

West Point Parents Club of Greater Houston



Houston, Texas



12/07/09

PRESIDENTS LETTER

NOVEMBER, 2009

December is another busy and eventful month for our club. We have our usual December meeting and several people are attending the Army-Navy game in Philadelphia. In addition, the final event of the 2009 year is the annual Joint Service Academy Military Ball (JSAMB). This event will be held at Moody Gardens in Galveston this year, sponsored by the Navy Parents Club. The West Point Cadets and families are always a large part of this event. Its a great time to meet and visit as well as honor all of the Cadets, so we hope to see you there. There have been several communications regarding the ball, and invitations have been mailed, so don't miss this event on December 26th. One of the primary functions of the organization in meeting its By-Law objectives is to provide continuity within the organization. In order to continue the work and goals of the club, a slate of officers for next year will be selected at the December meeting. Your continued support of the positive efforts of the club will ensure that the three primary functions outlined in the bylaws are continued: being a vehicle to disseminate information to parents, as area, and promoting a favorable attitude toward West Point. It is important to keep a focus on our core purpose and be sure that everyone feels welcome and their individual needs are met. assisting in recruiting candidates from the Houston area and promoting favorable attitude towards West Point. It is important to keep a focus on our core purpose and be sure that everyone feels welcome and their individual needs are met. It has been our great pleasure to serve as Presidents of the West Point Parents Club of Greater Houston for 2009. We have made many friends and appreciate the opportunity to serve the organization. We are still staggered by the many experiences we have encountered as West Point parents. We often think back to the first few meetings and the many, many questions and concerns we had. So many people helped us over these years and we hope that others have benefited from the club meetings and activities.

We look forward to continuing our association with the club as soon to be alumni parents of a 2010 graduate.

And GO ARMY BEAT NAVY!
Matt and Ginger Williams
Presidents 2009
(Hunter '10)

From the Editor:

See email on page 2 that I had received earlier this month. It's a shame that our soldiers are now being used for money scamming. Thanks to Joannie Parr for her help on this. Also I would like to include articles about the different clubs at West Point. If you have one in particular, please send the article to me.

Dona Worth

TIPS FOR SUBMITTING MATERIAL TO OUR NEWSLETTER

When submitting material concerning your cadet, please remember to include his/her name as it should appear in the Newsletter, and his/her class date.

Please email to Dona.Worth@cfisd.net. If you receive notification from the email program that your submission was not accepted, please try calling me at 281-894-1356. I will not normally be looking at incoming email at home daily (I check this email weekly unless I am expecting something) unless you give me a heads up. I don't mind confirming that your e-message has arrived, or more importantly to you, if it has not arrived. If you have some material that you feel really special about, please do not just assume it has been received. Make sure you have positive contact with me in such cases, preferably by telephone.

Some photo images may be too large to email. You can "zip" the files, if you have Winzip or an equivalent program. Another technique is to paste or insert the photo into an MS Word document file (i.e., with file extension ".doc"), open the file, right click on the photo, and in the dialog box that pops up choose "picture", then choose "compress". Save the file. It should be smaller than the original file. This smaller file may be emailable.

Copies of the WPPCGH Newsletter are available at each meeting of the club; however, depending upon the number of members attending there may not be enough to go around. The Newsletter is also posted on the WPPCGH Yahoo Group (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/WPPCGH/>). You will have to become a member of this group to use this website. You can also contact me using the email or telephone number published above, and I will email a copy to you. Whether this will work will depend upon your email service's maximum allowable attachment size. In the past the Newsletter has been posted on the WPPCGH website, but lately some security concerns with this practice have arisen. These concerns triggered the move to the Yahoo Group method of distribution.

Dona Worth

WEST POINT GRADUATION DATES CONFIRMED

WEST POINT, N.Y. – The U.S. Military Academy Graduation dates for Classes 2010-2014 have been confirmed by academy officials.

Class:	Graduation Date
2010	May 22
2011	May 21*
2012	May 26
2013	May 25*
2014	May 24

Club of the Month

West Point Triathlon

It takes a village to build a championship program. This is especially true in a sport like triathlon. The five year evolution that transformed the West Point triathlon team from a group of cadets who liked to compete in local events to a national championship team that competes at the highest level of the sport was made possible by a variety of factors. These included top-level coaching, focused recruiting, goal development, training camps, race experience, and most importantly, the daily effort and dedication of the cadets themselves. However, what primed the pump for success was the additional funding made possible through alumni and independent donations. The program is attempting to maintain its top-flight training and race schedule. The team won over \$1000 in prize money this year. We will attempt to raise the bulk of our budget by running the 20th annual West Point Triathlon in the fall and an inaugural Duathlon in the spring. Despite these efforts, the program could not hope to maintain its current level of performance without support from DCA through AOG and DAA funding.

On behalf of the West Point triathlon program, we greatly thank all who donate to West Point AOG and DAA, especially our primary donors Mr. David Hurley and Mr. Bill Watkins.

You made this all possible!

Go West Point Tri!

Beat Navy!

Respectfully,
MAJ Murphy "Andy" Caine
Officer-in-Charge
West Point Triathlon Team

Note: The expenses for these cadets can be costly. They are given a \$250 voucher to help purchase some of their gear-seat, helmet, pedals, socks, gloves, glasses, shoes, and other gear. The bike alone can cost as much as \$2600. Other expenses are wetsuits and running gear such as shoes and clothing. Most of the costs are paid by the cadets. It is a club and relies on donations and prize money. For 2009, they were 4th in the nation.

The Team





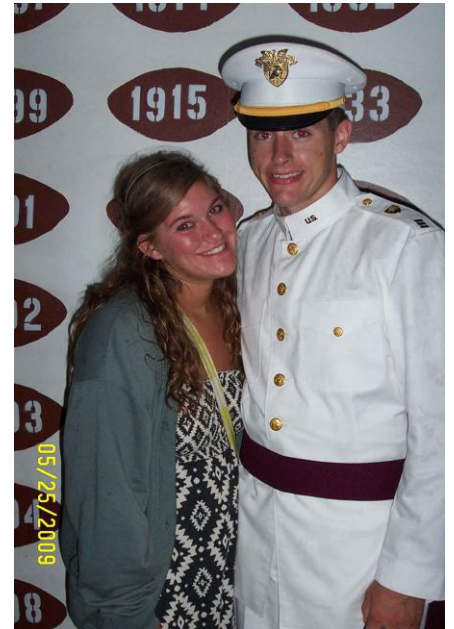
Class of '10 – LOYAL TILL THE END

Class of 10 LOYAL TIL' THE END

Firsties have donned their rings, celebrated and have ceremoniously opened their envelopes that contains their branch insignia. This reveals that in only a few months from now, our soldiers will begin their army careers. Time is ticking away and shortly we will be in the throws of graduation! What a ride this has been! Be asking about announcement information that should be surfacing soon....right after Thanksgiving but before Army/Navy game I've been told. The upcoming Military Ball is a great way to enjoy your cadet with friends and family. Hope to see many of you there.

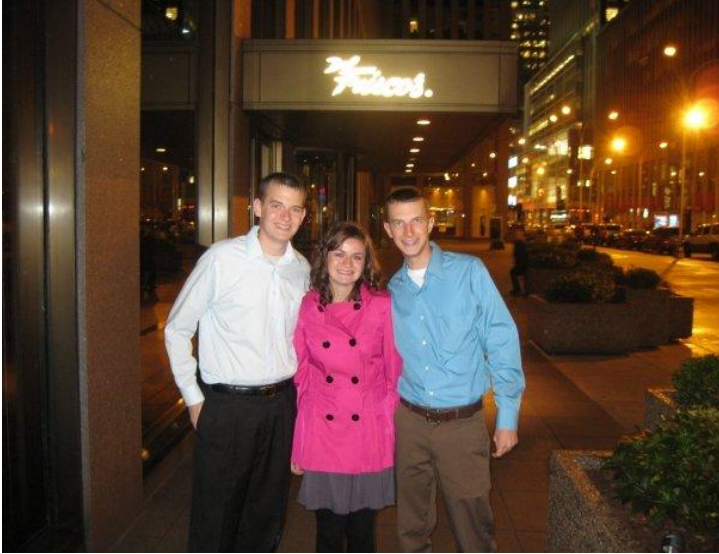
Garrett Johnson 2010

Garrett has been very busy this semester. He has attended 2 conferences pertaining to his major. One was in San Antonio, TX, which had to do with Human Factors and Ergonomics. The conference in Atlanta, Georgia, was an Army Research Lab. We had an exciting weekend in August when we attended Ring Weekend. It was so fun to watch Garrett react to the Ring Poop! He ran with some of the cadets in his company (D4) a half marathon in Yonkers NY and really enjoyed that. Garrett branched Infantry and is looking forward to his breaks. Anticipating the joy and tears of the upcoming events leading to graduations!



Ben Huffines, '10:

Ben Huffines is doing well after having jaw surgery in October. He is looking forward to eating his first "real" meal on Thanksgiving Day after being on a liquid/soft diet for six weeks. He is spending the break with his grandparents in North Carolina. He was thrilled to receive his choice of branches, Aviation during Branch night. His brother and I are looking forward to seeing him in Philadelphia for the Army/Navy game.



Steven Sollee '10

Steven has branched Medical Service Core - Preventative Medicine Engineer. He is looking forward to selecting his post as he has worked hard to earn his current rank of #24 in his class. The biggest news for Steve is his engagement to Alison Ballard of Kingwood, Texas. They will be married on June 19th in Houston, TX.

Needless to say, he is busy with his assignments, as well as his duties as Cadet First Sergeant of G1 but did have a fun summer. Steven spent his first weeks of summer participating in a Strategic Space Defense Study Seminar through the Eisenhower Center at USAFA. This involved studies in Los Angeles, Washington D.C., and Colorado Springs. He ended his summer at Rice University working on a project through the Engineering Materials Department and then at the Prep School in Mammoth, NJ. where he was on Battalion Staff for Cadet Candidate Basic Training.

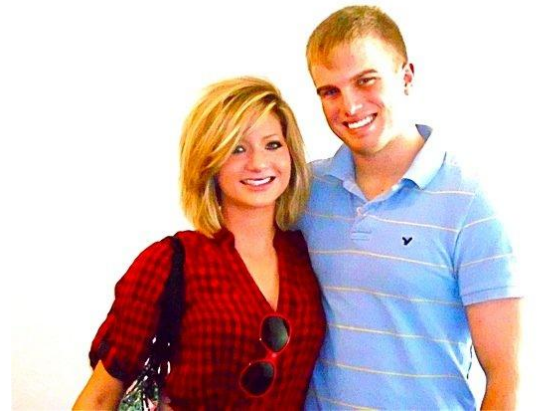


Steven and Alison

He also had time to houseboat on Lake Powell with his brothers, his sister, and Alison, his fiancé, and his Mom and Step-Dad. He had a good time wake boarding, kayaking, fishing and hiking and just spending time with family.

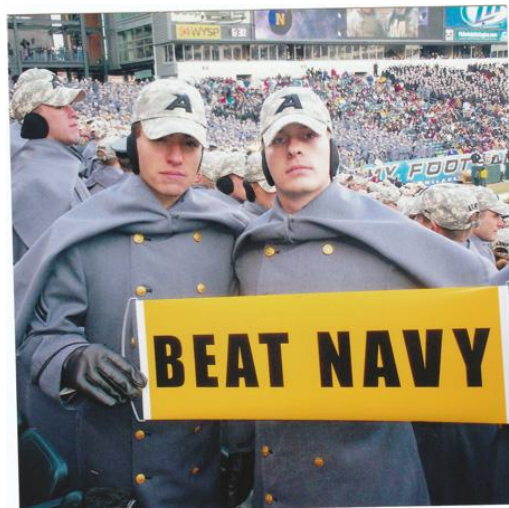


Steve, in the middle with the white hat, with his Step-Dad, Mother, Alison and brothers at Rainbow Bridge, Lake Powell, Arizona



Steven and his fiancé, Alison

Taylor Minton '10



Jeremy Meeks 2010



This year Jeremy is 4th Regimental Command SGT Major. At a recent football game, he carried the ball onto the field. He is finding his duties to be very time consuming, challenging, and rewarding. His company (C4) are the Frisbee, BDE CHAMPS, and he has bought a bike and is spending any free time biking-he especially likes biking in the city. Jeremy has branched Armor.

Jessi Muckelroy 2010



Finally a Firstie! Another year successfully completed, one more to go! Jessi began her summer with an AIAD assignment in Russia. She attended 2 Weeks of classes, giving her a taste of what's to come this fall during her semester abroad, followed by a wonderful week of site-seeing. In the photo she stands in front of the Kremlin. After spending some time at home she went to California to visit a softball teammate which included camping on the beach and 4-wheeling. Then home again before traveling to Fort Stewart, Georgia for CTLT, where she was assigned as an MP Platoon Leader. Finding there was no one for her to "shadow" because the 2nd LT had been reassigned and his replacement had not yet arrived, she jumped right in and learned the ropes on her own. Jessi had a great bunch of guys to work with and she enjoyed her time there. She did such a terrific job that in her review the Battalion Commander requested that she be assigned there after graduation. She came home for a bit more R & R before returning to West Point for Ring Weekend followed directly by a semester in Russia. Jessi did get the opportunity to meet her host family for the fall while in Voronezh for AIAD. Although they are a very nice couple, Jessi will have her work cut out for her, for they speak no English. It should be quite an adventure and learning experience for her.

Nathan Stratton '10

Another semester is clicking off at break-neck speed. Nate has made a couple of trips into the city with one of his geography classes to visit the Russian community there. He has enjoyed playing ultimate Frisbee with his team that finished second in company competition. He was fortunate enough to be selected by lottery to attend one of the Yankees play-off games, which was a nice mid-week break. Branch night turned out to be quite a celebration as he and his closest friends got their first choice of branches. Nate will branch armor and is looking forward to further training next summer at Fort Knox. We are eager to have him at home for a few days over the Thanksgiving break. Then we're off to Philly for the Army/Navy game. Go Army! Beat Navy!

John Kottowski '10



John Kottowski and Jeremy Meeks celebrate Branch Night, held on Sunday, November 1, 2009. Both will be branching Armor. John also enjoyed driving the "crash boat" while on the sailing team. This club sport is great for those wanting to learn how to sail.

We look forward to having John home again for Christmas.



Class of '11 – FOR FREEDOM WE FIGHT

CLASS OF 2011 UPDATE

The Class of 2011 had a very exciting and diverse set of activities this summer from supporting the new cadets coming to West Point this summer to various leadership opportunities to joining an active unit in the Army for 30 days to various training activities like airborne school. The summer seems to have just flown by very quickly. The next event coming up for the Class of 2011 is the Affirmation event on August 16 where the cadets will commit to their next 2 years at West Point just before their academic year begins. The highlight for next summer for the Class of 2011 will be to complete their 2nd Half of Camp Buckner that they began the summer after Plebe year.

Taylor Hirschey '11

Cadet SGT Hirschey is pictured on right with a fellow cadet at an orienteering meet held in Rochester, NY this September. The competition, or race, is intended to test 'the navigational skill, concentration, and running ability of the competitors'. High levels of fitness and running speed are required to compete successfully at an international or elite level. Orienteering is included in the programs of world sporting events including the World Games. To ensure fairness between competitors the map is not usually provided until the start, and starts are normally staggered with competitors starting at not less than one-minute intervals. The objective on each leg is to follow the fastest route between controls. The fastest is not always the shortest route, and can depend heavily on route choice. The sport is especially popular in Europe, where cadets in the past have traveled to compete.



The other picture was taken on a field trip to a gravel quarry for geology class. Hard hat for the field trip provided courtesy of the US army.

Aaron Trobee '11

West Point Hosts SCUSA 61

Cow Aaron Trobee, of Company D-1 from Houston, shares his viewpoints on the opportunities and challenges in Afghanistan, Pakistan and India at a roundtable session in Jefferson Hall during the 61st Student Conference on United States Affairs Nov. 6. West Point hosted the event in which about 150 cadets, 200 students and 40 senior participants representing 150 academic institutions and more than 20 nations met to discuss United States foreign policy with future military and civilian leaders.



Aaron Trobee '11

Richard Hood '11

There is beauty in nature, even in the Army. Note the butterfly which landed on the cap of Richard Hood, class of 2011, during summer training at Buckner.

And then there is the SOSH run. There must be something very cathartic about dressing up in costume to deliver that paper!!!!!!!!!!!!

Richard will be spending the spring semester in Russia, honing his Russian language skills. Richard will be attending Air Assault school in early January, prior to leaving for Russia for the spring semester.



Richard Hood '11



SOSH-Richard Hood '11



Class of '12 – FOR MORE THAN OURSELVES

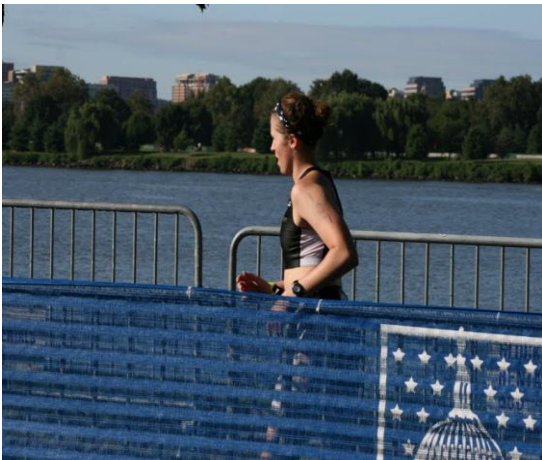
Class of 2012

Nathan Hubbard 2012

Immediately after Graduation Week Nathan went to Air Assault School at Fort Smith (across The Hudson from West Point) and received his Air Assault Wings prior to a brief six (6) days at home before his trekking-off to Camp Buckner and his Fort Knox “excursion”. Nathan attempted to acquire a slot at Airborne School after Camp Buckner but he was on “The Bubble” for a slot; “The Bubble” did not break for him. Hence, Nathan has been home since the 15th of July 2009. Nathan has certainly caught-up on his sleep but even with a short five (5) day vacation, my “List of “To Do Things” for him around our house and his maintaining his workout regimen, he has been bored majority of this time. Nathan has finally come to realize his experience at West Point academically and military has separated him from the “life seriousness” and focus levels of his high school friends; even those at The Citadel & A&M Corps. I believe Nathan will work harder in the future to assure he does not get “dead-ended” at home for greater than six (6) days during future Summers during his remaining tenure at West Point.

Mary Beth Worth 2012

Now that Mary Beth is in her YUK year. It has been a great start for her. It began with her decision to retire from swimming for Army. She decided to try out for the Triathlon and made it. So instead of one sport event, she now does three- swimming, running, and biking. She loves the team and they have the same common goals. On her first event, they competed in Washington DC. She got to spend some time with her Aunt (a Navy JAG) and her cousins while there. Mary Beth came in 50th out of 200 for her first time. In her second event, she place 3rd. Her third event was her best. She came in first in women's in her age group and had received an invitation to compete in the Escape to Alcatraz Triathlon in California in May of 2010. A week after that, she will be competing in the half ironman in New Hampshire. This semester has been a tough one for her. She is taking 23 hours (not including the hours for the labs) and has started the course work for her major. She is rooming with a Firstie and has learned so much from her. Mary Beth will be leaving for Houston earlier than the other Yuks, Thanksgiving, to visit schools in the CyFair ISD area to speak to students. She was accepted for CPRC. She will be doing a presentation about the history of West Point, battles around West Point during the Revolutionary War, and its famous leaders (during the Revolutionary War and Civil War) to the 8th grade US History classes at her old middle school. In early September Mary Beth received devastating news regarding her grandmother. Her grandmother was diagnosed as having stomach cancer. When her grandmother had taken a turn for the worse three weeks later, she flew to Florida to spend precious time with her. She then returned to West Point a couple of days later and ended up flying back on her birthday, October 9, to mourn with the family at the passing away of her grandmother. She will be spending Thanksgiving and Christmas in Florida too. This will be the first time the family will be without their "Mmi".



Washington DC Triathlon



West Point Triathlon



Class of '13 –

Class of 2013

Brad and Koren DeSplinter
Andrew 2013

Michael Wilke '13

Michael Wilke, class of 2013, tried out for and made the Glee Club this year. He, and the rest of the Glee Club, were on Sports Center when they broadcast from there for Veterans Day. He also had the opportunity to sing with Trace Adkins when he preformed in concert at Ike Hall. The Glee Club is a 70 member choir that does most of their songs acappella.

Class of 2013



Christopher Malachosky '13.

Rifle Team Rolls Over Memphis, 4583-4523

Courtesy: Army Athletic Communications

Release: 11/01/2009

Army-Memphis Results

OXFORD, Miss. - Army's rifle team recorded its second straight win in as many days with a 4583-4523 victory over Memphis in a Great America Rifle Conference match Sunday morning at the Patricia C. Lamar National Guard Readiness Center on the campus of the University of Mississippi.

Army's domination in smallbore, 2292-2209, carried the Black Knights to the decision as they improved to 4-1 overall and 3-1 in the GARC as the win came on the heels of their 4583-4561 victory over Ole Miss Saturday. Sophomores Kelly Buck and Sara Lehman earned medalist honors in smallbore and air rifle, respectively.

Buck tied her career-high turning in the top score of 580 in smallbore to lead an Army sweep of the top five places en route to outpointing Memphis by an 83-point margin. Lehman fired a 573 to earn runner-up honors with Tommy Carr and freshman Chris Malachosky, who fired individually, tying for third place with identical 570s. Freshman Ian Young joined Buck, Lehman and Carr in rounding out Army's four-man contingent with a 568.

Lehman and Jessica Phenis of Memphis tied for medalist honors in air rifle, but the Tigers grabbed the next three spots en route to outpointing Army by a 22-point margin (2314-2292). Lehman's score was two shy of her season high and was the second time this season she had the high score in air rifle..

Malachosky, shooting individually, turned in Army's second best score in air rifle behind a season-high 577, while Buck (575), Young (573) and Mengon (561) joined Lehman on the firing team.

The Black Knights return home to host the President's Trophy Match Saturday, Nov. 8, at Tronsrue Marksmanship Center. Navy will battle Army Air Force and Coast Guard as it looks to defend its title.

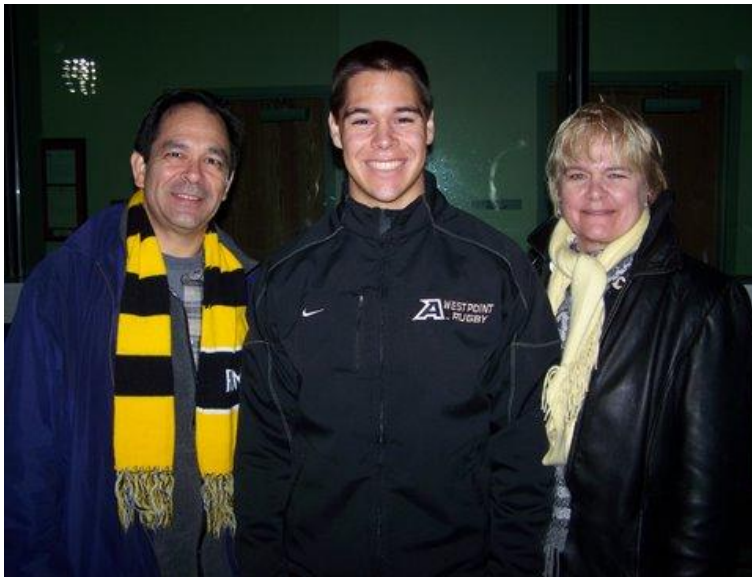
NOTES: Sara Lehman has captured medalist honors twice in both disciplines this season while Buck has been the top scorer twice in smallbore ... the Black Knights fired the same aggregate (4583) both days ... Army's 2292 in air rifle against Memphis was its second lowest mark of the season ... three freshmen - Will Mengon, Ian Young and Chris Malachosky - were part of Army's traveling team.



Christopher Malachosky

Christian Grado '13

This past weekend, November 13 -15, Margaret and I (Ramon Grado, USMA '78) went to West Point to visit our son, Christian (Company D-3, Class of 2013) and to watch the Army vs. VMI football game. Christian is doing well and is enjoying the fact that he was selected for the Army Rugby club. Christian started playing rugby at Strake Jesuit, playing on the inaugural squad in 2007. For both the 2008 and 2009 seasons, he was named the "Outstanding Teammate" for the SJ team. On Saturday, we all attended the Army football game and witnessed the victory over VMI. After the game, while Christian reported to the rugby field, Margaret and I tailgated with Christian's sponsors, my USMA Classmate Joe Pfanzelter '78 and his wife, Patty. Joe is Director of Emergency Services for Keller Army Hospital at West Point and Patty manages the USMA Association of Graduates Gift Shop inside Herbert Hall. Afterward Christian was joined by friends from Houston who are attending college at UT-Austin and Tufts. We all watched an Army Rugby victory over Fordham in steady rain at the beautiful Anderson Rugby complex (we highly recommend everyone visit this pitch adjacent to Target Hill Field). We also had the opportunity to meet another member of the Army side, Andrew Smith Class of 2012, who is the son of my classmate and former Army Rugby player John Smith '78, who was also in attendance. After the match we all enjoyed a meal in Newburgh before returning to post. Margaret and I departed on Sunday after a morning "boodle run" with Christian and were unable to stay for the Army victory over Syracuse to claim the Northeastern Rugby Championship. Army Rugby will play Navy on Saturday November 21st at West Point. We invite everyone to learn more about Army Rugby at www.westpointrugby.com



Christian Grado and parents

John Buckley '13

Cadet John Buckley, one of three from Second Baptist School, class of 2013, and one of six SBS grads currently at West Point, is a gator (G-2 company.) He reports that sleep is a distant memory, as are mattresses to sleep on (his floor is getting a work-out) and time. He also reports some incredible instruction from his WP classes, and getting blind-sided in boxing class! He has been blessed to earn a spot on the baseball team, and thinks his fellow teammates are great. He has also been blessed to earn some passes, which he has used NOT to see his parents, but to travel to Ft.Worth.



John Buckley and Dad

Kelsey Eargle '13

The last time we saw our son, Kelsey '13, was at the Texas Tamale Tailgate back on September 12th. So, naturally, we were thrilled when he called to tell us he was going to be able to use a "Spirit Pass" to attend the Army football game last Saturday, November 21, in Denton TX. On Wednesday, much to our delight, Kelsey called to tell us he could leave Thursday, which gave us an extra day with him! Nancy, our daughter, Betsy, and several friends caravanned to Dallas to greet him on his arrival at DFW. Kelsey looked great and it was a happy reunion for everyone!

Friday for Kelsey was filled with a little extra sleep, a tour of the Raytheon Defense manufacturing plant, a quick haircut, a movie and dinner with friends. Saturday morning, after a visit with relatives in Ft. Worth, we all (7 of us) went to the Army vs. UNT game and proudly sat in Section K with many West Point Old Grads, fans, cheerleaders and Spirit Band. The game turned into a 4th quarter showdown of persistence, determination and conditioning; a perfect recipe for a West Point victory. We scored with a minute and a half left on the clock, to take the lead, 17-13, which was the final score!!

As far as school goes, Kelsey told us that academics are challenging, food

is good, weather is not bad, i.e. no snow yet, and he is ready for the Thanksgiving break. He also told us that he has 1st period boxing, so basically, he starts most days with a bloody nose!

Needless to say, it was a special weekend for our family. Now, when Army beats Navy, we will be Bowl eligible!



Kelsey Eargle and Dad

ALUMNI NEWS

We always look forward to hearing about the continuing adventures of our Graduates. Please send in photos, news and any correspondence from those who are deployed. We want to keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

Brittany Meeks '02



Brittany Meeks 2002-Recently completed Ironman Arizona in 11:01:49! That is a 2.4 mile swim, 112 miles biking, and a full marathon 26.2 miles. She proudly competed on behalf of Class of 2002 KIA and SPC Brandon Steffey, one of her soldiers who was recently KIA in Afghanistan. Brittany raised over \$3500 for the Wounded Warriors Project. CPT Meeks is Commander of the 178th MP Brigade at Fort Hood (which gives you an idea of what else she has been busy with lately).

Taylor Cox, '08:

2LT Taylor Cox ('08) is currently an armor platoon leader in the Third Armored Cavalry Regiment at FT Hood, TX. He married Colleen O'Brien of Florham Park, New Jersey in May and the couple just rented a new house in Killeen, TX, Taylor has 15 soldiers and 4 M1A2SEP tanks in his platoon. He has been blessed with a good First Sergeant and a very good company commander. He's scheduled for promotion to 1LT later this month, and hopes to keep his platoon after that.

Update on 2nd Lt. Patrick Beverly - Class of 2008

Patrick is based at Ft. Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas - 14th Battalion Military Intelligence. They are currently in Baghdad at Camp Cropper. They have been since late July. His unit will be back sometime in June 2010 but maybe earlier. At this point, we keep in touch through Skype and e-mails. He is adjusting as well as can be expected. Just try to keep him positive. He does have two other West Point grads there with him from New Jersey and New York. Their promotions to 1st Lt. should be at the end of this month (November). They have become good friends though they didn't really know each other at West Point. Keep all the soldiers and families in your prayers. Thank for keeping us posted through e-mails on happenings at West Point. We sure miss going up there.

Becky and Dennis Beverly

FUTURE ARMY-NAVY GAME SITES

December 11, 2010-Lincoln Financial Field (Philadelphia)

December 10, 2011-FedExField (Washington, D.C.)

December 8, 2012-Lincoln Financial Field (Philadelphia)

December 14, 2013-Lincoln Financial Field (Philadelphia)

December 13, 2014-M&T Bank Stadium (Baltimore)

December 12, 2015-Lincoln Financial Field (Philadelphia)

December 10, 2016-M&T Bank Stadium (Baltimore)

December 9, 2017-Lincoln Financial Field (Philadelphia)

Tailgate 2009

The weekend for the tailgate started wet on Friday but cleared for the game and tailgate on Saturday. A number of club members gathered at 9:00am at the 49er Lodge in the woods near Delafield Lake and started preparations for the day. Thanks to Ron and Anne Kieschnik, grills were already assembled for cooking sausage, stuffed jalapenos and several other goodies. Decorations and beverages were delivered by Jim Cashion and in short order the lodge was transformed to a Texas State of Mind. Cheryl Trobee headed up the decorations, aided by Sam who also spent the day at the grill with Ron and others. Great Texas music was also provided by Jim Cashion, who was happy to dance with many Texas ladies. As the end of the game neared, BarBQ was delivered, Tamales were steamed, sausage was smoked and beverages were chilled.

A close game saw some late scoring by Duke to put the game out of reach as a few cadets arrived early. Soon a mass of white and grey clad cadets were seen coming down the road to the lodge. They were directed to the lodge by signs on the road, Texas flags and welcomed by a "Gonzales-Come and Take it Flag" over the door. 30 Briskets, 1400 Tamales, 200 pounds of sausage and 120 dozen homemade cookies were wiped out over the next several hours by happy Texas Cadets and their guests. The smoking of the sausage was so successful that the West Point Fire Department responded to the tailgate (or maybe it was the alarm that was set off) and were rewarded with multiple plates of Bar BQ and cookies. The Commandant, General Linnington stopped by and enjoyed a plate of Bar BQ and left with a Texas Apron and a special bottle of Texas wine in a Texas wine bag.

Thanks go out to Geri and Andrew Wilde for organizing cookies, Jim Cashion for driving up beverages and decorations as well as providing great Texas Music, Tommy and Klare Bambrick for organizing and transporting Tamales, Chip Hubbard for arranging for Arriba Salsa and Queso, Catherine Devine for organizing the soft drinks, Brad and Koren DeSplinter, June Malachosky, Jim and Amanda Halgas, Patty LeCuyer and her brother, David Hanson, Lynnette Huffines and many more who helped on Saturday. A number of people also donated financially to make the tailgate a success.

A special thanks to Ron and Anne Kieschnik and Sam and Cheryl Trobee who arrived early and provided significant direction for the event. In addition they were instrumental in planning the event in the days and weeks leading up to the weekend as several significant modifications were necessary.

The real winners of the day were the cadets, who got to enjoy a taste of home on a beautiful fall day on the Hudson.

GO ARMY!!

Matt and Ginger Williams

Presidents, WPPCGH 2009

(Hunter '10)

2009 CLUB OFFICERS

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(Cadet: Aaron '11)
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MEETING LOCATION

WPPCGH meetings are held at the University of St. Thomas – Ahern Room of the Crooker Center (Building 29) located at 4000 Mount Vernon Houston, TX 77006. The meetings begin at 2:00 PM and conclude at approximately 4:30 PM. The University is centrally located in the Houston museum district. Parking in the Moran Center Parking Garage (Building 26) is \$2.00.

