



10 January 2020

Dear Classmates, Wives, Family Members and Friends,

Happy New Year from your Reunion Co-Chairs! With the year 2020 now upon us, our eagerly awaited 55th Reunion is just a little over three short months away. It's time for another letter to keep you up to date on all the details and plans thus far.

While we, and our great committee members, have been laying the groundwork and doing the major organizing for the reunion over the past two and a half years, Lexie Davis and her AOG Event Planning Staff are now ready to step in and help with the myriad of final details leading up to our event.

Just FYI, the AOG Event Staff runs multiple Class Reunions every year. They have their own template and time table of how they like to do things. From here on out, your best source for Reunion Information will be posted on their West Point 1965 Reunion website. This is also the site where you will register for the reunion.

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

Currently the site has information posted regarding hotel registration, as well as the schedule of events for our reunion. There is also information about entering West Point in a private vehicle that you will find helpful if you plan to drive up to West Point on your own. If you have any questions, you can contact the AOG Event Planning Staff at alumni-events@wpaog.org or 845.446.1649 and specify that you are inquiring about the Class of '65 Fifty-Fifth Reunion event.

AOG still does not intend to open the actual **Reunion Registration** until the end of February. We will send out another letter to let you know the actual date once we are told what that date will be.

Thanks to Jim Harvey's diligent work with the hotel and our Company Reps, we can tell you that close to two hundred rooms have been booked by classmates at the Park Ridge Marriott. The Park Ridge Marriott is now sold out, and additional rooms are being booked at the Courtyard in nearby Montvale, NJ....just five minutes away. If you ended up booking at the

Courtyard because the Park Ridge Marriott is sold out, please let Jim know, as he is keeping a waiting list in case any cancellations at the Marriott occur. By all accounts, it looks like we will have a great turnout, breaking the records on statistics for attendance at a 55th West Point Reunion! Way to go "Strength and Drive!"

HOTEL CANCELLATIONS: It is very important that you do all hotel cancellations through Jim Harvey (cell: 757-288-6684) or email jimjune@cox.net. If you deal directly with the hotel or website, the class will likely lose the room, and another classmate won't get the benefit. When Jim cancels the room, he immediately replaces it with a classmate on the waiting list.

HANDICAP ASSISTANCE: If you use a wheelchair or walker, we are told that most people who have such a need usually bring their own equipment. Should you wish to rent a wheelchair or walker once you arrive at the reunion, the AOG Event Planning Staff has a list of providers you can contact. The staff can answer any questions you might have in this regard, so please don't hesitate to contact them.

MEMORABILIA ORDERS: The Memorabilia Committee is in the process of working with the AOG Gift Shop to select memorabilia items for the reunion. In our next letter we will include a link to the AOG Gift Shop website where you will find the items and pricing listed. Should you wish to order any of these items, you will do so directly through the AOG Gift Shop. They will have the items packaged and ready to distribute to you upon your arrival at the reunion.

VIETNAM COMMEMORATIVE PINS: Across the Nation, a generation of warriors and their families are being publicly thanked and honored for their service and sacrifice during ceremonies hosted by thousands of dedicated Vietnam Commemorative Partners! The West Point Alumnae Glee Club is one of those Partners. Most all our classmates served on active duty during the Vietnam War and are eligible to be presented with an official Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin. This "lasting memento of the Nation's thanks" is now proudly worn by more than two million previously unheralded patriots! Many of our classmates have already been presented with a pin, but many more have not. If you have not yet received a pin, and would like to receive one at the reunion, please send an email to Nancy Hecker at nancyhecker@mindspring.com so we can get a count of the number of pins we need. These pins will be simply and quietly presented at the end of the Memorial Service on Friday, the "Commemorate" day of the Reunion.

That's it for now. Watch for the next letter to come out with information on the date on which the Reunion Registration will open, and with the link to the AOG Gift Shop with memorabilia choices and prices. In the meantime, do check the AOG Class of '65 Reunion website often for any additional updates. And be sure to let Nancy Hecker know if you wish to receive one of the Vietnam Commemorative Pins. See you soon!!!

*Co-Chairs
Bill & Nancy Hecker
Jim & June Harvey
Strength & Drive - Reunion Fifty Five
23-26 April 2020*