

EXCOM March 23 Final

Minutes, USMA '58 EXCOM, March 23, 2021

The EXCOM met virtually via telecom. Present were Jack Bradshaw (President), Andy Andreson (Chairman), Lee Miller, Mike Mahler, Terry Connell, Bob Hayden, Mike Daley. Jack Downing; and Audrey Webb, Betsy Hall, and Margie Downing represented the Widows Support Group. Garry Roosma attended to review the status of our 65th reunion.

65th Reunion (Garry Roosma) Garry said AOG statistics indicate that on average at our age, 46% of a class are living. Of those, on average, 27 percent attend their 65th reunion. Given that there are 300 of our class still living, we should plan that about 71 classmates will attend the reunion.

Garry indicated that the AOG has in the past charged 12% fee for support. They are thinking about going to a flat fee. Their decision should be fixed by mid-April. Either way, Garry said that the support we receive is well worth it. The service is reasonable.

The Thayer is not in consideration as our hotel destination. Two reasons stand out: (1) excessive cost, and (2) unsuited to support physical disabilities. Poor service was another concern. No functions are planned for the Thayer. Two Marriott hotels are candidates.

The dates for the reunion are Saturday, May 27 to Wednesday, May 31 2023

Financial Report (Lee Miller) Lee reported that the Admin fund had decreased \$900 to \$86,396 by virtue of routine expenditures (death honorarium, reprinting the Grip Hands booklet, etc.) The Gift Fund increased in value from \$115,309 to \$123,340, the increase stemming from AOG investment of the gift monies.

There was a discussion of whether to provide the customary \$100 (or flowers) in the event of the death of a former classmate. [In the 50-year book, there were 25 former classmates with substantial write-ups – indicative of more than passing interest in the class. Of those, six are deceased, so there is the potential of honoring 19 former classmates.] The discussion settled on making a determination on a case-by-case basis, with the company CCQ taking the lead.

This led to a discussion of the Admin Fund's ability to cover such costs. Given that there are 300 of the class living, there is the potential demand of \$30,000 for the honorarium. Recognizing former classmates could increase the demand by \$1,900 which seems acceptable. A major consideration is husbanding sufficient funds to cover future financial needs of the Perpetual Endowment Committee. It seems likely that when the EXCOM is dissolved that there could be approximately \$50-thousand left to turn over to the Perpetual Endowment Fund governing body.

The question was raised if for some reason we were to consume all of the Admin fund — could we then draw on the Gift Fund? George Lawton responded that the answer is “no”. The gift fund consists of charitable gifts. Once donated they cannot be recharacterized.

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Mini-Reunion. (Jack Bradshaw/Andy Andreson). Jack expressed the view that we should proceed to plan on a mini in New Orleans this year. Waiting until 2022 is not an option, as the EXCOM preciously decided not to have a mini in the year preceding a major reunion. The discussion supported proceeding with planning on a mini in New Orleans

60+Ten Paper (Frank Waskowicz) Discussion was postponed to a later meeting.

Memorial Articles (Bob Hayden) Bob said we are doing well. He said there will be 15 memorial articles on classmates in TAPS this year.

Grip Hands (Mike Mahler). Mike discussed the issues of dealing with death, and the need to plan ahead with one's relatives so that they can handle the many issues that arise. He challenged the EXCOM members if they knew where to find their DD Form 214 – an important document to validate Veteran benefits such as burial in a national cemetery. Do relatives know where to find things? Mike spoke highly of the widow's booklet "Grip Hands" and felt it provided a useful blueprint in preparing one's relatives for the eventuality of death.

But he said he had difficulty finding the document on our class web site, and suggested we simplify access to it. Frank said he would talk to Pete Trainor about this. He also committed to sending a copy of "Grip Hands" to each classmate.

Widows Outreach Team (Audrey Webb). Audrey said that most recently she had contacted Karin Lyon. Throughout the recent period, the widows group reached out to the wives or family of the following deceased classmates/spouses: Harry Hubbard, Robert McCann, Bill Gillette, Bruce Packard, Stanley Snipes, Paula Johnson, and Gale Robertson.

Class Notes (Frank Waskowicz for Pete Penczer) Pete was unable to attend the meeting, but wanted the issue of using eMail for distribution of the class notes to be discussed. Specifically, he wanted to know if there is any reaction to e-mailing the notes as done the most recent time. The reaction of the EXCOM was strong approval of continuing to use email to distribute Class Notes – in addition to posting them on the class web site.

Class Grandchildren (Jack Downing) Jack said there has yet to be a determination by the Superintendent regarding rules for graduation. Jack plans to be at West Point to make presentation to the four grandchildren graduating this year if in-person events are allowed. The four grandchildren are: Justic McKenrick (Hruby), Petr Echevarria (Bahnsen), Weston Graves (Dick Graves) and Greg Coffee (Ray Coffee).

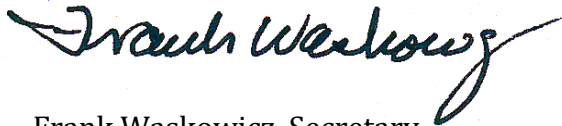
We have one grandchild graduating in 2023: Alicyn Crete (bob Grete), and another graduating in 2024: Lee Charles Cooper (Terry Connell).

Memorial Day Our custom has been to gather at the Vietnam Memorial on the Sunday prior to the Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend to remember our fallen classmates. The event was normally managed by George Sibert, whose condition, sadly, has not improved. There is uncertainty regarding lunch at the ANCC. The Chair will advise the class about

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what our plan for that day will be. Items to consider are flowers and memorial booklets, in addition to brunch possibilities.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank Waskowicz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping tail on the "z".

Frank Waskowicz, Secretary