



USMA Class of 1965

Strength and Drive

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Annual Class Letter

17 September 2012

To All Members of the Class of 1965

1. 50th Reunion. Your Class Leaders are absolutely thrilled that Tom and Marilyn Kovach have signed on as co-chairs for this epic event. Their drive and experience from our great 45th Reunion, as well as their supporting cast of “helpers,” assure that the 50th will be the best ever. While in the past we have been able to skip around and make many of our own decisions on timing, venues and lodging, circumstances preclude much of our flexibility for this one. Thus, we are somewhat duty bound to have our reunion during the Alumni portion of Graduation Week in 2015 (likely 17-20 May). And physical realities have pressed us to select one large hotel for lodging and informal gatherings, with what we hope will be convoys on first class buses to/from West Point events (reminiscent of our Corps trips to NYC!). Our team is working hard to lock down an appropriate agenda full of meaningful (and non-stressful) events and venues.

For now, we should be making plans to be there, saving up, and encouraging ALL of our classmates and widows to attend. Call your old roomie if you missed him at the 45th.

2. Affiliation with 2015, “For Those We Lead.” This program is a marvelous opportunity for connecting with the cream of the crop of today’s youth. If you have not yet “adopted” a cadet (or their parents), I encourage you to find one or several with whom to engage. They are terrific young men and women who have a passion to serve their Nation and Army—even with the certitude of having to fight a war.

Under the Academy’s tutelage, we participated this past year in the unveiling ceremony for the 2015 Class Crest (John Howell and Dan Donaghy were present) and the presentation of their Class Colors (inspirational address by Buddy Bucha, with a dozen or so of us in attendance). And most recently at the San Diego Mini, their elected Class President, along with several others, engaged with us.

Pat Kenny continues to pull together our contributions to the Affiliation program, for which we are grateful. Next formal event will be the Class’ Affirmation/ Commitment Ceremony in mid-August of next summer. This is when the new Cows get to sign on for the duration, understanding that they are committed to the Academy and Army for the next seven years. We will get to provide the keynote speaker for the event, as well as provide them with a double-sided coin (crests from 1965 and 2015). If next year repeats, Affiliation grads will be welcome to attend. Our Class Website has a link to information about our Affiliation Class. Check it out!

3. PMEE (Professional Military Ethics Education). Paul Schultz is doing a marvelous job of orchestrating Class of '65 participation in these seminal events where cadets learn and develop much of their ethical foundation. We have had a dozen or so volunteers go up to the Academy and spend a day prepping and participating with cadets under the tutelage of the Simon Center. We are encouraging even greater participation through Class Notes feedback and explanations of the program. Please consider getting involved if you can spare the time and commitment by contacting Paul (paul@dmasonline.com).

4. Our Gift to the Academy. By now most, if not all of you, have been contacted by our fund-raising team, led by Harry Dermody and Bob Harter, and been asked to contribute toward our last major gift. Recapping, our initial team led by Fred Laughlin selected two major pieces of the Center for Oral History for the bulk of the gift, followed by a contribution to the Long Gray Line Endowment fund that supports the AOG, with half of that amount to go toward scholarships for the progeny of our more recent graduates who have fallen in action. This selection process is being held up as a model for the Academy, and I am convinced that the results represent the collective opinion of the Class and are thus worthy of support from all of us. Would it not be great if we could present a check at the 50th Reunion that has at least some contribution from each member of the Class?

5. Taps and Fallen Comrades. Since a year ago, sadly we lost five classmates, and two spouses of whom I am aware. Our numbers standing are now 505 (of 596 graduated).

Bill Zadel (8 Sep 2011)

Bob Gates (30 Oct 2011)

Bob Huffhines (19 Mar 2012)

Lee Atteberry (18 Jun 2012)

John Mogan (5 Jul 2012)

Doris (Leo) Kennedy (20 May 2012)

Georgia (Mert) Munson (26 Aug 2012)

I would like to express my appreciation to all of you who stepped forward to act as our Class POC's at the funeral and memorial services, and for orchestrating the Class support for the surviving spouses. You made a big difference.

Our Class Colors are now on display at Herbert Hall (WPAOG's Hqs) and we have entered into an agreement with Class Support there to handle shipment of the flag (and staff, etc.) to and from funerals and other Class events. When the need arises, please contact Skip O'Donnell, Rick Bunn or me for authorization.

Chuck McCloskey continues to orchestrate Memorial Articles for the AOG publication, TAPS. We need your contributions and support to achieve our objective of having all currently outstanding articles published before the Reunion. Presently, we have 26 assigned and 3 unassigned (Ed Maness, D-1; Bill Bradley, C-2; and Jim Smith, C-2).

6. Communications and Caring for Others. Kudos go to Chuck Nichols for maintaining our databases and web page, without which we would be lost. Also, a HUGE thanks to Rick Bunn for keeping the electrons flowing with literate and interesting articles, pictures and notes from Class activities, Affiliation, individual submittals, and occasionally, memorabilia.

Attempts by Jim Tomaswick, et al, to purify our basic contact information leading up to our 50th Reunion have produced some interesting results. Most importantly, they have learned of a number of folks who are hurting (physically, emotionally, financially, etc.) and could therefore use some support from Classmates. With great sensitivity to their needs and desires, we will continue to inform members of these situations. Also, in locating correct mailing and emailing addresses, they have found several who wish to remain disconnected for a variety of reasons—giving us something to work on.....

While Rick Bunn “pushes” out communications, there are a good number of places that require you to “go see” such as the AOG and WP-ORG sites, along with GoArmySports, etc. We will do our best to provide you Class information directly, but I encourage you to go exploring on the internet to keep up better with the Academy.

7. Class Events. We have had many local events this past year, arranged by individuals who have volunteered their time and leadership skills so that others could get together and enjoy each other’s company. Here is a partial listing.

Pine Needles, NC Golf Outing (Bob Radcliffe) -- (9-11 Oct 2011)

Army – Navy FB Game, DC (John Howell) – (10 Dec 2011)

Charleston, SC Golf Outing (Bob—again, with help from Sonny Ray) – (17-20 Apr 2012)

Arizona Gathering and Host to a Class Leaders Meeting (Fred Laughlin, John Mogan, Rick Bunn) – April 2012

Seattle Golf Outing (Bill Sherrell) – (21 Jul – 1 Aug 2012)

Mini Class Reunion, San Diego (Dave Kuhn, John Seymour, Bob Bradley) – September 2012

I am aware that there are many other luncheons, golf matches, Founders Days, etc. for which smaller groups meet and commune. It is a great attribute of our Class that we have these events regularly, and across the country. Keep it up, guys.

8. Army Sports Hall of Fame. Most of you are likely aware that Number 16, Rollie Stichweh, has been selected and will be soon inducted into the Army Sports Hall of Fame (along with Walt Oehlein who was selected several years ago). This is a HUGE honor, and a testament to Rollie’s athleticism and accomplishments on and off the “fields of friendly strife,” but it is also a great acknowledgement of the team(s) that supported him. Well done, Rollie.

9. Army vs. Navy in Philadelphia, 8 December. We will gather again in the Renaissance Philadelphia Airport hotel (phone 610-521-5900 for reservations – mention USMA Class of 1965) and perhaps be able to celebrate a victory—and if not, at least get to enjoy one another’s company. John Howell is orchestrating this event and could use some volunteer help in setting up and tearing down. Activities begin Friday mid-afternoon, and end with Sunday breakfast. Detailed information will be forthcoming shortly, but you are on your own to get tickets, so make your plans and ACT now.

10. Finances. WPAOG does a good job handling all of our Class of ‘65 Admin Account. Their capability for managing admin accounts is fairly new, and I am pleased to report that they are now doing everything we need and ask of them, and doing it well. We have largely been using our account for expenses associated with funerals/memorials (flowers, charitable donations, shipping our Class Colors, etc.), and miscellaneous administrative items. Skip’s report is included below and he is available for more detailed explanation if you wish to contact him.

Our Gift Account (report also included below) is pretty tightly restricted and has been managed well by Harry over a significant period. Recent outflows have been for the Affiliation Program and the Arvin Alcove project (finally nearing approval by the Superintendent). This account will now begin to accumulate contributions to our 50th Reunion Class Gift.

10. Our Association of Graduates (the AOG). We could not do what we do to support our Class, nor could the Academy do without the AOG as it raises and expends funds to support the “margin of excellence” for our cadets.

We have two members of their official governing and advisory bodies—greatly streamlined from the old “clubby” days. These “pro bono” volunteer jobs require significant effort, travel and personal expense, and our gratitude goes out to them for their service and for representing our Class so well.

Joe DeFrancisco is a Director on the governing board through 31 Dec 2014

Bob Frank will be a Class Advisor through 31 Dec 2015

11. Closing. It continues to be an honor for me to lead and represent the Class of 1965 that (by outside acclamation) is held in high esteem for our camaraderie, cohesion and support of our Alma Mater. Please continue doing what you all do so well to support each other and our Academy.

Respectfully, Clair

USMA 1965 Admin/Flower and Charity Report -- CY 2011

Class Admin Account	<u>1/1/2011</u>	<u>12/31/2011</u>
	\$28,163.27	\$46,746.38

[Difference: \$18,583.11]

Admin Account Activity During CY 2011

	Reimbursements		Expenses	
Class Mailings	\$5.66		\$566.11	
Reunion/1	\$19,429.00		0	
Teleconferences (3)	0		\$89.25	
WPAOG Fund/2	\$575.36		\$294.20	
Flower & Charity /3	\$1,900.00		\$2,377.35	

[Difference: \$18,583.11]

- /1 Final reunion payment was deposited into our Class Admin account. Many thanks go out to Mark Sheridan for all his work as the 45th Reunion Treasurer.
- /2 All West Point Class Admin accounts under the WPAOG are part of a short term investment pool, PIMCO Low Duration Fund, that is very conservative. Reimbursements cover such things as dividends, interest, etc. Expenses cover fund management costs, losses, etc.
- /3 The left column shows the only 2011 money transferred from the Class Flower and Charity checking account to our Class Admin account. (The Class Flower and Charity checking account was officially closed out on March 7, 2012). The right column shows all the monies for funeral flowers and/or charity donations expended from our Class Admin account. The WPAOG has done a great job of sending out check payments for flowers and charities within a week of verification.

GIFT FUND ACCOUNT CLASS OF '65 – STATUS 7/15/12

CONTRIBUTIONS (CLASS AND CORPORATE RECEIVED)

75,000	INITIAL FUNDS
1,315,157	THAYER
999,585	ARVIN
<u>345,553</u>	CONTRIBUTIONS FROM 1/1/08 – 6/30/12
2,735,295	TOTAL

NOTES:

1. Gift account started with an initial amount of \$75,000.
2. Amounts shown for Thayer and Arvin projects are the total amounts received through 31 Dec 07. Accounts were combined into one Gift Account as of 1 Jan 2008. Value at that time was \$420,525. (Additional contributions plus dividends/interest)
3. All contributions are managed by the AOG Financial Planners in a long-term diversified investment program.

EXPENSES AND OBLIGATIONS PROFFERED (EXPENSES INCLUDE APPLICABLE AOG FEES)

<u>THAYER</u>	<u>OTHER</u>
750,000 (BASIC - WALK)	35,000 (PREP SCHOOL ENDOWMENT)
30,180 (ENGINEERING FEE)	16,667 ('65 SHELLS)
<u>250,000</u> (FORUM)	29,412 (HISTORY DEP'T)
1,030,180 TOTAL	8,522 (FIRST CLASS RECEPTION – 2005)
	4,200 (A/N VIDEOS)
<u>ARVIN</u>	5,000 (SE ASIA MEMORIAL – LUSK RESERVOIR)
896,744 (BASIC –FLOORING, RAILING, ETC)	<u>5,000</u> (PAVERS – HERBERT ALUMNI CENTER)
15,522 (KIOSK)	103,801 TOTAL
7,242 (DISPLAY CASES)	
3,189 (DESK)	<u>AFFILIATION (AS OF 7/11/12)</u>
2,982 (LIMESTONE REPAIRS)	7,660
6,667 (MURAL)	
34,169 (CRESTS, LETTERING, ETC.)	<u>TOTAL EXPENSES TO DATE</u>
69 (PHOTOS)	2,137,564
4,836 (ARVIN PAINTING/FRAME)	
<u>24,503</u> (ALCOVE)	
995,923	

CONTRIBUTIONS	2, 735,295
LESS EXPENSES	<u>- 2,137,564</u>
	597,731 SURPLUS FUNDS IN GIFT ACCOUNT (ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS PLUS INTEREST/DIVIDENDS)

GIFT ACCOUNT VALUATION \$785,198 (6/30/12) (INCLUDES FUNDS IN GIFT ACCOUNT -- TO INCLUDE CASH RECEIVED FOR OUR 50TH GIFT -- AND INVESTMENT RETURNS. DOES NOT INCLUDE OUTSTANDING PLEDGES).

NOTES:

1. Major gifts are approved by the Class. No funds are released without Class Officer approval.

2. Possible future expenditures (Final costs not determined)

A. FORUM – Maintenance Endowment	25,000
B. ENGLISH DEPT (Contribution from the Class in memory of Bill Hecker’s son who died in Iraq).	5,000 – 10,000
C. AFFILIATION 2011-2015 (Maximum anticipated).	40,000

3. Reunion Gift (\$2,000,000 Center of Oral History / \$600,000 Long Gray Line Endowment) \$2,600,000