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▲ The Class of 1967 reviews the Corps at our last reunion



▲ Diane & Tim Russell at the International School of Luxembourg in Moshi, Tanzania. See the story on page 26

## THE $45^{TH}$ REUNION IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

OK Sports Fans, we're less than a year away – less than nine months, to be sort of precise - from the social debauchery planned for April, 2012, so you need to start getting in shape. It's probably too late to start your diets, but you can start increasing your alcohol tolerance level now.

Your reunion planning committee has been hard at work putting together the details for what will be our most memorable reunion (and probably the last one any of us will be able to remember). Here's what's cooking.

For the first time ever we're having a spring reunion: 26 - 29 April 2012. One great advantage of this is that there will be a lot more open and unscheduled time, permitting more opportunities for just visiting with and getting caught up with lots of classmates and their families and reconnecting with West Point. A lot of folks have been asking for this for a long time. The program, as of early August, looks like this:

### **REUNION EVENTS**

Optional Thursday events may include:

Golf - coordinated by Ray Heath. A Thursday 11:00 am shotgun start at the West Point Golf Club is targeted. Costs will include greens fees plus a box lunch with a cash bar following play.

Tours - coordinated by Al Bormann. They may include such things as a trip to Hyde Park and/or other nearby sites, and a West Point Scavenger Hunt. Bus transportation for a sightseeing trip will be approximately \$50 per person for 25 attendees, \$25 for 50 attendees.

Tennis – Mike Yap is coordinating the event at the USMA Tennis Center. Mike will provide the tennis balls and can help arrange partners for doubles or other matches.

Welcome Dinner - The reunion opens with a Thursday evening dinner buffet at the Thayer Hotel.

Friday events:

Memorial Service Superintendent's briefing **Class Business Meeting** Open Time Dinner at the Thayer Hotel

Saturday events: Retiree Day Parade Lunch in Cadet Mess Open Time Dinner at the Eisenhower Hall

Sunday events: Brunch at the Thayer Hotel

Ballroom

Officers are:

Classmates bonding and



President: Vice President: Asst VPs, Surviving Family Members: Asst VP, National Capital Region: Secretary: Treasurer: Asst VP, Info Technology Historian and fitness guru:

**Tom Dyer** Randy Pais Lynn Honeycutt & Jeff Madsen Mike Yap **Bob Lenz Hap Trainor** John James **Freed Lowrey** 

As of this writing, none of these fools have indicated they don't want to stand for re-election. However, if you want to throw your name into the mix for any of these positions, or if you want to classmate someone who stole your date or wrote you up or who was a really lousy roommate, just contact Jim Balkcom, who is heading up the nominating committee.





Entertainment for Friday and Saturday nights is still being discussed and worked on. There are a number of options in play. There will also be early-morning prayer sessions for all the Unsurpassed Prayer Warriors. Also, there are plans for an "Authors Corner" in the Thayer Hotel, similar to the one we had at our last reunion. **John Hart** is in charge of this activity, and here's what he plans:

"Authors Corner" was introduced at the  $40^{\text{th}}$  reunion to exhibit classmates who write and publish. Participating class authors were able to display, discuss, sell, and autograph their works. The event proved successful and is being repeated at our  $45^{\text{th}}$  reunion. This time we shall also include in the event any family members – spouses, kids and SFMs – who are published.

As coordinator of the event, John needs to gauge the interest of our authors to participate in an Authors Corner. Therefore please let him know if you will likely participate. Your response will constitute an indication, not a commitment. John's e-mail address is johnhart67@ gmail.com.

Here are some particulars for consideration:

- Authors Corner will be Friday evening at the Hotel Thayer.
- The reunion committee will be responsible for arranging with the hotel for a suitable room, tables and chairs and distributing a promotional flier with a list of class authors (even those not participating) and their works.
- Participating authors will be responsible for their own supplies, setting up and manning their own displays, and conducting their own sales transactions. Whether you opt to run a strictly cash-and-carry operation, take orders to be shipped later, or whatever, is your business. The class credit card system cannot support book sales.

Please respond to John Hart by the end of March 2012 so that he can report to the reunion committee in April.

In addition to the Authors Corner there might also be a medical panel on Friday night. This hasn't been decided yet – logistics are an issue (where to have it). If it does happen, it would look something like this: the panel will consist of two doctors, two patients, two caregivers and **Joannie Parr**. Since a larger and larger number of us are having the hospital experience, the reunion planning committee thought it would be useful to discuss the protocols of the different players; discuss how the different roles can be more effective. Joannie, however, will reprise the discussion we had on the internet on the costs involved with running a doctor's office. The two panels will go a hour and then switch places. Stay tuned.

#### <u>HOTELS</u>

We have reserved all available rooms at the Thayer Hotel for Thursday through Saturday nights. Room charges will be approximately \$220 per night (includes taxes) and will be charged by the Hotel. Overflow rooms will be at the Holiday Inn Express in Ft Montgomery. Room charges will be approximately \$210 for a King or Queen bedroom or \$227 for a King or Queen suite (including taxes).

The Reunion Committee will provide shuttle bus service between the HI Express and the Thayer for all reunion events.

Reservations will be made by individual contact with the hotel and paid for by the guest. When reservations are opened in October you will be directed to contact The Hotel Thayer. If our commitment for rooms is filled at the time that you contact them, the Hotel Thayer staff will direct you to the Holiday Inn Express.



#### **CURRENT COST ESTIMATES**

Per Person: Thurs - Sun Meals	\$260
Fri – Sun Meals	\$210
Shared Trans & Overhead Costs\$71 at 400 attendees	

Per Classmate: Reunion Bag.....\$170 Yearbook.....\$25

Summary: For a Classmate and Spouse - Thurs–Sun, including hotel room, meals and overhead for two, a reunion bag and a yearbook the estimated total would be approximately \$1,517

For an individual Classmate the estimate would be \$1,186

For an individual SFM the estimated cost would be \$1,116 (the difference is the contents of the reunion bag)

Classmate wives bonding and cavorting at our 40th reunion

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Hotel and Reunion Registration will open in the fall of this year. You will receive a separate e-mail message for that announcement. Now listen up: this is important. All registration for this reunion will be conducted electronically - a web based process through westpoint.org that John James is getting set up to open registration on October 1 along with the Thayer's opening their hotel reservations. Instructions and information about the reunion will also be passed electronically over the class e-mail net. This Pooper Scooper write up is probably the last hard copy, paper summary/instructions you will receive, so if you're not connected electronically, you need to get that way, or contact Jeff Madsen and let him know your status.

The class website can be found at www.west-point.org/class/usma1967. In October 2011 there will be a button at this website that will lead you to the registration website where you will be able to sign up for Thursday events, pre-order reunion mementos and '67 clothing, and register for your attendance at the reunion in April. Reunion charges will be made by credit card or other electronic transfer at this registration website.



#### **45th Reunion Class Cruise**

As an added reunion opportunity, Ev Lucas has been asked to organize a cruise in conjunction with our reunion. The following is what he has set up, as of 8 August:

Cruise Line: Royal Caribbean International Ship: Explorer of the Seas

Itinerary: 5 Night Bermuda Cruise

21 Apr 12	Depart Cape Liberty, Bayonne, NJ	5:00 PM
22 Apr 12	Cruising	
23 Apr 12	Kings Warf, Bermuda	Arrive 9:00 AM
24 Apr 12	Kings Warf, Bermuda	Depart 5:00 PM
25 Apr 12	Cruising	
26 Apr 12	Depart Cape Liberty, Bayonne, NJ	8:00 AM
<b>Travel to West Point for 45th Reunion</b>		
23 Apr 12 24 Apr 12 25 Apr 12	Kings Warf, Bermuda Kings Warf, Bermuda Cruising Depart Cape Liberty, Bayonne, NJ	Depart 5:00 PM

Price:

Category	Туре	
D2	Öcean view w/balcony	\$910 + \$109.88
	Inside	
	Inside	

Many cabin categories are already booked. A deposit of \$200 will reserve your cabin. We have the above categories reserved for us. If interested in another category, let Ev Lucas know and he will check with RCI for availability/price. If you will have a 3rd/4th person in your cabin, he will get the pricing/availability for that type of cabin.

With our group, we have a \$50 per cabin on-board credit for your use any way you wish (drinks, tours, purchases). We will eat as a group. If we get a large enough group, Ev will work out additional amenities, such as a cocktail party for our group.

About Explorer of the Seas:

Ice-skating rink	Rock-climbing
In-line skating	Casino Royale
Golf simulators	9-hole miniature golf course
Day Spa & Fitness Ctr	Portofino Italian Restaurant

The following link will take you to the RCI site for the Explorer. It provides ship highlights, deck plans, and you can view a virtual tour of this class ship.

#### http://www.royalcaribbean.com/findacruise/ships/class/ship/home.do?br=R&shipClassCode=VY&shipCode=EX

Ev will also set up a Cruise Notes email group as he did for the last European group cruise. Everyone found that to be very useful for coordinating travel and other arrangements.

(continued on page 4)

The following Classmates have either booked (Bkd), definitely considering (Y) or may be interested (?) in our 45th Class Reunion Cruise as of 7 Aug. 2011. I would like to suggest if you think you MAY be joining us, please book as soon as possible. RCI has indicated to me cabins are being booked fairly quickly. This is probably due to the sailing from Cape Liberty Cruise Port in NJ, which offers a convenience to North East cruisers - THEY can avoid the hassle of flying.

Importance of booking now - Ev could reserve only 15 cabins for our group without having to pay a deposit. He needs at least 3 more bookings to be able to reserve 15 more cabins. If there is ANY chance at all you join the cruise, please let Ev know soonest, while he can still reserve good cabins for our group.

To reserve a cabin, Ev needs a credit card to include name on the card, number, type, & expiration date. He also needs your names as they appear on your passports & dates of birth, mailing address, and phone number. Ev will provide the credit card info only to RCI and they will charge \$200 to your card. Also be sure to let him know what type of cabin you want (inside, ocean view, balcony, junior suite).

Remember, if you need to cancel later on, your \$200 deposit will be refunded.

E-mail Ev at everettd.lucas@verizon.net If you prefer, call him in the evening at 732-542-1641.

Cali	Jim & Gerrie	Bkd
Downs	Gary & Cindy	Bkd
Freccia	Bill & Millie	Bkd
Groman	Bill & Regina	Y
Hayes	Brian & Linda	Bkd
LaBouliere	Richard & Carolyn	Bkd
Lucas	Everett & Margaret	Bkd
Metzger	Bob & Linda	Bkd
Mooney	Darrel & Roseann	Bkd
Murfee	Lee & Diane	Bkd
Pais	Randy & Jackie	?
Pennington	Bill & Bonnie	?
Swanson	Chuck & Carol	Bkd
Waterman	Dick & Debbie	Y
Williams	Doug & Deb	?
Winkel	Ray & Sally	Bkd
Wolfe	Don & Sarah	Bkd
Wood	Jack & Judi	?

#### **DYER DOODLES**, or a message from Tom Dyer, aka the Class Prez



Once again Freed has surprised all.....including himself....with another marvelous piece of literary history! Thanks, Freed for keeping us all together and informed.

I just got back from the annual Class of 1967 Leader's Conference at West Point. This event, as most of you know, is the highlight of the Association of Graduates' year. All Classes and Societies are represented by their own leadership for 2 1/2 rigorous days of presentations, meetings with USMA Leadership, awards ceremonies and planning sessions, all which conclude on Saturday morning with the Acceptance Day Parade. All this was made possible by our Class through the gift we made during our 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion to the Long Gray Line Endowment. The feedback was incredibly positive and the appreciation expressed by so many of the participants was heartfelt. Thank you all for once again leading the way toward making West Point and its AOG be more relevant.

The activities in which our Classmates participate are remarkable. Please enjoy the stories found in this issue of all having great fun and fellowship.

Jeff Madsen and the Reunion Committee have done a wonderful job of preparing for what will surely be a delightful gathering at West Point next April. Hard to believe that our 45th is almost here - WOW!!

The Class Officers met on Friday 8/12 with a full agenda of items that needed attention. Topics included planning for a mini-reunion in Hawaii in 2013, a broader use of the Class data base, the 50th Reunion gift plan, memorial articles that need to be completed, Surviving Family Member needs, plans for the 50 year affiliation effort as well as a comprehensive Budget for Class Admin needs over the next 5 years. A report on all will be provided at the Reunion Business Meeting.

Thanks to all of you for the information provided which gives Freed license to abuse and entertain us!! As we approach our 45<sup>th</sup> please keep all our Classmates in your thoughts and prayers, those whom we know are struggling as well as those who are not obvious to the rest of us.

Paige and I wish you all the very best of health and happiness.

God Bless You All.



#### Publication of the Pooper Scooper

Some of you may have noticed (although I realize that is very unlikely) that it's been awhile since I barfed up one of these literary road kills. Actually some of you are probably happy about that. Never-theless, the intent is to publish three a year - April, August and December - and for the past several years we've been able to maintain that. Alas and alack, whatever the hell that means, fiscal reality finally caught up with us this year, and there was no April issue. Keep in mind that this rag is sent free to all living classmates and surviving family members for whom we have good addresses, and we want to keep it that way, especially with the demise of Assembly magazine (see below). Each issue averages about \$3,800 to lay out, print and mail, and this is paid for from the class admin fund.

Well, fortunately we're not as dysfunctional as the looney tunes that make up the Congress of the United States; in our case, we can't spend what we don't have. We have to balance spending with revenue, otherwise the bank account runs dry, and that, mes amis, is where we are today. I saw this coming last December – the only reason that issue got published was because three or four generous classmates stepped up to the plate. The same is true with his issue. But beyond this issue there's just a big sucking sound instead of humming presses.

Part of the problem is that a large sum of money from the admin fund had to be advanced to the reunion committee as seed money for the 45<sup>th</sup> reunion to pay up-front costs associated with planning for that

event. Eventually some, if not all, of that will be returned to the admin fund, but not until after all reunion revenues (registration fees, etc) have been collected and bills have been paid. That's probably a year from now. Until then, future publication of this gazette of intrigue and accomplishment is very much in doubt. Note: the more of you who attend the reunion, the more money will be put back into the admin fund. Subtle hint here.

Bottom line: if we're going to keep this vital class communication going, we need lots of folks to step up to the plate and donate to the Class Admin Fund. It's tax deductible, and I'd like to think it's for a good cause. Yeah, I know, I can already hear the grumbling and griping out there: "Strong Expletive, all **Freed** ever does is ask us for money – money for the book, money for the film, money for the Pooper Scooper, money for the class gift, money for Dr. Doom's legal defense fees...when will it ever end???" When you open your wallets and send in enough freakin money, that's when.

#### Update on the Class Documentary Film

A lot has happened in regard to this project since my last update. Personally, I think the latest news is pretty exciting.

The film, initially envisioned and funded as a 53 minute-long documentary to be aired on a commercial cable TV channel, has been expanded to a full length 90 minute film, still intended for airing on TV, but also to be shown at film festivals in an effort to interest a Hollywood studio or distributor.

As early as December of last year, as the number of classmates interviewed grew and the power of their stories was evident, along with the collection of photos, films and other material, the producers from The Documentary Group and the leadership of the Center for Oral History and the History Department at West Point realized that what they had was a very impressive and important piece of work that, if restricted to just 53 minutes, would be reduced in quality and therefore done a great disservice. Too much compelling material would have to be omitted. By mid-March, everyone involved was convinced that a 90 minute film was imperative.

The issue, of course, was money, filthy lucre (isn't it always?). The class had provided \$600K for the 53 minute film, which was enough to produce it at this length. In order to expand the film to 90 minutes another \$300K was needed. Without going into all the details, let me just say that thanks to the generosity of 39 classmates and SFMs (you know who you are – THANK YOU) and a couple of grads from other classes, along with a non-USMA grad, and a willingness by The Documentary Group to bear some of the costs themselves, the mission was accomplished.

The film, titled *Into Harm's Way*, is now finished, and while I haven't seen it yet, I've been told by those who have that it is a very powerful, emotional and moving tribute to the Class of 1967.

The Documentary Group has already started the process of submitting it to international film festivals for the official premiere viewing – stay tuned on that. In the meantime, a formal grand opening of the Center for Oral History is scheduled at West Point on 21-22 October. At that event the COH website will be rolled out, and the film will be shown to a select audience. I have been promised that a copy of the film on DVD will be made available for all members of the Class Family.

#### Now, here's an important announcement:

COL Lance Betros, Head of the Department of History, wants to have a special premiere of the film here at West Point on Friday, 23 September. This screening will only be for the members of the Department of History, the West Point Leader Team (Supt, Dean, Commandant) and some other dignitaries, and very special guests – the Class of 1967. You're all invited.

There will be a brief reception before hand – probably some champagne and hors d'oeuvres – followed by the showing of the film in South Auditorium (now called Robinson Auditorium) in Thayer Hall. After the film, the producer, Jordan Kronich, and the Director of the Center for Oral History, Todd Brewster, would be available for questions. Dress would be business – coat and tie for guys, whatever that translates into for women.

You'll be on your own for accommodations and travel. That's a non-home football game

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weekend, so rooms should be available at the Thayer, should you choose to go that route.

I need to know how many plan to attend so I can give Lance a planning number, so if you think there's a good chance you'll come, please let me know as soon as possible, to include the number in your group. It could be a good excuse for a class party, and make a great photo op for the next Pooper Scooper.

#### **Roger Fulkerson to be Honored by Rensselaer County**. NY

This is very cool. Back in July I received the following e-mail from Lonnie Worthington, employee an of Rensselaer County, NY: "I work for Rensselaer County Veterans Service



**Roger Fulkerson** 

Agency and once a month we have a ceremony to honor one deceased veteran from our county. October 11th's Honor-A-Vet is Roger A. Fulkerson and I was wondering if you could help me spread the work to his West Point Classmates who may be interested in attending the ceremony and of course yourself. The Honor-A-Veteran ceremony for Roger Fulkerson will be held on Tuesday, October 11th at 8:15 in the morning. It is about an hour long reflection on the life of the deceased veteran, in our



▲ Roger Fulkerson in Vietnam

Legislative Chambers (Rensselaer County Government Center, 1600 Seventh Avenue, Troy, NY) with local government officials as well as our Senator and Congressmen in attendance. There is a bio pamphlet on the honorary veteran written and provided to all in attendance. All the government officials speak or read the bio of the veteran; they also present the family with various proclamations, certificates and plaques. The family is also presented an American 5'x 8' flag that was flown over the US Capitol in the veteran's honor, which will then be flown over the County Office building in that veteran's honor for the next 30 days. At the conclusion of the 30 days the flag will be lowered and sent to the cleaners before being giving back to the family."

Mark your calendars, sports fans. It would be great if we could have large turnout of classmates to help honor our fallen brother.

#### Assembly Magazine Lives No More



▲ The final issue of Assembly

The 10 or so of you who actually still subscribed to Assembly should have seen the notice in the July issue that it was the last issue to be published. Falling subscription rates and lack of advertising revenue spelled its eventual doom. Assembly has been replaced by West Point Magazine, a publication provided free of charge to all graduates (I'm still trying to figure out how the AOG couldn't afford to publish a magazine that required paid subscriptions and was only mailed to those who did pay, yet can afford to publish a slick magazine and send it to all grads for free. But then I got turned out in Plebe math and damn near got turned out in Cow Econ).

Here's an e-mail from Bob McClure. President of the AOG, that was sent to most grads back in April explaining what's going on.

"Dear Fellow Graduates:

First, this email may be a longer than is normally custom, but I want to clearly describe some communications changes at your West Point Association of Graduates (WPAOG). The recent debut of West *Point* magazine and our plans to migrate Assembly's Class Notes to an online format may have caused some confusion in the ranks. However, we at the Alumni Center are working hard to ensure that everyone understands where we're going in this arena, and why.

Overview: We believe that in order for WPAOG to be successful at our mission to serve West Point and its graduates, we MUST be able to communicate effectively with all elements of the Long Gray Line and "Grip Hands" with them, so to speak, to build a unity of purpose for our alma mater. This task is made more difficult by the fact that WPAOG receives no membership dues for this service, and the inexorable march of technology has complicated the means of keeping all graduates informed. In short, we cannot simply keep doing business as usual in how we communicate and still be effective for you, or for West Point, in the future

West Point magazine: Our new publication will be mailed quarterly to as many graduates as possible, and will focus on the cadets, the Military Academy, and the timeless ideals for which this institution stands. As you've already seen, West Point magazine will have engaging stories with powerful, compelling photography. Also, there will always be a section highlighting the accomplishments of graduates and an historical page titled "Past in Review." Copies will be available for sale to other audiences, but our hope is that you will be proud to have this publication represent you and your alma mater, and that you'll want to keep it on your coffee table or leave it in the seat pocket in front of you when flying. Going forward, this will be our flagship publication to help us engage all Hearts in Gray.

Assembly: Following the final edition due out in July, Class Notes, which in recent years has filled the vast majority of Assembly's pages, will move online to allow for more frequent updating and wider dissemination, for free! (Freed note: to view the class notes on line, go to www.westpointaog.org. Click on

"Classes" on the menu bar at the top of the page, and on the drop down menu click on "class notes. Then follow the instructions to get to whatever class you want to read. If you go there now you'll find the class notes from the July issue. I've been told that my next deadline for online notes will be in September). For more than 60 years, Assembly has featured news on the WPAOG, updates on classes, and graduate obituaries before Taps began publication in 2004. I've been a loyal Assembly subscriber since graduation, but advances in internet communications and social media have almost made printed Class Notes obsolete because they are stale when published and never do reach a wide audience. The statistics are undeniable. In 1973 Assembly reached the highest percentage of living grads: 67%. This number drifted down to 59% by 1991, and in 1993 budget pressures caused the Board of Trustees to eliminate a free year of Assembly and Register to each graduating class. By 2003, 39% of the Long Gray Line subscribed to Assembly, and in 2009 that number dipped below 20%. Of those who did subscribe, 85% graduated before 1986, the current midpoint class of living graduates.

To be clear, it is VERY important for all classes, cadet companies, teams and clubs to bind together as graduates - and many of us are already doing so via discussion forums, listserves and so forth. Up to date online Class Notes will enhance this dialogue and make those bonds even stronger. We have heard the concern of some who still want a printed edition of Class Notes, and I've asked a task force made up of scribes and members of the staff to help find the best solution. However, there will be a cost for a printed edition, whereas the same updates and class news will be online for free.

Taps: The next edition of Taps will come out in July. As you know, Taps has been mailed twice a year to Assembly subscribers and it is a remarkable publication. I've found no other university that prints something like Taps - certainly not Air Force or Navy. After July's edition, Taps will move to become an annual publication, printed every May to coincide with graduation, and continue to be the quality product that it is. Taps will be available for purchase each year, but will be mailed free of charge to the next of kin of those listed therein.

The Register of Graduates: The 2010 Register listed the names of all West Point graduates back to 1802. It, too, is an amazing resource. However, in recent vears fewer than 4,000 of our 48,000 living graduates have purchased it, and The Register is another example of something having dated information as soon as it's published. Whereas the most current Register entries - for those who choose to keep us informed of changes - will always remain online at the WPAOG website, our plan is to publish a printed Register only once every five years in the future.

Mobile Apps and Social Media: They are clearly the portals for today's communications, and are what our younger, and future, graduates are using. By now I hope many of you have downloaded either the WPAOG iPhone or Android app and are using them to find a wealth of information about West Point. Cadet club and team schedules, Founder's Day events, tailgates, and much more are available at the tap of a screen, and we're trying to insure that your WPAOG is leveraging the best of what this new technology offers. Soon you'll also be able to download the West Point magazine app on your iPad! We've started engaging the Corps of Cadets via these means about WPAOG, and the number of graduates following us on Facebook, Twitter, and other social media sites continues to rise every month.

In closing, I want to thank each of you for supporting West Point and your Association of Graduates. Change is not easy and many of these decisions were not made lightly. I ask your understanding and assistance as we move forward and take full advantage of advances in the world of communications so that your WPAOG can more effectively serve West Point and all graduates in The Long Gray Line."

Robert L. McClure '76 COL, USA (RET) President & CEO

#### Go Cruising with Freed & Vicki

Alright everyone, here's a chance for a great Class mini-reunion. As many of you know, each year the AOG hosts 15 - 20 cruises and other trips for graduates and friends. One of the trips in 2012 - 16 - 27 Oct to be precise - is a wonderful cruise through the Mediterranean. Here's the description from the AOG website:

#### Jewels of the Mediterranean & Greek Isles, Oct 13-24 (12 nights), from \$3,799 (includes FREE Air), Joint Academy Travel and Go Next/Oceania

2 for 1 cruise fares; free airfare; free 1-nighthotel stay; BONUS \$1,000 savings per stateroom A blend of Mediterranean ports and celebrated destinations as you cruise on Oceania Cruises' elegant Riviera. Explore cities and ports in Greece, Turkey, Italy, France and Monaco. From Athens, journey to Kusadasi and then head to Greece. Sail to Italy and discover the village of Messina, and then visit the island of Capri or explore the ruins of Pompeii. Revel in the Renaissance treasures of Florence or explore Tuscany before cruising to France and the port of Marseilles. Take in Monte Carlo, where a drive down the Grand Corniche offers stunning views before concluding your journey in Rome. This seafaring adventure truly reveals the jewels of the Mediterranean.

So why am I telling you this, you ask? Because I am the designated AOG host for this trip! Very important point, however: this is a "joint service academy" trip, which means we're combined with grads from Navy & Air Force. Whichever Academy has the most folks sign up gets to provide the host. If a total of 10 people (5 couples) sign up, and West Point has the most folks, I get to go for free!! Better yet, if 20 people sign up (10 couples) Vicki and I both get to go free!!! What a good deal. And it will be for you, too, because we will host at least one cocktail reception, and I'll buy lots of drinks for everyone the whole week. It doesn't get much better than that.

You can view details of this trip and sign up, by going to the West Point AOG website (www.westpointaog.org). On the top of the page, find the box called Services and on the drop down menu click on Travel Program. Then scroll down the list until you find the Jewels of the Mediterranean & Greek Isles trip.

See you in the Med.



In, Memoriam

Be THOU AT Peace

Tragically, we have lost four members of our class family since the last issue of the *Pooper Scooper*, classmate **Tom McManus**; **Wayne Monroe's** wife **Sandy** (**Bill Platt's** sister); **Marc Ducharme's** wife **Jodeen**; and **Doc Wentzel's** wife **Hye-Sook**. Here is what I have in the way of obituaries.

## 🕷 Thomas P. McManus 🕷



**Thomas Parnell McManus** passed away on March 11, 2011, at INOVA Hospital, in Alexandria, Virginia.

Tom was born on February 21, 1946, in New York, New York. He went to elementary school in NYC and was found to have a learning disability – he did not read past the kindergarten level until he was ten years old. However, once he taught himself to read he never stopped. He attended New York Military Academy and was then accepted

▲ Thomas P. McManus

into the United States Military Academy. Tom was commissioned into the Corps of Engineers. He completed Ranger, Airborne and Engineer Officer's Basic School before serving with the 2AD in Texas. In 1969, Tom went to Vietnam where he commanded A Co, 577<sup>th</sup> EN BN.

After Vietnam, Tom received his MS in Physics from Penn State, taught in the USMA Physics Department and earned a PhD in Physics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. His last Army assignment was in Space Systems Operations with the USAF/NRO. After leaving the Army, Tom went to work as a scientist for the Central Intelligence Agency. He then worked as a scientist/program manager on several NASA and defense technology related programs. In his spare time he received an MA in Liberal Studies from Georgetown University. He so enjoyed the program that he became an adjunct professor at GU and taught in Liberal Studies for over 20 years. He was also an adjunct and associate professor of Physics at Northern Virginia Community College.

Tom first met his future wife, Lisa Zaborowski, in 2000. They were married in 2003 and have a young son. Tom's first marriage was to Marian Pavlik, in 1968, and they had three daughters together.

Throughout his life Tom fought a long battle with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. He never could make peace with two incidents in Vietnam and the death of his best friend and fellow 1967 USMA graduate **Norman Nesterak**. Shortly after his second marriage, Tom began to struggle more with the symptoms of PTSD – he left work and teaching and replaced them with trips to the VA Hospital.

Tom will be remembered for his love of West Point, his penchant for learning and travel and for being a voracious reader. He will also

be remembered for the hours he spent with his daughters at the pool assisting with swim team training and for the pleasure he took in just doing the simple things with his son.

In addition to his wife, Tom is survived by his son, John; his daughters, Laura McManus, Suzi Craft, and Heather Collins; his brother John T. McManus; and six grandchildren.

Tom was buried in the West Point cemetery on May 2, 2011.



## SANDY PLATT MONROE ✗

Sandy Monroe Platt, 62, of Carmel, IN, passed away March 12, 2011. Sandy was born on October 3, 1948, in South Bend, IN, to the late Orville A. and Helen McClintic Platt. She was raised in Monticello, IN, and therein shared all the experiences of small-town life. She delivered the Indianapolis Star, enjoyed fountain sodas, rode on the back of Corvettes in Homecoming Court, and danced with the bands at Indiana Beach. Her spiritual life began in the Monticello United Methodist Church. Sandy met the love of her life, Wayne A. Monroe in December of 1963, and they finally married August 2, 1969. She studied political science at the University of Louisville, and finished her degree at Purdue University. She was employed in pension administration with Aetna Life, and eventually became the owner of Pension Maintenance Corporation. In the 1990's she took the position of Pension Administration Team Leader for American United Life, and finally left corporate life to home school her youngest daughter. In her spare time she was a part time instructor for the School of Business at IUPUI. Sandy was a devoted wife, and mother. She demonstrated daily the strength and practice of her faith in God and in Jesus Christ as Our Savior. After 35 years of marriage, Sandy converted from United Methodist to Roman Catholic. Even as a Roman Catholic, Sandy continued to participate in both the St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church and her former Carmel United Methodist Church. She was loved by family, friends, and many others that she was able to counsel throughout the years. Sandy lived life as a servant of others. Sandy is survived by her loving husband of 47 years, Wayne A. Monroe; daughters, Barbara Monroe Goggins and Kendra Lee Lawson; grandchildren, Mona, Joshua and Noah Goggins; brother, William Platt; nieces, Jennifer and Brooke Platt; brother-in-law, Richard Aldridge; and nephew, Dennis Aldridge. Then sings my soul, My Savior God to Thee, How Great Thou Art, How Great Thou Art.

1, Memoriam

Be THOU AT PEACE

## 🕷 JODEEN A. D. DUCHARME 🕷



Jodeen Ann Dirkers Ducharme, age 68, of Lawrenceville, Georgia, entered into rest on May 7, 2011, after a long battle with cancer. She is survived by her husband of 36 years, Jean Marc Ducharme II, her two daughters Darcy Ducharme and Danielle Ducharme Wunn, a son-in-law Chris Wunn and a granddaughter, Arabella Wunn, a step-son John Ducharme of Augusta, a daughter-in-law Paulina Ducharme and

▲ Jodeen A. D. Ducharme

two grandsons Marco and Oliver Ducharme. She also is survived by four brothers, nieces and nephews, and a host of friends and relatives scattered across the nation and world who will cherish her memory.

Born on May 29, 1942, in Indianapolis, Indiana, to Jerome B. Dirkers and Isabella Kleusch Dirkers, Jodeen graduated from the College of St. Benedict in St. Cloud, Minnesota in 1964, and earned her Master's Degree in Communication from University of

Wisconsin-Superior. She was a world traveler from a young age, starting her teaching career in Alaska, and then moving overseas to teach at Department of Defense schools in Germany. After marrying in Heidelberg Castle and skiing her way through Europe, she and Marc Ducharme settled stateside in Colorado Springs where both daughters were born before the family moved to Atlanta in 1985. After Jodeen's children began school, she avidly reconnected with her inner teacher finding her niche teaching Public Speaking at DeKalb and Georgia Perimeter Colleges where she was named the "Outstanding Faculty Member" for 2001. Her devotion produced a profound impact on students who never thought they could give speeches. She also gave her time and energy to mentor and create camaraderie at the college and in her family. As president of the Georgia Communication Association she was honored as an Outstanding Leader of a State Organization by the National Communication Association. She will be greatly missed by her colleagues and friends, but most of all by her family. She loved to travel, garden, and watch movies. In lieu of flowers, please send donations in her name to the American Cancer Society.

## 🕷 HYE-SOOK YUN WENTZEL 🕷

**Hye-Sook Yun Wentzel** passed into eternal life on April 28, after a courageous battle with cancer. Born in Namwon, Republic of Korea, on August 11, 1956, she earned a B.A. degree in commercial design from Kwangju University, and later received graduatelevel certification in management and international marketing from Yonsei University in Seoul. Hye-Sook held several management positions with

▲ Hye-Sook Yun Wentzel the Pacific Chemical Company in Seoul, ultimately working as department manager of sales and marketing in the cosmetics division. She conducted product seminars in Canada, Malaysia, Singapore, and the United States. In 1990, she met Colonel Sealon R. "Doc" Wentzel, U.S. Army, who was stationed in Seoul. Leaving her family, career, and native country, she immigrated to the United States in 1992. Hye-Sook and Doc were married on April 11, 1992, in the Post Chapel at Fort McPherson, GA, and they settled in Peachtree City, GA. Their son, Joshua, was born in 1993, and their daughter, Sarah, was born in 1996. Hye-Sook became a very proud and patriotic American citizen in 2000. That year, the family moved to Mills River, NC. Hye-Sook had a great affinity for the arts, and was active in painting, drawing, pottery and ceramics, sculpture, photography, and jewelry design. She studied various arts and crafts techniques at The Penland School,

William Holland School, John Campbell Folk School, Asheville-Buncombe Technical Institute, and the Henderson County Gem and Mineral Society. Ultimately, jewelry design and fabrication became her passion, and she created many beautiful articles of jewelry. The Wentzels enjoyed family recreational vehicle travel and camping, visiting 15 national parks during their vacations; Hye-Sook created an extensive photo journal of the family's travels.

Hye-Sook was devoted to her family, and loved to associate with people. She worked at the North Carolina Arboretum for several years as a sales associate, and enjoyed meeting people from all over America and the world, touching many with her outgoing personality. In any situation, her vivacious presence brightened everything around her.

Hye-Sook is survived by her husband, Doc; her son, Joshua; daughter, Sarah; stepson, Staff Sergeant Sam Wentzel (a U.S. Army Ranger); mother, Myung Soon Bok; and sisters, Soon Duk Yun and Kyung Sook Yoon. Although we are immeasurably saddened by her passing, we are eternally grateful for the opportunity to have known and loved her. Because of her many talents, we know that God has a special purpose for her in Heaven!

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorial donations be made to Four Seasons Compassion for Life, 581 South Allen Road, Flat Rock, NC 28731.

Terrible late news at press time. Our brothers **Jim Ruhl** and **Ray Winkel** recently passed away. Jim succumbed to cancer on 22 August in Alexandria, MN, and Ray lost his long battle on 30 August at the Walter Reed Medical Center in Bethesda, MD. They both fought valiantly to the end, and the Class and the world are poorer for their passing. Please remember **Linda Ruhl**, **Sally Winkel** and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

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



**Golf Reunion, 2011 Edition** OK, the 2011 class golf reunion is in the history books, and a grand time was had by one and all. Here's the report I received from **Macy Brown**:





▲ Participants in the 2011 Class Golf Reunion

Golf Week in Alabama - June 2011. Laura and I, along with Bill & BJ Brigadier and Kent & Bobbi Kraus, hosted a group of 35 classmates, wives and friends the week of 6-10 July for our annual West Point Class of '67 Golf Outing. We used the Embassy Suites as our base of operations and some of us played golf 5 days in a row (some only 4). We played a practice round at Redstone Arsenal and then the real rounds at Cherokee Ridge, The Ledges, Hampton Cove and Canebrake. The golf did not approach the US Open on TV. In fact, the golf is only an excuse to get together and enjoy each other's company. Attending were John & Judy Caldwell, Jim & Karen Crowley, Alton & Carolyn



▲ The non-golfers at the golf reunion: Don Nelson surrounded by his support group

Donnell, Sam Etheridge (Al Etheridge's brother), Regina Groman, Ray & Cheryl Jones, John & Sam Newton, Al & Ann Olson, Fred & Marion Schremp, Mike & Mary Shelton, Bob & Ann White, and Jack & Judi Wood. Joining us for the meals a couple of days only were **Don &** Diane Nelson, Ken & Sara Strong and Dick & Monica Ehrenreich. Since the 44th anniversary of our graduation fell during the week, a reunion dinner was held on 7 June and was capped off with Country Western dancing, taught by some friends of Macy and Laura. The teams this year were Bill's Ball Busters led by Bill Brigadier and Kent's Klub Krushers led by Kent Kraus. After building a sizeable lead through three days, Bill's Ball Busters had just enough left to hold off the Klub Krushers on Friday. According to all the comments I have heard, everyone had a great time and the only complaint was the high 90's temperatures. It should be cooler next year when we are going to Tahoe to play with the Groman's and Swanson's as hosts.



▲ The Fab Four: Carolyn Donnell, Judi Wood, Cheryl Jones and Karen Crowley



▲ Kent's Klub Krushers: Ann Olson, Leslie Nelson, Kent Kraus, Jack Wood, Alton Donnell, Ray Jones, Alan Olson and Mike Shelton



▲ Bill's Ball Busters (the winning team): John & Judy Caldwell, Macy Brown, Bill Brigadier, Bob & Ann White and John Newton

#### Great Adventure Fishing Platoon Assaults Bill Foley's Montana Ranch and Ruby Springs Lodge

Well, it's happened once again; on 7 July the Heroic He-Men of the Class Great Adventure Fishing and Ranger Assault Platoon left the safety and comfort of family, hearth and home, girded their loins for mortal combat and deployed to the wilds of western Montana for the biennial ambush patrol for wild and wily trout Bill Groman, Bill Freccia, Paul Kern and Randy Pais about to depart on a patrol into Indian Country at FOB Rock Creek

▼ Jan Askman and Tom Petrie at one of the lakes on Bill Foley's ranch





range patrols into the bush on ATVs, and sporting clays shooting. The hearty souls on this first phase of the operation included John Severson, Chad Keck, Mike Hood, Paul Kern, Tom Petrie, Randy Pais, Carl Kraft, Rich Adams, Bill Freccia, Bob Sellars, Pete Hanelt, Bill Groman, John Caldwell, Ray Jones, Fred Schremp, Jan Askman, Joe Jackson, Freed Lowrey, Jack Wood and Bill Foley.

On Sunday, 12 July, most of these intrepid adventurers passed through the wire, advanced on multiple axes, and rendezvoused for the second phase at Fire Support Base Ruby Springs, deep in enemy territory, where we were

(continued on page 12)

and nubile, hard bodied and harder living callipygian young women.

As with the last two Great Adventures the main body initially deployed to a remote forward operating base, **Bill Foley's** Montana ranch, FOB Rock Creek Cattle Company, for three or four days of acclimatization, pre-operation planning and rehearsals, weapons checks and zeroing, terrain familiarization, conditioning and carbo-loading. And, for most of them, lots of golf on Foley's incredible links course, some horseback riding, extended long



◄ The fishing and ranger platoon cavalry detachment scouting for bandit trout: Groman, Kern, Pais and Hanelt



joined by Tom Dyer, the rear echelon commander. Here we were surrounded at all times by cunning indigenous brown, brook and rainbow insurgents from the Ruby, Madison, Big Hole, Beaverhead and Jefferson clans. It's rugged, hard and hazardous work (as anyone within the impact area of a Randy Pais fly casting effort can attest), but the rewards for everyone are huge - not the least of whom are you faithful readers of this rag who once again are being treated to page after page of dead fish flicks. It just doesn't get much better than that. There were a couple of rookies on this trip - Jan Askman and Tom Petrie – but they proved worthy and both were Mentioned in Dispatches during the awards ceremony on the final night of the deployment.



A Pete Hanelt, Jack Wood, Ray Jones and Tom Petrie, after ambushing a bunch of hapless sporting clays at FOB Rock Creek

Rich Adams and Ray Jones flank one of the native guides before going on a long range trout patrol from firebase Ruby Springs

After the fishing ambush patrol was finished, a couple of guys – Chad Keck and Mike Hood – went back up to Bill Foley's ranch, where they linked up with Fred Schremp and Wes Spincic for a few more days of golf and generally bad behavior. While there they all trooped into Deer Lodge, the closest thing that passes for a town in those parts, for the Bull-A-Rama rodeo, where surveillance cameras caught this image of them.

> Mike Hood, Chad keck, Fred Schremp, Wes Spincic and Bill Foley at the Deer Lodge, MT, Bull-A-Rama Rodeo

Freccia, Pais and Kern in full battle rattle in the wilds of Western Montana



▲ Jack Wood John Caldwell and Paul Sampson, coowner of Ruby Springs Lodge, plotting the next day's mayhem





▲ C-ration wine for the expedition provide by our platoon sommelier Bill Groman





Dinner in the mess tent at Bill Foley's FOB Rock Creek. You can see how Spartan and primitive these expeditions are.

After a couple of really hard days in the bush Bill Foley arranged for a USO show to pop by the Forward Operating Base. John Dunnigan, an outstanding folk singer, lifted our sagging spirits after hard days on patrol and MREs and brown water for dinner.



▲ Survivors of Great Adventure #7 relaxing in the CP tent the night before re-deployment: Kneeling, L to R: Tom Petrie, Rich Adams, John Severson, Bill Freccia, Mike Hood, Pete Hanelt. Standing, L to R: Paul Kern, Jan Askman, Joe Jackson, Bill Groman, Freed Lowrey, Tom Dyer, Ray Jones, John Caldwell, Chad Keck and Jack Wood

Bill Foley and Bob Sellars relaxing at the O'Club after a day hunting golf balls in the bush





#### **Classmates in Hampton Roads, VA, Gather for Lunch** and Tall Tales



▲ Hampton Roads luncheon: L to R: John Garay, Mike Yap, Mike Shelton, Bob Libutti, Gary Downs, Kenn Harris, John Hart, Bob Love, Tim Russell and Dean Risseeuw.

This has become a bit of a tradition, and a nice one at that. The classmates in the Hampton Roads area of southeast Virginia have started getting together periodically for lunch and fun and games. Here's the report I received from Gary Downs about the most recent gathering on 16 April:

> "The third edition of the Hampton Roads Class of '67 luncheon was, once again, a huge success. As you can see from the picture, quite a sorry looking crew attended. In attendance were Dean & Nancy Risseeuw, Cindv Gary & Downs, Kenn & Lynn Harris, Mike & Mary Shelton, John & Barbara Garay, John & Gen Hart, Bob & Linda Libutti, Tim & Dianne

Russell, Mike Yap and Bob Love. The event was held at the Opus 9 Steakhouse in Williamsburg and ten members of the class along with significant others, attended.

Unfortunately, the ladies opted not to have their picture taken. It certainly would have been a better looking group than the guys. Bob Libutti and his wife Linda got the award for traveling the farthest, coming from PA to attend. Yap and Love traveled down from DC and Tim & Diane Russell came down from Stafford.

A highlight of the event was Mike Yap presenting the reunion planning both for next year at the Thayer as well as the following year in Hawaii. He did a great job as evidenced by his not being booed off the stage. It sounds like these will be two great events.

We will probably do another luncheon in the fall. Once again, I will let you know time and place so you can announce it to the class in case others are in the area and want to attend.

Warm weather has returned here!! Hope it is the same for you there."

#### Annual Football West Point Golf Reunion



 Football Team Golfers at West Point: kneeling: Ed Beck and Barry Nickerson. Standing: Bud Stann, Mike Neuman, Dick Black, David Rivers and Dean Hansen

► The Football Team golfers carbo-loading at South Gate Tavern before the big match: Neuman Black, Nickerson, Beck, Hansen and Rivers



Bud Stann presenting Freed Lowrey with the plaques from Dwight Eisenhower's Beast Barracks room

In late July seven of our Army football team classmates returned to West Point for the annual West Point Football Golf Reunion. They all came by my office for a visit one afternoon and it was great to see them. A couple of days later I received the following from Barry Nickerson:

"Freed, Great to see you last week. Attached are some pictures for your info and use. By the way, '67 got 3<sup>rd</sup> in the AFC Golf tournament 12 under only 1 stroke off 1<sup>st</sup> place - Team of David Rivers, Mike Neuman, Dick Black, Ed Beck, Barry Nickerson support by Hydration Engineers of Dean Hansen and Bud Stann."

One very cool thing happened during their visit to my office. Bud Stann presented me with a plaque he had taken off Dwight Eisenhower's beast barracks room door. Seems he was walking by the pile of rubble just after they had started demolishing the old barracks our Cow year and saw the door with plaque attached lying in the rubble heap. Fortunately, he rescued the plaque and has had it all these years. Knowing my love of memorabilia like that, he very kindly gave it to me. If you can't read it in the photo, the plaque says "Cadet Dwight D. Eisenhower Class of 1915 Lived In This Room During Beast Barracks." I'm now the envy of everyone who comes into my office.

#### Plans are Set for the Annual Class Washington. DC. Area Dinner

Here's the latest poop on plans for this annual debauch, courtesy of John Kuspa: "The Class dinner is coming up on 17 September 2011. Cocktails at 1800 and dinner at 1900. As in the last few years we will hold the dinner at the Army Navy Golf Club at Fairfax. Normally somewhere between 50 and 60 classmates and spouses attend. Featuring as our honored classmate speakers for the evening: Rich Adams, Author of "The Parting: A Story of West Point on the Eve of the Civil War" and Mike Yap will also provide an update on the Hawaii Mini-reunion (Nov 2013) and 2012 Reunion Update (April 2012)."

#### Plans are Being Made For a Class Mini-reunion in Hawaii in 2013

Talk about long range planning, Mike Yap is putting together plans for a class mini-reunion in Hawaii in conjunction with the Army - Hawaii football game almost two years away, on 30 November 2013. I'd give you the entire plan, but in true Mike Yap fashion it's a seven page, singled spaced operations order in excruciating detail. Here are the highlights for now (contact Mike at Michael.W.L.Yap@) SAIC.com and I'm sure he'd be happy to send you the whole thing.

"The overall concept is to conduct a mini-reunion around Army playing football at the University of Hawaii. This game is scheduled for Saturday, 30 November 2013. We are letting classmates know early so they can save the date and put aside the necessary resources. The mini-reunion will be centered at the Hale Koa, an Armed Forces Recreation Center like the Shades of Green at Disneyworld. The name stands for the "House of the Warrior", so it is quite appropriate. I have talked with the Hale Koa general manager and he is quite determined to make it a wonderful mini-reunion. He has agreed to relax the sponsoring ratio so that those of us with ID cards can sponsor a few of you without military ID cards.

Overview of the mini-reunion:

- Timing of the football game makes scheduling as issue. Thanksgiving is Thursday, 28 November 2013. I am not yet sure how а full the Hale Koa will be. Initial indications from Hale Koa management are that it will not be a problem. However, air travel will likely be difficult. There are two options: 1) Include Thanksgiving in the travel plans. Or 2) insure you make air travel arrangements as soon as the airlines will accept them.
- b. We can also include Thanksgiving as part of the mini-reunion. An alternative is let classmates make their own arrangements. One thing for sure, if you want to have Thanksgiving dinner at the Hale Koa, you have to make reservations early. I understand they sell out early.
- c. The basic plan is to arrive on Friday, 29 November 2013. We will set up a welcome room where you will get a copy of the latest schedule, administrative instructions, activity options and a reunion bag. We will have a set of reunion wear such as his and her aloha and/or polo shirts. The West Point Society of Hawaii also has an aloha shirt for the football game. We will probably also arrange for some sort of hat. Joyce Doheny is already working on the alternatives. Joyce Lighthill will be her local LNO.
- d. Saturday, 30 November 2013, is game day. The local classmates say that the West Point Society of Hawaii puts on a great tailgate so I am inclined to join them. Mike Lighthill is coordinating. Freed Lowrey is exploring arranging for a block of tickets. Of course, we will arrange for a bus service to the tailgate and game. Last time, the game was in the late afternoon. Thus the tailgate is expected to be scheduled in the early afternoon. The tailgate site is close to the stadium so we should be able to walk to the game from the tailgate. As the game will be in the afternoon, no formal victory party is indicated. However, I am sure that many will congregate in the Warrior Lounge at the Hale Koa.
- Sunday, 31 November 2013, will be highlighted by the brunch at the Hale Koa. It is quite a spread of food. Breakfast and lunch e. items and local cuisine as well. Hale Koa management indicated that due to the potential size of our party, they may move us to a separate ball room with the same menu. In my view, that will be fine. The rest of the day will be a down day. Some may want to play some golf, participate in another activity or tour. The main planned event will be shopping. We will set up busses to the NEX. It is the largest PX in the world. Its jewelry counter is as big as some PXs. For those without access to a PX, there are free trolleys that will take you to Ala Moana Mall. Before the Mall of the Americas, it was the largest mall in the US. The Ward Center is also on that route ... it is a mall of small boutique shops. There is a small PX in the Hale Koa where guests can also shop. Those without ID cards will be give access to the PX in the Hale Koa.
- Monday, 1 December through Thursday, 4 December 2013 will be tourist days." f.

#### **Classmate Comings and** Goings

#### The Slaughter of the Innocents



Carl Savory and Jim Balkcom taking a short tea break during their slaughter of endangered species in South Africa

In July Carl Savory, big game hunter extraordinaire, took Jim Balkcom and Jim's grandson Carter Green on a big game Safari to the Eastern Cape of South Africa. I don't have many details or photos yet - they have been promised - but I'm told they had a great time and did indeed "harvest" lots of animals. Here's the list Carl provided: zebras (6)....lots of rug requests, red hartebeest, black wildebeest, blue wildebeest, wart hogs (3), common springbok, black springbok (2), mountain reedbuck, waterbuck, bushbuck (3), impala (2), bush pig, kudu, blesbok (2) and steen buck. I told Carl that in the absence of any lions, rhinos, elephants or cape buffalo, this was a pretty paltry list. Did they eat all that stuff??



Carl Savory did double duty as the camp cook on the Slaughter of the Innocents safari

#### **Rich & Debbie Adams Travel** the Country Hawking His Book and Mooching Off Classmates

Rich & Debbie Adams have been busy little beavers these past few months. I've gotten e-mails from classmates at all points of the compass reporting on Adams sightings and gate-crashings. Here are some examples:

On 11 April I received the following from Bill Pennington: "Hi Freed, couple of things. Rich Adams gave a presentation at the Infantry Museum this past Saturday on his book, "The Parting". I decided to drive down from Atlanta since the Civil War is one of my interests. Rich was one of five different presenters on different topics on the Civil War and his presentation was a hit. Carl Savory was also there for the presentation, but I didn't get to talk with him too much. He had to leave when Rich was finished. Rich was also was plugging his book at the museum book store and I've included a picture for you to use as you wish."



▲ The National Infantry Museum web advertisement of the Civil War Symposium at which Rich Adams was a featured speaker



A Rich Adams signing copies of his book at the National Infantry Museum in Ft. Benning, GA

Then on 18 April Macy Brown chimed in with "Freed, attached is a picture taken at breakfast on 8 April when Rich & Debbie Adams were in Huntsville for him to make a presentation to a book club associated with Athens State University. You probably recognize this cast of characters from seeing our pictures on the wall at the post office.



▲ Left to right: Don Wolfe, BJ Brigadier, Sarah Wolfe, Sara Brigadier (BJ & Bill's daughter), Laura Brown, Rich Adams, Macy Brown, Debbie Adams in Huntsville, AL.

Rich & Debbie's whirlwind doesn't stop there... another speech and book signing for the West Point Society of Houston on 8 June where, according to Rich "The



▲ Gathering in Houston, TX, to celebrate Rich Adams' being in town to address the local West Point Society. They'll celebrate damn near anything in Houston.

Parting" was presented to the WPSGH as never before, with A-Man leading the Class of '67 Choral Group in well known and not so well known verses of "Benny Havens, Oh." What fun we had, and my huge thanks to all. Pictured here at Maggiano's Restaurant the night before the program are Lee Gillespie (USMA 83 and good friend of Bill Pelham in the foreground and the great, great nephew of John Pelham, protagonist

of "The Parting"), Johnny Murrell, Ashley Donnell (official daughter of the class), Tom & Joannie Parr, Rich Labouliere, Al Nahas, Bill Gonser, Tom White, and the hairless one. This was followed by more of the same at The Army Navy Club at Farragut Square in DC the evening of 14 June 2011, when he addressed the club's Author's Forum about West Point on the eve of the Civil War. In attendance and a great support were John Caldwell, Steve Frankowicz, Paul & Kathleen Bigelman (pictured) and John Hall and his son, who had to leave before the photo op.

#### Mike Mullane and his Son Sail the British Virgin Islands

I received the following cyber fart from Mike Mullane on 24 May: "Freed, I thought I would submit the attached photo for a future class update. Two weeks ago my son (Pat) and I (and my USAF Lt. Col. nephew, Vince Sei) rented a sail boat and sailed the BVI for a week. This is the same gang of three that climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro last July. We thought we'd do something easier this time around. It was a blast. Had a great time. I highly recommend it to others."



Mike Mullane and his son Pat sailing in the Virgin Islands



A Paul & Kathleen Bigelman, Rich Adams, Steve Frankowicz, John Caldwell and Debbie Adams at Rich's book singing at the Army Navy Club in DC

Finally, on 28 July I got an e-mail and a photo from Ed Dewey. The Adams' had dropped in on them to soak in the hospitality of the Santa Barbara area classmates.

Rich & Debbie obviously have waaayyyy too much time on their hands.



▲ Front: Beverly Hardin, Janet Dewey and Debbie Adams. Rear: Brick Anderson, Rich Adams, Ed Dewey and Joe Hardin in Santa Barbara

#### **Albers & Winkels Attend Taping of ESPN's PTI Show**

Way back in January I received a great note and photo from **Don Albers**: "Good Morning Freed.

Ray, Sally, Janet and I attended ESPN's PTI show last Tuesday afternoon with Tony Kornheiser and Michael Wilbon. We together bid on the opportunity at the 2009 CAUSE Gala and because of schedule conflicts last year just attended the show this past week. They actually tape the show between 4 - 5PM eastern time for showing at 5:30. We got to sit in The Green Room where all the guests of ABC's Sunday morning show sit before they go on the air, and then on the set during the taping. Afterwards they invited us on the set and signed autographs. Since we all watch the show on a regular basis, we really enjoyed seeing it performed live. A photograph is attached, and I will send you a second one in a trailing email. Regards, Don and Janet, Ray and Sally"



▲ Ray & Sally Winkel and Don & Janet Albers on the set of ESPN's PTI show, with Tony Kornhéiser and Michael Wilbon



Rich & Debbie Adams, Janet Dewey, Blackjack Winery owner Roger Wisted and his girlfriend Asta, and Ed Dewey, sampling the wares at Blackjack Winery, made famous in the movie "Sideways"

#### Nickersons Attended Army's Bowl Victory **Over SMU**

Way back when I received this photo of Barry Nickerson and his family taken at last December's great victory over SMU in The Armed forces Bowl. Start making your plans for a trip to another Army bowl game this year.



▲ Barry Nickerson and his clan at the Armed Forces Bowl game

#### Haeffners Crash the Watermans Home in **Hilton Head**

Several months ago I received the following from Bob Haeffner, reporting on a forage party he and **Gussie** launched against **Dick** & Debbie Waterman: "Gussie and I recently visited with Dick and Debbie Waterman at their home in Hilton Head. SC, while we were on a "getaway" during the Christmas-New Years break. Lotsa stories and laughs, along with a great meal at a nearby Mexican restaurant, where they have a great crab and shrimp chimichanga along with, of course, a Dos Equis Dark. No planning, it was a chilly day and we both happened to be wearing our tan reunion iackets."



▲ Gussie & Bob Haeffner and Dick & Debbie Waterman

#### Lee & Diane Murfee Finally Leave the West **Point Faculty: Start Retired Life with a Cruise** on Their Sailboat

Received the following from Lee a little while ago: "Lee Murfee is shown here with some center of gravity demonstrations in a West Point physics lab room. On July 1, 2011, Lee completed four years in the West Point Department of Physics and Nuclear

Engineering instructing cadets in physics and attributes of good character. Lee is now headed for retirement at his home in Tampa, Florida with **Diane**. his wife. his four children, Lisa, Eileen, Lee and Laura, and seven grandchildren. Lee intends to investigate the uncertainty principle entailed in enjoying the sweetness of doing nothing, and to further experiment with the physics of floating



▲ Lee Murfee in the Physics Lab. Scary.

and moving boats through Florida waters. Ample quality family time is also on Lee's horizon. Lee has a sincere attitude of gratitude to have had a career of serving others for twenty years in the Army's Corps of Engineers, for twenty years of instructing students in math and physics at Berkeley Preparatory School in Tampa, and for seven years instructing cadets in the West Point's math and physics departments. For Lee, Diane and a career of service to others are two of Lee's most positive and gratifying life choices.

To celebrate the beginning of their new life, Lee & Diane enjoyed a July cruise in their small boat. Leaving from West Point, they



traveled down the Hudson River to NYC, to Boston. along the Maine coast, and on to Canada with fun stops along the way. Eileen, their daughter, joined the cruise from Boston to Bar Harbor Maine. Lee, Diane and Eileen are shown here on a whale watching outing from Bar Harbor.

Lee & Diane Murfee looking for whales in Bar Harbor, ME

#### **Leslie Nelson Hosts a Gathering of Wives** in Denver

In between golf junkets around the country Leslie Nelson was in Denver long enough back in May to entertain a few ladies. Cheryl Misurek was in town from Georgia visiting her son and daughter-in-law so Leslie organized a luncheon with Jane Rankin and Mary Ann Howard to celebrate her being in town. I've

been given assurances that no wine was harmed in the making of this photo opportunity.

Cheryl Misurek, Leslie Nelson, Jane Rankin and Mary Ann Howard in Denver



#### Lloyd McMillan Links up with Classmates in Texas

Back in April "Mac" McMillan made a swing through Texas, attending the NCAA basketball final four and visiting Ft. Hood. While in Houston he linked up with several classmates for dinner with Randy Pais, Tom Parr, Johnny Murrell, Jerry Walker, Bob LaRaia and Al Nahas.



He also swung by New Braunfels, where he convinced Tom Jackson and Bill Gonser to get up at the crack of dawn and have breakfast with him.

While at Ft. Hood Mac visited the memorial to Soldiers of the 4th Infantry Division KIA in Iraq and Afghanistan, including his son Bill. While there he was able to link up Bill's Platoon Sergeant Jean Morris and his wife Virginia.

 Lloyd McMillan, Randy Pais, John Murrell, Bob LaRaia, Jerry Walker, Lloyds buddy Frank Kos, Al Nahas and Tom Parr carboloading in Houston

Bill Gonser, Tom Jackson and Lloyd McMillan in New Braunfels, TX





▲ The plaque honoring Lloyd McMillan's son Bill on the 4th ID war memorial at Ft. Hood



Lloyd McMillan at Ft. hood with son Bill's former Platoon Sergeant Jean Morris

#### Freed & Vicki Lowrey Invade the California Wine Country; Wine Inventories now Perilously Low

In July Vicki and I managed a brief escape from the madness of the real world and visited friends in LaLaLand, otherwise known as California, where we spent the better part of a week sampling and buying some of the finest wines California has to offer. After a day spent visiting the wineries of Amador County in the Sierra foothills (some of the best kept wine secrets anywhere), we spent two days in the Sonoma and Napa Valleys, primarily visiting and thoroughly enjoying some of Bill Foley's greatest wines. I had told Bill that we were coming and he arranged for Vicki and me and our friends to be treated like royalty at Bill's Sebastiani, Chalk Hill and Merus wineries. My liver got an exhausting workout, but it was all worth it.



▲ Vicki & Freed Lowrey at Sebastiani Winery in Healdsburg, Sonoma County. Sebastiani is one of Bill Foley's wineries



▲ Freed Lowrey at one of his favorite watering holes



▲ Freed Lowrey pretending to be a wine company CEO, sitting at Bill Foleys desk in his office at Chalk Hill Winery in Sonoma County

#### **The Lenzs Cavort Through** Alaska

Received the following from Bob Lenz on 12 August: "We took the girls (granddaughters Darby, 14, and Tressa, 11) and flew from FL to Vancouver, boarded a Holland America ship (the sister ship to the Class Med cruise) and cruised for 3 days through the inland passage to Skagway. Then it was the White Pass & Yukon RR to Fraser, and bus to Whitehorse, Beaver Creek and Fairbanks. McKinley Explorer (Alaska RR) to Denali for a couple of days and then McKinley Explorer to Anchorage. We saw whales, Dahl sheep, grizzlies and plenty of meese. (That would be moose, Bob. WFL) The whole trip took a couple of weeks. We flew from Anchorage to Seattle & on to D.C. to drop the girls off before returning to Jacksonville.



▲ Bob & Roni Lenz, with their granddaughters Tressa and Darby Glakin, in Alaska

▶ Bob & Roni Lenz and their granddaughters in their finest Alaskan fashions



#### John & Gael James Spent a Month Touring Vietnam, New Zealand and Australia

Here's John's description of this great trip: "Freed, we took the longest vacation we have had in 25 years (a full month).

I was a District Senior Advisor in Phu Thu District, Thua Thien Province, RVN and led security operations and reconstruction efforts for the district. We had a Marine Combined Action Company (CACO) work with six of the popular force platoons in six of the 30

hamlets in the district and I had a Mobile Advisory Team (MAT) work with one of the six regional force companies in the district. We had a two-month combined arms operation with the 1/327th Infantry of the 101st and a battalion of the 1st ARVN division. However, most of the effort was resettling refugees (about 6000 people) from Tet '68 and helping rebuild the local economy and improve the health of the occupants (the biggest health problem was dysentery and we gave each hamlet enough cement to build a well for potable water).





▲ The Phu Thu District compound,Vietnam, 1969, John James's home away from home

▲ John James sitting on top of the ammo dump at Phu Thu

Camp Eagle (the 101st compound) is in the background of the "Phu Thu District Compound 1969" picture. The district compound had about 200 Vietnamese soldiers and the headquarters section of the Marine CACO (three marines) and the five soldiers that were my district team. I called H&I fire from Camp Eagle each night to land between the hamlets to keep the VC from moving around at night. We could see the rockets from the mountains in the background heading into Camp Eagle and see the Cobras take off to go look for the launch sites. The Phu Thu Ammo picture was taken of our local ammo dump.

(continued on page 20)

Also attached are a couple of "before and after" pictures from Vietnam. The before and after pictures were taken a few kilometers South of Hue at the Vinh Ha Buddhist temple in Phu Thu District, Thua Thien Province. The first picture was taken shortly before I left Vietnam in July of 1970. The second picture was taken on 26 May 2011 with an Android phone.



▲ John James at the Vinh Ha Buddhist Temple south of Hue in 1969



▲ John at the same temple in 2011

For the other pictures I don't have a before and after picture since the district compound has been demolished. The last picture was taken on 26 May 2011 and shows a view from across the river from where the district compound stood. A concrete bridge has been built across the river since I left, replacing the wooden, class-60 bridge that we built. The only thing we rebuilt that I could find that was still being used was the dam across the southern end of the district (in Ha Trung hamlet, Vinh Ha villege, Phu Thu District). The dam was originally built during French colonial times. The dam had been blown up many years before and salt water intrusion into rice fields on the north side of the dam had reduced the arable land in the district by about 1/3. We repaired the dam and provided Kuboto tractors to the villege chiefs to enable bringing the rice fields back into production. The picture of me on the Phu Thu Dam shows fresh water from the monsoon rains being retained on the North side of the dam and used for growing rice while the South side of the dam faces the bay used by local fishermen.

Gael and I stayed in Vietnam with the mom and dad of a couple of the cadets we had sponsored (the cadets graduated in 2004 and 2007). He currently works for Chevron and is involved in developing a gas field discovered off the southern coast of Vietnam. We joined a couple (Jim and Lis Olsen) from '75 for part of the trip to New Zealand and all of the two weeks we spent in Australia. I taught Jim Olsen "juice" and he was subsequently a lieutenant in my air defense battery in the 1st Armored Division in FRG. He subsequently went to med school and is a ophthalmologist at Tripler hospital in Hawaii."



John James in Vietnam, 2011



#### Founder's Day and Other Gatherings

Finally, a collection of Founder's Day and other group photos that have come my way since the last one of these cat box fillers was published. You're all looking good out there. Well, most of you. Stop smiling, Dewey.



A Houston Founder's Day 2011: Ashley, Alton & Carolyn Donnell and Joannie & Tom Parr



▲ SF Bay Area Founder's Day 2011; Regina & Bill Groman and Pete Hanelt



▲ Lexington, KY, Founder's Day 2011: George Dials, Lloyd McMillan and Bob Unterbrink



► Janis & Mac Hartley

▲ Chad & Jane Keck cavorting on the Oregon shore at Banded Dunes

Tom & Susan White and family





▲ The Jack Wood family

◀ The Jim

Saine family

#### The Annual Cause Gala is Scheduled on Veterans Day, 11 November



 $\bigstar$  The Mellon Auditorium in DC, venue for the annual CAUSE gala

OK all, mark your calendars and plan on being in Washington, DC, on 11 November for the annual black tie gala celebrating (and raising funds for) Cause, Care for Americas Uniformed Services, the marvelous organization started in 2003 by four tireless and dedicated class wives that provides for our wounded warriors of all branches. I've reported on the organization's purpose and accomplishments many times in these pages so I won't regurgitate all that now, but I do encourage you to visit their

website at <u>www.cause-usa.org</u> for details about this year's gala.

Our class continues to play a major role in Cause. John Caldwell is the President of the Board, Ron Naples is Treasurer, Barbara Lau was a Founding Member and was been the Executive Director for years, stepping down from the post after last year's gala, and Joyce Doheny, another Founding Member, is on the Board, as is Harry Jorgenson.

#### **Class Crest Presentations to Surviving Family Members Continues**

The marvelous tradition of presenting **Rob Herb's** wood burnings of the class crest to families of our deceased classmates continues unabated. I received reports of one more presentation ceremonies since the last issue.

On 12 February Ed Sullivan and Dave Blanchard, along with their wives Mary and Penny, made a presentation to Chris Pettit's widow Mary Anne. Here's Ed's report: "Last Saturday Dave Blanchard and I visited Mary Anne Pettit at her beautiful home in Huntington Long Island to present Rob Herb's labor of love and outreach, the class crest wood burning and class coin. Mary Anne's mother, Gloria and her three daughters, Lara, Susie and Keri with husbands and children were there too. Only son, Chris was not able to make it.

We did the presentation before lunch. Rob, your having provided me the history of how you and Judy came to decide on this outreach to the SFMs of our 62 classmates was so important to all gathered. I shared the history with them and I believe they felt the love and sincerity intended by you and



▲ Dave Blanchard, Mary Anne Pettit and Ed Sullivan in Mary Anne's home for the class crest plaque presentation

Judy...and of course, that of the class too as I concluded by saying that the crest carries the message that Mary Anne and her family will always be members of our class and are welcome to any and all of our reunions. Dave joined me in presenting the crest and presented the class coin and its significance.



A Mary Anne Pettit and her family

I was really happy that Dave was with us so I could thank him in front of the family for writing Chris' memorial article that appeared in the last TAPS. (Dave and Penny also hosted Mary and I over night; did all the driving; and Dave with Penny did all the nudging to get me off dead center and get to LI to do this.) It was a great afternoon spent with Mary Anne sharing stories that her daughters were very interested to hear."



◄ Ed Sullivan and Dave Blanchard with Mary Anne Pettit after presenting her with one of Rob Herb's class crests



## Doug Pringle Continues to do Great Things with our Wounded Warriors

I've received several e-mails and photos from Fat Daddy the past few months describing his continuing work on behalf of our Wounded Warriors. In April he sent the following: "My organization is conducting 70 to 80 winter and summer sports rehabilitation camps around the country annually. Here's a description of one and a photo of one in which I'm teaching an Army Sergeant who lost a leg in Afghanistan a few months ago. I'm the old guy in the photo!

◀ Doug Pringle, on the right, teaching a recent Afghan War wounded warrior how to ski

#### Ability Celebration March 22 – 26, 2011 Alpine Meadows, CA

Wounded Warrior Ability Camp March  $22 - 2\overline{6}$ 

Phil Bocks Memorial Ability Challenge Ski Race March 25 17th Annual Ability BASH Banquet March 26 Honoring Wounded Warriors Disabled in the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan

This event celebrates the accomplishments of Disabled Sports USA Far West, our participants, volunteers and honored guests. The Ability BASH on Saturday evening, March 26th, is the culmination of a five-day event highlighting the abilities of people with disabilities and the powerful positive health and confidence building effects of our programs.

The week starts with an Ability Camp for 25 soldiers and marines disabled in Iraq and Afghanistan. They will receive specialized instruction in adapted snow skiing and snowboarding at the Disabled Sports Program Center at Alpine Meadows Resort. They will also participate in other winter recreation designed as part of their therapy and re-integration into the community.

On Friday, March 25th, the Phil Bocks Memorial Ability Challenge ski race will team donors and sponsors with disabled skiers for a fun day of ski racing and on-hill activities. An après ski party and awards presentation is scheduled at the end of the day.

Phil Bocks was a local hero who died while in the Marine Corps in Afghanistan. The memorial is our way of recognizing the ultimate sacrifice made by Phil and all "fallen warriors."

The Ability BASH on Saturday evening, March 26th, has been one of North Tahoe's premier fundraising events for 17 years. This banquet, dance and silent auction features a live band and is a wonderful uplifting evening for all in attendance.

Please join us in celebrating the abilities of our honored guests. For more information, please visit our website at www.disabledsports.net.

#### "If I Can Do This, I Can Do Anything!"sm

**Macy Brown** and his wife visited our ski school 3/2/11. This picture was taken next to the plaque honoring Advisory Board member **Claude Herman** and the Class of '67 for its contributions to Disabled Sports.

*Now here's something really cool*: on 16 August I received the following cyber fart from **Doug**: "I'm working with an organization in VietNam that wants me to bring over a team of trainers to help them launch an organization like mine in their country. We will train coaches on adapted sports. I agreed to the project because I think it will be a great way to go back for the first time."

► Laura & Macy Brown with Doug and Sheri Pringle at Disabled Sports USA Hq



#### **Classmates Rally to Provide Support for an Injured Grad & His Family**

I received the following very nice e-mail from John Caldwell on 22 June:

"Before you read the forwarded e-mail, let me give you some background. I think this is a remarkable story and an example of how God works miracles, many unnoticed, every day. And not to make light of the situation, it's a "chest popper upper" for the Class of 1967.

The sender, Jeannie Motley, is the sister of John Bentley, USMA '72 (#30767). John was at a '72 Class function in Huntsville right before our '67 Class golf outing and he suffered a terrible accident (electrocution and fall) that put him in the ICU. His sister and her husband rushed from Atlanta to Huntsville to be by his side. They stayed at the Embassy Suites in Huntsville, the HQ for our Class golf week. Jeannie saw Ray Jones' USMA 67 car tags at the hotel on Sunday, June 5th, and the conversation began. Judy and I pulled up and met them. We heard the story of her brother's accident and invited Jeannie and her husband to join our group at happy hour every evening thru June 11th, which they did. Her email pretty much gives the gist of the rest.

I expect our classmates and wives gave her (and her brother) vital support at a very critical time. My guess is God sent us as angels in a time of need - - not a bad check mark for the Class of '67.

Call if you have questions.

Sincerely, John Caldwell

-----Original Message-----From: jeanmotley < jeanmotley@bellsouth.net> To: jjfromtusc@aol.com Cc: RaJones67@aol.com; leslienelson3@comcast.net Sent: Wed, Jun 22, 2011 5:54 pm Subject: Good News!

Raise the flag! Shoot the guns! Praise the Lord and pass the butter beans!

My brother John was released from Huntsville Hospital on Monday, June 20. He is still weak, struggles with breathing and pain, but is on the mend. He needs continuing prayer from all prayer warriors and lots of rest. Most of us believe his recovery is a small miracle considering some of the circumstances and challenges he has faced since his electrocution and fall.

On Sunday, June 12, John opened his eyes, sat up and was taken off the ventilator after a week of immobility and being in a comatose state. Praise God I was able to softly read the encouraging words written to him from USMA '67, wives, and those attending your reunion. A few days later, when he was more alert, he was excited about the book, THE PARTING, that you and Judy so graciously gave him. John knew about the book and enjoyed the kind words all of you wrote to him. He is a civil war buff as is my Yankee husband!

When told my story/details of meeting Ray, reporting his medical progress daily at the hotel's cocktail hour, the Bama/Tuscaloosa history with you and Judy, John was amazed. Both of us had fun reminiscing about his years as a cadet and my dates/escapades at West Point. I am so very grateful for the Class of '67's patience, concern, prayers, and laughs that you shared with Bill and me during this most difficult and stressful time. It was a true blessing and inspiration to John and all of us. Praise God for "THE LONG GRAY LINE".

On a lighter note, being around the '67 group, I feel I have been in the presence of greatness, ranking up there with being married to a former Air Force Captain (Bill told me to say this), and getting to share an elevator with the Dalai Lama! Now I know what a LTG and Cadet First Captain look like after attending so many West Point functions and Army Navy games!

John said to pass along to you that all donations are accepted to the John Bentley Rehabilitation of Electrical Engineering Students (aka 'light bulb screw in and screw out, inc'.) and remember 'it's not the fall that will kill you but the sudden stop'. His sense of humor returning is a positive sign of recovery!

Thank you for being so caring and comforting to Bill and me, a source of strength for John, and most importantly, your prayers for all of us and his family. Our home here in Atlanta is always open to any of you if you happen to be in the neighborhood.

Beat Navy, Roll Tide, Go Holy Cross! Jeannie

#### Classmates Participate in the Honor Flight Program for WWII Vets

Back in May I sent an e-mail to some folks about a documentary film to be aired this November that tells the story of the Honor Flights, a program to get WWII Vets to Washington, DC, to see the WWII Memorial. I immediately received two responses. First, from **Ray Jones**:

"Freed, Thanks for sending the link. There were five of us from NW Arkansas who started an Honor Flight chapter here two years ago. We will send our third group to Washington DC 21 May. We had 93 on the first plane in '09, 87 on last year's flight and we will be around 90 this time. We also are sending another (our fourth group) this Fall. We have to hurry. There aren't many of the 16 million who fought for our freedom 65 years ago left. Judy Caldwell works with Bob Dole's group on the other end to greet these heroes when they arrive in DC.

It rained the first year we took our group and someone here asked how a bunch of 90 year olds could cope w/rain all day--they obviously weren't military oriented and didn't understand that these were the guys who stormed Normandy and broke thru at The Battle of The Bulge. These 90 year old men spent the entire day in the rain October '09, got on a plane and flew back to Arkansas. They "yapped" like a bunch of school girls all the way home.

At the 2010 pre-flight meeting, the WWII vets were told that they would fly to DC Sat morning and spend the entire day touring the WWII monument and other sites in the city. They were advised that the day would be so packed that each would get a box lunch and eat on the bus instead of taking valuable time to stop for a meal. We had folks there to take special requests for food in case there were preferences or special dietary needs for this aging group. Guess how many special request there were? ZERO, they asked for nothing. The only response we got was an old soldier who stood up and said "thank you for taking us".

This country is going to miss, not only these brave soldiers when they are gone, but the concepts by which they have lived. Ray"

The 2d note was from **Carl Savory**: "Freed...my clinic and I sponsored (in part) 5 trips and I went on 4 of them....what a great experience!!!"

The link to the video is <u>http://media.causes.com/1060527?p\_id=175378540</u>

## Classmates Actively Support a Wide Variety of Charities

OK, here's a new item that I'd like to make a regular feature of this rag, a description by classmates and their family members of the wide variety of charitable programs they are involved in and support. Here's a message that Roscoe Poltroon, aka **Bob Lenz**, sent to the class back in June:

"Classmates, Family, Friends, We have an idea that has been bouncing around for awhile now, and is definitely worth sharing with you. We'll give **Claire Saxon** credit for planting the seeds that lead to this message. Many of you out there (in fact, a lot of you) are deeply involved with local charities, local service groups, national non-profits, etc. And we know your organization is having an impact on those it serves and that you are having a profound impact on that organization. '67 is made of that stuff.

So we'd really like you to share those stories with us. Do you have a favorite non-profit? Are you involved in that organization? Please tell us. Our not-for-profit Class Scribe (that would be Freed) is going to start a column in the Pooper Scooper that highlights those organizations and those of you who are making a difference in each of them. How about putting pencil to paper and sending us a few lines about your charity? Add a photo if you have one. Please send your comments, articles, photos or ideas to Freed Lowrey at freed.lowrey@wpaog.org or to me at rlenz1967@att.net. And if the response is great enough, there may be fewer dead fish photos in the Pooper Scooper." (In your dreams, Lenz – Freed)

Well, the response to Roscoe's message was phenomenal; a lot of you indeed are doing great things. Here's what I've gotten so far: (I was going to save some of these for future issues, but based on our financial situation I don't know if there'll be a future issue, so you're getting them all).

**Bill Eggering:** "I've been a member of a Rotary Club for the last 20 years, ever since returning from Germany in 1991 and settling in Leavenworth, KS. After having been a Club president and Assistant District Governor, I'm now the Club Secretary of the Village West Rotary Club. While I'm sure most of you know what Rotary is all about, here's a quick blurb to maybe refresh some of the cobwebs. After that, I'll tell you how we make a difference in eastern Kansas and the world!

Rotary International, the world's first <u>service organization</u>, is made up of over 33,000 <u>clubs</u> in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Its members form a global network of business, professional and community leaders who volunteer their time and talents to serve their communities and the world. The goals of Rotary are to reduce poverty and hunger, and rid the world of preventable disease.

Rotary's motto, <u>Service Above Self</u>, exemplifies the humanitarian spirit of the organization's more than 1.2 million members. Strong <u>fellowship</u> among Rotarians and meaningful community and international service projects characterize Rotary worldwide.

The Rotary District to which my club belongs is made up of 52 clubs, ranging in size from 16 to 200 members, for a total of 2244 Rotarians in the district. At Village West, we have 44 members, made up of business people and non-profit organization leaders in the Kansas City, Kansas community. Our club is a 501c(3) non-profit organization.

I mentioned that the goals of Rotary are to reduce poverty and hunger, and rid the world of preventable disease. For the last 50 years, we have had a campaign to rid the world of polio. We are very close to reaching our goal. By taking polio vaccine to countries where polio was striking children is astonishing numbers, we have managed to reduce the number of countries in which polio exists to four! Every club participates in this program, pledging so many dollars over a three-year period (in our case \$6000) to help eradicate polio.

To help the needy, our club, in coordination with Harvester's, ran a virtual fund drive to buy food for the needy. We solicited donations

from Rotarians throughout our district and raised \$3000, which provided 15,000 meals for Harvesters. They then provide to the meals for the needy!

In the Fall of each year, we at Village West conduct the Parade of Heroes, which honors individuals and organizations in Wyandotte and Leavenworth Counties who put themselves in harms way for the protection and freedom of all Americans. These individuals and organizations include active duty military personnel, fire fighters, police officers and emergency services personnel. The parade is planned, organized and executed by us. Parade participants include local high school bands, local high school ROTC marching units, veteran's organizations, fire and police units and active military units and flyovers by antique aircraft. Parade participants are judged by Military officials from Fort Leavenworth, our District Governor, and members of the leadership of the Village West Rotary Club., and awards are presented. Everyone enjoys this event, and the money raised goes to two charities.

Last but not least, we at Village West support "pop-up" fund drives, to help relieve unexpected tragedies—one example is the recent tornado devastation in Joplin, MO. Very shortly after the tornado, one of the clubs in our district contacted the United Way, to help us channel funds to the needy there. Our club supported with \$300 collected at one meeting!

Rotary has provided me with an opportunity to serve my community, share fellowship with some really neat people, and help make a difference. I really enjoy it!

**Tim Russell**: "For many years, while I was assigned to NAMSA/ NATO in Luxembourg, Diane taught in the secondary school level of the International School of Luxembourg. She also was the CAS (Creativity, Action, Service) Coordinator for the International Baccalaureate Program and starting in 1999, Moshi, Tanzania was her major site to take her students for community service with the partnership of a local Tanzanian family. During her tenure, six dormitories for girls were built at rural secondary schools, creating a secure environment so qualified girls could continue their studies. I accompanied Diane on some of these trips. While the international students worked with the Tanzanian students in "hands-on" building, Diane had the opportunity to interact with the rural teachers who asked for advice on how to become better teachers, despite their lack of materials, books and technology.

Upon retirement in 2007, Diane and I stayed focused on the needs of the Tanzanians, particularly the teachers. We are members of Friends of Tanzania, for which Diane serves as Chairperson of the Projects Committee. In 2010, we spent a month in Tanzania vetting many ongoing and proposed FOT projects. During this visit, Diane also worked with a committee of Moshi rural school headmasters to plan a week- long residential Teacher Capacity Building Workshop at Second Chance Education Centre in Moshi, Kilimanjaro region. The workshop took place this past January with much success. Thirty primary and secondary Tanzanian teachers were selected to participate in sharing ideas with 8 international educators, learning and practicing new instructional strategies to take back to their students and colleagues. While Friends of Tanzania did not directly fund the workshop, they have endorsed it as a "giving back project", thus permitting donors a tax deduction under their 501C status. We personally funded

the room and board costs of the Tanzanian teachers and basic workshop expenses, with some other donations. The international educators paid their own expenses. (See <u>www.FOTanzania.org</u> and also click on the newsletter link, Spring 2011, for workshop article and photos.)



▲ Diane Russell working with school headmasters in Moshi, Tanzania

The workshop has the support of the Kilimanjaro Regional Ministry of Education, whose officer noted that the participatory, child-centered approach was an "eye-opener". Teachers have also written back about their changed approach to their students. We are committed to continuing this vital project.

Class of '67 families might be interested in supporting or participating in the planned February 2012 follow-up workshop. Our email is <u>TimDianeRussell@gmail.com</u>.

**George Winton**: "For 20 years I have been a member of the Johnson City, TN Lions Club and have served in various capacities, including president. Our web site (under some construction) is: <u>http://johnsoncity.tnlions.org/</u> We provide eyeglasses, seeing-eyedogs, and some hearing aids for needy residents of Washington County, TN. We do so through fund-raising activities such as selling fresh Georgia pecans at Thanksgiving, selling nuts and bolts at the auto license office, and (mostly) by racing turtles at an annual Turtle Derby. We raise about \$25000 annually by selling turtle sponsorships to local businesses. For the past 5 years, I have been the Turtle Derby Chairman responsible for the organization of the race and for obtaining the turtles. For over 50 years the club has used live turtles imported from Louisiana. This year, due to



▲ George Winton selling Lion's Club t-shirts

the oil spill in the Gulf, I found a source for electric turtles, and we are now all electric. (I'm sure PETA prefers this, although we have been scrupulously kind to our athletes over the years, providing heated quarters for them and even a pre-game meal.)

A subsidiary of our Lions Club is the Ties-for-the Blind Foundation whose membership is made up of former Lions Club presidents. We buy wholesale merchandise from various clothing venders (mainly golf shirts, shorts, trousers, and jackets) have them embroidered with Lions logos and sell them to other Lions at state, national, and international conventions. It gives me an opportunity to travel with club members to places I wouldn't ordinarily see. The proceeds from TFTB are distributed to various local charities in Johnson City.

Ken Williams: "In 1991 my oldest son, Kenny, fell about 35 feet from a Cincinnati Sky walk and had a serious head injury. He was 23, just graduated from Univ of KY and had a job in Louisville. He never recovered and was in a coma for 3 years and 3 months dying in November, 1994. Brian, our youngest son of three, graduated from Columbia University and was working for Cantor Fitzgerald in the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. He was in the North Tower, the 1st one hit. No one working in the Cantor offices that day survived.

Shortly after 9/11/01, our family along with some of Kenny and Brian's friends established the Kenny & Brian Williams Fund. Our Fund's goal was to become self sufficient and to be able to award annual scholarships and help other family's in the Greater Cincinnati area who experience tragic events.

We have reached that goal, raising over 2 million dollars. We award between 40 - 50 thousand dollars annually to financially deserving people. In 2011, Covington Catholic High School, from which all 3 of my sons and myself graduated, was building a new school. They named a room at the new school "The Kenny and Brian Williams Championship Way". Our Fund was responsible for raising about \$500,000 for the new school's Capital Campaign. To date we have granted 10 -4 year scholarships to Covington Catholic, 11- \$5,000 college scholarships to a graduating senior, and have helped over 80 families who have experienced tragic events. We have helped families who have lost parents or children and those who have diseases that create financial hardships on their families. We have also paid for financially strapped parents to visit dying and serious ill adult children, one of them an Army Captain in DC. We have also been able to pay for parents to travel with their children who have rare diseases and have to travel out of town for treatment.

Attached is a picture of myself with a 1994 USMA Grad, Lt Col

David Bresser at our last & final fund raiser on Thanksgiving Eve 2010. David was a classmate and friend of Brian's at Covington Catholic.

Our website is

www.kbwilliamsfund.org. I would appreciate it if you could put in the "scooper" sometime. I was just with some of the old B-2 guys at their "Bulldog" golf outing in Cincinnati last week. I thought most people knew about Kenny and Brian



as I've mentioned them on the unsurpassed humor group. But none of these guys knew and I'd like our classmates to know.

Gael James: "I am a Disaster Services Human Resources (DSHR) volunteer for the American Red Cross. I have been trained to drive the Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV) and have trained extensively for shelter management . This training has prepared me to be deployed to any area in the US that has been declared a disaster and that the Red Cross has been asked to support. This includes local disasters. I have worked several local disasters and have been deployed to Louisiana. During national disasters, one can be deployed up to 3 weeks.

Also I volunteer weekly for the West Point Women's Club gift shop. The money we earn goes back to the West Point community in the form of scholarships and grants each year. We have a shop that is open once a week. We also "travel" to all major events, such as R- and A day, March Back, reunions, etc. We have a web site that is under reconstruction right now, www.shopthepoint.com.

Caroline Grube: "Rick and I have three passions: serving Christ, serving Him through Olive Branch International, and helping His people who suffer from Alzheimer's.

Throughout our thirty-seven years together, Rick and I have always supported the ministry of our local military chapel. I have been involved in PWOC (Protestant Women of the Chapel) since 1979 when we were in Germany. Rick organized the Fort Belvoir Men of Faith after attending a Promise Keepers event. Over the years, we have led OCF (Officers' Christian Fellowship) Bible studies wherever we lived. Through OCF, we have hosted military Christians from around the world who were attending an event sponsored by ACCTS (Association of Christian Conferences, Teaching and Service). Then in 1994, the Lord used these years of preparation to lead us into the ministry of Olive Branch International (OBI). I had served as the project director of the national PWOC outreach project to the military families in Omsk, Siberia. At the conclusion of that project, we were among others who wanted to continue the ministry and relationships established in Russia. We partnered with Bruce Kittleson and others to form OBI for humanitarian service to the international military community. After having served a number of years with the Navigators, Bruce became the founder of OBI and continues to serve as the president. Rick and I have both served on the board of directors, and I continue to serve as the Director of Family Support.

The Vision of OBI is to change lives positively within the international military community by meeting the expressed and implied needs of warriors and their families worldwide -- drives all that we do. OBI as an organization leads to spiritual affirmation and personal transformation. Simply put: OBI changes lives - the lives of those who choose to serve with OBI and the lives of those we serve around the world. OBI is not a logistical or administrative headquarters that merely identifies needs, projects supplies to meet them, and moves on to the next mission. Instead, OBI purposefully places OBI volunteers to render heartfelt manto-man, woman-to-woman humanitarian service. The intent is not to drop and go or teach and leave. Instead, OBI volunteers form deep personal relationships through sharing and caring. These relationships are sustained through continual contact and communications. God is transforming people using OBI to change hearts and homes. OBI has sponsored projects or events in 21

countries with representatives from over 35 countries. Rick and I have planned and been involved in many of these, especially those in Eastern Europe.

Rick's care is now my first priority, so I no longer travel with OBI, but the Lord still uses me to organize teams and raise support. In February 2011, I sent a team of women (including our daughter Carrie) to Ukraine to teach at a women's conference for military wives from Ukraine, Russia, and Moldova. In July 2011, a team of adults and teens will participate in the tenth English camp that OBI has sponsored for the Ukrainian Military Christian Fellowship. In December 2011, I will be sending an assessment team to Sierra Leone to determine how to best meet the needs of the military wives there. OBI is already training military war-widows so that they can support their families by sewing rather than prostituting themselves. In addition to teaching them to sew, OBI will be teaching them to read and providing Bible lessons.

God has blessed Rick and me and our family as we have traveled on behalf of OBI and hosted our friends from other countries. We have gladly shared how our faith has sustained us during the challenges of military family life and continues to do so during the challenges of retirement. The United States military is the best trained and equipped in the world, and our military families have the best support. OBI believes that we can be the "vehicle" that enables our military and their family members, active duty and retired, to share the practical knowledge that they have, as well as the spiritual encouragement of their faith, with the militaries of other countries.

If you would like to join Rick and me in the work of OBI, please contact me at caroline.grube@gmail.com or 757-538-9288. If you are interested in supporting one of our projects, you may send donations to Olive Branch International, P. O. Box 748, Norfolk, VA 23501-0748 or donate online at www. olivebranchinternationalonline.com.

Olive Branch is truly the work the Lord has given us, but we also have another passion at this time. As you know, Rick was diagnosed with Alzheimer's in 2004...the same year that Alzheimer's claimed my father's life. Last year Rick and I walked in the Western Tidewater Alzheimer's Walk...and he was the top individual fundraiser. I am serving this year as the chair for the Western Tidewater Walk to End Alzheimer's on October 8th in Suffolk, VA. Ken Harris and I are working on a Class of '67 team for the walk. If you would like to support these efforts, please join the team or donate online at 2011 Western Tidewater Walk To End Alzheimer's - Home . While working on the Walk, I am also trying to raise awareness of the need for an adult day-care program in this area. I drive forty-five minutes to Virginia Beach twice a week for Rick to be involved in a program there."

Tom Jackson: "I've been involved in Kiwanis International since 1992. Kiwanis International is an international organization with over 600,000 members in 96 nations. Our motto is: "Serving the Children of the World." Kiwanians give their time to make their communities and world better places in which to live and work. KiwanisInternational teamed with UNICEF and virtually eliminated the crippling disease, Iodine Deficiency Disorder worldwide and has again teamed with UNICEF to eliminate maternal/neonatal tetanus by 2015. Annually, Kiwanis International's 8400 clubs perform over 150,000 service projects.

I started out as a plank holder in the Castleton, IN, Kiwanis Club and served as its first Vice President. After I moved to Texas in 2002, I joined the Kiwanis Club of New Braunfels and have served two terms as President and am currently the Club Secretary. Our local club's service projects include sponsoring 2 High School Kiwanis Key Clubs, participating in the SOS Food Bank and delivering Meals-On-Wheels. Our club, along with our 2 Key Clubs, participated in a Graffiti clean-up project in New Braunfels. We also participate in the Texas Ramp Project, building ramps for mobility impaired people. I have attached several pictures of our ramp building efforts (I'm the BIG guy in back row!). For anyone looking to give back to their community Kiwanis is a hands-on way to do it.



▲ Tom Jackson and other Kiwanians showing off a handicap ramp they built

Tom Schwartz: Gentlemen, My name is Helen McCarty and I am the Director of Fund Development for the Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC). I report directly to the Board of Directors and our CEO, Dr. Mary Keller. General Tom Schwartz is one of the Founding Fathers of the MCEC. He was also the past Chairman of the Board and continues to serve the organization every day. His passion for helping our military connected children is simply amazing. He always stays connected and never stops asking how our kids are doing.

We are honored to submit information to you regarding the MCEC. We do so many great things but decided to provide you with a glimpse of one of our services that ties directly to West Point. In addition to this write up we are attaching a brochure that showcases many of the other things that we do. On behalf of the 2,000,000 million military connected kids around the globe, thank you for your consideration in spreading the word about the work that we do. We appreciate the gesture of kindness and look forward to other ways we might be able to engage your colleagues in supporting our military connected kids. Do not hesitate to contact me should you need any further information. Please note the beautiful artwork in our brochure which was created by our military kids. Perhaps one of the pieces will appeal to you and we can share it for your publication. Best Wishes - Helen.

#### Helen McCarty

Director of Fund Development, Military Child Education Coalition helen.mccarty@militarychild.org 909 Mountain Lion Circle • Harker Heights, Texas 76548 Cell: 571.265.4015 • Fax: 254.953.1925 www.MilitaryChild.org • CFC # 10261

All of you folks are Unsurpassed!



#### Paul Lima Named a Civilian Aide to the Secretary of The Army

On 22 July **Paul Lima** was invested as the Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army for the state of Wisconsin. Paul is the 6<sup>th</sup> classmate to be so honored; the others are **Tom Dyer, Randy Pais, Mike Hood, Jim Balkcom** and **Bob Wysocki**. Here's the press release announcing his investiture:

#### New Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army Invested Aug. 1, 2011

The newest Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army was invested during a ceremony conducted July 20 at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

Paul E. Lima was selected by Secretary of the Army John McHugh to represent the state of Wisconsin.

"I look forward to helping the Wisconsin Army National Guard, Army Reserve Soldiers, active Army Recruiters and returning veterans reintegrate into their communities," Lima said. "On behalf of all the citizens of Wisconsin, I thank them for their selfless service to the nation."

CASAs, who were formally recognized in 1922, have become a vital part of the Army, promoting good relations between the Army and the public and advising the secretary about regional issues.

"It is my distinct honor to welcome this great American to the Army team, as he has chosen to serve in a critically important role as a CASA during this time of persistent conflict," Under Secretary of the Army Joseph Westphal said during the investiture ceremony, in which he administered the oath of office to Lima.

Each state, the District of Columbia and the five U.S. territories have one or more CASAs appointed to provide a vital link between the Army and the communities for which they serve. CASAs are usually business or civic leaders who possess a keen interest in the welfare of the Army and their communities.

Lima graduated from Boston Latin School and subsequently received a Bachelor's Degree from the U.S. Military Academy and Masters Degrees from Boston University as well as the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia. He is currently the President and CEO of Lima Holdings, LLC and WOW Design Properties, Inc.

Lima served for nearly 40 years in the U.S. Army, retiring at the rank of major general. He served in both the active Army and Army Reserve, predominantly in special operations command and staff assignments in Europe, Asia and Latin America.

"I look forward to working with the Secretary of the Army, John McHugh," Lima said.

CASAs serve a two-year term without compensation. Terms may be extended to a total of 10 years of service, followed by possible appointment as a CASA emeritus. To date, more than 500 individuals have served the Army and the nation as a CASA.



Way to go, Paul, pop up your scrawny little chest.

 $\blacktriangle$  Paul Lima, on the right, after being invested as a Civilian Aid to the Secretary of the Army



# Jim Balkcom Named Distinguished Graduate of the Year in Georgia

On 19 March at the annual Founder's Day dinner in Atlanta, GA, none other than **Jimmy Balkcom** was honored as the Atlanta West Point Society's Graduate of the Year. Well done Jimmy, pop it up and make sandwiches; take big bites. Grow some hair.

◄ Jimmy Walden and Jim Balkcom showing off Balkcom's Society Distinguished Graduate Award

#### **Bill Foley Honored as Wine Person of the Year**

Back in January Bill Foley, owner of Foley Family Wines, was honored by Wine Enthusiast Magazine as the International Wine Person of the Year. The award was presented at the annual Wine Star Awards Dinner, a black tie gala at the New York Public Library that was attended by the lion's share of the most influential and prestigious members of the world's wine elite. Here's a brief version of the citation that was read: "Driven by the vision and passion of vintner Bill Foley, in the last two years alone Foley Family Wines has acquired four California wineries including Sebastiani, in Sonoma; Kuleto Estate, in the Napa Valley; and Chalk Hill, one of the finest wineries in Northern California. Today the company's portfolio consists of 15 wineries spread across two states and two continents, and will likely continue to grow. Ever the entrepreneur, Foley continues to expand his wine portfolio, most recently scouting for a premium property in Napa. His counter intuitive thinking sets a stellar example for the positive future of the wine industry. We are fortunate to have such a powerful personality, someone as accomplished as Bill Foley, in the wine business." Way to go, Bill!



A Bill Foley receiving his Wine Person of the Year Award

► Bill wowing his adoring multitudes at the annual Wine Star Award Dinner in NYC

#### The Denver Art Museum's Petrie Institute of Western Art Reaches **Endowment Goal**

The Denver Art Museum's (DAM) Petrie Institute of Western American Art, which develops original scholarship and Western American art exhibitions and programs for the public, has reached its endowment funding goal. More than \$7 million was raised in three years by a challenge grant campaign to fund collections, programs and scholarship in perpetuity.

The challenge was created in 2007 by longtime DAM trustee, Tom Petrie, who with his wife Jane donated \$5 million to the endowment, including a \$3 million outright cash gift, and a challenge to match additional donations dollarfor-dollar up to \$2 million. The successful endowment campaign ends today, with 48 donors contributing to meet the fundraising goal.



▲ Tom Petrie, art collector and philanthropist extraordinaire

"I'm pleased with the community's response to this challenge that Jane and I put forward to endow the Institute," said Tom Petrie. "I credit former Denver Art Museum Director Lewis Sharp for his vision 10 years ago to create this department and (former Institute director) Peter Hassrick for giving a reality to that vision. Moving into the future, our community can look forward to continued Western exhibitions, scholarship and art collections for years to come."

A member of the Denver Art Museum Board of Trustees since 1998, Mr. Petrie is Vice Chairman of Bank of America, with a distinguished career in investment banking. Mr. Petrie is a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and holds a MSBA from Boston University and an Honorary Doctorate of Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines.

"This was an incredibly creative and successful campaign to ensure that Denver and Colorado residents and visitors benefit from a dynamic Western American art program," said Christoph Heinrich, the Frederick and Jan Mayer Director of the DAM. "We thank Tom and Jane Petrie for their generosity, and the energy put behind this effort, and we hope to share this innovative strategy among our museum peers as a way for new museum departments to flourish with community and donor support."

The Denver Art Museum created the Western Art department in 2001 after receiving a significant gift of more than 700 art objects from the Bill and Dorothy Harmsen Family. The permanent collection galleries are located on the 7th level of the North Building,



which hosts historical western art, and the  $2^{nd}$  level of the Hamilton Building, which is home to modern and contemporary western painting and sculpture. This year, the Petrie Institute of Western American Art celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Led initially by Joan Carpenter Troccoli and then Peter Hassrick, the western initiative at the DAM for the past two years has been directed by Thomas Smith, whose previously served as curator for the Tucson Museum of Art. The Institute has achieved significant milestones in that time, including more than 10 scholarly publications and several

special exhibitions - most recently the first-ever comprehensive retrospective of quintessential western artist Charles Marion Russell in 2009 titled Charles M. Russell: A Retrospective of Painting and Sculpture and Charles Deas and 1840s America exhibition in 2010, both of which garnered national acclaim.

"The Denver Art Museum has quickly become the national leader in programming and scholarship in the field of western American art," said Thomas Smith, curator of Western American art at DAM and director of the Petrie Institute. "We will continue our efforts to elevate the field and promote the significance of the West in the larger context of American art."

"Under the leadership of Thomas Smith and his able staff, we will continue the pace of growth in programming, collecting and scholarship," said Tom Petrie. "The Petrie Institute will move forward in the coming years with its efforts with developing its collection, creating western art exhibitions to travel nationally and internationally, and hosting innovative exhibitions and educational programs for members and Denver Art Museum visitors."

The Denver Art Museum is located on 13th Avenue between Broadway and Bannock Streets in downtown Denver. Open Tuesday-Thursday and Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Sunday noon-5 p.m.; closed Mondays, Thanksgiving and Christmas. General admission is free on the first Saturday of each month. Free First Saturdays are sponsored by Target, and made possible by the citizens who support the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD). The Cultural Complex Garage is open; enter from 12th Avenue between Broadway and Bannock or check the DAM websites for up-to-date parking information. For information in Spanish, call 720-913-0169. For more information, visit www.denverartmuseum.org or call 720-865-5000.

## CLASS AUTHORS CONTINUE TO EXCEL



We've had at least one more book published since the last issue of this Sturm und Drang. I received the following cyber-fart from Rich Kiper on 15 June: "Freed, This year our kids will get a Christmas present. My latest tome, "Army Raiders," came out this week. Would you mind advertising that on the class e-mail? It is available on Amazon.com. I have attached a copy of the cover. It is published by Kent State University Press. Thanks. (And don't tell our kids. I want it to be a surprise. I love watching their eyes light up when they open the package and ooh and aah because they got another of their Dad's books.) Rich

A few years back I published a spreadsheet listing all of our published authors and a brief description of their works. A lot has happened since then, so I've updated the spreadsheet. I was going to reprint it here, but it's quite lengthy, so I've it e-mailed to everyone on our class distro list. If you didn't get it and want one, just let me know.

The cover of Rich Kiper's latest book

### OUTSTANDING ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS DEPARTMENT



I'vereceived several reports of outstanding athletic accomplishments since the last issue of this literary stool specimen. Here goes:

#### **Deranged Classmates Once Again Participate** in the Plebe March Back from Camp Buckner

8 August was the last day of Beast Barracks for the Class of 2015, marked by the annual march back from Camp Buckner (in near record breaking heat and humidity). For reasons that continue to confound me, five of our classmates again chose to be a part of this sadomasochistic exercise: Tom Parr (who has participated in every march back since they started allowing old grads to self flagellate this way), Dan Jinks, Bob LaRaia, Tom Lanyi, and newbie Bill Wilby. Unfortunately, since Ray & Sally Winkel have left West Point I no longer had a convenient vantage point from which to watch the gaggle stagger past while enjoying a cold brewski and yelling encouragement from their porch. Tom Parr

reported "We all weathered the March Back in great style. For those who are in shape, it is a terrific way to find out that the Corps has not really gone to hell quite yet. These are amazing young folks who are stepping up to serve our country and to find out in the process just what they are "made of". For those who are out of shape, this is the way to bone some motivation to get in better condition "



◀ The 2011 Plebe March Back Sadomasochist squad: Bill Wilby, Tom Parr, Bob LaRaia, Dan Jinks and Tom Lanyi

#### Tyler, Dena and Ashley Donnell Ran the San **Francisco Marathon**

I received the following from Carolyn Donnell on 10 August: "Freed - The Class of '67 came through big time for Tyler, Dena and Ashley who ran the San Francisco Marathon on July 31st. Alton and I want to personally thank all those who contributed to Team Red/White/Blue which is an organization started by one of Tyler's 2002 West Point classmates - Mike Erwin.

Team Red, White & Blue's vision www.teamrwb.org is to transform the way wounded veterans are reintegrated into society when they return from combat and exit their position in the Active Duty force or National Guard.

Their intent is to create and support a unique community of veterans, their families and friends, and endurance runners to develop the sort of one-on-one, meaningful relationships that transcend short-term fundraising efforts. We feel it is time to give back. It's our turn.

We met some amazing young men and women who are actually doing something for our wounded veterans and we were honored to be a part of that for the weekend. Alton and I cheered every one of them from the sidelines and being a marathoner myself, who cannot run anymore because of a blown out knee -- I felt great pride when Tyler, Dena and Ashley crossed the finish line -- a great accom-

plishment for sure.

► The Donnell clan gathered in San Francisco for the SF Marathon: Tyler & Dena, 'Tyler's sister Ashley, Alton & Carolyn Donnell and Dena's son Devin





Tyler, Dena and Ashley Donnell in their Team Red, White and Blue livery

► Ashley, Dena & Tyler Donnell showing off their medals



The Class of '67 watches out

for the class kids and Tyler and

Ashley have been aware of that since they were little bitty.

Tyler and Dena are expecting



#### **Razor and Kelly Heath Ride the 24 Hours of Booty Again**

This marks the fourth time Ray Heath has ridden in this Lance Armstrong sponsored fund raiser for cancer research. Here's what Razor had to say in an e-mail I received on 3 August: "Kelly and I, along with her training buddy Kathy, did the 24 Hours of Booty (Lance Armstrong Foundation) Cancer ride in Charlotte this past weekend with lots of heat-100 degrees type of heat. Heat exhaustion felled me on Friday but I returned to the game on Saturday morning to do another 15 miles before hanging it up. Kelly and Kathy designed a tee shirt for the team and I will be sending one on to Ray Winkel. Kind of fits his mentality and courage - Twisted Steel.



and Kelly training partner Kathy, Team Twisted Steel and Sex Appeal. At the 24 Hours of Booty bike ride

A Razor Heath showing the folks he was riding for at the 24 Hours of Booty



One classmate and a couple of class kid weddings/engagements to report on this time.

#### John Kuspa and Maija-Lisa Jussila Tie the Gordian Knot of Matrimonial Bliss

This blessed event took place on 2 April in Fairfax, VA. Congrats to the bride and groom. Of course, I was promised lots of photos of the wedding and classmates, but like every single event that occurs with the DC crowd, none have materialized.



▲ John and Maija-Lisa Kuspa

#### John & Susan Montanaro's Son Jon Marries Shannon Wells





▲ Susan, Jon, Shannon and John Montanaro

On June 11 Jon and Shannon were married in Northern California at The Holman Ranch in Carmel Valley. They currently reside down in Southern California in Hermosa Beach with their dog Mack. They're leaving for their honeymoon to Bali and Australia at the end of August.

◀ Jon & Shannon Montanaro



 $\bigstar$  Some of the usual suspects at the Montanaro wedding: Barry Nickerson, John Montanaro, Dick Black and Mike Neuman

### Monty Meigs' Son William Marries Megan McRae

This occurred on 21 May in Katy, TX. Not much of a report, but Monty did send a nice photo of the happy couple.

► William & Megan Meigs



#### **Joe & Beverly Hardin's Daughter Brooke Marries**



▲ Brooke & Porter Draper

Here's Joe Hardin's report: "The wedding took place at Rose Story Farm which is a working rose farm just down the road from Santa Barbara in Carpinteria.

Brooke and Porter Draper were married among the roses in an outdoor ceremony on Saturday, July 16th, at 5:30 pm . The ceremony was held in almost perfect weather and was followed by a reception in an adjacent area at the farm that evening. Beverly did a magnificent job of coordinating all of the elements of the wedding, and both she and Brooke were beautiful and truly glowed during the ceremony and at the reception.

Beverly and I hosted a brunch at our house in Santa Barbara on Sunday morning, and



A Brooke & Porter celebrate their marriage

again the weather was almost perfect sunny, 71 degrees, and no humidity. Brooke and Porter left for their honeymoon in Bora Bora on Monday from Los Angeles.

Brooke, who works in brand management at Con Agra, and Porter, who works for Destra Capital, live in Chicago, but they both work outside the city in Naperville. Brooke and Porter are currently looking to buy a house in the suburbs of Chicago.

Ed & Janet Dewey and Brick & Cindy Anderson did an excellent job of representing the class at the wedding.

#### **Dwight & Joyce Doheny's Son Casey to Wed**

Mark your calendars, sports fans - 22 October is the big day, and West Point is the place. Casey Doheny will marry Laura Bauer, and we're all invited - just show up and tell them I said so. You can find details at www.weddingwire.com/ lauraandcaseyoct22 Stay tuned for photos in the next issue

## MISCELLANEOUS RAMBLINGS,

or short bursts overheard while waiting for my debt ceiling to rise

#### **Classmates Homes Suffer Extensive Damage**

I've had reports of two dreadful losses and one near loss this spring and summer thanks to the forces of nature and a bit of ineptitude.

#### John & Judy Caldwell Lose Their Home to the Tuscaloosa Tornado

The terrible tornado that destroyed much of Tuscaloosa and other towns in Alabama in April destroyed Judy Caldwell's family home. Here's a report I received from Judy: "John and I grew up in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, with threats of tornadoes all around us for years. Everyone knew the precautions to take and understood that when the sirens went off, that meant 'take cover immediately.'

On April 27th, 2011, no one ever imagined the magnitude of this mile-wide EF5 tornado would cause such destruction and devastation. It headed straight towards downtown Tuscaloosa then veered southeast, sparing John's brother's house and the University of Alabama, but then destroying everything else in its path. There were more than 40 people killed.

Unfortunately, my grandparent's neighborhood (Forest Lake) and family home (the first built on Forest Lake Drive) was in the path of this tornado, along with many other homes. With power lines down and no communications, sheer desperation and shock engulfed me over the concern for neighbors, family and friends. I arrived in Tuscaloosa three days later only to find what looked to me like a war zone! To my surprise, I was able to salvage some mementos, but to my chagrin, the house was totally destroyed.

My sister, Jean Cates, and I were in Tuscaloosa last week. It was her first look at the total devastation and the razing of the house. We found comfort in the knowledge that the wonderful memories spent AL destroyed by the April tornado



▲ Judy Caldwell's home in Tuscaloosa,
with our grandparents for so many years at 15 Forest Lake Drive could not be destroyed by mother nature's tumultuous storm. The most important aspect of this horror was the fact that all of those I care about and loved, by the Grace of God, were safe and well.

To sum it up, Tuscaloosa is starting to rebuild and the spirit of those affected is phenomenal!"

If you have questions, please ask.

Sincerely, Judy (and John) Caldwell

#### **Randy & Jackie Pais's Home Burns**

On 30 July I received a cryptic e-mail from Randy Pais: "Our house burned down Thursday evening. U SAA has been great. They have been on the spot with restoration crews moving all salvageable furniture and belongings from the house." He provided this update on 7 August: "Thank God that no one was injured and most of furnishing and personal items were saved. We were adding a garage addition and about were 60 percent complete. On July 28th the HVAC guys were installing an AC unit. When they were welding copper pipe, apparently the torch hit a 2 x 4 behind the wall and it started smoldering. They left around 5pm. Fire erupted about 9pm. Since wall board had not been installed the fire spread rapidly through open framing and through the attic in my house, damaging 4 rooms. We will be out about 7 months in temp living."

#### **Carl & Robbi Kraft Narrowly Escape the North Dakota Floods**

On the too close for comfort scale, Carl & Robbi Kraft came scarily close to losing their home in Bismarck, ND, in June due to the flooding of the Missouri River. Carl was forced to curtail his participation in the class Great Adventure fly fishing trip to Montana so he could reinforce his sand bag levees. Fortunately, they managed to dodge the bullet, but as you can see from the photos, not by much. Here's an e-mail from Carl on 17 June: "Attached are a few photos of our place. Robbi didn't get any pics when I was slinging sandbags 30-40 feet during the hectic period. The water is up to 18.5 feet so it's about 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  feet higher than when the photos were taken. The good news is that the crest is going to be lower than predicted but the ground water is spreading throughout south Bismarck and will equal the river depth. The bad news is our units are the first to see the rise in ground water as I am virtually on the bay.

Now it's pretty much watching for the river reach its peak this weekend with the increased releases from Sacagawea, monitoring sump pumps, dehumidifiers and shop vacs. We are still staying at home and will do so until Riverwood Drive is closed. I plan on staying even if they close the road and make it a mandatory evacuation. They will not force somebody out---just make us sign a statement that medical and emergency services cannot be provided."

#### **Class Kid News and Kudos**

#### **Tyler Donnell Promoted to** Maior



▲ Tyler Donnell being promoted to Major by his old man

Got the following from Alton & Carolyn Donnell way back in February: "Freed, attached are a couple of photos from Tyler's promotion ceremony. Tyler officially became Major Donnell on February 1st. We were honored to have Ray & Sally Winkel fly out for the ceremony and Alton got into his old uniform to perform the ceremony on Friday, February 4th. He even shaved his beard off for the occasion. This was performed at the Naval Post Graduate School in the Tower Room of Hermann Hall, formerly the historic Del Monte Hotel - a national historic site dating back to 1878. We had a great time in Monterey and enjoyed some family time with Ray and Sally -- we were lucky to find a weekend that they weren't traveling here there and everywhere. Ray commissioned Tyler when he graduated from West Point

Please keep these folks in your thoughts and prayers as they deal with these setbacks.

(continued on page 36)



Carl Kraft surveying the rising flood waters at his home in Bismarck, ND



▲ Sally & Ray Winkel, Dena & Tyler Donnell and Alton & Carolyn Donnell at Tyler's promotion

in 2002 and follows Tyler's career as he now prepares to return to teach in the Physics Dept. in 2012. Tyler even calls occasionally for a little help with physics problems. Both Alton and Ray enjoy the challenge."

#### **Bill Koch's Daughter Crewed on** a Tall Ship



▲ Bill Koch and his daughter Donna with the tall ship Unicorn

Donna spent part of the summer working as part of the crew on the tall ship Unicorn, the only tall ship in world w/ all female crew. Here's what Bill had to say in a June e-mail about her experience: "Donna is sponsored by Notre Dame alumni of NJ and is the first scholarship student in history



Donna Koch in the rigging of the Unicorn

of Sisters Under Sail. Sisters Under Sail is a leadership/confidence/sailing experience. The Unicorn is the only female crewed tall ship in the world. It was quite a week for her..She is now on a habitat for humanity

trip with church in the Boston area...so busy start of summer prior to starting at Catholic University in August.

In an earlier e-mail. Bill had this to say about Donna: "Hi Freed, As we know, '67 is everywhere!

Daughter Donna and I were at Odyssey Day at Catholic University (D.C.) and we bumped into **Denny Huyck** with daughter Brittany! We were able visit for awhile and stayed together for the initial part of the day. It was a big day for kids. Donna committed to Catholic so we are looking forward to more time in the DC area. Brittany is getting close on her decision from a nice group of schools. It was great seeing them!



Denny & Brittany Huyck with Donna and Bill Koch at Catholic University

#### Tom & Joannie Parr's Son Makes the News in Shreveport, LA

I received the following e-mail from Tom Parr a while back: "Just found this article on our son Stephen in Louisiana Lifestyle magazine. Never occurred to me that my son would turn out to be a lifestyle."

#### **Stormtracker Steve** Shreveport meteorologist knows tornados firsthand. TRACY BEGLAND



On Dec. 3, 1978, an F-4 tornado barreled through Bossier Parish. The rubble that lay along its path included the rental house that 5-year-old Stephen Parr and his family had been set to occupy, so instead, the military family diverted to Barksdale Air Force Base housing.

Nearly 30 years later, Parr returned to track these destructive storms as chief meteorologist at KSLA News 12 in Shreveport. Like the weather he forecasts, unexpected changes guided his journey back.

Although Parr entered college as an electrical engineering student, he quickly switched to the business school. He immersed himself in soccer as a player, coach and part-owner of a soccer store.

Tom & Joannie Parr's son Steven, Unsurpassed meteorologist

"It was all because I separated my spine from my hip," Parr says of the injury that led to a role in the soccer movie The Big Green. A Disney movie crew watched his club team play. "Our announcer didn't show up, so I just grabbed the mike because I wasn't going to be playing." He was cast as the announcer for the movie's championship game.

As he finished his marketing degree, he performed in college plays and commercials. He developed a weekly highlight show for the Dallas Burn professional soccer team. When the season ended, Parr, then 26, stood at a crossroads.

Parr says he had to take his shot or else wonder "what if?" He mailed more than 50 tapes of his soccer show to television stations across the country. He received only two replies: a "no, thank you" and an interview for a news photographer position in North Texas. He got the job, and the door to television news was unlocked.

A one-man band gig led Parr to East Texas. He filmed news segments and performed live on-air stand-ups.

Then he was offered the backup weatherman spot. After a week of training, he discovered his niche where television and science merge. Six years later, upon completion of his master's degree in geosciences, he became KSLA's chief meteorologist.

The station's weather coverage in the Ark-La-Tex region extends over an area the size of West Virginia. It ranges from DeQueen, Ark., south to Natchitoches. It stretches from Longview, Texas, eastward to Ruston. When "Stormtracker Steve," as Parr is known, monitors severe weather, it "takes over the entire newscast."

"It's a year-round challenge," Parr says of northwestern Louisiana's severe weather. Tornado Alley is active in the spring through early summer, and the lesser-known Dixie Alley is active late fall through early winter. Tornados have touched down every month except September.

Parr posts to a live video blog during severe weather. Viewers seek personal advice about their homes. "I'm talking people down, telling them, 'Don't jump,'" he says.

Most days, though, viewers depend on him for the basics. He compares his forecast with the official high temperature, and gives himself a letter grade daily. A miss of 1 degree is an A, two a B and three a C. Over the past year, he averaged a solid B. "Precipitation," Parr says, "is pass/fail."

It's 5 o'clock: showtime on the set, the glitziest part of station. It houses the news desk, the weather center and a cozy nook for the morning show. Trails of wires diminish the elegance of the glossy black tile floor.

Only four people man the studio: the anchorman, a reporter, a camerawoman and Parr. They fill commercial time with script changes and banter. Anchorman Pat Simon tantalizes viewers with "a violent twist to our next story" before a commercial break. Parr can't resist: "Is it a tornado? Just a little vortex humor."

With rimless glasses, Parr, now 38, looks every inch the professional whom viewers rely on for weather and science sidebars. On the green screen, he accurately points to invisible locations that magically appear on the video output. His "Rod Sterling voice" accelerates with enthusiasm as he becomes less scientist and more performer.

A tornado's tortuous path defies logic. Parr says his route led him to discover what he wanted to do and what makes him tick. "My path has made sense every step of the way."

#### **Class Grandkids**

Four reports on new or pending class grandkids since the last issue:

Emmett & Barbara Mahle, 13 Dec: "Barbara and I are the proud grandparents of Claire Tatum Mahle, 6 lbs, 6 ounces, born at 5:00 p.m., yesterday at the Ft. Benning Army Hospital. Charlsey (USMA, 2004) is doing fine, and will be going home in a day or two. Claire was supposed to arrive on 1/13/11, but just got tired of being confined in that small space. Our son, Colin (VMI, 2000, Maj), is as proud

as can be, and stayed at the hospital with Charlsey last night. Claire has red hair, which will probably give us some insight into her personality! No, I am not a class great-grandfather, but this will have to do for now!"

Alton & Carolyn Donnell, 9 May: "Tyler and Dena will be bringing an extra bundle to West Point when they arrive next summer of 2012 to begin their time in the Physics Dept. They are expecting a baby mid-November. Devin (Dena's son from her first marriage) will be 11 years old on November 7<sup>th</sup>. He is very excited.

Rich & Caroline Grube, 23 May: "Rick and I praise the Lord for a 4<sup>th</sup> grandson, Benjamin Richard Grube, born to our son Jim and his wife Karen on May 13th. Everyone is doing well. Jim and his family have been living with us since February after leaving Fort Bliss. They were waiting for quarters at Fort Lee...took longer than expected...much to my delight! They received keys to their quarters on May 6<sup>th</sup>...took delivery of their household goods on May 9th...had the baby on May 13th. They are actually moving in this week. Jim is teaching Ordnance LT's ... and loving it!

(continued on page 38)

We are so thankful that they will be just a little over an hour from us!!! Jim is so glad to be able to spend precious time with Rick. Thank you for rejoicing with us! God is so good! Caroline and Rick"

Bill & Regina Groman, 26 July: "We became grandparents at 3:35am on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Picture shows my daughter Erin, her daughter Skylar Elizabeth, and mom and dad. Looks like Skylar is already bored with everyone. Skylar stats: 7 lbs 10 oz, 20 inches."

Rich Kiper has 11 grandkids and wants to know if anyone in the class has more. Sounds like a challenge to me.

> Back in 2007, a few weeks before the last reunion, I managed to sever the quadriceps tendon in my right knee. After three surgeries at West Point in 2007, '08 and '10, with very limited improvement, I decided it was time to get serious about fixing this thing, so I went to The A Team, and asked Carl Savory to do the honors. He agreed, and

> this past February we

▶ Bill and Regina Groman, with daughter Erin, showing off their new granddaughter Skylar Elizabeth



#### **Carl Savory Rides to the Rescue**, **Operates on Freed Lowrey's Knee**



Dr. Carlton G. Savory, MD, F.A.C.S and Unsurpassed Orthopedic Surgeon

did chop-chop #4 on the knee. I'm happy to say, things are much better now. Carl, known for his wit, did a great job of documenting his handiwork. I just wish you (and especially Randy Pais) could see these photos in color.



▲ Freed prepped for surgery

► Some of Carl's handiwork on Freed's knee







#### **Macy Brown's Wife Laura** is Raising Money for the West Point Parents Club of Alahama

I received the following from Laura on 2 July: Freed, would you please put information about the Class Ring Drawing in the next Pooper Scooper? The West Point Parents Club of Alabama have the Ink Print Drawing as their fund raiser. The address to order online is: https://secure.west-point. org/wppc-al-ringprint/ The website does not have a picture of the ring. I've attached it.

### **Class Transitions**

Quite a bit of moving around since the last issue.

17 Jan '11: Freed. Just to give you a little update. Janice and I moved to Henderson. NV in 2010. We kept our home in Redmond, OR where we will spend the summer months. I got together with Jan Askman last week. He lives in Laughlin, which is about 90 miles south of here. We had a wonderful visit updating each other on our activities since we last saw each other at the 20th Reunion. Gosh 23 years ago, and it seems like yesterday. Jan and I were on AOT together at Fort Richardson, Alaska in 1965. He sent me a picture of the two of us with our classmate Joe Thies and a Second Classman who was there with us in Alaska. Jan and I agreed that both of us look the same as we did 46 years ago. He is an active gold coin collector and boat enthusiast. He also maintains another home outside of NV. in CA. Sevo.



▲ Jan Askman and John Severson



▲ Jan Askman, Joe Thies and John Severson and another cadet on AOT in Alaska in 1965

3 Feb '11: Our chief glow-inthe-dark expert George Dials is on the move yet again. Today I received the following cyberfart from Lloyd McMillan with a brief description of George's latest effort to save the world from nuclear waste: "Freed, Here is a picture of George Dials who was here in Lexington, KY, getting his Management Team up and running, after leading a winning proposal for nuclear material safe reconfiguration. He is chatting with the Army National Guard's new and

first Catholic Deputy Chief of Chaplains, Brigadier General Father Patrick Dolan, our priest, who oh by the way, also has his PhD in Chemistry. Father Pat needed a lift from the airport which is near our house. George is staying about four blocks away in a Marriott with his team. I am just standing there at home listening, learning and waiting to get at Marge's great two day hand crafted Lasagna dinner."

> 19 Apr '11: From Jeff Madsen - "In January I announced to my boss that I would retire from Toro at the end of June this year. And that is in process and on track. Our Eden Prairie house is sold and we close here on April 28. Then we will move in with friends for temporary quarters. We have purchased a home in The Villages, FL, and will close on it on May 10. Sandi will stay there to receive the furniture and begin to get settled while I return to MN and Toro until the end of June. I'll fly down to FL a couple times in May/June and then leave MN to move to FL and July 1."



▲ George Dials and Lloyd McMillan with BG Father Patrick Dolan in Lexington, KY

20 Apr '11: From Lynn Honeycutt, in response to Jeff's note above: "Congrats! And we can hoist two ( like we need an excuse) because I am retiring the end of June as well."

7 July '11: From Bill Groman – Bill & Regina Groman have moved to Nevada, near Lake Tahoe. I know this because of the following note I received from Chuck Swanson: Carol and I would like to welcome Regina and Bill Groman to Douglas County, NV, a few miles from us and just a stone's throw from Lake Tahoe skiing and golf. It is great to have a classmate & spouse here! So, we would like to offer to sponsor an informal class ski reunion here over Super Bowl weekend (February 2-6, 2012). Together we have four bedrooms for couples. We have a few extra beds (bunk beds & futon) with privacy. If you are interested let us know.

31 July '11: From Steve Frankiewicz -"Classmates: After completing two years of work in the DC area, I have returned to Florida. Though still working for ITT, I will be winding down and going to a consultant status shortly. I plan to work as a consultant and others, and on my golf game in Florida, with more emphasis on the latter."



◄ Jeff Madsen and his new retirement limo in The Villages, FL



OK, it's flashback time, 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.

#### **Flirty Laugh**

Something about spring gets the grins going at West Point. One of the best episodes to create a grin and keep it for awhile occurred during Cow year in May. To commemorate May Day at West Point, an oft repeated ditty goes something like this, "Hey! Hey! The first of May. Outdoor smooching begins today!" In celebration of May Day, my girlfriend and I brainstormed a way to have some innocent fun on Flirty.

With cadets always walking around so ramrod straight and on their best behavior while in view of officers, we knew how well they loved Flirtation Walk on the Hudson where they could unwind with a date and walk the peaceful trails. Our idea for a little fun was to set up a pup tent near the entrance to Flirty just below Kosciusko's Monument. This was no mean feat.

First you needed a tent. Two shelter halves, poles, stakes, and two guy ropes would take care of that and then there was the obligatory blanket for a floor. Several trips between the Lost Fifties and Flirty with the 'ole blue typewriter case. But it got done on Friday afternoon and was all set for Saturday after the parade.

My date and I met at the Cadet Library and with a mutual anticipatory smirk, headed down toward Flirty. It was still early for the Flirty crowd and we had no on-lookers as I shed my dress gray coat and hung it on the tent pole. A hanging dress gray coat over a rock or tree limb was one of the universal symbols that a cadet and his date were nearby and wanted some privacy. With that coat on the pole, no cadet would approach the tent. Next we crawled in and waited for our first victims. It didn't take long. Along comes this perfect pair; tall straight-standing cadet with a very nice looking date with him, of course, carrying his typewriter case. Our cue to go into action.

We shook the tent poles to give the impression of serious action inside and produced various moans as an audio accompaniment. Meanwhile, we were both peeking out a crack in the tent to see what kind of review we would get for our acting skills. Rave reviews!! We apparently were very believable. The tent alone without the shaking and moaning was enough to attract numerous "Oh, Brother!" looks. But with the shaking and moaning, there were girls turning their heads, some guys laughing, lots of pointing, and many who scooted down the trail just to get past this very uncadet like sacrilege to decent morals. And, of course, there were many who wished they had thought of it. Sure was fun.

And for those of you that saw the tent and wondered what the heck was going on in there. Well, there was nothing going on but smothered laughter.

Just May Day on Flirty.

## MORE BLASTS FROM THE PAST



Only one photo submission for the Flashback Fantasies this time around: **Ace Clark** sent this fabulous photo of some serious discourse and planning going on at Snuffy's. Ah, those were the days.

◄ Dick Gooding, Scotty MacFarland, Ace Clark, John Landgraf and Bob Sellars letting it all hang out at Snuffy's

# POINTS TO PONDER

I received the following e-mail from Hart Lau back in April:

"Freed, When I did my interview in Mike Yap's basement for the oral history project, I made the fundamental mistake of merely answering the guy's questions and not considering what message I wanted to get across and how to present it. I did not worry about it afterwards, although I did chastise myself for not taking advantage of some of his vague questions to get a message out. Your latest email on the subject has convinced me that one aspect of our Class should at least be considered by those preparing the history. Consequently, I wrote the attached one-page comment. Hart"

Well, I read Hart's essay and it really struck a chord. So, with his and Dean Kunihiro's permission, here it is for all of you to ponder.

#### **Only in America**

Based on my experience with officers from the pre-1990 NATO countries and those from the former Warsaw Pact countries and the Soviet republics that became countries in the 1990's, I would like to point out how one aspect of the Class of 67's experience exemplifies and illustrated one of the most positive characteristics of our country.

I consider it remarkable, and unique to America, that people of all ethnic backgrounds are accepted into its premier military academy and are commissioned as officers. We have classmates from non-white ethnic groups, but that is not the issue I want to address here. I want to address the point that America, and WP, accept people from ethnic groups that were its recent mortal foes.

For example, our classmate Dean Kunihiro was born in an internment camp to which his parents were sent during WWII. Nevertheless, he chose to attend WP and become a commissioned officer. Being an American is subscribing to a set of ideas.

My father was an air force officer, but on the German side. I liked to rib my UK colleagues about the fact that he was the first to put a bomb on British soil in WWII, during a raid on the Scapa Flow Royal Navy base in 1939. He spent the remainder of the war flying combat missions on various

fronts and performing AF staff duties.

Nevertheless, the US accepted him as an immigrant -if not as a volunteer for the USAF during the Korean War. And the US accepted me for West Point and an officer's commission. And, years after our Viet Nam experience, I had Vietnamese ethnic soldiers, whose immigrant parents were very proud of them, in my battalion. And recently I received medical care from a Vietnamese ethnic Navy doctor, a graduate of USNA, whose parents had immigrated with her when she was still a little girl.

I doubt that comparable situations could exist anywhere else. Being an American is subscribing to fundamental ideas: rule of law, majority rule but with inalienable rights for all that the majority cannot trample, government by institutions, not personal caprice. It is not a matter of skin color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, etc. Born a foreigner in a country at war with the US, I was admitted to its premier military academy and commissioned with a document speaking of the special trust and confidence the President had in me. I have met many officers from other countries that found this to be utterly amazing. I find it to be an illustration of my country's core values.

#### & ANIMAL FLICKS DEAD FISH



▲ Pam Dials showing off a large mouth bass she snagged on Hilton Head, SC



▲ Freed Lowrey showing off a monster walleye he caught in Ontario in June'



▲ John Caldwell with a decent brown trout



▲ Bill Freccia with a baby he should be ashamed of



Freed with another huge walleye! Note the fish skeleton hanging out of its mouth



▲ Rich Adams with a lovely Montana brown trout

**◄** Tom Dyer with some bait



 $\bigstar$  Bill Groman trying to squeeze the life out of a rainbow trout





- ▲ Freed Lowrey with a HUGE brown
- ◄ Jan Askman and guide with a nice brownie



A Pete Hanelt justly happy with this beautiful brown trout



 $\bigstar$  Joe Jackson and his guide admiring a really nice rainbow

 $\checkmark$  Bill Groman showing off a good brown trout





▲ Paul Kern with a death grip on a puny little brown trout, while John Caldwell shows off its Daddy



▲ Tom Petrie with his guide and another beautiful rainbow

▼ Chad Keck spurning a kiss from a lovely rainbow



 $\blacktriangle$  Pete Hanelt celebrating having caught a tiny little fish



▲ Pete Hanelt and another brown trout

◀ Jack Wood and his fat brown





▲ John Caldwell with a nice brown trout



A Paul Kern and guide with a nice fat rainbow

# **DEAD FISH & ANIMAL FLICKS** continued from page 43



 $\bigstar$  Rich Adams struggling to subdue a feisty brown trout

 $\blacktriangledown$  Carl Savory and Jim Balkcom with Jim's grandson Carter with some big tusky thing they slaughtered





▲ Carl Savory and Jim Balkcom gloating over a dead animal one of them murdered in South Africa. Savory told me it was a lion; Balkcom said it was rhino. I think it's a big rat.



 $\bigstar$  Tom Petrie and guide with a decent brown from the Big Hole River



 $\bigstar$  Bill Freccia and a little Ruby River brown



◀ Chad Keck with a pretty rainbow



▲ Savory, Balkcom, Carter and guides gloating over a dead horse





A Pete Hanelt and another nice rainbow

◄ John Severson and a headless brown trout from the Ruby River



 $\blacktriangle$  Jim Balkcom's grandson Carter Green with a dead animal with real big curly horns



 $\bigstar$  Savory and Balkcom doing something unspeakable to a dead horse

#### Epilogue

OK Sports fans, that's way more than enough for this trash haul. A lot of this stuff is pretty dated, but that's what happens when I skip an issue. Keep the stuff coming, and I'll keep trying to barf this thing out.

It's football season now, and there is finally reason to feel good about that at The Sacred Soil. We've got a tough schedule this year, but everything I'm hearing about the team makes me optimistic for another winning season and another bowl game. Stay tuned.

Keep our magnificent Troops in your hearts and prayers as they continue to do the dirty work for the rest of us. They are truly *Unsurpassed!* 

Go Army - Beat Navy!

Freed

 Jack Wood being ambushed by a Montana brown trout.





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