

1958 Class Notes

The 2016 Marchback

9/12/2016

Ed Weckel '58 participated, as usual, in the Marchback from Buckner with the Plebes. He reported “**Ward '58, Collett '58 and Weckel '58** completed the longer version of the MB. (The three of us now have 50 MBs between us, and still counting.) We were joined by **Joe Shea '58**, who marched with his granddaughter (Class of 2020). The 60th Anniversary Class had about ten marchers; the 50th Anniversary Class had well over 100 marchers. The oldest marcher was again **Col Roger Conover '48**! He was the only participant senior to 1958. He officially announced at the luncheon, that this would be his last MB, and would turn over the leadership role to the Three Musketeers of 58 next year! (That was his term). This means, that if no one from a class senior to ours marches next year, Wally Ward will lead the contingent of marchers from the ski slope to West Point.”



Photo Right: Ward '58, Caslen '75, Conover '58, Collett' 58 and Weckel '58



Photo Left: Collett '58 and Ward '58 in Assembly Area at 0430

“For those of you who wear a Fitbit or a similar device, these are my MB figures - - 31,000 steps taken. 2200 Calories expended. Before the day was over, I had taken 38,500 steps. Needless to say, my legs are tired.

The new Dean walked with our platoon. She has her PhD from Duke - - I believe in political science. She recently arrived, and is looking forward to her new assignment. She walked the entire distance with a back pack.”

Ed also looked in on the First Class Club project and wrote “On Sunday I took a brief look at the FCC. I peered into a dimly light area and this is what I believe I saw (subject to correction). The FCC appeared to be completely gutted - - no interior walls were noticed. It is one large open area. The flooring was, I believe) crushed rock, or something resembling crushed rock. On the floor, there were stacks of 6” PVC (?) pipes, elbows, etc., ready to be installed. It was obvious this is a major and expensive undertaking - - much more so than I had visualized.”

San Francisco Golf Mini

9/12/2016

Jerry Lewis '58 got in some golf with **Rudi Grimm '58**, **Harry Kramp '58** and John Malone, a close friend of Harry's who also happened to be a Marine pilot. Looks like they had a good time and good weather.

Photo: Jerry Lewis '58, Rudi Grimm '58 and Harry Kramp '58



D.C. Luncheon

9/12/2016

The D.C. luncheon this time made TV. **Alan Salisbury '58** wrote "At a recent DC 58 class luncheon, our invited guest speaker was **Doug "Sandy" Cohn '68**. Doug is the author of two recent books, "*The Presidents' First Year*" and "*World War IV*." C-Span TV came to film the luncheon for their "Book TV" program. This luncheon will be broadcast on C-Span 2 tomorrow (Sunday, Sep 11) at 3pm EST. Alan Salisbury, '58, introduced Sandy. Great talk, great questions from the class." That was today as I put together these notes.

Four Stars

9/12/2016



Pete Kusek '58 sent the really great news "Yesterday, the President nominated Lt. Gen. John (Jay) Raymond, USAF, for his 4th star. Jay is the son of our own **John & Barbara Raymond '58**. As with all of Jay's other flag promotions, John and Barbara are too modest to send this terrific news to the rest of the class so I am doing it in their stead. Jay had been the youngest 3 star in the Air Force and will probably be the youngest 4 star when confirmed.

Congratulations to John and Barbara and kudos to the USAF for recognizing Jay's talent."

Photo: Lt. Gen. John (Jay) Raymond, USAF

From Italy

9/12/2016

Your Scribe, **Pete & Lynne Penczer '58**, took time off to go to Italy, spending two and a half weeks in Tuscany and on the Amalfi Coast, making the Marchback note a little late. We made the trip with my brother and sister-in-law, **Rudy & Doreen Penczer '62**. The trip included a wonderful day with an archeologist for a guide in Pompeii and seeing the marvelous statue of David about to kill Goliath, done by Michelangelo, at the Academia Museum in Florence.

Photo: Lynne & Pete Penczer '58 and Doreen & Rudy Penczer '62



From Charleston

8/2/2016



Paul and Patty Ruud '58 went to Patty's family reunion in Charleston, SC. Paul wrote "While there we received royal treatment from **Chuck and Celia Hansult '58**. First, breakfast at Chuck's invitation to the Harbor House, a private club where we met several of his friends. The next night it was dinner at their beautiful home – the only part better than the food and wine was the hospitality."

Photo: L-R Patty and Paul Ruud '58 and Celia and Chuck Hansult '58

A Hobby: Making Lead Soldiers

8/2/2016

I had asked if anyone had any interesting hobbies that they would be willing to share with us about. **Frank Waskowicz '58** responded that his hobby and part-time business has been military miniatures. Frank wrote "Here are some pictures of an occasion I've recently modeled that will not be repeated: cadets in great coats with belts over the capes in a band box review in the "squads right" formation. The guidon is obviously C-2, and I think the platoon leader is **Paul Ciasullo '58**, and the sergeants in the rear **Pete Bahnsen '58** and **John Brinson '58** — totally imaginary, of course. [Rear angle photo.](#)





This has been a fun activity for me. I'm not sure what I'm going to do with the completed model. It has spurred me to engage with the tactical department because for a variety of reasons today's cadets in no way resemble us. A whole bunch of factors. My on-going discussion with West Point is that since George W Bush's first inaugural parade, cadets have been wearing the cross belts UNDER the capes. I believe this is because the Corps no longer parades in the winter. And for one reason or another when they do — which is for inaugural parades!! —

someone, somewhere in the tac department made the choice in the very early 2000s to wear the cross belts under the cape — in violation of 100+ years of tradition!! The presentation is, in my mind, dismal. Never mind all the other factors which have diminished parades-min-ship since our day. There's a long story behind the model, beginning with a cadet provided by the Chancellor of LSU that I used as the basis for the casting."

However, Frank does believe that beyond bits of history, like this, "today's West Point is far, far ahead of what is was in our day".

B-2 Memorial Plaque

8/2/2016



Jack May '58 completed installation of a B-2 Memorial plaque installed on a granite slab, a place for remembrance and contemplation.

Nice Time in California

8/2/2016



Jerry and Barbara Lewis '58 sent me pictures of themselves at the San Mateo Fish Market, clearly a dinner place and not a store, with **Karolyn and Harry Kramp '58**.

Two days later he was on the San Francisco, Golden Gate, Golf Course with [Rudy and Jane Grimm '58](#).

The Schaffer's: China!

8/2/2016

I was remembering the 1992 Mini Reunion in Thailand and the extension trip many of us took to China that was organized by **John and Tang Leshi (Laura) Schaffer '58**. It was an extraordinarily interesting trip and very well done. Then I heard from John that Laura, "is a US State Department employee, and has been teaching the Chinese language and culture to our diplomats since 2003 before they are posted to China. We have a large embassy in Beijing and a number of consulates in that country."

More Back When

8/2/2016

Jack May '58 sent along an old picture of Lieutenant May getting a trophy, the Beach Trophy, for best platoon in the 82nd Airborne, for the second year in a row.



1958 Class Notes

Micro Reunion in Portland

7/6/2016



Jack Downing '58 wrote about “a “micro” reunion of the Portland, OR group of West Pointers with Jack & **Margie Downing '58** who were visiting their daughter, Diane Stadler. “We had a great time on the 11th of June in the restaurant shown. Later, Jack and Margie visited **Suzie Miller, Bob Miller's, L-1 '58**, widow in Salem, OR. Diane's son is in Kurdish Iraq helping with the refugees.”

*Names of classmates and wives in the photo are: **Paul & Virginia Vanture '58 B-2**, Jack & Margie Downing '58, Terry Connell '58 F-1, **Orlie & Harriet Hill '58 D-1**, **Harriet Connell**, and Diane Stadler Downing*

From San Antonio

7/6/2016

TK Smith '58 sent me this note with a link to an interesting article: “I received this article from my son, Col. TK Smith, Jr, Commander of the 433 Reserve Airlift Wing in San Antonio, Texas. Thought it might be of interest to the class. He is receiving the first of nine C-5M Super Galaxys the wing will receive named ‘The City of San Antonio.’”

<http://www.433aw.afrc.af.mil/News/ArticleDisplay/tabid/7719/Article/803209/first-c-5m-named-city-of-san-antonio-lands-at-alamo-wing.aspx>

From Austin, Texas

7/6/2016

Stan Bacon '58 wrote “**Chuck & Patsy Densford '58** hosted a Class of '58 Graduation Celebration Saturday evening for the Austin classmates and wives at their beautiful Georgetown (Texas) home. Pokey Joe's BBQ, reminiscing, camaraderie and revelry prevailed.” I'm told it was a really good time but there are no pictures.

From the Mediterranean

7/6/2016

Jack May '58 wrote from a cruise in the Mediterranean “Last month my sweetheart and I were on a small cruise ship in the Mediterranean. One morning we boarded the tender to go ashore and circumstances sat us next to a handsome couple from some foreign country. Cordially we introduced ourselves and found that they were from Bangkok, Thailand. When I acknowledged that I had been there twice the gentleman explained that he was an army staff officer in Joint Intelligence. Questioning revealed that he was a graduate of the Royal Military Academy of Thailand. Of course I proudly told him that I was USMA Class of '58 and of our company mate Pete and classmate Sammy. He knew them both. He held them in reverential and awesome respect, explained that Pete would have been (USA equivalent) Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff except for a policy that



required this position to be filled by a graduate of the Thai Academy. He had our picture taken together and promised to get it to Pete (probably too late, alas...). The remainder of the cruise I was treated by him with profound respect and courtesy.” Jack’s new acquaintance, on the left in the picture, is Group Captain (US: full colonel) Saravut Maolanon, Directorate of Joint Intelligence, to which Jack, in the middle, added, “the world is sometimes a small place.”

Another Birthday

6/6/2016



As **Bill Sheley '58** wrote, “How not to keep your advancing years private.” Bill was on a surprise family outing when a bigger surprise appeared on the Billboard.

Bill also sent along this photo collage that he put together on his telephone, no less, that pretty well shows he’s having a good time.

More on the Capelle Trophy

6/6/2016

Hugh Trumbull '58 wrote to me about the **CPT Gerald C. Capelle '58** Memorial Trophy.

“This year’s Trophy (Known at the Prep School as “the Capelle”) was awarded to Charlie Company. Accepting the award was Cadet Candidate Carlos E. Pineda from Houston, TX. Carlos, a tall, sharp CC with an eye on Aviation, was the Company 1st SGT.



Two days prior to the Graduation Review and Awards, the company was treated to a Pizza Party in the company area. It was clear from the comments and enthusiasm expressed by CC Pineda and the Company TAC, CPT Stewart, that the company had been eager to earn the Capelle and the Pizza Party.

Ann and I are always impressed by both the quality and the diversity of the young people going through the USMA Prep School. Of the 189 making it through to the class of 2020, some 40 were prior service and 8 had combat experience.”

A couple of weeks ago I posted a picture of the pizza party that took place before graduation. Here’s a picture of the graduation review. There are now only four slots left and the trophy will be retired when it is full.

Tony Nadal '58 interview: Ia Drang Valley

5/31/2016

Tony Smith '58 forwarded to the class link to the AARP interview with **Tony Nadal '58**, in a less than 10-minute video featuring Tony and his recollections of the Ia Drang Valley battle. All I can say is that it is riveting and shouldn't be missed. [Here's the link.](http://videos.aarp.org/detail/videos/most-recent/video/4913665792001/the-first-battle-of-vietnam--the-battle-of-ia-drang---aarp?autoStart=true)

[Http://videos.aarp.org/detail/videos/most-recent/video/4913665792001/the-first-battle-of-vietnam--the-battle-of-ia-drang---aarp?autoStart=true](http://videos.aarp.org/detail/videos/most-recent/video/4913665792001/the-first-battle-of-vietnam--the-battle-of-ia-drang---aarp?autoStart=true)

Ramsden Award in Chemistry: 2016

5/31/2016



Zhan '16. The officer is Acting Department Head, COL F. John Burpo '92.

He is our Professor USMA and Deputy Department Head. He is Acting Department Head while COL Leon Robert, Jr., is deployed in Africa until 1 Jan 2017. When COL Robert retires, COL Burpo will become Department Head.

Jack Downing '58 wrote and sent me some pictures of this year's Ramsden Award in Chemistry, held on 19 May in the Chemistry and Life Sciences lecture hall. The cadet is Edric



1958 Memorial Ceremony at the VietnamWall: 2016

5/31/2016

Frank Waskowicz '58 forwarded to me **Bill Serchak's '58**, which I had also gotten, noticing reminder about the class memorial ceremony at the Vietnam wall set for 22 May. Everyone assembled near the statue of the Wounded Soldier and Nurse, conducted the ceremony, placed a wreath at the Viet Nam Memorial; and went to the Fort Myers officers club for a buffet brunch, all of which was arranged by **Jack Gordon '58**.



George Sibert in distribution of 13 red roses to be placed beneath the names of our 13 classmates on the Vietnam Wall

*Photo Left: shows **Hutton '58, Sibert '58, Bonnie Smith, Gordon '58 & Brintnall '58** at the ceremony*

I understand that those present were **Salisburys'58, Millers '58, Brintnalls '58, Toftoys '58, Waskowiczs '58, Gordons '58, Parks '58, Huttons '58, Andresons '58, McGrews '58, Serchaks '58, Sibert '58, Webb '58, Rhodes '58.**

Photo Right: shows Bridget Serchak assisting

I-1 Memorial Day Gathering in Virginia

5/31/2016

I-1 classmates gathered at **Merrilyn and Butch Saint's '58** Middleburg home called Hidden Fox Farm. The farm is approximately 75 acres in size. We visited on the back porch (scene of the attached photo) and then toured the barn and saw several of the Saints' prized horses. Later we caravanned to the Red Fox Inn and had a delicious brunch where many memories and good stories made their way in to the conversations. It was a great day.



Front row (l to r) - Charlene Johnston, Isolde DiMauro, Cathy Waldrep (Chaz Porciello's daughter), Bibs Reynard, Merrilyn Saint, Dolores Bauer, Bonnie Smith.

Second row (l to r) **Alex Johnston'58, Phil DiMauro'58, Chaz Porciello'58, Dick Reynard'58, Butch Saint'58, Tony Bauer'58, Tony Smith'58**

From Capri

5/31/2016



Jack May '58 sent along a picture taken on Capri it is apparently a pre-80th birthday picture. Pretty good. Jack knows how to do it.

Another Birthday

5/31/2016

Bill Serchak '58 had an 82nd birthday and got a T-shirt celebrating his Polish roots from his kids.



Dale Hruby '58

5/31/2016



Charlotte Kitchell, **Rex Mason's '58** wife, sent me a picture of our **Dale Hruby '58**. It was taken at the Austin Mini. This is to replace in your mind the picture of Dale's son, Dale Hruby II '83 was picture and mistakenly lifted from Facebook a

short while ago when I was in too much of a hurry.

Dale's son doesn't use the "II" in his name on Facebook. The first picture shows Charlotte with Dale at the Austin Mini and the second shows Charlotte with **Steffie & Phil Raign '58**.



Army Major General's List

5/31/2016

Tony Smith '58 wrote "The Army Major Generals promotion list was made public today (5-26-16). Notable soon to be Army O-8s are **Linc and Ann Jones '58** daughter AND son-in-law, Patricia and Malcolm Frost '88, and **Dale and Dodie Hruby's '58** son-in-law, Terry McKenrick '85.

Bravo, bravo, and triple bravo to the selectees and their proud parents!"

Capelle Trophy Award

5/18/2016



archives for 2014 you can see the picture from the Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, Museum, display of Jerry's memorabilia.

Bill Serchak '58 sent me a copy of a note he had received from **Hugh Trumbull '58** about this year's Capelle Trophy Award given to the winning intramural cadet candidate company annually in memory of **Jerry Capelle '58**.

They've said that the winning company got a pizza party along with the trophy, but this time we have a picture of it happening that Hugh sent along to us. If you go back into the Notes

First Class Club

5/18/2016

Everyone knows that our class gave as our Class Gift the First Class Club, much appreciated by Firstees for the last many years. Even now we all know we're raising money for a restoration of the club following on some building damage requiring major rebuilding.

But, how many remember that there was a First Class Club over the Salleyport that C-2 straddled in Old North Barracks until the building was torn down. It was there when we were there but I don't think it was much used. I took this from *A Guide to West Point and the United States Military Academy* by William Henry Tripp, what seems to be a version from the 30's.

The First Class Club is the most exclusive of the Cadet organizations. As the name implies, membership is restricted to the ranking class, all of whom are members. It occupies Church Hall over the north salleyport of North Barracks, and is tastefully furnished with comfortable chairs, choice reading matter, a piano, a victrola, etc. It is open during recess from quarters and at other prescribed times. A text is assigned to the club during camp.



From Fairfield, Connecticut

5/18/2016



Dan Halpin '61 was at his class 55th Reunion and took a break to drive over here for a visit. Dan had been a Platoon Leader for about eight months in my company, Co B, 10th Engineers, 3rd Inf Div, when **Lynne and I, Pete Penczer '58, returned** to the states from Germany. We hadn't seen each other since. Dan is a very prominent Civil Engineering professor whose textbook has sold over half a million copies and who has been honored by, and an annual award has been established by the American Society of Civil Engineers in his name. It was a wonderful reminiscing visit.

The singing of the Alma Mater

5/10/2016

Stan Bacon '58 wrote to me about **Lynn Schrader's '58** funeral. I usually don't tell about funerals in my column, because **Paul Vanture '58**, **Jack Downing '58**, **Dick Buckalew '58** and **George Sibert '58** among them keep track of that and keep everyone nicely informed about them and you can find all of that on this web site under "Be Thou At Peace" in a menu on the right hand side. However, this time it seemed appropriate to do so. Stan wrote "**Lynn Shrader '58** was interred this morning, May 6th, at the City of Taylor Cemetery with full military honors. **Palmer McGrew '58** got the class flag to us on a short fuse and it was displayed at the interment along with a beautiful arrangement of flowers from the class. **Dick and Bev Graves '58** came up from San Antonio and **Tom Sands '58** flew in from New Orleans. A memorial service and reception followed at the Presbyterian Church in Georgetown where Lynn and Joan have been members for many years. Dick Graves gave those attending the service many poignant memories of Lynn and recounted many of Lynn's major contributions to the Army throughout his career, particularly in the field of aviation development. The service concluded with the grads present singing the Alma Mater."

*Photo: you'll see our classmates who were present at the funeral singing the Alma Mater. From left to right you will find **Sam Myers '58**, **Stan Bacon '58**, **Wayne Wyatt '58**, **Tom Sands '58** & **Dick Graves '58***

The Malone Award

5/2/2016

John Herren '58 wrote to me about this year's Malone Trophy award ceremony which became something special.

"For the first time the Malone Trophy honoring the memory of **Larry Malone '58**, Co. M-2, was presented by a former recipient of the award. The presentation was made on behalf of our class by Captain Joseph Bernard on April 22, 2016, at the annual Georgetown U. ROTC Battalion Military Ball to Cadet Logan Davis. Cadet Davis is the longest standing member of the Hoya Battalion Ranger Challenge Team. As the NCOIC of the team this year and through Logan's leadership, Georgetown's team finished seventh out of thirty eight schools in the annual competition. Logan hopes to go on active duty and branch Infantry this fall.

Captain Bernard served two tours in Iraq with the 101 Airborne Division as an Infantry platoon leader, and Company Executive Officer. He was also in the Special Forces before going on Reserve Duty and is now working on his graduate degree at Georgetown U."

The Viet Nam War Memorial

5/2/2016

Monday, May 30th, will be Memorial Day this year. It's almost on us. Our class will have its annual ceremony at the wall remembering those of us who died as a result of the war. There were thirteen of us. However, not quite so well known, I didn't know it, is that those dying later, but as a result of wounds they received during the war, can be added to join those already there.

I, **Peter A. Penczer '58**, was sent a picture of this happening that was taken by my son, Peter Penczer. I thought you all would find it interesting. Perhaps there are those in the class who may yet become eligible.



The Plebe March Back

5/2/2016



Every year as we all remember, Plebes march back to the main post sometime in August and are joined by many representatives of many classes, including our own. It's a 13 mile trek back from Camp Buckner. The March Back will be on the 7th and 8th of August this year. **Ed Weckel '58** does a superb job of getting a group from our class out there every year and is working on that already this year.

But, Ed did send along two previously unpublished pictures from the 2004 March Back, or, I should say, after it. Ed points out that "If the guys look tired, it is probably because they were, as they had just completed the 13 mile trek with the plebes from Buckner to WP But, they did get together for dinner in Highland Falls which is where the pictures were taken.



I don't have the identities of everyone in the pictures and won't just guess.

Ed says that anyone interested this year can look at www.usma.edu/daa for details.

From Elsewhere

5/2/2016

Again I turned to the Facebook pages for a couple of pictures so you all can see us.



Photo Left: Dale Hruby '58

Photo Right: Wayne Wyatt '58



1958 Class Notes

Went to Cuba

4/18/2016



Phil Pryor '58 wrote "In January, Lynn and I traveled to Cuba as part of one of the first American groups to have free access to the country. We spent 11 days touring the countryside and cities, along with meeting and talking to the people. The country is still very poor, but the people seem to be quite happy. Had almost 2 hours with an economist. We had a very open discussion about the future of Cuba. Cuba is an aging nation (people, agriculture, infrastructure) and a turn-around will

not happen overnight. A very interesting and eye-opening visit. The photo is taken in front of one of the many statues of Che Guevara."

D-1 at Buckner

4/18/2016

Herb Johnson '58 sent me an old picture taken in 1957 at Camp Buckner of a good part of the D-1 bunch who must have been on training detail there.

Front row: **Herb Johnson '58, Teddy Burke '58, Bucko Crowley '58 & Tony Evans '58** 2nd row back: **Jack Lowe '58, John Galen '58, Dave Clark '58, Orlie Hill '58** Standing in the rear: **Ernie Hasselbrink '58**



Where Else

4/13/2016

I've decided to mine Facebook for some classmate pictures for the notes. That seems easier than getting people to send them in to me. Below are some pictures.

Jerry Lewis

4/13/2016



Jerry Lewis '58

Jack Halsey
4/13/2016
Jack Halsey '58



Alan Salisbury
4/13/2016



Alan Salisbury '58

Denny Sharon
4/13/2016
Denny Sharon '58



From Thailand

4/13/2016



Jack Downing '58 sent along pictures of his daughter, Diane Stadler in Bangkok, Thailand visiting with Peter Kullavanija, son of our classmate, **Pete Kullavanijaya '58** and young Pete's wife, Moo.

Photo Left: Diane Stadler and Peter Kullavanijaya

Pictured is Diane (Downing) Stadler, PHD, RD with Peter Kullavanijaya and his wife Moo in Bangkok, Thailand. Diane was in Thailand and Lao as part of the Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU) Global SE Asia Initiative which is

partnering with the United States Department of Defense to build the Lao-American Nutrition Institute (LANI). The LANI that will be constructed in 2016 alongside the Lao University of Health Sciences School of Medicine in Vientiane, Lao. The LANI will serve as a center to train Lao health leaders in clinical and public health nutritional science and community-based implementation strategies to address persistently high rates of stunting and malnutrition.



Photo Right: Diane Stadler with Peter and Moo Kullavanijaya

Class Grandson's

4/13/2016

Tony Smith '58 wrote "We have two class grandsons graduating in the class of 2016 this May - **Christian McKenrick '16** (Team Handball player, branching Corps of Engineers and grandson of **Dodie & Dale Hruby '58**) and **Peter Basnight '16** (Rugby player who beat Navy last weekend, branching Aviation and grandson of **Bibs & Dick Reynard '58**).

As is our custom, we will present these two latest additions to the Long Gray Line of the Class of 1958 with inscribed pewter trays at a small ceremony to be held in the Cow/Firstie Club in Ike Hall at West Point at 1700 on Thursday, 19 May. The proud grandparents and other family and friends will be in attendance. Any and all classmates who would like to come are most cordially invited.

The Director of Cadet Activities will open the Club an hour before it is open to the public in order to accommodate the class event. There will be lemonade, iced tea and snacks available, as well as a cash bar for those who would like to partake of adult beverages. They will also take orders for food prior to the opening for those who wish to sample the renowned Firstie Club cuisine."

From Washington, DC

3/24/2016

A contingent from our Class of 1958 members attended the annual West Point Founders Day celebration at the Hilton McLean Tysons Corner on Saturday 19 March. The Guest of Honor was the Superintendent – **Lt Gen Robert L. Caslen, Jr. '75**. As you recall, last year my (**Bill**

Serchak '58) daughter, Bridget and I attended the Founders Day at the Northern Chesapeake West Point Founders Day Celebration in Bel Air, Maryland. At that event, General Caslen was also the Guest of Honor and Bridget and I sat at Table #1 with him since as the 'Oldest Grad' present, I delivered my remarks to that group. This year our '58 group sat at Tables #15 & 17. We are, each year, moving closer to the podium. In fact, when the call went out for Class Photos, the earliest groups present were from the 50's, none earlier!



The evening was a great success especially for our group along with about 100 other Vietnam Veterans as it included heartfelt recognition of our service in that conflict. The recognition included a Vietnam War Veteran pin given to each of us by **Florence (Alan) Salisbury '58** as we checked in at the reception area plus a brochure entitled A Grateful Nation Thanks and Honors our Vietnam War Veterans. Included in the program was a very special presentation by the Alumni Glee Club – a nostalgic medley of songs from the Vietnam era including 'Where Have All the Flowers Gone' and 'Green Beret'...

Members & Guests of the Class of 1958

Photo: Front Row: Bridget A. Serchak - Florence Salisbury - Mary Jane Lawton – Janice Brintnall - Bibs Reynard - Betty Miller - Carol Johnson

Back Row: Alan Chase '58 - Bill Serchak '58 - Alan Salisbury '58 - George Lawton '58 - Pete Brintnall '58 - Dick Reynard '58 - Lee Miller '58 - Brad Johnson '58 - John Schaffer '58

Washington Nats Spring Training

3/24/2016

Jack & Margie Downing '58 fled the cold, winter, March weather of DC and spent nine days in Florida with **Gary & Sylvia Graves '58**. Both families had dinner with **Tom & Gail Conti '58** and **John & Nancy Abernathy '58**. Jack and Gary attended the Washington Nats baseball team Spring Training games at Viera.



K- 1 Reminiscences

3/24/2016



Bill Serchak '58 is our K-1 CCQ and he sent me this interesting piece. "Every so often a document or photo shows up that brings on a brief wave of nostalgia. The one pictured here was given to me by **Bill Shely '58**.

In the picture, six Yearlings/Sophomores (**Serchak '58, Denson '58, Shrader '58, Capelle '58, Shely '58 and Brown '58**) and two Cows/Juniors (**Krapf '57 and Bennett '57**) are

posing in the barracks hall between the Cow room on the left and my room on the right.

The picture is loaded with symbolism: It was Buddy Krapf who first met Edna Mae (my wife) at West Chester State Teachers College during a Soccer match there. When he returned to WP, he encouraged me to write and make contact with her as she was a very nice 'fish-eater' (Catholic). Buddy was already engaged himself and he thought I would enjoy meeting his new friend from West Chester – 'just looking out for the troops', you might say. Long story short: That was in 1956 and Edna Mae and I were married in 1961!

Les Bennett was Buddy's roommate along with **Bill Webb '57** (not pictured). Les Bennett was one of the six escorts in Vietnam in April 1965 that brought Gerry Capelle 'home' after he was KIA...

I'm standing next to Les Bennett and wearing my highly adorned Bath Robe (B-robe in the cadet vernacular) and holding a box of pretzel stix. Our room was notorious for late night snacks (popcorn, hot chocolate & soup cooked on our unauthorized/hidden hot plate) that we often shared with others in our wing of the barracks...

Bill Denson, Lynn Shrader, Gerry Capelle, Bill Shely and Frank Brown are the other five Yearlings. My roommates were Frank Brown and Gerry Capelle that year...Shely, Denson and Shrader were just visiting in this picture.

Of special interest is the squirrel that Frank Brown is holding up...Frank found and adopted the squirrel early in Yearling year and we kept "Gaby" hidden in our room for the entire year. 'Gaby' (named by Frank who was from New Orleans and spoke the French/Cajun patois) was quite a hit especially when he got loose in the shower area at night and Frank had to race after him, often disrupting other company meetings going on 'in the sinks'..."

Where Else

3/24/2016

I seem to have forty "friends" from our class on Facebook. I'm not at all active on Facebook, and I've decided not to really rely on mining Facebook postings for my Class Notes, although sometimes, like now, I'm tempted. As usual, there's some junk postings but there are also some really nice and interesting ones. I decided to lift two pictures from Facebook of **Jack May '58** and **Bill Murphy '58** and



include them here. I may well do it again.

Seven Companies maintain their own web sites. You can go to our Class Web Site, <http://www.west-point.org/class/usma1958/> and over on the left side you'll see a place to click for Company web sites. Some companies, like G-2, have a lot of good group pictures of the company and their wives taken at various reunions. I wanted to copy and paste a

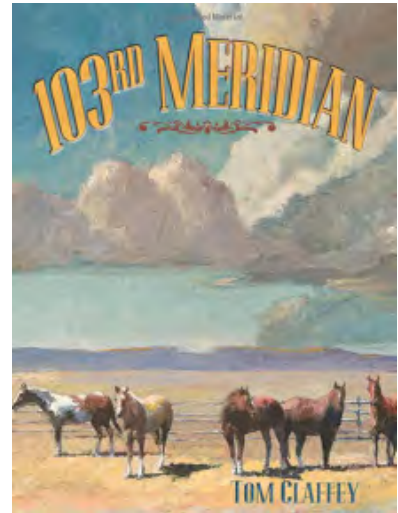


sample to show you but was warned that I'm prohibited (I would be prosecuted for it) from doing so. So, go there and enjoy it.

103rd Meridian

3/21/2016

Tom Claffey '58 just published his new book, *103rd Meridian*, a novel based upon the apparent surveying error first locating the border between Texas and New Mexico leaving two towns in the wrong state. Tom's protagonist gets into the middle of it, wanting to correct it. It looks pretty interesting. I checked and they are still in the wrong state.



Portland Founders Day

3/21/2016



Here is a photo of **Terry Connell '58** and the Supt at the Founders Day Dinner in Portland, Oregon on 27 February. Terry is presenting **LTG Caslen '75** with one of the '58 Glee Club Quartet packets he created for our 60th Reunion Class Fund Drive. A packet is being sent by Terry to everyone contributing \$500 or more. He and **Alan Salisbury '58** are giving the Fund Drive a tremendous boost with these treasured CDs.

The Class Ski Group

3/21/2016

"Our Class Ski Group Remains Quite Active. In early March they gathered at Park City, Utah, for great skiing and a really good time. **Chuck Hansult '58** sent along some pictures of the gathering. They had a departure dinner at the



Grub Steak Restaurant and Chuck had someone take a pretty good picture of the group.

Here they are, standing: **Sally Kirtz, Palmer McGrew '58, Bob Foster '58, Chuck Hansult '58, Munge Moore '58**; Seated: **Bill Clarey '58,**

Jim Tilly '58, Ben Franklin '58, Judy Moore, Celia Kramer (Hansult), and Tim Foster. Here's a good picture of Ben, Palmer and Celia. You can see it's a good time.

Skiers

3/21/2016

Lest we should think it was all party and no skiing, **Chuck Hansult '58** sent along two pictures taken on the slopes at the Park City, Utah, event. We see from left to right: **Chuck Hansult '58**, Judy Moore, **Bob Foster '58**, **Richard (Ben) Franklin '58**, **Palmer McGrew '58**, **Bob Moore '58** in this picture taken March 4 at Park City.



The other picture, which I really like, is of Chuck and was in 80th birthday present from Celia.



From Washington DC

3/21/2016

George Sibert '58 sent me an interesting story about **George Lawton '58** 's finding and providing information for the son of a one-time classmate, **Patrick Rollins ex '58**, who left for medical reasons at the end of the first semester because of an injury occurred in Beast Barracks. Apparently **Terry Connell '58** had been in high school with him and remembered him from West Point. He was a B-2 file.

From Pennsylvania

3/21/2016

Lynne & I, Pete Penczer '58 went to the Longwood Gardens Orchid Show in PA, staying with my brother, **Rudy Penczer '62**, and going to the show with him and his wife, Doreen. Here I am at the show with Lynne.





On the way home we stopped in Quakertown, PA, and visited with **Mel & Kay Farrar '58** Mel is now a retired minister, but remaining very involved in his church's programs. Here they are when we came back from a walk.

From Ft. Benning—Next Generation

2/11/2016

George Sibert '58 sent me a copy of an invitation to a ceremony last September at Ft. Benning. **Major General Scott Miller '83**, son-in-law of **Dave & Ilene Coury '58** (MG Miller's wife, **Mimi**, is the Coury's daughter), Commanding General of the United States Army Maneuver Center of Excellence, welcomed **Brigadier General Peter L. Jones '85** incoming Commandant of the United States Army Infantry School and son of **Linc & Ann Jones '58**. George thought a ceremony involving our next generation was unusual and interesting.

And so it was—From Tony Nadal

2/11/2016

Tony Nadal '58 wrote, "This past November I was involved in organizing and presenting an all-day Professional Development Program at Ft Benning commemorating the battles of the Ia Drang valley in VN in November 1965. We had about 600 officers and NCO's in the audience and it went very well.



While I was there I was presented with the order of St Maurice, an honorary award given by the National Infantry Association for distinguished service to the infantry. But it was presented by **BG Peter Jones '85**, the son of our deceased classmate, **Linc Jones '58**. Peter is now the Commandant of the Infantry School and Chief of Infantry. Standing to my right facing the photo is retired CSM Southern Hewitt, once one of my squad leaders during the battle of LZ X-ray." On the left is BG Peter L. Jones. "I thought it unusual for someone to be presented with an award by a classmate's son."

Grand Cayman

2/11/2016



Lynne & I, Pete Penczer '58, visited with **Mike & Marcia York '58** out at Rum Point on Grand Cayman early in January where Lynne celebrated one of those big birthdays that we don't say much more about other than it was really a nice time at the Kaibo Club. The weather was perfect and "walk, eat, sleep, beach, repeat" is a good formula for time there. In the pictures you see us at lunch time at the beach.

1958 Class Notes

From Honolulu

12/31/2015



Bill & Betty Harrison ex '58 took a vacation recently to Honolulu and met **Dave Swanson '58** for dinner at Hy's Steak House.

Photo: a great picture of Dave and Bill enjoying their dinner. Betty must be behind the camera

Clover Park, Washington

12/31/2015

Through **George Sibert '58** I got a note from **Gene & Ellie Wilson '58** about Ellie's obviously wonderful community service work out there. She's been given community service awards by the Clover Park and Pierce County Rotary Clubs that were capped with a Lifetime Community Service Award and Paul Harris Fellowship award by the Rotary International Foundation. I know from my own Rotary experience that it's wonderful recognition for a lot of very good work.

Austin Mini

12/31/2015

After the mini, apparently, the rains came. **Stan Bacon '58** wrote "We greatly appreciate the kind words from so many of you telling us how much you enjoyed the Austin mini. That means a lot to us. And we were really honored to have had the opportunity to stage it for the class.

Did we ever luck out on the weather! A light rain started Thursday when folks were leaving to return home. By Saturday the Formula One trials were being delayed. And last week the airport (ABI) received an all time record 14 inches of rain.

We printed enough copies of **Sue Kernan's '58W** wonderful "Hearts of '58" collection to include in each welcome packet. There were a few extras that she will send on request to those contributors who were unable to attend the reunion—first come, first served while they last.

Dale Cockle '58 will also post it on line for all to enjoy.

Dale will also post the photos that **Glenn & Nelle Hall's '58** daughter Sissy took at the banquet. She drove over from Houston just to do that for us and returned that night. Meanwhile, posted are **Jody Krankel's '58W** pics at <

<https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B3rAi7jk6PPhN0NfckFEMnZ3RE0&usp=sharing> >."

Sue Kernan's booklet, "Hearts of '58", was distributed in the 2015 Mimi-reunion's welcome packet. A link to it has now been posted on the Mini-reunion's alternate homepage for viewing/downloading: <<http://www.cockle.us/usma58reunion/>>.

A direct link to it is: <<http://www.cockle.us/usma58reunion/Lovestories/Lovestories.pdf>>

Austin, Texas Mini Reunion

11/13/2015

It's clear that all who attended the Austin, Texas, Mini Reunion had a wonderful time. **Stan Bacon '58** and his committee did a great job of organizing accommodations, events, and other activities. There were 227 attendees which makes it a success and a good time for all.

Unfortunately, Lynne & I, **Pete Penczer '58** couldn't make it. We had wanted to. As all were leaving it started to rain a little, a storm that became a deluge.

Jody Krankel, **Joe Krankel '58's** wife, took a lot of pictures and her daughter, Nan, posted them at a web site you can reach by going to <http://tinyurl.com/USMA58ReunionPics1> or <https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B3rAi7jk6PPhN0NfckFEMnZ3RE0&usp=sharing>

A lot of pictures were taken, collected and posted (he would like more) in a separate web site by **Dale Cockle '58**, which you can go to

<http://www.cockle.us/usma58reunion/USMA58MiniReunion2015/index.html> Send pictures or identify those in the pictures you see that don't have captions, to Dale at k5jic@west-point.org with the e-mail subject USMA 58 Mini Pics.

Now we're looking forward to next October and the Carmel, California Mini, the last before our 60th, now being organized by **Jody LeTowt '58**.

Waller '58 Gets Kiesling Award

11/13/2015

Jim Waller '58 received the 2015 Kiesling Award from the National Storm Shelter Association for his significant contributions to the Storm Shelter industry. But, that hardly says it. Watch the video <http://remagensaferooms.com/videos/> and you'll see and hear about much more of Jim's many awards and accomplishments as well as his yet current service in his industry. You'll also find out about the company he founded. We can be quite proud of Jim's accomplishments. And, thanks to **Tom Carpenter '58** for letting me know about it.

A Birthday in Palm Springs

11/13/2015

Jerry Lewis '58 celebrated his 80th birthday in Palm Springs with his family. He wrote "On May 10th, we celebrated my 80th in Palm Springs. It was attended by 14 family members and relatives, including Jacqueline -- our daughter from Germany.

Photo: right after our arrival on Friday, 8 May. Two are missing from the photo: the photographer (Jayne from Ventura, CA), and Charlie who arrived on the next day when we celebrated with a dinner at Cary Grant's former home in the desert.



Golf in San Francisco

11/13/2015



Here's a golf threesome on July 30th at the Golden Gate Golf Course in San Francisco.:

Photo: Rudi Grimm '58 B1, Harry Kramp '58 K2, Jerry Lewis '58 B1

From the West Coast

11/13/2015

Jerry Lewis '58 had another big family visit in September when their daughter, Jacquie, visited with her family from Germany.

Photo: the family group dining outside in Sunnyvale Italian Ristorante

Peter & Patrick (DE), Bryce, Jerry, Jacqui, Barbara, Dennis & Jayne



July also saw Jerry and Barbara on a cruise on the Snake and Columbia Rivers traveling with their son, Dennis, and his wife.