

Minutes of the Class Business Meeting, October 20, 2015

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Dick Schonberger, at 9:00 AM at the Renaissance Hotel in Austin, Texas. Present were Jack Bradshaw, Tony Smith, Tom Claffey, Paul Vanture and classmates and families attending the “Heart of Texas” mini-reunion.

Mini Reunions: Dick Schonberger opened by thanking Stan Bacon and the Austin Reunion Committee for a job well done in hosting the Class in central Texas. Dick continued to remind of the 2016 mini where Jody LeTowt is putting together another exciting outing to be held October 20-23, in Carmel, California. In order to give everyone a chance to catch their breath before the 60th, there is no mini reunion planned for 2017. The EXCOM will evaluate the will of the Class in deciding whether mini reunions will continue and if so in what form after 2018.

60th Reunion at West Point: Garry Roosma made announcements regarding our 60th Reunion to be held at West Point April 25 – 29, 2018. The entire Hotel Thayer has been reserved for the reunion pending some final negotiations. The hotel has 151 rooms which AOG historical data suggests will be adequate. AOG statistics say that historically 51% of a class is alive at the time of their 60th reunion and that 42% of that number typically attend the reunion. That data suggest there will be 125 – 140 members of ‘58 in attendance come April of 2018. The April date will drastically reduce the congestion that is experienced at reunions during graduation week and has proven successful for the 60th reunion of the Class of 1954. The AOG will be used to address the administrative issues to include our registration when we sign up to attend. The room charge at the Thayer will be \$195 per night – alternative reservations can be made at the Holiday Inn Express in Highland Falls.

New EC members: Tom Claffey and Paul Vanture were unanimously elected to begin five year terms on the EXCOM replacing Paul Ruud and Karl Oelke. It was

announced that candidates for future elections will be identified by soliciting volunteers from the entire class.

Perpetual Endowment Fund: John Nun gave a brief report from the Board of Directors of the Perpetual Endowment Fund. Their annual meeting will be held in the next few weeks and it will produce a detailed financial report. The investment strategy has stayed the same over recent years and although the fund has reflected the economy to some extent, it remains in excellent shape. John Nun and Gerry Mitchell are the classmates on the current board of directors and Fund creator, Ed Weckel, remains a valuable consultant.

Wounded Warriors Mentoring Program: Lee Miller gave a brief report on activities of the Wounded Warriors Mentoring Program. The reach of the program that began in 2004 includes the wounded, the ill and injured and widows. Lee reported that John Herron, Pete Brintnall and Tony Nadal remain active classmates in the northern Virginia area.

Code of Support Foundation: Alan Salisbury gave a report on the Code of Support Foundation that he founded. Its goal is to encourage the 99% of the population who don't need support to help the 1% who do. They provide essential and critical one-on-one assistance to struggling service members, veterans and their families. Alan encouraged everyone to become aware of the programs and to support the foundation.

Class Flag: Palmer McGrew announced that the Class has four class flags so that one will be available for funerals whenever it is requested. The critical action is to get the request to him as soon as possible. The process – when there is a death, survivors report the death to the AOG who in turn informs Jack Downing who passes the request off to Palmer. The flag would then be sent to a classmate who would be attending the service. This classmate would then take the flag to the service and return it to Palmer upon completion.

White Paper: The subject of the recent “white paper” sent out to all classmates was discussed. You recall it explained two separate, but possibly related situations. First there currently is an expectation by the AOG that classes bring a

gift to West Point when they come to their 60th reunion. Secondly, many details regarding the current reconstruction of the old Ordnance compound building that houses the First Class Club were provided. Jack Bradshaw briefed on the recent history and gift expectation at 60 year reunions followed by Tony Smith briefing the details of the FCC reconstruction. Tony explained that building reconstruction expenses will be paid by appropriated funds but the furnishings will be the financial responsibilities of our Class. The details briefed are contained in the recent white paper. The inputs by classmates who spoke at the meeting enthusiastically supported continued financial support for the First Class Club and designation of that contribution as our 60th Reunion gift. The timing of completion of the construction and furnishing of the new FCC should be roughly in sync with our April of 2018 reunion. The Class of 1983 is willing to participate in the fund raising and the continued oversight of the FCC. The willingness of 1983 to become involved received support from those who spoke at the meeting, but only if the Class of 1958's founding and long term support continues to be acknowledged and recognized. The outcome of the discussion at the meeting will be used as guidance for the EXCOM to prepare a survey that will be sent to all classmates. The future actions by the EXCOM on these issues will then be guided by the desires of the class as reflected in the aforementioned survey. When the time comes to make a donation for our continuation of FCC support, send your check to the AOG identifying it for the Class of 1958 Gift Fund.