

59/60 CLASS NEWS



'59: L to R is me, Skip Yerkes, Steve Burgess, Dave Dyke and Norm Bednarek



'59: The ladies pictured are L to R, Linda Bednarek, Annemarie Obsitnik, Joan Burgess and Judy Yerkes.

Still More Good Times From Vince Obsitnik — A Half Marathon

Vince reports that he ran and finished the Sarasota Half Marathon on March. 19. The course started in the city, ran across two bridges to Lido Key and back to the city up around the Ringling Bros. Museum and back to the Van Wezel Performing Arts Center. There were 1542 runners and four in the age group 75-79. Vince. Finished second in his age group with a time of 3h6m. It was a grueling run since I had pain in my left foot for the last seven miles. But, I didn't give up the ship, and kept going to the finish. Way to go Vince !!!

Rise and Shine!

'60

Life Membership: 70%
Donor Participation: 13.10%

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From Rod Friedmann (5):

✉ "Bill, we kicked off the start of May with a bang. We rendezvoused at the Outback Steak House in

Virginia Beach on the 10th of May. A total of seventeen classmates arrived, including two out-of-towners: **Rob Kunkle (10)** from the great State of Texas & **Geo. Van Houten (24)** from Gatorland in Florida. The rest of the group included: **Bill Kee (9)**, **Al Ablowich (16)**, **Jim Eilertsen (21)**, **Paul Cooper (5)**, **Mike McCullough (14)**, **Bob Powers (8)**, **Bob Ianucci (16)**, **Jack Greenhalgh (9)**, **Henry von Kolnitz (22)**, **Frank Kay (8)**, **Al Bissell (8)**, **Al Whitaker (16)**, **Jack Suddath (6)**, **Ed Clextion (10)**, and yours truly. All had a chance to tell some new lies (er... enhanced sea stories) while wolfing down some pretty good chow. Three members of the "Terrible Tenth" had a mini-reunion (see photo below) and recounted some mis-adventures. Golfers in the group were teaming up to play in the USNAA Spring Golf Outing on May 25th.

Plans for our June activities include our Annual Antique Plus Car Show followed by a repeat luncheon at classmate Donna & **Mike McCullough's (14)** popular restaurant, called Fellini's. Details to follow. For **Ed Clextion (10)**, Please Note: Only drivable cars will be eligible for judging (this means-no photos, facsimiles or models)



Kunkle, Johnson, Whitaker, & Cooper

From Doug Johnston (5):

✉ "In the interest of conserving space in our Shipmate column, I am combining the reports for our April and May DC luncheons. In April, John Danforth '64 addressed our group on some of the leadership challenges he faced while serving as SECNAV in the Clinton Administration. In May, former National Security Advisor Bud McFarlane '59 provided an overview of the current national security picture, highlighting the likelihood of a nuclear arms race in the Middle East as the Sunnis strive to keep pace with Iran. **Bob Traister's (2)** post-lunch comment was symptomatic of the response to Bud's remarks, "Bud was fantastic. We could have listened to him for an even longer time."

The following classmates attended both functions: **Grant Sharp (19)**, **George Dowell (19)**, **Bob Traister (2)**, **Duane Tollaksen (3)**, Charlotte and **Bob Stevenson (2)**, Becky and **Dick Pariseau (1)**, Dolly and **Gene Tucker (9)**, Daren and yours truly.

The April lunch also included **Dennis Hickey (22)**, **Don Broadfield (22)**, Barbara and **Ward O'Brien (22)**, Jeanne Rush and **Tom Solak (2)**, and Darlene Lebedev and **Bob Matulka (2)**. Other attendees in May included Fae and **Bud Pezet (13)**, and Sheila and **John Chenard (14)**.

We will break for the summer and reconvene on Sept. 21, when Patti Bender from the USNA Planned Giving Office will discuss the range of planned giving options

available to us and provide her personal assessment of how the Academy has changed over time since the initial inclusion of women in the Brigade back in 1976.

Attached is the picture of the group with John Dalton. **Duane Tollaksen (3)**, **George Dowell (19)**, **Ward O'Brien (22)**, Barbara O'Brien, **Dennis Hickey (22)**, **Gene Tucker (9)**, **Bob Stevenson (2)**, Charlotte Stevenson, John Dalton, **Bob Matulka (2)**, Darlene Lebedev, Dolly Tucker, Becky Pariseau, **Dick Pariseau (1)**, Jeanne Rush, **Tom Solak (2)**, **Doug Johnston (5)**. Warm regards, —Doug



Whitaker, Eilertsen, Suddeth, & Clextion

From Bob Osmon (17):

✉ "About 20 of us gathered in my home on Saturday 20 May to watch the top 150 women golfers in the world compete in the Kingsmill tournament. Everyone brought a dish to pass and **Al Whitaker (16)** brought his Williamsburg brewed Alewerks Beer, so there was plenty of food and drink for everyone. The weather was absolutely beautiful and the camaraderie was enjoyed by all. Attendees included: Sue & **Paul Cooper (5)**, Linda & **Bill Lewis (5)**, **Bill Kee (9)** & family, Murial & **Jack Greenhalgh (9)**, Gloria & **Bob Antonio (14)**, **Bob Osmon (17)**, Joy & **Dick Hamon (8)**, Inge & **Al Whitaker (16)**.



'60: DC group with John Dalton



Bob Antonio, Bill and Linda Lewis, and Dick and Joy Hamon

From **Rod Friedmann (5)**:

✉ "Bill, April was a busy month for the W'burg/Hampton Road's group. Seven couples plus Nanette Bell enjoyed a relaxing but stimulating week at the Outer Banks (OBX) of NC, followed by our Apr. Monthly Class Luncheon at the Hampton Yacht Club in Hampton, VA.

Our trip to the OBX in early Apr. was our 11th year of getting together in Kitty Hawk, NC, a stone's throw from the Wright Bros. Memorial and the ocean. Golf, shopping, group exercise, eating and occasionally partaking of the spirits were the order of the day. Our "Entertainment Committee", headed up by Becky & **Dick Pariseau (1)**, kept us on our toes with pool side group exercises, while producing challenging games and initiating a creative joint writing exercise. We created our first short story of the season entitled "The Rainbow Cockpit" (not available for immediate release). It received a lot of laughs. Participating in these adventures were: Prissy & **Wick Parcels (12)**, Nanette Bell, Becky & **Dick Pariseau (1)**, Catherine & **Ed Clextan (10)**, Jane & **Jim Eilertsen (21)**, Joann & **Carl Bruntlett (8)**, Joy & **Dick Hamon (8)** and Paula & **Rod Friedmann (5)**.

From **Ed Clextan (10)**:

✉ "'60 golfers! You will be happy to know, sort of, that we won 3 different prizes at the USNA Alumni Assoc. golf event at Oceana:

1st. The A team won 2nd in the 2nd flight to get a sleeve of balls and a white Oceana ball cap.

2nd. Sadly, the fun bunch, all of which left before they could receive their (sur)prize of an Oceana 'crying towel' for being 3rd from the bottom of 17 teams!!!!,

3rd. Perhaps of highest import, we retook the *Fragille* award for

attendance, which is in the back of my car for delivery to **Booma McCullough (14)** for appropriate display at *Fellinis* for the next year. All prizes will be available at the next class lunch.

We definitely missed **Rod Friedmann (5)**, **Joel Febel (5)** and **Tom Inderlied (21)**, but were happy to have Jack Suddeth (6) join us in Skip's old A team slot. Ed

And from **Wick Parcels (12)**:

✉ "Ed, Good work. Thanks for staying to brave the rain and picking up the spoils. More importantly, thanks to you and Jack for sinking those two 40+ foot putts or we would not have won anything. Cannot figure out how they scored all those unfinished rounds from all different holes? Wick."

Finally, from **Doug Johnston (5)**:

✉ "An Inspiring Evening at ICRD (International Center for Religion and Diplomacy). After five years of exemplary service as the Center's Executive Vice President, James Patton relieved me as ICRD's President and CEO. His discussion of the Center's future was very inspiring as well.

This year's annual Faith-in-Action Award dinner was special on a number of fronts. First and foremost, it honored former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright for her pioneering work in religion and world affairs. Her acceptance remarks were very inspiring, as was the presentation by Special Guest Speaker Bob Roberts, an evangelical pastor from East Texas who has become a global leader in religious reconciliation and collaboration."

Doug steps down having led the organization through some difficult times throughout the world with significant success.



Doug Johnston & Madeleine Albright

'61

Life Membership: 72%

Donor Participation: 8.81%

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

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Hello, out there, Class of '61!

Here is our next class update. I'm getting this all in early, before Connie & I leave on our next cruise - as some of you know, internets on cruise ships are not always very reliable, and this one is LONG - Rome to Singapore, in a little over a month. As usual, thanks for your GREAT, timely inputs. Makes my job a LOT easier, and everyone's enjoyment better!



This in from **Fred Palumbo's (13)** Better Half.

✉ There were several memorials and monuments built on Iwo Jima during or soon after the WWII 36 day campaign, including the much photographed arches of the 3rd,

4th, and 5th Division cemeteries. However, by far the most famous is the monument built by the Seabees at the site of the Feb 23, 1945, flag raisings. It was completed in Sept 1945, and dedicated on October 2. Maintaining the monument and flag over the years was the responsibility of USCG & USAF detachments then on Iwo Jima.

But to accommodate the return of Iwo Jima to the Japanese in 1968, with U.S. detachments no longer to be permanently stationed on the island, a concept to make the monument permanent began in early January, 1968.

The original plan was to fabricate a 48 star copper flag with waves. It was installed on top of the existing flagpole the latter part of January. It lasted one week before it fell to the ground due to high winds on Mt Suribachi. In early February, **Capt Fred Palumbo (61)**, USMC Engineer officer, went back to Iwo to make repairs to the copper flag as best that could be done with limited resources. The Force Engineer Section then developed a plan to modify the monument, and LtGen Victor Krulak, FMFPAC Commanding General, approved it. The concept was the 48 star embedded flag, two Marine Corps globe and anchor emblems, and two 5th Marine Division emblems. Public Works, Naval Base, Pearl Harbor fabricated the flag and USMC emblems. The Spearhead emblems were part of the original monument and were on the island. **Capt Palumbo** and his team arrived at Iwo Jima on a RD-4 plane from NAS, Barbers Pt, Hawaii on 7 March 1968 with approximately 6000 lbs of material to construct the changes to the monument.

Materials included lumber for framing the flag, 1 bronze 48 star flag, 2 bronze globe and anchors, rebar, secrete, carpenter tool kit, wheel- barrow, shovels, hoes, power drills and tools, generator, 5 gallon containers to carry water to mix the secrete, and miscellaneous equipment and materials. Work began on 8 March, 1968, and was completed on 22 March.

This comes to us from the Other Ocean, out West... From **T.P. Manning (17)**: