

1958 Class Notes - February 2023

Traffic

Recently, looking at notifications from Facebook, I've seen postings by Pat Hattler, Holly Moentmann and Sue Kernan. **Jack Tancredi** commented on **Tony Nadal's** posting on Facebook. If you go there, you find that **Gary Roosma, Will Merrill, Dale Hruby, Paul Bons and Alan Salisbury** and probably others are there too. **Bob Shellenberger** showed up in Facebook too. **Alan Salisbury** posted a lovely picture from his daughter's 50th birthday party and that was commented on by Maria Mitchell and **Bob Julian**. Janice Bond, **Jack May** and **Jim Sigler** also showed up there. **Gerry Mitchell** commented on a posting by **Joe Guenther**. When I looked back at Joe's comments, there were two recent ones, one about the problem of resetting the stones at Stonehenge for daylight savings time and the other about a delicious looking recipe for eggnog, presumably George Washington's favorite, liked by **Gary Roosma** and **Norm Monson**.

From that you might think I, **Pete Penczer**, do a lot with Facebook, but I really don't. Someone cloned my Facebook page, quite poorly as they didn't even add my West Point connection, but I can't seem to get Facebook to take it down. So, if you get a Facebook friend request, presumably from me, it isn't me.

I did get a Linked In connection request from **Glenn Hall**. Glenn is a lawyer with law practice still in Austin, Texas. Completing the connection showed a bunch of others we're connected with on Linked In.

I also heard from Lois Pensiero in Phoenix. **Alex Pensiero** was a roommate of mine. Lois is enjoying her kids and five grandchildren.

Church Hutton has taken over as Excomm secretary from **Frank Waskowicz**, who died recently, a daunting task, but Church seems to be well into it.

We do get regular health tips from **Chuck Toftoy** that I find quite interesting and sometimes helpful reminders.

Herb Johnson continues to scan the web or some other source for things he finds interesting, often funny videos.

Of course, being Scribe I get to participate in the quarterly Excomm meetings which I do by using Skype and the phone connection. I don't have to dress up for the meeting, as Zoom isn't used. After recent comment by me about Class Notes and how difficult it must have been for my predecessors, particularly **George Sibert** and **Frank Waskowicz**, two long time scribes, meeting deadlines, I heard from **Mike Mahler** telling me that his wife, Ellie, now deceased, had been an editor of scribe columns for Assembly. What work. I don't really know what I would do if I didn't have that assistance

From Bethesda, Maryland

John Herren sent me a note about “a recent ceremony given by the new leaders of the Wounded Warrior Mentor Program (WWMP) for **Lee Miller** concerning his outstanding leadership for the last 17 years running the Mentor Program. Lee’s award was an encased American flag that was flown over the Capital in his honor. Lee, **Pete Brintnall**, **Bob Treadway** and I started the program and **Jack Gordon** joined later. The WWMP has helped hundreds of wounded, injured and ill Army soldiers, and a number of Air Force, Navy and Marines get internships while at Walter Reed Hospital, take online and in- person courses to further their education, apply for VA benefits and get jobs after they retire from their military Service. This was done through our mentorship program that expanded to Ft. Belvoir, Ft Lee, VA (where **Tony Nadal** with local classmates started their program), and Brooke Army Medical Center, TX. It involved recruiting and training over 200 mentors, mainly West Pointers, that worked with their soldier on a one- on -one basis throughout their stay at the hospitals and many continued helping them after they got out of Walter Reed. Lee and I have now retired and have turned the program over to a younger, motivated group of West Pointers and other Officers”.

The photo below is of Lee and John at the event. Those in the picture are L-R, “Steve Freeman, John Herren, Lee Miller, Steve Gauci. Freeman and Gauci are part of the new leadership., John.”



From Richmond, Virginia

I heard from **Max Young**. He's fully retired now after being a stockbroker for a while after the Air Force. He and Pat should be just back from a cruise he said they were taking.

From Rockville, Maryland



Bill Serchak is very active on the internet. I'm on one of his lists. I get a mix of interesting personal experiences and/or family related e-mail notes plus many timely news related items of considerable interest.

The picture is of Bill and his daughter down by the shore. The list names were to **Dick Schonberger** and **Bob Moscatelli**.

From St. Augustine Beach, Florida

I heard from **John and Alice Brinson** after their recent trip to Costa Rica. This was a ten-day tour with Gate 1 that they clearly enjoyed. They've been very active this year, much to my envy, as I had earlier reported on their springtime trip to Greece. They've also been to L.A. for a granddaughter's wedding and to New Jersey for a grandson's wedding. They have two grandsons who are Army Lieutenants. They returned just after the big Florida hurricane but had no damage to their house. Here's a great picture of them in Costa Rica.



From McLean, Virginia

I also heard from **Lee Miller** after a visit to the VA Medical Center, Martinsburg WVA to visit Co A-1 Classmate **Bill Brower**. Lee wrote, "On Wed, November 2, 2022, the following visited Bill Brower at the VA Hospital: Steve Brower, Bill's son from Brooklyn, NY who came for a two day visit with his father, **Lee Miller**, CQ Co A-1, **George Lawton**, Co G-2, and Mary Jane Lawton, his wife. Bill has been in the Martinsburg West Virginia VA Hospital for approximately five years. He is well taken care of there, happy as could be as a permanent patient with a nervous system disorder. The visitors in the two pictures should be identifiable from this e-mail".



Lee also wrote to tell me he had gone to “a celebration of life for **Townsend Van Fleet** yesterday in Old Town Alexandria, Many Classmates were there including **John Schroeder**, the M-2 CQ”

From Nashville, Indiana



Jack added, "And, most important, we visited **Pat and Ann Kirk**, who live in Portage WI. I attach a photo of the four of us, standing under the marquee of Ringling Cinema in Baraboo WI. The Ringling Brothers circus wintered in Baraboo decades ago."



Jack and Lynne Bradshaw visited their oldest son in Madison, Wisconsin, in September and wrote, "While visiting there this month my wife Lynne and I visited Fort McCoy, an Army post I missed during my active duty and the only military base in Wisconsin. The Fort's main mission today is to support training by units of the National Guard, the Reserves, and the Active Army, the so-called Total Force. McCoy spreads over 60,000 acres and the main post is very well-maintained. Thousands trained and passed through its gates during WWII and many of the buildings that housed them remain. In fact, it not only accommodates mobilization when needed but it also meets the sudden need to house thousands, including 13,000 Afghan refugees, the last of whom left earlier this year. The Fort is unique in that it housed both Japanese Americans from the West Coast and POWs from Europe and Japan. The Fort also has a remarkable collection of Army vehicles and large combat weapons, beautifully maintained and displayed." Jack sent me pictures of some of the displays, but I couldn't add them to the Notes.

The Malone Award

John Herren sent me a note about the continuation of the Malone Award, "This was the last Class 58 presentation that I made to the top Ranger at Georgetown ROTC in 2020. The Award will continue, thanks to the Class of 1968, that **Larry Malone** taught, after I contacted them. They have raised enough funds to continue it for many years and are happy to do it. **Pete Brintnall, Van Van Fleet,** and **Dale Hruby** are among his M-2 company mates that participated in the awards

From St. Charles, Illinois



Bill and Ann Shely were planning a Christmas picnic but decided to call it off

From Ormond Beach, Florida

Jack and Arlene Halsey sent me a picture taken at Walt Patterson's funeral of his family. You can see that the class flag made it to the funeral and was displayed there for all to see. Those in the picture are Susan Elise Korn, Janis Puzar, Dale Korn, Linda Patterson Korn, Tom Rucker, Elizabeth (Libby) Clare Patterson, Liam Kyle Korn, Walter Mead Patterson IV.



Otto Thamasett, in Springfield, Virginia, is the custodian of our Class Flag. **Bill Serchak** sent me a good picture of our Class Flag when it was displayed at the Arlington National Cemetery for **Daryl Jaschen's** funeral. **Andy Andreson** or Otto can be contacted to have the flag sent to a classmate who will be attending a funeral who will act as custodian of it.



From Encinitas, California

I got an up-date from **Norb and Ginnie Hulsman** "Certainly one of the best decisions Ginnie and I ever made was moving to San Diego in 1980. No heat or a/c required. We have a beautiful park right across from our home where we and dozens of our neighbors walk their dogs daily. Our daughter Kelly lives with us and runs my former online clothing business. She takes care of the whole house and yard, so Ginnie and I are free to do whatever. Our son Jeff lives on Kauai where he runs an automotive repair business. Ginnie spends most of her time doing do all the cooking (if buying pizza counts) and take up to 5 short walks a day in a losing effort to stay in shape.

In 1961 I went to Harvard, got an MBA, and in 1963 opened up a precision machine shop. I made air craft carrier and munition parts for Naval Air Engineering Center in Lakehurst NJ, Philly, San Diego, Picatinny Arsenal, and Rock Island. Most of the work was building 3000 psi high pressure valves for catapult and launching equipment. Tolerances to plus or minus .00010 of an inch. one of the parts I made for GE went to the moon. In 1993 Clinton happened and defense work disappeared. I moved on to real estate investment, started a used car dealership and became a repo man. Most of my business after 1993 was in Oceanside, Ca which has a heavy Samoan population. They had 3 nicknames for me: rent man, car man, and repo man. Fortunately, I left all those businesses behind long before Covid appeared".

From Sequim, Washington

Pete and Lana Bahnsen are in Sequim, Washington, reputed to have an ideal weather pattern. Lana wrote that, while they remain in their house that apparently has a beautiful view that one wouldn't want to leave, they do so with household help and assistance with anything needing driving. Lana advises everyone to get started early figuring out how to deal with age related problems. It's good advice. I, **Pete Penczer**, have decided to figure out how to use Uber and am arranging a meeting with a local assisted care home that also provides at home services.

From St. Petersburg, Florida

I heard from **John Holecek** over the recent Christmas week telling me how he had had to bring his orchids into his garage due to the cold, down to 32 degrees at night, and asking how mine were. Lynne and I, **Pete Penczer**, were nearby in Bradenton, there for a family Christmas gathering, and also cold, but not like it was here in Connecticut.

John keeps his fifty or so plants on a porch table rotating the ones in bloom so that he and Jill can enjoy them. I do the same with a few more plants and use a small greenhouse off of our kitchen for mine. Mine can only go out from Memorial Day to the end of September. Is anyone else into orchids?

From Williamsburg, Virginia

Pete Trainor just put out for us some interesting statistics about the make-up of our e-mail list and our alphabetical roster. The monthly update also went out today. Then, shortly, I hope, he'll be posting this edition of my Notes on the Class Web Page. He's doing a fantastic job.

From Honolulu, Hawaii

Dave Swanson has given up his regular golf but still has a weekly lunch with **Nat Crow** when both feel OK. Dave is still in his apartment in Honolulu but in the process of cleaning up and organizing everything with the help of his three kids. He says he's been seeing the doctors at Tripler Army Hospital there too much lately due to an accident a couple of years ago.

From Corona del Mar, California

Frank and Carole Harlem are in Corona del Mar, California, but spend part of the year in Indiana, flying back and forth two or three times a year, where their three kids live all in the same locale. Frank also deals with health issues but has remained active in his work, mostly managing some real estate. He has been on our Class Perpetual Fund Committee, mostly providing investment advice. Frank wrote, "Some of the 13 grandkids are scattering. One is in Toronto going to college. One is doing the same across the pond in London. 2 are still in HS. 3 have married and produced great grandkids (4 total) for us" As it turns out, Frank is also an ardent UCONN Women's Basketball fan. We have a lot of them around here, but I do try to follow it, but wouldn't call myself a "fan".

From Bloomington, Illinois

I heard from **Tom and Connie Cameron** just before they set out in October for Orlando where they spend the winter. Actually, I heard from Connie as Tom avoids things like computers and cell phones, leaving it to her. She said that their house there wasn't damaged by the hurricane but that the golf course was soggy. Connie does historical research on highly ranked chess players, primarily German, from a hundred years ago or so. Her work is quite interesting. She also said, "Tom plays golf three times a week when the weather is good. We do all of the yard work here but in Florida we keep a lawn service year 'round. There's plenty to do outside rather than mow grass in Florida's humidity. We don't travel a lot except for the going back and forth, but we did fly to Las Vegas in March. It was for a family reunion. My brother lives there. We never saw the strip although we had seen it long ago."

From Pebble Beach, California

I did hear from **Jody LeTowt**. He says everything's fine there. Jody is still managing some real estate and stays busy with the antique house he renovated for the Historic Association there. He's also trying to train his Airdale puppy. He sees **Jack May** there periodically.

Some Others

Paul and Evelyn Ciasullo and Carole Gongola are doing well and passed on their greetings. **Lenny and Carol McCormack** send their greetings as well. They did travel down to Gaithersburg, Maryland, to visit **Mike and Marcia York** and then to go together to **Frank Waskowicz'** funeral.

I got greetings from **Paul Wagner** who lives in Las Vegas and sends greetings. My note to him caught him making chocolate fudge. Paul said, "I am still alive at 85! I live alone

here, but am giving serious thinking to clearing out and moving back east to be nearer to what is left of the Wagners. We just finished a run of 100+ days with a smattering of rain. End of the week is our semi-annual block party for the homes in the cul-de-sac (organized by me).”

I didn't hear from **Walt and Josine Hitchcock**, but did see an article in their local paper, online, with a good picture of Walt at a hearing of their Warrenton, Virginia, Historic Commission getting permission to install solar panels on the back of his garage, their home being old and in an historic district.

From Fairfield, Connecticut

Lynne and I, **Pete Penczer**, Scribe, are doing well. I continue to manage some real estate but have tried to cut that back. I'm still on three boards of not-for-profit organizations and stay busy with them. One settles refugees coming in sponsored by the State Department, one is redeveloping a large brownfield site and the third is a fourteen hundred seat auditorium doing concerts and other shows and events. I spend time with my orchids and garden and other hobbies. Here's the picture of us I put on our Christmas card.



And More

Today (six weeks ago I heard from **Don Martin, Bob Hayden, Jack May and Ed Downing**. I also got a note from Seena Katz who was originally from Fairfield. **Joe and Seena Katz** lived in Fairfield for a while but moved to New York a while before Joe died. They regularly went to Paris, **Seena**, being the French speaker, which she still does, but New York is where she keeps busy.

From Portland, Oregon

Bill Callaghan went to a luncheon gathering at Lakeside Garden after **Orlie Hill's** funeral. Bill wrote " Dozens of friends and extended family joined Harriet, and children Becky (Bill), Rowland, and Doug (Colleen), to enjoy a sumptuous luncheon and to pay tribute to a wonderful husband, father, soldier, scholar, and athlete. **Virginia and Paul Vanture** brought our class flag and prominently displayed it at the guest book table. Evan Connell (classmate **Terry Connell's** son) served superbly as the MC. Daughter Becky shared the roller-coaster lives of her and her brothers, Doug and Rowland, growing up as Army brats in the ever-lively Hill household. Other speakers spoke warmly of the ways Orlie touched their lives. **Tom Grace '78** recalled "Colonel Hill" as an engineering professor, dedicated to getting him and his more academically challenged classmates through a difficult course. contributions to the. Local West Point Society and Portland community:

The picture shows Virginia and Paul Vanture, Harriet Hill, and Evelyn and Bill Callaghan and Orlie, of course



From Centennial, Colorado



Bob Moscatelli forwarded a note from **Pat Hill** with a picture from **John's** obituary of him in his law office.

More ?

Yes, there's more that has come in while I've been trying to workout with AOG how we're going to do Class Notes in the future. That will be explained a little in a separate e-mail. I am looking for material and have gotten a couple of short notes on how a couple of our classmates have spent the years since leaving the Army, or Air Force, as the case may be.