

Happy New Year to All From Connecticut

From Procrastination

Procrastination has been here all along. It's New Year's Eve, so what better time to try to break out of it. I've, **Pete Penczer**, your scribe, enjoyed a certain amount of traffic here on the net although I did have my desktop computer crash for the Thanksgiving holiday period and after until I could get it replaced and going again (with learning about Windows 11 which replaced Windows 10 in my previous computer).

I have been in touch with most of my C-2 group, among them, **Dave Swanson, Norb and Ginnie Hulsman, Jody LeTowt, John and Alice Brinson, Lennie and Carol McCormack and Paul and Evelyn Ciasullo** and, all things considered, we're doing OK. At Thanksgiving we visited my brother, **Rudy Penczer '62**, and family with both of our sons there. At Christmas time we went to Arlington to see our older son and his girlfriend and her daughter. We visited, and had lunch with, **Marcia York (Mike's widow)** .on the way there.

I think my problems with Facebook are dealt with for now and I do get notifications about some traffic there. Recently **Pat Hattler (Robert) and Holly Moentmann (Dwain)** have been on. You must be doing OK if you can deal with Facebook.

I'm on **Bill Serchak's** list and get a steady flow of interesting stuff he turns out (I don't know how he does it) I also get **Chuck Toftoy's** health tips. He recently recommended shoes by Klzick and I got a pair and haven't worn any of my others since. **Jack May** also is active on the web.

Pete Trainor doesn't just turn out our monthly updated e-mailing and address list. He's maintaining the Class web site, <https://www.west-point.org/class/usma1958/> Everyone should be looking at it as there is a lot of good information there including social events schedule, old class notes and lists of addresses and phone numbers, among other things.

We also heard from **Mel and Kay Farrar** who were on their way to Boston to join a family cruise to the Maritime Provinces from Boston. We didn't see them because we were away in Charleston. They have an annual family gathering of some sort.

Charleston, South Carolina

Now I realize how long it's been since I turned out some Notes. In October Lynne and I took the Jet Bue direct flight to Charleston from the Westchester Airport and visited **Chuck and Celia Hansult** at their home, restored by them, in Charleston's historic

district. They showed us around the Charleston area. Here we are at Angel Park. We're standing under the more than 400 year old live oak tree that is amazing to see. From left to right we are Pete Penczer, Celia Hansult, Lynne Penczer and Chuck Hansult.



From West Point

On October 6th **Gar O'Quinn** was inducted into Army Sports Hall of Fame for his gymnastics.

First Class Club

Mike Daley provided us with a picture, forwarded to me by **Andy Andreson**, of the bottle of Armagnac, vintage 1958, in its place in the First Class Club where it awaits a final toast to the class by our last few living members.



Endowment

We also heard about the endowment provided to the club by the Class of '83 that will keep the Club and our classes in the minds of all grads for a long time to come. It was \$4.5 million and was raised by the class at its 40th reunion.

Bill Serchak sent this picture of the plaque that has been mounted at the entrance to the First Class Club. The picture was taken and sent by Tina Morgen, one of Bill's many contacts there at West Point involved in the Astronomy club and his establishment of the graduation prize described in my last notes.



From Portland, Oregon

Karl Oelke wrote that he and **Terry Connell** attended **Paul Vanture's** Memorial service. Terry sent you all his memorial note and Paul's interesting obituary.

From Georgetown, Texas

Chuck Densford wrote that after going to see the UTSA game, he and **Phil Raigh** visited **Dick Buckalew** and reported that he is doing well. You'll remember that Dick ran our class mailing list for many years before turning it over to others and "retiring".

From left to right below, you see Chuck Densford, Dick Buckalew and Phil Raigh.



From Cornelius, North Carolina

Dick and Penny Gell sent along a piece of West Point humor and asked me to pass it on to the class.



From Colorado Springs, Colorado

I had asked for a few classmates to let us all know about what they've been doing since retirement, or leaving the service. I have gotten some. One was from **Chuck Cabell** who wrote "He now devotes his life to writing and the arts. An avid choral and lieder singer, he sang with the West Point Glee Club, the Paul Hill Chorale (at the Kennedy Center) and with the Colorado Springs Chorale. He founded Impavide Publications in 1996 and has written/published five books and thirty plays. One of his musical compositions (words, music and choral arrangement), "That's What Christmas Means to Me," was performed by the Colorado Springs Chorale in 1999. That piece, along with his compositions "It's Snowing and "A Colorado Christmas," now forms a "Christmas Trilogy," which was performed in December 2021, by *Choral Spectrum* of Vermilion, Ohio. He also wrote a complete set of verses for Saint Saens' "Carnival of the Animals" to replace the verses written by Ogden Nash. His version has now been performed three times by different orchestras.

An avid (mediocre, but worsening) classical pianist, he co-founded Amateur Pianists International in 2000 and was its president for fourteen years. During that time, API held an annual Celebration of the Amateur Pianist in Colorado Springs—every other year, the Celebration included a heralded international competition. He is also interested in the Theater. In 2016 he founded and produced [Thespiana](#), an annual read-directed-rehearsed, publicly-performed presentation of short plays by local playwrights (including himself). He is also Director of Drama Lab, a monthly get-together of local playwrights and actors to do (mostly) cold readings of (mostly) local plays."

From St. Petersburg, Florida

I heard from **John and Jill Holecek**. John, like me, and maybe some others in the class, raises orchids as a hobby. He has about fifty plants and is able to keep them outside on his back porch, except very occasionally when temperatures drop too much there temporarily. Then they spend a little garage time. My own come in after Labor Day and go out in early May.

From Ormond Beach, Florida

Jack and Arlene Halsey wrote about their family reunions they've been having in Ormond Beach in June for the last three years and sent along a great photo, writing, "Here is a photo of my family (including 8 great grandchildren) taken June 2023 in Ormond Beach, FL."



From Arlington, Virginia

From **Chuck and Patty Toftoy** I got a note back on September 22nd that Chuck had gotten the Bronze Medal in mens' singles at the Senior Olympics that day in spite of bad windy weather conditions.

Here he is below with the medal on the court.



From Fairfield, Connecticut

All is well here in Fairfield, for the most part. As for my complaints, my doctors reply that it's just age doing it. Gardens are done for the season. I try to maintain my outside activities and we keep up a minimal social life, exercise and reading. And, the New Year's weekend is past. One book I'm reading is *American Prometheus* a biography of Robert Oppenheimer with lots of detail, history of the times, that I was too busy then to follow well. We saw the movie too.

