

## '58

**Life Membership: 59%**  
**Donor Participation: 01.35%**

Pres: **Lt Col Gordon M. Gerson, USAF (Ret.)**  
 e: gordon.gerson@1958.usna.com

Corr Sec'y: **CDR Mark Poindexter '85, USN (Ret.)**  
 e: mark.poindexter@1985.usna.com  
 Son of VADM John Poindexter

Webmaster: **CAPT Fred Victor, USN (Ret.)**  
 e: avictor@erols.com

myUSNA: [myusna.com/topics/9405/feed](https://myusna.com/topics/9405/feed)

Website: [www.usna.com/Classes/1958](https://www.usna.com/Classes/1958)

**70th CLASS REUNION**

We are at the very beginning of planning **Reunion 70 to be held in April 2028**. At our ages, it's hard to commit to something 2 years away but if you are well and able at that time, will you be attending this milestone event. Please let me know at [usna1958@verizon.net](mailto:usna1958@verizon.net) how many would attend including other family members.

Many of our events will be at the magnificent new Fluegel Alumni Center. The benefactor was in the class of '61. He is someone's plebe but we do not know whose.

Hoping to get a positive response from many. 58 is great!

—Gordo

**CLOSING RANKS:**

(Obituaries that have been submitted to Alumni Assoc. can found at: <https://www.usna.com/obituaries>)

**Mr. Jack A. Libey**, 7th Co. passed away on 25 January 2026

**Mr. Robert R. Vaughan** 15th Co. passed away on 2 February 2026

**Mr. Allen B. Schwitzer** 1st Co. passed away on 6 February 2026

**CAPT James V. Healy, USNR (Ret.)** 2nd Co. passed away on 11 February 2026

**Class Wife:**

**Mrs. Jean M Manahan** (M. Harlow Manahan, 10th Co.) passed away on 19 January 2026

**Mrs. Barbara H. Schwitzer** (Allen B. Schwitzer, 1st Co.) passed away on 31 October 2025

**'58 is great!**

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## '59

**Life Membership: 62%**  
**Donor Participation: 03.18%**

President: **Larry G. Vogt**  
 e: Larryvogt59@gmail.com

Administrative VP: **Walter S. (Walt) Szczypinski**  
 e: waltna59@aol.com

Corporate Treas: **Joseph P. (Paddy) Ford**  
 e: Hagerty127@comcast.net

Corporate Sec'y: **Arthur (Art) Emmerson, VII**  
 e: pickemm@verizon.net

Shipmate Coordinator: **Larry S. Weaver**  
 e: ls.weaver@icloud.com

Webmasters: Elaine and **Peter (Pete) Stout**  
 e: estout3915@verizon.net

myUSNA: [myusna.com/topics/9406/feed](https://myusna.com/topics/9406/feed)

Website: [www.usna1959.com](https://www.usna1959.com)

From **Tom Billings** on 29 December 2025:

✉ A few of our loyal Navy football fans gathered at one of our tailgates during a very successful 2025 football season. Those who enjoyed were Sandy Reifsnnyder, Bob, Reifsnnyder, Betsy Dobbs, Larry Vogt, Tom Billings, Joan Finerty, Elaine Stout, Pete Stout, Ona Billings and John Mascali.  
**Go Navy.**

**Shipmate editor's note:** We never received the photo intended for publication. Hopefully, it will be submitted for a future issue.

## '60

**Life Membership: 74%**  
**Donor Participation: 00.91%**

Pres: **CAPT Douglas M. Johnston Jr., USNR (Ret.)**  
 p: 202-203-8360; e: dmjj60@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **CAPT Bob Osmon, USN (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

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

myUSNA: [myusna.com/topics/9407/feed](https://myusna.com/topics/9407/feed)

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

**President's Corner #12**

I am in the process of learning what I can about a new Alumni/Family Health and Well-Being Support Committee being formed by the Alumni Association and described (I'm told) in this edition of *Shipmate*.

The vision statement of this Committee calls for strengthening "the foundations of support, awareness, and accessibility for the

entire USNA alumni community —ensuring all members, families, and caregivers have the resources they need for lifelong well-being for mind, body and spirit." Although the Committee is just getting off the ground, several classes have already initiated something along these lines. Among them is the Class of 1965, with which I have been in contact to learn what they have done. As of this point in time, the program concept at any level doesn't involve any kind of financial support. Rather it is a peer-to-peer exchange of information that can prove helpful to folks who are undergoing a certain kind of medical challenge, particularly if it's for the first time. In the system '65 has established, most, if not all, of these exchanges can be found in on-line folders categorized according to ailment. For example, one folder might be for hip surgeries, another for Lyme Disease, etc. An example from personal experience that might be representative and helpful to others took place several years ago when I was diagnosed with Atrial Fibrillation and was placed on Eliquis, a widely used blood-thinner to minimize the possibility of a stroke (resulting from a blood clot loosened by an irregular heartbeat that can go to the brain). One of its known side effects is the possibility of severe bruising and internal bleeding if you experience a fall of some sort. Well, I experienced such a fall; and as tame as it was, I experienced the above side effects over the next few days, to the point where I had to go the hospital in an ambulance to get things under control. Once under control, they wanted to put me back on Eliquis but I refused, noting that if I had hit my head in the fall, I would in all likelihood be dead. With my refusal, my cardiologist suggested a relatively new procedure called "Watchman" that was having good success. That procedure consists of using a material developed by NASA (for what, I don't know) to seal off the entrance to an appendage on the left side of your heart, which is not known to do anything useful, but which is apparently the source of almost all clots that go to the brain. Although the procedure had only been available in the U.S. for two years at the time, it had been used in Europe for 8 years before that, so it had a decent track record. Once I had it done, the clotting problem went away; and I am totally free from taking any blood-thinners. My Afib problem was eventually cured by having what is called an ablation (a story for another time). Bottom line: my cardiologist went on to conduct 500 of these procedures, all with good results. And anyone I run into who happens to be on Eliquis is forced to hear the above sermon from start to finish.

So, this is the kind of information that can be made available to others through a system such as that established by '65. To see if this resonates with enough of you to provide a critical mass of interest, we'll survey the class

## 60/61 CLASS NEWS

and test the waters. Assuming the interest is there, rather than reinventing a wheel of our own, I asked the '65 rep if his class would be amendable to having us as a partner, thereby enabling us to hit the ground running, while at the same time enriching their folders with our experience (to which both classes would have access). He is running the partnership idea up the flagpole with his class and will let me know. If we do decide to go ahead with this, any privacy concerns should prove easy to address; and we will need two or three volunteers to collectively manage our health and wellness effort. More to follow. Carpe Diem, —Doug

From **Wayne Vinje (22)**:

✉ "Updating the Class of Sixty and friends of the "RING OF HONOR IN THE NAVY LACROSSE CENTER. Resources provided for its construction by the Class of '60 members of the Navy 1960 National Champion Lacrosse Team qualify those teammates for the Ring of Honor in a new, dedicated Navy Lacrosse Center. Groundbreaking for the Lacrosse Center is planned for this year.

As thanks, Navy Lacrosse Coach Joe Amplo sent each surviving '60 member of that championship team - **Hank Chiles (21), Bob Fraser (1), Sandy Hastie (1), Merf Moerschel (2), Dick Pariseau (1), Karl Rippelmeyer (11), and Wayne Vinje (22)** - a letter and one of his "Long Live Navy Lacrosse" keepsake coins, a prized memento.

Tim Ford of the NAAA was important to this process, as well. The '60 members of the 1960 championship team will also be honored with a plaque in the assistant coaches' offices at the new Lacrosse Center. The wording on this plaque, which follows, explains why the Navy 1960 National Championship Lacrosse Team should be honored regardless of any monetary contribution to the new Center. That team started one of the great lacrosse dynasties of all time.

The plaque will read: "The 1960 Navy Lacrosse team were National Champions, undefeated in college play, including Army. That team began a period of eleven years, in nine of which Navy either was outright champion or shared the championship with another school."

The Class of '60 teammates on the 1960 Lacrosse National Champions became Admirals, Captains, Commanders, Lt. Cols and PhDs. Yet, still, after 65 years, our memories from the playing fields of Navy lacrosse remain vivid. This is your Navy lacrosse heritage, and we trust you will be true to it. We are with you in spirit.

Class of '60 Team Members: **Barry Byrne (2), Hank Chiles (21), Larry Dunne (12), Bob Fraser (1), Sandy Hastie (1), Tom Inderlied (21), Al Krulisch (16), Jay Metzler (5), Merf Moerschel (2), Dick Pariseau (1),**

**Mickey Reeves (18), Karl Rippelmeyer (11), Al Ryder(12), Lou Schriefer (10), Buz Sollberger (17) and Wayne Vinje (22).**

Coaches: Willis "Bildy" Bilderback, Jim Carrington, Dick Corrigan, Buster Phipps

A great team although back then its success was just beginning. I had one memory related to that team. **Jay Metzler (5)** was in my company and the Army Navy Lacrosse game was at West Point at the beginning of "June Week". Jay's fiancée, Gail, was back in Annapolis and I had recently taken possession of a car but my date was not due for several days. With time to kill and a car on my hands it was an easy choice to drive Gail up to West Point where we could watch Jay and the Navy team take down Army. A close game, but victorious.

From Skip Stephenson '66:



**Tenney, Fagan '64 and Stephenson '66**

✉ Bill, recently your classmate, **Joe Tenney (19)** joined a couple of us "younger" grads for a USNA/Marine lunch in La Jolla, CA. Pictured a Joe (left) Fred Fagan '64, me '66. A good time was had by all. Cordially, Skip



**Bill and Linda Lewis at USNA dining-in**

Never having had the opportunity for a "dining-in" at USNA or later in the fleet, I had the opportunity to attend Richmond Alumni Assn.'s recent dining-in with Linda. A great time though the other grads in attendance were so.... young. —Bill

## '61

**Life Membership: 74%**

**Donor Participation: 05.93%**

Pres: **ADM 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.1961.myUSNA.com**

Dear Classmates,

Graduation with the class of '26 joining the Fleet and Corps includes yet another '61 legacy, 2nd Lieutenant **Bobby Rudzki '26** USMC, grandson of the late **George Youmans (1)**. Congratulations and Ooh-rah!

**Ned Kuhns** reports:

✉ The Tidewater '61 group celebrated Valentine's Day a little early with their spouses receiving red roses wrapped in blue and gold paper as a gift from the Class at our usual luncheon on the second Thursday of February at the Rib City restaurant in Virginia Beach.

Below left to right: Letty and Mike Gambacorta (3), Jane and Tom McNicholas (9), and Joanne and Tom Markley (12).



Below left to right: Jim and Toni Henderson (15) and Peg and Bob Graham (18)

A worthy way to recognize those who keep things going while we were out defending our country.



**Tom Bailey** reports:

✉ After many years of our traditional February Valentine's Day Sweethearts Luncheon in San Diego, because of scheduling difficulties, we held a "Dark Ages" gathering on 17 February at La Costa Glen in Carlsbad.