



USMA Class of 1980
35-year Reunion
September 17-20, 2015



March 30, 2015

Hey Gang:

We (Class of 1980 & friends) will gather 17-20 September 2015 to celebrate our 35th Reunion! We have built the schedule around the home football game on Saturday, Sep 19, against Wake Forest, although the game time is still TBD. Thus, we are basing the agenda on a game start time of noon and will adapt as necessary when the kick-off time is finalized by late May.

All info you will need for our 35th Reunion will be posted on our class web page (<http://www.west-point.org/class/usma1980/index.htm>) and we will also use the several active email distribution lists, and the 1980 Facebook page, but the web site is the key since this is where you will be able to download registration forms.

On the 1980 web site, we will continue to update information, attendee lists, and other pertinent information. In addition to this communiqué regarding hotel and registration info, we plan to send out a final distro in late August with final coordination details. We will be using the current email address list from the AOG for that distribution as well as snail mail addresses for anyone without an email address on record with the AOG. Currently, we have a little over 700 email addresses we have tested and that leaves a bit more than 200 who will be receiving this message as a hard copy via USPS. Please be sure your current email address and mailing address are on file with the AOG and encourage all of our class/company mates to do the same.

EVENT AND REGISTRATION:

The registration fee pays for buses, mailings, administrative costs, down payments and some reunion mementos which will be part of registration.

There are two methods for completing your registration process:

1. Download and complete the **Event Registration** form and mail to:
Class of 80 Reunion, PO Box 620, Skaneateles, NY 13152
2. Online: Go to the wp.org site for credit card payments. (Paying with a credit card incurs a 5% service fee.) <https://secure.westpoint.org/usma1980/reunion/>

If you are an “accompanied” classmate, the registration fee of \$225 covers a classmate and one guest, allowing them to ride the class buses to and from West Point and the hotel. Single attendees pay a registration fee of \$175. Additional “guest” registration fees (if riding the buses from the hotel) are \$50 per person. Registration refunds are available until 1 August.

Classmates married to a classmate (1980) need only pay one registration fee. Class widows/widowers are encouraged to attend and are not required to pay the registration fee.

LODGING:

We have selected the **Park Ridge Marriott**, 300 Brae Boulevard, Park Ridge, NJ 07656 as our reunion site. We have arranged a special rate of \$139 per night (plus tax), single or double occupancy. This is a great rate which includes breakfast in the hotel restaurant and free internet both of which are not the norm.

Call the hotel directly at 201-307-0800, or Marriott general reservations at 800-882-1038, and request the West Point Class of 1980 rate. If booking online via www.parkridgemarriott.com, you can use the online code **WCPWCPA**. Please only reserve the number of rooms that you personally will be using. This block will be held until 26 August, but may sell out earlier so book now. If you must cancel, please do so before 26 August in order to make room for all of our classmates wishing to take advantage of the class rate. Please note that the days for our block are from Wednesday, September 16, through checkout on Monday, September 21. If you need rooms on either side of the block you may have to pay the regular hotel rate in effect, but ask for our rate.

AIRPORTS /TRANSFERS

Stewart Newburgh Airport (SWF) and Newark Airport (EWR) are both about 45 minutes from the class hotel, the Park Ridge Marriott, in Park Ridge, NJ. LaGuardia (LGA) and Kennedy (JFK) are on the East side of the Hudson River and will involve a longer ride (and higher rental car prices). White Plains (HPN) is also on the East Side of the Hudson but would still be a good alternative airport. For those interested in securing a transfer versus a rental car, **AIRBROOK** has special rates for us but you must use the discount code of **CC6200**. Call them at their toll-free number (800-800-1990). Once at the Park Ridge Hotel, you would not need a car, if using our class buses.

FOOTBALL TICKETS:

The football game on Saturday, September 19, is against Wake Forest. We expect the game time to be confirmed by the end of May and planned our current agenda around a noon start.

The Class of 1980 reunion seating will be in the East Stands (Lusk Reservoir side) in section 31. For those who have not been back in a while, The Corps now sits on this side and there is a great set of vendors/booths right behind our section between the stadium and the reservoir; it's called Black Knight Alley.

We have been requested to purchase tickets for the game NLT July 28. Football tickets for reunion group seating are available for purchase exclusively online at www.goARMYsports.com, the official website of Army Athletics. Tickets for this game are \$45 each. If you wish to sit with a specific fellow graduate, be sure to place your orders together. To place your order, please follow the instructions outlined on the site.

Please contact the Army Athletic Ticket Office at odiato@usma.edu or call 877-TIX-ARMY if you have any further questions on ordering your football tickets or parking. We will post the specific sign up instructions online at the class web page.

You will have the opportunity to sign up for additional events in the next correspondence which will go out in late Spring. The exact prices are being determined, but for planning purposes you can use the below estimates:

TOUR/EVENT PRICES:

Thursday

- Golf -\$65
- Hudson River Boat Ride-\$10
- NYC (Self tour/with Water Taxi Ticket) -\$25/\$55
- Thursday Evening Reception-\$45

Friday

- Ike Hall Luncheon-\$18
- Friday Dinner Dance--\$65

Saturday

- Mess Hall Pre Game Meal--\$14
- Post-Game Party--\$40

Sunday

- Sunday Hotel Breakfast Buffett-\$25
- Sunday Brunch with Cadets-\$14

CLASS WEB SITE & FACEBOOK:

All information and downloadable registration forms will be posted to the Class of 1980 web page (<http://www.west-point.org/class/usma1980/index.htm>) that is being maintained by Bob Morris. We will post to the site updated lists of those registered as well as other important and miscellaneous info. For help or info on the web site, you may contact Bob at robert.morris@charter.net

We will also list the schedule and info as text on the class Facebook page, and point everyone to the web site where you can download forms. If you are not a member of the 1980 Facebook group, Ed Ruggero (ed@edruggero.com) or Doug Lobdell (dougdell@yahoo.com) should be able to help you with that.

I urge you to talk it up with everyone. Let's have a great turnout, and show the rest of the Long Grey Line just what it means to be part of *Pride and Excellence!*

See you in September,

Bret Dalton
President, Class of 1980
bretdalton80@gmail.com

Enclosures:

1. Registration Form
2. Proposed Agenda
3. Return Envelope