

after graduation and so he did. His sea duty was mostly in destroyers with a focus in ASW. He commanded a minesweeper during the Vietnam war, a fast frigate and a destroyer squadron and also found time to earn an MS in underwater acoustics at the NPS. His final active duty posts were as Oceanographer of the Navy and Director of ASW for the CNO. Dick had a distinguished career in the Navy and made many significant contributions towards improving the Navy's ASW capabilities. After 32 years in the Navy Dick joined the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution as the head of the Marine Operations Division where he supervised the operation and acquisition of oceanographic research vessels.

### CLOSING RANKS

Julian Guinn, 3rd Company died on November 14th 2017

John Ferriter, 16th Company passed away on September 22nd 2017

Larry Kaufman, 18th Company passed away on October 25th 2017

John Schmidt, 20th Company died on October 11th 2017

James Buchanan, 24th Company died on November 7th 2009, but we just recently found this out.

## '59

**Life Membership: 64%**  
**Donor Participation: 17.65%**

Chairman Exec. Committee:

**Gerald G. Garbacz**

e: ggarbacz@aol.com

Sec'y: **CAPT Charles C. Pease, USN (Ret.)**

20510 Falcons Landing Cir., Apt. 1404

Potomac Falls, VA 20165-7596

p: 703-549-4285; e: classsec1959@gmail.com

Webmasters: **Pete and Elaine Stout**

Website: [www.USNA1959.com](http://www.USNA1959.com)

### Change of Email and Snail Mail Address for Class Correspondence:

If you have not provided your current Email address and Snail Mail Address to your Company Representative and to me, please do so. If you do not have an email address for your Company Representative, please send an email message to: [classsec1959@gmail.com](mailto:classsec1959@gmail.com).

Also, please update your Data on the Alumni Association Web Site.

### The 59th Reunion

Planning for the 59th Reunion for the first weekend in October 2018 continues. This Reunion celebrates the Class of '59 with its 59th Reunion. The Reunion Committee will be sending periodic reunion updates to the Class.

The Reunion weekend starts Thursday, October 4 and will end Sunday, October 7. Some specifics are:

- \* Planned around October 6, 2018 as an AWAY game weekend
- \* Away game is Navy vs. Air Force played at Colorado Springs, CO
- \* The Naval Academy Football Stadium N-Star Room will be used to watch the AWAY football Game. This event will be fully catered much like the very well-received 55th Reunion Tailgate. The \* N-Star Room has many large screen televisions for superb Navy football viewing, and as an AWAY game, no need to rush back to those "lovely" End-Zone seats!

See the 59th Reunion tentative schedule on the class web site. Mark your Calendars! Make your hotel reservations.

### Griff Hamilton Reports Reunion Hotels Update:

✉ The reservation blocks at our three hotels are being filled rapidly. The 60-room block at the Hilton Garden Inn is completely filled, with a Waiting list. The Courtyard by Marriott 60-room block is filling up, as is the 20-Room block at the Residence Inn by Marriott. Several classmates report that at the Marriott properties, senior rates may be available, which are somewhat lower than the Class of 59 negotiated rates. One reservation was given to a person not identifiable as a classmate. If grandchildren, etc., who want to make reservations identify the classmate with whom they identify, it will help maintain the integrity of the system. End Report on Status of our next reunion.

### New Subject:

#### John Butterfield (2) reports:

✉ Many of our Classmates may not be aware of our beloved daughter

Wendy's untimely death on September 15, 2016, just before her 56th birthday. We miss her terribly, but also take great comfort in knowing we will see her again one day, and then forever! She was born in New Iberia while we were there for flight training, knew many children of '59ers, back in the early 1980's. Wendy worked at the USNA Alumni House, and was married in the Naval Academy Chapel. She was proud of her Navy and '59 roots! In 2001, we moved from the West Palm Beach area to the Tri-Cities in Washington State. I worked for a pharmacy mornings, and afternoons I delivered prescriptions all over town, which gave me the opportunity to meet many folks. One was the mother of General James Mattis, and through her we got to know her terrific son.

*Editor's Note:* John has ear issues but you can reach his home phone at 727-317-3927, and his email address is: [jabfld@gmail.com](mailto:jabfld@gmail.com).

#### Ron Trossbach (11) reports:

✉ The USNA Alumni population at Falcons Landing has increased to twenty three. 59ers lead the count with four classmates residing (**Charlie Pease, Ron Trossbach, Don Cooper, and Lou Wardlow**) and another scheduled to move in this year.) Those of us that live here repeat our invitation to visit and tour the facilities if you are in the Washington, DC area. We are anxious to show you how we live and enjoy being part of an attractive and well managed Life Plan Community. Contact: [Rontrossbach@msn.com](mailto:Rontrossbach@msn.com) or 703-403-8408

#### Charlie Pease (10) Reports:

✉ **My thanks to Pete and Elaine Stout** for sending email information to the Class while **Suzi** and I took a trip to the Middle East last month. We toured Israel and Jordan. Both nations appear to be thriving. We had visible protection from the local police in each nation. I felt safer there than I do in major U.S. cities.

#### Rise and Shine!

## '60

**Life Membership: 70%**  
**Donor Participation: 26.76%**

Pres: **John J. Michalski**

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Website: <http://www.usna60.com>

From **Gil Hansen (5)**:

✉ "It is with deep regret that I pass on to you that my dear wife, Sylvia Claman Hansen, passed into the arms of her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on May 2, 2017, of a sudden heart attack. Sylvia was not only my wife for over 55 years but also the sister of our classmate and my good friend, **John Claman (3)**. We had just completed a three-week Missions trip to New Zealand and Australia, where we had visited two former students of ours and their families. We were disembarking from our flight in Vancouver, Canada, from Sydney, Australia, anticipating a short connecting flight back to our home in Portland, Oregon, when the heart attack occurred. She passed into glory quickly and without any pain. We remember her as she was: full of life, energy, a compassionate heart to all that she met, and a wonderful Christian spirit. A Gravesite Service at Willamette National Cemetery in Portland, Oregon, where she was buried, and a Memorial Service at Westgate Baptist Church in Tigard, Oregon, with over 300 in attendance, was held for her on June 2nd and 3rd."

Bill, you will remember her when we would sometimes visit you and Linda down in central, Virginia. We moved in July, 2007, out to Oregon to be closer to our own three sons and their families. Life is short! You never know when the Lord will call you—sometimes very unexpectedly. It is best to always be ready for that event. Sylvia was, and I will see her again soon according to His matchless Word, the Holy Bible. Take care, my friend, and give my best to your wonderful wife. Your old "Roomie", Gil

From **Porter Lewis (4)**:

✉ "Hi All: Time flies and it seems forever since I've touched base with you guys (or, for that matter heard from you, either!) Anyway, 'thought I'd do my part to catch up. The last year was great for Boo and me, family-wise and Navy-wise. First, we had the joy of attending the promotion ceremony for our son, Martin Ramsey Lewis (namesake of our late company mates Marty Tull and Bill Ramsey) to LtCol, USMC. In the fall we went to the WWII Museum in New Orleans for the retirement of our other son, Capt. John Lewis, USN after 28 years commissioned service. John's last duty was as Commander, Western Region, Naval Recruiting Command, responsible for all Navy recruiting west of the Mississippi, including Pacific islands and Japan. Shortly thereafter, our granddaughter, CPL Molly Lewis, USMC, Martin's second daughter, earned her GOLD parachutist wings at Camp Pendleton. In May this year Martin's elder daughter, Elaine graduated from VA Tech and was commissioned a 2nd Lt in (guess what!): USMC.

On a less cheerful note, I am currently undergoing bi-weekly chemotherapy for esophageal cancer. The odds-on prognosis is dismal for this particular cancer, but we're optimistic because it was caught early, my general health and fitness are otherwise great, and I'm getting, in addition to traditional chemo, a new immunotherapy med. Boo is my great light and together we go forward, but please keep us both in your prayers. On 6 Oct we're off on a transatlantic round-trip aboard Queen Mary 2; no grass growing under our feet! Cheers, Porter"

From **Chris Moore (4)**:

✉ "Hi Porter and Boo: Thanks for your diligence in getting your message out to all of us. I hope it will energize Fourth Co. to begin a lively blog keeping everyone up to speed on what's going on. The most depressing thing is that almost weekly **Tom Curtis (22)** sends us news on the death of a classmate.

Congratulations on the career achievements of your family; they are all outstanding. Not sure how so many of them ended up in the Marines, but that's okay.

So sorry to hear about your esophageal cancer. Sounds good that you caught it early and have been the product of clean living all these years. With Boo's help you'll lick it I know.

All is well in our family; our two eldest grandchildren started college this year, both at Univ. of Colorado at Boulder, where our oldest daughter went.

I had a health scare myself this year: in April I had a stroke. It was minor, and I'm okay, but the doctor says no more court: too much stress. I'm still working but my days are probably numbered. I turn 79 next month and not sure how long after 80 I want to keep doing it.

Currently I'm reading H.R. McMaster's book called "Dereliction of Duty" about Viet Nam and how we got into it. It almost derailed his career and now it's required reading by the cadets at West Point. It's very detailed, but a fascinating study. I recommend it. Beat Army, Chris

From **Rob Kunkle (10)**:

✉ "Guys: **K.S. "Casey" Jones (10)**, Terrible Tenth '60 classmate, visited McKinney, Texas, this week (Dallas area) and was able to spend two nights with me in McKinney. This was a business (training) trip so Janice was not able to come to Texas. Casey admitted that he is traveling entirely too much and Janice is not currently a happy camper! Casey looks great! Weighing in at 160lbs, and my height (185lbs), he and Janice's daily routine of gym exercise, no alcohol, and leaders of their small church's music program (Janice on piano and Casey on guitar) is serving them well. Casey flew into Dallas LOVE field and drove a Ford Hybrid to McKinney Sunday afternoon. He was here in time to join me at a local "taco party" with 40 of my friends (see the picture). Monday, we got up at "O Dark Thirty" and I cooked breakfast, sending Casey off to McKinney airport to

meet his student. Monday evening, after work, Casey returned and we enjoyed a steak dinner in old downtown McKinney. Tuesday was a half day training session and Casey left directly for LOVE Field. So now I go back to MY routine - getting up when I feel like it and having 'brunch' when I feel hungry!

Other than that nothing much new with me. Enjoy the McKinney neighborhood but don't like my house - looking to move again! Still manage my monthly Singles Sunday Night Dinner & Dance Parties and attend the USNA Alumni luncheons, World Affairs Council, Dallas Friday Group, Dallas40 and SMU Tate Lectures. Jerry Jones has turned AT&T Stadium into a zoo so I sell my COWBOYS tickets each week, at a big profit.

Casey's company is in the business of training, and certifying, private pilots in the Eclipse 500 private jet aircraft. There are now 560 of these jets around the world and there is a need for this business. I believe that these two days were a re-certification as the initial Eclipse 500 training takes several weeks, at least. Casey, of course, loves the flying but will maneuver into a more stationary job when possible. He and Janice live in a lovely home they built east of Albuquerque with views of the Sandia mountains from multiple rooms. Rob



Casey Jones and Rob Kunkle (Dallas Party)

From **Rod Friedmann (5)**:

✉ "Bill, despite the threat of Hurricane Irma, which never materialized in Hampton Roads and Williamsburg areas, the '60 group of skimmers, submariners & aviators followed their GPS to rendezvous for a luncheon at the Founder's Inn (Swan Terrace) in Virginia Beach on Sep.12th The Founder's Inn is located on the campus of the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN) of

Pat Robinson's fame and Regent University. Pat is on record of praying away hurricanes, which may be why Irma veered away from Virginia Beach.

Sixteen "Old Salts" made it despite some stormy weather predictions: **Al Ablowich (16), Al Bissell (8), Pete Chabot (14), Ed Clexton (10)** (on time for once), **Paul Cooper (5), Joel Febel (5), Rod Friedmann (5), Bob Ianucci (16), Bert Johnson (10), Frank Kay (8), Bill Kee (9), Mike McCullough (14), Wick Parcels (12), Bob Powers (8), Jack Suddath (6), & Henry von Kolnitz (22)**. Service was a little slow for those ordering off of the menu as opposed to the "help-yourself" buffet, but it provided a lot of opportunity to discuss Navy football, recent incidents at sea and just good gab sessions. Next month's luncheon will be at the Lynnhaven Fishhouse. November's luncheon will be back at **Mike McCullough's (14)** Fellini's Restaurant in Norfolk. — Rod



Frank Kay, Al Ablowich and Jack Suddath



Bob Ianucci, Joel Febel, Mike McCullough and Paul Cooper



# 60/61 CLASS NEWS

Henry von Kolnitz & Al Bissell



The "Terrible Tenth": Ed Clextan & Bert Johnson



Rod Friedmann-recipient of the "Bubblehead Award"

## '61

**Life Membership: 72%**  
**Donor Participation: 22.74%**

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

Corr Sec'y:

**RADM E. S. (Skip) McGinley II, USN (Ret)**

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Greetings to all '61ers! Here is a very important message from **Jim Richardson(16)**, one of our West Coast Honchos for the Class of '61 Mid-reunion in 2018.....

✉ "Hello all, with another great year of Navy football behind us it is time to think ahead to the Navy/Notre Dame game being held in San Diego next year in October. Bill Kraus and Jim Richardson and their Mid-Reunion 2018 committee have put together what promises to be a memorable weekend in San Diego with events surrounding the game. As of my publication deadline for this issue of SHIPMATE 109



'61: The Tidewater 1961 Group

classmates have signed up to attend. While the registration deadline has passed the committee has negotiated an extension of the deadline with the Rancho Bernardo Inn and can accommodate additional reservations for rooms at the Inn. The deadline for tickets to the game remains mid-March when Jim has to release unused tickets. He has received requests for over half of our allocation. Registration forms and the Ticket Request Form are available on our class website."

Here is another nice catch-up article from **Ned Kuhns (07)** and the Tidewater Section...

✉ "Now that the summer travel season is over, the Tidewater 1961 group held its 12 October 2017 at the usual BRAISE restaurant location in Virginia Beach after a number of members had returned from various trips. **Bob & Peg Graham (18)** are back from visiting China, **Jim & Toni Henderson(15)** attended Navy's victory over Air Force in Annapolis, and I'm home after a month of hiking in England. Left to right around the table are: **Mike Bradley (03), Dick Hixson (19), Kurt Rohdenburg (20), Ned Kuhns (07), Joe Kuhn (03 - Honorary), Charlie Stewart (06), Cyd Driscoll (22), Jim Joyner (01), Bob**



'61: Beach Party

**Graham (18), Jim Henderson (15), and Tom McNicholas (09)**. Lots of good discussion about Navy football and the upcoming '61 West Coast Reunion. By the time this is published, **Jim Joyner** will be walking on a new knee after having another one replaced. We will be losing **John (08) and Georgeanne Pearson** who are moving soon to be closer to family in Washington state. We will miss John at the luncheons and on the golf course. **JP (08) and Carole Decker** are hosting a party for the Pearson's on 11 November. **Cyd & Margie Driscoll (22) and Fred Lowack (07)** have arranged a tour of the visit to the Williamsburg Winery as a "dining out" event on 26 October which will include a tour of the winery, lunch and a wine tasting. Finally, we always meet at 1130 on the second Thursday of every month so any 1961 visitors to Tidewater are encouraged to join us."

And, not to be outdone, here is the companion article from the West Coast... The Left Coasters from the San Diego Region held their annual Beach BBQ at the La Jolla Beach & Tennis Club on the sand, October 7th. In attendance were **Jack Allen (13), Tom Bailey, Milt (13) and Claire Budov, Larry DeSha (14),**

**Arnie (12) and Janet Kleban, Bill (12) and Patsy Kraus, Bruce (15) and Melanie Maxon, Ed (10) and Patty Oleata, Jim (16) and Hanna Richardson, Dick (07) and Anne Rothwell, Chuck(21) and Arilla St. Laurent, Leo(05) and Kathryn Willetts and George (02) and Veronica Worthington.** "Rum Runner" **Jack Allen** brought the booze, "Ice Man" **Jim Richardson** showed up with the frozen water and **Bruce Maxon** took charge as the Master Chef. Everybody brought something, and the girls set up a fantastic buffet line. We all agreed that **George Worthington** brought the best hotdogs anybody had ever eaten. When we asked where he got them, he smiled and pointed to the stamp across the package label—"U.S.NAVY SEALS". **Larry DeSha** drove down from the Central California coast, and **Arnie Kleban** came in from the Palm Springs area. We missed seeing the "Green Flash" this year, but I promise it will return for our Mid-Reunion-2018 Beach Party.



Sent in by **Howie Winfree(03)**:

✉ A portrait of our classmate and USNA Superintendent, **Virgil Hill (13)**, was unveiled at a recent meeting of the USNA Foundation's Athletic and Scholarship Program trustees. This portrait will be displayed with other previous Superintendents on the upper level of Dahlgren Hall. A walk around that upper level is really interesting. Pictured are RADM Tom Lynch, **Virg's** relief as