

West Point Parents Club of Greater Houston



Houston, Texas

Next WPPCGH Meeting
December 4, 2011



11/30/11

PRESIDENTS LETTER

Another year has just about passed us by. Hard to believe just how fast they go and how much actual-ly happen in a year.

We are grateful to all those who have been so helpful to us this past year. There is no doubt that our jobs as Co-Presidents were made much simpler by the hard work and dedication of so many other parents. We will not try to single anyone out, because we only hear back that they were just doing their part and "after all it was all about our Cadets". That is true it is all about our Cadets, but we believe the friendships that develop within our club will also be long lasting and are a wonderful bi-product of what we all do (the icing on the cake if you will). The recent big event of the fall was of course the Texas Tamale Tailgate – T3. What a weekend - for those who attended it will be a story we tell over and over. As we all know the event was planned for October 29 at the 49er lodge. The average temperature for WP on the 29th is 60 degrees so our only real concern was possible rain. The lesson is to never underestimate Mother Nature. On Thursday afternoon there were some rumors that we might actually get a little snow, by Friday morning it was 2-4 inches expected, then by the time we had our pre-T3 mixer on Friday night the forecast was for 8+ inches. Even with this dire forecast our T3 team was not to be deterred. Everyone made that last trip to Wal-Mart etc for boots, gloves and other cold weather gear and we continued to move forward. At 11 am as we started to prepare the lodge with decorations the first flurries began to fall. By game time (3:30pm) there was a solid 4-5 inches on the ground and by halftime (when we left the game cold and wet) there was at least 8 inches already. Here we have to put in a huge plug for the Dickies BBQ team. All roads coming into WP and especially those close to the stadium and the lodge had been closed due to the snow and conditions.

We were in contact with Dickies and knew they were on post, but had been told they had to turn back. They, however, knew that we were depend-ing on them and so the store owner took off probing every road he could find, determined to find a path to the lodge, after travelling the wrong way on a one way thru a residential area they came upon one of the snow plows, told them their pre-dicament and the snow plow led them the rein stead of arriving about 2 hours before the end of the game, Dickies were arriving about the time the game ended. By now there was 10-12 inches on the ground. As you might expect the turnout was less than we anticipated. As of this writing we do not have the final counts but we think we served about 200 cadets. However we can assure you the Cadets that braved the conditions ate, and ate and then ate some more. Everyone stayed around and visited for hours and had a great time. Our parent teams from Houston and Dallas did a fantastic job of serving food, bussing tables, and entertaining our guests.

When the final cadets left sometime before mid-night, we realized that all roads leading away from WP were closed and not passable. Those of us not staying in Highland Falls were stranded. Again, everyone pulled together and we made the best of a long cold night trying to sleep on cots that a cre-ative cadet obtained for us, or on the tables of the lodge and even the floor. Sunday morning we awoke to beautiful blue skies and word that most roads were now open. Everyone packed up head-ed out. Another Tailgate in the books!

That is just our story. We are sure we will hear plenty of others. Even though we had some hard-ships, we think just about every parent who was at the 2011 T3 will want to do it all again next year! Thank you for the privilege to serve as your Co-Presidents in 2011. We ask for your continued support of David and Valerie Hanson as they step into the position for 2012!

Brad and Koren DeSplinter

West Point Parents Club of Greater Houston

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From the Editor: This is my last year as newsletter editor. I will be passing on the pen. It's been an enjoyable 4 years and I feel that I have known each and every cadet personally. Thank you for honoring me with the opportunity to serve the West Point Parents Club of Greater Houston. 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
2012	May 26
2013	May 25*
2014	May 24
2015	

To the Family of PFC Cody Norris

Terri, Reese, and Cadet Michael (2012)

Our thoughts and prayers are with you for your loss.

WPPCH

Operation Helmet

November 5, 2011, I attended a National Defense Luncheon. The speaker was “Doc” Bob Meaders of Operation Helmet. This organization is based in Montgomery, Tx. He talked about helmet shock transmission and the effects of Traumatic Brain Injuries as a result of inadequate protection. Through Operation Helmet, helmet upgrades are provided to our soldiers in Afghanistan and Iraq. Tax deductible donations may be sent by check or money order to:

Operation Helmet

74 Greenview St

Montgomery, Tx 77356-8456

Or www.operation-helmet.org

You may specify that your donation is to be used generally or for a specific team, unit, or branch of service. The upgrade that they provide is authorized for use in the Kevlar helmet by US Marine Corps, US Army, and Special Operations Command as well as USAF and USN.

The helmet pad upgrade kit is waterproof, self-wicking, positively buoyant, air permeable, reduces sound reverberation and is installed without any helmet shell modifications. It includes seven highly engineered pads that replace the GI helmet pads.

Dona Worth, Editor

Pictures of the Tailgate were provided by Susanne Presley and the DeSplinters. Thank you all!



Blizzard Bowl 2011
Cadet Smith



Tailgate 2011

Mitchie Stadium before the Game



T



3 T Cathedral

49er Lodge



The Tailgate Group

Outside the Lodge



Class of '12 – FOR MORE THAN OURSELVES

Class of 2012

Class of 2012

Ring Weekend was wonderful. The weather was cooperative and the rain held off until just after the ceremony. The banquet and dance were great, and everyone enjoyed the absolutely immense blocks of chocolate with the Class Crest embossed on them. Next up is Branch Night, and the Firsties will be picking their branch of the Army. West Point is transitioning to a new process starting next year, where selection is based more on where the cadet fits best rather than pure class rank, and the Firsties are testing it out this year. They are going through the process to see where they would have been placed if they'd used the new system, but their actual placement will still be based on class rank.



Chocolate of Crest from Ring Weekend

Mary Beth Worth 2012

Mary Beth has had a very busy semester. She has received 7 secondary applications for medical school and has worked diligently to get those in. She put in her request to branch in medical corp. For Army/Navy game, she will be running along with her other teammates from New York City to Maryland. Mission—to bring the football down for the game.

Alexander Farmer 2012

Alex had a great time interning at Google and managed to write some code they're actually using. Then he went to Mongolia to visit his girlfriend and her family, and he'll be going back again over Christmas break. His girlfriend got her visa, so she'll be coming to West Point for 100th Night. His sister, his grandparents and I all came to visit for Ring Weekend and everyone had a wonderful time. Now he's back to classwork, mostly computer projects. He's an Honor Board President, so he's also spending a lot of time involved with honor boards and the related work. We're looking forward to seeing him for Thanksgiving, and then an abbreviated Christmas visit before he heads out to Mongolia.



Ring Weekend with Grandparents



Class of 2013

Class of '13 - Defending the Dream

Congratulations to our cadets for affirming their commitment to serve our country in the United States Army in a ceremony at Robinson Auditorium on August 14, 2011. The ten year commitment includes two years of study at the Academy, five years of active duty and three years of service in the National Guard.

Our Cows are now upperclassmen at the Academy. Most were assigned to new companies. Their leadership roles are expanding and their course work is more focused on their selected field of study. The academic hurdles this year include the SOSH Paper and the West Point Professional Writing Exam (WPPWE). The SOSH paper is a term paper required to complete the Social Science course. Delivery of the paper is unique and entertaining. The WPPWE is a three hour written assessment of the cadet's writing skills.

Other milestones during the year include the 500th night celebration to mark 500 nights before graduation. The celebration includes a banquet and a hop. Each cadet will order their class ring and are carefully planning how to manage the coveted "cow loan". They also take their Howitzer picture during the spring semester.

Christopher Malachosky 2013

On Saturday, November 5, 2011 the Army rifle team hosted the President's Trophy Match at the Tronsrue Marksmanship Center. The Army team competed against the Naval Academy, Air Force Academy and Coast Guard Academy. For the third year in a row, the Army team won the President's Trophy, outpointing runner up Air Force by 63 points for an aggregate team score of 5812. Army captured the top 5 spots in smallbore and the top 4 spots in air rifle. Christopher Malachosky is a member of the Army rifle team.

Christopher Malachosky '13 received the Distinguished Cadet Award on November 22nd. Also, on November 19th he shot a personal best in air rifle in a rifle match against TCU and Murray State. The Army rifle team is currently ranked 4th in the nation



Class of 2014



Class of '14 – Forever One Team

Jenna Presley 2014



Jenna and Mom at Tailgate Party



Class of 2015

Class of '15-

Class of 2015

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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.

Alumini Parent Info.

While we have attempted to contact as many Alumni Parents as possible, our records certainly don't include everyone, and many email addresses have changed. Therefore, if you know of any alumni parents who might be interested in receiving information about upcoming events, please have them contact Mary Durner at mndurner@aol.com or Paula Hubbard at paula.hubbard@chamberlainlaw.com.

First Lt. William Treadway

Here is an update about Will.....he is currently deployed to Afghanistan. He was recently promoted to XO for Comanche Troop, 4-4 Cavalry, 1st Infantry Division. Since deploying last Feb, he has also served as a Scout Platoon Leader (Apache) until last Sept. when he served on S4 squadron staff at headquarters on a special assignment. We have received word that he and his troops will soon be returning to Fort Riley sometime between Christmas and Jan 15. Amen! Thanks so much for all the support and boodle from the Parents Club. Will and his soldiers appreciate it very much. If anyone wants to read Will's blog it is: Thetexanwhowouldbeking.wordpress.com. Please publish this for all our West Point Family.

Thank you! I have enjoyed reading his stories from his blog.and looked forward to getting them.
D. Worth

FUTURE ARMY-NAVY GAME SITES

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)

Churchill: An Evening of Wit and Wisdom Event

This fundraiser is to help provide a mortgage-free home to a local wounded veteran and his family. I am reaching out to you because the ticket sales for this event have been very slow and there have been people working very hard on this.

Please access the link for the Texas Sentinels for further information.

Let me know if it is possible to publish this flyer.

Thank you very much,

Carol Mazar

<cmazar2@yahoo.com>

WPPCGH 2011 Leadership Team

2011 CLUB OFFICERS

Presidents: DeSplinter, Brad & Koren (2013)

Phone: 281-302-6553 (home) Cell: Koren-281-239-1890; Brad-281-793-8528

E-mail: bradlandkoren@comcast.net; Brad's work email: bdesplinter@txpm.com

Address: 13643 Schumann Trails, Sugar Land, TX 77498

Vice President: Hanson, David & Valarie (2013)

Phone: 713-978-6865 9HOME) Cell: Valerie-713-818-7000, David-713-819-5067

E-mail: vbh8890@sbcglobal.net. David's work email: david.hanson@lpl.com

Address: 7611 Meadowvale Dr., Houston, TX 77063.

Treasurer: Font, Mark & Lynn (2014)

Phone: 281-265-7835 (home) Cell: Lynn- 281-635-4831; Mark-281-635-4830

Email: lynnfont@comcast.net; Mark's work email: mark.font@bgllp.com

Address: 4811 Caladium Dr. Sugar Land, TX 77479

Secretary: Wilke, Phil & Shelly (2013)

Phone: 281-251-7582 (home); Cell: Shelly-832-515-1609; Phil-832-515-3124

E-mail: pswilke@sbcglobal.net; swilke@txccc.org

Address: 8002 Honeyfield, Spring, TX 77379

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

Class of 2012 Reps: Farmer, Marjorie & Randy

Phone: 281-431-2800 (Home), Cell: Marjorie-713-598-3401

Email: mfarmer@pobpx.com; Marjorie.Farmer@halliburton.com

Class of 2013 Reps: Wilde, Geri & Andrew

Phone: 281-360-3419 (Home) Cell: Geri-713-898-8607; Andrew-832-594-6193

Email: wilde@cebridge.net; Andrew's work email: awilde@miswaco.slb.com; Geri's work email-gwilde@slb.com

Address: 2819 Hazy Hillside, Kingwood, TX 77345

Class of 2014 Reps: Gates, James & Kathryn

Phone: 979-732-2853 (home); James-979-525-1707

Email: jkagates@gmail.com. James' work-jgates@micgrp.com.

Class of 2015 Reps:

Alumni Reps.:

Sue Due

Email): cdue@academicplanet.com

Doug & Debbie Rambin

Email (Doug): drambin@alltel.net

MAARs Reps: Chip and Paula Hubbard

Phone: 713-957-9229 (home)

Phone: 713-703-5300 (Chip's cell)

Email (Chip): chip@commirebrokerage.com

Email (Paula): HubbardP@CHAMBERLAINLAW.com

**STANDING COMMITTEE
CHAIRPERSONS**

Hospitality: Mcauley, Ron & Angie (2014)

Phone: 936-447-9133 (Home); Cell: 830-992-5671 (Angie), 936-446-0868 (Ron)

Email: cmathome3@aol.com rmccauley@aol.com

Address: 75 Stardust Place, The Woodlands, TX 77381

Newsletter: Dona Worth (2012)

Phone: 281-894-1356 (home)

Email: Dona.Worth@cfisd.net, (work), djworth@sbcglobal.net (home)

Web Master: Kottowski, Randy (2010)

Cell: 214-585-2789 (Randy)

Email: rkott@msn.com

Membership: Malachosky, June (2013)

Phone: 281-257-0639 (home); 281-414-1098 (cell)

Email: malachosky@sbcglobal.net

Home Address: 5826 Center Court Dr., Spring, TX 77379

AV: Gates, James & Kathryn (2014)

Phone: 979-732-2853 (home), 979-525-1707 (cell)

Email: jkagates@gmail.com (home); jgates@micgrp.com (James' work)

Gifts for Troops

Annual Event Committee Chairpersons:

Hail & Farewell: Jeffries, Trevor & Shirley (2014)

Phone: 713-464-7936 (home); Cell: 832-434-4534

(Shirley), 713-530-8243 (Trevor)

Email: trjeff@mac.com

New Cadet Picnic

TX Tamale Tailgate

Joint Service Academy Military Ball

Firstie Flags: Presley, Suzanne E. (2014)

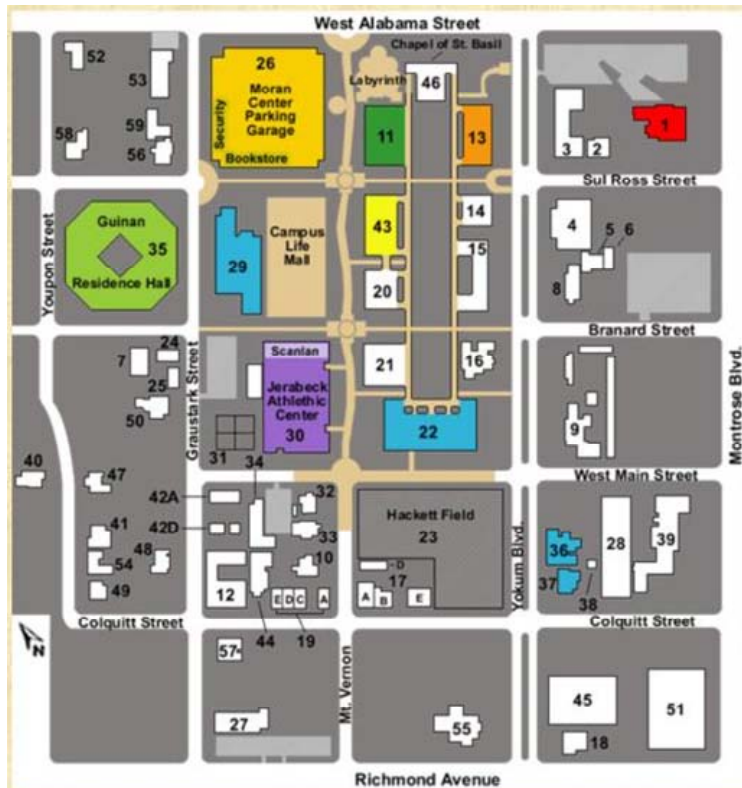
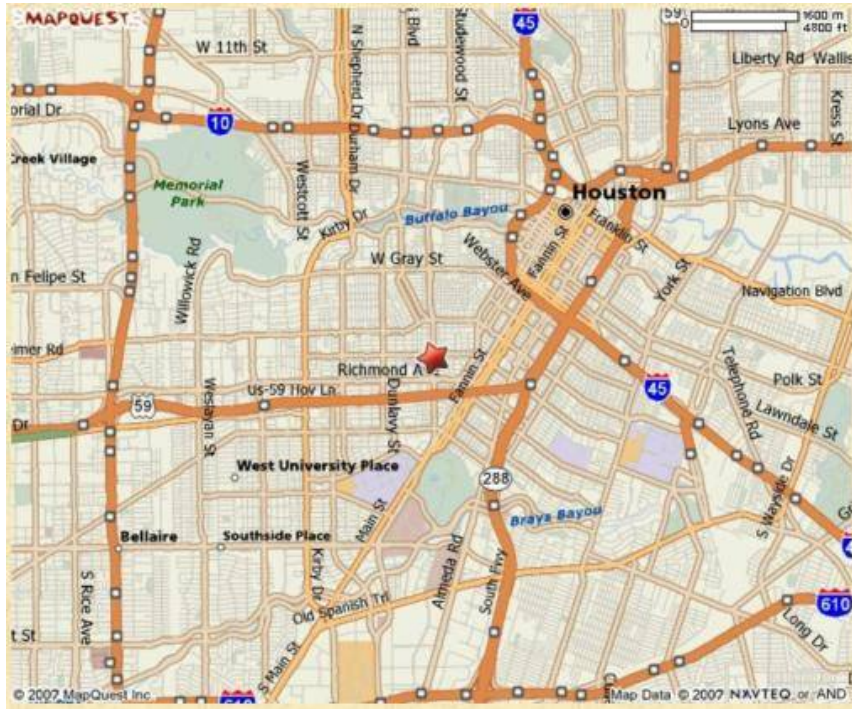
Phone: 713-492-1016 (cell)

Email: aggiepresley96@yahoo.com

Address: PO Box 27193, Houston, TX 77227

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.



Hail & Farewell Meeting Location

A. Lutheran High North

1130 W 34th St, Houston, TX
(713) 880-3131 - 7 reviews

