

Capelle Trophy 2020

7/31/2020

YouTube Live “at home”

From Lansdale, PA, **Hugh and Ann Trumbull wrote**, “This year some of us got to watch the presentation of “The Capelle” from the comfort of home. Thanks to YouTube Live and an invitation from **MAJ Josh Wolf’08, Deputy Commandant**, we were able to watch the noontime Awards Ceremony as it happened on Saturday, July 11th. This year Charlie Company took the honor. Alpha had won several years in a row and it was about time for a change. Ann and I were on duty at the screening desk where we live and watched the entire Ceremony on Ann’s iPad. It was done with Military efficiency, social distancing and masks. Great to see those wonderful young people headed for the Long Grey Line!!!”

Class Grandson

7/31/2020



Jack Downing sent me a note from **Dick and Bibs Reynard** telling about their grandson, **Captain Peter Basnight '16**. He and his wife, **Natalie** (also '16); whose parents are both USMA grads, '81 & '82) are Black Hawk pilots in the 25th Aviation Brigade, Wheeler Field, Oahu, HI. Both have recently moved from being Black Hawk platoon leaders to their respective battalion's headquarters as assistant S-3's. They have been busy leading and training while providing air assault and mobility to supported elements of the 25th Infantry Division throughout Hawaii and occasionally beyond. They live along the North Shore near where Bibs and Dick lived when

Peter's mother was born. Natalie and Peter are scheduled to depart Hawaii early next year to attend the Aviation Captains Career Course at Fort Rucker, AL”

Photo: Peter and Natalie Basnight (both '16)

More on Virtual March Back

7/31/2020

It's been confirmed that **Wally Ward** will, once again, be the oldest grad participating in the March Back. It may be virtual, but Wally really has to go out and walk the distance the day of the March Back, so it isn't entirely Virtual. From West Point came, “**CPT Natalia Drew '15** is our youngest Graduate. As such, our

guidon will have 1958 and 2015 on it. Since we are doing a virtual march this year, we will ask USCC to carry the guidon for the last two miles of the march.”

From Arlington, VA

7/31/2020

I've been wondering how everyone is faring during these pandemic times. I heard from **Frank and Linda Waskowicz** about how it's going for them: “The pandemic has not been too difficult for Linda and me, compared to others. I know of too many people that are caged in apartments with virtually no opportunity to be outside. We'd be enjoying our house and garden much more were it not for the oppressive heat over the past two weeks here in the Washington area. Even so, I try to walk a mile each day.



I've taken up building an N-gauge model railroad, which is fun. I'm modeling it on German railroads of the 1950's which I rode on when a teen-ager. That and maintaining the parish newsletter manage to keep me busy. And there is the occasional task for the class executive committee as Secretary.

In July we drove to the White Mountains in New Hampshire where our younger son, Bruce, held a family gathering with their children in a cabin. Everyone had quarantined beforehand. Bruce is a doctor, so we were well attended to. It was delightful. A large porch where we enjoyed mountain views during the day and wonderful happy hours in the evening. The younger folks were a bit more active than us, climbing Mount Washington. In fact, my younger son, Bruce, and his older son, Eric, completed a nineteen-year commitment to climb every mountain in the White Mountains higher than 4,000 feet. There are 49 such mountains. In our afternoon games, Linda proved herself a champion in Corn Hole.

Returning home, we had a delightful lunch with **Lenny and Carol McCormack** in Andover, MA — eating outside and socially distant from others. My old roommate looks good — as does Carol. It was fun being with them.

Then we drove further south to Marion, MA to visit with the former rector of our church. There's a great seafood restaurant we've been to before (Tucks), but only takeout was available. So, we did that and had a nice time sharing stories on his screen-in porch.

As is true of all of us, Linda and I are nursing a number of ailments.

The picture is one of Linda and me in the cabin playing some game.”

From Land O'Lakes, Wisconsin

7/31/2020



We saw how the summer looks for **Bill and Ann Shely** there in Land O'Lakes. The clamor became, “What does it look like in January?”

Here are “a family cocktail party - with toys in the background and the drive into our cabin after a snow fall. Last winter we had 4 feet of snow lasting from late November to early March! Our cottage is year-round.”



From Covington, Georgia

7/31/2020

I heard from **Bill Clary**. I see he also lives in a very nice-looking area, a small town in north Georgia, in a home backing up on a lake. Bill wrote: “Well it’s been a long time since an update. I retired from ASA (the Delta connection) in 1996 and went to work for 8 years in two different Lockheed JetStar corporate jobs in



Atlanta and Houston, then when things turned South in 2009 went back to Flight Safety Int'l in their Atlanta location teaching the JetStar then later the Embraer Brasilia, a 30 passenger turboprop now used mostly for cargo around the world. But Aviation was no place to be when the pandemic hit, and our business tanked, and the Brasilia was particularly hard hit because much of our business was international and clients cannot leave their countries to come to training, so I and many others were put on a 90 day furlough and now unfortunately, but predictably, are being released on July 31st! So, for the first time I join the ranks of

the unemployed! Coincidentally I got my German Translator Certification from GSU earlier this year, so I may try to shift into that or even teach German at the Emory Campus at Oxford which is only 5 miles away... I haven't been to a large reunion since I believe San Antonio, but I hosted our annual ski Mini a few years ago in Montana and have been a pretty regular attendee at all the annual events. Also joined **Bill Gillette** in Austria for his annual ski pilgrimage 3 or so years ago. Our group has gotten understandably small and **Karl Oelke** has taken the CINC Ski title from **Palmer McGrew**, but it is still ongoing and I hope to be there next Feb in Colorado...I live alone in a large lodge like house on a lake as you surmised about 50 miles East of Atlanta and 100 miles West of Augusta, and all visitors are very welcome!"



I asked Bill particularly about the route he took to becoming a certified German Translator and also how he came to be a Flight Safety instructor for commercial pilots. It was quite fascinating. He was tagged to teach German at West Point, not his language there, during his career, sending him to U. Mainz and Middlebury. The translator specialty took five years of part-time classes at GSU, He gradually turned a hobby flying airplanes while in the Army into getting a commercial pilot's license and finally teaching safety to pilots. Even though there in Georgia now, he apparently uses German much of the time with friends and in e-mail correspondence.

From Carmel, California

7/31/2020

For a long time, **Frank Waskowicz** had a hobby of making his own toy lead soldiers from scratch. One of his creations was a set of soldiers, cadets, the First Platoon of Company C-2 our First year.



Paul Ciasullo was the platoon leader. Notably, we had our Mini Reunion for our 58th year in Carmel, California, at the Cypress Inn, hosted by **Jody LeTowt**. We all had a wonderful time there.

After the Mini, Frank made a gift of the platoon to the Cypress Inn where it is on display in the lobby area, the centerpiece of their toy lead soldier collection.



More from Carmel

7/31/2020



I asked **Jody LeTowt** about helicopter skiing this year. He's done it every year for a long time. Jody wrote, "I had planned to go for a short week in early April to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Mike Wiegele Heli-ski Resort (visit Mike Wiegele Heli Ski on the web). But the pandemic hit British Columbia in early March, 2020 and they were forced to cancel the remainder of their season.

I will probably never go again. The 3 to 4 month

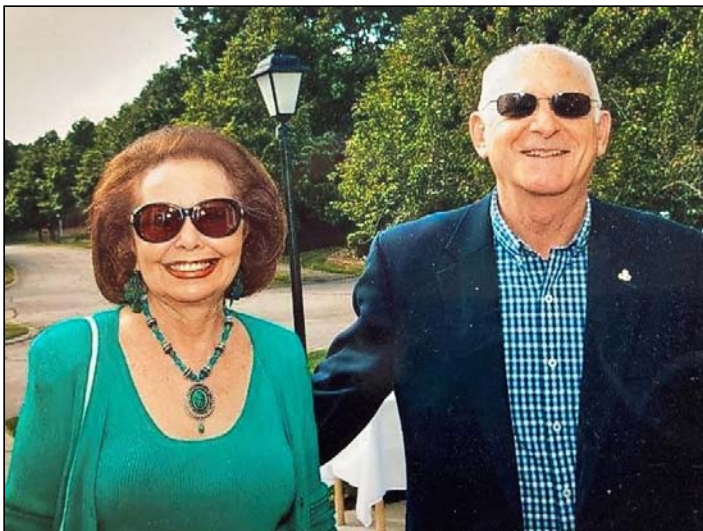
strenuous advanced training required just to survive one week of extreme skiing beats up my body too much. But no loss...I, along with my lifelong ski buddies, have done most of what a human can do in the way of wild

wilderness skiing, including a few shots in Warren Miller ski movies. The pictures show Jody with his "Figure eights" championship partner, roommate, and Lear jet pilot, Bob Buck and also with his son, Jeff.



From Foxboro, Massachusetts

7/31/2020



Paul and Evelyn Ciasullo just returned to Foxboro from Naples, Florida, where they had spent the winter.

I had told Paul about the toy lead soldiers **Frank Waskowicz** had created and donated to the Cypress Inn in Carmel following the Mini Reunion there. Frank remembers Paul as having been Platoon Leader of the First Platoon, C-2, his model.

Paul wrote, "Of course I have no problem being identified as a lead soldier- I recall many times being told to "get the lead out". Had no idea that Frank had immortalized me...if it is indeed me. I do recall that somewhere in the maze of boxes in my storage room there is a glossy black & white 8x16 photo of me leading a platoon in a pass in review on the plain...could Frank have used that photo as his model? I just recall that we all looked alike in full dress over white on parade.

Evelyn and I got back from Florida on June 8th, and were never so happy to arrive home, having felt like hostages to the virus for 3 months, and then our first flight was cancelled and we had to wait another two weeks to get a non-stop to Boston. We are not planning to return this fall/winter to Florida, and until there is a vaccine that is proven effective will probably not return at all.

After 5 winters in Florida for 5-6 months I had finally gotten around to joining the West Point Society of Naples - met some very fine people whom we socialized with for the past two years (class of 55) and we'll miss them if we don't return."

From Northern Wisconsin

7/17/2020

Bill and Ann Shely decided to take a short vacation in northern Wisconsin, a break from their home in northern Illinois, not far from Chicago, and ended up having a great time, extending their stay.



Here they are on a boat on the lake. As Bill said, "We are fortunate to have good health and are trying hard to stay active." It looks as though they've figured out how to do that. He sent along a typical sunset picture so we can see why they like it there.

From Lafayette, Colorado

7/17/2020

I just heard from **Dave and Val Turner**. They are in Lafayette, Colorado, now but used to live right near me here in Fairfield, CT.

Dave wrote that in 2004, he and Val were doing volunteer relief work in Florida after hurricanes Charley and Francis. Dave was driving an Emergency Response Vehicle down a street in Coco, Florida, when he saw a man working in his front yard. Dave stopped to ask the man if he needed anything. The man came over to the ERV and then said, "Hey, I know you!". The man was **Tom Conti**.



Look at the great smiles!

Photo: Tom Conti and Dave Turner

Class Grandchildren

7/17/2020



As you may notice, **Jack Downing** has been contacting classmates who have grandchildren who have graduated from West Point. He's asking them for a paragraph about what the grandchild has been doing since graduation and for a picture. So far we've had **Mike Daley's** and **Joe Shea's** granddaughters and **Paul Bons** grandson.

We've now gotten two new ones to share with you.

This time we have **Richard and Barbara Bauchspies'** grandson. Barbara wrote about how proud she is of their grandson, Brandon, and rightly so.

"After graduation, **Brandon Lawrence'11** was commissioned into the Army Corps of Engineers. He attended his initial training at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO then served as a Platoon Leader and Company Executive Officer in the 62nd Sapper Company, 4th Engineer Battalion, 555th Engineer Brigade at Ft. Carson, CO. While there, he deployed to Afghanistan for nine months as a Platoon Leader in support of OEF. Later, he attended the Engineer Captains Career Course at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO. Following the career course, he served as the Battalion S4 for 9th Brigade Engineer Battalion, 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, GA. He later served as the 3 ID Commanding General's Speechwriter before taking command of A Company, 9th Brigade Engineer Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division. Following command, he served as a project engineer for the US Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District.

He is currently pursuing a M.S. in Industrial Engineering at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC. After graduation, he will serve as an instructor in the Department of Systems Engineering at West Point."

Photo Left: Brandon and Eryn Lawrence and Grayson

Jack Fagerland'17 is grandson of **Ron and Sharon Olson**. **Jack Downing** contacted him through his mother, Kecia Fagerland.

He wrote back "It's great to hear from you. I attended your 50 year reunion in 2008 and it absolutely cemented my desire to go to West Point.

Ron and Sharon had three daughters, Kristi (who sadly passed away last November after a 20 year fight with Multiple Myeloma), Laura (who was born while Ron and Sharon were on Okinawa), and Kecia (my mother). Laura and Kecia live in Minot, ND. To my knowledge, my mom still receives newsletters from Mr. Paul Ruud for the D-2 old grads and their families.



As for a little about me, I branched Armor and attended BOLC and the Army Reconnaissance Course at Fort Benning, GA. I was assigned to 1-75 CAV in 2BCT, 101st ABN at Fort Campbell, KY, where I served as a Platoon Leader and Executive Officer. During my time at Fort Campbell, I was fortunate to attend and graduate from Air Assault and Pathfinder. I was promoted to Captain on 01

May 2020, and am about to begin Maneuver Captains Career Course at Fort Benning. Following that, I hope to return to an Infantry Brigade Combat Team to take command in a Cav Squadron. I am very passionate about the Reconnaissance and Security mission set, especially in light cavalry organizations.”

Photo Right: Jack Fagerland with his mother, Kecia

Class Awards

7/17/2020

The Class is now sponsoring four awards in memory of classmates, three to graduates and one to the Prep School Company that wins the annual intramural competition.

Jack Downing presented the Ramsden Award, for excellence in Chemistry in memory of **Jim Ramsden**, this year – and he has also presented the award in numerous past years.

The Capelle Award is now endowed thanks to Class donations. It is presented each year (along with a pizza party) to the prep school company that wins the annual intramural competition. The award is in memory of **Gerry Capelle** who died in Viet Nam. **Hugh Trumbull** has represented the Class many times in the award ceremony.

The Walker Award has on occasion been awarded by a classmate but is usually awarded by the head of the Social Science Department. It is given in memory of **George Walker** for excellence at debating.

The Brigadier General Anthony A. Smith Award for Excellence in Foreign Studies was endowed by the Olmsted Foundation in September 2009. It is presented by the Department of Foreign Languages at a gathering of Cadets, probably in conjunction with the presentation of other graduation awards. **Tony Smith** made the presentation himself until his health interfered and now one of his sons does so.

The Virtual March Back

7/17/2020

Ed Weckel, Wally Ward, and Will Collett will take part in this year's plebe march back from Buckner, as they have for many years. I asked Ed Weckel to tell me what a Virtual March Back is. Here's the explanation.

"Re the VMB. First off, one must officially register for around \$110 bucks. For this we get an official MB shirt, hat, name lanyard and button honoring the Class of 2024. This is about half the cost if the MB were held at WP. To complete the VMB, we must walk a least 2 miles (comparable to the shorter version from the ski slope to the Supe's House), or 9 miles (comparable from Buckner to the ski slope – the longer version). This must be accomplished during the weekend of the plebe MB. The actual MB will be 11 August. Those of us who want to keep our "records" intact, need to participate. This will be Wards and my 21st, Collett's 20th MB. I would guess that there are about 10 – 15 grads who have made all 20 MBs thus far, and to keep their record going, need to participate in the VMB. Crazy? Perhaps so, but we find it fun, enjoy the camaraderie, and by talking to the cadets, keep up with the latest news."

The May Class Notes submission included a picture of our three march backers completing last year's March Back.

Memoirs

7/17/2020

Some classmates have written, or are writing, their memoirs, usually, apparently, about some event or time in their lives. Generally those will be too long to include directly in Class Notes, but, since this is all now being done with electronic versions and is on the web, a web site address can be provided to send readers to a separately maintained web site where the memoir is posted.

Chuck Cabell has written about his experience traveling to West Point and first arriving there. <https://www.thespiana.com/p/entering-west-point.html> is where Chuck has posted it. I think that the link will survive the process we have for going all the way to our class web site. You'll see more of what Chuck is involved in.

I've been told of one other nearing completion.

From Santa Fe

7/17/2020

Since my last stint as Class Scribe, **Tom Claffey** has published two new books, *Morgan Bluestone* in 2017 and *Midnight* in 2018. They are both available through Amazon. Tom has nine books listed there on Amazon. The last one I had called attention to was in my 2016 Class Notes, *103rd Meridian*, a novel based in a real life surveying error that has placed the border between New Mexico and Texas well into what should have been New Mexico, putting two or three towns there in Texas.

Ramsden Award, 2020

7/2/2020



The attached photo is of the 2020 BG Ramsden Award winner in Chemistry, **Matthew DiBiase'20**. 2LT Matt DiBiase graduated with honors and was also awarded the Excellence in Chemical Engineering award as the top graduating major in Chemical Engineering. Matt also earned a Goldwater Scholarship. "The award was presented by **Jack Downing**."

This will give you an idea of what he's been doing:

Co-Authored Conference Proceedings and Publications 1. Army Research Lab (ARL) Technical Symposium "Catalysts for fuel cell electronics". (Poster) 2. 1st Place Catalysts and Reaction Engineering, Presentation: "Nickel catalysts and graphene for lithium ion batteries". American Institute of Chemical Engineering Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL, 10-15 NOV19. 2. Manuscript in progress, "Electroless deposition of

Noble Metal Nanoparticles onto Silk Fibroin Films", (to be submitted, Spring 2020)

From Colorado Springs

7/2/2020

Chuck Cabell wrote: .," I am also an author of sorts. Of my 19 plays, six have been produced here in Colorado Springs. A bit of cheating, perhaps, since I created a play festival (Thespiana) four years ago with other local playwrights in which to showcase them (see thespiana.com). My other works of literary genius (ahem!) are:

1. A Fresh Look at God: a theology of sorts, reflecting my own journey from Roman Catholic to something else.
2. A Man of Intelligence: my Dad's (WP 1925) memoirs; only edited and published by me.
3. Chordially Yours (with Dale Miller): a book on music theory
4. Continuing the Tradition: my own memoirs
5. Fly Fishing from a Belly Boat (with Bob Carr)
6. Quartermaster General: my great-grandfather's (WP 1850) memoirs from the Civil War; only edited and published by me)

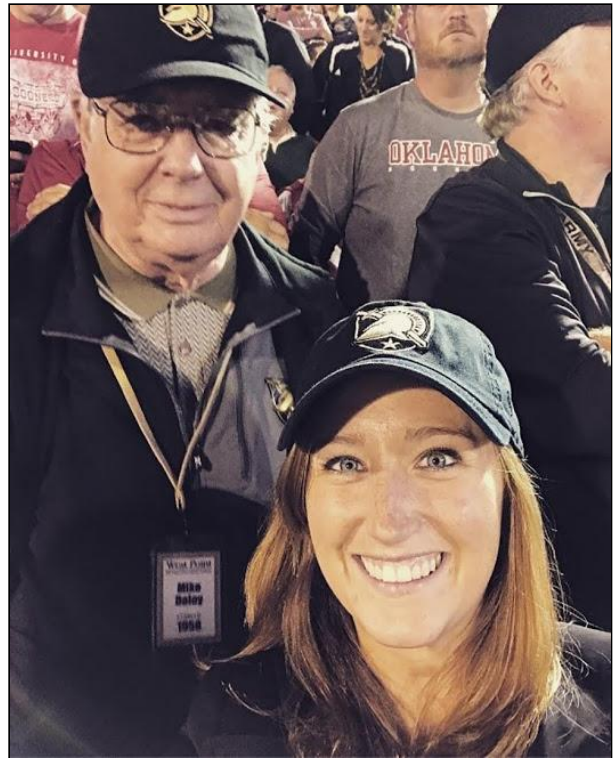
You can find these at my website, impavidepublications.com"

Class granddaughter

7/2/2020

Captain Brianna Burnstad'15, granddaughter of **Mike Daley**, commissioned as a Medical Service Officer upon graduating in 2015. Brianna was first assigned to the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division in Fort Riley, KS. She completed two operational deployments with the Dagger Brigade to the Middle East and Poland. She is now assigned to the 47th Combat Support Hospital at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA. Brianna will be transitioning to the reserves this fall in order to pursue a career in medicine.

Photo: shows Mike Daley with his granddaughter, Brianna Burnstad



From Beast Barracks, 1954

7/2/2020



Beast Barracks Shower Formation. "Sir, New Cadet (**Chuck**) **Cabell** that he has successfully completed his personal hygiene procedures for the day."

Last month's M, T & G picture was pretty much solved by several who must have been there. I can send the solution to anyone liking to get it but it isn't easily reproducible here.

From Williamsburg

7/2/2020

Tony Nadal, **Pete Trainor**, and **Phil Pryor** staying safe by doing a social distance elbow bump after a round of golf in Williamsburg, Va



From Oregon

7/2/2020



Attached is a photograph taken at the Eagle Point Golf Resort, Eagle Point, OR on 18 June 2020 at the Celebration of Life for Wilma Hamilton, wife of Bruce.

Pictured, left to right, are: Betty Harrison, **Bill Harrison Ex 58**, **Bill Shepard**, **Bruce Hamilton**, Harriett Hill, **Orley Hill**, Harriett Connell, and **Terry Connell**.