



**USMA CLASS OF 1958
NOVEMBER 2012 NEWSLETTER**

Letter from the Executive Committee Chairman ([Jim Hall jbh58@verizon.net](mailto:jimhall@verizon.net))

The DC Mini-Reunion was a great success! Approximately 270 attended the early October event. Many thanks to Palmer McGrew and his dedicated team for making all the excellent arrangements. Chuck and Patty Toftoy did a super job running the Benny Havens Room – which was well attended throughout the Mini. I am told that the most popular beverage was water. We must be getting old – or perhaps taking too many medicines!

During the Class Meeting held at the Mini, we unanimously elected Jack Gordon to fill the position on the Executive Committee vacated by Joe Luman as social chairman. Thanks to Joe for his outstanding efforts arranging Class Luncheons in the DC area with a host of entertaining programs and speakers, as well as coordinating with sponsors for future Mini-Reunions. Joe served in this position for the past five years.

Next year we will celebrate with our 55th Reunion at West Point. See the info provided by Garry Roosma below. Plan to attend!

Best wishes to all for a Happy Thanksgiving! **58 Is Great!**

2012 Washington DC Mini (Palmer McGrew palmermcg@aol.com)

This year's mini was held in the DC suburb of Fairfax, VA. About 270 attended (I never could fix the total number with all the adds and drops), and so far all comments have been favorable.

Many, like Ceda and I, are content to be in the same place with classmates at the same time, but we offered tours each day which were well-attended and appreciated. Lee and Marian Fay hosted a day at the "new and improved" Mount Vernon, while Paula Johnson hosted an alternative visit to Gunston Hall and the Pohick Church. On another day, devoted to the National Mall, side trips were hosted by Jack Downing to Ford's Theater, by Dick Reynard to the new Capitol Visitors Center and the Capitol, and by Jerry Prochaska to the National Gallery. We had our own National Mall expert, Pete (the younger) Penczer who has written and published an excellent book on the Mall, a copy of which was given to each

participating family. Alan Chase took a group to the Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Museum at Dulles, and Andy Andreson led the golfers off to days on the links. The memorial service was held in the Women's Service Memorial auditorium at Arlington National Cemetery. Betty and Herb Puscheck made transportation available and somehow managed to bring everyone back at the end of each day. Many had family and friends in the area to visit as well.

The West Point Alumni Glee Club performed at the Banquet and many told me it was the highlight of the reunion. Bibs Reynard in league with our class graphic honcho Frank Waskowicz, designed a mini logo and Bibs had totebags ("Mementotes") for everyone bearing that logo. Frank provided more wonderful graphics to the cause. Chuck and Patty Toftoy ran an excellent Benny Havens at which the Gonzos Compadres performed nightly. Lee Miller and the A-1 team manned the registration table for days. And so, so many more.

All in all a great time for everyone. Come to the 55th!

The Wounded Warrior Mentor Program (Lee Miller mlmiller58@verizon.net)

The Wounded Warrior Mentor Program, founded by members of the Class of '58 in 2004 continues to assist Wounded Warriors and their spouses to transition to a new productive career and profession. We have had and continue to have success in assisting Wounded Warriors to get into college and to get an internship leading to a job or just get a job. Presently we have 250 combat veterans mentoring one on one 250 Wounded Warriors at the new Walter Reed in Bethesda, Ft Belvoir, and Ft Meade. We have assisted in establishing outreach programs at other Warrior Transition Units at bases around the country that have requested our assistance and then follow our model and processes. This includes a rapidly growing program at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, TX. Presently our heavy mentoring efforts are with the 82nd Abn Div troopers and the Marines at Walter Reed who have been bearing the brunt of the effort in Afghanistan. The number of Wounded Warrior arriving has gone down approximately 20% as a result of the drawdown but Wounded Warriors continue to arrive at Andrews AFB in a steady stream of two to three planes a week.

We are grateful to the many members of the Cl of 58 who have been or are presently mentors in our main program and our Follow-On Mentor Program where we provide a mentor after discharge to the Wounded Warrior and family anywhere in the country. We also want to especially thank members of the Class for contributing to our need for some administrative funds for printing our documents. As George Lawton, our treasurer, stated, this was not a fund raising effort but again '58 came through with classmates contributing generously.

55th Reunion (Garret Roosma ggroosma@gmail.com)

The 55TH Reunion will take place from Saturday, May 18, to Wednesday, May 22, 2013. A preliminary letter has been sent by regular mail to all classmates, widows and former classmates on record at the WPAOG. The letter contains information for the hotel registration and a schedule. If the letter has not been received or has been misplaced, a copy is on the class website.

Online registration for the reunion events will be available in March 2013. For those not on line, information will be sent by regular mail.

First Class Club (FCC) (Tony Smith aasmith58@msn.com)

Thanks to the many classmates who responded quickly to Jack Bradshaw's appeal for funds and to the class's Perpetual Endowment Fund, which donated \$75,000, the retractable enclosure over the patio at the First Class Club (FCC) is now in place.

From all reports, the class of 2013 loves it. The two Firsties who are the "Class Liaisons" to the FCC produced a video tour of the enclosure and the FCC to express their appreciation for the class of '58; the link to the video can be found on our class Website. If you haven't seen it yet, I recommend you check it out. The enclosure is being used, albeit with temporary furniture while they await permanent furniture that the Cadet Activities Director has ordered. I'd add also that this class of 2013 may be the best organized and most appreciative of the twenty years of First Classes that have enjoyed the Club since we gave it to West Point.

Ski '58 Durango 2013 (Ben Franklin, electraben@gmail.com)

The 2013 '58 Ski Mini is scheduled for February 24 through March 3 at Durango Mountain Resort near Durango, Colorado. It will include 4 to 6 days of skiing (your choice) and an optional ride on the historic Narrow Gauge Railroad. Reunion HQ and housing will be at the Silverpick Lodge, which is like a 13-bedroom ski chalet that also houses the best restaurant in town. Given the timing of this event, you can expect fabulous snow and sparsely-populated slopes – and, of course, great company! Reservations are needed now to reserve the lodge. Contact Ben Franklin – electraben@gmail.com or 970-903-1425.

Perpetual Endowment Fund (PEF)(Pete Trainor PBTrainor@cox.net).

The most recent PEF board minutes have been posted on our class website at:

<http://www.west-point.org/class/usma1958/special/perpetual.htm>

Click on "Latest Board Minutes" to view.

Summary of funds (taken from the website):

Contributed 2012: \$855
Total contributions: \$505,730
Granted to Class of '58 Fund: (\$75,000)
Net contributions: \$430,180
Value 28 Sep 12: \$644,783