

## Minutes of the EXCOM Meeting, September 1, 2015

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Dick Schonberger, at 1030am at Dick's home. Present were Dick Schonberger, Anne Martin, Tony Smith, and Frank Waskowicz. Attending remotely were Karl Oelke, Tom Claffey, Jack Bradshaw, Paul Ruud, Garry Roosma, and Paul Vanture. George Lawton was also in attendance.

**60<sup>th</sup> Reunion Sitrep.** Garry Roosma discussed plans for our 60<sup>th</sup> Reunion which is planned for 3-6 May, 2018. The advantage of that timeframe is that we will be able to reserve the entire Thayer Hotel, a pleasant change from earlier years where we stayed in a hotel considerably removed from West Point. Based on historical data, we can expect about 123 classmates to attend — a number that can be accommodated by the hotel's 151 rooms (125 standard @ \$239/night and 26 suites). If needed, overflow can be accommodated in the Holiday Inn Express in Highland Falls. The sticky issue had been the Thayer's insistence on no outside liquor, which would preclude our custom of a Benny Havens room offering free beer via Chuck Toftoy's Sam Adams connections. Garry spoke to a hotel representative (USMA 91) during the first day of the Leadership Conference in early August. Once Garry explained our custom, she said she would work with us. So that hiccup seems taken care of. There was some favorable discussion from other classes about 58's practice of 4-day, vice 3-day reunions. Garry will update the class at Austin.

**Operating Fund Finances.** Pete Kusek was unable to attend, but he had provided his report to committee members via e-mail. At the end of August, we had \$1,603.66 in our USAA checking account, and \$61,668.84 in our T. Rowe Price account. Recent operating expenses included:

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|--------------------------------|----------|
| • Claude Fernandez memorial    | \$100    |
| • Bill Melnik flowers          | \$192.45 |
| • VN Memorial wreath           | \$212.00 |
| • Capelle Award                | \$307.43 |
| • Gordon Goodma —Diabetes Assn | \$100    |
| • EXCOM Telecon Charge         | \$9.30   |

Included in the assets is a surplus of \$4,638.75 from the Gulf Shores mini. In addition to the monies above, there is \$1,167.97 in an Admin fund, deposited with AOG.

**Custody of the Class Flag.** Dick reported that Palmer McGrew has accepted responsibility for the class flags used at local class events and funerals. Otto Thomasett will assist Palmer. Palmer plans to add new streamers for the flag to bring it up to date with recent minis. Dale Hrubby is continuing to mail out the flag for outlying class funerals.

**Class Flag in Hebert Hall.** Dick and Jack Bradshaw discussed the AOG display of class flags in Herbert Hall. When this issue first arose some years ago, a price tag of \$4,000+ was attached to having us represented. Apparently, our absence is evident in the display. Dick considered bequeathing our flag, but our design does not meet the standard AOG has used (see the photo). AOG will manufacture a flag for us for a cost of approximately \$1,600. The EXCOM agreed to go ahead. Dick is pursuing a good color rendering of our crest for AOG's use, though Tony Smith believes they already have a master in their files. (Action: Dick Schonberger)



**Nomination Process for EXCOM Vacancies.** Concern had been raised that the EXCOM was a self-perpetuating Washington area creature, and that the nominating process was too narrowly focused. The EXCOM agreed a notice should be sent to the class when a vacancy was projected to solicit interest. (Action: Frank Waskowicz)

**60<sup>th</sup> Reunion Gift and Restoration of the First Class Club.** The EXCOM held a lengthy discussion of the status of the First Class Club and of the desirability of a class 60th reunion gift to USMA. There are important and somewhat complicated issues for the class to consider regarding both subjects. The EXCOM intends to send out a brief "white paper" to the class in the coming days that will lay out the considerations involved. (Action: Smith and Waskowicz)

**Status of Minis.** Dick indicated that the Austin mini was in good hands. Some 235 attendees are projected.

Dick asked for comments on the agenda Jody sent to the committee for Monterey in 2016. There was some discussion of the class dinner. Some felt it unnecessarily redundant to repeat company seating at the class dinner and suggested that some form of random seating would allow broader interaction across company lines.

The committee felt that this might be a worthy suggestion to pass on to Jody, but as the principal organizer, he could do as he sees best.

**Widows Liaison.** Anne Martin indicated that she is working on luncheons for local widows. On the heels of Jim Hall's recent death, she said that if she is advised of classmates in difficult physical conditions, she would be willing to reach out to offer help to the wife. Karl Oelke said he would pass this on to the CCQs as a possible resource they might invoke.

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**Memorial Articles.** Karl Oelke has been providing excellent information on the status of memorial reports. Paul Vanture shares Karl's view that we need to make the strong case with classmates to prepare their own as there will be fewer survivors to take on those duties. And as Dick reminded the committee, those memorials provide a very real history of the class.

**Classmate Recognition.** Dick reviewed plans to present recognition at the Austin mini. He said we should identify others for recognition focusing on the 60<sup>th</sup>.

**Time Capsule.** Dick expressed concern that we need to revisit planning regarding the Class Time Capsule, He was planning to meet with Jerry Mitchell and Jack Downing to review plans.

**Class Forum.** Dick discussed a flare-up about allowable addresses on the Class Forum which has been amicably resolved. The rules continue to not allow Forum mailings to be distributed to names not on the forum list.

**Memorial pamphlets.** After the Austin mini, Frank Waskowicz will take on responsibility to produce the reunion memorial pamphlets. He will work with George Sibert and others to update listings.

**Next Meeting.** The next meeting will occur in Austin.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Waskowicz  
Secretary