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West Point Parents' Club of Orange County  
Post Notes - April 2007



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**Our Mission**

- ❖ Promote the interests and welfare of our West Point cadets through the association of others of the same interests
- ❖ Joining together and sharing experiences with each other, and
- ❖ Supporting the welfare of West Point, its cadets and graduates

**Our Vision**

- ❖ Provide relevant support and fellowship as a group for greater Orange County California West Point parents and their cadets

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**"From the Presidents"**

Challenges and Aspirations during New Year 2007

No doubt we see the uncertainties of the real world. Our nation and society confronts serious challenges here and abroad. But our strengths as cadet parents and citizens provide a safe harbor for our West point cadets. They are becoming the great anchors of our nation as they journey through their days of vigorous academic and leadership training. They are becoming the protectors and leaders of our nation. God bless each and everyone of them. For they are the salt of the earth.

Let us strive this year to contribute our time as a team to make life a little easier for them. Our mentoring of and networking to newer parent members are crucial to providing necessary counseling that can make life so much easier for our family cadets.

I would like to express my personal thanks to all our new board of directors and especially those who participated at our January planning session. We have exciting events planned for this year including Graduation Tea, March 25, Boodle Bash April 22, Hail & Farewell June 3, among other social and sports commitments. These will all be communicated by email and post. Your personal involvement at business meeting and events is strongly requested and appreciated. Our next business meeting will be held Tuesday, March 6, location to be announced.

Once again, my sincerest thanks and best wishes to you all.  
Go Army> Beat Navy 2007!

Tony Mazeika  
President

**WPPC-OC 2007 Executive Board**

**Calendar of Events - 2007**

<b>President</b>	<b>Tony Mazeika '08 (949-859-0340)</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Ken Zwick '08 (714-529-7441)</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Danute Mazeika '08 (949-836-4719)</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> VP, Social</b>	<b>Kim Page '07 (562 690-3444) Kathy Lujan '08 (949-673-7548) Margo Lazzari '09 (562) 431-3284) Mary Ellen Hoyt '10 (949-770-0203) Peggy Cansdale '10 (714-356-0483) Mike Ryan '05 (949-492-8210)</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> VP Post Notes</b>	<b>Emmanuel and Rosalind Galima '10 (562-591-4250)</b>
<b>Membership</b>	<b>Lisa Chatellier '09 (949-651-1182)</b>
<b>Mentorship</b>	<b>Lisa Tang '10 (714-220-9217) Karen Levinbrook '10 (310-378-0932)</b>
<b>Raffle</b>	<b>Carolyn Mattazaro '07 (323-223-8149)</b>
<b>Historian</b>	<b>Kathy Davis '09 (949) 597-9010</b>
<b>Communications</b>	
<b>Senior Gifts</b>	<b>Cindy Caretto '05 (909) 866-8481</b>
<b>West Point Society</b>	<b>Gil Coerper '97 (714-847-1691)</b>
<b>Publicity</b>	<b>Tony Mazeika '08 (949-859-0340)</b>
<b>Cannoneer</b>	<b>Tom Stoddard '07 (949-425-0426)</b>
<b>Parliamentarian</b>	<b>Bill Snyder '07 (949-888-9523) Fletcher Dice '07 (949) 552-5746</b>
<b>Web Master</b>	<b>Ray Davis '09 (949) 597-9010</b>

WPPC-OC BUSINESS MEETINGS  
All members are encouraged to attend. The business meetings will be held from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday May 8, 2007  
Wednesday June 27, 2007  
Tuesday Sept. 11, 2007  
Sunday November 11, 2007  
**AT**  
Prudential Realty Office  
5916 Edinger Avenue  
Huntington Beach

Hail and Farewell  
Sunday, June 3, 2007  
Mile Square Regional Park  
12:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
**RSVP's required**

Ice Cream Social  
Sunday, July 22, 2007  
Harbor View Clubhouse  
16600 Saybrook Lane  
Huntington Beach, CA 92649  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

A-Day De-Briefing  
Sunday, August 2006  
Lisa Tang's Home

Family BBQ  
Saturday, September 23, 2007  
Mile Square Regional Park  
12:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Plebe Parent Weekend at West Point  
October 14<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> 2006

Boodle Bash  
Date: TBD  
Location: TBD

Army Navy Game  
Saturday, December 1, 2007  
National Sports Grill,  
450 North State College Boulevard  
Anaheim, CA

## **TRICARE**

As most of you may already know, TRICARE is the military's medical care provider. Each cadet is enrolled in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System (DEERS). Eligibility for medical care ends on midnight of the last day of duty, so West Point recommends that you keep your cadet's private health care coverage as a "back up" and to preclude "pre-existing condition" exclusions in the event your cadet resigns from West Point. Please refer to the presentation accessible at <http://www.usma.edu/PublicAffairs/club.htm> to obtain much more detailed information on what your cadet should do in the event s/he needs to access medical care while home on leave or away from post. Of course, as with most things, you cadet should already know this information, but may not have shared it with you.

## **CADETS UPDATES**

### **Andy Mazeika '08**

Andy Mazeika '08, B-4, says Cow year is the best yet for him at West Point. A Military History Major, he continues to thrive with the fast pace. Continued work on the football team keeps him busy, especially with Coach Brock taking over now. Andy's latest film can be seen on You Tube "Borat's Navy", a spoof and spirit video.

### **Bryan Higuera (10)**

Plebe year has been an interesting one! Bryan has enjoyed his slot on the volleyball club team. Being apart of the team has allowed Bryan the ability to leave post and see different states. Bryan was also asked to represent West Point at an All Academy Night held at the Buena Park City Hall (Buena Park, CA) during spring break. There were 4 Plebes, 3 Cows and 1 Firstie that spoke

at the event. They were asked to speak about their experiences at WP. It was a great opportunity to see Bryan talk about his experience and to share with future candidate cadets what may lie ahead for them. On March 25th Bryan made his confirmation at the Catholic Cadet Chapel at WP. Our family has enjoyed 4 trips to date back to WP and have enjoyed "peeking" into the WP world!

### **Amy Tang (10)**

January 27th, 2007 Sing and I went to see our Cadet Amy '10 at a swim meet. It took place at George Mason University in Virginia. Four swim teams, The Army, George Mason University, Old Dominion University, and American Eagles are competing to each other. There were approximately 300 swimmers. And the meet lasted two days. The warm up started on Friday, and competed on Saturday. At the end, army men's swimming finished first, and army women's swimming finished second. And by coincident, we stayed in the same hotel with the army swimmers. We were so happy to be able to spend more time with our cadet in the same hotel on Friday night. We watched TV, talked and opened boodle box. It was just GREAT!!! It was one of the special meets, because the army swim team invited all the swim parents from the West Coast to join the East Coast at a buffet dinner right after the swim meet with our sons and daughters together on Saturday night. All the cadets dressed in grey. They looked great!! We had great conversation with many swim moms and dads. It was a very, very enjoyable weekend.

### **Justin Haas (01)**

Justin completed his five year commitment on June 1, 2006. On June 10, he married Ashley Greaves (01). They are living in the DC area. Both found jobs easily because of being West Point Grads and their leadership experiences in the Army. Justin is working for IBM as an IT Consultant, and Ashley is a Consultant for Bearing Point.

### **Joel Haas (03), CPT, AD**

Joel was promoted to Captain in August 06. In January, he PCS'd from Hawaii to Monrovia, Liberia in Africa. He is working with the United Nations as a Military Publications Information Officer. Forty two countries are represented, so he is experiencing much diversity. He briefs the Force Commander, a Nigerian 3-star, daily on current events around the world and in Liberia. Liberians live on \$1.50 per day, but the UN provides western-style housing for the staffers.

### **Captain David Eastman, Jr '03**

David advanced to the rank of Captain last summer. He is nearing the end of his three year posting at Fort Richardson, Alaska. He spent one year of his time there with his Military Police Company in Afghanistan. As a newly advanced Captain he will be attending Captain's School in the near future.

1 LT Paul Strozier - Class of 2005  
Paul graduated with Honors from Flight School as a Black Hawk pilot at Fort Rucker, AL, in early Nov. Hardy and Phyllis attended and then spent a few days golfing in Destin, FL, with Paul. In mid Nov. Paul spent a week in CA to see family & friends with his wife, 1LT Desiree Strozier, who took her R&R from Iraq at that time. Their second week was spent in NY with her family. Paul spent 6 weeks in HI and our family spent Christmas there with him. Paul

arrived in Iraq on Jan. 21st where he is currently stationed at the same base where his wife is MI. He expects to be flying by mid Feb.

### **Cody Rogers (07)**

Cody has continued representing the Corps of Cadets as the Secretary to the Honor Committee which has kept him busy this semester. His band has performed on a number of occasions at the Firstie Club, and he took on the responsibility as the Ski Team Videographer. All-in-all he has had a hectic final semester, and like all of the Firsties he is looking forward to graduation. He plans to take some time off this summer before reporting to his follow-on schools. Next spring he will join the Stryker Brigade in Fort Lewis, Washington as a Combat Engineer.

### **1st LT Paul Strozier Class of 2005**

Paul is flying Black Hawk helicopters in Iraq while stationed at Camp Speicher near Tikrit. His wife, Desiree, also a 2005 grad, (MI) is stationed at the same base where they are allowed to co-habitate when their schedules coincide (night vs.days). Paul rides a bicycle 20 min. across base to see her. He has flown all over Iraq and recently spent a few days in Baghdad at one of Hussein's palaces in the green zone. Paul is currently in Mosul for a month relieving a Capt. who is stateside on R&R. One of his best buddies from WP is stationed there - having some fun together. He likes flying and has logged over 60 hours since Feb. He has only shared one "scary" incident with us. Their return to HI has been extended from Aug. to Nov.

## **1st Lt Kevin Ryan class of '05**

In February, Kevin graduated as an Honor Graduate (2nd in the Apache Class) from the aviation school at Fort Rucker. He has since been assigned to the 4th I.D. 4th Battalion at Ft. Hood, Tx. He is looking forward to finally getting to do what he has spent so much time training to do. He was in Enterprise Al. when the deadly tornado struck in March. He was moving to Tx. in 2 days! 3 weeks later, he found himself looking at another tornado in Killeen, Tx where he had just moved. Coming from California he said he'll take earthquakes any day! He is continuing to train for an upcoming Triathlon in May just to stay fit. He is looking forward to attending a wedding back at West Point in May as it will be his 1st trip back since graduation in '05.

## **1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert Bickford (04)**

Bob remains in Korea, stationed at K-16. He is a Flight Platoon Leader 2<sup>nd</sup> BN 2<sup>nd</sup> Aviation, Flying Blackhawks. He is scheduled to rotate to a new assignment/base in November 07 but the location remains to be determined (possibly the Captains Course, back at Fort Rucker Alabama).

## **Jeanne Gorlin (08)**

She is doing well as a Cow and a PSG this semester. She took her MCAT this April, finally. She will head to Fort Hood, Texas and to Sandhurst in England for the summer. Maybe a chance to go to Med School after graduation in '08.

## **1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Peter Caretto (05)**

Peter lives with a WP roommate in Clarksville, TN. He is a Platoon Leader training for deployment to Iraq sometime in the Fall. He is into ice and rock climbing, anything "outdoorsey".

## **PFC Nicholas Caretto**

He is 5 months into his 15 months deployment in Baghdad as Humvee driver. He is Infantry with the 2-1 CAV. He is serving 4 days at a COP in Ghazaliyah and then 1 day at the FOB (Camp Liberty). He has lost 4 members of his platoon in Humvee attack.

## **SPRING USMA RECRUITMENT**

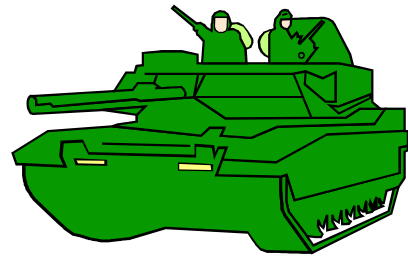
A larger group of West Point Alumni Parents attended Founders Day dinner March 4th as well as current members and new cadet candidate families. Our own Steve Featherstone organized the reception for High School seniors who are considering West Point appointments as well as a meeting with the new Superintendent LTG Franklin L. Hagenbeck and his wife Judy at the Costa Mesa Country Club. Tony Mazeika spoke at the West Point Recruitment night in Costa Mesa with Major Houston from USMA and Ed Johnson and Gil Coerper for West Point Society spoke as well. The By Invite Only event was well attended.

Jeff Manley (whose son Scott is USMA Class of 2005) did an excellent presentation to the families drawing from his experiences and there were many people who surrounded his recruitment table after all of the Services made their presentation. Also, representatives from Rep.'s Campbell, Calvert, & Miller were there, all wanted to have POST NOTES sent to them to, either through post or via emails.

We would like to thank June Johnson for attending the Capistrano Valley School District's Academy Night and stepping up to talk as a West Point Mom, whose son came from Tesoro and is now a Plebe football player at West Point.

Many moms came up to June that evening for advice about their kids considering West Point.

June Johnson happened to be wearing one of the West Point shirts with the Swarovski crystals that look great!!! Anyone who has not yet ordered a shirt from June should do so before she sells out... They are gorgeous and that is an understatement. I ordered 2 immediately!!! (Sorry Tony....I couldn't resist! They are THAT beautiful! )



Post news of events relevant to WPPC-OC and catch up on the same by visiting

[www.west-point.org/parent/wppc-oc](http://www.west-point.org/parent/wppc-oc)

and/or

[WPPCOC@yahoogroups.com](mailto:WPPCOC@yahoogroups.com)

To receive notification of upcoming events and to receive reminders please join the Yahoo WPPC-OC group at

<http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/wppcoc/>