



Class of 1958 USMA Newsletter

Spring 2009

Letter from the Executive Committee Chairman (Palmer McGrew) The nature of the class is inevitably changing. That has always been true as we've gone through different phases of life and service, but now it's a different change. Our numbers are steadily decreasing and we are becoming less mobile. How best to accommodate this change while maintaining the bonds forged and strengthened over 50-some years, is of great interest and concern to the Class Executive Committee and reunion chairs. Suggestions are always welcome.

Everyone's job is to make sure that none of us is alone in difficulty. We all need to keep a watch on each other: company mates, team mates, buddies, neighbors, and when we find a classmate in difficulty, get involved, and let someone know, such as the CCQ and local classmates. Just as '58 is looking after severely wounded soldiers, so should we look after our own.

Meanwhile, some of us are defying age. I was just skiing at Tahoe with the last of our skiers with two knees, I guess. One was skiing on his titanium knee and doing just fine. It's a great way to get outdoors in the winter, and there are few things more fun than skiing with classmates. Next year: Whitefish Mountain, MT with Bill Clary. Let me know if you'd like to join the fun.

Grip Hands,

Palmer

TAPS:

1. Deaths reported since the Fall 2008 Newsletter:

Ray Riggan, died 1 Dec 2008.
Karl Prunitsch, died 12 Dec 2008.
Pete Hidalgo, died 15 Dec 2008.
Jim Rossetto, died 22 Dec 2008.
Doug Detlie, died 31 Jan 2009.
Bob Matsumoto, died 4 Feb 2009.
Katie McCann, wife of Bob McCann, died 15 Jan 2009
Esther Jackson, widow of Strube Jackson, died 24 Feb 2009
Bob Tredway, died 10 Mar 2009
Dick Bauchpies, died 16 Mar 2009
Marti Palladino, wife of Don Palladino, died 25 Mar 2009
Susan Patterson, wife of Walt Patterson, died 18 Apr 2009

2. Obituaries and Eulogies:

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>.

The obituaries of the following appeared in the January/February 2009 issue of the "Taps," supplement to "Assembly," magazine:

James A. Godby
Hugh P. Johnson
Kevin P. Bons, USMA'83, Son of Paul & Kitty Bons

Note: Class Flag: As you can see from the above list of departed, the Class Flag has been busy. When it is learned that a Classmate has died, the ExCom attempts to contact a classmate likely to attend the funeral to ask that he receive and deploy the class flag on behalf of us all. We have had some requests for the flag for wives' ceremonies and have been able to honor those requests since there were no competing requests for Classmate ceremonies. The Flag, less the flag staff and Reunion Streamers, is sent by overnight mail. We have had great success getting the flag to these events, provided we get timely notification. We continue to receive totally positive and grateful feedback from the families and friends of our departed classmates to the presence of our class flag at ceremonies and funerals. This is a great symbolic reaching out of the class to our grieving friends and deserves the support of all. Sincere thanks to all who have performed this important duty for the class. (**Dale Hruby**)

Annual Class Meeting and Election: The Annual Class meeting and election was held at the Fairfax Army /Navy Country Club on Thursday, April 16th. The minutes will be posted on the class website later. Dick Schonberger and Jim Hall were elected to the Executive Committee.

Addendum to 50th Reunion Yearbook: Call for Input (Suspense: May 15)

Classmates: Your History Project group is preparing to develop a small addendum to the 50th Reunion Yearbook. This addendum is intended to correct SERIOUS errors and omissions only, and will not be a Blue Book interpolation exercise. We know of two or three cases where classmate submissions were inadvertently lost or otherwise did not get included and we want to correct those serious omissions. In these cases our plan is to prepare new pages suitable (format, size and paper quality) for insertion into the book at the appropriate place. There will also be provisions for correcting serious errors that require correction.

If you have material that falls into either of these categories, we need your inputs by Friday, May 15th. (Note: Those reading this in the class newsletter will be given leeway on the cutoff date.) You may submit it either electronically (send to both mynorimages@comcast.net and AlanBS58@aol.com) or by mail to me at 7249 Addington Drive, McLean, VA 22101. If in doubt as to whether your material qualifies for inclusion, please contact me via email, or call me at 703-821-1660. Frank Wascowicz and I will jointly make these determinations.

The addendum should be ready for distribution on or before June 12th. We plan to mail the addendum to the entire class as part of a regular mailing to the class which is anticipated in the summer to fall time frame. As soon as the addendum is completed, it will be posted on the web in pdf form and available for downloading. For those of you who have multiple copies of the book (you and or family members), you can either download and print as many copies as you need, or request the appropriate number of additional copies from me and we will get them to you (hopefully in the same mailing). (**Alan Salisbury**)

Survey of Class Concerning the Forum: There has been a 25% drop in participation in our Class of 1958 Forum on the Internet. A survey has been developed by **Hal Lyon, Stan Bacon** and **Jim Seltzer** to develop an understanding of this phenomenon. A hard copy of the survey is included as Enclosure 4 of the Snail Mail version of this Newsletter and the electronic version will soon be posted on the west-point.org website. Stand by for email instructions for participating in the electronic version of the survey. (**Dale Hruby**)

Annual Financial Report: The annual Financial Report for the year 2008 is posted on the Class website(<http://www.westpoint.org/class/usma1958/special/ExecComm/2008%20Finance%20Statement.pdf>) and is Enclosure 2 with the snail mail edition of this Newsletter. (**Tony Bauer**)

Wounded Warrior Mentor Program: **John Herren**, (301) 229-7713, jdherr@aol.com, has sent out a call for the active Mentors in the DC area to take on multiple recovering troopers to assist in their transitions. New Mentors are needed both in the DC Area and throughout the country. Training will be provided. '58 truly is Great! (**John Herren**)

Gift Ideas for Graduates: Looking for something special for a forthcoming Graduate? Here are a couple of great, low cost, suggestions (Please note that **Pete Trainor** has added these items to the Class Store on our Web Site)

DVD "58 is Great" – Mail requests to **Dale Hruby**, 9502 Burning Branch Road, Burke, VA 22015; \$20 per copy; Checks made out to 1958 Class Fund. No Credit Cards, please. Include mailing addresses and we will mail directly to them at no extra charge.

50th Reunion Book – Handled by the AOG Gift Shop. Copies can be ordered by contacting **Holger Bernhardt**: holger.bernhardt@wpaog.org; Phone: (845) 446-1526. The price is \$85 plus \$14 S&H per copy. Credit Cards are acceptable.

Class of '58 – '08 Coins – Contact **Jack Downing** (703) 569-2887, ejdowning@cox.net. The price is \$12. Please pay by check made out to the 1958 Class Fund.

West Point Alumni Glee Club CD & DVD: Order from **Terry Ryan** (703) 263-2232, tryan@esinova.org. CD is \$15, DVD is \$20. Checks made payable to West Point Alumni Glee Club.

Class Organization: The essential elements of Class Organization can be found as an Enclosure to the snail mail versions of the Summer and Winter Newsletters and are posted on the class website.

Calendar of Upcoming Events: This calendar (Enclosure 1) is based largely upon the Social Events List of the Washington DC Area put together by **Joe Luman** (703) 548-0889, jluman1@verizon.net. 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 in the world. 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.

Marchback from Plebe Hike: The tenth annual Plebe Alumni March back will be held 9 - 10 August. Registration is scheduled to open in April. If you desire to participate, I suggest that you inform the DAA (Directorate of Academic Advancement - - www.usma.edu/daa) of your interest, and they will notify you by e mail when registration opens. Last year, the registration window was open for about a week, as demand for the march back slots was high. This year, I anticipate that **John Devens** will participate along with his grandson, a member of the Class of 2013. **Wally Ward** and I will be making our tenth MB, while **Will Collett** is still trying to catch up to us and will be making his ninth.

Every year during previous march backs I requested your support of the Class Endowment Fund, and over the years you have generously responded with contributions totaling over \$25,000 in support of this event. Although I am no longer a member of the Endowment Board, I shall continue to ask for your support. While the market is near its lows, this is a good time to add some money to the endowment. You may send your tax deductible check to **Meg Roosma**, 46383 Woodlake Pl, Sterling, VA 20165. Make your check payable to "Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund." In addition, you are reminded to remember the Class Endowment Fund when you prepare or update your wills. (**Ed Weckel**)

Malone Award: On April 3 **Pete Brintnall** presented the Major Malone Award to the leader of the winning ranger challenge team at the Hoya Battalion Military Ball at Ft Myer. Teams from the

local universities participate, and this year, after a very long absence -- no one knew how long -- the trophy returned to the Hoya Battalion where Larry started the ranger company. The team was led by a Cadet Kevin Devaney, a junior at Georgetown, and were preparing for the Sandhurst competition held at West Point in April. **(Pete Brintnall)**

FCC Handover:

For those of you who have not had the opportunity to participate in this proud annual event, pencil it in on one of the Thursdays in late August and watch out for a specific date. (Contact **Tony Smith** (703) 838-0338, aasmith58@msn.com).

Reunions and Mini Reunions:

2009 – Mini in Tucson, AZ, **Art Meyer** is the coordinator. The Hotel is now accepting reservations for our Mini. The Mini begins Sunday, Oct 25, 2009 and ends Thursday morning, Oct 29, 2009. We will be located at the Double Tree Hotel Tucson at Reid Park. Our group is known as "West Point Academy Class of 1958 Reunion" You may make reservation by calling 1-800-222-8733 or online at doubletree.com. The on-line group code is "WPA".

Please let Art know where you will be staying if you will not be at the Double Tree.

If you plan on booking reservations for the shoulder dates (3 days pre and 3 days post reunion) please call Kirsten Naskedov, Reservations Manager at (520) 323-5266. She will be happy to see that your reservation is completed. She is at the DoubleTree and has control of how many rooms are available for "shoulder dates". On line and 800 reservations may not have access to those rooms unless she has made them available. If you still have a problem, please let Art & Sue Meyer know.

2010 – Mini in Denver, CO, **Rich Clements** is the coordinator

*2011 – Open

*2012 – Open

2013 – 55th Reunion at West Point – **Gary Roosma** is, as always, Coordinator.

*(Note: There are rumors of a Hawaii or Orlando Reunion shaping up. Stay tuned)

Perpetual Endowment Fund (PEF) Enclosure 3 is an update about the Perpetual Endowment Fund. (**John Evans**)

Enclosures:

- Enclosure 1: Class of 1958 Social Schedule 2008 – Joe Luman Class Website
- Enclosure 2: Class of 1958 Financial Report for 2008 – Tony Bauer – Class Website.
- Enclosure 3: Report of the Class Endowment Fund – John Evans
- Enclosure 4: Class of 1958 Forum Questionnaire (Snail Mail Version only)

Enclosure 1: Class of 1958 Social/Activity Schedule for 2009:

Scheduled 58 class lunches for 2009.

N.B. The Army Navy Country Club has two locations, and this schedule makes use of both. Our consistent use of the Arlington site will be expanded, with some lunches programmed for the ANCC's Fairfax facility.

Usual format is likely--11:30 social time and honor bar, lunch at 12 noon, uniform flag reads jacket without tie.

May 17, Sunday Lunch at ANCC Arlington, begin around 11:30 following 10 a. m. memorial service at VN wall, poc George Sibert, gsibert@comcast.net

July 17, Thursday ANCC Fairfax (new locale)

September 17, Thursday ANCC Fairfax

November 19--Thursday ANCC Arlington With USNA 1958

Other Activities--

Class Memorial Service at Vietnam Memorial and Brunch at ANCC Arlington, held the Sunday before Memorial Day weekend (See above), 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** jluman1@verizon.net.

Army-Navy Game Tailgate 12 Dec 2009 – Florence and **Alan Salisbury** at Evans Farm in McLean, VA and will once again host the Tailgate – Details later.

Events at West Point:

Jim Ramsden Chemistry Award Presentation, May 2009 USMA, West Point, NY. POC = **Jack Downing** at ejdowning@cox.net.

George Walker Debating Award Presentation, May 2009, USMA, West Point, NY. POC = **Tom Carpenter** at tom1236@comcast.net.

Plebe Hike March Back, 9-10 August 2009, USMA, West Point, NY. POC = **Ed Weckel** at Weck58@comcast.net.

First Class Club Turnover to Class of 2010 – Late August 2009, USMA, West Point, NY. POC = **Tony Smith**, at aasmith58@msn.com.

Other Events of Note and Interest:

Jerry Capelle USMA Prep School Award, May 2009 at the USMA Prep School, Fort Monmouth, NJ. POC = **Bill Serchak** at wserchak@comcast.net.

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

Spring Luncheon
Program to be announced
Fort Myer Officers' Club
11:30am, Wednesday, May 20th, 2009

Black Gold Gray Golf Tournament
Andrews Air Force Base
Shotgun start - 2:00 pm, West Course, May, '09

Army vs. Navy Golf Tournament
Andrews Air Force Base
Shotgun start - 2:00 pm, East Course, Sep. '09

Fall Luncheon
Program to be announced
Fort Myer Officers' Club
11:30 am, Wednesday, September 16th, 2009

Army-Navy Luncheon and Football Rally
Army-Navy Country Club, Arlington
11:00 am, Wednesday, December 9th, 2009

Enclosure 2: Class of 1958 Annual Financial Report: Posted on the Class Website at:
<http://www.westpoint.org/class/usma1958/special/ExecComm/2008%20Finance%20Statement.pdf>.

Enclosure 3: Report of the Class of 1958 Endowment:

Those who have named the PEF in their will, please note the change of address and attach to your documents. Fidelity CGF Office has moved from Boston to Cincinnati.

Fidelity Investment Charitable Gift Fund
ATTN: Contributions Dept for CGF 51034, USMA Class 1958
PO Box 770001
Cincinnati, OH 45277-0053

If you have not to date, consider this year a legacy gift through your will.

If you do, appreciate a notice to Col. Meg Roosma
46383 Woodlake Place
Sterling, VA 20165 (<mailto:meg.roosma@US.Army.mil>)

Performance of the Fund has mirrored the market for 2008
Here are unaudited stats;

1 year, minus 40.7%
3 years, minus 4.1%
5 years, positive 6.2%

The 5 year compares very favorably to all Mutual Funds, but was enhanced by timing of several large contributions deposited at that time.

Please consider a cash donation now through Meg Roosma. Timing might be favorable again! She has 2 more years on our board (she was first descendent member) and as Treasurer (Ed Weckel retired) is eager to process your gifts.

John Evans

Chairman (<mailto:jhnevan@aol.com>)

Enclosure 4: Class of 1958 Forum Questionnaire: (Snail Mail Version only). Instructions will be forthcoming for the electronic version of the survey.