



'59: Representing the Class of 1959 were Sally and George Simmons (15) and Caroline and Walt Szczypinski.

**Remembering Jack London (15), by Walt Szczypinski (15).** Part of classmate Jack London's philanthropic spirit and patriotism is reflected in the time and energy that he devoted to the U.S. Navy Memorial in the heart of downtown Washington, DC. In recognition of his contribution the USNM dedicated the "Jack London Commemorative Plaque Wall" at an event held at the Museum in late October 2021. Family, friends and colleagues attended the unveiling and reception at which Jack's spouse, Jennifer, and son, J. P. London Jr., offered remarks honoring Jack.

**25th Reunion, by Walt Wynn, (11).** In 1984 Carol and I attended the Class of 1959 25th reunion by driving in our yellow VW from Springfield VA to Annapolis. A VW can squeeze into a tight parking place, so we parked right next to the Supe's garden. After we attended the world's largest indoor cocktail party and the evening dinner in the mess hall (with its mandatory food fight) and the dance in Dahlgren Hall, we walked a hundred feet over to the car for the drive back home. As sometimes happens on Homecoming, a large group of boisterous midshipmen had gathered at the gate shouting, "Over the Wall!" That was strange as the gate was open to foot traffic. Apparently it is no fun if you can just walk out

on illegal liberty. The VW was hemmed in by wall climbers. I had the engine running so it was obvious we wanted to leave. I rolled down the window to ask some nearby middies if they give us a little room so we could leave. One guy asked us which way we wanted to go and I said back out the main gate. At that point, about six or eight middies surrounded the car, picked it up, moved it out onto the street, turned it around fair in the channel, saluted and said, "Have a good evening, sir," and off we went back to Springfield VA.

#### TAPS

**Arnold Douglas (Don) Amoroso (12)** passed on 18 September. Don did not have the required grades and was discharged in February of 1957. Don later graduated from Georgia Tech and served in the U.S. Army as a helicopter pilot. During his two first tour to Viet Nam, he piloted reconnaissance and medivac missions, and was awarded the Purple Heart after being wounded by enemy fire. During his second tour, he piloted the Huey Cobra helicopter in over 1000 assault missions and received two Distinguished Flying Cross awards. After his retirement from the Army as a Lt. Colonel he worked another 19 years for the US Treasury.

**Captain Vernon Charles Bloch (13)** passed away peacefully on October 8th, 2021, following a brief battle with Lewy Body Dementia. During Vern's 28-year career in the Navy, he served as pilot of S-2 aircraft, Commanding Officer of VS-33, Air Boss on the USS SARATOGA, and Deputy Director of the Navy Space Program. Following his retirement from the Navy in 1987, Vern worked for Northrop-Grumman in Melbourne, FL for 12 years, retiring as Director of Engineering. A public viewing and memorial service were held in Palm Bay, FL, and burial will be at the Arlington National Cemetery at a future date.

**Captain Roy Joe Rice (15)** passed away on October 1, 2021. Joe had a stellar Navy career of 25 years and was a veteran of the Vietnam war. He later changed careers to the Church, serving as Church Treasurer for 7 years, followed by Deacon for 12 more years.

**Larry C. Pizinger (2)** died on 9 October 2021. The following is from Larry's daughter, Karen. She called Tom Lukish to tell that his roommate of 4 years, passed away at 2:15 pm, yesterday. Her father had been in failing health for the past several years and it finally took him from us. Piz had a serious fall about 2 weeks earlier, which caused serious brain damage, and he was placed under Hospice Care. He passed away with his 2 daughters and son by his side. Piz lived in Phoenix, AZ. His body was cremated and the ashes inurned in the Veterans Cemetery in Phoenix, next to his wife Sue who passed away 2 years ago. Larry's funeral service, with Military Honors, was held on 3 December 2021.

**Lee Kent Robinson** passed away on November 4 at Pine Run Health Center, where he was eventually taken over by Alzheimer's. Lee had joined the other Plebes at USNA in Summer 1955. He was good at sports, but not Academics, and he was dismissed for low grades in his second or third year. Lee had gained experience in several fields and became well known for his successful styles in marketing and sales.

Lee was a loyal American and was proud to have attended the U.S. Naval Academy.

**Wayne Lockwood** reports that he, Bill Garrett and Vince Obsitnik of Third Company, along with '59ers Bob Beaton, Joe Flynn, Tom Lukish and Tim Tinsley attended the November 22 service for our class valedictorian, **Stan Legro**. Stan's daughter coordinated the events from her home in Prague and made the long trip to pay loving respects. Also in attendance were several former colleagues from his many years of dedicated service to the Environmental Law Institute. Stan's remains will rest in the Columbarium very close to his plebe year roommate, **Pete Schon**, whose services were held a few weeks earlier.

## '60

**Life Membership: 70%**

**Donor Participation: 24.57%**

Pres: **RADM Peter G. Chabot, USN (Ret.)**  
p: 443-624-0094; e: pgchabot60@gmail.com

Vice Pres:

**CAPT Douglas M. Johnston Jr., USNR (Ret.)**

Treas: **CAPT Geoege W. Dowell III, USN (Ret.)**

Sec'y: **Bill Lewis**

1300 S Hwy A1A Unit 508, Jupiter, FL 33477  
p: 804-334-6353; e: bilewis@comcast.net

Web Master: **Richard Harper**

p: 805-583-1640;  
e: Richard.Harper@1960.USNA.com

Website: <http://www.1960.usnaclasses.net>

From **Bob Osmon (17):**



**Gene & Ann Burroughs**

✉ "Dear Classmates, on Friday I had the pleasure of having dinner with my former roomie **Gene Burroughs (17)** and his lovely wife Anne. Sadly, he is mostly confined to a wheel chair now, but his demeanor was very upbeat and positive. He still has that mischievous grin as if he is going to

## 60/60 CLASS NEWS

pull off something to drive the Classes of 58 or 59 crazy. Anne is in excellent health and manages to push him around quite well. Of course, the sea stories started about DD and JI and all the rest of us. How blessed we all were to have such great Shipmates. God bless. Oz

From **Rod Friedmann (5)**:



Ianucci & Tidewater group



Clepton, OZ & Tidewater group

✉ “The October ‘60 luncheon at Bubba’s Restaurant, VB included 13 hearty classmates undeterred by fog/rain/drizzle: **Jim Eilertsen (21), Bob Osmon (17), Henry Von Kolnitz (22), Pete Chabot (14), Al Whitaker (16), Al Ablowich (16), Bert Johnson (10), Wick Parcels (12), Bob Powers (8) Ed Clepton (10), Al Bissell (8), Ken Vaughn (21)** & our acting host, **Bob Ianucci (16)**. Our hostess set us up in a private room with a nautical view of the adjacent boat slip and the Lynnhaven Inlet. Since today was the day for **Mike McCullough’s (14)** internment at Annapolis, we set aside some time for remembrances of Mike - highlighted by personal

stories from **Henry Von Kolnitz (22)** and **Bob Powers (8)**. Our class President, **Pete Chabot (14)**, highlighted info from his (transmitted) 1 October email regarding our 3 mini reunions targeted for Sarasota, FL; San Antonio, TX and the riverboat cruise from New Orleans. Pete emphasized that all classmates should review his email and the attached Mini Reunion GOUGE.

From **Jack Lynch (11)**:

✉ Bill, greetings from one of our class’ back-benchers. I hope this finds you and yours well.

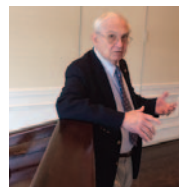
My news: In very early 2020, when thinking about 60’s then upcoming 60th reunion, I wondered about how much USNA seemed to have changed and whether the essence from our time has remained through all that. I set about to find out. Then COVID hit. The Alumni Association put me in touch with a member of 2020 hunkered down in Annapolis, Robert Leam ‘20, and our mutual efforts -COVID delayed- are now a just-published, picture-filled book, available on Amazon, **Changes Amidships**.

It tells stories of our class. Most of us can recognize the actors, but we have named none lest others be offended by omission. And it tells 2020’s stories so that alums of all classes can see where the old school stands now. Respectfully, Jack

From **Doug Johnston (5)**:

✉ “We began our September lunch with a resounding round of applause for **John Michalski (6)** for his ten years of stellar service as Class President. There was a tip of the hat to **Dick Pariseau (1)** as well, who was also present, for giving birth to the mini-reunion concept during his tenure as President some years ago.

John then gave a very interesting presentation on the Academy’s mandate to develop Midshipmen physically (as well as morally and mentally). In doing so, he spoke



John Michalski at DC group

about the Naval Academy Athletic Association in general and, more specifically, about the Athletic and Scholarship Programs Division for which he has served as a Trustee, including membership on its Executive Committee. Other classmates who have also served in a Trustee capacity include **Don Boecker (15), Ron Brandquist (15), Hank Chiles (21), Chris Poindexter (13),** and **Tom Solak (2)**.

After discussing the goals of NAAA and the Scholarship Division, John reviewed the state of athletics at the Academy, which in the aggregate, encompasses 33 varsity sports, 10 JV and plebe teams, and 16 club sports, almost all of which are subsidized by the football program. Finally, he talked about the new Terwilliger Physical Mission Center for Student Athletes.

Joining in the discussion were **Ron Burdge (9), Don Delude (12), Martha and George Dowell (19), Dennis Hickey (22), Jim Knorr (20), Darlene Matulka, Becky and Dick Pariseau (1), Bud Pezet (13), Charlotte and Bob Stevenson (2), Bob Traister (2), Dolly and Gene Tucker (9),** Daren and yours truly.

Continuing with this athletic theme, you may recall our report on **Pete Bos’s (7)** presentation to our lunch group several months ago in which he told how he and a former East German oarsman by the name of Kraft Schepke teamed up together (some 58 years after competing against one another in the 1960 Olympics) to win the 2018 World Masters Rowing Championship (along with a Norwegian and another American) in the over 80-year-old category. Anyway, Pete subsequently engaged a couple of well-known authors and an acclaimed illustrator to produce a children’s book that graphically portrays how Pete and Kraft went from being kids in opposing countries during the Cold War to world-class competitors to great friends and finally, to cherished teammates.

It’s a fun book with resounding endorsements from a range of highly acclaimed individuals. So, if you’re looking for a great gift with special meaning for the grandkids, just plug in “After the Race—A Tale

of Two Olympians” on Amazon, and it should come up. Doug

From **Dick Banister (9)**:

✉ Bill, just a short note from the left coast to inform you that Carol and I will be celebrating our 60th wedding anniversary in December. I noticed the class commemoration of many anniversaries last year and wasn’t sure whether USNA 60 was recognizing the occasions only during our class 60th anniversary year or all 60th anniversaries. Anyway, ours is coming up on December 16. We got the reunion gouge and we are both still ambulatory, so we are looking forward to getting together again whenever. Hope all is well with you. Thanks, Dick

From **John Schmidt (20)**:



John Schmidt & SoCal group

✉ “What started as a nice pre-Halloween SoCal 60 lunch took a sudden turn when the ladies decided they wanted their own table. Then when the separate check arrived at their table, they told the waiter to just mix their orders in with ours! Now when you see the guys table, we were scrambling to figure from the large bill which spouse had ordered what plus the margaritas! We have learned our lesson!!

From **Bob Osmon (17)** regarding our upcoming reunion site:

✉ “**Randy McHenry (7)** is in excellent health, but like many of us, has slowed down a bit. Sheri is a wonderful pianist and singer, so on Friday night at the hotel she entertains the guests. Randy joins in to sing Happy Birthdays and Happy Anniversaries to folks who happen to be celebrating that week.

Randy has asked me to tell all classmates that he will offer about a 50% discount on all rooms to any



'60: The McHenry's with Eunice & Oz

classmates who would like to come to New Smyrna and stay at the hotel. Each morning a wonderful buffet breakfast is included and it is but a very short walk to the ocean front. And on Friday nights Sheri will entertain you. Also, Cape Canaveral is only about an hour drive. Eunice and I went and I was reminded how many Naval Academy graduates became astronauts. God bless and smooth sailing to you all. Oz"

## '61

**Life Membership: 72%**

**Donor Participation: 24.95%**

Pres: **RADM Jerome F. Smith Jr., USN (Ret.)**

Corr Sec'y:

**CAPT Bob Sherer USN (Ret.)**

2301 River Crescent Dr. Annapolis MD 21401  
p: 410-266-1334 voice and text  
e: enavant1305@icloud.com;  
sherer@1961.usna.com

Webmaster: **Howard Winfree**

e: winfree@1961.usna.com

Website: [www.USNA61.org](http://www.USNA61.org)

I'm honored to be chosen as our class scribe and thankful to **Skip McGinley** for his tour in the job. I relieve you, sir! Please continue sending in news of all the goings-on in your neighborhood as well as stories (true and creative, recent and nostalgic) to provide interesting reading for classmates. Thanks, Bob

**Mike Hoerneman's** articulate survey of our record as a class drew attention well beyond his 24th company mates. It's reprinted below. It's worthwhile reading for all of us. Thanks to Mike for his thoughtfulness.

✉ "It is interesting to read so many thoughts and comments concerning the reunion. I would like to share some thoughts with regard to the 24th company. Sixteen of us attended the 55th. That was more than any other company. Since that reunion, five more company mates have passed on, for a total of ten now gone. Still we did have eight who were there for the 60th. But in addition, we had written inputs from eight more who all wished they could attend, but could not, due to health issues, either for them or a spouse. The 24th, now known as the Zoo, is staying in close touch. But it has not always been so close. What has changed?"

"Our whole class went through a long plebe year, followed by three more challenging years. No company was easy, but some were worse than others. The 24th had a reputation as being particularly bad, matched, perhaps, only by the "Terrible Tenth". Of the 45 or so that started plebe year in the 24th, only 26 graduated. Our attrition rate was a lot higher than the overall class rate of about one third. At graduation, we were all eager to leave behind the four years of bells, parades, marching, form 2's, etc. etc. Some vowed that they would never return to Annapolis. We scattered all over the world serving on, over, and under the seas, as well as on land, particularly in Vietnam. Our focus was on families, and the future, not the past. Some stayed in uniform for only four years; others for retirement at 20 or more years. Eventually all were in second

careers. Still, we were focused on families, and those new careers. But slowly, more and more found time to start attending those five year reunions, leading up to the 55th. By that time, we paid little attention to what ranks anyone had reached while in uniform, or exactly what they were doing in their second careers. It was the start of the Zoo starting to come together.

"As company rep for the past 5 years, I guess that I have received and passed on over a hundred "Last Calls." [The class has now lost about one third of our 786 graduates.] As I read each obituary, I noticed a very consistent pattern. Whether I had known the person or not, and whether they had stayed in uniform for a full career or not, there was a remarkable similarity. So and so graduated from high school in some place, did this or that at the Academy, had success in uniform, for 4 or 20-some years, and then went on to long civilian careers. But the amazing thing to me was the remarkable success of those second careers. A few years ago, I read an article that said a review of the top 500 U.S. companies showed that the school that had produced the most CEO's was Harvard. In a close second place were the number of CEO's who were USNA alumni. Accurate or not, it seems that the education, experience, and leadership skills of us guys are very valuable and applicable to all types of civilian fields. And that applies to the 24th company, as well.

"So how has that impacted the Zoo? None of us is prone to bragging or even discussing our second careers. But in one-on-one conversations with my ZooMates, I have learned that our civilian careers have been pretty darn good. And now the ZooMates have recognized how very fortunate we all are to have attended and graduated from the Academy. It formed the foundation for the rest of our lives. And we now also realize that many of us would never have gotten through the four years without the support we had from each other. And those realizations have led to some very good attitudes. As our numbers

inevitably decrease, old prejudices have melted away, and each chance to get together, in person, on Zoom meetings, and on individual visits and phone and e-mail contacts is a special occasion.

"I have two footnotes to this tale. First, in reading the many obituaries, I note that not only have so many of the class had very successful second careers, but many have had, and still are having, third "careers" that involve voluntary, unpaid work in charities, churches, etc. Speaks well for the WGNAC

"Secondly, and this was driven home at the 60th. The Supe's introduction, and his own comments, were all about the Foundation, and the great dollar contributions of '61. It seems they are aware of the financial success of alumni, and their figures say much about our class."

### On the social front:

From **Bill Kraus (12)**:

✉ The Pacific Southwest (San Diego) Region of our Class held its annual Beach BBQ at the La Jolla Beach & Tennis Club on October 9th. It was our 25th straight get together on the sand, and **Patsy Kraus** brought a big birthday cake to celebrate the occasion.

In attendance were: **Jack Allen (13)**, **Alan Armstrong (USMA 1961)** and **Lynne, Tom Bailey (16)** and **Betty, Milt Boudov (13)** and **Claire, Jim Cavanaugh (11)** and **Lee, Larry DeSha (14)**, **Bill Eldridge (13)** and **Molly, Bill Kraus (12)** and **Patsy, Ed Oleata (10)** and **Patty, Jim Richardson (16)** and **Hanna, Dick Rothwell (7)** and **Ann, Bob Sheridan (24)** and **Vickie, Chuck St. Laurent (21)** and **Arilla**, and **George Worthington (2)** and **Veronica**.

And there we all are, as the sun was going down, in that great photo courtesy of Jim Richardson.

"Whenever two or three shall meet—" brought back some fond memories. Once upon a time **Bob Sheridan** and **Vickie** arrived at the Beach BBQ crashing through the surf on their kayak, all the way from Coronado Island. We all were thrilled by such a feat until it was time to go home. Late, and under cover of darkness, they were spotted taking a hard right turn just