

The Way Forward — The USMA Class of 1958 Beyond Its 60th Reunion

Purpose. The purpose of this paper is to describe where we stand today in the governance of class affairs and to define ways in which we might adjust to change in the years following our 60th reunion due to:

- Decreasing class numbers, and the likelihood of fewer volunteers to maintain services
- Increasing numbers of widows
- Individual concerns about money, ability to travel, and health
- The desire to sustain the legacy of the Great Class of 1958

Background. In 2016, the EXCOM determined to take a broad look at class governance — how our various activities exist today, and how they might degrade as we age. Clear notional milestones are that class functional activities would end with the Final Toast (tentatively set at our 75th Reunion in 2033 – see discussion in later section) and the class will physically terminate with the passing of our last classmate (date TBD.)

With this in mind, Jack Bradshaw outlined an approach. The EXCOM extended his ideas by creating a matrix of activities and options, and gathered a “Tiger Team” of past and current class officers to address the variety of activities sponsored by the class. Several focused reviews and the solicitation of comment from the full class have resulted in this document which is presented to the USMA Class of 1958 on the occasion of its 60th reunion as the class’s considered view of where we stand today, and how we might adjust to change in the coming decade.

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A. Class Governance

1. EXCOM and EXCOM Membership. The Executive Committee (according to our By-Laws) is composed of at least five classmates (to include Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, and Secretary). There are two ex-officio members: the Class President and the Scribe (or Recorder).

Jack Bradshaw has faithfully served as Class President for 60-years, providing insightful leadership and guidance, and forcefully elevating Class issues to higher authority as needed. We would like Jack to continue to serve as long as he is willing and able.

The Class Scribe, George Sibert, plans to remain so long as he is able. He is very successfully using the un-restricted class e-mail list to distribute class articles.

The EXCOM is empowered to select successors for these positions as needed.

Dick Schonberger completes five years as Chair, following terms by other distinguished classmates: George Lawton, Palmer McGrew and Jim Hall. Dick's calm leadership has been highly effective in resolving some complex issues and guiding and thinking about our future as reflected in this document. Dick will relinquish his responsibilities following the 60th Reunion. Per our By-Laws, the EXCOM will select a chair from its membership.

Tony Smith, as Coordinator for Class Gifts and Awards, has done a terrific job over the past decade overseeing enhancements to our gift of the First Class Club (FCC) as well as gifts to class grandchildren graduating from USMA. With those efforts largely completed, Tony has stepped down from the EXCOM with our gratitude for a job exceedingly well done.

Frank Waskowicz, our Secretary/Vice Chair, will remain in place through 2019. Pete Kusek has been our Treasurer since 2012, as has Jack Gordon, our social chair.

Tom Claffey came aboard in 2015 and managed the very successful fund raising for the FCC. Tom will remain on the committee as Member at Large. PD Vanture also joined the committee in 2015 to coordinate the activities of our CCQs.

The By-laws require the EXCOM to establish procedures for the nomination and election of members to the EXCOM. Those procedures state that if an elective position becomes vacant before a Class meeting, the Chairman — with approval of the EXCOM — will nominate a Classmate to fill the position and have the action approved by the class at the next Class meeting. In 2017, the Chair nominated Andy Andreson to replace Tony Smith on the committee. Andy has been active on the committee, and the EXCOM will ask the class to ratify Andy's membership at our 60th.

The EXCOM is actively seeking to identify interested classmates it might call on to fill vacancies as they arise. In earlier years, there were fixed terms associated with

membership. Given our uncertain longevity, the EXCOM views fixed terms as impractical, and accepts the fact that classmates will be much more willing to serve for shorter, mutually agreeable, periods of time.

Increasingly, technology is allowing membership from afar, but there is still a practical justification for retaining significant EXCOM membership in the Washington, DC area — namely, valuable face-to-face discussions. Also, we are welcoming increased participation by our wives and widows in positions of responsibility. As we near our 70th, we might decide that the level of activity has fallen so low that face-to-face meetings of the EXCOM are not needed, so that the EXCOM members (including the Chair), if physical fit enough and willing, can handle the jobs from anywhere. Digital communications are apt to be more advanced then, also.

2. Critical Supporting Functions. As reflected throughout this White Paper, many classmates voluntarily undertake responsibility for important class functions. These include:

- Maintainer of Class e-mails Address and Mailboxes (Dick Buckalew)
- Maintainer of the Master Class Roster (John Nun with George Lawton)
- Class Web Master (Pete Trainor)
- Death Notifications (Jack Downing)
- Custodian of the Class Flags (Palmer McGrew)
- Widow Outreach Team (a team effort — see the WOT write-up on page 7)
- Major Reunion Coordinator (Garry Roosma)
- Time Capsule (Jack Downing)
- Perpetual Endowment Fund Board (George Lawton, Chairman)

Incumbents should identify backups and arrange for an orderly transfer of responsibilities as they desire to step down or are otherwise unable to do the job. Incumbents should keep the EXCOM advised and alert it in the event a replacement is needed and not already identified.

3. Constitution and By-laws. A review of the Constitution and By-Laws determined no need to amend these basic governing documents. Crafted many years ago by Jack Bradshaw and others at West Point, they set the tone and direction of class activities while still allowing reasonable flexibility to manage class affairs. Both documents are on the class web site.

4. Maintenance and Disposition of Class Funds. The class has three funds: The Admin Fund (alternatively referred to as the Class Fund or the Operating Fund), the Class Gift Fund (used to fund the First Class Club, which is discussed in Section A.5), and the Perpetual Endowment Fund (discussed in Section C.1).

Pete Kusek, our Treasurer, is responsible for the Admin Fund. We transferred administration of this fund to the West Point Association of Graduates (WPAOG) in

December, 2017 — an action approved by the EXCOM in September, 2017. The amount transferred to the WPAOG was \$82,838, which was added to \$1,700 we had been maintaining for the purpose of funding start-up reunion activities. Other classes using this service have expressed satisfaction. Details are provided at Appendix F.

When the class reaches the point where the Operating Fund is no longer needed, the EXCOM (or what remains of the EXCOM) will instruct WPAOG to transfer the remainder to the Perpetual Endowment Fund (PEF) Board, an action already approved by the class in the course of establishing the Perpetual Endowment Fund.

As it is, the assets in the fund are adequate to cover foreseeable expenses over the next decade (e.g., flowers for deceased classmates, expenses associated with WOT mailings, fees for EXCOM teleconferencing, reunion start-up costs, flowers for our annual memorial services at the VietNam Wall, costs associated with the Final Toast, etc), leaving a residual of approximately \$20-25,000.

5. Class Gift Fund. The Class Gift Fund is money raised by the class to fulfill our commitment to rebirth of the First Class Club (FCC) in 1993 and to accommodate enhancements that were undertaken in the following years (e.g, air conditioning, TV, bar extension, restrooms, enclosed patio). Our fourth, and last, fund drive in 2016 raised \$391,051 (from 71.6% of the class), resulting in a total of \$415,230 at the end of 2016.

At the request of the Director of Cadet Activities (DCA), \$295-thousand was released in April/May 2017 for the purchase of furniture, décor and furnishings within the club. We will use the balance of the gift fund (approximately \$120-thousand) to create an outdoor lounge area abutting the far end of the enclosed patio (which we funded in 2013.) As envisioned by the DCA and club management, this new area provides an attractive, outdoor space contiguous to existing enclosed patio, including a fire pit, all-weather club-type lounge furniture and tables — providing an outdoor destination for cadet enjoyment as weather permits. This project met our objective that residual monies be used to add desired functionality to the club that had not been included in the renovation because of cost restrictions. (We're hopeful that the DCA will have mounted a '58 crest on the brick outside wall in the area of the addition — as discussed with Tony Smith in the course of their deliberations.)

We can all view with great satisfaction the successful completion of our 30-year effort to give a gift that was from the very outset cadet-oriented. In words from the Director of Cadet Activities, the First Class Club "... inextricably links '58 to all future classes."

6. Disposition/use of Material Items in the possession of the class. The EXCOM does have a telephone system that it uses to teleconference its meetings. Also, it owns a \$300 bottle of Armagnac for the planned "final toast". We will continue to use the telephone. The likelihood is that it will be technologically obsolete at some point in time. Needless to say, we will consume the Armagnac. Frank Waskowicz has custody of both items.

There are a variety of class mementos in the custody of classmates (flags, banners, reunion books, stick pins, table guidons, etc.) Most of these were created to help celebrate specific events and have little monetary value. We trust their custodians to make favorable disposition of them.

7. CCQ Network. Use of CCQs was initiated at our 30th Reunion when George Sibert “drafted” the first 24 volunteers. PD Vanture coordinates the CCQs who remain the single most important connective tissue in sustaining class relationships. CCQs are critical in keeping track of classmates, sharing information, determining status, and orchestrating attention to details such as funerals and presence of the class flag at funerals. He also tracks the preparation and submission of memorial articles.

CCQs are all volunteers. Some have been more diligent than others. We urge Cadet Company members to keep their CCQ positions filled and to support their efforts to maintain cohesion. Responsibilities of CCQs are outlined at ***Appendix D***.

Over time, it is likely that the current system will degrade due to the passing of classmates. There may come a point at which we go to Battalion CCQs (4 companies). Certainly with the passing of time, responsibility increases for individuals to report their status — to John Nun, George Lawton, and Pete Trainor.

B. Class Service Providers

1. Class E-mail. Our primary means of class communications has been, and will continue to be our various e-mail lists. Dick Buckalew, who has overseen our e-mail activities for many years (rosters, rules of engagement, etc) has done a wonderful job, but has indicated a desire to move on following our 60th. Pete Trainor has indicated a willingness to take over e-mail lists in addition to maintaining our class web site. We are looking for two volunteers with the interest and more longevity to understudy and back up Pete. Your interest and help will be appreciated.

2. Class Flags. There are currently three class flags designed by OK Hill available for class activities such as representing the class at funerals. Palmer McGrew has custody of two flags (one includes a pole, spreader and base). Alan Chase has the third flag and a second flagpole. The primary flag has streamers reflecting the various mini-reunions. Our guidelines state that a classmate must be on the receiving end when flags are shipped for use.

There is a fourth class flag that hangs in Herbert Hall that is used for funerals at West Point. AOG sees to that in the course of executing family arrangements at the Academy. A class flag will go to the PEF Board for custody and display at the 2058 ceremony.

3. U.S. Mail Roster. The master class roster of all living classmates, their wives and widows is maintained by John Nun, with inputs from George Lawton and coordination with Dick Buckalew. Upgraded lists are posted periodically on the class web site by Pete Trainor, where the list mirrors that maintained by John Nun. John's database can be manipulated to meet a wide variety of needs, e.g., company rosters, rosters by state, etc. As requested, lists are reproduced for distribution at reunions. It's been suggested that the 60th will be the last time we would provide printed rosters to the class. Instead, folks would simply be referred to the web site.

George Sibert maintains fastidious accounting of all deceased members of the class (See Memorial Services, page 8 below). Pete Trainor also maintains a master file in Excel of all deceased classmates that graduated with us that includes dates of birth and death.

4. Widows Outreach Team. This support activity has been rejuvenated, with a team of concerned women including Betsy Hall, Audrey Webb, and Margie Downing, working together toward a vision of improving our outreach by assisting widows or wives facing great difficulty and integrating them fully into class activities. The members share responsibilities which include initial contact with new widows, efforts to welcome widows into an extended relationship with the class, maintenance of a widows e-mail list for easy communication among the widow population, involvement of widows in all class activities, and planned events at major and mini reunions. A very useful document, "Grip Hands", has been produced to provide practical information on available assistance and recommended actions. The document has been uploaded to the widows' web site and copies are available at the registration desk. WOT members attend EXCOM meetings on a regular basis to advise it of past activities and planned events.

The charter describing the role of the WOT is provided at ***Appendix F***.

5. Webmaster. Pete Trainor set up the class web site at <<http://www.west-point.org/class/usma1958>> in the 1998 timeframe while investigating that "new thing" called "the internet". The site contains records of the EXCOM and PEF, scribe notes, reunion notices, class rosters, and background papers on numerous topics. Portions of the site are password protected.

Pete plans to continue maintaining the site as long as he is able. He believes that West-Point.Org will leave the '58 site on their server as long as any of us are still around, meaning that our descendants will be able to refer to the then-static site for historic and nostalgic purposes.

The site was initially set up using Microsoft Front Page, which was subsequently replaced with Microsoft Expression, which in turn is no longer supported by Microsoft, but available for download. Pete says this could be an issue that would have to be addressed if and when he steps down.

6. AOG Web Site. The AOG provides a dedicated page to each class, which contains specific class-oriented data, Class Notes, Memorial Articles, and means to upgrade individual Cullum Files. From time-to-time there has been talk of moving exclusively to the AOG site, but as we benefit from both West-Point.Org and the AOG, there seems little point in doing so.

7. Prostate Cancer Support. Orchestrated by Stan Bacon, the group currently comprises 132 subscribers. Its purpose is to provide support and assistance to newly diagnosed classmates, to provide a medium for the dissemination and exchange of information and support among those PC victims throughout the progression of their disease, and to disseminate up-to-date information on the prevention and control of the disease. The service will continue indefinitely as long as the membership requests it.

8. Class Response to Notification of a Classmate's Death. Upon notification of a classmate's death, Jack Downing acts to ensure that all parties (AOG, CCQs, Widow Outreach Team, roster maintainers, etc.) are notified of the death. George Lawton and Denny Sharon are back-ups to Jack.

The full range of class response activities are described at **Appendix A**. These include actions of the Widows Outreach Team (See Section 4), information on funeral arrangements, delivery of the class flag, flowers or other gestures by the class, and the preparation of memorial articles

9. Memorial Services. George Sibert maintains accurate rolls of class deaths and provides that information to Frank Waskowicz for production of memorial booklets at reunions and our annual memorial in May (the week before Memorial Day) for those lost in SEA.

Currently we have over 300 names to read, and that number, sad as it is, will continue to grow. There soon will be more deceased than living. Our 60th will mark the last full reading of deceased classmates and wives. Readings at subsequent reunions will include only those classmates and wives/widows lost since the previous 5-year reunion.

10. Memorial Articles. PD Vanture monitors our CCQs who are charged with coordinating the assignment and completion of individual memorial articles. We are making decent progress in getting memorial articles completed, however, the numbers remain somewhat constant as more of our classmates pass on. Overall, we have 224 deceased classmates and 25 ex-cadets — 183 articles have been published, three have been sent to AOG, plus 2 ex-cadets and 1 on the way. Twelve are in process. Twenty-three have not yet been assigned a writer.

As our ranks thin, there will be problems keeping a cadre of CCQs and volunteers to write memorial articles. Finding contact for ex-cadets is problematic because of the late date of notification in most cases. PD urges all of us to consider writing a living memorial article. Classmates that do not desire a memorial article to be written should

advise the AOG, his CCQ, and the CCQ network coordinator who is charged with “keeping book” on the status of memorial articles.

One idea — which other classes employ — is to gather a core group willing to take on the task of Memorial Articles. Gerry Mitchell said that in his company, he is already authoring all the MA’s — now on his sixth!!

C. Class Projects:

1. Perpetual Endowment Fund (PEF). The PEF represents the most significant gift of the class and is managed under By-Laws approved by the class and posted on our web site. The fund held over \$1.2-million at 2017 year end. Membership on the Perpetual Endowment Board is gradually being transferred to Class offspring. George Lawton has recently replaced Jerry Mitchell as Chairman. Jack Downing has joined John Nun and Alan Chase on the Board. Non-classmate membership includes:

- Russell Robertson (Treasurer), USMA 1982
- Valerie Coffey (Secretary) USMA 1985
- Dan Peck, USMA ‘83
- William “Pat” Connelly, USMA 1998
- Elena Ivanova, USMA 1999
- Jason Crabtree, USMA 2008

The By-Laws of the PEF are posted on the Class Web Site, as are minutes of all meetings, Treasurer’s Report, and FAQs.

2. 2058 100th Anniversary/Time Capsule. A time capsule containing over 100 items reflecting our times is in the ground behind Herbert Hall. This was an initiative of Jack Downing, who has coordinated the opening of the time capsule on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of our graduation with the USMA Class of 2008’s 50th anniversary celebration. Jack has done really great work in seeking to keep our memory alive beyond our grave.

The details are reflected in the Memorandum of Understanding that is attached at Appendix C. A listing of items contained in the Time Capsule is at Appendix H.

3. Final Toast. Ed Weckel, Paul Ruud and Tom Claffey were asked to provide a plan for conducting the Class Final Toast, a ceremony to mark our passage at an appropriate point in time. Their concept — a living planning document — is provided at Appendix C. It will be reviewed before each 5-year reunion. Through their efforts, three class grandchildren have accepted roles as Administrators of the Final Toast: Bud Moentmann’s grandson, Tommy Moentmann ’10; Dick Graves’s grandson, Colin Graves ’11; and Mike Daley’s granddaughter, Brianna Burnstad ’15.

The date recommended for the Final Toast is June 4, 2033— the 75th anniversary of our graduation. Data suggests that there will be less than a dozen of us alive at that point. A review prior to our 65th could suggest advancing that date.

There are likely to be some costs associated with the event: glasses, descriptive programs, etc. The Treasurer will track likely costs until the admin fund is transferred to the PEF Board; after which the PEF Board will monitor and provide appropriate funding.

4. 5-Year Reunions. We have been blessed by the willingness and sound judgment that Garry Roosma has brought to the task of organizing our 5-year reunions. This is Garry's SEVENTH reunion. Obviously, we welcome his continuing service in this vein. We have talked to him about the difficulties involved should the task pass to someone else. Garry has said that increasing reliance on the AOG for administrative assistance has greatly simplified the task. What is required — should he be replaced — is very early coordination (a year or more beforehand) with the AOG to establish critical benchmarks, i.e., dates, numbers, venues, transport assistance, etc. Garry assures us that the AOG can take care of the details. We do pay for their involvement, but in his view it is absolutely worthwhile.

5. Concept for Future Mini's, Post 60th. The amount of pre-planned and detailed arrangements that accompany sponsorship of recent minis can be burdensome to the point where only a few geographic locations are able and willing to commit to hosting mini-reunions. A 2014 survey suggested that we reduce the frequency of minis, simplify them, eliminate the costs associated with memorabilia, reach out to widows, and consider limitations of advancing age. The concept espoused by George Sibert is one in which there would only be two organized events: an arrival cocktail party so attendees know who is there, and a Saturday night (final night) dinner. Both these events will be pay-as-you-go to make it easier for the reunion organizer. Any other events will be informal and organized by participants: golf, tennis (anyone still playing?), company/battalion dinners, getting together with friends.

The only collection up-front will be a nominal registration fee (\$25 dollars or so) for incidental expenses incurred by the organizer -- with no refunds. This will be definitely easier for the organizer. No shows will be able to count their unreturned registration fees as a contribution to the class admin fund. The guiding principle: KISS. Keeping it simple should make it easier to find volunteers to host a mini. Basically, the organizer will only have to arrange for a hotel (attendees will make their own reservations), the arrival night cocktail party with a pay-as-you-go bar and final night dinner, again pay-as-you-go for dinner and drinks.

6. First Class Club (FCC). Time is scheduled during the 60th for the class to visit and enjoy the newly refurbished FCC: beer call on Friday before the BBQ dinner at the Thayer Hotel, and coffee and Danish at the club prior to the Parade on Saturday.

A “soft reopening ceremony” was held on April 21, 2017 at which Jack Bradshaw made remarks for the Class. In attendance were the Superintendent, The First Captain, some cadets, Coach Monken, Lynne Bradshaw, Dale and Dodie Hruby, Brad Johnson, and Tony and Bonnie Smith.

The FCC held a “grand opening” for the class of 2017 on 3 May 2017, and all reported are that the cadets are very pleased. The photo shows that our original theme of “Every Cadet an Athlete” has remained in a collage of photographs that include many from the original club coupled with more recent photos of new sports, new clubs and the introduction of women.



We are indebted to the Superintendent, LTG Caslen, for taking an active leadership role in identifying the \$3.5 million required to rebuild and refurbish the structure over the past year.

As a class, we should “pop up our puny chest” as we end our relationship with the FCC. We initiated, sustained and championed the club as a gift to the Corps of Cadets over a period of 25 years. This is recognized on a new plaque at the entrance to the FCC inscribed: Championed and Generously Supported by the Class of 1958 From its 35th Reunion to its 60th Reunion, April 2018.”

In addition, the Director of Cadet Activities is preparing a mobile “Class of 1958 Wall” to be displayed at the FCC during our 60th Reunion. It will feature photos of ‘58 athletes in action and other memorabilia from the class.

7. Ring Melt. The class has no direct responsibility for this program, but takes pride in the fact that the concept was proposed by Ron Turner in 1999 in ASSEMBLY magazine. Twenty-nine rings went into the first ring melt. Now in its 17th year, the program has incorporated a total of more than 450 rings. Rings belonging to Don Johnson, Dan Carter, Bill Ganey, Gordon Goodman, Robert Meal, Joe Shea and William Dunning were included in the ring melt for USMA 2019.

8. Ray Riggan Locker in the Foley, Enners, Nathe Lacrosse Center.

Through an individual class collection, over \$10,000 was raised to dedicate a locker to Ray Riggan, All-American Lacrosse Goalie, which is located in the new lacrosse center. Brad Eliot played a lead role.

9. Class Awards. There are six awards that recognize classmates. Three of these are separately endowed and one will expire in 2020. These are:

- Lawrence M. Malone Award. A trophy awarded to the outstanding cadet in the Georgetown ROTC Ranger Challenge Team Competition. John Herren has been the coordinator. Two more trophies are in hand and paid for. The EXCOM had determined several years ago to let the award expire when there was no longer a representative to make the presentation. This past year, the presentation was made by George Robertson's son, Russ (USMA 82 and Treasurer of our Perpetual Endowment Fund). John is trying to see if one of the ROTC classes (1966-67) that Larry taught would like to take over the award. If that fails, he will ask the Georgetown ROTC to continue the award. In the absence of outside sponsorship, the award will terminate in 2019.
- Walker Award. Presented annually at the Department of Social Sciences in honor of George Walker. The class contributed \$8,000 for a plaque, suitable recognition of George and an annual award of books to the winning cadets. The endowment is managed by the Military Academy Corps of Cadets Fund.
- The Brigadier General James Ramsden Award in Chemistry was established by Jack Downing, endowed through a private collection, and is administered by the USMA Department of Chemistry and Life Sciences. An engraved silver plate is awarded annually to the outstanding graduating cadet in Chemistry. Perpetual funding will continue through the Military Academy Corps of Cadets Fund.
- The Brigadier General Anthony A. Smith Award for Excellence in Foreign Studies was established and funded in perpetuity by the George and Carol Olmsted Foundation. Each year, engraved pewter plaques are presented to two cadets who have demonstrated outstanding character and exemplary leadership — one having participated in the Semester Abroad program and the other in the Cultural Emersion Program.
- The Gerald Capelle Award was established to provide funds to the Military Academy Preparatory School (USAMAPS) at West Point to pay for a party for the winning cadet company and to recognize that distinction on a plaque displayed at the USAMAPS. The EXCOM voted to let the award expire when the available spaces on the plaque are used up (three more years). Chuck Densford and Mike Daley are looking at the potential to endow the award, looking for a stakeholder willing manage the award in perpetuity. The annual cost of the award is \$350.

- The General William G. T. Tuttle, Jr. USA (Ret) Award for Business Acumen in Defense and Government was established in 2000 at the Center of Excellence in Logistics and Technology by the Institute of Defense and Business. Awards have been made annually to recipients across the logistics spectrum of the U.S. Department of Defense and the U.S. Coast Guard. The class bears no responsibility for associated costs.

10. Class Grandchildren. We have been presenting engraved pewter trays to the class grandchildren who graduate from USMA, most recently in the course of our 60th reunion to Jim Bishop's grandson who graduates this May. Twenty-two grandchildren (including those currently cadets) have joined the Long Gray Line. The trays are procured from the WPAOG Gift Shop.

Tony Smith has overseen the program and has coordinated with the graduating cadets and the USMA DCA to arrange a small ceremony at the FCC to present the class gifts. Jack Downing has been making the presentation in the past few years and will work with Tony to assume full responsibility for the task over the next six months.

11. Wounded Warrior Mentor Program. This program was founded in 2004 by Lee Miller, John Herren, Pete Brintnall and Bob Tredway. With the drawdown in the conflicts, its mission has changed to support the new population at Walter Reed: 95% Ill and Injured and 5% Wounded Warriors. Nonetheless, the mission, strategy and process remains to assist wounded, ill and injured personnel and their spouses transition to a new life after discharge using a mantle of education, internship and jobs. Our client population includes cancer patients, PTSD and TBI patients as a result of the wars, automobile, motorcycle and other accidents and many with defined and undefined medical conditions. Over the 13 years of our existence, the program has helped over 1,200 — the wounded in our early years and now with ill and injured. Should our present wars or future undetermined wars flare, this group will be there to get the wounded and ill and injured on a path to a new productive life and profession.

12. Historical Database. This was created to serve as a vehicle for collecting information for the 50-year book. It remains on-line at a West-Point.org maintained site. Virtually nothing has been done with this material since the 50th. For a time, consideration was given to incorporate it into the AOG system. The West Point Library has copies of our 30 and 50-year books, but neither these nor our Howitzer are searchable on-line. At last check, only Howitzers through 1936 were digitized and on-line. Frank Waskowicz digitized our Howitzer, 10-, 30- and 50- yearbooks and offered them to the library. They accepted the Howitzer files for possible future use. The library considers the Howitzer to be owned by the Military Academy. As they cannot vouch for ownership of the other books, they declined the offered material on the basis that they contain personal material. (Frank will provide the digital files to anyone who wants to unload their bookshelf of the hardbound copies).

13. Honorary Classmates. There is only one: Chaplain George Bean. Over time, others have been suggested, but the EXCOM and other Class leaders have not and do not intend to honor any others. Similarly we have declined to give a class ring to anyone who did not graduate with the class.

For the EXCOM
Frank Waskowicz, Secretary
Feb 15, 2018

Appendices:

- A. Class Response to Notification of a Death
- B. USMA '58 Time Capsule/Suggested letter to Grandchildren
- C. USMA '58 Final Toast
- D. CCQ Responsibilities
- E. Concept of the Class Widows Outreach Team (WOT)
- F. Class Administrative Fund Managed by the WPAOG
- G. Contents of the Time Capsule

Appendix A. Actions And Responsibilities Associated With The Death Of A Classmate

1. Whoever receives first notification of a classmate death should inform Jack Downing or the alternates in his absence.
2. Jack will notify the class on the restricted list.
3. He will notify the CCQ of the company.
4. He will notify the AOG and be the POC for follow up.
5. The Widows Outreach Team (WOT) will call the widow with condolences from the class, send the widow a copy of "Grip Hands" and follow up in four months.
6. Shortly after the WOT call, the CCQ will call the widow for particulars on the funeral services and time and place of interment.
7. Using the class unrestricted net, the CCQ will request classmates to notify him of those attending the services and whether they will accept the class flag for display.
8. The CCQ will ask the widow whether she prefers that the class send flowers or make a donation to a charity in the name of the deceased classmate (\$100).
9. If flowers are to be sent, the CCQ will arrange with a florist near the funeral service for flowers to be sent. The CCQ will pay for the flowers and be reimbursed by the class treasurer.
10. The class treasurer will make a donation if that is preferred.
11. The CCQ will contact the current flag possessor (Palmer or Otto) with the name of the person to receive the flag and then send and receive the flag.
12. The AOG will notify the class of the death.
13. The West-Point.org will learn of the death from the AOG announcement
14. The CCQ will arrange for a classmate to write a Memorial Article if one has not been written.
15. The CCQ will act as the point-of-contact for the widow and classmates on changes or updates

The above steps are guides and should be modified to meet conditions as they exist. For example, a roommate or close friend may be the POC for the widow rather than the CCQ.

Appendix B: USMA '58 Time Capsule. Memorandum of Understanding of USMA 2058 Events

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR USMA 2058 EVENTS

Purpose

The purpose of this MOU is to outline plans for the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the West Point Class of 1958 and the 50th Anniversary of the Class of 2008.

Interested Parties:

- a. Current USMA class of 1958.
- b. Class of 2008
- c. The Perpetual Endowment Board, Class of 1958 (PEB).
- d. The West Point Association of Graduates
- e. Superintendent, USMA
- f. USMA Class of 2058
- g. USMA Museum

Discussion

Our two classes shared several memorable events during the Cadet years of USMA 2008. In 2008 the Class of 1958 celebrated the 50th anniversary of its graduation as the Class of 2008 graduated. We marked the occasion by interring a Time Capsule behind Herbert Hall, which houses the West Point Association of Graduates. The Time Capsule remains the property of the Class of 1958 until the event in 2058 after which ownership will pass to the Class of 2008.

USMA 1958 created and funded a Permanent Endowment for the benefit of USMA. It is over-watched by a Permanent Endowment Board and will make a major donation to USMA in 2058, marking the 100th anniversary of the Class's graduation. 2058 will, of course, be the year when USMA 2008 celebrates its 50th anniversary.

We recognize that it is futile to make specific plans four decades in advance for celebration of these anniversaries, but we do wish to note the occasion with this MOU and document with it the wishes of USMA 1958 concerning it.

Expected activities for the celebration in 2058:

- a. 50th anniversary reunion of the graduation of the Class of 2008.
- b. Presentation of a major monetary gift to the Academy from the Class of 1958 Perpetual Endowment Fund(PEF).
- c. Opening of the Time Capsule (TC).

Timing and Location

We expect that the date of the USMA 2008 reunion will be determined by the Academy, and we wish for the USMA 1958 activities to take place at the same time. We expect that the 2008 planning committee will coordinate with the

USMA 1958 PEB to arrange for the unearthing of the Time Capsule and the presentation of the 1958 gift to the Superintendent.

The Time Capsule opening might take place in the area behind Herbert Hall where it was dedicated 2008. If the First Class Club still exists, the ceremony might take place there, to commemorate the support our two Classes gave to the operation of the Club. In any event the USMA 2008 planning committee will select and coordinate the location with the USMA 1958 PEB.

Authority:

The Class Executive Committee (EC) is the decision-making authority for the Class of 1958. It will dissolve eventually, well before 2058, and the Perpetual Endowment Board will have authority concerning the 2058 commemorative events which are the subject of this MOU.

TC Contents: A list of the contents is attached. Disposition of the contents after the TC is opened will be decided by the Class of 2008. Some possibilities are:

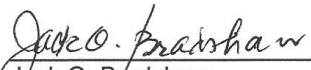
1. Distribute them to our descendants.
2. Donate items to the USMA Museum.
5. Return some or all to the TC for reburial along with mementoes from the Classes of 2008 and 2058

Funding

Costs associated with the handling of the TC and any USMA 1958-sponsored events will be borne by the PEB. Future TC costs will be the responsibility of the Class of 2008.

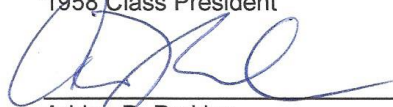
Coordination

The USMA Class of 2008 will arrange for the conduct of these celebratory events in 2058 and will coordinate with all interested parties. The PEB will seek to notify and involve any interested descendants of the Class of 1958.



Jack O. Bradshaw
1958 Class President

Date: 5 April 2017



Adrian D. Perkins
2008 Class President

Date: 10 April 2017

Draft letter for grandchildren (Prepared by Jack Downing and Ed Weckel)

DRAFT

Dear Grandson/daughter (use appropriate name)

This is (your name) writing to you from (date).

Happy New Year 2058!

I wish I could be with you to celebrate this event; however, that is quite impossible. I do remember when you were born, and how happy I was to have our family line extended far into the future. Do you remember when we used to go (personalize this - - hiking, biking, swimming, camping, hunting, etc., etc?). These were some of my fondest memories, which I always cherished.

I want to take you back 100 years - - to 1958, the year I graduated from West Point. I don't know if you realize how important West Point was in our family history, because (personalize this - - it is here that I met/married your grandmother, started my career, etc., etc). In those days we were concerned about the onset of the nuclear age, the frightening aspect of World War III, and the spread of communism throughout the free world. We were depression babies and molded by the events of World War II. We witnessed the collapse of the Soviet Union and the subsequent rise of militant Islam. We fought in the conflict in Viet Nam. The world certainly changed during our lifetime, and I suspect during yours. I cannot imagine the challenges and opportunities which you now face, but I hope it is a better world, helped in part by the sacrifices made by our Class during our careers.

We are very proud of our class. We are all men, since in those days women were not allowed in West Point. We all spent four years together and grew from boys to men. We then served together in both the Air Force (this was before the Air Force Academy) and the Army. As we took wives and children and grandchildren came, we bonded at our reunions. Even when we died, we wrote each others' memorial articles and stood by at our funerals. We shared a loyalty to the West Point motto, Duty, Honor, Country.

We have planned for two events to occur at our 100th Anniversary in 2058. First, a time capsule will be unearthed. We buried it at West Point during our 50th Anniversary (2008). It contains mementos from our days at West Point, such as items from our graduation, a "Bugle Notes" better known as the "Plebe Bible", a slide rule, a "Hop Card" and a plebe B-robe. I know that some of these are foreign to you, but I want to stir your interest. Second, at this event, a substantial portion of our Perpetual Endowment Fund will be gifted to West Point - - the first of many gifts that will continue at 10 year intervals. (At our 40th Anniversary, we established a perpetual endowment, to be managed by our descendants, with the first major presentation to be made at our 100th Anniversary.)

During the unearthing ceremony, and the presentation of our class gift, we hope there will be an appropriate ceremony, attended by our descendants. We cannot be there, but we hope that our descendants will celebrate this occasion for us.

The year 2058 is also the 50th anniversary of the graduation of the class of 2008, and we hope that they will also be at the opening of the Time Capsule since they too have items in it. We had a special association with this class. We attended many of the events in their cadet life from their entrance to their graduation. We got to know many of them as cadets and some afterward, even as they recuperated from their injuries in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. Some may remember us.

The purpose of this letter is to remind you of your grandparents and to share our pride in having served our country. An opportunity awaits you to attend our 100th Anniversary at West Point. I would be pleased if you would contact the Academy (the West Point Association of Graduates—WPAOG, if it is still in existence) and determine when this event will take place. It probably will be in May, 2058, but schedules change over the years. The WPAOG should be able to put you in contact with the Perpetual Endowment Fund Board that will manage this event. I encourage you and your family (which is my extended family too) to attend and help us celebrate.

You are our connection with the world that follows us. In the words of "The Corps", a well known West Point anthem, "Grip hands, though it be from the shadows" and remember that we live in your memories.

Appendix C: '58 Final Toast

Background: In September, 2013, the Class Executive Committee (EXCOM) approved a proposed final toast to the class similar to the ceremonial final toast of the famed Doolittle Raiders of World War II. The Class of 1958 Final Toast will, in all probability, be the last official act of the class. It is recommended that this formal toast to our departed classmates be made by the last ten to twelve surviving members of the class.

The Armagnac: A bottle of vintage 1958 Armagnac, to be uncorked for the occasion, has been purchased and is held in safekeeping by a member of the EXCOM (currently Frank Waskowicz) who, at the direction of the EXCOM, can continue to keep it or pass it on to a new member when his term expires. In the event that EXCOM deactivates, it is recommended that custody of the bottle be taken by one of the Designated Administrators (discussed below). The Administrators would also purchase at the class expense an appropriate number of goblets or glasses for the ceremony.

Location of Final Toast: The Final Toast ceremony should be conducted at West Point with as many class survivors in attendance as possible. Those not physically present can be brought in via Skype or similar technology of the day.

Date of Final Toast: The recommended date of the Final Toast is June 4, 2033, the 75th anniversary of our graduation. Using data from the 2015 Register of Graduates and profiles of previous USMA classes, we will have fewer than 12 surviving members of the Class on that date. [Note: this date is notional and will be reviewed at 5-year intervals.]

Designated Administrators of '58 Final Toast: There are eight classmates with grandchildren listed in the 2015 Register of Graduates: Bob Grete, Paul Bons, Mike Daley, Ken Herberger, Bud Moentmann (2 grandchildren), Pat Donovan, John Devens, and Dick Graves. Three of those grandchildren have been asked to be Administrators of the Final Toast and they have accepted: Bud Moentmann's grandson, Tommy Moentmann '10; Dick Graves's grandson, Colin Graves '11; and Mike Daley's granddaughter, Brianna Burnstad '15. It is expected their responsibilities would include: (1) Taking custody of the bottle of Armagnac and glasses in 10-12 years. (2) Also in 10-12 years, with the assistance of WPAOG, beginning to track surviving members of our class. (3) As 2033 approaches, starting to plan with WPAOG and the Thayer. (4) Communicate with the PEF Board to secure needed funding for the event.

Proclamation: (A proposed proclamation to be read at the Final Toast is on the last page.)

Class Review: It is recommended that this Final Toast memorandum be reviewed by the Class at our 65th and 70th reunions, then annually until our 75th in 2033. The reviews would serve to (1) remind classmates of the 2033 Final Toast and (2) provide opportunities to reevaluate the plan as we move forward. It is further recommended that

copies of the minutes of the reviews be sent to the three Designated Administrators: Tommy Moentmann '10 (tommy.moentmann@gmail.com), Colin Graves '11 (graves.colin@gmail.com), and Brianna Burnstad '15 (brianna.burnstad@gmail.com).

Proposed Proclamation for '58 Final Toast

WHEREAS: On 6 July 1954, 752 members of the West Point Class of 1958 assembled for the first time on the Plain at West Point.

AND WHEREAS: Four years later, on 4 June 1958, 573 members of the class graduated and were the last West Point class with 25% of the class receiving commissions in the Air Force.

AND WHEREAS: The 50s were the decade of Cold War intensity, recovery from the Korean War, the presidency of Dwight D. Eisenhower '15, the exit of France from Indochina, and subsequent U.S. armed involvement in Southeast Asia.

AND WHEREAS: Thirteen members of the Class of 1958 lost their lives in the Vietnam War. "We Were Soldiers Once . . . And Young."

AND WHEREAS: Members of the Great Class of 1958 continued to serve with honor on the frontiers of freedom throughout the Cold War, contributing to the eventual collapse of the communist bloc and end to that conflict.

AND WHEREAS: Those who later engaged in civilian pursuits served honorably once again, as leaders in science, business, industry, and government.

We, the Designated Administrators of this Final Toast, do hereby proclaim this to be the final formation of the Great West Point Class of 1958 – as we here assembled pay homage to departed classmates who have joined the Long Gray Line.

Come fill your glasses, fellows . . .

Appendix D: CCQ Responsibilities

General. Be participants. As much as you can, attend Class events and encourage company mates to do the same. Keep in touch with company mates and widows. Pass on information to the CINC CCQs (P.D. Vanture), and the Class Scribe (George Sibert). Where possible, get your company together for “micro” reunions.

Specific. Be the principal point of contact with your company mates and widows. Support Cass activities and urge company mates and widows to support them too.

Get as many company mates and widows as you can, listed on one of the Class email lists (58usma@west-point.org or usma1958@west-point.org), so that they are kept informed of class activities. When someone wants to be listed on one of the class email lists, have them contact Dick Buckalew directly with the name they prefer to have listed as well as their email address, Cullum number, and cadet company affiliation. If people prefer not to be listed on a Class email list, figure on a way to stay in touch with them — snail mail, company email list, personal letter or telephone calls. When you receive a class announcement, pass it on to the folks who are not on the class email list.

When someone in your company dies, notify Jack Downing who will post the death notice to the class, the CINC CCQs, and members of your company. Ask a classmate to attend the funeral and collect as much information about the deceased classmate to help the person writing the memorial article. Determine the widow's or family's desire about flowers or a donation, and make suitable arrangements. Contact Pete Kusek (Treasurer) for reimbursement of expenses for flowers, or a donation (not to exceed \$100). Contact Palmer McGrew to have the Class flag sent to the funeral. As soon as possible, find someone to write a memorial article and let them know about contacting AOG for the required forms and procedures. Keep CINC CCQs informed of memorial article progress.

Keep in touch. Let George Lawton, John Nun and Pete Trainor know of changes in contact data. Some CCQs solicit input from company mates and widows and periodically put together a company newsletter. Pass on items of interest to the Class Scribe.

If you get tired of doing the CCQ stuff, ask a company mate to replace you. Talk it over with the CINC CCQs for ideas.

Appendix E: Concept of the Class Widows Outreach Team

The Widows Outreach Team (WOT) was organized to provide sustained contact with Class of '58 widows, to develop and enrich their feelings of belonging to and with the class after the loss of their husbands.

The WOT is considered as the focal point for all widow-related activities within the class.

The WOT is a demand-driven, flexible team able to react to widow issues and interests.

The Team contacts newly bereaved class widows at the time of loss, sends a condolence card on behalf of the class, and provides the WOT-developed "Grip Hands" booklet providing useful information to the new widow. (The booklet, developed primarily by Betsy Hall, has received a great deal of interest outside the Class of '58, and been requested by other individuals and organizations who became aware of it.)

The Team will follow up with the new widow after a reasonable time to see how she is doing. They will also ask for her email, and determine if she wants to be added to the Widows E-mail list. There is no pressure to have them sign up.

The WOT will provide the moderator for the Widow E-mail list, who will coordinate content of the list with Dick Buckalew.

The immediate goal is to get new widows added to the existing E-mail list; however, effort is needed to work with PD Vanture and the company CCQs to contact existing widows to make sure they are aware of the list. If they do want to be added, their names and E-mails will need to be sent to the list moderator.

The WOT will take the lead on determining interest for including a widows' event at class reunions and gatherings. If so, they will take the lead on organizing the widow event in conjunction with the reunion organizer.

Appendix F. Class Administrative Fund Managed by WPAOG

Deposits made to the administrative fund are not tax deductible donations. The money is used for operating expenses.

The money in the administrative fund is invested in short-term bonds. The WPAOG charges a 1% administrative fee to handle the investments.

The majority of expenses paid from the administrative fund are for reunions (supplies, hotel, catering), memorial donations, and reimbursements to class officers who incur expenses related to reunions or gifts made on behalf of the class. The WPAOG is sales tax exempt in New York and New Jersey.

Requests for disbursements can be made by the class president or treasurer. Requests can be sent by email to accountspayable@wpaog.org. If the officers would like to appoint someone else to act on their behalf, a letter or email giving authorization can be sent to WPAOG Finance — Carol Duryea@wpaog.org. All requests must have documentation such as vendor invoices or receipts.

Monthly statements are posted on the WPAOG website. Class officers have access to the reports. If an officer wants to see a detailed report of activity in a given time-frame, he can call or email the finance office. (845-446-1630).

Appendix G. Contents of the Time Capsule

Graduation Items	Class Roster
Musicableux	Letter to Superintendent from Ed Weckel re PEF
Banquet program	Letter to the classes of 2008 and 2058
Graduation Exercises	1957 Football Army 27-Pen State 13
Thayer Hall Service	'58 gold and black scarves
Concert program	Congressional Nominating letter
Baccalaureate Service	Cadet cuff links
Pointer View	Class trip to Maxwell AFB
50 th Anniversary Plebe Marchback	Memorial Services program
Pointer Calendar	"58 is Great" cover
West Point Songs	USMA catalogue 1953-54
4 th Class Customs and Traditions	Summer leave addresses 1958
West Point Post Cards	Letter to cadets from Mrs Holland, cadet hostess
Lacrosse	Grade card kept on locker for Tac
Paper	Cadet pay statement
Army-Navy Program	Quill
Signed ball	Ticket, Review Parade, June 1858
Team picture	Hop card
Dumbsmack Day program	Catholic Chapel weddings
"Michigan Lads at West Point" article	'58 wrist watch
Welcome Letter – Gen Irving	Roll call memorial service May 2008
'58 License plate	Plebe B-robe
Quill (signed by Alexander Haig)	Class newsletter
Bugle Notes	Class summer trip to Maxwell AQFB
1958 Locator	Brass FD button
Jerry Capelle tribute	Class '58-08 coin
Salute to '58 "Fallen 13"	Classmates notes
Program for Dedication of FCC	"Last night lighter: 1956
4 th Class Christmas Week activities	Congressional nominating letter
Name Tag and Cadet Housewife	50 th Reunion program
Decorated B-robe	Stambaugh cadet nametag
1958 Assembly	Red Reeder's list of favorit baseball players
100 th Night Program "Disapproved"	
Cadet slide rule	2008
Signed copy of "We were Soldiers Once, and Young."	Bugle Note3s
Thank you" letter from LTG (Ret) Moore for	Branch notification
nomination as Distinguished Grad	Army Athletic memories
Silver West Point napkin ring	Graduation Program
Menu of Plebe Christmas dinner	Cadet Field Training SOP
4-star insignia	Ticket 100t Night Show
Music and recording of "Leaders for Our Nation"	Track medal – 1 st place
1957 Army-Navy football program	Class of '08 DVD
Dept of English Style Manual (1954)	Windeglass
White belt, black belt, white gloves insignia	
Section marchers role – 4 th class math	
L'Object D'Igor: Mike Sigurski's check to the	
endowment fund and related papers	
Wash Star report of the first 150-lb A-N game on 26	
Oct 1957	
Golf towels: NY News headline stating that "West	
Point Plebes Start	
with the July 6, 1954 date	
Cadet garter	
'58 patch	
West Point 50 th Reunion Tour Guide	
Air force Wings	
'58 mug	