

WEST POINT SOCIETY OF ATLANTA
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<http://www.west-point.org/society/wps-atlanta/>

UPCOMING EVENTS—MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!!

- 24 Apr 01:** GA State Univ, 1200, \$11 per person. GEN Wesley K. Clark '66 will be guest speaker. RSVP's will be required not later than 12 Apr 01.
- 26 Apr 01:** WPSA Happy Hour, 1830-1930, Fado Pub, 3035 Peachtree St, NE (404) 841-0066 (Buckhead—<http://Atlanta.citysearch.com/profile/2994929/>).
- 27 Apr 01:** Monthly Golf Outing. Contact James Duncan '95 for location.
- 4 May 01:** Fifth Annual Army/Navy Golf Tournament, Fort McPherson Golfers' Club. (See enclosed flyer.)
- 17 May 01:** WPSA Annual Membership Meeting, 1130, The Commons, \$13 per person. Special event will honor Korean War Veterans. (See enclosed flyer.)
- 25 May 01:** Monthly Golf Outing.
- 31 May 01:** WPSA Happy Hour, 1830-1930, Goldfish, 4400 Ashford-Dunwoody Rd (770) 671-0100 (Perimeter Mall—<http://Atlanta.city.citysearch.com/profile/11408532/>).
- 15 Jun 01:** Mike Gaines '73 and "Soul Support" concert, "Smyrna on the Green" (Cobb County Gov't Ctr between South Cobb Drive and Atlanta Road just outside the perimeter). Bring picnic food and lawn chairs. Fun for the whole family—casual dress and FREE.
- 21 Jun 01:** WPSA Monthly Luncheon, 1130, The Commons, \$13 per person. Come meet the newest members of the Long Gray Line! (See enclosed flyer.)
- 28 Jun 01:** WPSA Happy Hour, 1830-1930. Contact Tony Gaines '90 for location.
- 29 Jun 01:** Monthly Golf Outing.
- 26 Jul 01:** WPSA Happy Hour, 1830-1930.
- 27 Jul 01:** Monthly Golf Outing.
- 27 Jul 01:** Mike Gaines '73 and "Soul Support" concert, Marietta Square. Bring picnic food and lawn chairs. Fun for the whole family—casual dress and FREE.
- 30 Aug 01:** WPSA Happy Hour, 1830-1930.
- 31 Aug 01:** Monthly Golf Outing.
- 20 Sep 01:** WPSA Monthly Luncheon, 1130, Petite Auberge Restaurant*, Cost: \$13/per person. RSVP by 17 Sep 01.
- 27 Sep 01:** WPSA Happy Hour, 1830-1930.
- 28 Sep 01:** Monthly Golf Outing.

* Directions to Petite Auberge Restaurant: Go I-85N; take Exit 89 (North Druid Hills Road); go approximately 2 miles; cross LaVista Road; restaurant is on right in Toco Hills Center near CVS Pharmacy.

FROM THE PRESIDENT. . .

This is Howard Cosell speaking of sports. Today, March 10, 1967, Fourth Classmen Julian Burns, "JB" to his friends and classmates at the rock-bound highland home of West Point on the banks of the Hudson River, told this reporter that Specialist Arthur Ashe, as assistant tennis coach for the cadets is responding to JB's coaching advice and may have a professional career ahead of him once he finishes his enlistment. JB despite pleas from tennis agents is still of a mind to forgo a professional career with the USPTA to serve his country with USA, United States Army. Look for JB to be an Army Pro with stars on his collar before the end of this millennium. This is Howard Cosell, good night.

For those who were there, this is my prepared text that I left at home because I told myself not to ham it up too much. For those who were not at The Commons on March 10, 2001 for our Founders' Day Dinner, you had to be there. Our host Major General Julian Burns, formerly a plebe with your current President in F-4 in 1967, presently continuing to well-serve our nation as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, FORSCOM has informed me that it was a great event. From the speech of COL James Schwenk '39, on behalf of the oldest graduates talking about among other things, the Army football team (he was Captain of the 39 team), to our youngest graduate 2LT (Trinidad Defense Force) Kerlan Wolsey '00, relating an eyewitness account of the capture of "The Streak" and his experiences as a member of the dumbest West Point class ever (only 4 Rhodes Scholars), to the Dean (BG Dan Kaufman '68, our guest of honor) informing us about the new era of Academics and Athletics that our Alma Mater is in, and the heartfelt acceptance speech of the Outstanding Citizen Award recipient, Mr. Tom Norman, and culminating in the short but unforgettable acceptance of the Distinguished Graduate Award by BG Graydon Essman '33, who at 91 years old was also the oldest graduate present, we all celebrated that which is our Alma Mater.

Please mark your calendars for next year; 16 March 2002, beginning at 1800 at The Commons, Fort McPherson. Chaplain Ford has already agreed to speak. No Excuse, Sir, for not attending. If all current members attend, we will move it to another venue to accommodate the masses. **Dominick Crea '70**

MORE ON FOUNDERS' DAY DINNER

Hats off to Ken Konstanzer '80, who, for the second year, organized a reception prior to the Founders' Day Dinner for applicants and their families to socialize with current cadet parents. In a lively exchange following a greeting by the Dean, attendees were encouraged to ask questions about the "West Point Experience." You could see it in the eyes of those who will soon face the Cadet in the Red Sash at R-Day, that look that is part fear, part pride, part confidence, and just a touch of bewilderment. Perhaps it is a look many of you shared, too, when reporting for Beast Barracks. But these young people and their families will be better prepared for the challenges ahead thanks to this evening's program.

Most of the members of the West Point Parents Club (WPPC) will never be members of the "long gray line", but for one evening in March, we were privileged to join with that community of individuals who, collectively, have served and defended our country for nearly two hundred years. We parents of cadets came together for the Founders Day Dinner so that we might experience a bit of what our sons and daughters will on this evening each year, when former cadets gather the world over to honor and to remember. Thank you for inviting us to share a memorable evening with you. **Nan Ward Kast, WPPC Co-President**

Two years ago when the West Point Society of Atlanta asked me to invite my JROTC cadets that had been selected for the next year's class at the Academy to attend the Founders' Day Dinner, I really thought that all of you were completely out of your mind. You then explained that LTG Christman, Superintendent, would host an informal get-together for the new cadets and their parents before the dinner. They would also have parents who have cadets in school now to meet and answer questions of the new cadets and their parents. I still thought the idea as a really poor one at best.

Two of our JROTC cadets and their parents attended this first session and stayed for the dinner. Much to my total surprise, it turned out to be a tremendous success from the eyes of my JROTC cadets and their parents. They just loved it and told everyone at school on Monday how great it was to meet and talk to real live officers. Their mothers told me it was so very informative to be able to talk to parents who have children at the Academy and to all of the graduates.

This year, four of my JROTC cadets were invited to attend—two are going directly into the Academy and two are going to the Prep School. This year was even a bigger success than last year. The JROTC cadets and their parents told me after dinner how really informative it was for them and how many of their questions were answered. All of the cadets and parents were truly overwhelmed by the warmth and acceptance they received from everyone that evening. They said they were made to feel like they had been accepted into a new kind of family and they just felt great about the entire evening. When the cadets came to school on Monday, they told all of their classmates about what a really wonderful time they had meeting and talking to so many graduates.

This program is truly a wonderful experience for my JROTC cadets and their parents. If, at all possible, please continue the program because it makes the cadets and their parents feel so special getting to attend this very special event. My thanks to you for allowing me to attend with my cadets—it is a very high honor for me to be included on your invitation list with my cadets. **LTC (Ret) Stoney Burke, B.E. Mays High School** (letters from his cadets follow)

The West Point Founders' Day program served as one of the most influential events towards my attitude in attending the Academy. It was also informative on certain expectations that I should have prior to attending. I found the event different, yet interesting, such that I obtained a small sample of what it means to be a West Point Cadet and Alumnus. What I enjoyed most about the program was the fact that it did not speak of only the pros of attending but also the hardships that should be knowledgeable of. Before the program started, I did not know what to expect. I entered the facility with the mindset that there was not much more that I could learn about the Academy before actually attending. I was wrong. I left the program with more than a better understanding of the Academy but also with a stronger will to attend and graduate as an officer. The program served as a very useful resource towards my preparation in finally being a part of the "Long Gray Line." **Vincent Wiggins**

My mother, Ms. Ruth Ellis, and I deeply enjoyed the Founders' Day Ceremony at Fort McPherson. It allowed us to ascertain a sense of the two hundred-year-old traditions that West Point holds so dearly. We were overly impressed with the ceremony and greatly benefited from the occasion. We especially enjoyed the fact that we could speak with some of the parents of current cadets to get their "perspective" of the West Point experience. My mom was able to find a little comfort in the fact that the other parents had gone through the same worries and uncertainties that we are going through. The speaker provided us with some insight on what is currently going on at the Academy. Now, I have a better idea of what to expect when I report for R-Day. I wholeheartedly feel that new West Point cadets should continue to be invited to the Founders' Day Ceremony. We have a better understanding what the Academy is all about now that we have spoken with and shaken hands with some graduates and faculty members. **Stephen Ellis**

My daughter Cadet Major Torrieona Everhart, has chosen to follow the College Preparatory curriculum at Benjamin E. Mays High school. Torrieona has been a part of the JROTC Department for three years and currently is the Executive Officer. Not only has the JROTC offered her many opportunities, but it has opened the door for admission to the West Point Preparatory School. Torrieona's leadership ability at Mays and her community service led her to this great honor. **Ms. Gwendolyn Whitehead**

My mom and I were able to attend Georgia's West Point Founders' Day Celebration at Fort McPherson in March and we didn't feel like strangers. This gathering was more of an opportunity to extend our family. My mother and I, along with other cadets and parents, got a chance to meet the Dean of West Point and talk to other officers of West Point and Georgia. At our table we had the chance to talk to other parents who have children at West Point. It gave us an opportunity to ask any questions and express any thoughts we had. We were shown pictures of their cadets, and heard the stories of them calling home saying they wanted to quit and the joy that they felt when they soon called back wanting to stay. Of all the things that I cherish were the benefits that were offered after finishing West Point. The educational program would be a rewarding experience and increase my chance of becoming Dr. Torrieona Everhart.

Torrieona Everhart

I found our invitation to the Annual Founders' Day Dinner was not only inspiring but very insightful. While at the dinner, I not only realized the tradition and camaraderie of West Point, but the prestige in being allowed to at least glimpse at its inner workings. I believe it should be continued for cadet candidates. It just adds a little extra something that cannot be experienced by reading any amount of literature or footage about the Academy. It was an honor and I greatly appreciate the invitation. The forum and dinner was just another bonus point towards my decision towards reporting to West Point on July 2. **Clarence Marcus Canty**

24 APR 01 MONTHLY LUNCHEON—GEN WESLEY K. CLARK '66

WPSA and Kiwanis Club of Atlanta are hosting a luncheon with GEN Wesley K. Clark '66, former NATO Commander, on Tuesday, 24 Apr 01, 1200, at the Lauder milk Center. This adjoins the Woodruff Building (United Way Building), 100 Edgewood Avenue—very close to Georgia State University. The Lauder milk Center and its parking garage can be approached from both Courtland Street and Edgewood Avenue. Cost is \$11 per person. Attendees must arrive early to sign in and pay. RSVPs required not later than Tuesday, 12 Apr 01; first-come-first served basis. Non-Kiwanis members can park in the United Way garage if they simply tell the "gate keeper" that they are guests of Kiwanis. **Irv Schoenberg '48**

ONE OF OUR OWN HONORED

Bernard W. Abrams, USMA '47, was selected to receive the Distinguished Graduate Award by the Academy in 1998. However, due to the condition of his health at the time, he was unable to accept the Award at West Point that week of graduation.

There is a happy ending to the story: just a few days ago in Washington, D.C., Bernie's son, David and his daughter, Janet, were guests at a were guests at the West Point Bicentennial Dinner, held on 6 April at the Smithsonian's Museum of American History in Washington, D.C. There, David and Janet accepted the Award on behalf of their father. Notably, Jack Hammack, President of the AOG was there to participate in the presentation ceremony."

WPSA CAREER TRANSITION NETWORK

The Career Transition Network is an on-line group sponsored by the West Point Society of Atlanta with the purpose of helping all current or former military officers--regardless of service or source of commission--in their job search or business development. We have 170+ members. Through our free email service, we share job leads, career transition tips, and business development information. We also post job seeker's requests for help and maintain a roster of contacts. For information, contact Rich St Denis '70 at richstdenis@compuserve.com **Rich St Denis '70**

WPSA HAPPY HOUR – BUSINESS NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY

Don't miss out on a monthly business networking opportunity! This WPSA Happy Hour takes place on the last Thursday of every month at different locations. Contact Tony Gaines '90 for location or if you have any questions at 770-625-6513. The next one will be 26 Apr—don't miss it! The schedule through next Sep is posted at the beginning of this newsletter—MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!! **Tony Gaines '90**

MONTHLY GOLF OUTINGS

WPSA golfers are invited to participate in monthly golf outings. These events will be the last Friday of each month. The dates are posted at the beginning of this newsletter—MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!! Contact James Duncan '95 at 770-858-1229 or James.Duncan@ml.com for complete information and to be put on the distribution list. **James Duncan '95**

WANTED: MILITARY ACADEMY LIAISON OFFICERS (MALOs)

The Atlanta Area West point Admissions Program needs two additional MALOs to assist with recruiting responsibilities: one in the metro Atlanta area and one in North Georgia (N-S Forsyth County line North to GA state line and E-W Rome to Athens). The individual must be an IRR or IMA Reserve Officer and not in a Troop Program Unit (TPU). The time commitment is flexible in that you will set your own schedule to accomplish your territory objectives. You must attend a five-day training session at West Point in June of 2001. That training session and all associated activities during the year will either be paid by Army Reserve activities or constitute as a qualifying 1380 credit. Interested individuals should contact Ken Konstanzer, 770-844-9213, for Northern Georgia or Doug Heckman, 770-668-2154, for metro Atlanta. **Ken Konstanzer '80**

VIRTUAL WEST POINT

New to the internet is "Virtual West Point," a project headed up by several USMA graduates with the goal of becoming a place on the internet where someone can virtually experience the West Point of today and yesterday. The site's inaugural event was the live webcast of Founders' Day events, to include the dinner and speech, from the Cadet Mess in March. This site is growing and expanding as expertise and donations are brought to bear. It can be visited at: <http://www.virtualwestpoint.org/> It is highly recommended for graduates and prospective cadets alike. **Karson Snyder '85**

THREE USMA CADETS AMONGST EIGHTY TRUMAN SCHOLARS IN 2001

"Louis H. Blair, Executive Secretary of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation, announced that 80 students from 56 US colleges and universities have been selected as 2001 Truman Scholars. They were elected by nineteen independent selection panels on the basis of leadership potential, intellectual ability, and likelihood of "making a difference."

The 80 Scholars were selected from among 592 candidates nominated by 303 colleges and universities. Each selection panel interviewed Finalists from a 3 - 4 state region and generally elected one Scholar from each state and one or two at-large Scholars from the region. Each panel typically included a university president, a federal judge, a distinguished public servant, and a past Truman Scholarship winner.

Each Scholarship provides \$30,000 — \$3,000 for the senior year and \$27,000 for two or three years of graduate study. Scholars also receive priority admission and supplemental financial aid at some premier graduate institutions, leadership training, career and graduate school counseling, and special internship opportunities within the federal government. Recipients must be US citizens, have outstanding leadership potential and communication skills, be in the top quarter of their class, and be committed to careers in government or the not-for-profit sector.

The Truman Scholarship Foundation was established by Congress in 1975 as the federal memorial to our thirty-third President. The Foundation awards scholarships for college students to attend graduate school in preparation for careers in government or elsewhere in public service. The activities of the Foundation are supported by a special trust fund in the US Treasury. There have been 2,099 Truman Scholars elected since the first awards were made in 1977.

The 2001 Truman Scholars will assemble May 20 for a week-long leadership development program at William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri, and receive their awards in a special ceremony at the Truman Library in Independence, Missouri, on May 27, 2000.

For a listing of the 2001 Scholars and more information on the Foundation, see www.truman.gov.

Erica J. Watson (Illinois)--United States Military Academy

In an effort to help at-risk youth, Erica Watson implemented a mentorship program at West Point this past year. An American Politics major, she is interested in civil society and civil-military relations. She is also on the Army Tennis team and active in church and youth ministry. In her breaks from military and academic life, she enjoys dancing, playing the piano, reading, and trips to NYC.

Brian C. Babcock (Maryland)--United States Military Academy

Last semester, Brian Babcock participated in the exchange program to the US Air Force Academy, where he learned about life in another branch of the military. After this time "behind enemy lines," he is back at West Point, where he will finish his dual undergraduate degree in International & Strategic History and International Relations as a member of the USMA Bicentennial Class of 2002. As a part of his studies, he is traveling with the History Department to walk the World War II battlefields of France this spring, as well as represent his school at the World Model United Nations Conference in Istanbul. He is currently working with his school's Scout Master Council as the deputy director of public relations to plan for its annual camporee in May. He enjoys ice and rock climbing as an instructor for the Mountaineering Team, and frequently hikes and backpacks on his own.

Zachariah R. Miller (Pennsylvania)--United States Military Academy

Competing in his third year as a member of the Army Rugby team, Zac Miller is the second-ranked cadet at the United States Military Academy. As a double computer science and mathematics major, Zac is interested in shaping information security policy for the U.S. Army and the nation. Upon graduation from West Point and commissioning as a second lieutenant, Zac plans to seek assignment to an Airborne Infantry unit. Zac is also active in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program and the Special Olympics at West Point.

Note from the Jan Heath, Executive Director:

To date 224 have paid CY 2001 dues; another 76 are lifetime members. **That's 300 down, 500 to go!!!** Please make your check payable to WPSA for \$35 and mail to WPSA (address at top of front page). In an effort to reduce administrative costs, only selected mailings will go to the entire membership. Those who keep their dues current will receive all mailings; non dues-paying members will receive a limited number. If you have any questions, you can leave messages on the WPSA voicemail (404-881-8081); call me at 404-464-2500 or e-mail me at heathjd@forscom.army.mil. We have a very active society—just look at the list of upcoming events (page 1) and enclosed flyers.

For more information about what is going on in WPSA, visit our website at:

<http://www.west-point.org/society/wps-atlanta/>

Thanks to Warren Hearnes '89 for doing such a great job keeping it updated!

A couple of weeks ago Roger Waddell, Class of 58 and President of West Point Society of Savannah, had the idea of a West Point License Plate for our Georgia motor vehicles. I have done the legwork with the Department of Motor Vehicles for the State. In short, we need 500 (five hundred) applications statewide with twenty-five dollars per application (that is per vehicle) to the DMV by July 31, 2001 in order to have plates for the bicentennial year of 2002. They do not give plates for out-of-state schools, because of Auburn, Florida State, Miami, etc., but they do give for clubs, i.e., AOG or West Point Grads. We can put the Academy Crest or the Bicentennial Logo on the plate; however, nothing across the bottom of plate- only the county name is allowed for organizations. The application for the plate is in addition to manufacturing fee of \$25.00. Application is also \$25.00 and fee is additional \$20.00. In short, \$25 by July 31; \$25 more upon application for plate in 2002 with regular \$20 fee. The plate lasts for a 5-year cycle. There are two or three years left to this cycle. Then, if you still want one, it's a total of \$70.00 in year of new manufacture and \$45.00 more for renewal each year after manufacture. Sounds confusing even while I am explaining it. Let me know by completing the application and send to WPSA, Jan Heath, as soon as possible the completed applications with your checks for \$25.00 per vehicle. I will be asking all West Point Societies to participate and there is interest in all parts of state.

A rough draft of what the bicentennial plate will look like is below. The numbers, which will sit to the right of the logo (yes, we got AOG's permission to use it), will be given out in sequence. Sorry no class year or cullem numbers permitted. If you have a better design, send it in. Look at <http://www2.state.ga.us/departments/dor/dmv/plates/special/cf.html> for a better idea of what the plate would look like. Please do not be confused with other license plate programs that are authorized by a specific statute or for a Georgia school--different procedures and we do not qualify. Questions, e-mail me at dominickcrea@yahoo.com. Dominick Crea '70

GEORGIA

. . . on my mind



(your county) / *year sticker* /