

'59

Life Membership: 64%

Donor Participation: 3.89%

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Greetings Classmates and Widows,

At our 59th reunion, some of us said that was our last reunion. Well, as you may have heard, we're going to have our 65th on October 3rd through the 6th. "The goat is old and gnarly", but there are enough of us still kicking around to gather again. "For whenever two or three shall meet and old tales be retold, from low to highest in the fleet, we'll pledge the 'Blue and Gold'."

The Crown Plaza Hotel will be our base of operations. They have blocked 50 rooms for us at very reasonable rates: \$159 for single or double room and \$169 for single or double room including breakfast for 2 persons per room. You may reserve rooms now until 2 September. You can book on-line or call the hotel (800-227-6963) and identify yourself as being with the group "Class of 1959 Reunion Room Block".

Sign-ups for the reunion activities will begin on 1 May, and will be done by email with a Choose-Your-Activity menu. Responses will be requested by 1 July. If you haven't done so, please register on "USNA.com". Your addresses from that web site will be used to send out the sign-up emails.

So come join us to tell old tales, to eat, drink and be merry as we share good times with old friends and beat Air Force. The football game will be played in Colorado Springs on Saturday. We'll be watching and cheering in the N*Room at the Navy Marine Corps Memorial Stadium on multiple TV screens while enjoying a sumptuous feast. Also included in the weekend are a Welcoming Cocktail Reception at the Hotel on Thursday, a Service at the Chapel on Friday morning to memorialize recently passed classmates, a Company/Battalion Banquet on Friday evening in the Hotel Ballroom and a Farewell Brunch with the Mids in the Mess Hall on Sunday. Buses will be available to the Mid Store on Thursday and Friday for those desiring to shop.

Several of your classmates and widows are working hard to make this reunion one of our best. You will know some of their names:

Van Nield (1), Bob Beaton (2), Sandy and Bob (Reif) Reifsnnyder (5), Ona and Tom Billings (6), Joe Flynn (6), Elaine and Pete Stout (10), Betsy Dobbs (10), Joan Finerty (10), Frank Pipkin (11), Adolf (Dolf) Lekebusch (11), Joe (Paddy) Ford (15), Walt Szczypinski (18), John (Jay) Bainbridge (22), and Larry Weaver (24).

We would love to see all of you, and your spouses, lady friends, family, and friends in October. So, get out of your rocking chairs and join us. "Rise and Shine with '59".

Warm regards,
Tom Billings (Reunion Coordinator)

'60

Life Membership: 71%

Donor Participation: 4.91%

Pres: **CAPT Douglas M. Johnston Jr., USNR (Ret.)**
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Vice Pres: **CAPT Bob Osmon., USN (Ret.)**

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President's Corner #5

On the second floor of the new Alumni Association and Foundation Building is an electronic "Virtual Memorial Hall" where one can find brief biographies of Academy grads who died while serving on active duty and descriptions of the circumstances leading to their loss. Of the 28 listed from the Class of 1960, 17 were attributable to service in Navy Air, three to submarines, three to Marines (two of which were helicopter pilots), three to the Air Force (including one non-grad), and one to the Army.

As one would expect, every one of these losses has a story to go with it. For example, a company-mate of mine by the name of **Tony Lanzetta (5)** (one of the three Air Force pilots who were lost) made no secret of his goal to become the first person to land on the moon and thought the Air Force track would provide his greatest opportunity for doing so. He

became a highly accomplished F-102 pilot and was well on his way toward his goal when he went down in an air accident off the coast of Alaska while inspecting remote operational Air Force sites. He was riding as a passenger in a C-123 at the time.

In addition to the loss of **Jim Henry (4)** and **Ron Babcock (13)** from our class when the THRESHER went down, 10 other Naval Academy graduates were lost as well. Long story short, if time permits and the spirit moves, making this one of your stops on your next visit to USNA would be a nice way of honoring classmates and others who gave their all, in service to the country. Carpe Diem, Doug

By way of an update. I'll include as much as I can of the recent Winter Class Mini-Reunion which took place in New Smyrna Beach, FL in the next *Shipmate*. I've still got info coming in and I'll try to get it all in one edition. Bill

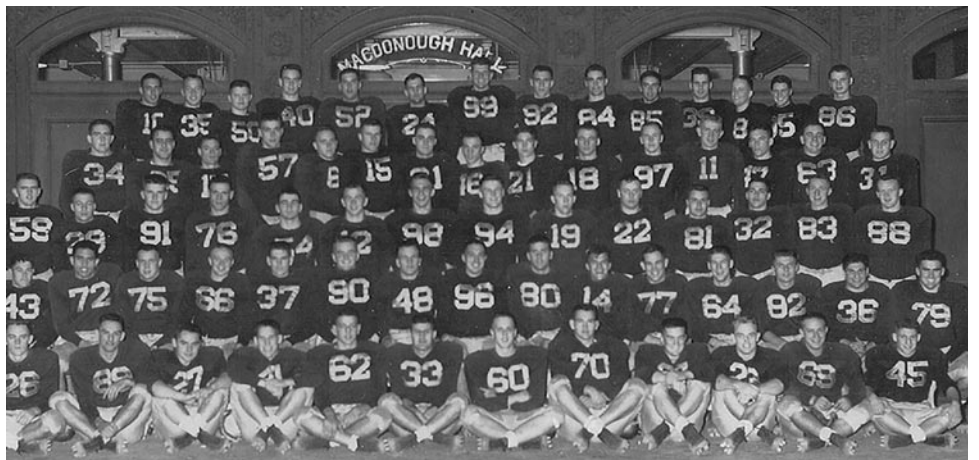
John Michalski (6) sent along "a photo taken in 1956 of the 70 guys on the Plebe roster after the final cutdown. As he recalls 240 showed up for the tryouts. Since it will probably show up better (space wise) on the web site we'll look for "young" faces there.



17th Company football heroes

Bob Osmon (17) added a comment and picture as well:

✉ This is what **Larry Laudig (17), Frank Bessenger (17), John Rogers (17), and Hank Phillips (17)** (and others) were doing on Thanksgiving morning in the Fall of 1957. And we beat the Class of '59 7-6 after they told us they were going to stomp us. We've all come a long way since then! But we could still beat them! OZ



'60: Spring Team

From **Bob Osmon (17)**:



Carlos "Chuck" L. Agustin (Philippine Navy)

✉ **Jim Kinney (17)** has provided a photo of one of our Distinguished classmates (**Carlos Agustin (17)**) who served in the Philippine Navy. He was the President of their Military War College when I last visited. When I was at the Pentagon, he was the Military

Attache at their Embassy. Such a fine, fine man. I was so pleased to be able to spend time with him after graduation. I'm sure all of you have wonderful memories of Charlie (As we knew him then). God bless and smooth sailing. Oz

PS For **Bill Townsend (19)** - After your indoctrinating him in the finer points of serving on crew of the Liki Tiki, it's a miracle he turned out to be such an accomplished Naval Officer. Ha Ha!

From **John Schmidt (20)**:

✉ "The SoCal 60 group braved massive rainstorms in San Diego for their quarterly meeting! Attending were **Denis Crawford (2)**, **Chuck Schroeder (23)**, **Tom McDonough (4)**, Sue & **Sam Ward (8)**, Nancy & **John Pethick (9)**, Avery Hallowell (3), Jan Shaw (2), Pam & **Mike Fenn (4)**, Charlotte & **Bob Stevenson (2)**, and Glee & **John Schmidt (20)**. Next outing planned for early May. John

From **Doug Johnston (5)**:

✉ "The DC lunch crowd gathered at the Army-Navy Club in January to deepen the customary storytelling and to hear from **Gary Cogdell (7)** as our latest speaker. Drawing upon his extensive involvement with the Office of Naval Research, Gary gave a thought-provoking presentation on fiber optic sensing as a detection capability in anti-submarine operations. Weighing in during the socialization and discussion period were Kathy Cogdell, Martha & **George Dowel (19)**, **Dennis Hickey (22)**, Barbara & **Ward O'Brien (22)** Darlene Matulka, Becky & **Dick Pariseau (1)**, **Grant Sharp (19)**, Jeanne Solak, Daren & yours truly. Doug

From **Rod Friedmann (5)**:

✉ Bill, our well attended Virginia Beach/W'burg Leap Year/Valentine's Day celebration was held at the Eurasia Cafe on 13 February. Twenty-one classmates, guests and sweet-hearts enjoyed a special Leap Year event. Additionally, we were able to celebrate **Bob Osmon's** Birthday.

Attendees included: Jackie & **Bob Ianucci (16)**, Prissy & **Wick Parcells (12)**, Catherine & **Ed Clextion (10)**, Inge & **Al Whitaker (16)**, **Al Ablowich (16)** & guest, Barbara & **Al Bissell (8)**, **Jim Eilertsen (21)**, Alice Meinicke, **Bob Osmon (17)**, Gail & **Bill Kee (9)**, Linda &



'60: Tidewater Valentines group

Bill Townsend (19) and Paula & **Rod Friedmann (5)**.

This event was my "Swan Song" after about 24 years of planning, organizing and scheduling events. I'm passing the gauntlet to my friend and former submariner, **Bob Ianucci (16)**. Rod

Jack Greenhalgh (9) sent along a photo of a get together with **Pete Chabot (14)** after he had moved nearby to Patriot's Colony.



Jack & Pete



Ed's Birthday party

From **Bob Ianucci (16)**:

✉ "Hi Bill, a small group of our Williamsburg/Hampton Roads Area classmates assembled at the Virginia Beachfront Waterman's Surfside Grille for our regular monthly luncheon, earlier this year for fellowship and sea-story-telling event. Waterman's always treats the group very well and this was a special date since we - 3 Day (both a bit late) and Ed Clextion's actual birthday (on time.), as our group assembled, a LHD, Navy Multipurpose Amphibious Assault Ship, appeared on our horizon and transited southbound in review.

Various distractions whittled our group down this month, but **Al Bissell (8)**, **Ed Clextion (10)**, **Bob Ianucci (16)**, **Bill Kee (9)**, **Henry von Kolnitz (22)**, **Bob Osmond (17)**, **Bob Powers (8)** and **Bert Johnson (10)** were able to make lunch; **Jim Eilertsen (21)** passed through for a quick "hi", but couldn't stay for lunch.

Oz had recently returned from a 2-week visit in Uganda with several children that he

sponsors there. He gave us a brief overview of life in Uganda and the progress of his kids.

Oz also discussed the mini reunion scheduled for 6 February in New Smyrna Beach, FL and stated rooms are still available. Also, trips have been arranged to Kennedy Center and Ft. Augustine for those interested.

While **Al Whitaker (16)** and **Jack Greenhalgh (9)** couldn't make the lunch they sent word regarding plans for our Christmas Party at La Yacca restaurant in Williamsburg.

As everyone finished lunch, I unwrapped a cake which Ed's wife, Catherine, had prepositioned at the restaurant. We all wished Ed a happy birthday and he expertly cut the cake and passed it around the round table. Thanks Catherine, it was delicious, and Ed enjoyed the surprise. Where did the year go?

From Bob Osmon (17):

✉ "Hi Bill, I had a little gathering of the Williamsburg Class of 1960 classmates with a special guest of Col. Johan Wagner from the Netherlands Army. He was very impressed with the fact that we all had similar rings which they don't do at the Netherlands Military Academy. So, he wanted a photo of the four of us together with our rings. So those of us in the photo are **Jack Greenhalgh (9)**, **Al Whitaker (16)**, **Don Schlicht (23)**, and me. I have always been very proud to wear my ring and now find that all my grandchildren would like to have it when I die. Would like to put about 10 more years of wear on it before that happens. God bless. Oz



Four ring wearers & the Dutchman

From **Jim (Tug) Knorr (20)**:

✉ "Bill, I celebrated 86th Birthday at Navy O'Club recently with large Family Contingent. I was surprised to see Classmate All American **Karl Rippelmeyer (11)** and bride, Ellen Moyer, Ex Annapolis Mayor, Present to pepper me with Queries about my Navy Sea Stories. Cheers, Tug