

Class of 1958 Newsletter -- Fall 2007

Letter from the Executive Committee Chairman (Palmer McGrew)

I listened today at the class luncheon to Lee Miller and Bob Tredway describing the incredible success of our Wounded Warrior Program. Bob and Lee have accomplished miracles, ably assisted by many classmates and now by many from outside the class. This is a wonderful opportunity to do great things for our wounded heroes. If you can help, contact either one. Bob is working with those outside the DC area, while Lee is primarily focused on those located in or around Walter Reed.

At the same time, we take care of our own. If you have problems that classmates can help with, notify your CCQ. We don't want our classmates out there suffering alone. Get in contact.

The 50th Reunion approaches. It is traditionally the largest-attended reunion a class will have. We are expecting everyone to come. That includes you! West Point has changed dramatically in the last few years and we're going to see it all, so y'all come.

Thanks for restraint on the forum. The catchwords are "civil discourse."

What a great class!

Grip Hands,

Palmer

TAPS:

1. Deaths reported since the Spring 2007 Newsletter:

- a. Charles T. Hatcher, (Ex-'58), died 9 March 2007, Toledo, OH
- b. Michael F. Easley, died 1 April, 2007, Buelton, CA
- c. Peggy Morgan (Jim Morgan), died 3 May 2007, Arnold, MD
- d. Alexander J. Pensiero, died 17 May 2007, Phoenix, AZ
- e. Hugh Paul Johnson, died 20 May 2007, Lynn Haven, FL
- f. Thomas A. Forster, died 12 Jun 2007, San Juan Capistrano, CA
- g. Robert R. Huskinson, died 17 June 2007, Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA
- h. Donald J. McCullough, died 9 July 2007, Lubbock, TX
- i. Clifford D. Victorine, died 31 July 2007, University Place, WA
- j. Neil S. Williamson, III, died 17 September 22007, Santa Barbara, CA
- k. Joan Collins(Sam Collins) died 21 October, 2007, Marin, CA
- l. Adrienne DiTomasso (Widow of Joe DiTomasso), died 31 October 2007
- m. Loren D. Reid, died 8 November 2007, Ft. Collins, CO
- n. Barry Phillip Eveleth, died 14 November 2007.

2. Obituaries and Eulogies: The obituaries of the following classmates appeared in the September /October 2007 issue of the "Taps," supplement to "Assembly," magazine:

- a. Clyde O. Brown, Jr.
- b. Joseph A. Evans, II
- c. Daniel L. Johnson

The following is the link to our class Eulogy page which Jack Downing (CINC Obit) suggests we all put in our "Favorites" file for ready reference:

<http://defender.westpoint.org/service/eulogy/1,1123.usma1958,00.html>.

Note: Class Flag: As you can see from above, the Class Flag has been logging in a lot of miles. Thanks again to all those who have agreed so willingly to coordinate getting the flag to these ceremonies. The response of the families has been overwhelmingly positive and grateful. This is a great symbolic reaching out of the class to our grieving friends and deserves the support of all.

Class Organization: The essential elements of our Class Organization are detailed at Enclosure #1.

Calendar of Upcoming Events: This calendar (Enclosure #2) is based largely upon the Social Events List of the Washington DC Area put together by Joe Luman. It is provided with the hope that those of you living outside the DC Area might coordinate a visit to the Nation's Capitol with a Class of '58 gathering of one sort or another. The calendar also includes activities taking place elsewhere. If you are planning some type of activity involving a gathering of classmates and want to open it to the rest of the Class, let us (ExCom) know and we will add the event to this list. As more and more of us move into full retirement and can be found wandering the world's highways and byways, it is quite probable that if you advertise an event a lot of classmates will show up, just ask Pete Kullavanijaya and Sammy Sookmark .

Reunions and Minis

2008 – May -- Our 50th at West Point – Gary Roosma is OIC

2009 – Art Meyer is exploring a Mini in Tucson/Phoenix, AZ,

2010 – Rich Clements is exploring a Mini in Denver, CO.

2011 – Wide open although there are rumors of Hawaii

(Note: There is a rumor of an Orlando Reunion shaping up. Stay tuned)

New Orleans Mini – October 2007: Opening up by marching behind a New Orleans Jazz Band from our lavish hotel to dinner at Antoine's, the New Orleans Mini was a gathering such as novels are written about. Tom and Barbara Sands did a masterful job of planning and a flawless job in the execution phase demonstrating the agility and flexibility that has become the hallmark of '58. Certainly none who were present will ever forget the haunting notes of Taps being played on a jazz trombone.

History Project and 50 Year Book : “SIR! There are five-and-a-butt months until our 50th reunion!!! The Uniform is White Hats and Dark Blazers, ...” The deadlines for the 50 Yearbook have passed and the late rank is closed. The editorial team is hard at work producing an historic memento of our Class History. But, the History Project continues, so keep digging through those trunks and attics.

Wounded Warrior Mentor Program: Lee Miller, Bob Tredway, John Herren and many other classmates have done an outstanding job of creating and building a highly successful nationwide program for linking our Wounded Warriors up with mentors who can assist them in transitioning into their new lives after rehabilitation from their wounds. Lee Miller is the overall national coordinator and has guided the program from just the Class of 1958 in 2004 into an ongoing expansion including other USMA Classes and Alumni from the Naval and Air Force Academies. Some of the Wounded Warriors will return to Active or Reserve units while others will transition into civilian life with the help of the Veterans Affairs programs and other Veteran Associations. The role of the Mentors is to serve as a resource for moving through this complicated process which begins here in the DC area at Walter Reed or Bethesda Hospitals. When the Wounded Warriors move out of the DC area, Bob Tredway coordinates linking them up with local Mentors who have signed up to help in cities and towns across the Country. This program has been the feature of many newspaper and magazine articles. '58 truly is Great!

Class Grandsons: Michael J Hill '07 (Paul Bons, C1), and Matthew Brown (Ed Hale, L-2) became our first graduated Grandchildren. Butch Saint and Tony Smith presented suitably engraved plates to them on behalf of the Class of '58 in the First Class Club during Graduation Week for the Class of 2007. As mentioned below in the Marchback report, two more Grandsons have joined Robert Grete '09, (Bob Grete M-2), Charles Maliska'10, (Tom Maliska, E2), and Tom Moentmann '10 (son Jim Moentmann George '81 and grandson of Bud, C1) in The Corps of Cadets. The class of 2011 includes Colin Graves (Grandson of Dick Graves) and Brandon Bauchspies Lawrence (Grandson of Dick Bauchspies). Grip hands, you sons of tomorrow!

Mentoring Class of 2008: The great Class of 1958 has taken seriously our mentoring role in developing the Class of 2008 and in building a strong link with them beginning with their swearing in and a great showing for their Marchback from the Plebe Hike three and a half years ago. This was followed by Alan Salisbury presenting them with their Class Flag at Buckner the summer of 2005.

Affirmation Ceremony: On Sunday evening, August 13th, 2006 Palmer McGrew and Alan Salisbury represented the Class of '58 at the Affirmation Ceremony for the Class of 2008. After the Class of 2008 took their vow affirming their commitment to the Army and our Nation, they were each presented one of the coins our class provided symbolizing our link to them in the Long Grey Line.

FCC Turnover to Class of 2008, August 2007: After a Summer of intense activity and outstanding effort by the West Point Staff, some top rate Contractors, fueled by the generosity of the Great Class of 1958, the newly renovated First Class Club was turned over to the Class of 2008 in a warm and joyous ceremony attended by a number our classmates. (Tony Smith reports on the effort at enclosure #3).

Ring Weekend: Ring Weekend continues to be a big deal in Cadet life. The Class of 2008 received their rings at the traditional Ring ceremony followed by the Ring Hop and now have joined us as proud wearers of one of the most important symbols of our common dedication to Duty, Honor, Country. This event is made even more special with the innovation conceived by our own Ron Turner of melting the gold from the rings contributed by members of the Long Grey Line into the ingots used to make the rings of each graduating class. This highly symbolic program is a great success and a number of our classmates have contributed their rings to the program, including the late Fred Easley. (Editor's Note: My family has been informed, and agree whole heartedly, that my ring will be bequeathed to this outstanding program).

Branch Selection Night – Tony Nadal was the guest speaker representing the Class of '58 at the ceremony announcing the branching decisions for the Class of 2008. The text of his speech is at Enclosure #7.

Butter Bars in 2008 – It has become the custom for the 50 year reunion class to provide each graduating cadet with a set of Second Lieutenant gold bars to represent the Long Grey Line linkage between the classes. At least two of our distinguished classmates will stand one at each end of the dais to present these bars to each graduate as they descend from receiving their diploma.

Perpetual Endowment Fund (PEF) -- The level of contributions from our most generous 497 classmates has crossed the \$400,000 level - - \$400,113 to be exact. Our endowment is currently worth \$630k. (Report is at Enclosure #5) -- Ed Weckel

Prostate Cancer Support Group (PCSG) The class Prostate Cancer Support Group currently comprises 142 members. Emphasis is on prevention, control and support. 44 members have been diagnosed with PC and stand ready to assist newly diagnosed classmates. The class has had five known diagnoses so far this year for an overall total of 62. To participate, contact Stan Bacon at <sbacon58@sbcglobal.net>. Or if you become diagnosed with PC, contact Stan in confidence and receive a copy of our Treatment Selection Table showing classmates, their diagnoses and treatments selected, so as to assist you in consulting with individuals of your choice to help in making the tough decisions. – Stan Bacon

Ski-Mini, Park City, Utah: The annual class ski outing for 2008 will be held in Park City Utah, February 24 - 28. All skiers, non skiers, spouses, off spring, friends and relatives, are welcome. We will be using Treasure Mountain Inn as our hotel, it is located on the top of Main street, on the bus route and to all activities. (See Enclosure #6 for further details) – Bob Moore

Army Knowledge On Line (AKO): George Lawton passed on the following to all classmates on the class e-mail list and it is worth repeating to them as well as passing on to the snail mail list:

"I found a good deal in a message from another grad on the West Point Forum. See below. I already had an AKO account, which I recommend all Army retirees get (USAF has a similar account, but I don't know its URL) as you can find out all kinds of info on this site from Tricare to retired pay and more. It takes a little work, but to be able to buy MS Office 2007 for only \$22 makes it worthwhile. There are also other great deals and links to travel, recreation and other sites with discounts.

"Microsoft is offering Office 2007, vizio, and other programs for \$21.35 (shipping and taxes only). To get this deal, you must have an AKO account and us.army.mil address. Once you've accessed your account, type "Slick Deals" into the search window, then click on the "Slick Deals in Technology," followed by clicking on the "Microsoft Volume Licensing" link on the right side.

1. AKO = Army Knowledge Online
2. You have to be eligible, e.g. retired, reserves, or active duty army
3. Go to their AKO site and register: <http://www.army.mil/ako/> --

George Lawton

Communications Resources:

- a. Assembly – "The magazine of Historical Record for USMA Graduates." – George Sibert is our Scribe and he does a tremendous job providing the running Historical Record of our class. It isn't all that expensive, so get with it. Join the AOG and subscribe to ASSEMBLY!
- b. Class E-mail Net & Forum – Moderator, Dick Buckalew, who also keeps the class E-Mail Roster updated. Changes go to Dick. In addition to the spirited and informative exchanges on the forum, the E-mail network is also used by our Class Representatives to the Association of Graduates and West Point, currently Alan Salisbury and Tony Smith, to report on briefings and other activities at West Point. (Enclosure #8 is a recent report by Tony Smith)
- c. Class Web Site – Our Web Site includes a number of handy links and pages reporting on such recurring items of interest as Skiing, Golf, Prostate Health, Obituaries, Class History, and recent Newsletters and Articles from George Sibert's "Assembly" Column. Webmaster is Pete Trainor.
- d. AOG Website – The AOG recently announced a new and enhanced website. Each class has a dedicated page and we are in the process of evaluating how this will fit in to our communications scheme. "...the West Point Association of Graduates (WPAOG) new web site is operational and ready for your visit! Find us online at www.westpointaog.org. Log in with your Cullum number and password as you did with the old site.."
- e. CCQ's – The CCQ Roster is maintained by Dale Hruby who also serves as monitor of the Snail Mail roster (ably assisted by George Lawton, the tracer of lost classmates). Send all changes to Dale and he will coordinate with AOG and John Nun who actually updates the class computer records.
- f. ExCom Meeting Minutes – Produced and distributed via E-mail by Jack Downing, Class Secretary. Jack is also the proctor of our Policies and Procedures and serves the Class as "CINC Obit."
- g. Class Newsletter – Dale Hruby, Editor. Send him any items of interest or upcoming events and mention that you want it to appear in the next Newsletter, which is promised before Winter ends.

Enclosures:

- Enclosure 1: Class of 1958 Organization -- ExCom
- Enclosure 2: Class of 1958 Social Schedule 2007 – Joe Luman
- Enclosure 3: E-mail report on renovation of FCC – Tony Smith
- Enclosure 4: Plebe Hike Marchback Report – Ed Weckel
- Enclosure 5: Report on the Perpetual Endowment Fund – Ed Weckel
- Enclosure 6: Ski Mini – Park City, UT – Bob Moore
- Enclosure 7: Report on the Branching Ceremony – Tony Nadal
- Enclosure 8: Report on Leader's Conference at West Point. – Tony Smith

Enclosure 1 – Class Organization: The Class of 1958 is currently organized as follows:

Class President: Jack Bradshaw (812)-988-1619 < jackabrine@earthlink.net >

Chairman: Palmer McGrew (703) 323-9671 < PALMERMCG@aol.com >

Secretary/Class Records: Jack Downing, (703) 569-2887, < edowning@mcchispeed.net >

Treasurer: Tony Bauer (703) 960-3780, < ABauer0658@aol.com >

Class Gift and FCC Coordinator: Tony Smith (703) 838-0338, < aasmith58@msn.com >

Communications/CCQ Liaison: Dale Hruby (703) 250-7182, < dalehruby@aol.com >

Social Activities: Joe Luman (703) 548-0889, < jcluman1@verizon.net >

Class Initiatives: Bill Serchak (301) 948-7780, < weserchak@erols.com >

Class History: Alan Salisbury (703) 242-8648, < AlanBS58@aol.com >

Class Rep on AOG Advisory Council: Tony Smith, (703) 838-0338, < aasmith58@msn.com >

AOG Board Member: Al Salisbury (703) 242-8648, < AlanBS58@aol.com >.

Liaison to Widows: Audrey Webb (Ex Officio Member) (703) 425-9302 ,

Widow Support Group: Moderator, Sue Kernan, at: < ladysue2000@aol.com >.

Prostate Cancer Support Group: Moderator, Stan Bacon, at < sbacon58@sbcglobal.net >.

Permanent Endowment Fund: Board President, John Evans at < jhevan@aol.com >.

Wounded Warrior Mentor Program:

Program Coordinator - Lee Miller (301)601-2733 < mlmiller58@comcast.net >

Outside DC Coordinator - Bob Tredway (202)484-2981, < BobTredway@aol.com >

Class Mentor Coordinator – John Herren (301)229-7713 < jdherr@aol.com >

Class Scribe: George Sibert, < gsibert@comcast.net >.

CCQ Network -- OIC – Dale Hruby, M2, (dalehruby@aol.com)

First Regiment

A1--Lee Miller, (301) 601-2733, (mlmiller58@comcast.net)

B1--Dick Price, (804) 684-0730, (rpricecell@cox.net)

C1--Jerry Mitchell, (703) 866-0145, (gergermar@cox.net)

D1--John Galen, (904) 285-8037, (JGalen620@aol.com)

E1--Larry Bullis, (717) 334-6323, (lnjbullis@earthlink.net)

F1--Bob Rhodes, (703) 360-5110, (rgrhodes@compuserv.com)

G1--Andy Andreson, (703) 385-2502, (randreson@cox.net)

H1--John Devens, (303) 346-1086, (jwdevens@gmail.com)

I1--Tony Bauer, (703) 960-3780, (abauer0658@aol.com)

K1--Ron Turner, (706) 846-5373, (ron458@aol.com)

L1--Dick Reidy, (703) 569-2292, (papeach53@yahoo.com)

M1--Otto Thamasett, (703) 451-2086, (ottojt@verizon.net)

Second Regiment

A2--Chuck Densford, (512) 930-4717, (densford58@juno.com)

B2--Karl Oelke, (970)945-1043, (oelkes658@msn.com)

C2--Peter Penczer, (203) 255-0300, (ppenczer@optionline.net)

D2--Paul Ruud, (530) 886-8806, (ruud@starband.net)

E2--Chuck Toftoy, (703) 276-0421, (cash@gwu.edu)

F2--Glenn Brown, (410) 836-9133, (lrcbrown@comcast.net)

G2--George Lawton, (703) 715-0068, (Gcl58@aol.com)

H2--Joe Luman, (703) 548-0889, (jcluman1@verizon.net)

I2--Stan Bacon, (512) 345-7999, (sbacon58@sbcglobal.net)

K2--Bo Craddock, (281) 370-1555, (bfcraaddock@sbcglobal.net)

L2--Bob Higgins, (407) 365-4596, (higginsrm@aol.com)

M2--Ash Haynes, (360) 678-8491, (ashtonh@gte.net)

Enclosure 2: Class of 1958 Social/Activity Schedule for 2008:

National events:

Ski Mini -- February 24-28 Park City, UT -- Munge Moore <BMoore8272@aol.com>

50th Class of '58 Reunion May 24-28 Westchester Marriott, Terrytown, NY -- Garry Roosma
groosma@earthlink.net

50th Anniversary Italy Trip, 15 September – 2 October 2008. Jude Theibert has organized a Class of 1958 50th Anniversary Trip to Italy including the Amalfi Coast and Tuscany. As of the New Orleans Mini, there were still spaces available for members of the class. Contact Jude at jjtheibert@buckeye-express.com, or by phone at (419)625-0618.

D.C. Area OCCASIONS TO EAT:

FOUR Thursday luncheons with members of '58 and guests, at the Army Navy Country Club beginning at 11:30 -- Joe Luman jcluman1@verizon.net

Our initial lunch in FEBRUARY will be on the first Thursday, February 7 to get us underway/

The remaining Thursday lunches will be on the third Thursdays of APRIL, the 17th, of JULY, the 17th, and of SEPTEMBER, the 18th.

Other Lunches--

With the Class of 1957 at Fort Meyer O Club on Thursday MARCH 6 -- John Herren
jdherr@aol.com.

Class Memorial Service at Vietnam Memorial and Brunch at ANCC Arlington, Sunday, 18 May 2008. 10 AM at VN Memorial, Washington, DC and 11:30 AM at ANCC Arlington. Contact George Sibert at gsibert@comcast.net to attend memorial service. POC for lunch is Joe Luman jcluman1@verizon.net.

With USNA 1958 pre-Navy Game on NOVEMBER 20 at ANCC at 11:30. POC is Joe Luman, jcluman@comcast.net.

Army-Navy Game Tailgate in DECEMBER -- TBA

DC Area Other:

JANUARY:

Possible Hexagon Satire entertainment, Lee Miller
Support So Others Might Eat (SOME), George Lawton has carried the ball for some time and asks that another classmate step up for this important charitable event

Charles Town Racetrack visit, Civil War rides, and other potential events (presentations at luncheons, which result in spouse attendance, different activities like a bus trip to an interesting site, dinner cruise on Potomac, etc. to be discussed at first luncheon or earlier)

Events at West Point:

Jim Ramsden Chemistry Award Presentation, Thursday, 22 May or Friday, 23 May 2008, USMA, West Point, NY. Jack Downing at ejdowning@cox.net is POC for specific location/time/date information for those planning to attend.

George Walker Debating Award Presentation, Thursday, 22 May 2008, USMA, West Point, NY. Tom Carpenter at tomcarpenter3@earthlink.net is POC for specific time and location information for those planning to attend.

Plebe Hike March Back, Sunday, 10 August through Monday, 11 August 2008, USMA, West Point, NY. Ed Weckel at Weck58@comcast.net is POC to attend.

First Class Club Turnover to Class of 2009, Thursday, 14 or 21 August 2008, USMA, West Point, NY. Tony Smith is POC for specific information for those planning to attend.

West Point Society of the District of Columbia and the National Capital Region:

Winter Luncheon
LTG Michael D. Maples '71, Director, DIA
Fort Myer Officers' Club
11:30 am, Wednesday, Jan 16th, 2008

Founders Day Gala
BG Patrick Flanagan '71, Dean, USMA
McLean Hilton Hotel
6:30 pm, Saturday, Mar 15th, 2008

Black Gold Gray Golf Tournament
Andrews Air Force Base,
Shotgun start - 2:00 pm, May22, 2008

Spring Luncheon
Program to be announced
Fort Myer Officers' Club
11:30 am, Wednesday, May 21st, 2008

Fall Luncheon
Program to be announced
Fort Myer Officers' Club
11:30 am, Wednesday, September 17th, 2008

Army-Navy Luncheon / Football Rally

Army-Navy Country Club
11:00am, Wednesday, December 3rd, 2008

Other Events of Note and Interest:

Malone Award: (May 3 or 10, 2008) Annual presentation of the Malone Award to the most outstanding "Cadet Ranger," in the graduating Georgetown University ROTC unit at the annual military ball at Ft. Meyer Officer's Club.

Jerry Capelle USMA Prep School Award, Thursday, 15 May 2008 at the USMA Prep School, Fort Monmouth, NJ. Contact Bill Serchak at < weserchak@erols.com > for specific additional information to attend.

Enclosure 3: Report on FCC Renovations and Embellishments from Tony Smith:

Classmates,

There are two purposes to this report, first to tell you what we have accomplished at the First Class Club and, second, to solicit your help in finishing the job.

You would have been proud of your First Class Club at its "Grand Reopening." Through the combined efforts of the USMA Department of Housing and Public Works, the USCC Cadet Activities Office (CAO), the West Point Association of Graduates, and the great USMA Class of 1958, the FCC was standing tall as the class of 2008 saw it for the first time last Thursday evening.

The FCC was packed to the gills as we held our usual informal "handover ceremony" at which we entrust the incoming First Class with responsibility for carrying on the tradition of preserving the Club while enjoying it to the fullest. Speaking for the class, Palmer McGrew made a few well-chosen, well-received remarks. The class of 2007 was represented by a pint-sized 2d Lt in training for the Women's World Power Lifting Championships taking place in southern France next month, who exhorted the class of 2008 to turn over the Club next year in better shape than they received it. The First Captain and the Class President responded for the class of 2008. All expressed their deep appreciation for the renovation spearheaded by the class of 1958.

Also present were the Com, the Chief of Staff, the Brigade Tactical Officer, and, I'd guess, some 300 members of the class of 2008. Tom Morgan, Tony Bauer, Celia and Chuck Hansult, Dodie and Dale Hruby, Branch Worsham, Florence and Alan Salisbury, Artie and Andy Andreson, and Brad Johnson were the other classmates present. The Club Manager did her part as well, dressing the bar staff in T-shirts with the class of '58 crest.

During the course of the summer we replaced two wooden floors, all the carpeting, and all the ceiling tiles. We put a new floor in the kitchen after fixing the plumbing that used to flood the floor every time they used the dishwasher. We refinished the borders on all the tables. We equipped the A/V room with HD projection capability, Surround Sound, and a 52"x92" retractable screen. The CAO recovered the two pool tables, put new "Beat Navy" covers on the bar stools, brought in a piano and bought the troops a Wii game to go along with the table shuffleboard that he purchased earlier in the year. But for those who knew the "old" FCC, the most dramatic change resulted from the complete gutting and modernization of the rest rooms. Why, it's just a downright pleasure now to...(never mind). (Yes, we did retain the vintage urinals, over which the contractor, at his expense, tiled in "Sink Navy" on the wall.)

The job is not done. We still need to replace the cruddy, ugly, stained, mauve-colored lounge furniture in the A/V room. And there remain a few finishing touches to do the job right (like installing shades to darken the A/V room). It turns out that the SWAG that Dale and I made of

needing \$200,000 to do the job was about right. We raised \$172,000, and we have just about exhausted our funds.

If you haven't given yet to this worthwhile endeavor, our major gift to our alma mater, or if you have given and can give more, now would be a GREAT time to do so. Reaching our original goal of \$200,000 would allow us to finish the job.

Best regards,

Tony

Enclosure 4: March Back with the Classes of 2008 and 2011:

Fellow Classmates and Friends:

I spoke with a cow who had volunteered 29 days of his summer leave to spend time "nation building" in a "istan" country in Asia. (I don't remember which one). He found that he could communicate with many of the people there, as both he and they spoke German. They were "Volga" Germans, who were forced to relocate from Russia by Stalin. He believed this experience was very significant to his learning to become a better officer. As this was a USAF mission, his trip was funded by the AF. However, many other cadets went on similar missions, which were funded by the AOG! All you AOG haters read that again. The AOG is supporting cadet's travel to help bring peace to the world.

I spoke with many plebes. To each, I posed the same question. Have you had calculus. Answer was yes. Next - - have you had differential equations? Every answer was yes. In addition, they had taken many Advanced Placement courses. These kids are smart! Certainly better educated than I was when entered the academy, (No wise comments from my friends who know my academic prowess or lack thereof).

The night before the march back, the cadets showered and sacked out by 1000 and rose by 0400. Therefore they were well rested, and not the exhausted, smelly zombies of previous years. (Our wives' previously commented they could tell the plebes' were approaching by the smell that preceded them!) We started our march at dawn, therefore we could see the trail, and in spite of a 30 minute rain at the start, the march seemed much easier. I believe the time change was to reduce injuries, plus to give the cadets a more manageable day when they joined their companies. (I used a stop watch to determine the time we actually spent marching. It was 3hrs 45 min} Last Saturday (yesterday) they were sworn in and had a few brief hours to spend with their families. Academics begin on Monday.

A plebe asked me what I did for "fun" when I was a cadet. I explained that as plebes we had to stay up there during Christmas, spring break, etc. I also indicated our generous weekend leave policy (I believe two as cows and about 6 as firsties.) His comment was: "How did you guys survive?" That's a good question - - but we made it and perhaps are better for it. I really don't know.

Recall that last year I detailed my problem with very painful cramps in my calf after the march. This was a yearly occurrence. I asked for advice. Many of you responded with sound ideas, i.e., drink plenty of water, eat bananas, Gatorade, etc. - - all of which I did. Will Merrill suggested I take quinine, in the form of tonic water, as was recommended to his wife by a doctor. For the past ten months, I've been drinking about two liters of tonic water a week. I mix it with my orange juice, etc., etc. (Some of you have suggested I mix it with gin - - I suspect that would work too). In any event, since I've adopted this advice, my leg cramps have disappeared, and my after march back experience was much less painful, than in the past. Yes - I was stiff and aching the next morning. No, I didn't run a few miles the next day as did Wally Ward (The Ironman) before we met for an after march back breakfast.

In short I want to thank my fellow marchers - - Wally Ward, Will Collett, Dick Graves, Paul Schonberger, Gary Roosma and Bob Shellenberger who helped make this a great event. However, we all need to give a special thanks to Bob (aka Dusty) Rhodes from F1, who helped make this a special event for Dick Bauchspies, who was there in honor of his plebe grandson. Bob prepared the ground work so Dick could attend the plebe talent show at Buckner before the march back, watch his grandson pass in review from the porch of the Supe's quarters with his F1 classmates (Bill Shepard, John Kubiak, Harvey Jahn, Bob Rhodes) and attend the after march back luncheon.

During the march back, my wife received notice of a death in the family, so after departing WP, we headed to Boston for a funeral. This explains my lateness in submission of this report.

Congratulations to the two grandsons of our classmates who are now members of the Class of 2011 - - Colin Graves (Grandson of Dick Graves) and Brandon Bauchspies Lawrence (Grandson of Dick Bauchspies)

For those of you who might not yet have contributed to the First Class Club fund drive, and desire to do so, you can still send your checks payable To The West Point Fund-Class of 1958 Gift Fund. Mail it to Association of Graduates, 698 Mills Road, West Point NY 10996.

We now have 496 class mates who have supported our Perpetual Endowment. If you've supported the FCC, and want to make a tax deductible contribution to our Endowment, send your check to me, Ed Weckel, at 120 Regent Drive, Bel Air, MD 21014. Check should be made payable to "Fidelity Investments CGF."

Till Next Year!!! (Ward, Collett and I plan to return - - God Willing) Come join us in the fun and camaraderie. The next march back is tentatively planned for 11 – 12 August, 2008. Stay Healthy

May the Force Be With You

Ed Weckel

Enclosure 5: Report on the Perpetual Endowment Fund:

Fellow Classmates and Friends.

We received a check today which brought the level of your contributions across the \$400,000 level - - \$400,113 to be exact. Many Thanx. Our endowment is currently worth \$630k.

We are still three shy of the 500 participation level - - 497 classmates have contributed. We seem to be stuck at this number. Remember - - non graduating classmates are invited to join in this endeavor, and many have already done so. In fact, our second largest contributor is a non grad classmate of ours!

Year end is a good time to join in, or add to your contribution, because of the tax deductibility of your contribution. If you have some extra funds available, and want to support the Class Endowment, send your tax deductible check to me, Ed Weckel, at 120 Regent Drive, Bel Air, MD, 21014. Checks must be made payable to "Fidelity Investments Charitable Gift Fund" or "Fidelity Investments CGF" for short. Please get your checks in to me before Christmas (in fact, the sooner the better) as I will be away at the end of the year and not available to process the checks to Fidelity. For Tax purposes, Fidelity counts the date (postmark) on my deposit envelop - - not the date of your check! So checks dated 2007, and mailed in by me in 2008 are treated by Fidelity as a 2008 contribution. This will not be a problem if I receive your contribution prior to 24 December.

If you are interested in donating stocks, contact me ASAP, as it normally takes 10 days or so to process stock transfers from your account to Fidelity - - assuming everything is done correctly. More time is required if your broker screws up. Stock transfers require constant monitoring by me.

Merry Christmas to All!, Happy Holidays

Enclosure 6: Ski Mini – Park City, Utah, 24-28 February 2008

Ladies and Classmates

The annual class ski outing for 2008 will be held in Park City, UT. (home of Champagne powder) Sunday, Feb 24 – Thursday, Feb 28. All skiers, non skiers, spouse, off spring, friends and relatives, are welcome. We will be using Treasure Mountain Inn as our hotel, it is located on the top of Main street, on the bus route and to all activities. Park City is 30 miles and 30 minutes from Salt Lake City International Airport, cost of shuttle from SLC to Park City is approx \$20 one way. There is an excellent bus system so unless you plan an independent excursion of some sort public transportation should work.

Tentative Schedule:

<u>Day</u>	<u>Skiers</u>	<u>Eve Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
OIC			
Sun 24	n/a	Opening Reception	Moore's
Bob Moore			
Mon 25	PCMR	Dinner	Somewhere
Tony Smith	Snowshoe (Judy M, Bev G)		
Tue 26	Snow Basin	Hamburgers	Shooting Star
Bob Moore	Snow mobile		
Wed	Deer Valley	Dinner	Somewhere
Dick Graves			
Sun 24	Ut Olympic Park(Gab Nadal) PCMR (race)	Dinner	Somewhere
Frank Wright	LDS Temple		

OIC determines details and cost of event.

Ken Herberger will conduct race (Nastar) on Thursday and award trophies that evening.

Shooting Star is a dive near Snow Basin which has world's best hamburgers so folks who don't ski Snow Basin on Tue will have a free night.

If interested in attending and desire to be placed on 58 Ski email list respond to be at bmoore8272@aol.com <<mailto:bmoore8272@aol.com>> and I will pass on additional information.

Visit www.parkcityinfo.com <<http://www.parkcityinfo.com>> for poop on area etc.

See you on the slopes
Thanks
Bob Moore

Enclosure 7: Text of Speech by Tony Nadal to the Class of 2008 at Branch Ceremony.

GENERAL--- & OTHER GUESTS, AND THE GREAT CLASS OF 2008 . IT IS A GREAT HONOR FOR ME TO HAVE BEEN ASKED BY MY CLASSMATES TO ADDRESS YOU IN THIS IMPORTANT MOMENT IN YOUR LIVES. I BRING YOU GREETINGS FROM THE CLASS OF 1958, WHO, BY THE WAY, WERE THE GRADS WHO ESTABLISHED YOUR FIRST CLASS CLUB. SOMETHING WE WOULD HAVE APPRECIATED OURSELVES, BACK WHEN. I HOPE YOU ARE ENJOYING IT.

FIFTY YEARS AGO I SAT IN THAYER HALL IN WHAT IS NOW ROBINSON AUDITORIUM AWAITING VERIFICATION OF MY BRANCH SELECTION. I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE AN INFANTRYMAN SO THERE WAS LITTLE CONCERN ON MY PART FOR IN THOSE DAYS INFANTRY ALWAYS WENT OUT LAST. I NOTICE THAT IN RECENT CLASSES THAT HAS NOT BEEN THE CASE.-- WHICH I CONSIDER A GOOD SIGN. HOWEVER I'M NOT SURE HOW THE ARMY IS GOING TO DEAL WITH SMART INFANTRYMEN.

I IMAGINE FIFTY YEARS SEEMS LIKE FOREVER TO YOU AND IT IS A LONG TIME. (AT A RECENT FOOTBALL GAME MY GRANDUAGHTER INFORMED THE CADET THAT SHE WAS SITTING WITH THAT HER GRANDFATHER WAS FROM THE CLASS OF 1958 AND HE ASKED IF I WAS STILL ALIVE.) LET ME ASSURE YOU WE ARE STILL GOING STRONG.

MANY EXCITING THINGS HAPPENED DURING THOSE FIFTY YEARS AND I AM SURE YOU WILL HAVE A LOT OF GREAT MOMENTS IN THE FIFTY YEARS AHEAD. I ENVY YOU AND ALL THE OPPORTUNITIES YOU WILL HAVE FOR SERVICE TO YOUR CONTRY AND TO THE ARMY IN THE YEARS TO COME.

IN THE NEXT FEW MINUTES I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO YOU ABOUT MY REFLECTIONS ON A BATTLE I WAS ENGAGED IN FORTY -TWO YEARS AGO, ALMOST TO THE DAY -- AND HOW THAT BATTLE RELATES TO THE CAREERS YOU ARE STARTING IN A FEW MONTHS.

AT THAT TIME, I COMMANDED COMPANY A, 1ST BATTALION, 7TH CAVALRY AT A PLACE CALLED LZ X-RAY IN THE IA DRANG VALLEY IN VIETNAM. AS PART OF AN UNDERSTRENGTH INFANTRY BATTALION, MY COMPANY WAS SURROUNDED FOR THREE DAYS BY TWO NORTH VIETNAMESE REGIMENTS. AFTER BITTER, CLOSE, FEROCIOUS COMBAT-SOME AT BAYONET POINT -- WE MANAGED TO DEFEAT THE ENEMY AT A COST OF ONE THIRD OF OUR FORCE KILLED OR WOUNDED.

AS I HAVE REFLECTED BACK THROUGH THE YEARS THERE ARE TWO ISSUES THAT STAND OUT IN MY MIND. THE FIRST IS WHY DID WE WIN?

THE ANSWER LIES IN THE WILLPOWER OF THE CHAIN OF COMMAND AND THE ABILITY TO TRANSFER THAT WILL TO THE SOLDIERS IN OUR COMMAND.

THE WILL TO WIN IS ALSO THE WILL TO EXCELLENCE. IN ORDER TO SURVIVE IN THAT KIND OF DESPARATE STRUGGLE WE HAD TO HAVE HAD, LONG BEFORE THE BATTLE, A WILL TO EXCELLENCE IN WHATEVER WE DID.

GENERAL HAL MOORE, OUR BATTALION COMMANDER AT THE TIME, INSISTED THAT WE BE THE BEST AT WHATEVER TASK WE HAD TO ACCOMPLISH LONG BEFORE THE BATTLE

.. YOU HAVE TO HAVE THE WILL TO TRAIN EFFECTIVELY ; THE WILL TO ENFORCE DISCIPLINE; THE WILL TO PROVIDE EXCELLENT LEADERSHIP IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES; AND THE WILL WHEN, AFTER A DAYS BATTLE AND YOU ARE TOTALLY DRAINED AND EXHAUSTED, TO FIND A RESERVE OF ENERGY TO ORGANIZE AND TAKE CARE OF YOUR TROOPS.

THIS EXAMPLE EXTENDS FAR BEYOND INFANTRY COMBAT. THE WILL TO WIN, THE WILL TO EXCELLENCE, ANDTHE WILL TO PERSERVERE IN THE FACE OF TOUGH OBSTACLES, SUCH AS THOSE WE ARE FACING TODAY IN IRAQ, IS REQUIRED IN ALL BRANCHES OF THE ARMY. WHATEVER BRANCH YOU HAVE CHOSEN, THE SAME DEDICATION TO YOUR SOLDIERS, TO SETTING THE EXAMPLE, AND TO BEING VERY PROFECIENT AT YOUR JOB IS ESSENTIAL TO YOUR SUCCESS AND THAT OF YOUR UNIT.

THE GREAT GERMAN GENERAL, ERWIN ROMMEL ONCE WROTE "THE BATTLE IS NOT LOST UNTIL THE COMMANDER BELIEVES IT IS LOST". AT LANDING ZONE X-RAY WE HAD THE WILL TO BELIEVE WE WOULD PREVAIL. THE WILL FOR EXCELLENCE HAD PREPARED US FOR THE BATTLE BEFOREHAND.

THE SECOND AND LAST POINT I WISH TO MAKE (DON'T DESPAIR. IT WILL BE SHORT) IS THAT I HAVE OFTEN ALSO REFLECTED ON THE THOUSAND OF SOLDIERS WHO I WILL NEVER KNOW AND WHO HAD TO PERFORM EFFECTIVLY FOR OUR UNIT TO SURVIVE.

I HAD THE REQUISITE WILL TO WIN, BUT, BY ITSELF, THAT WAS NOT ENOUGH. ALSO NEEDED ARE THE SINEWS OF WAR; AMMUNITION, INTELLIGENCE, COMMUNICATION, WATER, MEDICS, AVIATORS, ARTILLERY AND MANY OTHERS ALL WORKING IN CONCERT FOR ONE PURPOSE - TO SUPPORT THE SOLDIER AT THE TIP OF THE SPEAR.

ALL BRANCHES ARE IMPORTANT, ALL ARE NECESSARY TO CREATE A WINNING ORGANIZATION.

IN TODAY'S COUNTER-INSURGENCY BATTLEFIELD, A BATTLEFIELD WITHOUT FRONT LINES, ALL OF YOU WILL HAVE TO BE PREPARED TO ENGAGE IN COMBAT. ALTHOUGH THE PROBABILITY MAY BE LOW, THE POSSIBILITY IS REAL WHEN THERE ARE NO FRONT LINES.

AT LZ X-Ray, THREE SOLDIERS WON MEDALS OF HONOR. ONE WAS AN INFANTRY LEIUTENANT, JOE MARM, WHO WAS ONE OF MY PLATOON LEADERS. THE OTHER TWO WERE AVIATORS WHO RISKED THEIR LIVES TO BRING US AMMUNITION, AND TO EVACUATE OUR WOUNDED BY LANDING REPEATEDLY UNDER DIRECT ENEMY FIRE IN OUR SMALL LANDING ZONE. A YOUNG MEDIC WON A DSC FOR SHELTERING WOUNDED SOLDIERS WITH HIS BODY WHILE TREATING THEIR WOUNDS..

I POINT THIS OUT BECAUSE VALOR AND DEDICATION ARE REQUIRED IN ALL BRANCHES AT TIMES AND ALL THESE SOLDIERS ROSE TO THE OCCASION. THEY SHOWED THE WILL AND DETERMINATION TO SUPPORT THE SOLDIERS AT THE FRONT LINES THAT IS REQUIRED OF ALL BRANCHES.

THE ARMY IS A LARGE COMPLEX ORGANIZATION WITH MULTIPLE MISSIONS. AS A STUDENT OF ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR AND A FORMER CONSULTANT TO BUSINESS I KNOW OF NO OTHER ORGANIZATION WITH SUCH DIVERSE MISSIONS AND THE REQUIREMENT TO SHIFT FOCUS ON A MOMENTS NOTICE—EVERYTHING FROM LARGE SCALE COMBAT TO DISASTER RELIEF IS PART OF YOUR MISSION. THIS REQUIRES FLEXIBILITY AND THE CONSTANT NEED TO WORK COOPERATIVELY ACROSS BRANCHES AND SERVICES.

IT REMAINS TRUE, HOWEVER, THAT THE ARMY'S FUNDEMENTAL MISSION IS TO WIN OUR NATIONS WARS ON THE GROUND, WHERE ALL WARS ARE ULTIMATLEY WON. FOR THOSE OF YOU JOINING A SUPPORTIVE OR SERVICE BRANCH I ASK THAT YOU ALWAYS REMEMBER YOUR PRIMARY MISSION OF SUPPORTING THE TIP OF THE SPEAR WITH ALL YOUR WILL.

I KNOW THAT SOME OF YOU MAY NOT HAVE RECEIVED THE BRANCH OF YOUR FIRST CHOICE. TO YOU I SAY AGAIN. ALL BRANCHES ARE IMPORTANT, THE POSSIBILITY OF BRANCH TRANSFER EXISTS AND YOU MAY BE PLEASANTLY SURPRISED BY WHAT YOU FIND IN THE BRANCH YOU WILL SERVE. BEGIN YOUR SERVICE WITH GOOD WILL

LASTLY, FROM MY CLASS I CONGRATULATE YOU FOR BEING THIS CLOSE TO GRADUATION. WITHOUT THOSE OF YOU IN THIS ROOM, WITHOUT YOUR PREDESSORS AND WITHOUT THOSE FOLLOWING YOU THERE MAY NOT BE A UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AS WE KNOW IT. I KNOW THAT YOU WILL BE WORTHY OF THE LONG GRAY LINE AND CARRY OUT YOUR DUTIES WITH HONOR, INTEGRITY AND EXCELLENCE.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL

Enclosure 8: Report from AOG Advisory Board Member, Tony Smith,

Here's what I gleaned from the Supe's comments to the AOG Advisory Board at our meeting last week, in two parts:

Part I: General & Academics; Part II: Military & Athletics.

General:

Mission is unchanged (seems like every new Supe wants to tinker with the mission statement; Buster Hagenbeck says he will leave it unchanged.)

Objectives:

- 1) Make USMA the Army's premier leadership development institution.
- 2) Make USMA the "wellspring" of the Army's professional military ethic.
- 3) Continue to be the centerpiece of the "Army University".
- 4) Make West Point better known and recognized.

Admission Stats:

For the class of 2011 (good grief - 2011 already!)

10,831 applied, 3,738 nominated, 1,916 qualified, 1,305 admitted

17% women, 9% Hispanics, 6% African-American (the latter a continuing concern -- the pool of potential qualified candidates is small, and every university seeks them)

Avg SAT = 1277, 80 Valedictorians, 149 class presidents, 701 team captains, 1,133 varsity letters.

There are 10 international cadets and 21 combat veterans in the class of 2011.

All of the above does not vary significantly one way or another from recent years.

Academics:

30 core courses, 45 majors (there are some wild ones, e.g., Philosophy, Art, and Literature; Kinesiology). 50% of majors are hard sciences, 50% humanities. Those who opt for the hard sciences have to take extra courses and are required to take only two semesters of foreign languages (otherwise, four semesters required). There's a big push on the International Affairs Program (foreign languages, social sciences, history). Social Science and History majors also have to take 1-2 additional courses. International Affairs majors are also expected to participate in one or more cultural immersion programs overseas in summer. In AY 2007, 86 cadets spent a full semester in overseas universities (some military, some civilian); this will rise to 141 cadets in AY 2008. The Supe spent some time lauding the Combat Terrorism Center (funded in large part by unappropriated funds!) and the role of USMA in standing up the National Military Academy of Afghanistan, now in its 3d year.

Part II

The Supe intends to compress the academic year by two weeks in order to provide 12 weeks of military training (going to 11 weeks this coming summer, 12 weeks in 2009). This will allow the creation of three 4-week modules. Every cadet will be assessed by tacs and academic reps working together to determine what training fits best with the individual, taking into account prior service, academic record, military aptitude, etc. Some cadets who are struggling academically might have one block devoted to academics. Prior service cadets might spend less time in the orientation type of summer training and more time out with the real Army, or on overseas immersion projects. Rhodes and other Scholarship candidates might take one summer block of academics so as to be under loaded in the fall semester when they spend a lot of time competing for scholarships. (Altho the Supe did not say this, this might also apply to football players.)

FOB Buckner will continue to be a demanding, rigorous summer. Four weeks will continue the "traditional Buckner" experience; the next four will mirror the ROTC experience at Ft Lewis. (There is some feeling that USMA graduates are less well prepared to perform well in their branch basic courses than their ROTC counterparts.) (My comment: wasn't this always true?)

The Supe intends to push cadets to take summer leave. Apparently, many cadets give up leave in order to take advantage of the myriad summer possibilities for internships, cultural immersion programs, etc. At USAFA, the Supe has mandated that each Zoomie will take at least two weeks leave annually.

GEN Fred Franks ('59) is heading up an Honor Code Study Group. There are no particular issues to investigate, just a good idea to examine the Honor Code periodically.

Random comment: if nothing is done, by 2020, 43% of the officers in the US Army will come from OCS. Before 9/11, it was 9%. So what? Here's what - it's hard to inculcate the desired professional military ethic in a short OCS program as opposed to four years at USMA or ROTC.

Athletics:

USMA was evaluated as one of the 15 most influential sports education teams in America. (I have no idea what that means but the Supe thought it was great!)

Reopening the Arvin Gym means that they can bring back winter intermurder. (I didn't know it was gone.)

The 26 competitive sports clubs (funded in large measure by AOG donations) wins 84% of their matches and defeats USNA and USAFA 3 out of 4 meetings.

(Notice that we haven't gotten to varsity football yet, but hang in there.)

The Supe loves the women's volleyball team. ("If I could bottle their approach to competition, I would -- they just don't think they can be beat.")

The Groves Golf Center was cited as one of the premier facilities provided by AOG funds. (Margaret, I hope you've read this far.)

The most recent of the Football Study Groups looked at: scheduling issues, cadet time, consistency of programs and policies, recruiting, academy and cadet recognition of football as leader development duty, institutional support from DA. Coach K of Duke was very helpful on how to develop a viable, long-term athletic program.

Army played a tougher schedule than Ohio State this year. The Study Group advocates a

schedule with four teams we should beat, four "peer" teams, four "stretch" games. Army has bought out (literally) Georgia Tech and Tulsa to drop them from the 2008 schedule. The 2008 schedule is now: New Hampshire, Boston College, Akron, Texas A&M, Tulane, Eastern Michigan, Buffalo, Temple, Air Force, Rice, Rutgers, Navy. The Supe said they were negotiating to "buy out" one more opponent on the current 2008 schedule.

(AOG President Bob McClure told me that USMA spends fewer \$/athlete than any of our opponents on this year's schedule.)

For 2008, the Supe says we can expect to see "some" option offense coming back - we'll look more like USAFA.

There was some "push back" on football. Some AOG members urged the Supe not to adopt measures such as (allegedly) found at USNA and USAFA which sets the football team apart from the student body and exempts them from some, etc. (N.B. Tony Nadal)