

West Point Class of 1965 Leadership Team
Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2026

The Class of 1965 Leadership Team (LT) met by Zoom on February 4, 2026.

Members on the call:

Jim Harvey, President	Mitch Bonnett, Treasurer
Fred Smith, VP	Denny Coll, Scribe
Chuck McCloskey, Secretary	Chuck Nichols, ISO

Members absent: Bob Wolff, SrVP, and Bob Frank, Historian

Jim opened the meeting at 4:00 PM via Zoom.

Jim began with a discussion of the upcoming May Class outing in Williamsburg. There are currently fifty-nine participants signed up, a very good turnout. Thanks to Larry Neal for all his work on this. Larry is also looking at an October outing in Pinehurst for golfers only.

Jim mentioned the AOG's Distinguished Graduate Program and the West Point Sports Hall of Fame and whether the Class wanted to nominate any classmate for either. Denny said he would initiate a survey with the Class and would ask Pat Kenny to lead the effort.

Denny briefed the LT on what he sees as a real and increasing possibility of us, as a Class, locating a classmate to attend, in a timely manner, the Memorial Service and/or funeral of a recently deceased classmate. Age-related issues of ability to travel, cognitive capabilities, etc., are starting to arise more and more in our ranks.

The LT agreed on the following Class Policy during the meeting:

* We will, to the very best of our ability, always have a Class rep at EVERY deceased classmate's Memorial Service and Funeral.

* The Scribe will use his resources and influence to make this happen, according to the provisions of our new (to be published shortly) Funeral SOP.

* Our current President has indicated his desire to follow in the distinguished footsteps of our previous President (Pat Kenny) and attend the services of all classmates passing during his 5-year term.

* If the President is unable to attend and the Scribe is unable to locate any classmates for this function, the LT will serve as a last resort, i.e., one of the LT will attend.

Because of the financial burden this may place on our President or our attending LT member, the LT approved a reimbursement of up to \$2,000 per attendance by a LT member unless the LT member elects to pay for same out of his own resources.

Denny then led a discussion of the key point in the upcoming Class Funeral SOP. He stressed that it is highly important that anyone learning of a classmate's death notify Chuck Nichols who will handle further notifications. In Chuck's absence Denny should be notified.

Lastly, Denny said he needs a program an app to locate classmates residing near a recently deceased classmate. Mitch suggested Chat GPT and will work to provide this to Denny.

Fred gave a report on the planning for the 2026 Army-Navy game at MetLife Stadium in the Meadowlands. He will send a message to the Class asking for intentions to attend the game.

Chuck McCloskey said that he anticipates five classmate memorial articles will be in the 2026 Taps: Viani, Butterfield, Berry, Toomey, and Dave Jones. Classmates are encouraged to prepare their own memorial article to ease the burden on their survivors. Instructions are on the AOG web site. Also, Mitch encourages the use of ChatGPT to facilitate the writing process. He would be happy to assist classmates with using this AI tool.

Classmate Dan Donaghy reported to the LT the sad state of repair of the Central Area Clock. Through Bob Frank, the AOG was notified and they confirmed the need for repair or replacement. They stated that a work order had been placed. Jim will follow up with the AOG to get a current status.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45. The next meeting is Wednesday, April 1 at 4PM. Anyone having an item they want the LT to discuss should send that information to the Class President.

Chuck McCloskey
Secretary