

Class of 1958 Newsletter Spring 2008

Letter from the Executive Committee Chairman (Palmer McGrew)

“ I'm just back from a very successful Class of '58 ski trip to Park City where a bunch of classmates worked together to make it a special time for everyone. I am reminded of how many do so much for this amazing class. We probably don't say "thank you" often enough. I am also reminded of many classmates who, for whatever reason, don't participate in the many and varied class activities available. We miss them and wish they were showing up. If you are one, you should get involved.

Thanks to all who contribute their efforts and an invitation to those who are not involved. Y'all come.

Grip Hands,

Palmer “

TAPS:

1. Deaths reported since the Fall 2007 Newsletter:
 - a. Bill O. Mackey, (Ex-'58), died 21 Jul 2005
 - b. Sylvia Degen, 15 Sep 2007
 - c. Frank M. Brown, III, died 14 Dec 2007
 - d. Floyd L. Likens, Jr, (Ex-'58), died 16 Dec 2007
 - e. Paul O. Dean, (Ex-'58), died 2 Mar 2008
 - f. Willis A. Smith, Jr, died 3 Feb 2008
 - g. John B. Stone, died 12 Feb
 - h. Barbara Gibbings, died 18 Feb 2008
 - i. Peggy Coleman, Died 14 April 2008

2. Obituaries and Eulogies: The obituaries of the following classmates appeared in the January/ February 2008 issue of the “Taps,” supplement to “Assembly,” magazine:
 - a. Alan B. Clafin
 - b. George E. Ellis
 - c. Hugh P. Finley, Jr.
 - d. Leslie G. Gibbings
 - e. Richard D. Osborn
 - f. Charles W. Profilet
 - g. Donald J. Roberts
 - h. I. Warren RubelThe following obituaries appeared in the May/June issue of “Taps:”
 - i. Ronald T. Coleman
 - j. Michael F. Easley
 - k. John J. Madigan III

The following is the link to our class Eulogy page which John Raymond (CINC Obit) suggests we all put in our “Favorites” file for ready reference:

<http://defender.westpoint.org/service/eulogy/1,1123.usma1958,00.html>.

Note: Class Flag: When it is learned that a classmate has died, the EXCOM attempts to contact a classmate likely to attend the funeral to ask that he receive and deploy the class flag on behalf of us all. The flag, less the flag staff, is sent by overnight mail. We have had great success getting the flag to these events, provided we get timely notification. The response of the families of our departed classmates to the presence of our class flag at ceremonies and funerals has been overwhelmingly positive and grateful. This is a great symbolic reaching out of the class to our grieving friends and deserves the support of all. Sincere thanks to all who have performed this important duty for the class.

Class Organization: The essential elements of Class Organization can be found in the Fall 2007 Newsletter. The only change is that John Raymond was elected at the April Class Luncheon to replace Jack Downing as Secretary of the EXCOM. An updated Organization Enclosure will be included in the next Newsletter.

Calendar of Upcoming Events: This calendar (Enclosure #1) is based largely upon the Social Events List of the Washington DC Area put together by Joe Luman. It is provided with the hope that those of you living outside the DC Area might coordinate a visit to the Nation's Capitol with a Class of '58 gathering of one sort or another. The calendar also includes activities taking place elsewhere. If you are planning some type of activity involving a gathering of classmates and want to open it to the rest of the Class, let us (ExCom) know and we will add the event to this list.

Reunions and Minis

- 2008 – May -- Our 50th at West Point – Gary Roosma is OIC
 - 2009 – Art Meyer is exploring a Mini in Tucson/Phoenix, AZ
 - 2010 – Rich Clements is exploring a Mini in Denver, CO.
 - 2011 – Wide open although there are rumors of Hawaii
- (Note: There is a rumor of an Orlando Reunion shaping up. Stay tuned)

50th Reunion : “SIR! There are twelve days until the Alumni Review on the Plain at our 50th reunion!!! “ **The Uniform is: White Hats, Grey Trou and Blue Blazers!** Everyone needs to take the time to give Garry Roosma a pat on the back for all of his hard and exacting work pulling this whole thing together. He has been rehearsing for this for many years. His next question is – “Who is going to step forward and coordinate our 55th reunion?” -- just kidding.

Wounded Warrior Mentor Program: As mentioned frequently by George Sibert in the “Assembly” class column, Lee Miller, Bob Tredway, John Herren and many other classmates have done an outstanding job of creating and building a highly successful nationwide program for linking our Wounded Warriors up with mentors who can assist them in transitioning into their new lives after rehabilitation from their wounds. The organization continues to need volunteers throughout the country to assist with the program when the Wounded Warriors return to their home communities. '58 truly is Great!

Lee Miller Honored by West Point Society of DC: At the West Point Founders Day in the DC Area on March 15th, our own Lee Miller was honored by the West Point Society of Washington DC for his extraordinary service to the Wounded Warriors of this Nation in developing and supervising the development of the highly effective Mentoring program for our Wounded Warriors to assist them in progressing through the military and VA educational programs into their new lives. Way to go Lee!

Class Grandsons: With no grandchildren graduating with the class of 2008, we still have in the Corps: Robert Grete '09, (Bob Grete M-2); Charles Maliska'10, (Tom Maliska, E2); Tom Moentmann '10 (son Jim Moentmann George '81 and grandson of Bud, C1); Colin Graves'11, (Dick Graves M-1); and Brandon Bauchspies Lawrence '11 (Dick Bauchspies, F-1). Grip hands, you sons of tomorrow!

Mentoring Class of 2008: Our mentoring role with the Class of 2008, which kicked off with the Marchback from their Plebe Hike in August 2004, will pass the last Cadet milestone as four of our classmates, Mike Dugan, Butch Saint, Jack Bradshaw, and Tom Morgan present the gold bars of a Second Lieutenant, suitably engraved, to each graduate as they come off the dais with their diplomas at graduation.

Perpetual Endowment Fund (PEF) – As of May 6, 2008, contributions have been made by 501 classmates (or on their behalf). A total of \$430,352 has been contributed to the Endowment which has grown to \$644,050 under the caring hands of our Endowment Board. A detailed report is at Enclosure #2

Prostate Cancer Support Group (PCSG) The class Prostate Cancer Support Group currently comprises 144 members with 44 (PC) Badgers. Emphasis is on prevention, control and support. 44 members have been diagnosed with PC and stand ready to assist newly diagnosed classmates. To participate, contact Stan Bacon at <sbacon58@sbcglobal.net>. Or if you become diagnosed with PC, contact Stan in confidence and receive a copy of our Treatment Selection Table showing classmates, their diagnoses and treatments selected, so as to assist you in consulting with individuals of your choice to help in making the tough decisions. – Stan Bacon

Ski-Mini, Park City, Utah: The annual class ski outing for 2008 was held in Park City Utah, February 24 - 28. Treasure Mountain Inn served as our hotel, with Bob (Munge) Moore as chief coordinator.

Communications Resources:

- a. Assembly – “The magazine of Historical Record for USMA Graduates.” – George Sibert is our Scribe and he does a tremendous job providing the running Historical Record of our class. It isn't all that expensive, so get with it. Join the AOG and subscribe to ASSEMBLY!
- b. Class E-mail Net & Forum – Moderator, Dick Buckalew, who also keeps the class E-Mail Roster updated. Changes go to Dick. In addition to the spirited and informative exchanges on the forum, the E-mail network is also used by our Class Representatives to the Association of Graduates and West Point, currently Alan Salisbury and Tony Smith, to report on briefings and other activities at West Point.
- c. Class Web Site – Our Web Site includes a number of handy links and pages reporting on such recurring items of interest as Skiing, Golf, Prostate Health, Obituaries, Class History, and recent Newsletters and Articles from George Sibert's “Assembly” Column. Webmaster is Pete Trainor.
- d. AOG Website – The AOG recently announced a new and enhanced website. Each class has a dedicated page and we are in the process of evaluating how this will fit in to our communications scheme. “...the West Point Association of Graduates (WPAOG) new web site is operational and ready for your visit! Find us online at www.westpointaog.org. Log in with your Cullum number and password as you did with the old site..”
- e. CCQ's – The CCQ Roster is maintained by Dale Hruby.
- f. Snail Mail roster -- George Lawton, the tracer of lost classmates keeps tab on home addresses and phone numbers. Send all changes to George and he will coordinate with AOG and John Nun who actually updates the class computer records.
- g. ExCom Meeting Minutes – Produced and distributed via E-mail by John Raymond, Class Secretary. John is also the proctor of our Policies and Procedures and serves the Class as “CINC Obit.”
- h. Class Newsletter – Dale Hruby, Editor. Send him any items of interest or upcoming events and mention that you want it to appear in the next Newsletter.

Enclosures:

- Enclosure 1: Class of 1958 Social Schedule 2007 – Joe Luman
- Enclosure 2: Report on the Perpetual Endowment Fund – John Evans

Enclosure 1: Class of 1958 Social/Activity Schedule for 2008:

National & International events:

50th Class of '58 Reunion May 24-28 -- Westchester Marriott, Terrytown, NY -- Garry Roosma groosma@earthlink.net

50th Anniversary Italy Trip, 15 September – 2 October 2008. Jude Theibert has organized a Class of 1958 50th Anniversary Trip to Italy including the Amalfi Coast and Tuscany. As of the New Orleans Mini, there were still spaces available for members of the class. Contact Jude at jjtheibert@buckeye-express.com, or by phone at (419)625-0618.

D.C. Area OCCASIONS TO EAT:

FOUR Thursday luncheons with members of '58 and guests are held at the Army Navy Country Club (ANCC) beginning at 11:30 -- Joe Luman jcluman1@verizon.net

Following our general pattern, our initial 2008 lunch was held on the first Thursday, Feb 7, the second was with the Class of 1957 at Fort Meyer O Club on Thursday Mar 6, and last month the luncheon was again back at the ANCC including election of Executive Committee Members on April 17th.

The remaining Thursday lunches at the ANCC will be the 17th, of Jul, and Sep 18th.

Other Lunches--

Class Memorial Service at Vietnam Memorial and Brunch at ANCC Arlington, Sunday, 18 May 2008. 10 AM at VN Memorial, Washington, DC and 11:30 AM at ANCC Arlington. Contact George Sibert at gsibert@comcast.net to attend memorial service. POC for lunch is Joe Luman jcluman1@verizon.net.

With USNA 1958 pre-Navy Game on 20 Nov at ANCC at 11:30. POC is Joe Luman, jcluman@comcast.net.

Army-Navy Game Tailgate in Dec 2008 -- TBA

Events at West Point:

Jim Ramsden Chemistry Award Presentation, Thursday, 22 May or Friday, 23 May 2008, USMA, West Point, NY. Jack Downing at ejdowning@cox.net is POC for specific location/time/date information for those planning to attend.

George Walker Debating Award Presentation, Thursday, 22 May 2008, USMA, West Point, NY. Tom Carpenter at tomcarpenter3@earthlink.net is POC for specific time and location information for those planning to attend.

Plebe Hike March Back, Sunday, 10 August through Monday, 11 August 2008, USMA, West Point, NY. Ed Weckel at Weck58@comcast.net is POC to attend.

First Class Club Turnover to Class of 2009, Thursday, 14 or 21 August 2008, USMA, West Point, NY. Tony Smith is POC for specific information for those planning to attend.

**West Point Society of the District of Columbia
and the National Capital Region:**

Black Gold Gray Golf Tournament
Andrews Air Force Base,
Shotgun start - 2:00 pm, May22, 2008

Spring Luncheon
Program to be announced
Fort Myer Officers' Club
11:30 am, Wednesday, May 21st, 2008

Fall Luncheon
Program to be announced
Fort Myer Officers' Club
11:30 am, Wednesday, September 17th, 2008

Army-Navy Luncheon / Football Rally
Army-Navy Country Club
11:00am, Wednesday, December 3rd, 2008

Other Events of Note and Interest:

Malone Award: (May 3 or 10, 2008) Annual presentation of the Malone Award to the most outstanding "Cadet Ranger," in the graduating Georgetown University ROTC unit at the annual military ball at Ft. Meyer Officer's Club.

Jerry Capelle USMA Prep School Award, Thursday, 15 May 2008 at the USMA Prep School, Fort Monmouth, NJ. Contact Bill Serchak at < wserchak@comcast.net > for specific additional information to attend.

Enclosure 2: Report on the Perpetual Endowment Fund:

Fellow Classmates and Friends.

I am taking this opportunity to update our class on the Perpetual Endowment Fund, as time will be limited at the 50th Reunion for an in person presentation at the business meeting.

Exactly ten years ago, at our 40th Reunion, there was a presentation of a concept for a Perpetual Endowment -- an endowment which would outlive and honor our Class -- while providing significant support to the United States Military Academy. You might remember that there was a lively discussion. A few of you expressed your views. Church Hutton gave an impassioned argument as to why this proposal merited the full support of the class. He used the snowball analogy -- that our funds would grow like a snowball rolling down a snowy hill. His argument sealed the support of the class.

George Lawton, then Chairman of our Executive Committee, asked for a class vote. The class Endowment was born on that day.

The Class Perpetual Endowment is a unique gift befitting the Great class of 1958. Why?

- It is one of a kind. No other class has such an endowment.
- It is designed to outlive our class.
- It is managed by our classmates and graduated descendants -- not by the AOG.

Four 58ers drafted the bylaws for the endowment -- Church Hutton, Lee Miller, Chuck Hansult and Ed Weckel. Afterwards, the bylaws were approved by a class vote and jointly signed by the Chairman of the EXCOM and the Endowment Board.

The Endowment Board was originally made up of four classmates -- Church Hutton, Lee Miller, Pete Brintnall and Ed Weckel. In addition, there was one descendant member -- Meg Roosma, the First Captain from the class of 1998 -- Patrick Connelly, and a recent grad from the Academy currently serving at West Point. It was recognized at the outset that the Board had to represent the Class, while at the same time gradually shift its power to our descendants.

As to the first point, there has been a natural turnover of power from original board members. Hutton, Brintnall and Miller have been replaced by John Evans, Bob Rhodes and John Nun. Weckel is serving the last year of his term and will be replaced in October by a member elected by the class. The Board has had three Chairmen -- Weckel, Brintnall and Evans - - each of whom has placed his individual stamp on the Board.

As to the second point, - - gradually shifting power to our descendants. Meg Roosma will shortly become the Treasurer. A second descendant member position was recently added to the Board, and Dale Hruby's son, Dale II, has assumed this position. Dale II has been charged with maintaining contact with our descendant children and grandchildren so they can step into our shoes in a few years.

Lastly, Patrick Connelly, First Captain of '98 will be replaced by the First Captain from the class of 2008 (Jason Crabtree), when he graduates. Patrick will remain an emeritus member of the Board, as will all future First Captain Board members.

No report would be complete without a funding overview.

First off -- our goal:

The Class Executive Committee established an initial goal of \$580,000 by June 2008 during their October 2001 meeting. This was suggested by George Sibert and approved by the EXCOM. In addition, a goal of 100 percent participation was suggested.

Currently, 501 members have contributed to the Endowment. This figure includes donations made by classmates and spouses in memory of deceased members of the class. Donations range from \$7.00 to over \$100,000. Thus far, the amount contributed is \$430,352. Our endowment is worth \$644,050 as of May 6, 2008. We are currently 20 percent invested in foreign market mutual funds and the remainder between large cap and small cap mutual funds managed by Fidelity Investments.

The last item I want to address is legacy gifts. The next time you rewrite your Will or Trust, why not consider leaving a gift to the rolling snowball as it gains size in the future. Thus far, we are aware of over \$70,000 in legacy donations earmarked for the Endowment. If you are interested in a legacy gift, the following wording can be used:

"I bequest \$X0,000(or Y shares of stock, etc.) of my residual estate to the Fidelity Investment Charitable Gift Fund, to be added to the USMA Class of 1958 Perpetual Endowment, account number CGF 51034, attention: Contributions Dept, PO Box 770001, Cincinnati, OH 45277."

In conclusion, Lee Miller will announce the results of the "Banker's Trophy" contest at the 50th Reunion Class Business meeting.

John G. Evans
Chairman

