



# Class of                      Newsletter

## Summer/Fall 2009

**Letter from the Executive Committee Chairman (Palmer McGrew):** --- And the beat goes on!

The Class just keeps rolling along, getting better all the time, thanks to so many who step up and take care of whatever needs to be done. That has been consistently true for the 20 years I have been on the Executive Committee and it is a hallmark of this great class.

I did the math the other day -- 20 years, over 10 as Chairman, and I realized that I have overstayed my welcome. It's time to move on and let others bring in their ideas. For that reason, I have submitted my resignation to the ExCom and they have elected Jim Hall to be the new Chair effective upon the conclusion of the Class Meeting in Tucson.

It has been my honor and joy to be involved with the Class on the Executive Committee and as Chairman. I'm very proud of our class and all that we have achieved thanks to the efforts of many: those who have served on the EC over its 20 year existence; the CCQs who are the glue that holds the class together; Dick Buckalew, Pete Trainor, George Sibert and all the list moderators who provide intra-class communications; the Wounded Warrior team which has set a high standard that even the Army can't match; hosts for reunions and minis, plus specialty trips of all kinds. But the list doesn't end there and it extends to more people than I have room to thank.

As I have mentioned before, some other classes have trouble finding anyone who will step up. That hasn't been a problem for us. So thank you to everyone who has contributed to our rich class experience. You have made us great. And great we will remain.

See you in Tucson.

**Palmer**

### **TAPS:**

Deaths reported since the Spring 2009 Newsletter:

**John Buchanan**, died 21 May 2009

**Ray Coffey**, died 5 June 2009

Sue Meyer, wife of **Art Meyer**, died 17 August 2009

**Ray Miller**, died 18 August 2009

Betty Lee Bean, widow of Rev. **George Bean**, died 25 August 2009

Obituaries and Eulogies: The obituaries of the following Classmates appeared in the May/June 2009 issue of the "Taps," supplement to Assembly magazine:

**Robert R. Huskinson**  
**Alexander J. Pensiero**  
**Robert E. Tierney**

Obituaries of the following appeared in the October/December 2009 issue of "Taps":

**Frank M. Brown**  
**Douglas S. Detlie**  
**James E. Emmons**  
**Robert J. Matsumoto**  
**Raymond B. Riggan, Jr.**  
**James L. Rossetto**

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>.

**Class Flag:** As a result of the success of this program and the prospects facing all of us mortals, the ExCom approved the purchase of two additional flags to be deployed one to the West Coast and one somewhere in the middle of the country – **VOLUNTEERS are NEEDED to honcho these flags.** Just to review, 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. Sincere thanks to all who have performed this important duty for the class. (**Dale Hruby**)

**ExCom Meeting – 22 September 2009** At their meeting on 22 September 2009, the Executive Committee (ExCom) elected Jim Hall to replace Palmer McGrew as Chairman of the ExCom to be effective subsequent to the Class Meeting at the Mini Reunion in Tucson. They also approved a recommended change to the Class Bylaws to extend eligibility for membership on the ExCom to the entire class regardless of their geographic location. This change will be voted upon by those present at the class meeting in Tucson. The proposed Bylaw changes are enclosed (**Enclosure #1**) to this newsletter. Any classmates not attending the Tucson Reunion are encouraged to vote by contacting the ExCom Secretary, John Raymond prior to 21 October. If the change is approved by a majority of those voting as required by our class Constitution, then the process for securing nominations for filling vacancies as they occur will include the Nominating Committee's publishing an announcement soliciting nominations or volunteers. The election of the new member would then be conducted at the next class meeting, as the Constitution requires.

**Survey of Class Concerning the Forum:** Because of a significant drop in participation in our Class Forum on the Internet, a survey, developed by **Hal Lyon, Stan Bacon** and **Jim Seltzer**, was administered by the ExCom to develop an understanding of this phenomenon. Of the 440 classmates and widows receiving the survey notification by e-mail, 236 responded—more than half. Of the 166 mail-outs, seven responded for a total of 243 responses. The Survey Committee and the ExCom are developing a set of Forum Guidelines which will be published shortly. The complete results of this survey can be seen by clicking on the link on the class website at: <http://www.west-point.org/class/usma1958/>. (NOTE: Those receiving this newsletter by regular mail who are interested in seeing a copy of the Survey Results can obtain one by sending in a Check for \$5.00 made out to the "Class of 1958" to: Dale Hruby; 9502 Burning Branch Road; Burke, VA 22015). (**Dale Hruby**)

**Class Communications:** The West Point Association of Graduates has updated the "WPAOG Net Community" feature of its web site to include a web page for each class. Our primary Class Web Site at: <http://www.west-point.org/class/usma1958/> contains a link to this new '58 AOG page. You will need an AOG password to view some of the features on its site. Your user id is your Cullum number. If you do not remember your AOG password, you can click on the

"Forgotten Password" link and your password will be sent to your email on file with the AOG. If you have never had a password with AOG you can still register with your Cullum number. **Pete Trainor** has made some modifications to the new site so it meshes with our primary site at West-Point.org. You can view the AOG site directly at: <http://www.westpointaog.org/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?pid=1860&srcid=1860&chid=223> . You'll need to sign in to view the "Alumni Only" features. Be sure to click on "My WPAOG" and check out your own data on file with them (you can change it if desired). The new AOG site supplements our primary site with additional information and news of West Point. Check it out -- if you have any questions, contact Pete at [PBTrainor@west-point.org](mailto:PBTrainor@west-point.org) . (**Pete Trainor**)

**Addendum to 50th Reunion Yearbook:** As announced earlier with the call for submissions, an Addendum to the yearbook with key additions and corrections has been completed. This four-page addendum is now available and provides important classmate information that was omitted from the original publication (bio's and photographs) and also corrects identified errors in the original book. Two of these pages are in color, and two in black & white. Two primary options are available for you to receive this addendum: First, you can go to the class web site ([www.west-point.org/class/usma1958](http://www.west-point.org/class/usma1958)) and download these pages, either to just read them or to print them. Instructions as to options for printing them are included on the web site. The second option is that you may have printed copies of the addendum mailed to you. To order a set of professionally printed pages in color and on paper similar to the reunion book, send a check for \$5 (payable to "Class of 1958") to **Alan Salisbury**, 7249 Addington Drive, McLean, VA 22101. (Note: Those individuals whose bio's or photographs were omitted will automatically receive a set of these pages at no cost.) (NOTE: Black and white copies of these four pages are enclosed with the snail mail issues of this newsletter as **Enclosure #2**).

While supplies last, additional copies of the yearbook may be obtained from the WPAOG Gift Shop for \$50 post-paid. Contact Pat Harris ([Patrick.Harris@wpaog.org](mailto:Patrick.Harris@wpaog.org)) for further information. (See **Gift Ideas** below)

The Class of 1958 History Database was created to serve as a vehicle for collecting the information needed to prepare the yearbook. That database will remain on-line as a repository of class history information, and classmates and their families are encouraged to keep it up to date. (It is also recommended that the "privacy" setting for individual classmate records be set to "Grads Only" or "Classmates Only" (or even "Public") rather than remaining "private.") For assistance in logging in to the database, contact **Glenn Brown** ([LTCBrown@comcast.net](mailto:LTCBrown@comcast.net)) or Dian Wells ([info@west-point.org](mailto:info@west-point.org)). *REMEMBER: The data base contains a wealth of information not included in the yearbook, including hundreds of "War Stories & Remembrances" that were not published in the yearbook.* (**Alan Salisbury**)

**Wounded Warrior Mentor Program:** **John Herren**, (301) 229-7713, [jdherr@aol.com](mailto: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 from the Class Store:**

**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.

**50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Book** – Handled by the AOG Gift Shop. Copies of the yearbook may be obtained from the WPAOG Gift Shop for \$50 post-paid. Contact Pat Harris ([Patrick.Harris@wpaog.org](mailto:Patrick.Harris@wpaog.org)) for further information. Credit Cards are acceptable.

**Class of '58 – '08 Coins** – Contact **Jack Downing** (703) 569-2887, [ejdowning@cox.net](mailto: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](mailto:tryan@esinova.org). CD is \$15, DVD is \$20. Checks made payable to West Point Alumni Glee Club.

**Calendar of Upcoming Events:** This calendar (**Enclosure #3**) is based largely upon the Social Events List of the Washington DC Area put together by **Joe Luman** (703) 548-0889, [jluman1@verizon.net](mailto: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. (**Joe Luman**)

**Captain Gerald C. Capelle Memorial Trophy – 14 May 2009.** The "Capelle" this year went to Alpha Company, USMAPS. The award was accepted by Cadet Candidate Zachary Akes, the company First Sergeant. CC Akes was supported by his very extended (about a dozen!) family of hearty Iowa farm people. They are great people and a real pleasure to meet and talk to. Zach was recruited as a wrestler having been an All State athlete in High School. CC Akes, the Alpha company commander and the company Tac all went out of their way to express appreciation for the improved Pizza Party sponsored by the class of 1958. I noticed that, in Commandant Ty Rugenstein's "thank you" note, he also mentions the pizza as "definitely a big hit!" (**Hugh Trumbull**)

**The George W. P. Walker Award – 21 May 2009.** The Class of 1958's annual award to the top member of the Army Debate Team was presented this year by **Pete Penczer** to Cadet Alicia Chan, Class of 2009 at ceremonies in the Department of Social Sciences in Thayer Hall during Graduation Week. (**Tom Carpenter**)

**Marchback from Plebe Hike:** The class of 1958 was represented by **Wally Ward, Will Collett** and **Ed Weckel** marching with the plebes from Lake Frederick to Washington Hall. Wally's report is at **Enclosure #5**.

**FCC Handover:** On 13 Aug, we conducted our annual "formal" handover of the First Class Club to the class of 2010. **Alan Salisbury** gave a few very well-chosen and well-received remarks on behalf of the class of '58. Also present from '58 at the event were Alan's wife Florence, **Tom Morgan, Brad Johnson**, Arlene & **Jack Halsey**, Nancy & **Branch Worsham**, and Bonnie & **Tony Smith**. A detailed report from Tony is included as **Enclosure #6. (Tony Smith)**

#### **Reunions and Mini Reunions:**

October 25-29, 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](http://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.

February 28 – March 6, 2010, Ski Mini Whitefish, MT: **Bill Clary** is hosting the 2010 trip to his new home in Whitefish, MT, assisted by **Jack Crandall** and **Tim McLean**. This should be a great trip for a number of reasons, not the least of which is that members of '58 can ski free!! (Unless you were under the age of 14 in July 54.) The trip will take place from 28 Feb to 6 Mar. Bill will finish negotiations with the selected hotel in a few days and will send further details out on ski58 list. As noted above, if you are not on that list but want to attend, let me (or Bill) know. **(Palmer McGrew)CINCSKI**

September 7-22, 2010, Grand Circle Travel River Cruise of the Rhine and Mosel Rivers: The 16 day trip will be on the GCT's Melody ship and will start September 7, 2010 at Antwerp and end at Basel. To make a reservation call 1-877-220-2540. Our "Group #" is 20100 and our Service Code is G020100. There are options for pre and post trips. You may get information on the trip at the following link: <http://www.gct.com/gcc/general/default.aspx?oid=233466&linklocation=search>. Direct questions to Jude Theibert, at (419) 625-0618. or [jjtheibert@buckeye-express.com](mailto:jjtheibert@buckeye-express.com) . **(Jude Theibert)**

October 10 – 15, 2010 – Mini in Denver, CO, **Rich Clements** is the coordinator, details to follow.

2011 – Mini in Orlando, FL – Bob Tallgren is coordinator

2012 – Open \*(Note: **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to coordinate events for 2012!**)

May 2013 – 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion at West Point – **Gary Roosma** is, as always, Coordinator.

**Class Organization:** Class Organization Chart can be found at **Enclosure #4** to the snail mail versions of the Summer and Winter Newsletters and is posted on the class website. Please notify **Dale Hruby** of any changes or corrections. **(Dale Hruby)**

**Enclosures:**

- Enclosure #1: Proposed changes to the Class Bylaws
- Enclosure # 2: Addendum to 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Yearbook – 4 pages.
- Enclosure #3: Class of 1958 Social Schedule 2008
- Enclosure #4: Class Organization Chart
- Enclosure #5: Report on the March Back from the Plebe Hike
- Enclosure #6: Report on the First Class Club Turnover

**Enclosure #1: Proposed changes to the Class of 1958 Bylaws:**

BY-LAWS  
OF THE  
CLASS OF 1958  
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

SECTION I  
COMPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee will be composed of at least five classmates. The Class President and Reporter (or Scribe) will be ex-officio members of the committee. The Executive Committee will organize itself with a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary.

SECTION II  
ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. The elective members of the Committee will be elected annually by a simple majority of the members of the Class present and voting at the Annual Class Meeting.
- B. Nominations will be accepted from any member of the Class..

SECTION III  
CLASS HEADQUARTERS

- A. The Executive Committee shall be located at a place designated as the Class Headquarters.
- B. West Point will serve initially and until changed as the Class Headquarters.
- C. Class Headquarters may be changed from time to time by the Class President (or ranking Permanent Class Officer) to reflect the shifting geographical location of the Class).

SECTION IV  
RESPONSIBILITIES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. The Executive Committee will:
  - a. Coordinate and maintain continuous records of all class activities.
  - b. Maintain continuous records of the Class Fund and render a financial report annually in Assembly or in another publication, which will be sent to all class members for whom the class has an address.
  - c. Appoint a Class Reporter who will write the Class column for Assembly. It is not necessary that a new Reporter be appointed each year.
  - d. Establish procedures for the nomination and election of members to the Executive Committee.
  - e. As required, establish such committees as are required for the conduct of Class business.
  - f. Make all decisions for the Class except as otherwise indicated in this Constitution.
- B. Decisions of the Committee will be made by a simple majority, each member of the Committee having one vote.

SECTION V

## AMENDMENT

These By-Laws may be amended in the same manner as the Constitution, as specified by Article VII of same.

**Enclosure #2: Addendum to 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Yearbook:**

\_4 Pages attached in regular mail packets only. See Alan Salisbury's note above.

**Enclosure #3: 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. At the Fairfax venue, this is relaxed to "golf casual".

November 19--Thursday ANCC Arlington With USNA 1958.

**Other Activities—**

**The West Point Alumni Glee Club** will be providing another concert with the Virginia Grand Military Band and the Army's Herald Trumpets on November 7<sup>th</sup> -- Details to follow. Please email [tryan@esinova.org](mailto:tryan@esinova.org) or call (703) 263-2232. More information on the concert is available at [www.wpalumnigleeclub.org](http://www.wpalumnigleeclub.org).

**Army-Navy Game Tailgate** 12 Dec 2009 – Florence and Alan Salisbury at Evans Farm in McLean, VA and will once again host the Tailgate – CBS coverage of the Army Navy game is now scheduled to start at 2:30 and Alan informs me that his flyer will set the invite time about a half hour earlier.

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

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



**Enclosure #4: Class Organization:** The Class of 1958 is currently organized as follows:

**Class President:** Jack Bradshaw, (847) 528-1800, [jackabrine@earthlink.net](mailto:jackabrine@earthlink.net) .

**ExCom Chairman:** Palmer McGrew, (703) 323-9671, [PALMERMCG@aol.com](mailto:PALMERMCG@aol.com) .

**ExCom Chairman Elect:** Jim Hall (703) 777-2887, [jbh58@verizon.net](mailto:jbh58@verizon.net)

**ExCom Secretary/Class Records:** John Raymond, (703) 641-0227, [JohnARaymond@aol.com](mailto:JohnARaymond@aol.com)

**ExCom Treasurer:** Tony Bauer (703)960-3780, [ABauer0658@aol.com](mailto:ABauer0658@aol.com) .

**ExCom Class Gift and FCC Coordinator:** Tony Smith (703) 838-0338, [aasmith58@msn.com](mailto:aasmith58@msn.com).

**ExCom Communications/CCQ Liaison:** Dale Hruby (703) 250-7182, [dalehruby@aol.com](mailto:dalehruby@aol.com) .

**ExCom Social Activities:** Joe Luman (703) 548-0889, [jcluman1@verizon.net](mailto:jcluman1@verizon.net).

**ExCom LnO to Wounded Warrior Program:** Dick Schonberger (703) 425-9412,  
[Richard\\_58@verizon.net](mailto:Richard_58@verizon.net).

**Class Initiatives:** Bill Serchak (301) 948-7780, [weserchak@erols.com](mailto:weserchak@erols.com)

**Class History:** Alan Salisbury, (703) 821-1660, [AlanBS58@aol.com](mailto:AlanBS58@aol.com).

**AOG Board Member:** Al Salisbury, (703) 242-8648, [AlanBS58@aol.com](mailto:AlanBS58@aol.com) .

**Class Rep on AOG Advisory Council:** Tony Smith, (703) 838-0338, [aasmith58@msn.com](mailto:aasmith58@msn.com).

**Liaison to Widows:** Audrey Webb (Ex Officio ExCom Member) (703) 425-9302, no e mail.

**Widow Support Group:** Moderator, Sue Kernan, [ladysue2000@aol.com](mailto:ladysue2000@aol.com).

**Wounded Warrior Mentor Program:** John Herren, (301) 229-7713, [jdherr@aol.com](mailto:jdherr@aol.com).

**Cancer Support Group:** Moderator, Stan Bacon, [sbacon58@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sbacon58@sbcglobal.net).

**Perpetual Endowment Fund:** Board President, John Evans, [jhevan@aol.com](mailto:jhevan@aol.com).

**Class Scribe for Assembly:** George Sibert, (703) 525-4094, [gsibert@comcast.net](mailto:gsibert@comcast.net) .

**Class Web Site Meister:** Pete Trainor, (757) 345-3564, [PBTrainor@cox.net](mailto:PBTrainor@cox.net).

**Class Network & Forum Moderator:** Dick Buckalew, (210) 684-9669, [buckalew@west-point.org](mailto:buckalew@west-point.org).

**Death Notices and Obituaries:** Jack Downing (703) 569-2887, [edowning@mcihispeed.net](mailto:edowning@mcihispeed.net)

**55th Reunion Coordinator:** Gary Roosma (802) 375- 1374, [groosma@earthlink.net](mailto:groosma@earthlink.net).

**CCQ Network** -- OIC – Dale Hruby, M2, ([dalehruby@aol.com](mailto:dalehruby@aol.com) )

**First Regiment**

A1--Lee Miller, (301) 601-2733, ([mlmiller58@comcast.net](mailto:mlmiller58@comcast.net))

B1--Dick Price, (804) 684-0730, ([rpricecell@cox.net](mailto:rpricecell@cox.net))

C1--Jerry Mitchell, (703) 866-0145, ([gergermar@cox.net](mailto:gergermar@cox.net))

D1--John Galen, (904) 285-8037, ([JGalen620@aol.com](mailto:JGalen620@aol.com))

E1--Larry Bullis, (717) 334-6323, ([lnjbullis@earthlink.net](mailto:lnjbullis@earthlink.net))

F1--Bob Rhodes, (703) 360-5110, ([rgrhodes@compuserv.com](mailto:rgrhodes@compuserv.com))

G1--Andy Andreson, (703) 385-2502, ([randreson@cox.net](mailto:randreson@cox.net))

H1--John Devens, (303) 346-1086, ([jwdevens@gmail.com](mailto:jwdevens@gmail.com))

I1--Tony Bauer, (703) 960-3780, ([abauer0658@aol.com](mailto:abauer0658@aol.com))

K1-- Bill Serchak (301) 948-7780, ([weserchak@erols.com](mailto:weserchak@erols.com)).  
L1--Dick Reidy, (703) 569-2292, ([papeach53@yahoo.com](mailto:papeach53@yahoo.com))  
M1--Otto Thamasett, (703) 451-2086, ([ottojt@verizon.net](mailto:ottojt@verizon.net))

### **Second Regiment**

A2--Chuck Densford, (512) 930-4717, ([densford58@juno.com](mailto:densford58@juno.com))  
B2--Karl Oelke, (970) 945-1043, ([kelkes658@msn.com](mailto:kelkes658@msn.com)).  
C2--Peter Penczer, (203) 255-0300, ([ppenczer@optionline.net](mailto:ppenczer@optionline.net))  
D2--Paul Ruud, (530) 886-8806, ([ruud@starband.net](mailto:ruud@starband.net))  
E2--Chuck Toftoy, (703) 276-0421, ([cash@gwu.edu](mailto:cash@gwu.edu))  
F2--Glenn Brown, (410) 836-9133, ([ltcbrown@comcast.net](mailto:ltcbrown@comcast.net))  
G2--John Palmer, (970) 945-7258, ([dunmovin@rofl.net](mailto:dunmovin@rofl.net))  
H2--Joe Luman, (703) 548-0889, ([jluman1@verizon.net](mailto:jluman1@verizon.net))  
I2--Stan Bacon, (512) 345-7999, ([sbacon58@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sbacon58@sbcglobal.net))  
K2--Bo Craddock, (281) 370-1555, ([bfcrraddock@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bfcrraddock@sbcglobal.net))  
L2--Bob Higgins, (407) 365-4596, ([higginsrm@aol.com](mailto:higginsrm@aol.com))  
M2--Ash Haynes, (360) 678-8491, ([ashtonh@gte.net](mailto:ashtonh@gte.net))

### **Enclosure #5: Wally Ward's Report on the Marchback (MB) from the Plebe Hike.**

The MB was a total of 13.7 miles. We (Ed, Will, & I) prepared for the MB by eating our last meal with our wives at Shades restaurant in HF. The meals were huge!!! But Will put us to shame by eating everything on his plate. Next, we planned to get some sleep with a wake up call at 1:45 am. However, I woke up at 12 am with flashes of lightning & thunder. This continued right up to wake up call. I said to myself, s--t, this is going to be a wet MB. We boarded the buses at 2:50 am with a light rain.

At Lake Frederick, we entered a building to wait our turn to join our cadet company. Also, a huge buffet consisting of bagels, ham & egg sandwiches, sausage & egg sandwiches, danish pastries of all types, donuts of all types, fruits of all types, cold drinks, & coffee. After our big meal, it was difficult to eat more food. But we did. At 6:10 am, we joined our company to begin the MB.

The first six miles of the MB were tough. We went up one hill after another, as Will would complain to Ed about all these hills. What made this MB difficult were the slopes going downhill. On one of these slopes, Ed slipped on a large smooth rock & tried to recover his footing. His recovery technique jarred his two knees. I am sure he suffered pain for the rest of the MB. However, he did not complain for the rest of the MB. Along the way, we met the Army football coach & some of the plebe football players. He gave us some insights on the coming football season. The rest of the MB was very pleasant with a full sun to take us to ski slope area. After reorganizing for MB to the Supt's quarters, we were met along the way with hundreds of fans & our wives cheering the cadets & grads.

After cleaning up at the gym, we gathered at Eisenhower Hall for a great lunch. Williams, class of 45 - age 86, was given a standing ovation for completing the MB for the 6th time. At the ski slope, I requested the MB organizer to recognize the MBs who had completed all 10 MBs. He thought that was a good idea & would do so at the luncheon. However, this did not happen. The reason was he wanted to celebrate his wife's birthday with cake & this was at the end of the ceremony. However, I did get a piece of the cake & it was very good. Now on to MB number 11. Do we have any volunteers!!!

PS: The next morning I was up for my daily run with the purpose of taking some pictures of West Point & the Hudson River. On my way back to the 5 Star Inn as I was running past the civilian guard near Grant Hall, he shouted at me " that's what keeping you young." Needless to say **THAT MADE MY DAY! (Wally Ward)**

### **Enclosure #6 – Tony Smith's Report on the FCC Turnover**

On 13 Aug, we conducted our annual "formal" handover of the First Class Club to the class of 2010. This has now become a tradition at West Point, and the current team from the Director of Cadet Activities has it down cold. The Firsties are represented by the First Captain and the Class President, both of whom say a few words, they manage to find a 2d Lt from last year's class to hand over the framed charter for the FCC to the new First Class, and they unveil a framed class crest for the new First Class to be hung in the Club while they "own" it.

**Alan Salisbury** gave a few very well-chosen and well-received remarks on behalf of the class of '58 to tell the Firsties why we made the gift and what we expect from them. Also present from '58 at the event were Alan's wife Florence, **Tom Morgan**, **Brad Johnson**, Arlene & **Jack Halsey**, Nancy & **Branch Worsham**, and my wife Bonnie. The Com, BG Mike Linnington, and his wife were also present. I tried to get Alan to sing the original song he has written, "Eat, Drink, and Beat Navy", but did not succeed, although I understand the cadet in charge of the Glee Club and her buddies cornered him later and elicited a few verses.

What a difference a couple of years make! The class of 2010 turned out en masse for the event, which was the opening night for the FCC - we have never had such a large crowd, which filled the Club as well as the patio outside. In marked contrast, unfortunately, to our mentee class of '08, the class of '10 was attentive and interested while at the same time able to consume an unbelievable number of pitchers of beer. We made a lot of money for Cadet Activities that nite.

Among the Firsties present was **Bud Moentmann's** grandson, a friendly, handsome, well-spoken lad we enjoyed talking to. He made Brad Johnson's day by saying he was thinking of either Infantry or Aviation for a branch choice. I was escorted by the class president, another personable cadet, African-American with 52 months prior service and three rows of ribbons on his chest (he entered West Point just under the age limit). His photo, as a Cow, is on the cover of the May/June Assembly for those who subscribe, participating in the Ring Melt for the class of 2010. As has been the case for a few years now, he is a USMA Prep Schooler, as is the First Captain, another impressive young man who looks and acts like a First Captain and charged his classmates to show respect for the Club and set an example for the underclasses.

It was a fun evening for us. The cadets are very tolerant of us old fogeys, the USMA Administration indulges and supports very well our annual event, and the Firsties are very, very appreciative of our gift. It made us proud to see how important the class of '58 gift is to the lives of the First Class. We done good, guys!

Best regards, Tony

P.S. The Club looked great! COL Craig Flowers, the Club Manager, Pat Brown, and the team at the DCA are doing a good job of maintaining it.

P.P.S. 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 for next year and watch out for a specific date. (Contact **Tony Smith** (703) 838-0338, [aasmith58@msn.com](mailto:aasmith58@msn.com).)