



Class of 1958 USMA Newsletter

Fall 2011

Letter from the Executive Committee Chairman (Jim Hall): The Orlando Mini-Reunion was greatly enjoyed by all who attended. That included 130 Classmates. Many thanks to Bob Tallgren and all who assisted him in making this Mini possible. See Bob's report at **Enclosure #2** for more details on participation in Orlando. During the Class Meeting in Orlando Tony Smith provided a report on a proposal to enhance the capacity of the First Class Club at West Point by enclosing the Patio area with a retractable glass enclosure. A write-up summarizing that update is included at **Enclosure #3**. Be sure to read the update and **VOTE** on the necessary expenditure of funds to make this happen!

Planning for the next Mini is already underway. Palmer McGrew is leading this effort, and has provided more details on the status of planning below. Please mark the dates of 5--8 October 2012 for our next big gathering. We hope to see you all in DC!

Be sure also to check the Class Notes Section on the AOG website. George Sibert has provided detailed instructions by separate email on how to access the Class Notes (**Enclosure #4**). The Class Notes are free to all and include a number of excellent color pictures of our Classmates. Don't miss it.

This is intended to be the last hard copy newsletter to be widely circulated by snail mail. So many important communications to the Class are made more efficiently via email and the Class Website. With another round of postage increases around the corner, the Executive Committee felt it was time to make a major push to ask all our Classmates to go the electronic route, and gain access to a host of information that Pete Trainor maintains for the Class on our website. Karl Oelke heads our communications area for the Executive Committee and has provided additional information on the change in newsletter distribution below.

It seems hard to believe that Thanksgiving is only weeks away. Best wishes to all for Happy Holiday Season!

58 is Great!
Jim Hall

TAPS:

Deaths reported since the Winter 2010 Newsletter:

- **Fred M Ruffner, Jr.(Ex '58) died 8 Mar 2008**
- **Virginia Day (Wayne – G2) died 21 May 2010**
- **Harvey R. Jahn, Jr. (F1) died 5 Feb 2011**
- **Ernest R. Lenart, Jr. (Tex) (I-1) died 15 Apr 2011**
- **William A. Roosma (Will) (H2) died 29 Apr 2011**
- **Donald DeJardin (A-1) died 16 Aug 2011**
- **Paul T. Schonberger (P.T.) (F-1) died 26 Aug 2011**
- **Turner D. Griffin, Jr. (Buck) (B-1) died 10 Sep 2011**
- **Bruce B. Davenport (G-1) died 21 Oct 2011**

Obituaries and Eulogies: The obituaries of the following Classmates appeared in the July 2011 issue of the "Taps," supplement to the final issue of Assembly magazine:

- **Clark J. Bailey (D-2)**
- **John R. Deely (K-2)**
- **Richard N. Groves, Jr. (K-1)**
- **Michael S. Jones (I-2)**
- **William R. Miller (D-2)**
- **Roderick E. Ordway (G-1)**
- **John B. Stone (A-1)**
- **William J. Wafer (E-2)**
- **John B. Williams (A-1)**

The following is the link to our class Eulogy page:

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

Last Hard Copy Newsletter: Sending hard copies of our semi-annual class newsletter has been judged inefficient and costly. This will be the last issue automatically sent to what has been referred to as the "snail mail list." The newsletter will be posted on the class website in the future and many of the Enclosures such as the Organizational Chart will become specific features of the website. Those who wish to continue getting hard copies can do so by sending a check for \$10.00 per year to Karl Oelke, 804 North Traver Trail, Glenwood Springs, CO 81601 for two issues. (**Karl Oelke**)

Perpetual Endowment Fund: John Evans, Chairman of the PEF announced that Valerie G. Coffey, Class of '85 and daughter of our own Ray Coffey, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the '58 Endowment Fund. Ray would be so proud of her. Valerie will succeed John on the board as of November 9, 2011, when he retires as Chairman and board member. Valerie will work with Dusty Rhodes this coming year and eventually replace Dusty as secretary of the board. Jack Downing suggests that we all make provisions for our descendents to celebrate the first distribution from the PEF and the 100th Anniversary of our graduation in 2058. (**Enclosure #5**). The current Perpetual Endowment Fund (PEF) minutes, dated 13 August 2011, are now on our class website. <<http://www.westpoint.org/class/usma1958>> Copies will be snail mailed upon request. Make donations payable to Fidelity Investment, CGF, for USMA Class 1958; send to Mr. Russell Robertson, 8606 Cross View, Fairfax Station, VA 22039. (**Dusty Rhodes**)

Marchback 2011 Earns \$13+K for PEF: Ed Weckel reports that the Marchback participants from the class -- Will Collett, Wally Ward, Ed and Mike Daley generated over \$13K for their marchback exploits. There were a total of 58 contributors (what a coincidence!) who contributed a total of \$7359.60 -- \$6k of which was matched by two anonymous classmates, bringing the grand total to \$13,359.60. (**Ed Weckel**)

First Class Club Handover: Tony Smith reports on the handover of the First Class Club to the Class of 2012 at **Enclosure #7**. (**Tony Smith**)

Reunions and Mini Reunions:

2012 -- October 5--8, 2012: Mini in Washington, DC -- **Palmer McGrew** is coordinator

2013 -- 18-22 May 2013 -- 55th Reunion at West Point -- **Gary Roosma** is coordinator.

2014 -- Needs a sponsor

2015 -- Needs a Sponsor

2016 -- Needs a Sponsor

Washington, DC Mini: A mini reunion in the Washington DC area is being planned for 5--8 October 2012. We will be headquartered at the Fair Oaks Marriott, across the parking lot from one of the nations premier malls. We are planning three days of tours including but not limited to Mount Vernon (if you haven't been there in the past two years you will want to do this), The National Mall, and The Smithsonian

Museum, which is really many museums. The mini tours will require walking, but even if you don't tour, you can still "re-une" with classmates at the hotel, in restaurants and at the mall. Information will be forthcoming.

55th Reunion At West Point: Date of '58 55th Reunion is Saturday, 18-22 May, 2013, Our Headquarters will be at the Park Ridge Marriott in New Jersey (where we stayed for the 45th Reunion). No detailed schedule has yet been made--suggestions welcome. (**Gary Roosma**)

Other Calendar Events:

Ski '58: 26 Feb -- 3 Mar 2012 at Snowmass Mountain Chalet, Snowmass, CO (<http://www.mountainchalet.com/>), \$169 per night for two people (a few slots remain, but need to make reservations soon) See **Enclosure #6** for details. (**Karl Oelke**)

Class Memorial Ceremony & Luncheon -- Vietnam Memorial & Army/Navy CC-- 20 May 2012

Marchback with the USMA Class of 2016 -- Date in August 2012 to be determined

FCC Turnover -- Mid August 2012

Enclosures:

- **Enclosure #1: Class Organization**
- **Enclosure #2: Report on Orlando Mini**
- **Enclosure #3: Proposal to Enclose the First Class Club Patio**
- **Enclosure #4: Goat Guide to Accessing the Class Website**
- **Enclosure #5: Celebration of our 100th Anniversary of Graduation, June 2058**
- **Enclosure #6: Ski Mini, Snowmass, CO**
- **Enclosure #7: First Class Club Handover Report**
- **Enclosure #8: (Snail Mail Only) Class Roster as of Orlando Mini, September 2011**

Enclosure #1 --Class Organization:

The Class of 1958 is currently organized as follows:

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

ExCom Chairman: Jim Hall (703) 777-2887, jbh58@verizon.net

ExCom_Vice Chairman/Secretary/Class Records: John Raymond, (703) 641-0227, JohnARaymond@aol.com

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

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

Advisor at Large USMA AOG Advisory Council: Tony Smith, (703) 838-0338, aasmith58@msn.com.

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

ExCom Communications/ CCQ Coordinator: Karl Oelke (970) 945-1043, oelke658@gmail.com.

ExCom LnO to Wounded Warrior Program: Dick Schonberger (703) 425-9412, Richard_58@verizon.net.

ExCom, Coordinator of Class History Data Base: Paul Ruud (530) 886-8806, ruud@strband.net

Class Initiatives: Bill Serchak (301) 948-7780, wserchak@comcast.net

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

Widow Liaison to ExCom: Anne Martin (Tredway), (202) 484-2981, <dannemartin@aol.com>

Widow Email list Moderator: Sue Kernan, Ladysue2000@aol.com.

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

Cancer Support Group: Moderator, Stan Bacon, sbacon58@sbcglobal.net.

Perpetual Endowment Fund: Board President, John Evans, jhevan@aol.com.

Class Scribe for AOG Column: George Sibert, (703) 525-4094, gsibert@comcast.net .

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

Class Network & Forum Moderator: Dick Buckalew, (210) 684-9669, <buckalew@west-point.org>.

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

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

Class Flag Coordinator & Newsletter Editor: Dale Hruby (703) 250-7182, dalehruby@aol.com .

CCQ Network -- OIC – Karl Oelke, (970) 945-1043, <oelkes658@gmail.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@compuser.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-- Bill Serchak (301) 948-7780, wserchak@comcast.net .

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@gmail.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—John Palmer, (970) 945-7258, (dunmovin@rof.net)

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:

Classmates, Wives and Widows,

Thank you for coming the *Orlando Mini Reunion* and making it a rousing success. One hundred and thirty classmates made it despite some last minute cancellations due to family emergencies and or major health issues.

The Memorial Service in the *Wantilan Pavillion* was attended by two hundred and twenty-five people. The setting was quiet, solemn, and fitting for the traditional echoing buglers and bag piper. They added the perfect touch to a moving and emotional ceremony honoring those who marched before us.

One hundred and fifty people enjoyed the *Cirque du Soleil* show and seventy-five classmates and spouses took the exclusive tour of Winter Park. They toured the world renowned *Charles Morse Museum* which houses the Tiffany Glass and Chapel Collection. Lunch was fine French dining at the establishment of *Chez Vincent*. The day was topped off with wine sampling at Park Avenue's ever popular *Wine Room*.

Our class golfers were treated to playing three great golf courses which concluded on the famous *Hyatt Grand Cypress Golf Club's* "links course" designed by Jack Nicklaus.

Wednesday evening's "*58 is Great Gala*" was attended by 190 classmates, wives and guests. Based on comments from the attendees, the food was fabulous and the band was outstanding. Our dance band, The Bobby Mercer Swing Band, kept us on the dance floor all evening swinging and swaying to the "oldies but goodies."

The Loews Royal Pacific proved to be a great selection for our reunion. Its location and convenience to Universal Studios, Disney World and shopping made getting around easy. The hotel's attention to detail, personal service and amenities added to the success of this mini reunion.

The entire Mini Reunion was captured on film by a local professional photographer, Peter Burg. Pete started shooting at the Sunday evening Welcome Reception and finished up on Wednesday evening at the Gala. He has posted the photos on his web site along with information on how to go about ordering. Pete Burg's email containing his contact information is an addendum to this letter.

Accolades go to all of those who attended. It has been an honor and privilege to plan, organize and direct this event for the Great Class of 1958.

Best regards,

Bob Tallgren
Reunion Coordinator

Addendum:

Here is the link for the reunion photos

<https://vando.imagequix.com/proof.html?id=3912X94&eventid=1072-7190-0004> the password is 58. Please let everyone know to click on the link, it will bring up a screen that says Class of 58' West Point. They then have to enter their email address and the password 58. The reunion is divided into different events. The group shot is available in 12x8, 18x12 and 24x12 sizes only. The other photos are available only in 4x6, 5x7 and 8x10 sizes. This is a secure site, so no one should have to worry about entering their credit card information. We will process the orders quickly. It was a pleasure working with and your class.

Enclosure #3: First Class Club - Update

Our class gift to West Point continues to play a significant and highly popular role in the social life of the First Class. We have been receiving regular reports of its success from Brad Johnson and Munge Moore, Army football season ticket holders who selflessly arrange their travel so as to frequent the First Class Club (FCC) on Friday nights before the game. There are so dedicated to the class that they even stay to close the Club when they are there. (Heck of a long way to go for free beer, guys!)

The only shortcoming of the FCC is its capacity. The Club can accommodate a maximum of 250 persons or thereabouts. On peak nights (Fridays during football season, Thursdays otherwise), cadets are literally four deep at the bar waiting to buy their pitchers.

We have been talking to the Director of Cadet Activities (DCA) about the possibility of enclosing the patio at the Club to allow its use during cold and/or inclement weather. We have a proposal from a vendor for a retractable glass enclosure. I've been to see the product in operation on a roof top lounge in an upscale New York City hotel, and it's pretty nifty. Being able to use the patio year-round would add another 200+ people to the capacity of the FCC. We have not finished negotiating price, but I think we're looking at somewhere in a range of \$200,000 to \$225,000. Considering that their first proposal came in slightly north of \$297,000, we're making good progress.

I need to dot some i's and cross some t's before we are ready to close the deal. We'll need the Director of Public Works to agree to take care of a small amount of prep work that is the owner's responsibility. I want to make sure that the DCA is firm in putting in space heaters and an outside bar, as he has agreed to do. Also, the NY State Historical Office has to agree to let us modify this historically-protected building (we have a preliminary agreement from them).

The class will have to raise some money for this much needed enhancement of the FCC. We have some cash (approximately \$26,000) in our class gift fund. There is also a provision in the By-Laws of the Perpetual Endowment Fund that would allow us to draw up to \$100,000 for enhancements of the FCC if the class gift fund is exhausted.

The class By-Laws call for a class vote on any major expenditure of class funds. Please indicate your approval by responding to the Resolution below NLT 10 Dec 2011. Send your response by snail mail or email to John Raymond, Executive Committee Vice Chairman and Secretary. To facilitate response by email, a separate message has been sent out by email from John. You can simply hit the reply key and register your vote. For snail mail replies, simply tear off the ballot below and mail to: John A. Raymond, 3491 Pence Court, Annandale, VA 22003.

Tony Smith

Mail to: John A. Raymond, 3491 Pence Court, Annandale, VA 22003.

Resolution

Be it resolved that the Class of 1958 will support the proposed patio expansion of the First Class Club as described above. Required funds will be provided by three sources – the Class Gift Fund, The Perpetual Endowment Fund, and by a Fund Raising Campaign.

For _____

Against _____

Submitted by: _____

Cadet Company: _____

Enclosure #4: Classmates--I have received three emails from classmates who have read the column. That made me give it a try. Then at class luncheon at Army/Navy Country Club today I asked for show of hands for those who had read it. About half the group raised hands (about 20 of the 40 or so attendees). Some asked how to get there to read it... I promised Goat Spec on how to do it. Here goes:

However you get to internet, you want to go to <http://www.westpointaog.org>. (sorry this did not become a link -- this digitally-challenged Scribe does not know how to do that when it does not happen automatically. And this one did not.) Type it in and go.

On the right side of AOG web page you can point and click on "Read Class Notes." If you do this, you will get info that says your "Login" is required.

Back to AOG web page and near the top right is Click Here to Login or Sign Up. Point to it and click it.

Now you need your "User ID" and a "password." "User ID" is your Cullum number. Enter it and your password and click "Login." If you did this correctly, you are good to go. On right side of screen you can now click Read Class Notes -- next screen gives decades of class notes. In case you have forgotten, you want to click on 1958 first. Read 180th Column. Back to this page and click on other classes whose notes you want to read.

BUT, if you have forgotten your password click on "Forgotten Password." Try this before registering as a new user. You may have established one and truly forgotten it. Tomorrow AOG will send your password or tell you that you are not registered.

If you KNOW you have never had a password, you can click on "New User Registration" and AOG will get back to you tomorrow during business hours via email and take care of the problem.

Once in class notes, you can read the column, see the photos where they are placed, etc. You can click somewhere to visit site for larger pictures.

Good Luck, George
(Sibert, Class Scribe)

Ed. Note: After George Sibert wrote this, Pete Trainor sent the following: " Thanks, George. Classmates, I've added the AOG link under "Class Notes" on the homepage of our Class Web Site at: www.west-point.org/class/usma1958/. A very nice feature of the new Class Notes is the ability to expand the photos for better viewing."

Enclosure #5: "2058" – Special Activities

Classmates and Ladies,

Three years ago we buried a Time Capsule to be unearthed in 2058. Also, that is the year that our Perpetual Endowment Fund will make its first donation to West Point. The class of 2008, with whom we have a special close relationship, will celebrate its 50th graduation anniversary. All of which makes 2058 a special year.

Of course none of us will be around to celebrate, but our grandchildren may be and we have made some preliminary plans to encourage them to remember us at West Point. Two groups we know will likely still be in existence-the West Point Association of Graduates (WPAOG) and the '58 Perpetual Endowment Board(PEB. These have both agreed to help. The PEB will be the action agency and the WPAOG will act as a directing agency for our grandchildren.

It would be virtually impossible to track the whereabouts of our descendents, but you can leave some directions for them to contact the WPAOG in early 2058 which will then direct them to the PEB.

To assist you in this, I will send out a draft letter for you to leave for your grandchildren (and great grandchildren) with some directions. I suggest that you modify the draft to suite your circumstances, put it in a strong envelope and, with a class coin if you have one, pass it on to those who follow.

I thank those involved in bringing this effort to this point, especially Ed Weckel who prepared the initial draft of the letter.

The draft letter will follow separately.
Jack Downing

Enclosure #6: Ski Mini:

Classmates—2012 Ski Mini – Snowmass, CO

DATES: arrive Sunday 26 Feb; depart Saturday 3 Mar 2012 (3 days before and 3 days after at same price)

PLACE: Snowmass Mountain Chalet, Snowmass, CO (This is NOT the Mountain Chalet in downtown Aspen)

PRICE: \$169 per two-person room (+12.8% lodging tax). 15 rooms being held at that price until 1700 hrs 27 Dec 2011. More might be available, if needed.

RESERVATIONS: you make your own. 800-843-1579. Snowmass Mountain Chalet direct 970-923-3900.

DEPOSIT: 1 night's lodging at time of booking; remainder of total lodging charges collected 30 days prior to scheduled arrival.

CANCELLATIONS: Prior to 27 Dec 2011 no penalty. From 27 Dec to 27 Jan 2012 forfeit 1 night's lodging. After 27 Jan 2012 no refunds.

TRANSPORTATION: Snowmass Mountain Chalet will provide van from Aspen airport (notify them of arrival details). \$8/person tip for driver. Car not necessary.

AMENITIES: Heated pool and hot tub. Two welcome receptions, 1 Sunday late PM, one TBA, with light hors d'oeuvres, beer, and wine. Daily hot breakfast and hot soup lunch. Ski-in, ski out. Each person receives \$20 gift certificate to restaurant of Snowmass Hospitality's choosing (last year we used these for our farewell Friday night dinner).

LAST YEAR'S ATTENDEES: Bob & Tim Foster, Bill Gillette, Chuck & Celia Hansult, Ken Herberger w/son & daughter-in-law, Karl & Sue Oelke, Jim & Sally Tilley, Dave & Val Turner, Gene & Ellie Wilson.

PLANNING TO COME (some with family) SO FAR (to date): Rich Clements, Bob Foster, Chuck Hansult, Ken Herberger, Palmer McGrew, Dick McPeck, Bill Morrison, Karl Oelke, Paul Ruud, Joe Schwar, Bill Shepard, Jim Tilley, Dave Turner, Gene Wilson

Your ever-faithful CINC '58 Ski Snowmass 2012,

Karl

Enclosure #7: First Class Club Handover Report

We held the customary handover ceremony for the First Class Club on 11 August, charging the class of 2012 with two responsibilities: 1) use and enjoy the Club fully and 2) pass it on to the class of 2013 in as good or better condition that they found it.

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> As I have reported in recent years, this informal half-hour event has become ingrained in the Reorg Week routines by now. We get excellent support from the Cadet Activities Director who runs the Club, and from the Tactical Department. As in the past few years, the First Captain and Class President speak to the several hundred Firsties who come to the event. A representative of last year's First Class passes the FCC Charter formally to the new First Class. We are given an opportunity to introduce our '58 classmates present and for one of our group to speak to the First Class. This year we drafted our Class President, Jack Bradshaw, as our speaker. Jack offered some well-chosen and well-received remarks with the ingenious theme of the FCC, and by extension, West Point as a lab. (It was an Ordnance Lab in our day, now it's a lab for cadets to interact - consult with Jack for the full text.)

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> I think we had a near record number of classmates who took the trouble to come to West Point to attend. They included the unofficial, unelected but vital class advisors who act as our eyes and ears at the FCC, Brad Johnson and Munge Moore; Pete and Lynne Penczer; Chuck and Celia Hansult; Rube and Laurelei Waddell; Jimmy and Susan Weis and their grandson; Branch and Nancy Worsham; and Bonnie was with me. (I hope I haven't missed anybody.) Jack brought not only Lynne but two of his sons and three grandkids. Jack's eldest grandchild, a very comely junior at Indiana University, appeared to be much appreciated by the cadets. (The ever helpful Munge Moore tried to fix her up with the First Captain (also a Hoosier) for Ring Hop, but it seems he already has a date.)

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> A good time was had by all. The cadets are very tolerant of us old fogeys injecting ourselves, however briefly, into their lives, and they are most demonstrably grateful for the gift. I think I can speak for all the '58ers who attend that the cadets are, to use that overworked word, awesome, and great fun, indeed even inspiring, to talk with.

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> Tony