



No. 19 December 2009

the **pooper**scooper

the latest scoop on the hottest poop for the West Point Class of 1967 . . . Unsurpassed!



COLONEL THAYER,
FATHER
OF THE
MILITARY ACADEMY



▲ Jim Balkcom, Carl Savory and Jim Walden savor Carl's induction into the Ranger Hall of Fame



▲ Tom White addressing the crowd at the Cause gala (photo courtesy Ashley Estill)



▲ Carl Savory, Ranger Hall of Fame

He completed the Infantry Officer Basic Course as well as Airborne and Ranger Training. He was then assigned to the 197th Infantry Brigade and led the first federal troops into the Baltimore area in 1968 following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King. Volunteering for service in Vietnam, he served as a Platoon Leader, 173rd Airborne Brigade and Company "E", 20th Long Range Patrol, which in January 1969 was re-designated Company "C" Rangers, 75th Infantry, later serving as Operations Officer of this unit. Following Vietnam, he served as an Infantry battalion Operations Officer in the 3rd Armored Division in Germany. He was then accepted into medical school at the University of Arizona and the Army's Health Professional Scholarship Program. He completed a surgical internship and an orthopedic residency at Letterman Army Medical Center in San Francisco. Dr. Savory was next assigned to Fort Bragg as the Chief of Orthopedics at Womack Army Hospital. As an

CARL SAVORY INDUCTED INTO THE RANGER HALL OF FAME – HOOAAHHH!

In a stirring ceremony at Ft. Benning, GA, on 5 August, our own Dr. Carl Savory was inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame along with several other Ranger heroes dating back to WWII. Hooaahh! The ceremony was attended by Jimmy Balkcom and Jimmy Walden, along with millions of other luminaries. Here's the write up about Carl that appeared in the induction ceremony program:

"Carl Savory, the only child of Gerald and Emma Savory, was born in Binghamton, New York on VE Day, 8 May 1945. Dr. Savory was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Infantry after graduating from the United States Military Academy in



▲ Carl Savory being inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame

CLASSMATES ATTEND AND SUPPORT THE CAUSE GALA IN FORCE, AGAIN



▲ Barbara Lau with GEN & Mrs. Petraeus and former Army CoS Eric Shinseki (photo courtesy Ashley Estill)

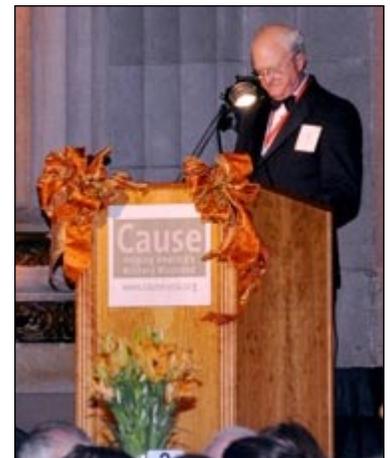
husbands. The initial efforts were somewhat modest, with Joyce Doheny and Debbie Wenner (Dick Waterman's better half) taking underwear, socks, and t-shirts over to Walter Reed so that wounded soldiers arriving from Iraq and Afghanistan could have something to wear other than hospital gowns. By the time the Army supply chain caught up to the soldiers, Cause had already branched out and began focusing on the mission that guides its activities today, namely, providing comfort items and opportunities for recreation to injured soldiers and their family members. Barbara Lau serves as the Executive Director of Cause, a 501(c)3 organization, and a number of classmates and wives are on the board.

Cause has come a long way since 2003. One annual highlight has become a black tie fund raising gala each Veteran's Day

Once again the Unsurpassed Class has turned out in force to support Cause, Comfort for America's Uniformed Services, at their annual Veteran's Day black tie gala in Washington, DC.

Here's a refresher for those many of you who have killed off most of your brain cells and have very limited memory of any kind. Back in 2003, shortly after the war with Iraq began, four Class of 1967 wives banded together with a mission: make sure that the Wounded Warriors from this war were better remembered and taken care of than the Vietnam era heroes were. Thus was born Cause – Comfort for America's Uniformed Services.

Joyce Doheny led this charge, along with Debbie Wenner-Waterman, Barbara Lau and Vivian Haseman, with a lot of support and participation by their



▶ John Caldwell speaking at the Cause gala (photo courtesy Ashley Estill)

extra duty and at the request of the Surgeon General and Colonel Charles Beckwith, the commander of Delta Force, he assumed the lead in establishing a medical support program for 1st Special Forces Operations Detachment (Delta). He selected, trained and equipped the personnel involved, later deploying this ad hoc forward surgical team in real-world situations. Dr. Savory was the chief medical officer on the failed Iranian hostage mission. He was the first Delta Force surgeon and later the next command surgeon of the Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC). The Surgeon General next appointed him Consultant for the Medical Support of Special Operations, a position he held until he retired in June 1987. Soon after establishing the medical package to support Delta Force, he briefed the commander of Health Services Command on the program. Dr. Savory's basic concept of the forward surgical team was later adopted and developed into what is now a well-established Army Medical Corps doctrine. After four years in direct support of JSOC and Delta, Dr. Savory completed a fellowship in adult reconstructive surgery and joint replacement at Johns Hopkins

University School of Medicine. He then became the Assistant Chief of Orthopedics at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. At Walter Reed, he was the Director of the Residency program and Chief of the Joint Replacement Service, which he redeveloped and expanded. While at Walter Reed, he served on the Long Commission, a blue ribbon panel appointed to investigate the Marine Corps barracks bombing in Beirut. As the medical consultant for Admiral Long, Dr. Savory visited Beirut and each location where casualties were sent following the bombing. He retired from active duty on 30 June 1987. He then accepted a position at The Hughston Clinic, an internationally known orthopedic clinic in Columbus, Georgia. Soon after beginning private practice, retired Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Jack Vessey, on behalf of President Reagan, asked him to make several trips to North Vietnam to facilitate the resolution of POW/MIA issues. These talks were the beginning of the ultimate normalization of diplomatic relations between the two countries. After the first visit in August 1987, several MIA remains

were repatriated, numerous political prisoners were released, and a number of Amerasian children were allowed to come to the United States. In December 1990, he was recalled to active duty in support of the first Gulf War. During the invasion of Iraq, he was assigned to the 274th Forward Airborne Surgical Team, attached to 1st Brigade, 24th Infantry Division. Doctor Savory continues to practice orthopedic surgery at The Hughston Clinic where he has been for 22 years. Two year ago, he led the way in raising nearly a quarter million dollars to support the National Infantry Foundation and the National Infantry Museum. In addition to monetary support, he developed the Hughston Leadership Lecture Series, bringing noted leaders to Columbus to lecture on various aspects of leadership and to raise awareness for the National Infantry Foundation. He has been appointed to the Advisory Board of the National Infantry Foundation. He was recently named the Arthritis Foundation's Distinguished Citizen for his service to the Columbus, Phoenix City and Fort Benning community."

THE CAUSE GALA

continued from page 1



▲ Debbie & Mike Kush at the Cause gala (photo courtesy Ashley Estill)

in Washington, DC. This has become a hugely successful event, attended by much of the nation's military leadership, past and present, and this year's affair was no different. In fact, response to the event was so great that the venue had to be changed from the Galleria at Lafayette Center to the Mellon Auditorium in order to facilitate the number of attendees (298 in 2008 vs. 408 in 2009). And as always, the Class of 1967 turned out in force to support this noble effort. Class attendees this year included **Paul & Dede Kern, Tom & Susan White** (Tom served as Gala Chair), **John & Judy Caldwell, Buz & Kathi Altshuler, Tom & Paige Dyer, Ray & Sally Winkel, Jan Albers, Joyce & Beach Doheny, Hart & Barbara Lau, Ron & Suzanne Naples, Mike & Debra Kush, George & Jane Newman, Al Bornmann, Steve Frankiewicz, Jorge Jorgenson & Patti Johnson, Rich & Ruth Fisher and Ed & Mary Sullivan.**



▶ Former Supes & Mrs. Dan Christman with Hart Lau and John Caldwell (photo courtesy Michael Domingo)

The list of distinguished guests is very impressive and reflects just what an impact Cause is having. Some of the glitterati included GEN David Petraeus and his wife Holly, former army CoS and current Secretary of the VA Honorable Eric Shinseki and his wife Patty, GEN James Cartwright, LTG Frank Kearney, Dean Kamen (guest speaker), LT Jay Redman (guest speaker), Roger Goodell, Martha Raddatz, Jennifer Griffin (emcee),

Former USMA Supe LTG (R) Dan Christman & his wife Susan, former Army CoS GEN (R) Dennis Reimer & wife Mary Jo,

GEN (R) Johnnie Wilson & wife Helen, COL (R) Barney Barnum (Medal of Honor recipient) and the Honorable Page Hoeper.

Some of the highlights of the evening, according to Barbara Lau, included Dean Kamen (inventor of Segway) talking about his new robotic arm for upper extremity amputees; emcee Jennifer Griffin inspiring everyone with the news that despite a recent diagnosis of Stage 3 breast cancer she was determined to emcee the gala and took strength from the example of the wounded soldiers at WRAMC, and the West Point Alumni Glee Club, who serenaded the attendees with a medley of songs. Barbara also reports that GEN Petraeus is awesome, graciously spending time for everyone who wanted a few minutes with him; cheerfully posing for endless photos; making time for a private moment with a double amputee Navy SEAL.

► Judy & John Caldwell at the gala
(photo courtesy Michael Domingo)



DYER DOODLES,

or a message from Tom Dyer, aka the Class Prez



Relentless..... this guy is relentless!!

Here I am on Thanksgiving Day writing this message. All the Dyer kids are waiting for their turkey dinner and I am holding up the works so as not to face the wrath of Freed!! Tough taskmaster.

Paige and I had the pleasure of attending the Cause Gala in DC on Veteran's Day. What a marvelous event. **Tommy & Susan White** were co-chairs of the year's event. The guest list included every notable of substance in Washington – but the Stars of the show were the wives of our Classmates who made this all possible. **Barbara Lau, Judi Caldwell** (others not to miss any) - began this wonderful charity just a few short years ago to care for our wounded warriors. It has blossomed into the major event on Veteran's Day...as it should be. We are so proud of all of you have done.

Congratulations **Carl Savory**!! Being inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame! What a tremendous accomplishment! A deserving recognition of all you have done through the years, Carl, for this Country; you make us all proud.

The Class Reunion Committee is working hard to finalize the details of our 45th Reunion. As soon as the dates and location have been solidified, the Committee will let us all know. Hard to believe it is only a couple of years away.

Please note **Hap Trainor's** financial report. As you can see the Admin Fund balance is quite low given the cost of the Pooper Scooper and the needs that Reunion planning will demand. Understanding this is not the best of times financially, I would ask those of you who are able to consider some small donation to the Fund. It will help us out considerably. Thanks for your help.

Sitting here writing this, I think of how much we have to be thankful for. Our great Country that has survived so much in its short history and needs our support now to insure we don't follow a path that is different than what our Founding Fathers intended. For our Soldiers and their families who for centuries have given so much so that we can enjoy a day like today...a peaceful Thanksgiving in our homes. May we never stop our prayers and words of support and never stop insisting that our leaders recognize that these men and women in uniform are the Country's most valuable asset.

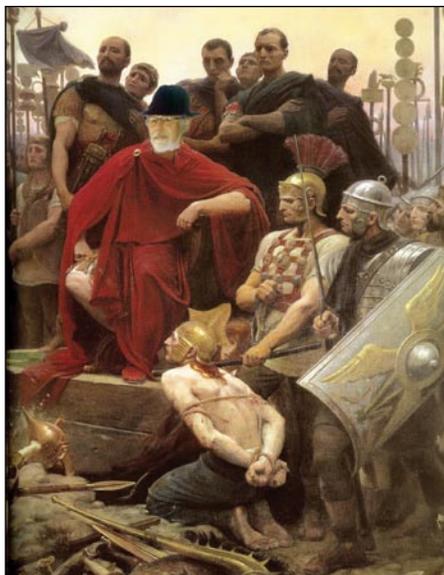
For my Family and all our Families that give us life and a reason to continue to march; may we hold dear this great treasure and gift from God.

And everyday I'm thankful for the gift I received on April 22, 1963 in the form of a telegram that said I could be part of the most wonderful group of men ever assembled – the Class of 1967.

Happy Thanksgiving! May God Bless you all!

Tom

Now the kids can eat!!



Based on these numbers, this will probably be the last *Pooper Scooper* for awhile. If I continue to publish at a rate of three per year we'll wipe out the admin fund in 2010. We certainly can't afford to do that, for lots of reasons. I'm looking at alternatives for a leaner, meaner, cheaper newsletter. None of them excite me much, but we will do what we have to do.

The admin fund supports more than just class publications. Costs associated with any mailings to the class for official class activities are paid from the fund, and first class postage to 600+ addressees isn't cheap. We have a class committee that is working diligently to build and maintain a unified and truly comprehensive computer database that will be used for a wide variety of purposes. It will allow us to generate accurate snail mail and e-mail and facilitate registrations and other functions associated with class reunions and events. It will also serve as the repository of vital class statistics and historical data. There's cost associated with all of that.

Also, planning for the 45th reunion is already underway and the class admin fund is used to provide seed money to fund up-front costs associated with that debauched bacchanal. This year we're looking at outsourcing a lot of the grunt work associated with planning, registering, transporting and feeding the class during the reunion. That's going to require significant capital.

Class Finances Update

Here's a 30 September status report on our class finances courtesy of **Hap Trainor**, Class Chancellor of the Exchequer, Bookie and Bag Man:

Opening balance:	July 1, 2009	\$20,579.42
Closing balance:	September 30, 2009	\$15,808.98*

(* See Open items below.)

Cleared Checks and Deposits:

July 2009:

Beginning balance July 1, 2009	\$20,579.42
Deposit	\$345.00
National Flag	(\$345.00)
Elm Press	(\$7,671.60)
Ending Balance as of July 31, 2009	\$12,907.82

August 2009:

Beginning Balance	\$12,907.82
Deposit	\$334.00
National Flag	(\$32.84)
Ending Balance August 31, 2009	\$13,208.98

September 2009:

Beginning Balance	\$13,208.98
Deposit	\$2,600.00
Ending Balance September 30, 2009	\$15,808.98

Account Activity Not reflected on Bank Acct Statement as of September 30, 2009:

Check No. 209 - Elm Press (PS #18)	(\$4,216.88)
Deposit-Gifts	\$250.00
Ending Balance giving effect to open items	\$11,842.10

Class Admin Fund (AOG account).

Starting Balance	\$2,722.11
Investment (Loss)	(\$1,112.97)
Class Admin Fund Balance as of September 30, 2009:	\$1,609.14

Class Gift Fund (AOG) as of September 30, 2009:

Outstanding (uncollected) Pledges to Class Gift Fund as of September 30, 2009:	\$283,754.63
	\$333,026.00



Planning for the 45th Reunion is Well Underway

OK sports fans, mark your calendars, start saving your pennies, and most importantly start your weight loss and physical fitness programs now; we're in the countdown phase for the 45th reunion at West Point. (Some of you sartorially challenged folks might want to re-examine your wardrobes, too. Are you listening **Dewey** and **Lenz**?)

Plans are for a spring reunion, in the latter half of April 2012. We don't have an exact date yet because we're waiting for USMA to lock in their spring events schedule for 2012, expected in January, 2010. The target date for the announcement of our reunion dates to the Class is February. We're hoping to have our reunion on a weekend when there is a parade; there aren't nearly as many of those as in our day.

We have a confirmed reservation (but have not yet signed a contract) with the Hotel Thayer for all their rooms the weekend we think will be best for the reunion. The reunion planners believe that the Thayer is our best choice. One of the biggest turnoffs of past reunions has been the inordinate amount of time we spend on busses going back and forth; staying at the Thayer will eliminate that saddle sore and provide a great deal more time for productive activity in the bar, fortifying our aging bodies with copious amounts of healing waters. It certainly has my vote. Of course, it's not set in concrete yet so we might end up somewhere else, but the Thayer is the hotel of choice.

You can expect the usual reunion activities: parade, memorial service, Supe's update, and unbridled debauched bacchanals day and night. I'll try to set up another fishing excursion if there's enough interest, and I suspect there also will be the usual golf ball hunt. Of course we'll have to conduct our class business meeting, elect class officers, and walk around telling everyone younger than us, which will be most folks, that the Corps has. It will be great fun, and I hope you will all attend. Stay tuned for more info.

Information Regarding the Class E-Mail Lists and Policies

Courtesy of our Class Cyber Guru **John James**, here's the lowdown on our class electronic communication methods:

"Almost fifteen years ago a member of the class of 1990, Expeditus (Ditus) Bolanos, began a web service for class communications which has evolved into the west-point.org set of services, [http://](http://www.west-point.org)

www.west-point.org. For the first ten years of the class email list there was only one list. However, while some folks are mainly interested in only receiving a few notes focused on information of general interest to the class, others are interested in participating in rather lengthy discussions of just about any topic and others like to share jokes with friends.

Thus today we have three email lists available for your enjoyment:

1. The class list for information of general interest to the class (by which we mean to "cast a wide net") and include classmates (including those who entered with us but may not have graduated with us), family members, and friends of the Unsurpassed USMA Class of 1967. I am the moderator for the class list which has the email address usma1967@west-point.org

2. Four years ago we started a class forum list moderated by **Dan Jinks**, dan@jinksinc.com, in order to enable extended discussions on a wide variety of topics. The Class Forum list has the email address usma1967-forum@west-point.org

3. Last December a class humor list was created by **Marc Ducharme**, jmarcd@charter.net and **Bob Haeffner**, bob@haeffner.net as a Yahoo group in order to have "Unsurpassedfun".

If anyone is interested in starting any other discussion group focused on an area of special interest, then it is easy to form a moderated email distribution list through west-point.org or any number of other service providers. I will be happy to help set that up if someone is interested in moderating a new group. Of course, these days the information technologies available include Facebook, Twitter, and other social networking tools so I should also mention that it is not that hard to link to other services as well.

However, I believe that most of our classmates are only interested in participating in the class email on a regular basis. Thus, I request that everyone on the class email read through the "Purpose and Members" statement below that was passed out at our 35th reunion and abide

by intent of the class email. If anyone has recommended changes to the "Purpose and Members" statement please let me know. Thanks!

Dan Jinks is happy to add anyone interest in joining the Class Forum discussion and either **Marc Ducharme** or Bob Heffner are happy to share their "Unsurpassedfun"!

Cheers, John

CLASS EMAIL ROSTER - USMA '67: PURPOSE and MEMBERS

The only purpose of the roster is to provide a service to share information of interest to the class of 1967 of the United States Military Academy. To that end, the intention is to "cast a wide net" to include the '67 community as well as those who graduated from USMA. That is, we specifically desire to include as members of the roster those who joined the class in 1963 but did not graduate, wives of classmates, class sons and daughters, widows of classmates, and other close family members. To keep things simple (and especially to decrease the workload for the moderator of the list!), the roster will include anyone the moderator judges to be a member of the '67 community. Any classmate can object to anyone being on the list and any decision of the moderator can be appealed to the Class Officers.

We Still Need Help Getting Classmate Obituaries Written

Here's an update on the Class Memorial Article Program provided by **Randy Pais** on 24 August:

"Dear Classmates,

By now most everyone has received a hard copy of Freed's extraordinary effort in publishing the *Class of 1967 Requiem*, truly a remarkable and most fitting tribute to our classmates who are no longer with us. As you may have noticed, we are still working on 16 articles for our classmates listed below. For that reason, I am personally asking for your help and assistance in concluding these articles. The Class has a responsibility to each of our classmates

and their families to make sure a fitting and appropriate article is published in the *Assembly/Taps*. If you can help assist the article coordinator listed below in drafting a memorial article it would be most appreciated.

As of this date we have had 43 memorial articles published, but as Freed identified in the *Requiem* there are 16 articles pending. Several of the ones for classmates that have not been published do have a moving tribute to our classmate in the *Requiem* that might serve as a basis for finalizing a memorial article. Since my last note, I know several articles are in various stages of completion and with family members for approval and that several classmates have volunteered to help the designated coordinator.

Here is the list for whom we need to have a memorial article published:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Dave Bishop (Jeff Madsen/Bruce Richardson)
(jrm4081@juno.com) (brucer4567@aol.com) | 9. Arnie Cano (Ken Strong/Paul Lima)
(dkmsvp@charterinternet.com) |
| 2. Doug Gray (Dick Gooding/Joe Casey)
(dickgooding@mediaone.net) (caseyjoc@aol.com) | 10. Ed Jordan (Ed Sullivan) (esullivan@audiology.org) |
| 3. Gary Hyde (Jerry Misurek) (gmisurek@ebainc.com) | 11. Larry Izzo (Tom White/Randy Pais/Mike Spinello & family)
(twhite@drkwenergy.com) |
| 4. Larry Marlin (Jack Wood) (JWood008@nc.rr.com) | 12. Mike Nii (Mike Kush) (michael.kush@capgemini-gs.com) |
| 5. Bob Mengert (Need Volunteer) | 13. Hank Uberecken (Bob LaRaia/Freed Lowrey and family)
(rlaraia@comcast.net) (freed.lowrey@wpaog.org) |
| 6. Wayne Schaltenbrand (Hap Trainor and brothers)
(cwtesq@aol.com) | 14. Greg Honzo (Rich Adams/Bruce Baccei)
(richadams67@yahoo.com) |
| 7. Chris Pettit (Ed Sullivan/Dave Blanchard)
(esullivan@audiology.org) (dblanch@optonline.net) | 15. Bob Wyoscki (Dave Hale and family) |
| 8. Dick Platt (Dan Jinks and sister) (dan@jinksinc.com) | 16. Bob Miller (Tom Parr) (dr.parr@earthlink.net) |

Thank you very much for any assistance that you might be able to provide for this most important Class endeavor.

With best wishes to everyone.

Randy Pais (w-713-369-9770 / h-281-363-2312 / c-713-444-5032)

Army Football Schedule for 2010 Announced

Here's the schedule for next year, another challenging one. Note the return of Notre Dame to the schedule.



- Sept. 4 at Eastern Michigan
- Sept. 11 HAWAII**
- Sept. 18 NORTH TEXAS**
- Sept. 25 at Duke
- Oct. 2 TEMPLE**
- Oct. 9 at Tulane
- Oct. 16 at Rutgers
- Oct. 30 VMI**
- Nov. 6 AIR FORCE**
- Nov. 13 at Kent State
- Nov. 20 Notre Dame
(Yankee Stadium, N.Y.)
- Dec. 11 Navy (Philadelphia)

Latest Update on Plans for Assembly Magazine

For those of you that still subscribe to ASSEMBLY magazine, here's the latest poop on this continuing saga, courtesy of the AOG Director of Publications; as you can see, change is afoot.

"Nothing is permanent except change," from the Greek, and "May you live in interesting times," an Old Chinese curse, are two of my favorite quotations, and they certainly apply to ASSEMBLY at this point in time. As of 1 January 2010 (which means your Class Notes submission for the April–June 2010 ASSEMBLY), all Class Notes will be submitted directly to Joyce Jones at West Point as we phase out our contract Class Notes Editor, Cathy DeCoster, as an economy measure. Cathy has been with us for a long time and done a sterling job from several locations, but with a quarterly publication schedule, two editors cannot be justified.

Another change is our new and improved online version of the current ASSEMBLY forwarded to all graduates via a link in the November 2009 *First Call* newsletter. The new format has a number of excellent navigational and zoom features plus hot links to e-mail addresses and websites contained in the magazine. When Class Notes and other grad-specific items migrate to the web under the title ASSEMBLY magazine, all of these features will be retained. Additionally, although the October–December online ASSEMBLY displays Class Notes with black and white photos, exactly as in print, the January–March 2010 version will be full color (the print version will remain black and white).

Finally, a decision will be made by year end as to subscriptions versus a subsidized combination of print and online publications that asks for voluntary contributions but is available to all graduates online and to most

in print. The print magazine would remain a quarterly and contain feature articles and selected Bulletin Board items, while the online Class Notes eventually would appear at least six times per year (possibly ten) with only modest limits on words or photos. Print options for the online magazine will likely be retained initially, but these will be subscription based out of economic necessity. A number of other features, such as News from Societies, Chairman and President letters, book reviews, and other Bulletin Board items also would gravitate to online only.

Nothing is final yet, but this is clearly the direction in which WPAOG publications is moving. As for the immediate future, the January–March 2010 ASSEMBLY will include a number of interesting features. Besides coverage of the Nininger and Thayer Awards, we will introduce a new writing talent, Gail O'Sullivan Dwyer '81, who recently published her first book, *Tough As Nails*, about her experiences at West Point and, hopefully, will submit additional feature articles in the future. Ted Spiegel will provide features on the Center for Teaching Excellence and our winning Club Sports teams at the national level, while the Dean will provide two experiences he has had in fulfilling the Army policy requiring a general officer to represent the Army at all funerals for Soldiers killed in action in Iraq or Afghanistan. Additional features are pending.

At the moment, subscriptions continue to lag last year, and advertising likewise is down. We have gone from in-house solicitation of advertising to an agency that has had some success working with the Naval and Coast Guard Academies. They had limited success with the last issue, but there is hope for 2010. Nevertheless, we still need graduates to subscribe for the October–December 2009 to July–September 2010 publication year. Any help that you can provide would be appreciated greatly."

USMA Grad Offers us all a Good Deal in Las Vegas

I got the following e-mail back on 4 November and am passing it along for all you folks who might be thinking of relaxing in Vegas. I'm sure you all remember COL Kobes, the Master of the Sword in our cadet days.

"My name is Brett Kobes. I graduated from West Point, class of '04. My grandfather Frank Kobes was USMA class of '39, and he was Master of the Sword for 17 years. My father, uncle, cousin, and brother were also graduates of USMA. I am no longer in the military, but would like to extend an invitation to you, your friends, or anyone you think could use my help. I am a VIP Host for the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. I can help with whatever an individual may need to have a good time in Las Vegas. I specialize in night life such as night clubs, restaurants, Las Vegas shows, conventions, or pool parties. Please save my contact information or pass it along to others that will be visiting Las Vegas, I and will be happy to help. I can also help with discounted rates for our hotel or just give advice on whatever one inquires about. This is a genuine offer to help members of the long grey line, or the people they care about. Have a great Army Day!

Respectfully,

Brett Kobes
 (702)324-4859 I Phone
 (702)202-5823 Blackberry
Brett_kobes@hotmail.com
brettk@angelmg.com
[facebook.com/brett.kobes](https://www.facebook.com/brett.kobes)"

CLASS HEROES, ONCE AGAIN

We've already gotten the report on the annual CAUSE gala and all the great folks involved with that noble enterprise, but as usual, there are more class heroes to report on.

Drew Nelson Receives the Carnegie Medal

Here's an extract from the 30 Sep Valparaiso, IN, newspaper regarding a great story I first told you about last year (PS # 15, August '08) regarding one of our class sons, **Drew Nelson**, son of **Don & Leslie Nelson**.



▲ Drew Nelson, Carnegie Award recipient

Region residents receive Carnegie Medal RECIPIENTS RISKED LIVES TO PREVENT DROWNINGS

Brian Williams - brian.williams@nwi.com, (219) 548-4348 | Posted: Wednesday, September 30, 2009 12:00 am

A former Valparaiso man who saved a mother of two from drowning and the Chesterton father and son who lost their lives trying to rescue a 10-year-old boy during last September's flooding have been honored as recipients of the Carnegie Medal.

Drew Nelson, John Thanos and Mark Thanos are among 20 recipients throughout the United States and Canada of the award, given by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission to those who risk their lives to an extraordinary degree while saving or attempting to save others.

Nelson, a 1997 Valparaiso High School graduate who now lives in Brooklyn, N.Y.,

saved a woman who had been washed off her inner tube during a family rafting trip on the Colorado River in July 2008.

Nelson's father, **Don Nelson** of Shorewood Forest in Valparaiso, said he still is impressed by his son's actions. "We're all very proud -- parents, friends and people who know him," the elder Nelson said.

The award carries a grant of \$5,000 to medalists or their survivors.

Doug Chambers, director of external affairs for the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission, said the commission learns of potential recipients from news stories, Internet searches and nominations. Pittsburgh steel baron Andrew Carnegie started the fund in 1904 after hearing rescue stories from a mine disaster that killed 150 miners and two rescuers. Since then, \$31.8 million has been awarded to 9,304 people. To learn more, visit, carnegiehero.org.

Well done, young Drew!

Late News! 30 November: just got a phone call from Drew; not only was he awarded the Carnegie Medal for his heroics, but today when he got home and opened his mail he discovered that the State of New York had also honored him with the State Award of Valor. Here's the citation on his certificate:



▲ Drew Nelson's New York Award of Valor

"State of New York/Executive Chambers Award of Valor presented to Allen Drew Nelson in recognition of your heroic actions in saving Josephine Harrison from drowning on that fateful July day. You are truly deserving of honor and the

acknowledgement that it is an extraordinary individual who would willingly place himself in harm's way in order to save the life of another. You have earned the prestigious Carnegie Medal and the respect and admiration of all New Yorkers. You have distinguished yourself as a local hero and an inspiration for others, and I commend your remarkable courage and resourceful thinking. With sincere congratulations and best wishes for a lifetime of success."

Dated 24 November 2009, and signed David A. Paterson, Governor of New York.

Ed Locke Thanks a Lot of Class Heroes

Here's a wonderful story told by **Ed Locke** in an e-mail back in October. It is re-printed here with Ed's permission. (You should all remember from the last *Pooper Scooper* report that Ed is suffering from Lou Gherig's disease)

"Classmates,

Having been prompted by friend **Tom Thornton** I decided on this beautiful day in eastern Virginia to tell my story. In 2005 my son Ed was in Hawaii teaching a class on homeland security. It happened that our own **Mike Yap** and **Joe Terry** were there. Mike approached Ed and said he had a classmate named **Ed Locke**. As the conversation progressed Mike got Ed to promise that he would take me to our 40th reunion in '07.

At reunion time Ed flew in from Las Vegas and we drove my van to NY. The first night there **Bill McDowell** and **Mike Heyne** cornered Ed away from me and got him to confess that I was tight on income. I must have looked terrible. I was eating one meal a day in the dining room and just snacking otherwise. I had lost so much weight I was wearing 29 inch waist jeans down from 32.

Bill decided to set up a trust for me and asked classmates to fund it. It was enormously successful as he rose more than enough to keep me going for over 2 years. I now eat 2 meals a day and have hired a personal trainer to come in once a

week to stretch my muscles and help with strengthening exercises. I put on all the lost weight, my jeans are now 32 inches and I even have a small pot belly. The trust also helped buy a new computer and wheelchair. The chairs these days cost more than a small car.

I want to thank all who contributed to the trust particularly **Joe Hardin** and **Hart Lau**. There are many so contributors, friends, roommates and strangers that I am overwhelmed. You saved me from what I don't know what. Thank you all.

The story doesn't end there. A year ago my son Ken's wife contacted a representative of the ALS Association who visited me and convinced me to apply for VA benefits. I did so and was turned down. I appealed using the Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) as my agent. In the meantime I learned my PLS had turned into ALS. This was crucial in my argument before the VA. I was approved for full benefits, which comes with a substantial monthly check. Being 100% service connected disability comes with benefits I am still discovering. I am now more than

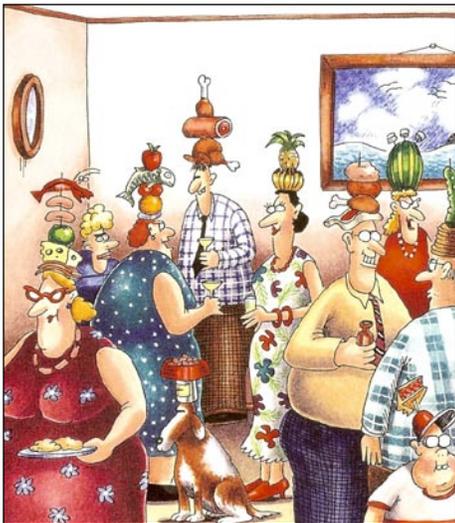
solvent and grateful to the class for their generosity and to **Bill McDowell** for his leadership.

This is a small story but big in the way of explaining the class motto. You are truly Unsurpassed.

Ed"

Edward J. Locke
761 Alliance Dr. #322
Virginia Beach, VA 23454
edwlocke@verizon.net

CLASS HAPPENINGS: *We're Still Having More Fun Than We Deserve*



The Annual DC Class Dinner Was a Night to Remember (but no one took a photo of it!)

Here's an excellent report on this year's debauchery in the shadows of our nation's capital, courtesy of **George Newman**.

"On October 3rd, 55 classmates, spouses and guests gathered at the Army Navy Country Club in Fairfax, VA, for the annual social and dinner. This tradition was started when spouses complained that their husbands got together for lunch and there was no event for them. At the time, **Jack & Judi Wood** had the only officers' club card and so the task of organizing these spouses' dinners fell to them. Over the years, this annual class dinner has been a focal point of class activity in the National Capitol Region. While there have been more classmates leaving the DC area than moving in lately, the class still has a fairly high concentration in the area. This year we were fortunate to have fantastic fall weather and thus were able to enjoy the sweeping view of the number 1 fairway of the Fairfax golf course from the outdoor terrace of the clubhouse. In addition to the locals who were present, our gathering was privileged to have several out of town guests. We were

particularly pleased that **Ed Lock** was able to join us from his home in Virginia Beach, VA. Ed was accompanied by his son Ken who made us all proud of the way of our sons and daughters care for us when we need their help. Also the out-of-towners included **Randy & Jackie Pais**, **Ev & Margaret Lucas**, **Dick & Bonny Radez** and **Hap & Patty Trainer**. As most of you know, **Ray & Sally Winkel** have recently joined us in the area following Ray's retirement. Accordingly, Ray was 'classmated' and asked to be our guest speaker for the evening. Ray gave an informative and entertaining rendition of challenges and rewards of being an academy department head. He related that among other things, the tradition of maneuvering to get the best quarters and view of the Hudson has not changed. When a recent decision was made to give the Supe's Chief of Staff quarters formerly occupied by a department head on Thayer Road, the incident was referred to as a 'staff infection.' Other impromptu speakers followed Ray including **Mike Yap**, the evening's MC, who summarized the plans for our 45th reunion in 2012; **John Caldwell** and **Barbara Lau** who spoke about the great things Cause is doing for our Wounded Warriors and their families, and by **Ev Lucas** who gave an overview of the class cruise mini-reunion planned for the spring of 2010. In the After Action Review (AAR) it was unanimously determined that a good time was had by all. PS. While several people brought cameras to the dinner, everyone was so busy socializing and telling war stories—no one thought of taking any pictures."

Note that last statement from George. The biggest social event of the year for the DC crowd, 55 people in the room, and not one stinking photo. Phooey. Sometimes I really do think I have to do everything myself. Fortunately, I was able to find one photo of the event...





Class Cruise Update

OK, here's the latest (as of 23 November) on the class Mediterranean cruise scheduled for 16 – 28 May 2010, which should be the party of the year. First, a reminder of the itinerary:

Holland America Line (HAL) ship: MS Westerdam
 Boarding date: 16 May 2010 Europe
 12-day Mediterranean Romance
 Venice – Barcelona

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Destination</u>
16 May	Sun	Venice, Italy overnight
17 May	Mon	Venice, Italy
18 May	Tue	Dubrovnik, Croatia
19 May	Wed	Kerkira, Nisos Kerkira (Corfu), Greece
20 May	Thurs	Argostólion, Nisos Kefallinia, Greece
21 May	Fri	Thira, Nisos Thira (Santorini), Greece
22 May	Sat	At Sea
23 May	Sun	Catania, Sicily, Italy Scenic Cruising Straight of Messina
24 May	Mon	Naples (Pompeii), Italy
25 May	Tue	Civitavecchia (Rome), Italy
26 May	Wed	Livorno (Florence), Italy
27 May	Thurs	Barcelona, Spain overnight
28 May	Fri	Barcelona, Spain

Here are the latest words of wisdom from our Class Cruise Director, **Ev Lucas**:

Amenities of our class group will include:

- Two cocktail parties hosted by HAL,
- Dinner for two in the Pinnacle Grill (a \$50 value),
- \$100 per cabin on board credit, and
- Dining as a group in the evenings.

Additionally, Bill Groman and I are trying to work out details with HAL to hopefully arrange an additional private party. Those of you on our Alaskan cruise will recall Bill arranged to have each of us receive a special bottle of wine with our class crest on it. A caveat: we are WORKING this, so we do not have a guarantee on this event yet. (I don't want to hold Bill to something, the mechanics of which might be beyond our ability to work out with HAL.)

Here who has signed up (and forked over their deposit) so far:

Albers Don & Janet	Haseman Paul & Vivian	Mooney Darrel & Roseann
Begin Bob & Sylvia	Hausman Rick & Karen	Nelson Don & Diane
Brown Macy & Laura	Jones Ray & Cheryl	Pais Randy & Jackie
Cain Mike & Jean	Kraus Kent & Roberta	Parr Tom & Joannie
Cali Jim & Gerry	LaBouliere Rich & Carolyn	Sears Steve & Marilyn
Chambers Gary & Lori	Lenz Bob & Roni	Strong Ken & Sara
Doty Steve & Diane	Lowrey Freed & Vicki	Waterman Dick & Debbie
Ducharme Marc & Jodeen	Lucas Everett & Margaret	Williams Doug & Debbie
Economos Pete & Susan	Metzger Bob & Linda	Winkel Ray & Sally
Gizzi Pete & Chris	Miller Lucille & Nancy	Winton George & Donna
Groman Bill & Regina	Misurek Gerry & Cheryl	Wolfe Don & Sarah

Lastly, depending upon how large a group we get, any free cabin(s) will be sold and the proceeds of that sale will be donated to our class fund. At the end of our Alaska cruise I provided over \$5000 to that fund.

An additional advantage to joining our group - you've probably noticed that my originally quoted price from HAL for Cat. VD dropped by around \$300 P/P. I was able to negotiate lower prices with HAL upon my learning HAL had reduced some of their prices. We had 22 classmates signed up at the time and I got price reductions for all booked classmates except those in Cat. SS, a category that did not go down in price. Should prices go down again, I will again work with HAL to get reduced prices for everyone in our group. Our group prices will never be higher than the originally quoted prices.

As I've received numerous questions regarding travel to Venice and the return from Barcelona, I will address some of those questions.

IF FLYING INTO VENICE (i.e., not doing some other pre-cruise travel in Europe as some of you are) you have basically three choices:

1. Sign up for HAL transfers. This should be done before final payment (end of Feb.) and will cost \$118 per person (P/P) or \$236 a couple (for Venice and Barcelona! If only needed in Venice or Barcelona let me know and I'll check the price.)

Remember this value for it is the benchmark for other options. Advantages - eliminates arrival hassles, luggage and you are transported to the ship.

Disadvantages - not necessarily the cheapest way; may result in delays (until they fill the bus)

2. Take a taxi

Advantages - never separated from your luggage, no waiting - takes under 20 minutes (airport to ship), and will cost 35-40 Euros (up to \$60).

Disadvantage - Be sure to confirm rate; you may be able to get 4 in a cab, or more in a mini-van (?) If they want more than 80 Euros P/P you are probably paying too much. As a last resort, find the HAL rep and take their bus.

3. Take a private water taxi

I've never done this, but I'm told you can get 6 of you for 100 Euros from the airport directly to the ship - might be a nice way to go - any of you ever visited Venice and tried this????

IF FLYING HOME FROM BARCELONA

1. Can still use HAL (again, included if you took the \$118 transfers. You will also be able to sign up on board, price unknown.)

Disadvantage - your bus may go to the airport LONG before your departure time.

2. Take a taxi

The prices, I've been told, run around 30 Euros for 4! Again, check the quoted price before getting in the cab - if asking too much, may still be able to go through HAL.

OTHER SUGGESTIONS:

- Ray Winkel asked about having your luggage forward before and after your flights. HAL gave me a web site <http://www.luggageforward.com/> or call at 866-416-7447. I know no further details, but it might be interesting to check into if interested, especially if your flight is not non-stop!

- Go for flights with the fewest connections. That reduces your risk of arriving sans baggage and missing connecting flights if any of your departures are delayed.

What I'm doing, in the for what it's worth department: I'm flying Continental, upgraded using frequent flier points to business class departing 15 May from Newark, NJ to Rome and via Alitalia to Venice, arriving around 10:20 am. on the 16th. Boarding will probably start around noon. Margaret & I will grab lunch and then go explore Venice. Dinner will be at 8 pm for our group so we'll have lots of time to roam. Remember, the ship departs Venice at 1300 on the 17th so, technically, you can arrive in Venice and board in the morning on the 17th (NLT 11:00am). However, you paid for the Westerdam 'hotel & meals, so why not use them.

Our return is non-stop from Barcelona to Newark. I'm still hoping to upgrade with points.

We will probably use a taxi unless I can figure the water taxi out in Venice.

By all means, comments from classmates who have been through the Venice or Barcelona airports, please let us all know if my comments above are not correct or you have additional details (especially on the private water taxi) as some of the above are at best 2nd person hearsay (prices subject to change).

Questions are welcome.

Respectfully,

Everett Lucas

W: (732) 427-0394; DSN: 987-0394

H: (732) 542-1641

The Class Great Adventure Ranger/Fishing Platoon Prepares for an Assault on the Trout of Colorado

While we normally gather every other year at spartan, remote and desolate wild places to conquer nature at its wildest, stalk wily and wary trout and reaffirm our manliness (our most recent non-illuminated, non-supported night river crossing assault was this past July in Montana), the Class Ranger/Fishing Platoon has been given the opportunity for an off-year adventure in 2010, thanks to our own **Tom Petrie**.



▲ Tom Petrie's Elk Fork Ranch

Tom owns a magnificent ranch, The Elk Fork, in the Colorado high country, near the town of Kremmling, and it is blessed with miles of great trout streams, chock-a-block full of magnificent fish. As testimony, here's a photo of my wife **Vicki** with a rainbow she caught on the East Fork of the Troublesome Creek on Tom's ranch a couple years ago.

Tom has invited us to be his guests on the ranch for a fishing and shooting excursion (otherwise known as a cast and blast) from 18 - 22 July, and in the blink of an eye 20 of the platoon members threw caution

► Vicki Lowrey with a great rainbow she caught of Tom Petrie's ranch



(and possibly their marriages) to the wind and volunteered for this hazardous mission, and others are clamoring to join in. It will be great fun, and will insure a steady supply of dead fish flicks more several issues of the *Pooper Scooper* to come. I know that gives you all great comfort.

Here's who is signed up: **Freed Lowrey, Randy Pais, John Severson, Chad Keck, Glynn Hale, Pete Hanelt, Monty Meigs, Mike Hood, Bob Murrill, Mike Norton, Carl Savory, Ray Jones, Rich Adams, Hap Trainor, Lloyd McMillan, Bill Groman** (chief hydration officer), **John Murrell, Carl Kraft, Bill Freccia, and John Caldwell**. It's always comforting that we have our own medical team with us: Savory, Norton and Freccia, as their services are frequently required treating the wounded.

Stay tuned, sports fans.

Hood and Severson Nab Second Place in the Texas Invitational Golf Tournament – Again!



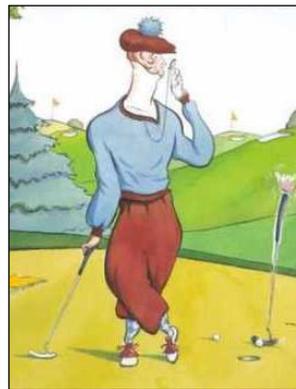
▲ Nickerson, Hood, Hale and Severson at the Texas Invitational

Here's the report I received on this prestigious event from **John Severson**.

Dateline: Dallas, Texas 4 November 2009

“Yes, sports fans, it was that time of year again. Slant sunshine, cool mornings, football fever but most of all the state of Texas was abuzz about that classic autumn event, the Texas Invitational Golf Tournament pitting big hitters from around the country in a winner take all, high stakes, emotion packed contest. **John Severson**, representing the state of Oregon, was matched as usual with the ever clever **Mike Hood** of local Dallas. They started slowly off the first tee and were in last place after five holes. They trailed their closest competitor by three holes. A quick meeting to discuss strategy led to a surge that had the crowd literally holding their breath in anticipation of each shot and in a shouting frenzy as the shots fell. After the first nine they led the field after Hood hit booming drive after booming drive and Severson's putter turned white hot. Confidence retained, they marched to the back nine and continued their excellent play. On the dreaded 14th hole they

faltered with both marksmen hooking their drives. The field moved in to take advantage of the unlucky shots, and the dynamic duo now just shared the lead with some Johnny-Come-Lately players. On the 17th a crucial 30 foot putt by Severson just curled away at the last moment and the match was essentially over for the Oregon-Dallas pairing. They had to settle for runners up, second place. Hood said, “We played our hearts out. The crowd was behind us, but the putts just did not fall for us on the back nine. We will be back next year, and we will win this event. You can mark it down. (Editor's note: **Barry Nickerson** and **Glynn Hale** also participated in this event.)”



Plans Shaping Up for the 2010 Class Golf Reunion

The selection of the dates 18-22 July for the Petrie Ranch fishing raid was not haphazard; it starts the day the 2010 golf reunion ends, since a number of the Ranger Platoon members are also participants in the annual golf ball hunt. Luckily, the 2010 golf reunion will also be in Colorado.

As I reported last time, the 2010 Golf Reunion is being hosted by **Leslie Nelson**. According to the early planning, it will be in Breckenridge, CO. According to Leslie, people will start arriving part on Monday, July 12th, 2010. The practice round will be on the 13th followed by 4 days of competitive play. The shopping, eating and drinking will be continuous. The outing will end on Sunday, July 18th. Details and registration info will be out soon.

In honor of all you golfers out there, here's a poem you ought to relate to, and enjoy. I received it from **Jim Cali**:

Golf Poem

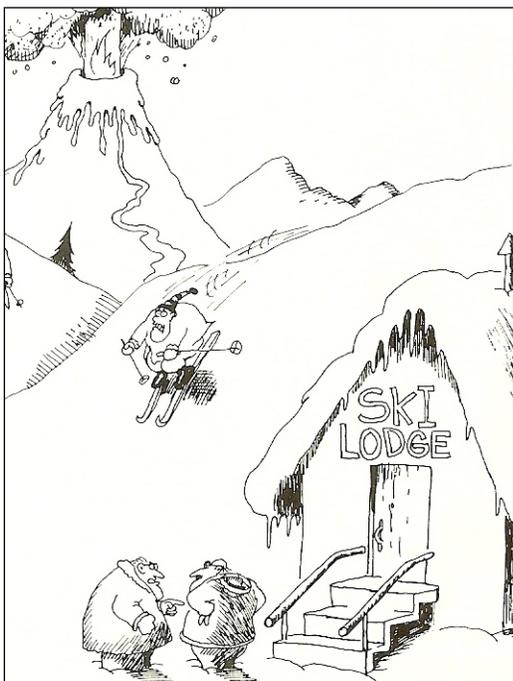
*In My Hand I Hold A Ball,
White And Dimpled, Rather Small.
Oh, How Bland It Does Appear,
This Harmless Looking Little Sphere.
By It's Size I Could Not Guess,
The Awesome Strength It Does Possess.
But Since I Fell Beneath Its Spell,
I've Wandered Through The Fires Of Hell.
My Life Has Not Been Quite The Same,
Since I Chose To Play This Stupid Game.
It Rules My Mind For Hours On End,
A Fortune It Has Made Me Spend.
It Has Made Me Yell, Curse And Cry.
I Hate Myself And Want To Die.
It Promises A Thing Called Par,*

*If I Can Hit It straight And Far..
 To Master Such A Tiny Ball,
 Should Not Be Very Hard At All.
 But My Desires The Ball Refuses,
 And Does Exactly As It Chooses.
 It Hooks And Slices, Dribbles And Dies,
 And Even Disappears Before My Eyes.
 Often It Will Have A Whim,
 To Hit A Tree Or Take A Swim.
 With Miles Of Grass On Which To Land,
 It Finds A Tiny Patch Of Sand.
 Then Has Me Offering Up My Soul,
 If Only It Would Find The Hole.
 It's Made Me Whimper Like A Pup,
 And Swear That I Will Give It Up..
 And Take To Drink To Ease My Sorrow,
 But The Ball Knows I'll Be Back Tomorrow.*

Stand proud you noble swingers of clubs and losers of balls.... A recent study found the average golfer walks about 900 miles a year. Another study found golfers drink, on average, 22 gallons of alcohol a year. That means, on average, golfers get about 41 miles to the gallon. Kind of makes you proud. Almost feel like a hybrid. A lean mean golfing machine - so to speak.

2010 Ski Reunion and Dewey Purple Butt Award Contest is Almost Here

Here's the latest update (29 Oct) on planning for this annual debauch and medical triage training, courtesy of **Carol Swanson:**



▲ Me? This was your year to go up and sacrifice the goat.

“Brrr...the snow is on the ground here in the Carson Valley so you KNOW there is snow and snowmaking at our Tahoe resorts! ALL the events for this ski reunion are at your doorstep or shuttle away...no car needed! They predict Big Snow and Great Deals for Ski Lake Tahoe Resorts for the Upcoming Winter 2009-10 so join us!

EVENTS:

Thursday, February 4th Welcome wine and cheese event (come early and ski Kirkwood with us)

Friday, February 5th Squaw Valley ski or non-ski pkg. with Après ski party on the Dixie Queen Paddle Boat

Saturday, February 6th Ski Heavenly from the Gondola at your door step! Dinner Buffet at Stateline Steak and Microbrewery

Sunday, February 7th Super Bowl Party and ski at any of the resorts (bus transportation at your door step!)

Monday, February 8th Ski at Alpine Meadows with Doug Pringle's Adaptive Ski Program.

BUT if you want to stay longer they just announced a sale on the Ski Lake Tahoe Six-Pack which includes six days of skiing or riding at the seven Ski Lake Tahoe resorts for only \$269...an affordable way to enjoy the Ski Lake Tahoe resorts, including Alpine Meadows, Heavenly Mountain Resort, Kirkwood Mountain Resort, Mt. Rose-Ski, Northstar-at-Tahoe Resort, Sierra-at-Tahoe Resort and Squaw Valley USA. The Ski Lake Tahoe Six-Pack includes six days of skiing or riding at the seven Ski Lake Tahoe resorts for only \$269. Visit www.skilaketahoe.com for info on all the great places to ski here and this deal!

Join your friends/classmates (be sure to book your rooms and airfare NOW):

Chuck & Carol Swanson, Bill & Regina Groman, Tom & Kathy Calocci, Mike & Jean Cain, Tom & Joannie Parr (and family), Ed & Janet Dewey, Doug Pringle, Fred & Marian Schrepf, Alton & Carolyn Donnell Larry & Joann Smith

Still Considering:

Ray & Sally Winkel, George Kellenbenz, Malcolm Philips (& son), Rick and Karen Hausman, Bill & Millie Freccia, Bill & Pat McDowell, Bill & Ann Obly, George & Bonnie Watts

Missing in Action:

Colorado regulars...you know who you are! No excuse with the air fare!

THINK SNOW!
 Carol & Chuck Swanson

CLASSMATE COMINGS AND GOINGS

Lee & Diane Murphy do the Great Loop on Their Boat

Here's another travelogue report, this one from Lee Murfee. "Here's a photo of Diane and me enjoying a bike ride on Mackinac Island, MI, while on the last 1700 mile leg of our great loop boat trip in our small boat, Mellow Yellow. The great



▲ Lee & Diane Murfee on Mackinac Island, MI

loop runs down the Mississippi River from St. Louis to New Orleans, over to Florida and up the east coast to New York City, then up the Hudson to Canada and over to the Great Lakes and down to Chicago; then down to St. Louis again. This last leg included the 1000 Island area of the St. Lawrence Seaway, the Trent-Severn Waterway in Canada and the Georgian Bay, also in Canada. Using our new fold up bikes, we had some good bike rides in the small towns along the way - and also on Mackinac Island, Chicago and St. Louis. Over the years, the great loop trip has been close to 12,000 miles for me - most of the legs were round trip back to my trailer - with side trips to Key West, Boston, and up and down various rivers. The joy is clearly in the traveling through nature. Mackinac Island is a wonderful stop along the way - whether you arrive by private boat or ferry. Diane is a great loopier!"

Lee and Diane have four grown children, Lisa, Eileen, Lee and Laura; Lee is currently a (shudder) Physics P at West Point. According to him, many physics

vectors and associated navigation skills were used along the way around the great loop. If I had to rely on my knowledge of physics vectors, whatever the hell they are, I would end up in Afghanistan.

Jim Milliken Continues His Transcontinental Travels

Jim has really been on the move these past few months; I've gotten several fascinating travelogues from him. Here are some of the highlights.

From 23 August: "Just came across the border from Ottawa this afternoon. Am heading for NH to do some backpacking in the White Mountains before heading down to Boston for the 250th Anniversary of the founding of Westminster, MA, before heading

toward FL. I hope to stop by West Point on my way south as my old XO's son, Alex Boroff, is a member of class of '11. As a result of that I'm being feted at the Army/Navy game by my old roommate (unlike any of the benefits of my own classmates) so will be attending there as well (well, since he puts me up and provides the ticket...). I'm passing thru in late Sept so will try to contact you and Vicki (my preferred contact). If I'm unsuccessful I'll try again around Army/Navy game and if that fails well then there is always the Founders Day Dinner in Naples! Had a great trip so far...left on 28 April, did the Kentucky Derby, then



▲ Jim Milliken and friends at the Kentucky Derby

hiking in Rocky Mountain National Park for 18 days, then a six day back pack trip in Bridger Wilderness in WY, before doing the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally with friends. Loving this retirement! (Freed note: Jimbo has waaayyyy too much time on



▲ Jim Milliken hiking in the Bridger Wilderness Area



▲ Jim Milliken at the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally

his hands.) My six day backpack trip into the Bridger Wilderness in WY was awesome. Each day I felt stronger and that was after three days of wondering what the hell I was doing out in this all alone. Later, Jimbo."

From 11 Sept: "I'm now in MA and will be here thru the 27th. I'm enclosing a photo of my recent hike (last weekend) in the White Mountains."



▲ Milliken hiking in the White Mountains of New Hampshire

From 15 Sep: "Did a little hike up Mt. Manadnock in NH yesterday but it wasn't really much of challenge compared to the White Mountains further north in the state. Gonna go into Boston this weekend to play some racquetball with one of the snowbirds from FL. Doing a lot of local car shows and cruise-ins. Like continues to be difficult but I'm making the best I can of it! Here's a couple more photos from my trip...the one with the women is me on the way to the Kentucky Derby party. The one with all the Stutzes on my lawn was done for a British journalist who wanted to see the cars. I have a good one of my rig stuck in the mud at **George Harmon's** farm in Springfield MO. George said "just pull in past the house and turn around in front of the garages and pull back onto the asphalt." Famous last words, I did fine for about 60 feet past the asphalt when the back wheels sank right up to the transmission pan. Took him and me a day to dig me out.



▲ Jim Milliken with his collection of Stutz's

LaRaia's Travel Down Under and to Southeast Asia

Here's a neat travelogue from **Bob LaRaia**:

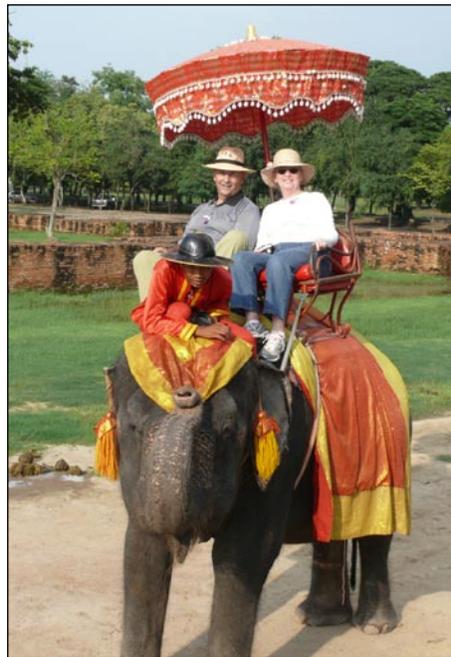
"Dear Freed:

Jan and I just got back from a fabulous trip to Southeast Asia, Australia and New Zealand. This one we paid for in contrast to that all-expenses-paid one compliments of the US Army 40 years ago. We flew to Hong Kong, spent a few days with friends there and then boarded a cruise ship that took us to Hanoi, Da Nang, Saigon, Thailand and Singapore during two weeks.

The stops in Hanoi and Saigon were the main reason I wanted to take this cruise

and it was somewhat emotional for me when I first set foot on Vietnamese territory for the first time in 40 years and the for the first time ever in what was North Vietnam then. Saigon brought back memories but also amazement at the bustle and vitality of the place with all kinds of development going on and cars and motorcycles filling the streets. The contrast with the quiet, almost country town atmosphere of Hanoi where the main attraction is Ho Chi Minh's tomb made me think that if it was a war between competing economic philosophies 40 years ago, the winner was capitalism, and by a wide margin.

Thailand was fun and I've attached a photo of Jan and me rocking along on one of the local means of transportation in Bangkok.



▲ Bob & Jan LaRaia with their Cash for Clunkers trade in

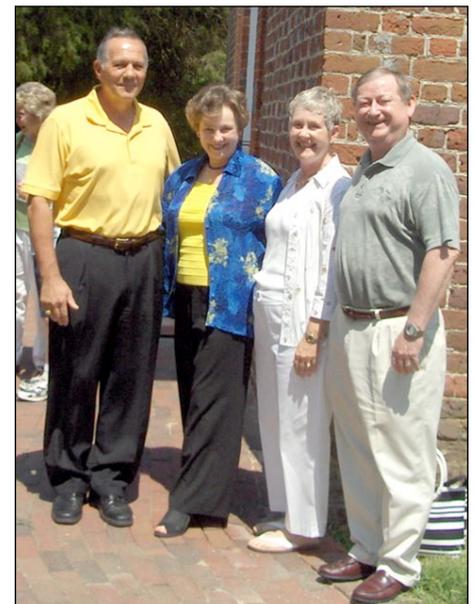
As wonderful as SE Asia was, Australia and New Zealand were even greater. We flew from Singapore to Perth on the west coast of Australia (a great city, a mix of San Diego and Austin), drove (me on the right side of the car with the steering wheel, the car on the left side of the road and Jan gasping every few minutes and ready to divorce me) 3 hours down to the Margaret River Valley, a lovely wine region where a lot of the wineries have world class restaurants. We then flew over to the east side of the continent to Cairns (the Aussies

say "Cans") and snorkeled on the Great Barrier Reef, and on to Sydney which must be one of the most fabulous cities in the world, then on to Auckland on New Zealand's North Island and Christchurch on the South Island. I only wish we'd had more than 6 days to see New Zealand.

I recommend the trip to all our classmates. Try to do it when the exchange rates are better though. When I was planning the trip, the rates of the Australia dollar and the New Zealand dollar were US\$0.80 and US\$0.60 respectively. When we got there they were US\$0.92 and US\$0.80. Big difference when I pulled out the credit card to pay hotel and restaurant tabs. But it was still well worth it.

Penningtons & Tankoviches Link up in Virginia

Back on 29 August I received a nice cyber photo from **Jim Tankovich**, showing him and **Margaret Ann** along with **Bill & Bonnie Pennington** standing outside the Tank's church, St. John's Episcopal, in Chuckatuck, VA. This is the new church; it was built in 1755. The old one was built in 1642. The Pennington's were passing through on their way to the annual family week on the beach at Corolla, NC. I guess they decided they needed some spiritual reinforcement before starting a week of debauched bacchanal.



▲ Tankovitches and Penningtons at the Tank's church in Virginia

Classmates Gather for the Army – Iowa State Football game

Several classmates made the trek to the Heartland to watch the Army – Iowa State football game back in September. I hope they had a good time partying, because the game stank to a fare-thee-well. As you can see in the photo provided by **Monte Parrish, Karl Jacobs, Don Nelson** and **Ray Winkel** all traveled to the middle kingdom for the festivities.



▲ Karl Jacobs, Ray Winkel, Tana & Monte Parrish, Astronaut Bill McArthur '73 and Don Nelson at the Iowa State football game

Bill & Patti Pollitt Raft the Colorado River



▲ Bill & Patti Pollitt in the Grand Canyon

I received the following cyber fart from **Bill Pollitt** on 18 October: “Here’s a photo of Patti and me celebrating our 40th anniversary rafting 188 miles on the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon. It was an absolutely marvelous trip...in hind sight...but parts of it as we experienced it were reminders of Ranger school days

Twelve days out in nature in 105 degree heat, but built us lots of character. I’d recommend it to all.”

The Kipers Splurge and Attend the Woolly Worm Festival!

I’m not making this up, folks. Here’s a note I received from **Rich Kiper** on 25 October: “Some classmates go to Aspen, some to Vail, some fly fishing in Montana.

Others go on cruises to the Caribbean or Alaska. BUT NOT US. NOPE. WE go to the 32d Annual Woolly Worm Festival in Banner Elk, NC. Let’s see you top that!!”

Actually, I went to the annual ice worm festival in Portage, Alaska, many years ago. And you should all remember my photos of the Great Adventure Fishing

Platoon on their way to the annual Testicle Festival in Montana a couple years ago... but that’s another story.



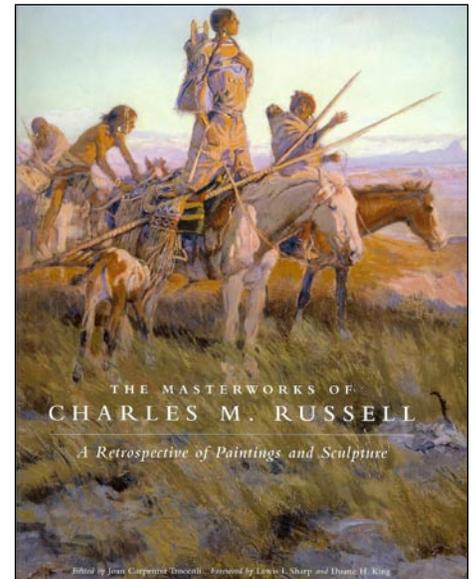
▲ The Kipers at the Woolly Worm Festival

Ray & Sally Winkel Visit the Petries



▲ Tom Petrie with Ray & Sally Winkel in Tom's home

I received the following note from **Ray Winkel** on 5 November: “Freed, weekend before last, **Sally** and I visited **Tom & Jane Petrie** in Denver and on their ranch. It was a great weekend. The nominal purpose of the trip was to go with them to “The Masterworks of Charles M. Russell” exhibit (http://www.denverartmuseum.org/explore_art/temporaryExhibitionDetails/exhibitionId--184411/exhibitionType--Current) at the **Petrie Institute of Western Art** in the Denver Art Museum. Sixty of the best paintings and sculptures of “the Cowboy Artist” were on display, and being guided through the exhibit by Tom was a real treat. Having a portion of the Denver Art Museum named in your honor is, of course, worth lots of kudos all by itself. But I just



▲ The cover of the book about the Charles Russell art exhibit at the Petrie Center for Western Art at the Denver Art Museum

started reading the large (10"x12" 269 pp) hardback book that describes the exhibit. In the book editor's acknowledgements, she says: 'It may have taken the combined resources of many people and institutions to carry it through to completion, but 'The Masterworks of Charles M. Russell' would not have been initiated without the inspiring vision and tireless support of Denver Art Museum Trustee **Thomas A. Petrie**, who holds the most important collection of works by Russell in private hands. Tom's passion for the artist, his deep knowledge of Russell's life and art, and his extraordinary generosity with his time, library and research files, financial support, contacts among collectors and dealers, and the works in his collection have been constants since day one. Tom and his wife, Jane, are the kind of museum

making it their escape on the Hudson. I received the following cyber fart from Carolyn Donnell on 1 December:

"Hi Freed - We just had a wonderful visit with Ray & Sally Winkel over Thanksgiving Weekend. We spent it up at our cabin in Angel Fire (which is 3 hours north of ABQ). We had a nice dinner with **Joan & Mark Fischer** while they were here and then had five days up in the mountains at an altitude of over 8600 ft....that might be the reason why I was able to beat Ray at backgammon. We had a very competitive backgammon tournament going while we were together - I was eliminated early but then Ray and I had private games on the side???. My daughter Ashley, who is in Denver for two months doing her Pediatric rotation and Out-Patient Medicine rotation

was able to drive down and join us for the fun. As a side note, Ashley will be joining **Tom Parr** for her Orthopedic rotation in early June. She will graduate from PA school the end of June. We shoveled snow, went for several walks, and then sat by the fire with some good wine in hand. The attached photo shows two cowboys telling us everything they know about the



▲ Tom Petrie and Freed Lowrey in the Petrie's dining room

benefactors that curators dream about, and I am proud to count them among my dearest friends. -Joan Carpenter Troccoli" (Freed note: I also visited Tom & Jane recently, and Tom gave me a personal guided tour of the exhibit. It truly is magnificent. All you folks in Houston listen up: the exhibit will be on display at the Houston Art Museum this coming summer. Don't miss it!)

Winkels Also Visit the Donnells in New Mexico

Now that **Ray** has retired and he and **Sally** have left West Point they've obviously decided it's time for some payback from all the folks who crashed at the Winkel B&B at the Scared Soil for so many years,

helicopter behind them. This photo was taken up at the Viet Nam Veterans Memorial State Park in Angel Fire.



▲ Ray Winkel and Alton Donnell at the Viet Nam Veterans Memorial State Park in Angel Fire, NM



▲ The Winkels and Donnells at Angel Fire

P.S. FYI - Tyler will be returning to Fort Hood from Kirkuk, Iraq sometime just before Christmas...finishing up his third deployment. His plans are to start graduate school (school TBD) in June and then back to teach in the Physics Dept at West Point the summer of 2012. He needs a little break after three back-to-back deployments.

P.P.S. Alton just had shoulder surgery done by none other than Dr. Tom Parr a few weeks ago. All is well. It is a good thing he only has two of everything or the surgeries would go on and on and on.

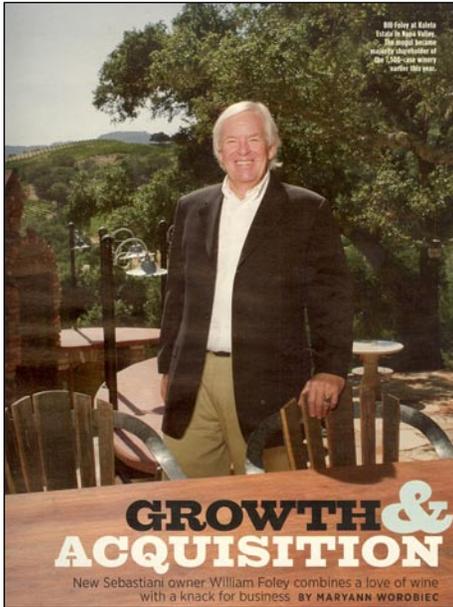
Swimming Teammates Come back Together at Kerry O'Hara's Home

Well, at least a couple of them did. Here's what I got from Kerry back in August: "Freed, the attached picture shows me with **John Landgraf** and **Chuck Larson** who visited me in Vermont a few weeks ago. Chuck was on the swim team and in Company B-1 for two years before leaving West Point to pursue a medical degree which he ultimately did at McGill University. He now is with the British Columbia Children's Hospital as Director of the Center for International Child Health. He's has worked in Ethopia for five years, Chelyabinsk, Russia for four years and Bangladesh among other interesting places. It was a great reunion. The last time we saw each other, we were all 19 years old."



▲ Kerry O'Hara, John Landgraf and Chuck Larson

Bill Foley Nominated For Wine Person of the Year



▲ Bill Foley, from the Wine Spectator article about his growing wine empire

Bill continues to get a LOT of coverage in the wine press. There is an excellent three page article about Bill in the 15 November issue of Wine Spectator magazine; it starts on page 83. And here's some exciting news: in the November issue of *Wine Enthusiast* it was announced that Bill was nominated for the Wine Enthusiast Annual Wine Star award as Person of the Year. The article calls Bill a "powerhouse force in the wine industry." It goes on to say his wine company is now the 24th largest in America and moving up. Winery acquisitions focus on quality and anticipating trends. (Freed note: Bill just bought ten wineries in New Zealand). The winner will be announced in the December issue of *Wine Enthusiast*. Well done, Bill, and congratulations. Is this something we can all influence by voting early and voting often?

Bill Foley's Golf Course at His Ranch, Rock Creek Cattle Company, is Voted #2 New Private Course in the Country by Golf Digest

This is very cool. Golf Digest January issue hit the newsstands recently and in it is their annual list of "Best New" courses. Bills course at Rock Creek Cattle Company

has been chosen second, ahead of some spectacular competition. What an honor to even make the list and to finish first in the west is tremendous recognition. The survey was conducted using a panel of more than 900 panelists, who evaluated courses using five criteria: Shot Values, Design Variety, Resistance to Scoring, Memorability and Aesthetics. To be eligible, a course must have officially opened between May 1, 2008 and April 30, 2009. Rock Creek had over forty raters play and rate the golf course this past summer. This follows Rock Creek's selection as number one overall from Golf Week for "Best New" last month.

Monty Meigs Selected to be President of Business Executives for National Security (BENS)



▲ Monty Meigs, new president of BENS

a nationwide, non-partisan organization, is the primary channel through which senior business executives can help enhance the nation's security. BENS member use their business experience to drive BENS' agenda, deliver their message to decision makers and make certain the decisions they propose are put into practice. BENS has only one special interest: to help make America safe and secure. Their national office is in Washington, DC (that's where Monty will be) and they have regional offices located around the country.

Well done Monty, pop up your scrawny little chest. Now, if you could just learn to fly fish.....

Mike Aiello Serving in Afghanistan

There was a nice article in the 7 September edition of the Middletown, NY, *Times Herald-Record* about our own **Mike Aiello**, who lives in nearby Montgomery,

NY. As I mentioned in the August *Pooper Scooper*, Mike is now in Afghanistan under the auspices of the Department of State, working with the Corps of Engineers. He is involved with water and sewer infrastructure projects for the local Afghan communities. As he described it in the article, it's tough work with lots of huge challenges. Here's the article:

**Engineer lends skill to Afghans
Montgomery man helps to rebuild nation**

By Meghan E. Murphy
Times Herald-Record, September 7, 2009

Engineer **Mike Aiello Sr.**, 66, decided four months ago to take his small-town know-how all the way around the world to Afghanistan. Aiello has long worked on sewer and infrastructure projects in the Town of Montgomery, but before he retires, he wanted to lend a hand to the Army Corps of Engineers to which he belongs.

In a recent letter home, he described Afghanistan as a sweltering Hades where the people are in a daily struggle for existence. The Times Herald-Record asked him about engineering in this environment.

What are you building?

Personally, I am involved with civil works reconstruction efforts in the outlying communities. These efforts include schools and community infrastructure such as roads, water and energy supply to the direct benefit of the civilian residents, the Afghan people.

How would you say the infrastructure issues there compare with those in America?

There are essentially two separate lifestyles here: metropolitan, in cities like Kabul, and rural, in both the desert and the mountains. The cities are for the most part very dense habitation with the same kind of traffic, noise and social issues found anywhere, only worse – albeit, the cars are mostly worn-out wrecks. In the rural areas, to make a comparison, you would have to imagine what living in rural American was like circa 1850s without the railroads. If you are fortunate enough to have a donkey, you have a mode of transportation.



▲ Mike Aiello in Afghanistan

Generally, in these rural areas, there is not infrastructure other than that being created here recently in areas selected by the elders of the provinces.

How would you compare the availability of resources there with those in the United States?

Little comparison exists. First, the region has no wood products and must import all lumber; the same goes for steel. Practically all construction is masonry, concrete and tile. Other than rugs and some textile facilities, there is little or no manufacturing segment in the economy and all consumer products as we know them are imported. I can't find the local Porsche dealership, either.

What skills does an engineer need in a war zone that one here doesn't?

The AED has coined a term called "austere engineering," referring to a discipline wherein the professional must make do with less resources than would be available back home, and (that) includes working in a dangerous, third-world environment. At times, innovation and improvisation are needed, as is the acceptance of getting the job done with less-than-perfect quality. Security is always an issue. Life is made difficult for an engineer because of the restrictions imposed by security and the fact that we don't have the mobility to get to the projects.

What is the general impression of the state of the country and war?

Afghanistan is a country in transformation. Forty years of war and the Taliban have wreaked havoc. The best bet to keep Afghanistan from again becoming a safe haven for terrorist groups lies in a stable government led by a capable and legitimate president, one that is able to provide for its own defense and security.

On the plus side, the U.S. and NATO have clearly indicated that our support is under new management and even though the Taliban show no signs of relenting, there appears to be a consensus that dialogue may be a way to end the violence. Personally, I have my doubts.

Bob Murrill Has Made a Tremendous Breakthrough in the Attempt to Eliminate Friendly Fire Casualties



▲ Bob Murrill

Here's a great report I received on 23 November from Bob Murrill:

MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 1967 HELPING TO SOLVE THE HISTORIC PROBLEM OF "FRIENDLY FIRE!"

QUESTION – AFTER ENEMY ACTION, WHAT IS THE NEXT LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH TO AMERICAN SOLDIERS AND MARINES ON THE BATTLEFIELD, TODAY?

ANSWER – "FRIENDLY FIRE!"

Since 2003, many members of the USMA Class of '67 contributed to a research and development program (the Flashlight™ Combat Identification System), which is designed to significantly reduce casualties caused by "Friendly Fire." **Thanks to these Classmates and others, there is a solution to the historic battlefield problem of "US KILLING US."**

The Flashlight™ Combat Identification System

HISTORY – Friendly Fire ("FF") has been a reality on American battlefields, since English settlers arrived in North America. Documentation indicates that early Pilgrims sustained wounds caused by mini-balls during skirmishes with the Indians. (At the time, the Indians possessed only bows, arrows, and war clubs.) FF has been a fact of battle in every subsequent American war.

American troops almost killed General George Washington at the Battle of Brooklyn in the Revolutionary War. During daylight bombing along US Army front lines in France after D-Day, the Eighth Air Force dropped a bomb so close to LTG Leslie J. McNair (the genius who devised plans to organize, train, and deploy 99 US Army divisions for WW II) that his remains were never found. Also during WWII, President Franklin Roosevelt was on a US ship that came dangerously close to being damaged or sunk by a "Friendly" air attack. (Numerous other examples can be recited.) What turns would history have taken, if Washington or Roosevelt had died from FF or if McNair had lived?

OPERATION DESERT STORM and OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM - One week prior to the 100-hour ground phase of Operation Desert Storm (February 17, 1991), an Apache Helicopter Battalion Commander in the Big Red One led a three-ship formation to destroy an enemy recon probe. The mission occurred at night and in inclement weather. The Commander identified two vehicular targets. The vehicles were separate from known "Friendly" positions and were thought to be enemy. After several minutes discussing the sighting, the Brigade Commander ordered the Aviation Battalion Commander to take out the targets. In fact, they were US troops on reconnaissance – one group in a Bradley Fighting Vehicle and one in an M113 APC. Two US soldiers died and six were wounded as the result of being hit by two Hellfire missiles from the Apache.

That incident started the journey by the Apache Helicopter Battalion Commander to develop an effective and reliable technology to stop the insanity of "Friendly Fire" – US KILLING US.

Members of the Class of 1967 began assisting the effort in 2003.

Conservative figures for the initial combat phases of the two recent allied wars in Iraq indicate that more than 20% of combat deaths resulted from FF. This percentage is realistically much higher. The ONLY category with a greater kill rate is “Enemy Action” and that rate is about 35%.

During the 41-day initial air and ground attack of Operation Desert Storm (1991), there were seven (7) deaths from FF per 100,000 troops. During the 46-day initial air and ground attack of Operation Iraqi Freedom (2003), there were twenty-nine (29) deaths from FF per 100,000 troops. That is an increase of 314% from Gulf War #1 to Gulf War #2. Casualties from Friendly Fire significantly increased – not decreased - during this period, despite concerted military efforts to solve the problem.

FF is not limited to the American battlefield. Foreign wars before Alexander the Great to modern day experienced FF. Recently (January 2009), Israeli’s incursion into Gaza resulted in death to ten (10) Israeli soldiers. Five of those soldiers were killed by FF - a 50% FF rate.

FLASHLIGHT™ COMBAT ID TECHNOLOGY



▲ The Flashlight Combat Identification System

Flashlight™ CID is a single-system solution to direct fire Combat Identification. The Flashlight™ interrogator aligns with any direct-fire weapon and identifies a friendly person wearing a compatible transponder. The Flashlight™ transponder will be about the size of a cell phone and will weigh around 6 to 8 ounces or less. Flashlight™

technology has been proven and can operate soldier-to-soldier, ground-to-ground, air-to-ground, etc. All that needs to follow (and this is very doable, but not a small task) is to miniaturize the electronics that drive the interrogator and transponder.

The Flashlight™ Program has enthusiastic support from Congress (including three years of R&D funding), four major US defense contractors (each of which wants to build the system) and troops on the ground. Recently, the Flashlight™ R&D Team demonstrated engineering models to two DoD organizations. The Flashlight™ devices performed flawlessly and resulted in significant interest within our Defense Department. Now, we are seeking support and implementation from Department of the Army.

IMPACT BEYOND THE BATTLEFIELD

- FF is no longer ONLY a tactical (on-the-ground) problem. FF affects the US on a strategic and higher level - international alliances/diplomacy/politics. How many more allied soldiers will die from FF, before nations friendly to the US are no longer willing to work with our military on the battlefield? How many more US soldiers will die, before the American people lose their political will?

We must not let the opportunity wane. THE TIME IS NOW for our Military to support and to implement this needed capability.

(NOTE – On behalf of members of the Class of '67 who provided and continue to provide substantial time and effort to Flashlight™ Combat ID development, the Flashlight™ Program made contributions to the USMA Center for Oral History.)

Walt Mather's Dad's Bequest Helps New Cadets Going to West Point

Here’s a neat story I pulled from the West Point AOG website back in July:
A Little Can Go a Long Way
 “COL Walter E. Mather ’41 grew up in the Bronx with four siblings and a widowed



▲ The Mather family at West Point; that’s our Walt on the right

mother of modest means. On receiving his appointment to West Point, a neighbor gave him the money he needed to attend the Academy.

COL Mather credited West Point for giving him an education, lifelong friends, and a sense of purpose in serving the Army and his country. Over his lifetime he supported West Point – through Army Athletics, the Long Gray Line Fund, and his Class. But it was COL Mather’s final modest bequest that perhaps had the greatest impact. Upon his death, COL Mather did what his neighbor did for him so many years before; he left funds through a charitable gift annuity to aid Cadets in paying the initial deposit of acceptance to West Point.

His gift benefited 107 Cadets. Many wrote letters of thanks to COL Mather’s family which speak of the worry that an inability to pay the initial deposit might prevent them from attending West Point – a story similar to COL Mather’s own.

‘I wanted to let you know how thankful I am for your father’s contribution that helped make West Point a possibility for me. It is people like your father that make me proud to be a part of this institution and to hope that I can someday give back to West Point as he did.’

‘I did not have the pleasure of meeting (your father) or thanking him personally . . . Know that your father may not be here in the flesh but his support of me and the many others he has helped will always be remembered.’

‘I would like to thank your father for assisting me with the initial deposit to come to West Point. I was in the Army

for three years before coming here and I was pulled straight from a 13-month deployment to Afghanistan and had about two weeks before starting school.’ Carol Wieneke, COL Mather’s daughter, said: ‘The letters I received validated Dad’s wishes that he could make a difference for young incoming cadets – a difference enabling them to have the opportunity of a West Point education and an experience that will last a lifetime.’

Through his gift COL Mather touched these cadets in a simple and meaningful way and he continued to make a real difference even after his death.”

Carl Savory Receives the Distinguished Citizen Award from the Boy Scouts

As if being inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame wasn’t enough over achievement for one quarter, Carl has also been honored by the Boy Scouts in Georgia. Here’s what **Jimmy Balkcom** sent me back in September:

The Distinguished Citizen Award

“Since 1981, the Chattahoochee Council has recognized top community leaders who have reflected the values of Scouting by their outstanding community service. Scouting is proud to be able to acknowledge them for their exceptional efforts on behalf of the citizens of the Chattahoochee Valley area. There are those among us who have distinguished themselves with their service to our community. Certainly, **Dr. Carlton Savory** is one of those individuals. His leadership, dedication, and generosity in the medical field, military service, and his everyday life have impacted this area in so many ways. Carlton will join an outstanding line up of extraordinary citizens as the 28th recipient of the Annual Distinguished Citizen award. We hope you will join us in recognizing the numerous contributions and good works of Dr. Savory. Proceeds from this event will benefit nearly 8,000 local youth who participate in our Boy Scout programs.

You are cordially invited to a Recognition Dinner Honoring **Dr. Carlton Savory** Distinguished Citizen Featuring keynote remarks by LTG (Ret.) Jerry Boykin

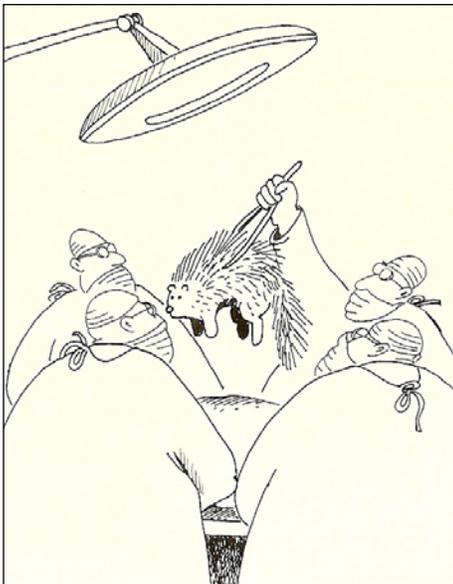
October 15, 2009
Reception at 6:15 p.m.
Dinner at 7:00 p.m.
Columbus Ironworks Convention and Trade Center
Columbus, Georgia
Business Attire

The Distinguished Citizen Award

The Distinguished Citizen Award, presented by the Chattahoochee Council, Boy Scouts of America, brings singular recognition to an individual who has rendered outstanding service to our community, state, or nation.

Such service is not limited to, but might include Scouting. By presenting the Award, the Chattahoochee Council hopes to call attention to the contributions and good works of such individuals.”

MEDICAL UPDATES



▲ “Well, that explains the abdominal pains”

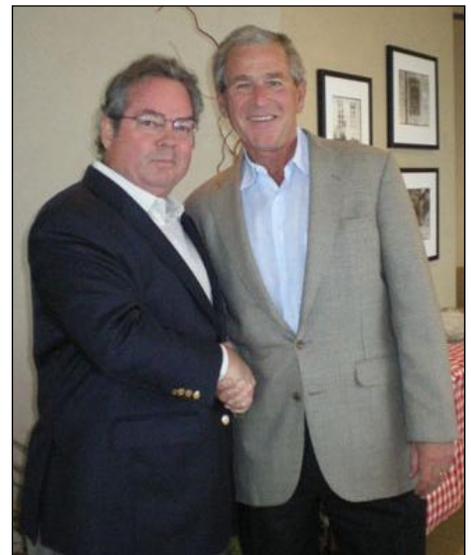
was over. The problems did persist throughout the trip, though at first he just chalked it up to the lousy rice paddy water and pork and shrapnel LRRPs we were consuming every day. But when the problems persisted after he got home, he sought competent

Once again we must temper our fun and games with some serious news, the all too frequent updates on classmates and family members dealing with medical issues. The Class Prayer Team Warriors are working overtime for these good folks; all the rest of us need to do the same. Since the last issue of the Pooper Scooper in April ‘09 I’ve been informed of the following news.

Mike Hood, Class Sportsman of the Year, is Battling Stomach Cancer

The bad news is that Mike has cancer; the good news is that his docs tell him they caught it very early, it does not appear to have spread anywhere and they are very confident in a complete recovery. Mike credits that to the influence of our fallen brother **Larry Izzo**.

Mike first started to feel unsettled before the Great Adventure fishing trip in July, and decided that if his discomfort continued he would seek treatment once the ranger patrol



▲ Mike Hood and his new best friend

medical advice. Mike credits this decision to the memory of Larry and the importance of acting quickly and decisively, especially at our age. Apparently it took awhile to get a proper diagnosis, but the docs finally discovered cancer at the point where the esophagus joins the stomach. As I said earlier, they believe they found it early enough to feel very confident about a full recovery.

Mike is currently undergoing chemotherapy, which as anyone who has experienced that indignity can attest to, slows one down a bit and impacts one's quality of life in a decidedly negative way. Never-the-less, Mike put in an admirable performance in the Texas Invitational Golf Tournament in October, as one would expect from the Class of 1967 Sportsman of the Year, hampered only by the flaccid play of his partner. After this current round of chemo,

Mike will have surgery to remove the top part of his stomach and the lower section of his esophagus; once that's done he'll have a much smaller stomach; his digestive track will essentially be a straight pipe from the entry to the exit. Mike is actually excited at the prospect of being skinny (think stick figure). After the surgery there might be more chemo. Again, Mike credits classmates for his treatment. The openness and sharing of experiences and options by **Ray Winkel, John Severson** and others battling cancer have greatly influenced Mike, and he wants to make sure we all benefit from his experience as well.

Perhaps most importantly, Mike credits all of the character building time he spent in confinement and on the area as a Cadet. This taught him to attack this beast head on without reservation. He called me the first day he was having chemo treatment

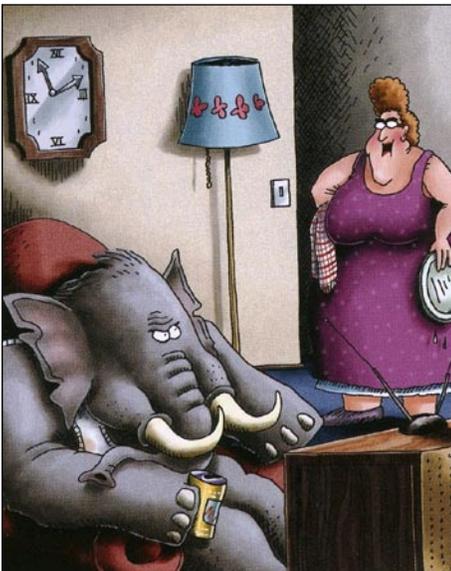
– a day long, mind numbing experience in boredom and tedium – and told me that he finally understood what all those hours of walking back and forth across the area were meant to prepare him for.

Keep Mike in your thoughts and prayers, sports fans.

Ray Winkel Gets a Great Report from his Docs

As you all know, Ray has been battling renal cell carcinoma, lymphoma, and prostate cancer for well over two years now. Here's the great news I got from him on 5 November: "My oncologist called this morning to report that the scans I had on Tuesday came back good: my cancers are stable, and I require no treatment at this time." Fantastic news!

BALL & CHAIN NEWS, or Blood, Sweat and Tears



▲ "Mother was right! I never should have married outside my own species"

Joe & Pat Casey's Daughter Sarah Marie Marries Juan Phillips

Here's a report I received from Joe on 4 November: "October 3rd was the BIG DAY! Classmates and wives attending included the following: Jimmy &

Linda Balkcom, Craig Butler, Warren Dempsey, Tom & Paige Dyer, Jimmy & Sandy Haas, Ray & Suzanne Heath, Pete Krause, David & Emily Rivers, Jimmy & Judi Walden. Many of these luminaries trekked over to Stockholm three years ago for our son Sean's wedding on 8/5/06 to

Emelie Kihlstrom. This will be the last "Casey major event" for a long while with all 3 now educated and married. Our baby daughter, Sarah Marie (34), married Juan Phillips at Bay Head Yacht Club in Bay Head, NJ. After a Hawaiian Honeymoon they'll return to their Brooklyn apartment



▲ The Casey wedding: back row - Pete Krause, Jim Balkcom, Jim Walden, Craig Butler, Tom Dyer & Dave Rivers. Front row – Ray Heath, Joe Casey, Sarah Marie, Warren Dempsey

to start their lives together as old married folks. Jimmy Haas was at the wedding but went MIA when we had the traditional West Pointers Dance so he didn't get in the photo. We danced to Sam Cooke's "You Send Me" We think Haasbo was fishing for stripers on the end of one of the docks when it was time for the dance????!!!"

(Freed note: you will notice, of course, that my name is not on that list of attendees. This is the norm for all class weddings, and dates back to about 1968 when Greg Crawford had the incredibly poor judgment to ask me to be his best man on the eve of my departure for beautiful downtown Vietnam. While my memory of that evening has always been obtunded at best, some of the stories I've been told about my behavior shock even me.)

Rich & Debbie Adams' Son Marries Leigh Jones



▲ The Adams wedding: Rich Adams, bride Leigh Jones, Richie Adams and Debbie Adams

I received the following short cyber fart from Rich Adams on 31 October: "Our son Richie married Leigh Jones (Freed met them at last year's Tulane game in NO) this past Sep 6th, and I'm finally getting you a photo. A very happy couple!" I love the timely reporting from you people.

Papa & Cindy Beck's Daughter Morgan is Engaged; Tries for the Wedding of the Century

All of you on the class e-mail list will remember the riveting contest this past

September, wherein Ed Beck's daughter was trying to win the "Perfect Wedding" being offered by a local radio station. Here's the e-mail I got from Ed on 31 August that started the whole thing off:

"Freed: My daughter Morgan and her fiancé, Matt, entered a radio contest here in LA at KIIS.FM for the 'Perfect Wedding.' They are one of ten finalists and voting begins on September 4th. Do you think we can solicit the class for voting, similarly to young Mr. Izzo. I know this is not the pro bowl but the 'marriage bowl.' Can you call me to discuss?"

Well, naturally I called Ed and this put into motion the class voting frenzy, prompted by the following e-mail from Ed: "To All of Our Wonderful Family & Friends! As you may or may not know, Morgan & Matt have been chosen as 1 of 10 couples in the KIIS.FM contest to win 'The Perfect Wedding'.

Morgan & Matt are very excited about the possibility of winning and would love to have as much support as possible. If they win, they win a complete wedding package! Everything from the bachelor/bachelorette parties to the reception, flowers, photography and honeymoon! What a deal!

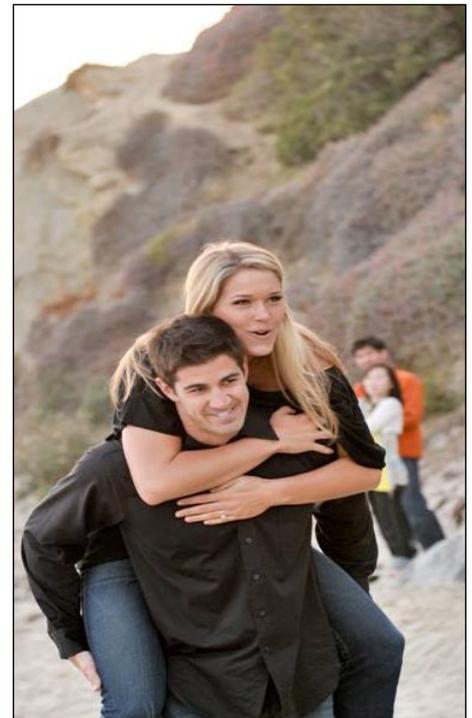
All Finalists will be identified by Sept 3rd.

On September 4th at 10:00 a.m., KIIS will activate the on-line voting system. You can log onto kiisfm.com to place your vote. Voting will be open from 10a.m. on September 4th through 5p.m. on Sunday, September 13th. One vote will be accepted per email address per day and they will announce the winner on September 14th! If they win, they will be married on November 15th at IL Cielo in Beverly Hills....a very romantic place! So...if you have a minute and you are interested, log onto kiisfm.com and see more info about the contest. Please let your friends and family know also! Morgan & Matt appreciate your help and thanks in ad-

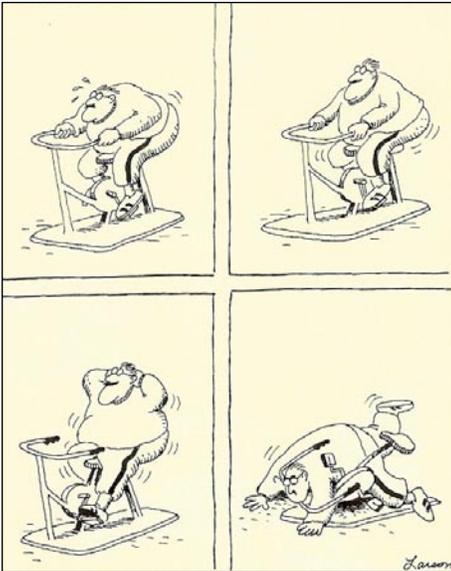
vance for your votes! If you would like to learn more about Morgan & Matt's story, please go to their wedding website is www.matthewandmorgan.com Cindy & Ed"

Well, the class rallied round this cause as only the Unsurpassed Class can, voting early and often, but alas, it was not to be. In what must be a case of voter fraud and pay-off on the scale of the Afghan presidential election Morgan and Matt were beaten out by some other couple.

Since the contest Morgan and Matt have been busy; Ed says they headed off to Cyprus to play volleyball in Europe. Matt plays for the men's team and Morgan for the women's team of Anorthosis. They are having a great time and traveling around Europe getting paid and enjoying a fun year. They will be back around May and are scheduled to get married on July 31, 2010 at Dove Canyon Country Club here in Southern California. So everyone, mark your calendars and plan on being there. Even though they didn't win the contest I'm sure Ed will stand by his promise to put us all up in the Ritz Carlton for the wedding.



▲ Cindy Beck and fiancé Matt



OK, it's time for a report on the incredible athletic accomplishments of our old fart class family. You're all Unsurpassed!

Mike Kush Runs (and Finishes!) the Marine Corps Half Marathon, all on the Same Day



▲ Mike Kush having the time of his life in the Marine Corps Half Marathon

The following report was received from Mike on 10 September:

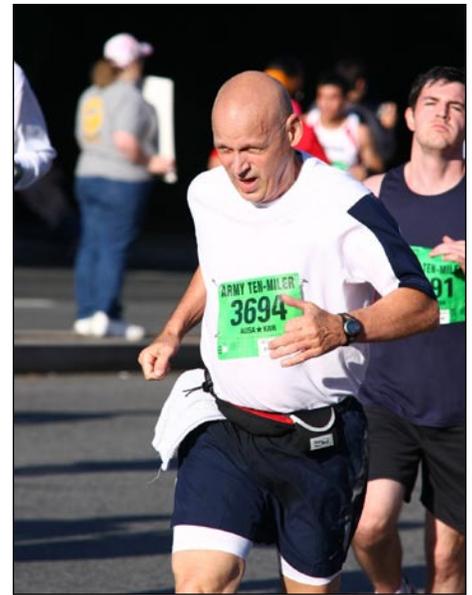
“Freed! Meant to send this to you months ago. I ran the Marine Corps Half Marathon

in May 2009 in Fredericksburg. Picture was taken at the 5-mile point. (Freed note: doesn't he look like he's just having the time of his life in the photo?)

Results:

- Time: 1:49:37
- Overall Place: 711/4923
- Men: 592/2611
- Age Group (60-64): 5/25
- Pace: 8:22

Was pleased with results although I had hoped to have a pace of something less than 8 min/mile. Torrential downpour did not help! Time not exactly **Jim Warner**-esque, but I'll take it!!! Goal this year is to run at least 1 race per month – 10K, 10 mile or half marathon. So far I have run at least one race every month – Army Ten-Miler on 4 Oct.”



▲ Mike Kush having even more fun in the Army Ten Miler

I got the follow up note from Mike in November: “Ran the Army Ten Miler. I ran it in 76:45. 9th out of 305 in our age group (60-64). **George Kellenbenz** and I did try to get others to run but as far as I know no one else did. He did run. We both survived.” From the photos I can't tell which race he enjoyed the most; he looks like he's just gotten a barium enema in both of them.

Classmates Participate in the Plebe March Back from Lake Frederick

I actually reported on this foolishness in the last Pooper Scooper, but I got a neat photo of three of these clowns that I wanted to publish. Don't they look like they're having fun, too?



▲ George Kellenbenz setting a blistering pace in the Army Ten Miler

▶ Bob LaRaia, Tom Parr and Bill Groman participating in the Plebe Hike



MISCELLANEOUS RAMBLINGS,

or short bursts overheard while standing in line for my swine flu shot

Class Kid News and Kudos

Bill & Patti Pollitt's Son Assumes Command of an Aviation Battalion



▲ The Pollitt family at son Michael's assumption of command

Got the following note from **Bill Pollitt** recently: "Our son Michael assumed command of the 1st Bn of the 212 Aviation Regiment. Pictured are **Patti**, Grandsons Brian and Matthew, Michael and Micheal's wife Kathie (Brucker USMA '88) and myself."

Randy Kinnard's Daughter gets a New Job with Help from the Class

I received the following from **Randy** on 17 November: "My daughter, Jessica, and I say 'thank you' to all who helped with the project of trying to help her get job interviews in NYC. I know that **Claire Saxon, Dave Hale, Doc Blanchard** and **Dave Partridge** had ideas and suggestions. I am probably forgetting somebody; if so, forgive me. Thanks to a recommendation by Dave Partridge, Jessica got an interview with a particular company, and they hired her! Jessica and I both say thanks. The class rocks. Always will.

Randy Kinnard"

Ed Dewey Starts a Subscription Wine Club and is Looking for Members

Here's what I recently got from Ed:

For years my friends and I have enjoyed getting together to share wine that we've

discovered on our travels to wine regions around the world. We've each taken pride in adding bottles to our personal collections from winemakers that have mastered the art of producing high-quality wine at a great value.

Powered by our shared passion for enjoying great wine, we decided to create a new kind of wine club where we can continue our mission of sharing the hidden gems of the wine world with fellow wine enthusiasts.

Rather than being another reseller disguised as a wine club, Two Masters Wine Club seeks to introduce our members to wine where quality meets value, and connect them with up-and-coming winemakers. We offer three levels of monthly shipments: Platinum, Gold and Silver. The monthly cost of each flight, respectively, is \$100, \$75 and \$50. You may choose whichever level you wish AND there is no duration commitment. You may receive wines as long as you like and remove yourself from Two Masters Wine Club whenever you wish.

As Two Masters is not a wine distributor, we have the ability to offer you wines at prices that are below the wine distributor's costs. This will permit Two Masters to offer each Club Member our very high quality wines at up to 30% off the suggested retail cost.

I am excited about this new venture, and would like to extend to each of you an invitation to join the Two Masters Wine Club. For more information, please visit www.twomasterswine.com. Should you choose to register, please just list my name.

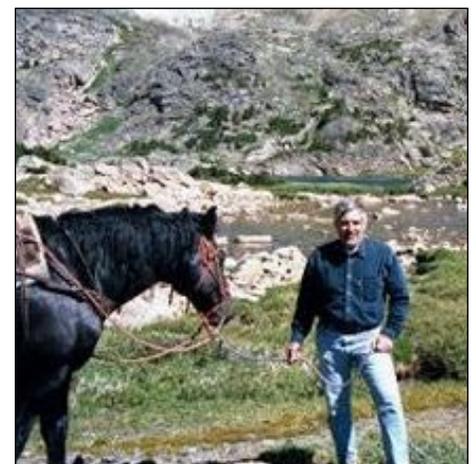
Thank you,
Ed Dewey



Tom Seyes Checks into the Net for the First Time...Ever!

Somehow **Tom Seyes** managed to get past my spam filters and I received an e-mail from him on 15 September. Nice of him to finally come out of hiding and report in. Here's what he had to say: "I live in Salt Lake City; well, near it. I actually live at the base of the Wasatch Mountain Range, only minutes from four world class ski resorts: Snowbird, Alta, Solitude, and Brighton. I moved here from Italy because of the skiing and decided to stay after schussing the slopes of Snowbird on Christmas day 1972. That was 37 years ago. I only have one wife. My wife **Lisa** and I will celebrate our 30th this February. We have three daughters: the youngest was married in July and her husband was deployed to Iraq in early September, the middle daughter is a firstie at the USAFA, and the eldest is a graphic artist. I am a secondary mathematics teacher, and have been for 33 years. It has been a great career; I mean, where else can one be paid for tormenting teenagers."

Al Nahas Continues Work on his Book Cataloging Vietnam War Memorials Around the Country



▲ Al Nahas searching far and wide for Vietnam War memorials

You may remember, though I realize that is extremely unlikely, that several issues ago (#12, Sep '06) I told you about a book project that **Al Nahas** has undertaken in

which he hopes to record and photograph all of the various memorials to the Vietnam War across the country. As you can well imagine, this has been a very time consuming and laborious project, but I'm happy to report that he is still hard at it. Here's the latest update on his progress, as of November:

“**Al Nahas** is in the final stages of completing his book Warriors Remembered scheduled to be published Memorial Day 2010. Warriors Remembered is a 208 page, 11.5” x 11.5” hard cover photo book of Vietnam Veterans Memorials from all 50 states. Al has worked for over five years to find and photograph over 200 memorials around the country, interviewing the groups who were responsible for creating them. Warriors Remembered will have 85 of these memorials with their stories. The book is dedicated to all American Warriors, both male and female, and to our 29 classmates who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam. A preview of the book is at www.warriorsremembered.com Al has received endorsements from Ross Perot and LTG (Ret) Hal Moore '47 (of We Were Soldiers Once, and Young fame).

Al's story of the Montana memorial is included below because it was one of three that motivated him to complete this project.”



▲ The Vietnam War Memorial in Missoula, MT

**Montana State Vietnam Veterans Memorial
Wings of an Eagle**

**Missoula, Montana
Dedicated: November 11, 1988**

Dedicated on Veterans Day, 1988 in Missoula's Memorial Rose Garden, the Montana Vietnam Veterans Memorial is a tribute to the 36,000 Montana veterans who served in Vietnam and the 313 who were killed. Montana has always contributed more than its share during our nation's wars. On a per capita basis, Montana has suffered a higher percentage of her sons killed in every modern war than almost any other state. Missoula, with its 35% veteran population, became the center of the movement to recognize those lost in Vietnam.

The Memorial Committee sought to capture a uniquely Montana attribute in remembering those who paid the ultimate price. Deborah Copenhaver-Fellows, distinguished for her sculptures of life in the West and also the earlier Inland Northwest Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Spokane, Washington, submitted a design using eagle wings to wrap her twelve foot sculpture and to represent Montana. Committee member, Bob Whaley, a Marine helicopter pilot shot down in Vietnam, brought the selection to a close with his quiet comment, "I know he helped me more than once while I was there." Saving a soldier from the horror of war or lifting a fallen warrior to the reward of his ultimate sacrifice, this memorial speaks to each visitor in its own way with peaceful comfort. To every veteran it represents the spirit they could feel surrounding them on the battlefield.

Many veterans donated their time, materials and construction skills to defray project costs, but more was required. The Committee organized a north to south and east to west fund-raising Walk Across Montana, carrying a baton containing the 313 names of the fallen over 1000 miles. The baton is now encased in the Memorial's fifty-year time capsule, while the names are boldly displayed on the split granite boulders that flank the sculpture.

Traveling to the 52 Montana cities that lost sons during the war, the sculpture's two-month state-wide tour accomplished both the emotional and financial objectives of the Committee. Nearly 200 families of fallen or missing warriors gathered for the dedication ceremony.

The Memorial Rose Garden contains other memorials for veterans of all conflicts beginning with WWII. This memorial, set in a quiet corner of the garden and sheltered by large Montana granite boulders is ringed with spruce, Norwegian Pine and roses. It offers a place for meditation and reflection honoring both those killed and those touched by the war. Tom Crosser (Clancy, MT) authored the poem chosen to bring both groups together.

“Together we flew into battle
Hearts and blades pounding
Sharing fear and pain.
Parted yet together...
We faced the unknown.
You death. I the future.”

The plaque at the memorial entrance reminds visitors, "It is never too late to say thanks."

Author's Note: *More than any other, this memorial inspired me to complete the Warriors Remembered journey.*

Acknowledgements: Charlie Brown, Army Vietnam era veteran, Veteran Services Officer, Founder and first President of the Memorial Committee

Location: Mount Avenue and 700 Brooks Avenue (US 93 Business, US 12); Signs on I-95.

Artist: Sculpture: Deborah Copenhaver-Fellows who also shared her story

Mike Yap Goes to Hawaii to have Lunch

On 19 November I received a report from Mike; apparently he had gone to Hawaii for some reason (didn't say why, or when), and while there he got together with some folks for brunch. Here's what he had to say: "Freed, luckily **Jan** had a camera. Server was kind enough to take a picture. Brunch was in the Hale Koa. Great



▲ Mike Yap, Mike & Joyce Lighthill, Jan Smith, Mary & Bob McEldowney

brunch! Going from left to right: me, **Mike & Joyce Lighthill, Jan Smith** (Ed was on travel), **Mary & Bob McEldowney**. **Cal Delaplain** had relatives on island and he and his wife missed the event. Mike is a DA civilian and works the Stryker program at Schofield Barracks. Just had his back operated on and made an excellent and ahead of schedule recovery. All those parachute jumps. Ed is the Director of the Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies. He travels way too much. Bob is a safety engineer for the private-public partnership that builds Navy housing. I am sure the same process is underway at West Point.”

Fr. Ed Moore Checks in From his Parish in Virginia

“Dear Freed, Attached is a photo of myself in alb and stole after church one Sunday this summer with one of our parishioners at St. James’ Anglican Church, Gloucester, Virginia. Cecil Wray Page, Jr., LTC, USA (Ret), is a member of the USMA Class of January 1943. Wray’s Cullum number is 13333 if anyone would like to look him up in the Register. He served in WWII in the Pacific Theater and in the Korean War. After his retirement from the Army, he earned an MBA and worked in New York City for many years. He now lives in Gloucester County where his family has a long history of public service dating back to the colonial era. John Page, who was a close personal friend of Thomas Jefferson,

► Fr. Ed Moore with LTC (Ret) Wray Page Jan’43



served as commander of the Gloucester militia during the Revolution, was a member of the United States Congress for its first four terms, and was the 13th Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia (1802-1805). Another of Wray’s ancestors attended school at the Abingdon Glebe, which since 2006 has been the home of Saint James’ Anglican Church. The photo was taken in front of the Glebe House which was built during the Colonial Period (17th Century). Interestingly, Wray graduated from West Point six months before I was born and retired a little less than a year before we all graduated. In addition both of us served in the 2nd Battalion 57th ADA in Ansbach, Germany, he in the 60’s and I in the 70’s. I have enjoyed Wray’s company very much this past summer during my service as supply priest at St. James’.”

Jeff & Sandi Madsen Entertain a NASA Astronaut

Back in August I received this photo of **Jeff & Sandi Madsen** with Major Mark Vande Hei, a former physics P (shudder) under **Ray Winkel’s** tutelage. Major Vande Hei was recently selected as a new NASA astronaut and has begun training for a manned mission to the moon. The way things are going at NASA these days I suspect Mark will be our age before he ever actually gets an opportunity to go to space.



▲ Sandi & Jeff Madsen with Astronaut Mark Vande Hei

Apparently Mark’s parents are neighbors of the Madsens.

Jim Stewart Checks in from Ann Arbor

Nice update from **Jim Stewart** back on 12 September. He’s still defending newspapers and broadcasters and doing some patent and trade secret litigation. He’s head of his law firm’s Ann Arbor, MI, office which he says is lots better than being in Detroit. He’s chair of the firm’s litigation dept of some 100+ attorneys and paralegals. With his youngest child starting college this year he says he’ll probably keep his nose to the grindstone for another five years or so. Jim stays in touch with **Bob Sellars**, his D-2 Plebe year roommate who is now retired and living in Montana.

The primary reason Jim contacted me was to let me know that he found a stash of old (from our Yearling & Cow years) *Pointer* magazines, and he sent them to me. These provide a wonderful trip down memory road, and I’ll be able to use some of the material in the “Blasts from the Past” column of this rag.

Cal Delaplain Still Serving on Active Duty. Unsurpassed!

Here’s the latest from Cal, as of 17 August: “I am back on active duty – but in a “retiree recall” status which will be over on 30 Sep 2010. At the present time I am the acting chief of radiology at the Tripler Army Medical Center.”

The Fort Benning Ranger Memorial Hopes to Place Paver Stones for all Ranger KIA's

Here's a neat e-mail I received from John James back in June, forwarding another e-mail from Jack Price:

“There is an effort underway to place paver stones for each Ranger KAI at the Fort Benning Ranger Memorial. The list of KIA's from Vietnam is at:

<http://www.west-point.org/publications/RangerMemorial-RVNEraCombatDeaths>

.XLS There are 22 of our classmates listed there.

DONATION SITE:

<https://secure.west-point.org/rangermemorial/>

In 1992, the National Ranger Memorial Foundation <http://www.rangermemorial.org/> was founded, and funded the construction of the Ranger Memorial at Ft Benning. It is the most visited site at Ft Benning. In addition to the displays and monoliths, the inner courtyard and approach are paved with marble slabs on which recognition of individual Rangers, both living and deceased, are engraved. The purpose of this fund drive is to insure that every West Point Ranger who was killed-in-action (KIA) while deployed in a combat theater, is so represented. In the second phase, after pavers for all the KIA's have been secured, we will open the same volume discounted pricing (\$250 vs \$280) to any living West Point Ranger. For the initial subscription, all donations will be pooled until the total amount is achieved. No Ranger will be left behind! The comment section in the donation form may be used to honor specific Rangers, but you are not buying a paver for a specific Ranger. The first phase will absorb about \$40,000. All donations of any amount are welcome. Of 180 KIA listed in the database, 26 already have pavers in place, and are shown separately on the spreadsheet.

In the second phase, any living West Point Ranger can purchase their personal paver at the discounted price. Any class that totals out 20 or more pavers, will be listed on the annual Friends of the Rangers plaque for the coming year, at no charge.

Now, for needed help! You'll see two spreadsheets linked at the bottom on the donation form. The first is for the Viet Nam era, and the next is for those that follow. Those prior to Viet Nam have already been recognized with separate recognition. The Viet Nam era data has been assembled from records at WPAOG, and vetted against graduation records at the Ranger Training Brigade. Please look at this and send me any corrections or more specific unit designations. The NAME will be limited to 20 character spaces, and the unit will be the bottom line.

Now, for those after Viet Nam, I NEED VERIFICATION of Ranger School graduation, and unit assignments at the time of death. They will be added to the KIA pool as they become verified. Contact Jack@west-point.org There is also an admin

list for managing all this and answering questions: Ranger@west-point.org Subscription box is on the donation form at the site and here <http://www.west-point.org/wp/ranger>

RVN Era WP Ranger Deaths

<http://www.west-point.org/publications/RangerMemorial-RVNEraCombatDeaths>
.XLS

POST RVN Era Deaths

<http://www.west-point.org/publications/RangerMemorial-PostRVNCombatDeaths>
s.XLS

Please distribute this widely throughout our West Point Community, and to Class leadership. These Rangers Led the Way, in every sense. Now it's our turn.

Class Grandkids

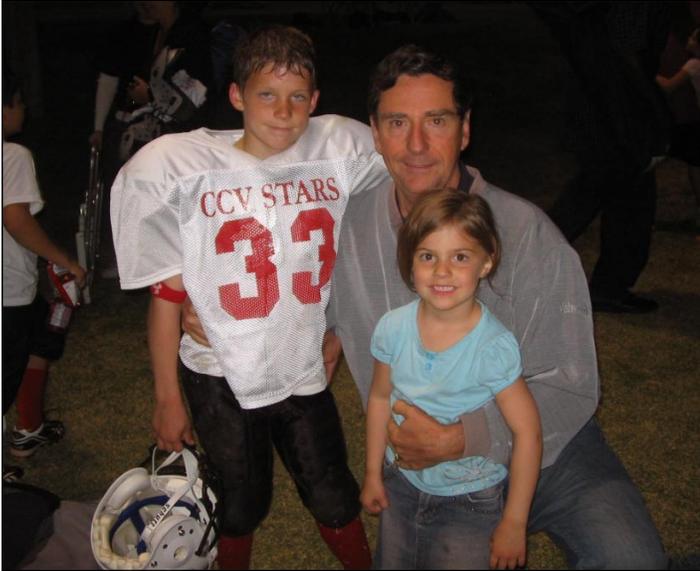
OK, here's where you all get to show your photos of your grandkids in cute and heroic poses.

Denny Huyck

17 August 2009: “Hi Freed, hello again. I thought I would pass along this superior photo of me with my 2 granddaughters. The one on the left (facing the photo) is Dylan Maureen Huyck, my son Dennis' and wife Kathleen's daughter. On the right is Sarah Agnes Kelton, daughter of Kellee (my daughter) and Philip Kelton. We were in Chicago for the christening of Dylan on August 9, 2009. Had most of the family there and had a wonderful time, including a day at the Arlington Park Race Track. Gramps (me) lost his spending money at the track, but Brittany won \$20...she bets on the horse's name (wow).”



▲ Denny Huyck with granddaughters Dylan and Sarah



▲ Ed Dewey with grandkids Ryan and Lauren

Ed Dewey

10 November 2009: “Grandson Ryan after playing QB, Running Back and Linebacker for his team and granddaughter Lauren.”

Now, here is a really neat story about Ed’s grandson Ryan. Ed took Ryan to this year’s Army – Navy Game, his first one. Thanks to Brick Anderson’s eagle eye, Ed learned that the Athletic Department at West Point was auctioning off the opportunity for a youth under the age of 14 to be the person to run out onto the field and pick up the kicking tee after Army’s kickoff, either at the beginning of the game or the second half, whichever time Army kicked. Ed was the high bidder, and young Ryan had the thrill of a lifetime before 78,000 fans in the house and worldwide TV audience. Very cool.

TRANSITIONS

Rich Kiper Starts a New Job

Rich Kiper, at an age when most of us are dreaming of retirement, if not already in that blissful state, has just taken on a new job. Here’s his report: “I’m now teaching a course at the The Counterinsurgency (COIN) Center that was created in 2006 to prepare Army and Marine forces to fight a COIN war. My specific job is to teach COIN classes to Human Terrain Teams that are deploying to Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as to foreign forces that have no COIN training. On 4 Oct I’m going to Italy for that purpose (Boondoggle?!). I also do the research necessary to provide numerous briefings for the Center director to give to US and coalition partners. In fact, the current director was one of my history students when I taught at West Point. Small world, eh?

Recently, the Center has become the Army proponent for Stability Operations and Security Force Assistance. I have not gotten too involved in those areas, but would not be surprised if it happens. The website coin.army.mil tells what we do; unclassified, of course.”

Well done Rich, I sleep better at night now knowing who’s preparing our warriors for the challenges they face. In fact, I recently had the best night’s sleep since all those lost hours slumbering in South Auditorium, listening to guest sleepers.

Mike & Yen Dunn Move to Biloxi, Mississippi

“Freed, we decided this spring to retire and move to Biloxi, MS. We have been here since the end of June, and are enjoying the blessings of retirement (I never worked this hard when I was working). I could have sworn I saw you, or maybe it was one of your security doubles, at the Infinity buffet, in the Treasure Bay casino, in Biloxi, on Tuesday, September 1st, at lunchtime (it’s half price for seniors on that day of the week). We are about 3 miles from the front gate of Keesler AFB, and one block from the beach, right behind the Treasure Bay casino. Our new address is: 165 Daisy St, Biloxi, MS 39531. We also bought 167 Daisy St, as a guest house for our family and friends to visit. Both homes have the same floor plan, in a mirror reflection. We have spent most of our waking hours fixing them up, as the previous occupants were renters, and they were in bad shape. San Antonio was going to be our permanent retirement location, but we ended up here, and I have to say that it is probably the best kept secret, as far as retirement locations go. There are lots of retired military around here, and the state of Mississippi gives them special license plates (don’t think you have to be disabled, either). Haven’t played any golf yet, but that’s down the road somewhere. Have been playing racquetball and jogging, and will start bowling this Thursday morning in a senior league. I’m looking for a handball partner, if you ever decide to retire and move down here.”

John & Sam Newton Move to Dothan, Alabama

Got the following from John back on 1 October: “We’ve moved down to Dothan Alabama and I plan to retire from Northrop Grumman the first half of next year. Right now I’m a teleworker from my spare bedroom. I love the 15 second commute to the kitchen after living in the Northern Virginia traffic for over 20 years. Our new address is

John and Sam Newton,
30 Williamsburg Place,
Dothan, AL 36305
334.699.6453

THE POET'S CORNER

Many of you are probably not aware of the fact that **Mark Hamilton** and **Dennis Coates** used to be English Ps at West Point, and while they were at the Sacred Soil they co-authored a book of poetry, *To The Colors*, in 1975. Unfortunately they don't give credit for which of them wrote which poems in the book, but I've got lots of material for this column for a long time. Here are a few offerings.

West Point

*This is an old place, set in an old place,
Flanked by a river older than tradition,
Reviewed by mountains whose memories trace
The echoes of retreat on to silence.
This is a strong place, this is a stone place,
Granite set in granite, cannon on the green;
The Hudson River rubs the base
Of rocks so bare they starve themselves of green.
This is a cold place, a frozen place
When the pure wind whips through ruined trees
And everywhere the fixed gray faces,
Colder than flesh, command fields of snow.
Into this place Spring blares like reveille,
Young and warm, spreading its fresh, leafed filigree.*

A Prayer for Cadets

*Enabling Spirit,
Make us moral men,
Responsible for our acts,
Lovers of all living things.*

*Teach us to know who we are.
Teach us to build. Teach us to speak.
Teach us to see the world clearly,
Teach us tolerance and patience and generosity.*

*Make us unafraid of truth, and unafraid of joy,
Make us makers of peace, bringers of change,
Make us providers of quality and serenity.*

*Strengthen us with Hope and Will and Knowledge,
Render us powerful with the belief that all these
things
are possible and necessary in the service of
mankind.
Amen*

Women at West Point

*As I watch the day's last hours,
Vital women leave buildings older than
monuments,
Walk up Thayer Road, taking their color
with them.*

*Around the Plain, other women gather,
Steady their cameras, wait for the parade,
Linger as visions when the hour fades.*

*The windowed smiles of wives in cars
And sounds of love or laughter displace the
air,
Blossom over weariness, thrusting time
away.*

*I imagine wives on lawns looking for the
gone sun.
I think of them in food stores, wrapped in
color,
Appealing as the packages which surround
them.*

*Later, perfumed girls stand, a visible force
at portals
Where they wait, pace the sidewalks,
Warm black pole rails which hold them
back,
So new in this old place they are immortal.*

*A woman in sweat clothes runs into the
purple evening,
Delicate and powerful and heedless of
anything she has passed.*

*And I know I have not dreamed
To see them parade before the stone walls
and statues,
As if intent on some separate mission.*

POINTS TO PONDER

A favorite *Pooper Scooper* feature is when I subject you all to whatever piece of intellectual or other type of wisdom (or lack thereof) that strikes my fancy, sometimes serious, sometimes far less than that. The last time I included it, in #17, I took on a serious subject, a beautiful essay on the power of music. This time I'll lighten the mood a bit and impart some pearls of wisdom that should help us all live better lives.

Answers to Important Medical Questions

(with apologies to all our docs out there)

Q: Doctor, I've heard that cardiovascular exercise can prolong life; is this true?

A: Your heart is only good for so many beats, and that's it... don't waste them on exercise. Everything wears out eventually. Speeding up your heart will not make you live longer; that's like saying you can extend the life of your car by driving it faster. Want to live longer? Take a nap.

Q: Should I cut down on meat and eat more fruits and vegetables?

A: You must grasp logistical efficiencies. What does a cow eat? Hay and corn. And what are these? Vegetables. So a steak is nothing more than an efficient mechanism of delivering vegetables to your system. Need grain? Eat chicken. Beef is also a good source of field grass (green leafy vegetable). And a pork chop can give you 100% of your recommended daily allowance of vegetable products.

Q: Should I reduce my alcohol intake?

A: No, not at all. Wine is made from fruit. Brandy is distilled wine; that means they take the water out of the fruity bit so you get even more of the goodness that way. Beer is also made out of grain. Bottoms up!

Q: How can I calculate my body/fat ratio?

A: Well, if you have a body and you have fat, your ratio is one to one. If you have two bodies, your ratio is two to one, etc.

Q: What are some of the advantages of participating in a regular exercise program?

A: Can't think of a single one, sorry. My philosophy is: No Pain...Good!

Q: Aren't fried foods bad for you?

A: YOU'RE NOT LISTENING!!! Foods are fried these days in vegetable oil. In fact, they're permeated in it. How could getting more vegetables be bad for you?

Q: Will sit-ups help prevent me from getting a little soft around the middle?

A: Definitely not! When you exercise a muscle, it gets bigger. You should only be doing sit-ups if you want a bigger stomach.

Q: Is chocolate bad for me?

A: Are you crazy? HELLO Cocoa beans! Another vegetable!!! It's the best feel-good food around!

Q: Is swimming good for your figure?

A: If swimming is good for your figure, explain whales to me.

Q: Is getting in-shape important for my lifestyle?

A: Hey! 'Round' is a shape!

Well, I hope this has cleared up any misconceptions you may have had about food and diets.

And remember:

'Life should NOT be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways - Chardonnay in one hand - chocolate in the other - body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming 'WOO HOO, What a Ride'

AND..... For those of you who watch what you eat, here's the final word on nutrition and health. It's a relief to know the truth after all those conflicting nutritional studies.

1. The Japanese eat very little fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.
2. The Mexicans eat a lot of fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.
3. The Chinese drink very little red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.
4. The Italians drink a lot of red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.
5. The Germans drink a lot of beers and eat lots of sausages and fats and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.

CONCLUSION

Eat and drink what you like. Speaking English is apparently what kills you.



*OK, Back by popular demand, one of **Paul Haseman's** delightful stories of cadet life, back when men were men, cadets marched in four parades a week, the Hellcats included piccolo and flute players, women were our dates, not our classmates, and uniforms were made of wool thick enough to stop a caliber .50 round.*

Rabble Rousers

Getting spirits going at West Point didn't take much doing during football season – spirits ran high. Woe be it to the cadet who didn't attend a game or a plebe who didn't turn out for a rally!! So the role of the Rabble Rousers was spirit leadership because the spirit was already there! We led the yells and the Corps did the rest – the Corps yelled, hollered, screamed, jumped, and generally raised Hell. But there was more to it than just learning the yells and the arm motions. Lots more.

For me were several duties. I was in charge of the cannon that fired when Army scored. With the cannon came a small Army four-wheeled all terrain vehicle to tow the cannon. And to get the blank ammunition on Fridays before each game required a drive through Highland Falls. In 1967, Firsties did not get cars until April of Firstie Year so driving anything was fun in the Fall of 1966. Also, having to stop in Highland Falls to visit with a girlfriend was all part of my duties.

But firing the cannon was my main duty and I did it well . . . whenever Army scored. Aye, there's the rub, because if we didn't score there was no cannon to fire. Which brings to mind a picture in the South Bend newspaper of me sitting next to the cannon with head lowered as Notre Dame whipped us 44-0. But that was a rare happenstance and plenty of fun was had around the end zone in Michie Stadium where the cannon, the Army mules and the Mule Riders, Ray Heath and Ken Strong hung out. One time we scored a field goal and I noticed a referee approaching who had made a bad out-of-bounds call stopping the drive which, nonetheless, resulted in the field goal. I didn't want to hurt him so when he got just at the edge of danger "range," I pulled the lanyard and BOOM!! the cannon exploded. The ref jumped two feet and glowered at me as I returned his stare with a "gee, who me" look on my face while smoke curled out of the cannon. The Corps saw it all and roared but I never tried that again!

Some Rabble Rousers had outstanding leadership qualities and became near cult figures at West Point. For us as Plebes, the name Rocco McGurk will forever generate a smile of reverence and respect. Rocco was tall, dark haired and had the charismatic magic to motivate anyone or anything – the Olde Folkes Home or hibernating woodchucks. But Rocco was best with the Corps. He had us yelling and screaming ready to rip the lungs out of that week's opponent. When the team left for an away game, there was Rocco on top of the bus leading the Long Corps Yell aka THE ROCKET!!!

But the best Rabble Rouser ever was our classmate, Tom White. Tom started a tradition that lives on today, 35 years later. In 1966, the TV show *Batman* was all the rage. Tom thought a skit with him dressed up as A-Man and Bill Gonser as B-Squad would be a hoot. It was more than a hoot, it was a smash hit! One mess hall rally with A-Man and a legend was born. There was no going back. Tom White did the damndest things as A-Man. Dressed up in tights, a cape and a mask this skinny caricature of Batman was a ridiculous and inspiring sight. At every mess hall rally the weekend opponent would be loose in the mess hall and the Corps would scream for A-Man to come save the Corps. He never disappointed. Each week he entered the mess hall in a new way, rappelling off the Poop Deck, slide for life, on the back of the Army mule; you name it, he did it. Luckily the season ended before we ran out of ideas. But it was fantastic!

Never was spirit higher than in the Fall of 1966 – thanks to Tom White and the Rabble Rousers!

MORE BLASTS FROM THE PAST

Since Paul Haseman's *Mule Memories* are great trips back to the halcyon days of our cadet development, I thought it would be fun to continue that theme with some photos from those early days.



▲ Lloyd McMillan, Larry Izzo, Randy Pais, Chad Keck and Ken Rice on The First Class trip



▲ Fun and games a long time ago: Ray Winkel at a party trying to get Sally out of the blanket. According to urban legend, Sally was naked.

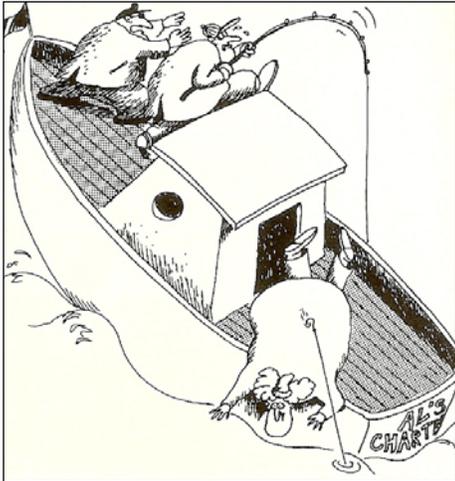


▲ Rothmans and Kellys in Mainz, Germany when they were assigned to the 509th Airborne



▶ John Boretti with coach Eric Tipton and the manager of the Mets

DEAD FISH (AND BIRD) FLICKS



▲ "Set the hook....set the hook!"

OK Sports Fans, back by popular demand, photos of folks showing off their prowess as hunter-gatherers, strutting their stuff and proving they've got what it takes to put a good meal on the table. It doesn't get any better than this. The Class Great Adventure fishing trip in July provided lots of excellent photos. Here are the ones I didn't include in the August issue, along with a couple of others folks have sent me looking for bragging rights. I also present some dead birds for your enjoyment. Get out there and snag a fish or shoot something, and send me your photos. Enjoy and admire.



▲ Jack Wood with the stuff of dreams: a 43 pound striped bass



▲ Bill Groman with a nice Montana rainbow



▲ Photo 74: Thumbs up for Mac McMillan's brown trout



◀ Photo 73: Bill Groman showing of a lousy whitefish



▲ Freed with a Ruby River rainbow



► Freed Lowrey shows off his Montana ditch trout



◀ Freed with another lovely brown trout

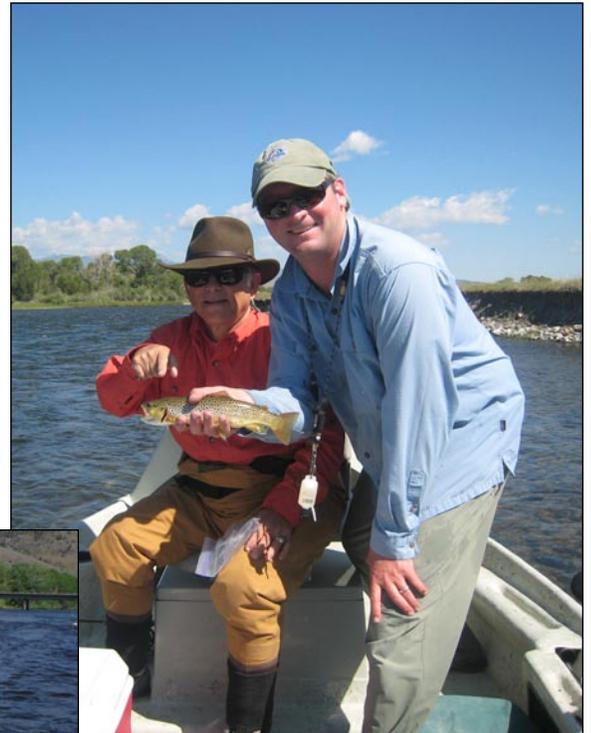


▼ Tom Dyer and his guide Jake with a nice Ruby River rainbow

◀ Mike Hood hanging on for dear life



▲ Paul Kern's guide hoisting a lovely Madison River rainbow



▲ Randy Pais and his guide gloating over Randy's bait



◀ Jack Wood's guide showing off a sleek brown



▲ That's more like it: Randy & guide with a beautiful rainbow



▲ Bill Groman's guide with a decent brown



▲ Monty showing off an excellent Ruby River brown



▲ Joe Jackson is so stunned he caught this brown he's making sure to keep a photo record of it



▲ Monty Meigs can't believe he actually caught this rainbow



▲ Meigs again, with a Madison River brown



◀ Joe Jackson on a hot streak



▲ Pete Hanelt and guide with a slippery rainbow



▲ Freccia with a superb rainbow



▲ Bill Freccia gloating over a brown



◀ Freccia again, with a lunker brown



▲ Freccia scored well with this rainbow



▲ Steve Grove's son Schuyler, a fishing guide in Alaska, with a client and a 30 1/2" rainbow. That's a serious fish



▶ John Severson and Carl Kraft with some pheasants they murdered on Carl's North Dakota ranch

EPILOGUE

It is 11 November, Veteran's Day, as I write this. This is a holiday that has always been special for me, in a quiet, subdued way. I don't normally dwell on it or spend any time celebrating it, other than wishing my fellow Veterans good wishes and thanks on this, our special day. But today, for the oddest of reasons, it took on the character of a poignantly evocative event.

This morning I took my car to the car wash. As I pulled up to the start of the line the young man who was collecting money – he couldn't have been more than 20 – asked me what kind of wash I wanted. When I replied that I just wanted the basic no frills car wash, he asked me if I was a Veteran. When I replied that I was, he stuck his hand in the window to shake mine and said "Thank you for your service, sir. Today your car wash is free, and it's the diamond deluxe."

This really took me by surprise. I thanked him, rolled up my window and started the slow roll down the car wash tunnel. For some reason, this simple act of kindness and respect triggered an unexpected emotional response in me; I was suddenly overwhelmed with a mixture of sadness, pride, nostalgia and lost youth. My mind was flooded with those memories and emotions that many years ago I folded up and stored away in that footlocker I keep in the attic of my mind. Mostly I started thinking of lost comrades and the bittersweet price of service. The young man's act of kindness rekindled an ember that every so often needs to be fanned.

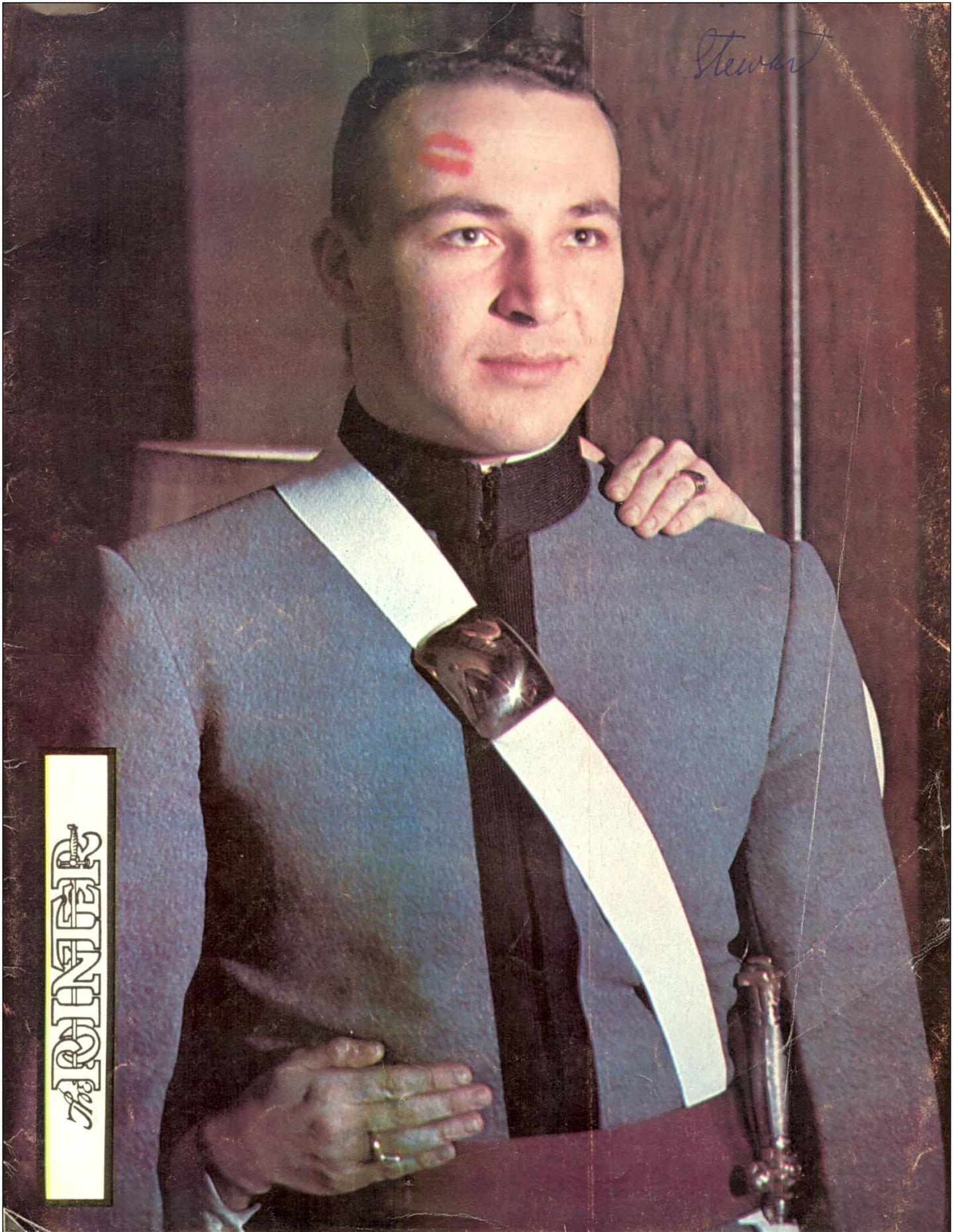
There are many of us – perhaps all – upon whose mind's eye there remains indelibly imprinted a vivid and moving tapestry of battlefield images. At any moment of reflection we can recall with precise clarity the gaunt, strained faces of men under fire, the opaque visages of the wounded, the gray pallor of the dead. We can taste fear, hear cries of anguish and pain, feel the bone numbing fatigue, and smell the livid stench of mortified flesh, vomit and offal. We all know too well the meaning of that kind of sacrifice. That our sacrifice, in the case of Vietnam, was for naught doesn't lessen its meaning. Anyone who ever had to send home to grieving parents the remains of their young son or daughter who died on some alien soil for a cause whose meaning he or she could hardly fathom should have the opportunity to be refreshed by such a simple act of kindness and respect as that young man showed me.

I drove away from that car wash feeling a huge sense of pride. Proud to have been a Soldier, proud of all the Soldiers I've ever been fortunate to have served with, proud to have known them, to have served with them, to have suffered and bled with them; proud of what we shared. And of course, I am especially proud of my Class, of all of you.

So my brothers, on this our special day, thank you from the bottom of my heart for your selfless service, which continues unabated, for your countless sacrifices, for your comradeship, your counsel, your passion, your friendship, your leadership and your love of this great nation and of each other. You are truly *Unsurpassed*.

OK, not sure when the next one of these rags will get published; that's up to the fiscal gods to sort out. Never-the-less, as I always say, this is **your** newsletter, so send me your input – triumphs and failures, comings and goings, achievements of kids and grandkids, want ads, you name it. As I'm sure you've figured out by now, the sky is the limit when it comes to what shows up in the *Pooper Scooper*, and we've never been constrained by the strictures of good taste, much to the chagrin of a few of you.

Please keep all of our magnificent Service Members in your thoughts and prayers; they are *Unsurpassed*.



▲ David Hale, The Sergeant of the Guard in Grant Hall. An officer on duty knows no one.



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THE WAY IT WAS

