we had our February lunch earlier this week at the Army/Navy Country Club, with 15 classmates, wives and significant others in attendance. The weather kept our designated speaker away, so we regaled one another with sea stories and jokes, some of which were actually funny. Those present included: **John Chenard (14)**; **Bob Matulka (2)** and SO, Darlene; **Dick Pariseau (1)** and Army friend, Chester Taylor, **Grant Sharp (19)**, Barbara & **Ward O’Brien (22)**, Fae & **Bud Pezet (13)**, **Dennis Hickey (22)**, **Gary Cogdell (7)**, **Mike Willsey (24)**, and yours truly and Dureen. Next month, we will join our Class of ’60 Woo Poo brethren (and their ladies) at 11:30 am to hear an insightful presentation by Ed Bonekemper, a renowned expert on the Civil War. He has authored no less than six Civil War histories and will be talking about “Ulysses S. Grant, a Victor, Not a Butcher,” with a special emphasis on combined operations during the war.

Our best to all, Doug ■

Bob Osmon (17) sent along the following originally sent to **Randy McHenry (7)** and **John Paepcke (11)**:

■ “My local paper, the Zion Benton News of Zion, Illinois, had photo about our summer training in Pensacola. As I looked at the photograph, I realized that the two of you were featured as well as me. Do you remember these days? A long, long time ago, but still fresh in my mind. Anyhow I thought you might enjoy seeing how you looked a few years back and knowing that you were heroes in Zion, Illinois at one time. God bless. Oz ■

And from **Randy McHenry (7)**:

■ “Oz, thanks for the picture. Flying in Pensacola certainly was motivational as well as a lot of fun. It does seem like yesterday though a lot of water has gone over the damn since then. We look forward to seeing you on your next visit to New Smyrna Beach. Randy” ■

Justin Wickens (18) sent along the following:

■ “Hi Bill! Happy to report that the marathon was great. Still looking for some classmates to join me. Justin” ■



Wickens marathon participation

Bob Osmon (17): “Sent along a photo of **Chuck Augustin (17)** and bride, Medy, on the way to a Washington Gala. Great Couple!

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Chuck & Medy Augustin

61 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 2%
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 70%

PRES: **RADM Jerome F. Smith Jr., USN (Ret.)**
CORR SEC'Y: **RADM E. S. (Skip) McGinley II, USN (Ret)**

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Well, here we are again, with a lot of good Class of '61 info (well, mostly good, some sad). Most of it I have just received, since my PC has been OOC (once more) for almost 4 weeks. I received it back AFTER the article due date, so here is my delinquent input. In the interim, I used my wife Connie's old I-Pad, which gave me a few fits, but was otherwise mostly OK. Onward and definitely upward...



Sent in by **Bill Martin (17)**:

■ In the summer of 1975 it was my duty and privilege, as OINC of the 4th Class regiment, to bring in the Class of 1979, and subsequently to bring in the Class of 1980 the following summer in 1976. The Class of 1979 was the last all male class to enter USNA, and the Class of 1980 was the first class with women, 81, to be specific. Recently I was fortunate to meet up with one of “my Plebes” from the Class of 1979, VADM Joe Mulloy, who is currently DEPUTY CHIEF OF NAVAL