



**DEAR CLASSMATES, WIVES, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS,**

We are well into August right now, which signals that fall is just around the corner. The leaves will soon be turning up at West Point and Army Football season will be in full swing! At the rate that time flies, it will be just a few short months until 2019 will be history, and 2020 will be dawning on the horizon. That means our eagerly anticipated 55th Reunion scheduled for April 23-26, 2020 is not that far off. It's time for a quick update from the HH Team to keep you informed of the planning and some of the details that are in the works so far. Please see the items below, and watch for an additional note soon to follow.

**CHUCK NICHOLS SURVEY RESULTS:**

Thanks to Chuck Nichols and his survey that went out in early June, it is clear that you all are following our communications closely. We were extremely pleased with the number of positive responses, with two hundred classmates definitely or probably planning on attending! Most all will be attending with their spouses and/or other family members, so double that number and it looks like we will be well above the statistical average in attendance for a USMA 55th Reunion.....a compliment to the enthusiasm and closeness of the members of the Class of '65!

It was gratifying to see that a number of widows of fallen classmates will be attending, as well. They remain an important part of our class family, and will be warmly welcomed and embraced! Jim Harvey is working closely with the Company Representatives to ensure that the widows from each company are included in all the communications, and they are encouraged to attend.

**ROOM RESERVATIONS AT THE PARK RIDGE MARRIOTT:**

One quick correction to the Class Letter that went out earlier this month. The Park Ridge Marriott, our reunion headquarters, is located in Park Ridge, NJ (not Mahwah.) The hotel is located in a wooded area just east of the Garden State Parkway and south of Interstate 287.

When making the initial booking at the Park Ridge Marriott, based on statistics from AOG, we were conservative in the number of rooms that we reserved. However, seeing the results of Chuck's survey, it appears that we will most likely need to increase the number of rooms in our block in order to accommodate everyone in one place. *You can help us do this in a timely manner.*

Well over two thirds of the rooms being held for our reunion have already been reserved. If you have not yet reserved your room, we encourage you to do so now! That way, once our current allotment is getting close to sold out, we can work with the Marriott to increase the room count (based on availability!) The sooner that we find we need to increase our commitment, the better. Our sales rep can increase our room block once we are closer to filling it. She has availability now, but does expect that the hotel will sell out for the dates of our reunion.

If it gets to the point that additional rooms are no longer available at the Park Ridge property, the Courtyard in Montvale will be our overflow property. However there is no guarantee on the price and it will likely be higher than the negotiated price at Park Ridge. Also there will be no buses going to the Montvale Courtyard so you would have to drive to Park Ridge each day and evening. It is just a short distance away by car. Still, we don't want you to be disappointed or inconvenienced in any way by not staying with everyone at the Park Ridge.

Because the Park Ridge property has given us a generous cancellation policy, it would be wise for you (*and helpful to us*) for you to go ahead and book now, even if you are unsure of your plans at this time. Should your circumstances change between now and our reunion date, you can always cancel up until 24 hours prior without penalty.

To make your hotel reservation, you can use the link below:

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1558018743942&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

#### **REUNION REGISTRATION TIME LINE:**

AOG Event Planning Services will handle the actual Reunion Registration and payments beginning sometime in late February.....or earlier if possible. We will keep you posted as to the actual date as soon as they let us know when they anticipate that they are ready to begin. Registration will be done on line using the link below.

<https://www.westpointaog.org/1965reunion>

In the meantime, your best source of information is the Class of '65 website that Chuck operates for us. It is currently under repair, but should be up and running again soon. Do bookmark it now and return to it often.

<http://www.west-point.org/class/usma1965>

You can find all our previous 55th Reunion related correspondence there, as well as the results of the survey and the names of those who are likely planning to attend.

#### **QUESTIONS OR NEED ASSISTANCE WITH HOTEL REGISTRATION:**

Feel free to contact either the Heckers or the Harveys at the numbers and email addresses listed below.

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