

From Williamsburg, Virginia

5/27/2022

I just got a note from **Ramon "Tony" Nadal**, who wrote, "I have never sent a class note, so I'll first say that I live in Williamsburg with four other classmates. **Dale Hruby, Ron Bellows, Phil Pryor and Pete Trainor**. Dale, Ron, I, and our spouses live at Patriots Colony, as well as Jan Price, the widow of **Dick Price** who passed last year. Pete and Phil are in Ford's Colony, a nice community where I used to live. Patriots Colony is a nice CCRC that caters to retired military officers and civilian former government employees of equivalent grade. It is an active, friendly place in a good locale with access to both military facilities (Fort Eustis) and educational ones (William and Mary).

My latest activity, which occurred 10 days ago, was an invitation to address officers at FT Benning. I presented two lectures, one on small unit combat leadership and the other on the battle of LZ XRay. The first lecture was to about one hundred Lieutenants graduating from the Infantry Officer Basic Course and the other to an amalgam of about 600 NCOs and Officers ranging from E-5 to the BG that now heads the Infantry School. Both lectures were very well received, and I was re-invited to come back and do it again.

As Gay often says to me, "Whenever you are with soldiers you come home all charged up. That's because you've been with your tribe."

For the past forty years or so I have organized reunions of the soldiers from 1/7 Cavalry that fought at LZ Xray. That has been one of my most important and enjoyable activities. We have truly become a family, as spouses and children attend our meetings and we have gotten to know each other.

Gary Owen!

From St. Augustine Beach, Florida

5/27/2022



I heard from **John and Alice Brinson** about their trip to Greece in April. It sounded great and took them all around the country. I got a wonderful picture of them taken in Greece. They are clearly doing well and enjoying life.

From Virginia

5/27/2022

A gathering of Classmates, mostly from the D.C. area, took place this last weekend at the Army Navy Country Club for a luncheon. Afterwards a small delegation went to the Viet Nam Memorial Wall to place roses in memory of our 13 classmates and 2 relatives killed in Viet Nam. It was to be shared with us by Zoom, but at the last moment **Alan Salisbury** had a problem that prevented that. A lot of information about the event was circulated to the class just before.

From Auburn, California

5/27/2022

Paul and Patty Ruud did a Southern Charms trip that took them to Charleston, S.C., among other stops. There they got to have dinner with **Chuck and Celia Hansult** at their very nicely refurbished home there. As you can see from the picture, left to right, Chuck, Celia, Patty and Paul, it's an enjoyable visit.

**From Gainesville, Florida, and Washington, D.C.**

5/27/2022



Jack May organized and invited the class to a clearly wonderful mini reunion at the Cosmos Club in Washington, D.C. The Cosmos Club is a really great venue for a gathering as I have heard from my son who has been there for events. It was dinner and social hours before and after. The invitation did go out to the class with a full description of the event which took place on April 8th. Aside from the host, the list of guests that I got were - **Chuck and Patty Toftoy, Phil and Lynn Pryor, Bill Giallourakis, Joe and Peggy Luman, Phil and Rosa Gibbs, Alan and Florence Salisbury, Herb and Betty Puscheck, John and Mimi Nun, Andy and Artie Andreson.**

There's a very nice picture of the group of classmates attending and it looks like my list isn't complete. Also, I don't have identifying information for who's in the picture, but most will probably know everyone.

From Gainesville, Virginia

5/27/2022

Resident Spotlight

Wally Ward of Heritage Valley Way and his 33 volunteers are responsible for putting up 2000 flags on mailboxes throughout Heritage Hunt (HH). Other personnel put up an additional 800 flags on HH mailboxes. Wally's wife, Jo Ward, assists him in providing flags on certain streets in HH. This count includes flags placed on flower beds and along three tree areas starting from the flag poles at the front gate. Wally started this project in 2008. At that time, the flags only covered his street. However, neighbors requested flags be placed on their mailboxes. The flags cover the major holidays such as: Martin Luther King Day, Presidents Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Columbus Day, and Veterans Day. Anyone who walks or drives in HH during the Holiday periods when the flags are displayed gets to enjoy the beauty of flags waving in all areas of our beautiful neighborhood. Wally has been featured in *The Heritage Horn* several times, with most recently in January 2020 with an article from MOAA magazine. Thank you Wally for all you do for the community's patriotic spirit!

Bill Alsbrooks



Wally and Jo Ward

Wally Ward sent me an article from *The Heritage Horn*, the periodic news publication from the residential community where **he and Jo** reside talking about one of Wally's projects. It has a good picture of them with it.

I asked Wally what he is doing besides projects like this and he said that he lifts weights and runs four miles a day except Sundays. I believe Wally is the oldest member of our class.

From Portland, Oregon, and Carmel, California

5/27/2022



Terry and Harriett Connell made a recent trip to Carmel where Terry and his son, Evan, visited with **Jody LeTowt**. Terry wrote, "Son, Evan, and I had a great visit with Jody LeTowt during a recent visit to Harriett's sister's in the Carmel area in May. Evan had a mission to scatter some of his father-in-law's ashes on the Pebble Beach Golf Course; and Jody gave us a cook's tour of the entire area, sharing great time and stories with us. Of special interest was an on-going project Jody had undertaken on

behalf of the Del Monte Forest Conservancy, for which Jody is currently serving as President. The conservancy owns and protects several parcels totaling over 200-acres inside Pebble Beach, with the purpose of maintaining them in perpetuity for the public good. Jody's special interest for several years has been to restore and to protect for all future time this iconic seaside "cottage" pictured, designed and constructed about a century ago by an adventuresome artist who later donated it to the Conservancy. The years and weather had accomplished their damage, and there were questions as to the efficacy of restoring and sustaining the home.

Of particular interest, and critical maintenance need..., was the exceptional artistic roof pictured, which was made with various colored rectangles of placed 'thin-concrete' roofing. Jody provided hands-on leadership and management in carefully recording the dimensions and coloration of each rectangle for accurate historic recreation, using also thin-set concrete and modern technology practices, assuring it exactly replicated the original. He also provided active 'jungle-clearing' of the wild growth surrounding the cottage, and historic upgrade of the insides. The cottage is now returned to full usage and is rented as a revenue stream to facilitate other conservancy support purposes. Of classmate interest was Jody's sharing and admitting that he

finally put to constructive use the surveying skills he learned as a cadet, I believe surprising himself of his able skills, and of their importance to such projects. I assured him we'd make him an Honorary Engineer. All of us from the Class who were able to share and enjoy Jody's second Mini in 2016 wish to express again our thanks and appreciation for a superb occasion. And Evan expresses his thanks for 'mission-accomplished' with the ashes..."



There's picture of Jody's project and a plaque memorializing his involvement. You can see Terry and Jody in the picture.

From Hoschton, Georgia

5/27/2022

As you may know, **Jack Vickers '57** grew up on the street next to mine in Fairfield, CT. I heard from Jack about his visit with **Archie Barrett '57** and in the course of correspondence from me to Archie, I heard from **John Schroeder**, "Thought you would be interested in Archie Barrett's note back to me. I forwarded your email about Jack Vickers' advice to you. Arch and I have been dear friends for many years. I met him for the first time at the AF Academy. We were in the Poly Sci department. Later, we rejoined the formation in DC. He had just retired and had a job for a Member of the House and I was in AF Legislative Liaison and later with Sikorsky. We met almost every Friday for lunch when the Goldwater - Nichols bill was in process. He was in the House Armed Services Committee at the time and in my opinion, had more influence in the details of that law than almost anyone but Bill Nichols. He helped Goldwater's staff stave off a heavy lobbying effort by the Navy and Marine Corps to get the bill passed. The success of our military in the First Gulf War vindicated all of the efforts to implement the Law. It truly became an effective a joint forces operation."

From McLean, Virginia, and Charles Town, West Virginia

5/27/2022



Alan Salisbury sent me a note with a picture of **Jerry Prochaska** giving the oldest grad talk at the Charles Town, West Virginia, Founders Day dinner. That's great and something I would probably try to avoid doing. I did the youngest grad talk at Ft. Benning in 1959 and that was enough.

From East Berlin, Pennsylvania

5/27/2022

But, with that I also heard from **Joe Schwar**. He and **Mike Daley** went to the recent Central Pennsylvania West Point Society Founders Day Dinner. Joe wrote me that, he and Mike "were recognized as representatives of the oldest class attending the Dinner. Gasp!!!! In typical fashion Daley classmated me by

refusing to accept the title of 'oldest graduate in attendance' and appointed me to cut the cake. This brought back memories for me of Founder's Day 1959 in Heidelberg when I gave the talk as the 'Youngest Graduate' in attendance."

From Fairfield, Connecticut

5/27/2022

Lynne and I, Pete Penczer, your scribe, recently took a short driving trip to Arlington, VA, to visit our son, Peter, and his girlfriend, and on the way down had lunch with **Kay and Mel Farrar** in Quakertown, PA, where Mel is now retired from his second career as a minister there in a church he built up to be quite big and which he really seems to have been the primary organizer of. From there we went to Phoenixville, PA, to visit with and stay overnight with my brother, **Rudy Penczer '62** and Doreen. The next day we stopped in Gaithersburg, MD, to have lunch with **Mike and Marcia York**. We got to see their gardens that will be shade gardens and very pretty, but the leaves weren't fully out so the gardens get a good sunny start. They too seem well and busy.



Bill Shely wrote me with a request that I try to get classmates to send in something about what they are doing and how they are living, hopefully with pictures as our class is very much spread out all over the country. There's desert, mountain and beach and everything else. We've enjoyed seeing Bill with his snowmobile in northern Minnesota.

So, I thought I should put in little more about what I do in the hope that "tell a story, get a story" actually works.

The picture is of Lynne and me taken at the opening of the Images Exhibit at our local Museum. It's a juried photography exhibit of amateur and professional categories with a special exhibit by a professional. I was on the board for about ten years but no longer am. I do still participate in three

community boards. I also enjoy my greenhouse with its orchids and my coffee tree. They're in the process of moving outside for the summer. I'll continue this next time.

The Class

5/27/2022

You get a lot of information about the class and our members from a steady stream of e-mails coming out of the Class Executive Committee. A very large amount of work is done by the group. It's reflected in the minutes of the quarterly meetings which you can see on our class web site. **Andy Andreson** runs things and **Frank Waskowicz** turns out remarkable minutes. And, there's everyone else. Besides that we hear all too frequently from **Terry Connell** who lets us know when one of us has died, and then, there's **Pete Trainor** keeping track of the rosters and web site.

Planning is now under way for the 65th Reunion at West Point. **Gary Roosma** seems to be in the middle of that.