



the pooper scooper

the latest scoop on the hottest poop for the West Point Class of 1967 . . . Unsurpassed!

'67: MORE LIKE A FAMILY THAN A CLASS!

WE FREQUENTLY HEAR how great the Class of 1967 is, not only from ourselves, but from others as well. I hear it a lot here at West Point and within the AOG; I hear it frequently from representatives of other classes. Here's a great example of how people feel, provided in an recent e-mail I got from BOB NOLAN:

I was at the Virginia Izaak Walton facility today setting up a Trap and Skeet Day for Walter Reed and ran into a man with a West Point ring. I naturally asked him his class . . . "62," he replied. And when I held out my hand saying "67," he looked at me and said "67 is a remarkable class."

The praise is well deserved, of course, but it also falls short of telling the whole story about our remarkable family. That's the operative word, folks: Family. While most of the praise we've received is based on the many individual and collective accomplishments of the class, I firmly believe the real discriminator that sets us apart — what really makes us *Unsurpassed!* — is how we've grown together in love, in comradeship, in companionship, and in fellowship. We are one beautiful, connected family; we care deeply about each other. This is evidenced in so many ways: the remarkable

Surviving Family Member Program, so ably run initially by CLAIRE SAXON and JEFF MADSEN and now with LYNNE HONEYCUTT joining Jeff at the helm — and how can anyone ever thank ROB & JUDY HERB for their heroic, tireless efforts on behalf of our Surviving Family Members?; the Class Prayer Warrior Team, formed by GOOSE GONSER and BARRY NICKERSON and now numbering some 88 souls (do you realize that's almost 17% of the living members of the class?), who are always ready around the clock to pray and intercede for any member of the extended class family when in need; the unbelievable generosity of the class, not just with their treasure, but with their time and energy; the number of wonderful class events and mini-reunions every year — and they just keep growing. And there's the remarkable flow of information and offers to help when any classmate or family member is in need — sick, down on their luck, stressed, for what-



▲ ▼ Old friends reunite.



▼ Members of the class family celebrate being together.



ever reason. You would be amazed at some of the stories I'm told of the kinds of things classmates are doing quietly and behind the scenes to help others out. There is certainly no reason for any member of this family to feel abandoned.

I get a lot of great photos of classmates & their families and friends celebrating life and each other. In the last issue, I shared a bunch of photos from the reunion that showed how close we are; I love doing that, so here's a few more, sprinkled throughout, some from the reunion, some from other gatherings, some of families. Enjoy — and please keep the photos coming.



▲ The class family celebrates being together.

► The Rivers family, 2007.



▲ Mike Hood's Tennessee cousins?



▲ Mac & Janice Hartley, Christmas 2007.



▼ The Balkcom family, 2007.



▲ A gathering at the Lenz's, January 2008.

◀ Members of the class family celebrate being together.



▼ Mike Hood's clan?



▲ The Dyer family, 2007.

◀ The Colorado branch of the class family at Leslie Nelson's, Christmas 2007.

LOWREY'S LAMENTATIONS,

or Miscellaneous Gibberish from Freed

The Class of 1967 Leaves its Mark on West Point

Over the past several issues I've written a lot about the incredible things our class has done for West Point and the records we have established for other classes to emulate: Financially, the largest class gift ever given to West Point: \$4 million; largest single individual gift ever given to West Point: \$15 million, by BILL FOLEY; largest number of Leadership Donors (gifts of at least \$250,000) to the Bicentennial Campaign for West Point, 1997 – 2002: 11. Academically, we've had two Professors and Heads of Departments: RAY WINKEL, Department of Physics and Other Obscure and Useless Sciences, and WOODY HELD, Department of Foreign Languages. Three visiting professors occupying Distinguished Chairs: JOHN JAMES, Chair of Information Technology; PAUL KERN, Chair of Advanced Technology; and DICK BLACK, 1967 Chair of Physics. Within the AOG, we've had a Chairman of the Board of Trustees — TOM DYER — and more members of the Board than I can count. We've also had classmates as Presidents of just about all the major West Point Societies around the country.

I thought you'd like to see some of the physical evidence here at West Point of our classmates' contributions to our alma mater. I recently went around the post and took photos of all the plaques I could find honoring members of our class. Enjoy your legacy; it's pretty impressive. (See pp. 20–23.)

Class Officers' Meeting

I'm happy to report to you that your Class Officers (remember, sports fans, you elected them) take their jobs very seriously; so much



so that we decided we needed to have a meeting to make sure class business was being properly taken care of. So, on 9 February, all nine of us convened in a conference room at TOM DYER's club in Orlando, Florida, and spent the day ruminating on class business. It was a very productive meeting. I'm not kidding; we really did this, and it really was good. Here's a short synopsis of things we discussed:

CLASS MEMORIAL ARTICLES. RANDY PAIS reported that there are currently 15 Memorial Articles that have not been completed or published.

This prompted discussion on how to encourage people to volunteer to write articles about deceased classmates. As an encouragement to our classmates to complete Memorial Articles, the following actions were suggested:

- Randy will contact all current volunteers to encourage them to complete their articles.
- Freed will publish the 43 articles that have been published in *Assembly* magazine in a document similar to *Taps*. This document will be mailed with one of the next *Pooper Scoopers*.
- Randy will publish a list of the volunteer authors and their e-mail addresses to the entire class. This will be accompanied by a message asking classmates with anecdotal information to contact the appropriate author. Hopefully this will provide greater content for the articles and will spur the authors into a renewed effort to have the Memorial Articles published in the near future.

DYER DOODLES,

or a Message from

Tom Dyer, aka the
Class Prez



Greetings to you all! Another *Pooper Scooper* within the same decade as the last! Are we blessed or what?

Seriously, have you ever seen a more comprehensive, fun-filled, informative, well-constructed piece of literature in your life? The reason this class is so strong is because we have someone like FREED who cares as much as he does and shows it in all he gives to us. Thank you, Freed, for the job you did on the last *Scooper* and for what you do for us every day — you are Unsurpassed. A special thanks also to Beth O'Hara, who takes all the gibberish Freed puts on paper and turns it into the exciting, professional publication we enjoy reading so much. She has to be an incredibly patient, talented, and tolerant woman.

Despite the depth of the last message, there is a lot more to report in this issue, largely because this remarkable class never sits still; you're always achieving new heights of greatness.

The class officers met for a day in February to deal with a number of issues that needed attention. Ranging from a review of the Class

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Constitution to the improvement of our Surviving Family Member Initiative, we filled that day and many since, finalizing actions. We will be asking you to ratify some of our decisions.

In particular, I ask that you become familiar with the assignment we have given the committee which will oversee the Distinguished Graduate effort we are initializing to insure those members of the class who truly deserve this honor are so recognized. RANDY PAIS will provide a report that will describe this mission.

Those who had the chance to attend the reunion are aware of the USMA Department of History's Oral History Center, which has

as one of its primary aims the recording, both in book and video formats, the history of the remarkable Class of 1967. It is important that you pay close attention to Freed's report in this issue on this particular undertaking, because we are recommending providing a new class gift to help underwrite the Class of 1967 Oral History Project. This will be a great opportunity to shine the spotlight on this incredible collection of men.

As always, the work to complete Memorial Articles for our classmates is critical. Those who have helped in the past have honored our brothers and us by the tributes that have been published. Please, let's stay current.

So much more is to be gained from this latest issue; I don't want to cover it all here. Please take the time to enjoy another of Freed's masterpieces.

As a last request, please be available for those members of our '67 family who are struggling with health issues that we all face as we now mature. Our greatest gift to each other may well be how we continue to care for each other as we finalize our journey on Earth.

Freed, thanks again for all you do for us.
May God bless you all!

—TOM

LOWREY'S LAMENTATIONS *continued from p. 4*

It was also suggested that all published Memorial Articles be placed on the class web page. JOHN JAMES will investigate the possibility of that occurring after the web pages are updated.

SURVIVING FAMILY MEMBERS. There was considerable discussion about the Surviving Family Member data base that is being maintained by LYNN HONEYCUTT. Lynn will provide copies of the data base to all class officers.

In an effort to correctly follow standard Privacy Act procedures, HAP TRAINOR will provide Lynn with a draft form letter that will allow SFMs to authorize release of their information to other members of the class.

Lynn also was asked to give thought to SFM involvement in class reunions and to suggest ways that might make their participation as meaningful as it has been at past reunions.

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATES. RANDY PAIS explained the procedure for the nomination and selection of the Association of Graduates Distinguished Graduates each year. The primary concern for this discussion was that we, as a class, want to have a classmate nominated every year. However, having more than one nominee from a class in any year will normally dilute the effort for successful selection. Therefore, the Class of 1967 will normally have only one nominee each year. If a nomination packet is prepared and an individual is nominated but not selected, that packet will remain before the AOG Selection Committee for a second year.

To ensure that the class will have packets properly prepared and a nominee presented to the AOG for consideration each year, TOM DYER has appointed a Distinguished Graduate Nominating Committee from the class. This committee will coordinate the effort for nomination and packet preparation. Members of that committee are: Chairman JIM BALKCOM, RICH ADAMS, JOHN CALDWELL, TOM PARR, CARL SAVORY, and JOHN SEVERSON. The class will be asked to submit names of potential nominees to this committee. The desire is to have a class candidate nominated this year.

CLASS ORAL HISTORY PROJECT. I gave an update on the work that Dr. Pat Jennings, from the Department of History, has done to interview and document the accomplishments of the class. (NOTE: See, and pay close attention to the article on p. 7 in this *Pooper Scooper* about this project. You're going to be asked for a vote.)

CLASS DONATIONS TO NOT-FOR-PROFITS. Although it was inferred in the filing for our not-for-profit status as a veteran's organization that the class could make charitable donations using our Class Admin General Fund (HSBC), there is no formal requirement by the IRS that the class do so. However, over the past eight years the class has, in fact, made annual donations to charitable organizations, primarily to the West Point Association of Graduates.

The class will continue to make a donation to the AOG's Long Gray Line Endow-

ment each time we lose a classmate. This donation will ensure that a parchment Memory Page is created in the Memory Books for each deceased classmate. The Memory Books are located in Herbert Hall at West Point and each page lists the name of the deceased classmate and the names of all people making donations to the Academy in the memory of that classmate.

Other donations will be made by vote of the Executive Board at the end of each year and that information will be transmitted to the class. Classmates may suggest recipients for such donations any time they wish and the Executive Board will use that information to help determine the frequency and size of any donations.

CLASS CONSTITUTION. Because of some small inconsistencies in wording in the Class Constitution that became apparent during the meeting, TOM asked each of the class officers to give the Constitution a thorough scrub. Special attention is to be directed toward reviewing the Officer Responsibilities, Class Funds, and Committees. Tom asked for comments back from all officers. Once revised, the constitution will be sent to the class for approval.

DATA BASE AND WEB SITE. JOHN JAMES gave a brief historical summary of the class data base. One of the problems we discussed

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is the fact there are multiple data bases being kept: the reunion data base, the *Pooper Scooper* mailing data base, the AOG's data base, etc. We need to eliminate redundancy and ideally create one data base that is centrally managed. The data base should be accessible for input,

changes, and data retrieval by more than one member of the class.

John will seek third-party assistance to assist with updating the data base and web site, with the goal to resolve any differences in the e-mail lists currently maintained for the Class

(westpoint.org and wpaog.org). Ideally both lists would be identical. The goal of an up-graded data base would be to provide data useful for projects such as class reunions, the oral history project, or SFM requirements.

Class Reunion Business Meeting Minutes

► *I'm told by a highly questionable source — BOB LENZ, our Class Miserable Secretary — that there is some kind of requirement somewhere that the class be provided with copies of the approved minutes of the Class General Business Meetings that take place at our reunions. Since I do not wish to run afoul of any the many bureaucratic organizations that might police such things, here are the minutes, as recorded by Lenz (which ought to give you some idea regarding accuracy) and approved by the class officers, who were all sworn to be sober at the time.*

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Class of 1967 Business Meeting

1. At 7:30 AM on Friday, 28 September 2007, the Class of 1967 held a business meeting and election of officers at the Woodcliff Lake Hilton Hotel. Approximately 250 classmates attended that meeting.
2. The meeting was called to order by Thomas B. Dyer, Class President.
3. A financial report was submitted by Thomas A. Petrie, Class Treasurer.

Class Gift Fund — \$2,540,997.34 Class Admin Fund (AOG) — \$1,419.50 Class Admin Fund (HSBC) — \$18,247.70

It was noted at this point that the class had previously passed \$1,500,000 from the Gift Fund to the Association of Graduates for the Long Gray Line Endowment, thus allowing the class to name the AOG Leader Conference as the Class of 1967 Conference for Class and Society Leaders. The money currently in the Class Gift Fund will allow us to pass \$2.5M to the AOG for the Class of '67 Endowment in Physics, with the total of \$4M becoming the largest class gift ever presented in the history of the U.S. Military Academy.

4. During the financial report, COL Raymond J. Winkel, Jr., asked to make one introduction. Ray, Director of the Department of Physics at USMA, received a standing ovation as he took the stage. He then introduced the first selection of the Class of 1967 Chair in Physics, BG (Ret.) Richard A Black. Dick also received a standing ovation from the class.
5. The class writing and publication of obituaries in *Assembly* magazine was reported by COL (Ret.) Randall M. Pais, Class Vice President. Randy reported that there are 15 articles left to be written, although many of those are in some stage of completion.
6. James R. Balkcom, Jr., Nominating Committee Chairman, introduced the slate of recommended officers for the next five years. The election was short and unanimous.

President — Thomas B. Dyer
 Asst VP for the Capital Region — Michael W. L. Yap
 Asst VP for Surviving Family Members — Jeffrey R. Madsen
 Secretary — Robert J. Lenz
 Scribe/Historian — W. Freed Lowrey, Jr.

Vice President — Randall M. Pais
 Asst VP for Surviving Family Members — Lynn Honeycutt
 Treasurer — Charles W. Trainor
 Information Systems Officer — John R. James

All officers are incumbents, except Lynn Honeycutt replacing Claire Saxon and Hap Trainor replacing Tom Petrie. Claire and Tom chose not to run this term.

7. There was a briefing on the Oral History Project by Dr. Patrick Jennings, Deputy Director of the Center for Oral History, USMA Department of History. He explained his goal to interview and archive conversations with members of the class. From these interviews he intends to write a book entitled *Born into Fire: An Oral History of West Point's Class of 1967*. Class point of contact is Freed Lowrey.
8. After some administrative reunion announcements, Tom Dyer adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
 Robert J. Lenz, Class Secretary

A REVIEW OF THE CLASS OF 1967 ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

THIS IS IMPORTANT: MAKE SURE YOU
READ THE FOLLOWING! YOU WILL BE
ASKED FOR A VOTE.

► Okay, sports fans, as those of you will recall from the reunion business meeting (yeah, right), and the rest of you will recall from the last Pooper Scooper (yeah, right), the USMA History Department's new Center for Oral History wants to do a major research project focused on our class. Here's a summary of what you've already been told:

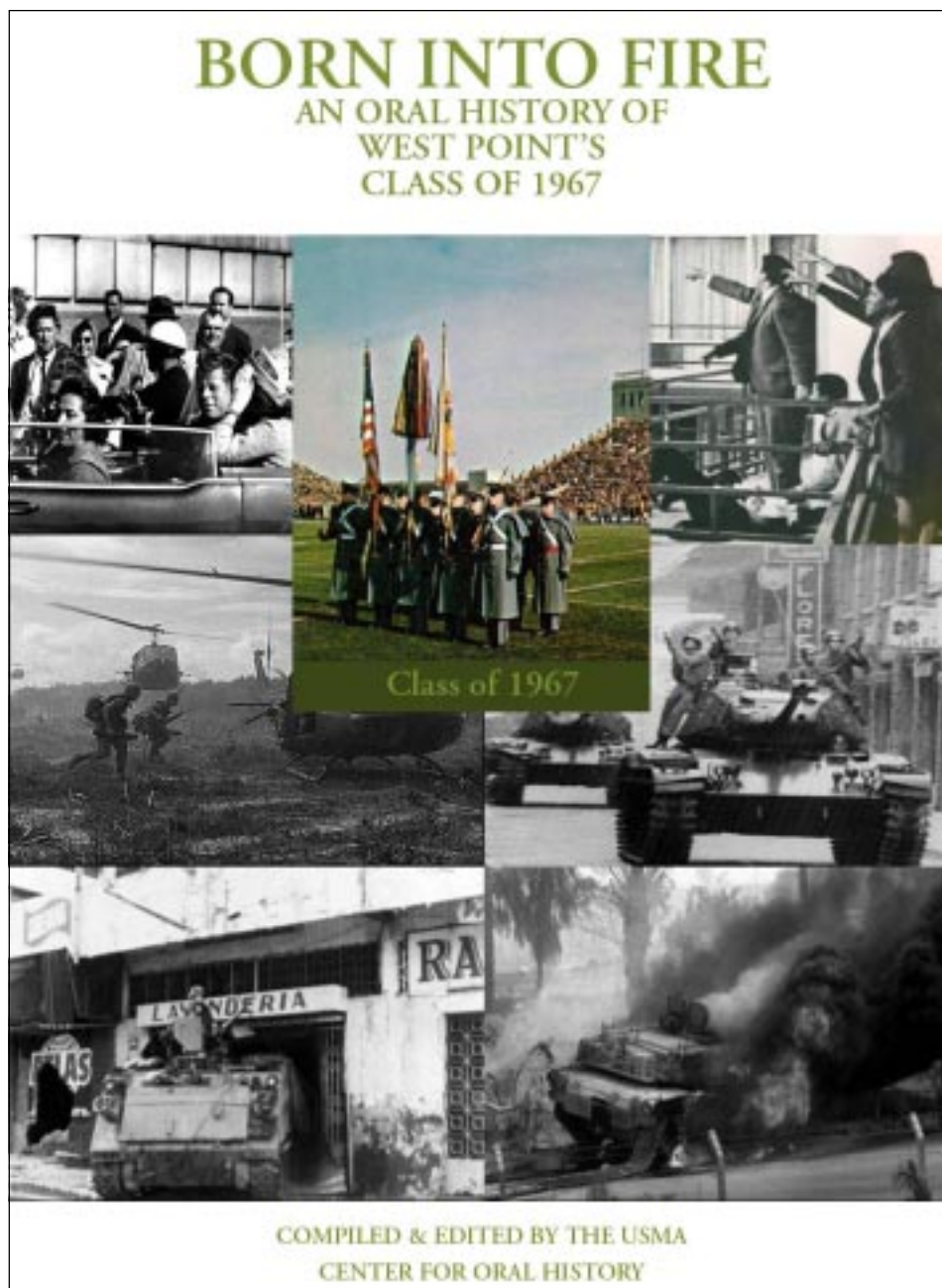
The Center for Oral History has decided to make the Class of 1967 one of its capstone projects. The department wants to interview at least 50 members of the class in the next few months regarding military and non-military experiences and achievements. From these interviews, all of which will be videotaped and transcribed for the Oral History Center's research archive, they intend to write a book about the class called *Born Into Fire: An Oral History of West Point's Class of 1967* — and they also want to produce a TV documentary about the class (very long-term goal).

I invited Dr. Patrick Jennings, Deputy Director of the USMA Center for Oral History, to brief the class on the project during the reunion business meeting. The response was very positive and enthusiastic. So far I have provided a list to Dr. Jennings of about 50 names of classmates who have agreed to or have been asked to participate. About ten interviews have been conducted so far.

I'm including here a couple of the slides Dr. Jennings used to brief at the business meeting.

As you can all hopefully see, this history project is an incredibly positive thing for the Class of 1967; it is a way to forever ensure our remarkable legacy not just for ourselves and our progeny, but for the nation. Serious students of military and American history will know about us and the impact our class, individually and collectively, has left on this world. It is a story well worth telling. We have

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the opportunity to have our story told in a highly professional and compelling manor. A number of us have been talking for several years about the need to have a history of the Class of 1967 written for posterity; here is our opportunity to have that done by no less an illustrious organization than the History Department of our own alma mater. It is a win/win situation for everyone.

Because the Oral History Center at USMA is entirely funded by gift dollars, not appropriated funds, money is always an issue. The Development Office of the AOG is hard at work raising the estimated \$10 million needed to fully endow the Center in perpetuity, and there is a strong belief that they will be successful in that endeavor, but that will take some time — probably several years. In the meantime, the Center is able to operate because of several generous gifts, including one last year of \$1 million from a non-graduate. The Class of 1967 project is one of the most important projects they have undertaken — they are referring to it as one of their capstone projects — but it is not the only project they're working on. Keep in mind we're losing our WWII heroes quickly now, and capturing as many of their stories as possible is a high priority of the Center.

We, the class, are currently in a perfect position to help both the Center accomplish its goal of capturing, writing, and publishing our class history, and to help ourselves by helping them accomplish the goal. As you all know, this past September we made West Point history by giving the largest class gift ever to West Point: \$4 million, \$2.5 million of which endowed the Chair of Physics, and \$1.5 million of which was given to the Long Gray Line Endowment of the AOG, for which the annual class and society leaders' conference is now named for the Class of 1967. The really good news is that, because of your generosity, vision, and sense of purpose, we raised more than the \$4 million required for this gift. As of this writing (end of February 2008) we still have about \$306,000 remaining in our class gift account, and there is almost another \$300,000 left in unpaid pledges (NOTE: *Please, please pay your outstanding pledges. Just because the class gift has been made doesn't mean your money isn't still needed. We are counting on you to honor your pledge. We do still have one more reunion gift under our belt.*)

At the class officers' business meeting on 9 February, one topic of discussion was the possibility of transferring \$150,000 from the class

gift account to the Center of Oral History for the specific purpose of being used for the Class of 1967 project. I had a lengthy discussion with Dr. Patrick Jennings, the Deputy Director of the Center and lead action officer on the Class of '67 project; according to him, a \$150,000 gift from the class would permit the Center to complete all the class interviews they want to do — including travel to wherever interview candidates are located if they can't come to West Point. This would include the videotaping and transcription of all interviews. The money also would allow the completion of the internet web site associated with the product, which I'm told will include video and photos as well as information, and the completion of the book manuscript. The Oral History Center does not plan to use a "vanity" publishing house to publish the book — the kind that requires the author to pay — but instead will get the book published at no cost by a publisher; they have several in mind. A contract with the publisher would stipulate that royalties from sale of the book — after the publisher recovers his cost — would accrue to the Oral History Center. This only leaves the documentary film, which is a long-term project, and which will cost a lot of money. Even without that, the project would be a great way for the Class of 1967 to establish its legacy on a national level. Patrick also agreed with me that we (members of the class) will be able to review the manuscript for accuracy prior to publication.

The class officers are unanimous in approving this transfer of funds for this specific purpose; it would constitute a new class gift from the Class of 1967, even further cementing our reputation as the Unsurpassed class. However, it does constitute a CLASS gift. Our class constitution stipulates that the class must vote on the use of class gift funds (which can only be used for some type of class gift to USMA or AOG). So, sport fans, what you're being asked to do here is cast your vote — yes or no — authorizing your class officers to transfer \$150,000 currently sitting in the Class of 1967 gift account at the AOG to the Center of Oral History for the specific purpose of completing as much as possible of the Class of 1967 History Project. A key thing to remember here is **you're not being asked for money** (but if you still have an outstanding pledge you are urged to pay it according to your established payment schedule). You're being asked for permission to use Class gift funds already in the account.

Timing is important. On p. 31 in this *Pooper Scooper*, you will find a ballot on this issue. Please, please take a few seconds to make your vote, invest 41¢ in a stamp, and mail your vote to Freed Lowrey; AOG, USMA; 698 Mills Road; West Point, NY 10996. *Completed ballots need to be received NLT 1 May 2008.*

One last comment on the project, which is great. On 5 March, I received the following e-mail from Dr. Jennings; as you can see, he is really serious about making this project special. Whether you vote in favor of the class gift or not, I would urge all of you to take advantage of this opportunity to tell your stories.

Freed, in your next *Pooper Scooper* could you please ask your classmates to participate in a voluntary Q&A session? It can look something like this:

Class of '67 — The USMA Center for Oral History is seeking background information on as many members as possible to bring life to our project, "Born Into Fire." Of course, it is impossible for COH to interview every class member; however, we want to include as many of you as possible in the book. As Deputy Director of the Center I would like to ask each of you to take some time to share a few moments of your life.

I would like you to think in blocks of time; the 1960's, 70's, 80's . . . and tell me about something from each of those decades that really stuck in your memory. I am looking for cadet moments (happy and sad, high jinks and serious), combat memories (Vietnam onward), and social stories (Kennedy and King assassinations, anti-war protests). I am particularly interested in memories of the so-called "hollow army" of the 80's, memories of those who served in Desert Storm, Bosnia, or Kosovo, and comments from those who chose a different path outside the Army. In short, I am asking you to dice your life into 10-year blocks and tell me what you wish from those times. You need not have a story from every decade — one or two will be just fine — but please remember nothing is too or-

► continued on page 31

In Memoriam

BE THOU AT PEACE

✧ BOB WYSOCKI ✧

BOB LOST HIS HEROIC four-year battle with cancer on Wednesday, 23 January 2008. Besides his wife MARY, Bob is survived by his son, Christopher Wysocki and daughter-in-law, Mitzi, of Los Gatos, California; and his daughter, Lauren Higgins, son-in-law, Michael, and grandson, Anthony Joseph, of Charlestown, Massachusetts. A memorial service was held on Saturday, January 26, 2008, at St. Francis Xavier Church, New Milford, Connecticut.

As we all know, Bob was an avid outdoorsman and one of the greatest fly fishermen who ever picked up a rod. He was a true master of the sport, an artist in motion. His fishing skills were matched by his craftsmanship tying flies; his creations were works of art that actually caught fish, by the bucket loads.

His daughter Lauren eulogized him beautifully at the memorial service; here are her words:

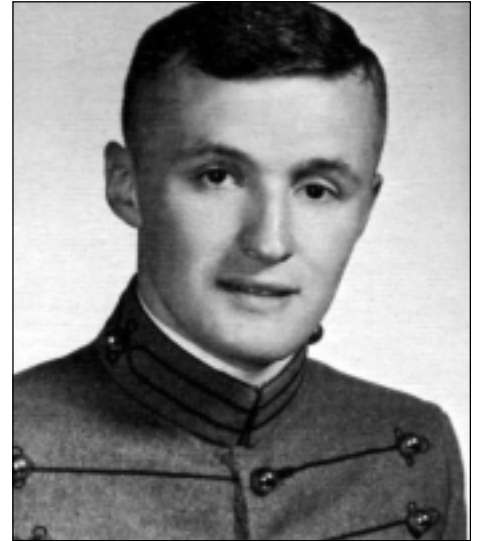
On behalf of our family, we all wish to thank you for joining us today. We appreciate your kindness, warmth, and especially your many special thoughts and reflections on my father. It's quite different from our perspective of him. To us, he will always be "Big Bad Bob."

In all seriousness, your stories share a remarkable similarity — focusing on my father's strength, courage, and, most of all, his generosity. He gave of himself to all who knew him all of the time. Volunteerism and service to others wasn't just a line item but a way of life for him. One of his former colleagues described how just last week, my father gave one of his famous professional pep talks — as though he were the Vince Lombardi of career counseling. He gave of himself out of an insatiable desire to help those he loved.

Indeed, my father was extraordinarily positive. Rarely did I hear him say a

negative word or complain about his situation. I heard that even during his busiest days with the NYNEX pension fund, my father would provide his team the positive momentum needed to plow ahead. He certainly exhibited his power to influence when he raised several thousand dollars for cancer research in the 2006 Jimmy Fund Boston Marathon walk — making him one of the top individual fundraisers that year.

If we take anything from today, may it be a commitment to continue that spirit in our own lives. May we all keep alive his legacy of generosity and optimism. In the meantime, I wish my father happiness and peace, which likely involves a fresh water stream, a new Orvis flyfishing rod, and a box of hand-tied flies. We'll miss you, Dad, and we thank you for all that you did for us. And, oh yes, Go Army! Beat Navy!



BE THOU AT PEACE, CLASSMATE.

"He has outsoared the shadow of our night."



CLASS HAPPENINGS, *or We're Still Having More Fun than We Deserve*

Ski Reunion, 2008 Edition

Okay, the annual class ski mini-reunion/Super Bowl party is over, and a grand time was had by all, as usual. This year a total of 47 folks attended all or part of the debauch, which was held at Vail and was hosted by RICH & DEBBIE ADAMS. Here's the report I received from ED DEWEY:

The most important thing to report is the disposition of the "coveted" Purple Butt Award. Semi-long story but good nonetheless. ROBERT PARR, son of DR. TOM & JOANIE PARR, was last year's recipient. Basically late in the day he decided alone to go down a double black diamond run (the steepest slope designation) and fell and severely dislocated his shoulder. In fact, Dr. Tom had to operate with inserting lots of pins, needles, screws, bolts, and other items just two days after the event and this now causes the TSA to full-body search Robert at each airport. Again by tradition the current recipient is to attend and bring the "award" to the following year's event, to hand it over to new awardee; or face having it "awarded" to them again for another year. (This is affectionately known as the MIKE CAIN Rule.) However, for various reasons (suspect to be sure) neither Robert nor Tom Parr and clan at-

tended this year. Tom, being a clever fellow, got the award from Robert. He then gave it to CHUCK & CAROL SWANSON, who were traveling through the Houston area to bring it to this year's event. Chuck even created a clear plastic case to display the "coveted" award. So we were all anxiously awaiting this delivery for the Super Bowl, as we award the Purple Butt after receiving nominations and voting after completion of the SB game each year.

Well, Chuck, Carol, and CAROLYN DONNELL were skiing Sunday prior to the Super Bowl. Apparently, Carol "lost concentration" (her words) and took a "header." That is, fell head over heels, knocked the wind out of her, and had lots of pains in various body parts, and proceeded to have a lawn sale of all her ski equipment which scattered all over the mountain. Chuck, dutiful husband, stood by and took photos, while Carolyn hailed down the ski patrol for Carol. The ski patrol took her down the mountain and into a Vail hospital in a toboggan; not a pleasant experience.

Anyhow, Chuck & Carol showed up around half-time during the Super

► Chuck & Carol Swanson, before the fall.

▼ The Class ski reunion crowd gathered for the Super Bowl.

Bowl. So when the game finished and it came time to award the Purple Butt Award, by unanimous vote Carol Swanson was chosen to keep it for a full year since she was currently in possession of it, even if not the awardee. Of course, her experience on the mountain that day did also have something to do with the group's decision to actually





▲ Carol Swanson is loaded onto the rescue toboggan by the ski patrol.



◀ Carol Swanson is towed off to the hospital.

► AOG brochure for the Italian Lakes District trip this September.

VILLAGE LIFE

ITALIAN LAKE DISTRICT

SEPTEMBER 27 TO OCTOBER 5, 2008

- ◆ PRIVATE CRUISES ON LAKE COMO AND LAKE MAGGIORE
- ◆ EXCLUSIVE ITALIAN COOKING DEMONSTRATION
- ◆ EXCLUSIVE VILLAGE FORUM WITH LOCAL RESIDENTS
- ◆ ALL EXCURSIONS INCLUDED FROM \$2695*

award it to her. BTW, she's sore but okay, so that's a good thing.

RICH & DEBBIE ADAMS are also to be congratulated and thanked for planning the event. They arranged for some wonderful dinners on Friday and Saturday evening. They then topped that by hosting a mob of folks at their gorgeous mountain retreat for the Super Bowl festivities. Lots of good food and drinks.

Start your planning for next year now. The Highland Falls Ski Club, aka Class of 1967 Winter Ski Trips, will celebrate its 10th Anniversary in Cop-

per Mountain, Colorado, in 2009. PHIL KINNEY, CARROL HOWARD, GORDO RANKIN, and PAUL HASEMAN are the committee to build the camel, oops, plan the event! It'll be over the Super Bowl weekend per tradition. More info will follow as we get closer, of course.

AOG Trip to Lakes Como and Maggiore

Alright, everyone, here's a chance for a great class mini-reunion. As many of you know, each year the AOG hosts 15–20 cruises and other

trips for graduates and friends. One of the trips this year (27 September – 5 October) is a wonderful trip to the Italian Lake District. This includes seven nights in the “charming four-star *Hotel Regina Olga*” in Chernobbio, just outside Como and right on the lake. The trip includes boat cruises on Lakes Como and Maggiore; excursions to Varenna, Bellagio, Milan — where you'll see DaVinci's “The Last Supper” — and Como; and lots of other neat stuff. VICKI & I spent a week in the Lake Como area in 2002, at almost exactly the same time of year, and it was wonderful.

So why am I telling you this, you ask? Because I am the designated AOG host for this

► Rich & Debbie Adams in Venice.

trip! If a total of 10 people (5 couples) sign up, I get to go for free! Better yet, if 20 people sign up (10 couples) Vicki & I both get to go free! What a good deal. And it will be for you, too, because as the AOG hosts, Vicki & I will host at least one cocktail reception, and I'll buy lots of drinks for everyone the whole week. It doesn't get much better than that.

You should all have recently (end of February) received a brochure from the AOG about this trip (see the photo on p. 11). Of course, most of you probably immediately threw it away, as you do with every mailing you get from the AOG. Don't be discouraged! You can still view it, and sign up, by going to the West Point AOG website (www.wpaog.org), scroll down the right side of the page until you find the link "Travel with the WPAOG..." and navigate to the Italian Lake District trip. I'm told that RANDY & JACKIE PAIS have already signed up, and several others are interested. Let's make this a great class adventure.

See you in Italy.

Quarterly Washington DC Area Class Breakfast

This has been a tradition by the DC area crowd for many years. I recently received from JOHN KUSPA the schedule for these breakfasts for the next three years. If you're in or passing through the DC area on any of these dates,



you ought to drop in and join the fun. Here's what I got from John:

It is time for the next local Class breakfast. It is next THURSDAY, 14 Feb 2008, Pentagon City Central Food Court, as we have many times before. (Bud Shu-mate, a regular, has a good excuse for missing THIS one, but not the rest of you!) Easy access to METRO, being one stop between the Pentagon and Crystal City, where some of us now work. We should be able to find each other, since we meet in the large food court, which is in the center hall (5 storeys) in Pentagon City Mall. There are 3-4 places open for breakfast (McD, Au Bon Pain, etc.) and we just gather and gab. Typically 6-8 show up. Nominal 0730 start, but some arrive before then and are gone by 0800, others arrive 0745 and stay until whenever. It's as informal as we can make it. Just shout "BEAT NAVY" and follow the replies. If you cannot make this one, here's the schedule for the next three years (subject to change).

Month	2008	2009	2010
Feb	Th 14th	Wed 11th	Th 11th
May	Wed 14th	Tu 12th	Wed 12th
Aug	Tu 12th	Th 13th	Tu 10th
Nov	Th 13th	Tu 10th	Wed 10th

See you there!

Rich & Debbie Adams Travel the World!

Well, at least part of it. Sometime ago — I have no idea when — they traveled to Italy (hey, you all have a great chance to travel to Italy with FREED & VICKI — see p. 11!) where they visited, among other places, Venice, city of love and canals full of who knows what. Other than that I have no clue what else they did, but they did send me a great photo from the trip.

Classmates Gather in Houston for Founder's Day

Houston, which has one of the better West Point Societies in the country, thanks in no small measure to the efforts of classmates like TOM & JOANNIE PARR and RANDY & JACKIE PAIS, always throws a great bash for Founder's Day, and a lot of classmates and family members show up for the party. This

◀ Monty Meigs wows the crowd at the Houston Founder's Day.

year was no exception, especially because our own MONTY MEIGS was the featured speaker. I received a couple of photos from Randy Pais along with his analysis of Monty's speech; he said it was the best Founder's Day speech he had ever heard. That opinion was echoed by a couple of other folks as well.

Jim Milliken Continues to Gallivant Around the Globe

Despite having knee replacement surgery last January, JIM MILLIKEN continues his globe-hopping adventures, usually on one of his several Harleys. Among his adventures this past year was a trip to China in September. I don't think they let him ride the Harley on The Great Wall, but I'll bet he tried.

► Jim Milliken on the Great Wall of China.
Where's the Harley?



▲ HOUSTON FOUNDER'S DAY — Tom & Joannie Parr, Monty & Mary Ann Meigs, Al & Carolyn Nahas, Mary & Jerry Walker, Johnny Murrell & his date Jo, Tom & Susan White, Jackie & Randy Pais, Jeff '92 & Lisa '93 Johnson, and Daniel Ebarb '06 & his wife Sherry. Daniel was the youngest grad and has been befriended by many from the Class of '67 in Houston. Daniel was wounded by sniper fire in Iraq only 8 days after arrival in country. Bob Miller and his wife left right after supper so are not pictured.

Ed Beck's Daughter Chosen for Volleyball National Training Team

Back in January I received a neat e-mail from JACK BOYT, passing along the news that ED "PAPA" & CINDY BECK's daughter Morgan has been selected for the U.S. Women's National Volleyball Training Team. She was one of 10 players offered the chance to train with the U.S. National Team at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. These 10 players will compete for tournament roster spots on the national team this summer. Team USA has already earned a berth in the 2008 Beijing Olympics. Morgan, who plays opposite (that's a volleyball position, folks) helped the University of California Bears to their first-ever NCAA Championship semifinal appearance in 2007 as she averaged 3.14 points, 2.39 kills (hooaaaa, love those kills!), 1.03 blocks, and 1.66 digs per game. She has earned All-Pac 10 honorable mention the past two seasons. She has 913 kills and 296 blocks through her junior season. Way to go, Morgan. As Boyt says, Cindy must be responsible for all of Morgan's success, as Papa would never be disciplined enough to have a daughter with this much talent.

Bill Wilby Hits a Journalistic Home Run in the Wall Street Journal

Our own BILL WILBY had a brilliant article in the 23 January *Wall Street Journal* entitled "The Dollar and the Market Mess," which has gotten a lot of good reviews. Bill, by the way, is a member of the AOG's Investment Committee and is a former head of equities at Oppenheimer Funds. Next time you run into Bill, ask him to describe his skiing accident for you.

Here's his piece, courtesy of the WSJ:

The Dollar and the Market Mess

By BILL WILBY

January 23, 2008; Page A25

Lenin was surely right. There is no subtler, no surer means of overturning the existing basis of society than to debauch the currency. The process engages all the hidden forces of economic law on the side of destruction, and does it in a manner

which not one man in a million is able to diagnose.

— John Maynard Keynes

Currency debauchment is a choice. Most governments don't want to debauch their currency—it's just that they don't want to take the actions that might prevent it, because those actions are perceived to be intolerably painful. Thus it was that last fall, the Federal Reserve, the world's central bank, decided to "let the dollar go" because staying the course on interest rates might threaten the world's financial system (or so the argument goes).

Meanwhile oil prices are high, inflation is considerably above the Fed's own stated long-term targets, and the dollar is in danger of losing its reserve currency status. Should we care? Are saving the dollar and saving the global financial system mutually exclusive alternatives? And isn't a dollar decline necessary for "rebalancing" the U.S.'s external deficits? The answer to the first question is a resounding yes, and to the last two questions, resounding nos.

Why is a weak dollar bad for America? First of all, it directly pushes up oil and other commodity prices by paying the producers with a depreciating piece of paper (thus removing the incentive to increase production), while lowering local currency oil prices for the rest of the world (thus increasing oil demand at the margin). It is no coincidence that the world's two great oil shocks in 1972–73 and 2004–2007 both came after long periods of off-balance-sheet global monetary expansion and subsequent dollar weakness—the growth of the eurodollar market in the late 1960s and 1970s, and the SIV and CDO expansion of the last several years.

Oil traders know this, and it is why the immediate consequence of the Fed's earlier 50-basis-point cut was to take the dollar down and oil prices up. One could write a separate essay on what a lower dollar and higher oil prices do to our strategic interests, such as propping up regimes like those in Iran and Russia.

Second, a lower dollar reduces the wealth of the U.S. consumer in global

terms, immediately through the dollar's lower purchasing power, and longer term through the erosive impact of inflation. It hits retirees and those on fixed incomes particularly hard, and is a totally counterproductive policy for a potentially weak consumer.

Third, the weaker dollar accelerates the growth of our competitors. China may be growing at 11% or more in yuan terms, but their growth in U.S. dollars in 2007 was greater than 17%, and it is their dollar growth rate that is relevant for the rate of their rise in the world's economic hierarchy. Using Europe as another example, in 2002 U.S. nominal GDP was nearly 10% larger than that of the Eurozone 15. Today it is 14.3% smaller. Although Europe has been growing more slowly, its global economic power has been rising more rapidly than that of the U.S. because of our falling greenback.

Finally, if America were to lose its reserve currency status because of a continued loss of confidence in the dollar, the cost in terms of jobs and growth would be significant. The real economic benefit conveyed by the right to print the accepted global currency is called seignorage, which results in part from the lower capital cost we derive from foreigners' willingness to hold dollar cash. This country has taken for granted the benefits of our global seignorage for many years, and it is one of the reasons the U.S. has maintained a higher growth rate than the world's other mature economies.

But don't we need a lower dollar to "correct" our large trade and current account deficits? In the first place, our accounting deficits are largely with our own overseas subsidiaries (more than 50% of world trade is intra-company trade) and reflect an increasingly globalized world economy. Second, America is the shopping mall for the world. Because our distribution system is the world's most efficient, retail prices for the world's goods are lower here, and we have been the shopping destination for the world's consumers even before the dollar began its recent fall. These foreign purchases prop up retail sales (helping to explain the resilience of the

U.S. consumer), depress our measured savings rate, and result in an underreporting of U.S. exports and an exaggerated measure of our imports (some significant share of our imports are actually bought by foreigners).

The ability of currency moves to correct trade deficits or surpluses depends on the elasticity of demand and supply. Because of increasingly specialized world trade, the elasticity associated with our exports and imports are very low. Thus a falling dollar is likely to increase the dollar amount of our imports (the infamous J-curve), and force the bulk of the adjustment to currency moves into the "income effect" that results from our higher bills (witness the impact of higher oil prices on the U.S. consumer). Moreover, our current account deficit for a year is equal to only a fraction of the dollar's foreign-exchange trades for a day. To say that one is either the cause or consequence of the other is almost laughable.

Our external deficits are largely measures of Federal Reserve and banking-system liquidity creation, just as the dollar's exchange rate is a function of foreign trust in holding dollar cash or near-cash balances as a monetary store of value (these balances are the lion's share of our so-called foreign debt). Thus, our deficits will only be ameliorated by a slowdown in liquidity creation itself. Just such a slowdown is likely now underway as a result of the mortgage crisis as we enter 2008, but any attempt by the Fed to ease at the expense of further dollar declines will likely snatch defeat from the jaws of victory, and risk a global inflation of significant proportions over the next several years.

Doesn't a failure to respond aggressively to the credit crisis by cutting rates too slowly risk a recession, or a Japan-like breakdown of the world's financial system? Unfortunately the recession risk is high, but not because of high interest rates (which are currently negative in real, after-tax terms). The recession risk is high because of a breakdown in the absurd system that developed for the packaging and underwriting of debt, and the excess liquidity that developed

from the combination of that system and a highly stimulative monetary policy.

The Fed took a gamble on inflation to ward off what was perceived as a deflationary threat in 2001–02. The inflationary consequences of that gamble are now here, with the petrodollar monetary merry-go-round fueled by the weaker dollar. Those consequences will be much easier to deal with now, rather than later. Unlike Japan, where the capital-markets risk was concentrated in a handful of thinly capitalized large banks, the very growth of the credit-derivatives market that is the source of the current crisis in the U.S. has also resulted in a wide dispersion of risk in the financial system, and any recession will likely be mild and short.

While we might see a number of hedge funds and some isolated banks fail, the pool of distressed asset buyers waiting in the wings would result in a needed consolidation of the financial-services industry, without systemic failure. In the meantime, the systemic risk posed by the failure of one or more of these institutions is minimal compared to the moral hazard and longer-term inflation risks we incur from their bailout.

Sadly, the dimensions of the Fed's great dilemma would be much less acute had the Fed and Treasury officials not taken such a cavalier approach to the U.S. dollar over the past eight years. Our "strong dollar" (wink, wink) policy has never been articulated by either institution with any real conviction, and markets have rightly sensed that maintaining employment, growth, and stock-market happiness has begun to take precedence over maintaining the value of money. In a world of fiat currencies, where trust

is your most powerful policy tool, dollar strength is a far better indicator as to the appropriate stance of monetary policy than "core" inflation.

Any further loss of confidence in the U.S. currency will cost us dearly in terms of both price stability and jobs in the long run, as it will imply a higher level of interest rates to maintain a given monetary stance. A convincing elevation of the dollar in the policy priority list for both the Fed and the Treasury would be the single greatest step that either institution could take in restoring health to the financial system.

Monty Meigs to Receive the Alexander Haig Guardian of Liberty Award

MONTY MEIGS has been in the news a lot lately. Monty is now teaching in the National Security Studies Program at Georgetown University, a master's program which caters to grad students at GU and to folks in the Beltway area in government or associated jobs who want an advanced degree. This past semester he taught a course called "Defense Challenges

in the XXIst Century." It started with Bosnia and went to present day, covering decisions to use force and examining things done that either helped or hindered the effort. This past November, Monty was guest lecturer here at the Womb, and on 1 March he was the speaker at the Houston Founder's Day, where he was cheered to an echo by all in attendance who were still awake at the end of his speech. On 15 March he will be

the 2008 recipient of the Alexander Haig Guardian of Liberty Award presented by the West Point Society of Philadelphia. Previous recipients include TOM WHITE, GEN Eric Shinseki, GEN Wayne Downing, and GEN Wes Clark. Pop up your scrawny little chest, Monty; you done good again.



▲ Monty Meigs.

Doug Pringle Continues to Do Great Things for Our Wounded Warriors

I received two reports recently about one of our real class heroes, DOUG PRINGLE. The first was a note from Doug announcing the fact that his organization, Disabled Sports

USA Far West, had just spent a week hosting 129 permanently disabled soldiers and Marines wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan. No sooner did that message arrive when DON NELSON passed along info about an article in the December '07 issue of *The American Legion* magazine entitled "Extreme Rehab,"

which is all about Doug and his organization and their efforts to rehab war veterans who have lost limbs by teaching them to ski and do other neat things. (See if you can still find the article at www.legion.org).

Pop it up, Fat Daddy; you continue to do us all proud.

MISCELLANEOUS RAMBLINGS,

or short bursts overheard while standing in line at the proctology clinic

Blasts From the Past

► *Continuing a theme from the last issue, here's some more news from long, long ago recently sent my way.*

BILL MOORE GAVE THE 20,000TH PINT OF BLOOD TO THE WEST POINT RED CROSS.

Got a neat photo from JOHN JAMES the other day; his wife GAEL was recently in the Red Cross office here at West Point, where she does volunteer work, and saw an article on the wall describing how our own BILL MOORE had donated the 20,000th pint of blood collected by the Red Cross at West Point (this was back in our cadet days). Gael managed to get a copy of a photo of Bill doing his heroic deed, being supervised by a couple of lovely blood-sucking nurses, which she has

provided to me so I can share it with you. The original photo was in pretty bad shape, but after a bit of work I was able to restore it pretty well. Bill is out in Kansas City where he owns a company called Continental Transportation. The other day I was rooting through the pockets of a sport coat I hadn't worn since last summer, and in the pocket I found a copy of a newspaper article someone had given me and I had long since forgotten about. It's an article about our graduation, and includes a great photo of BOB PORTNEY laying a big kiss on a Miss Myrtle Heery. Unsurpassed!

► **Bob Portney celebrates his unlikely graduation.**

▼ **Bill Moore is ogled by a couple of nurses as he gives blood.**



Transitions

► *The one constant in our lives continues to be change: change of job, change of address, change of career, change of spouse, change of diapers . . . Here's some recent changes I've learned about.*

ED MOORE, NEW ANGLICAN PRIEST.

Now here's some cool news; I guess this qualifies as Very High Up Roller Roll Call. It certainly qualifies as a major transition. On Saturday, 1 De-

cember (the same day the Army football team decided to self-destruct against Navy, phooey), our own ED MOORE was ordained a priest in the Anglican Church. The ordination ceremony was presided over by Bishop Walter Grundorf and took place at All Saints Anglican Church in Charlottesville, Virginia. Seems like the least he could have done was to have asked for a little divine intervention against the squids. Anyway, in addition to his wife SUE, classmates BILL PITTENGER and DENNY HUYCK — who probably needs as much divine intervention as he can get from any source willing to bestow it — were also on hand to witness the ceremony. Well done, Ed; take big bites.

Armed with this news, I decided to do a little research to see if I could identify how many ordained religious we had in the class, to go along with number of doctors, lawyers,



Anglican Province of America

*By the Grace of God
The Most Reverend Walter H. Grundorf
Bishop of the Eastern United States
will ordain*

*Edward V. S. Moore
to the Sacred Order of Priests at
All Saints Anglican Church
3889 Ivy Road
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903
at eleven o'clock in the morning on
Saturday, December 1st
in the Year of our Lord
Two Thousand and Seven*

Your prayers and presence are requested.

Clergy red stoles

Reception follows



▲ Denny Huyck, Fr. Ed Moore, and Bill Pittenger.

◀ Invitation to Ed
Moore's ordination.

general officers, CASAs, and buffoons we've got. So far I've been able to identify five: Ed, JOHN SHULER, GEORGE PEJAKOVICH, JERRY FOX, and MAC CASSITY. Any other men of the cloth out there?

BACK-TO-THE-GRIND CATEGORY. Got a cyber fart from BILL KOCH in January reporting that he is once again gainfully employed (I never knew he wasn't). He has taken on a new job with Roundstone Healthcare Partners; the company is involved with financial solutions to healthcare issues. That's good, as I was not aware that we had any solutions to our healthcare issues — financial or otherwise — in this country.

ROG ARANGO HAS CHANGED CAREERS, AGAIN. On 23 January, I got the following from ROG ARANGO, announcing another career change: "Sorry I missed the 40th but I still haven't been able to retire yet. Moved to Memphis a year ago to take a job as a planner with the Central U.S. Earthquake Consor-

tium. We are spending lots of FEMA money to keep the central U.S. safe from the ravages of the New Madrid Seismic Zone. I am proud to report that since I have been on the job, Memphis hasn't had an earthquake. Will be returning to Washington State in a couple of years where I will attempt to execute my 5th retirement. In the interim, now living on the largess of you youngsters: Medicare, Social Security, etc. Address in Memphis is 1073 Ivy Road, Memphis, TN 38117. Phone is 901-691 7649."

TIM & DIANE RUSSELL have finally moved back to the land of the Big PX after almost 30 years in Europe. They're settling into the retired life in Stafford, Virginia, where they're close to their kids and new grandchild.

Speaking of moving back to the States, ACE & MARGIE CLARK moved back to New York last year after many years in London; Ace is now working for JP Morgan Chase. By the way, I suspect most of you probably don't know

your Cullum numbers, the number assigned by the AOG to all graduates. Shame on Ace if he doesn't know his: it's 26767. How appropriate is that?

GEORGE HARMON, who spent most of his adult life as a commercial airline pilot for Delta Airlines flying great big airplanes around the world, retired three years ago, and this year he & REBEKAH moved from Southern California back to her hometown of Springfield, Missouri. Now George is piloting a different carrier: a 16.2 hands Tennessee Walker gelding named Beau. As George says, quite a contrast from controlling tens of thousands of horsepower to controlling one. Nice transition.

Interesting Class Statistics

Recently I had a bit too much time on my hands so I decided to update a research project that I actually first undertook about 13 years ago, trying to capture some statistical data about the class. Here are some numbers you might find interesting. I know they're not entirely accurate; many of the numbers are low because a lot of the data I have is from sources like the *Register of Graduates*, classmate obituaries, or other published sources. A lot of classmates simply don't provide information for the *Register*. Nevertheless, it's an intriguing snapshot of the Unsurpassed Class:



◀ George Harmon pilots his new ride.



▲ Denny Huyck with his daughter Kellee and granddaughter Sarah.

Total number graduated: 583 (included 3 foreign cadets)
 Total number deceased as of 5 March 2008: 58
 Total years of uniformed service by the class: 8,184.5 (with 2 classmates still on active duty)
 Total number of Valor Decorations: 322
 Total number of Distinguished Service Crosses: 3 (2 posthumous)
 Total number of Silver Stars: 70
 Total number of Distinguished Flying Crosses: 23
 Total number of Soldier's Medals: 11
 Total number of Purple Hearts: 142
 Total number of Distinguished Service Medals: 27
 Total number of Legions of Merit: 235
 Total number of General/Flag officers; 18, with a total of 37 stars (these numbers will each increase by one when Ray Winkel retires)
 Total number of NASA Astronauts: 2
 Total number of Doctors & Dentists: 40
 Total number of Lawyers: 42
 Total number of Ordained Ministers: 5

Proud Grandparents

Two new grandparents to report on this time. TIM & DIANNE RUSSELL's first grandchild, Annika, was born 15 December in Washington, DC; the parents are their son Robert & his wife Emily.

On 13 December, DENNY HUYCK's daughter Kellee Kelton presented Denny with his first grandchild, Sarah Agnes Kelton.



◀ Rob Herb presents his class crest plaque to Dan Neuberger's brother and sisters.

Sarah checked into the Orderly Room with an authorized baggage weight of 7 lbs. 14 ozs. and based on her height of 21.5 inches will be assigned to a flanker company.

Rob Herb Continues to Serve our Surviving Family Members

ROB HERB continues to do great things for our surviving family members; it's hard to imagine anyone giving more of his time and effort on behalf of the class than Rob. This past week, while returning home to Wyoming from Texas, he & JUDY stopped in Hays, Kansas, to have lunch with DAN NEUBERGER's siblings Donnetta Robben, her husband Lester, Dan's sister Peggy, and his brother Phil. Donetta was able to attend the

reunion in September with Dan's widow, Susan Murphy, and Dan's daughter, Danielle. While visiting, Rob gave his class crest plaques and class coins to each of them. Unsurpassed.

A plaque presentation ceremony also took place on 29 February in Burr Ridge, Illinois, a western suburb of Chicago. DON NELSON arranged to present one of Rob's plaques and class coins to TOM SWETT's widow NANCY. Folks who said they were going to be there included Nancy and her two daughters, FRED BAROFSKY, SLIM HOHMAN, KARL JACOBS, STEVE YAMBOR, DON NELSON, and maybe a couple of others. Let's hope someone took some photos.

Joe Root to Run Marathon for Charity

Some of you may remember, though the odds of that are less than miniscule, that in the January *Assembly* I reported that JOE ROOT announced he is going to run the NY Marathon this November. This is notable from someone who currently doesn't run at all. Zip. Zero. Nada. I suggested that Joe publish a training log of his preparations. Well, Joe finally got around to responding. Here's his input:

It is correct that I will participate in the NY Marathon. My lawyer insists that I insert the caveat that no representation, statement, or suggestion is, has been, or shall be made, implied, or construed that any activity reasonably understood as "running" will be exhibited, conducted, or otherwise displayed. For the training log part, just put down a succession of statements, "Ran more miles than was good for me. Really tired." As to pictures of me in training, or in an actual event, there is one set of negatives still in existence, but only because the owner has fled to parts unknown. We do have the opportunity for a sporting activity, however. I'm entering on behalf of the London-based National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/>), in which my British brother-in-law is largely involved. Folks can sign up for pledges, allowing us to set up a friendly wager. Now, my scoff-o-meter detects a lack of absolute certainty, shall we say, that I will actually complete the full circuit. So, I propose the following: If I fail to cross the finish line, I will match all classmate contributions; if I do finish, I will match at 1 to 4. Given my old, fat, deteriorating body, those odds seem nothing but entirely generous. Folks can e-mail me (joeroot@comcast.net) with pledges, copying you for an official tally. By the time the screed reappears, I'll have details on how to record pledges, which I'll send along to contributors. At that point I'll post something on the class listserv as well. So, step right up, folks. I'm sure you and DEWEY will lead the way with stupendous pledges. See you in Central Park.

This is excellent — a chance to encourage Joe and do some good. Get those pledges in.

The Poets' Corner

I'm very happy to announce that once again we have a compelling piece of poetry for this popular feature, this time courtesy of DIANE DOTY, STEVE's wife. Here is her story of the poem:

I must tell you how this past reunion affected me. Having attended all of the reunions, I am well aware of how special and unique each was. However, at the 40th, the camaraderie and emotion I observed and personally experienced was absolutely palpable. And to realize all that these men had endured and accomplished while at West Point and beyond . . . well, I just felt incredibly honored to be in their midst. I was so overwhelmed by the experience, I felt determined to express it. So, on the long drive home, the essence of this poem was written. I still hadn't shown it to Steve, though, and the other day I got it out, brushed it off, polished it up, and gave it to him. His reaction was immediate: he wanted to share it, and he did so. I have been absolutely astounded and extremely appreciative of the response it has evoked.

So, I would humbly like to offer this poem as a gift and small token of my admiration, love, and respect to the members of the West Point Class of 1967. How blessed I have been to know you all!

40TH REUNION West Point Class of 1967

Once again we've gathered here
Upon The Plain of yesteryear
To reconfirm, reflect, renew,
To add another link or two
The chains of brotherhood that grew
When we were young and going through
Parades of days, a march of years,
That brought us here today.

Was there a time we could have known
The depth to which the seeds were sown
Of Duty, Honor, Country grown
So deep within our souls?

The laughs we've shared, the tears we've shed,
The grief so deep as brothers bled;
On distant shores we fought and led,
Yet, tirelessly our boots still tread
To gather here today.

We treasure each and every heart
That grew together from the start;
We forged the links, we're each a part,
Unbroken to this day.

Forever fused by memories past,
The shadow long our swords have cast;
The forty years so quickly passed,
That Long Gray Line so unsurpassed,
The bonds of steel a lifetime last
And bring us here today.

► *The following piece isn't a poem, but it is certainly poetic to me, and I think it's marvelous. Thanks to JIM BALKCOM for sending it to me shortly after the reunion.*

Yearn to Reunite

I now know why men who have been to war yearn to reunite. Not to tell stories or look at old pictures. Not to laugh or weep. Comrades gather because they long to be with men who once acted at their best; men who suffered and sacrificed, who were stripped of their humanity. I did not pick these men. They were delivered by fate and the military. But I know them in a way I know no other men. I have never given anyone such trust. They were willing to guard something more precious than my life. They would have carried my reputation, the memory of me. It was part of the bargain we all made, the reason we were so willing to die for one another. As long as I have memory, I will think of them all, every day. I am sure that when I leave this world, my last thought will be of my family and my comrades. Ahh, such good men.

— Author Unknown

THE CLASS OF 1967 LEAVES ITS MARK ON USMA



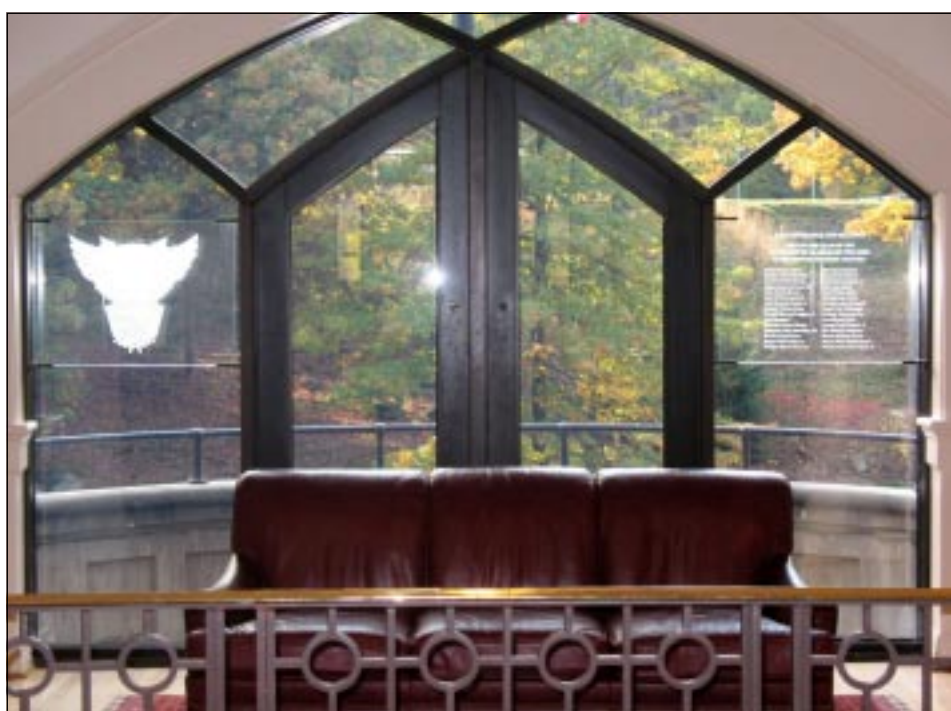
◀◀ Plaque in the entrance foyer to Herbert Hall, West Point.

◀ The class crest in glass, Herbert Hall.

▼ The class window in Herbert Hall.



▲ A tribute to our fallen brothers, Herbert Hall.



▼ The Class of '67 bench at the Classes of the '60s Vietnam Memorial.



▲ Dedication plaque for the Classes of the '60s Vietnam Memorial at Lusk Reservoir.



THE CLASS OF 1967 LEAVES ITS MARK *continued*



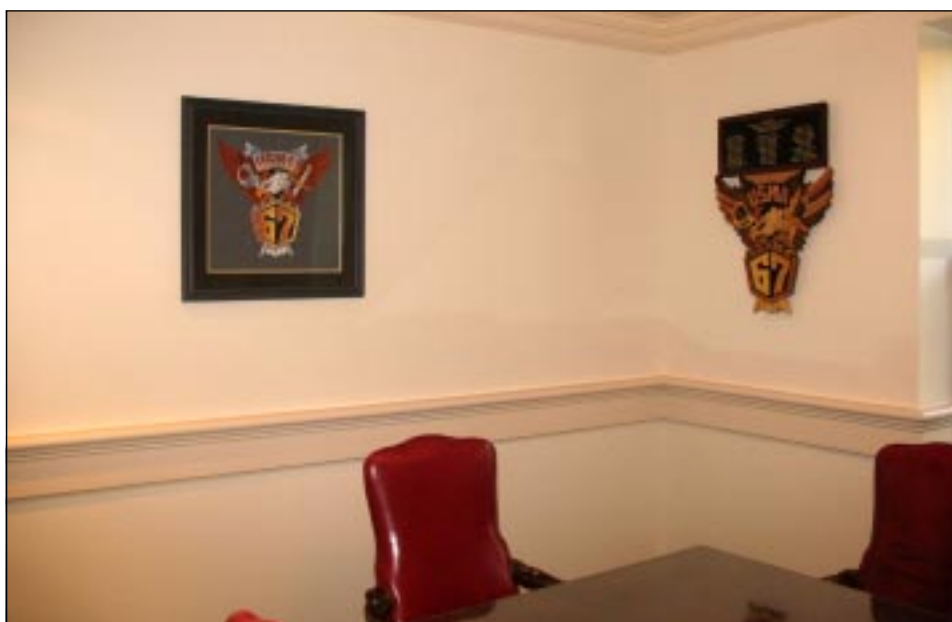
◀ Plaque at the South Conference Room (the '67 Room) in Herbert Hall.

► Rob Herb's class crest intarsia, dedicated to our KIA brothers, in Herbert Hall.

▼ The interior of the South Conference Room, Herbert Hall.

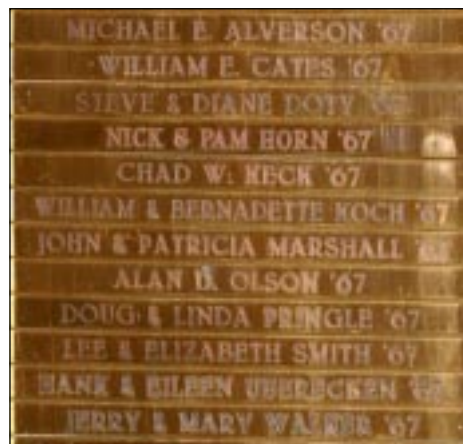
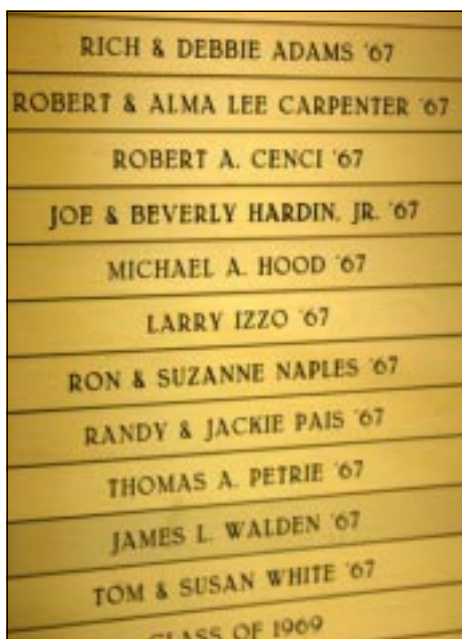


▼ Close-up of classmates' names on plaque honoring \$10K donors to Herbert Hall.

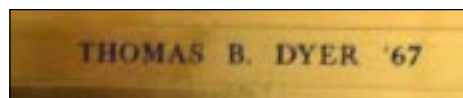


▲ Close-up of classmates' names on plaque honoring \$100K donors to Herbert Hall.

► Close-up of classmates' names on plaque honoring \$25K donors to Herbert Hall.



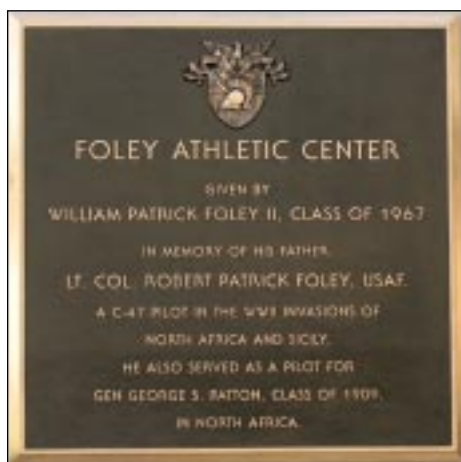
▲ Close-up of classmates' names on plaque honoring \$5K donors to Herbert Hall.



▲ Close-up of our very own on the Distinguished Graduate plaque.

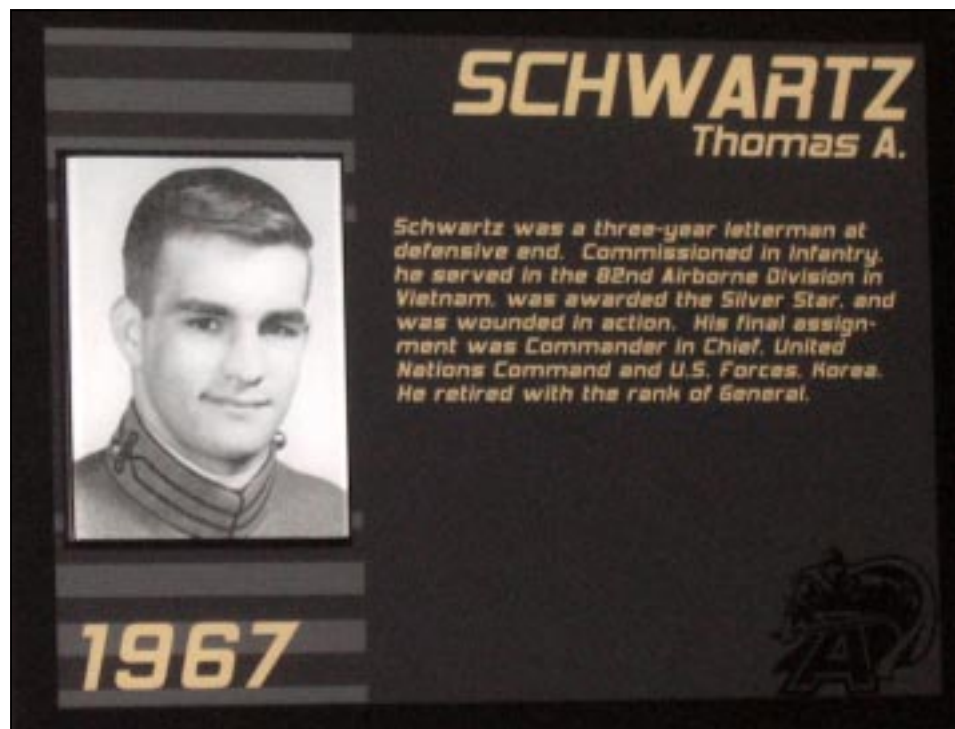
THE CLASS OF 1967 LEAVES ITS MARK *continued*

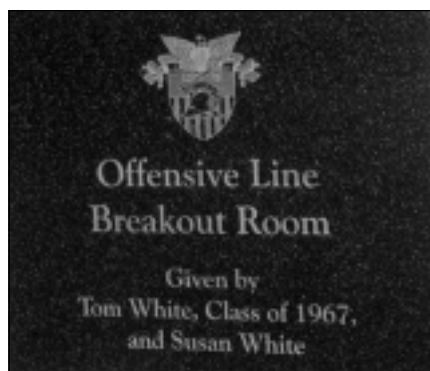
- Tom Schwartz's plaque in the Kimsey Center.



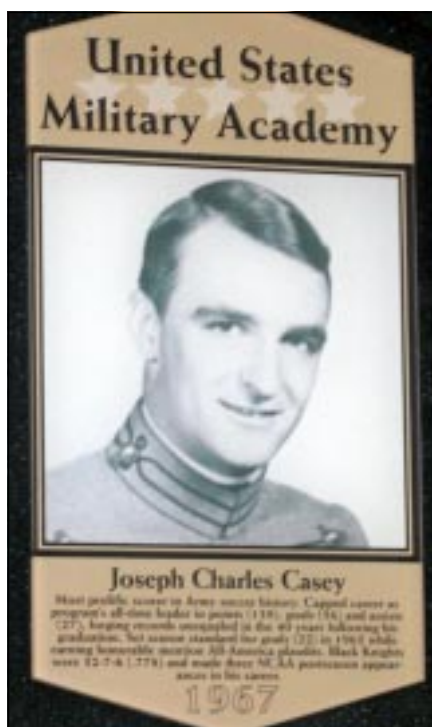
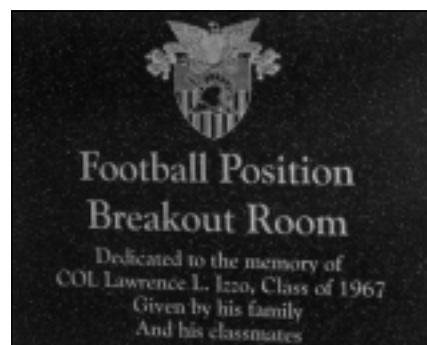
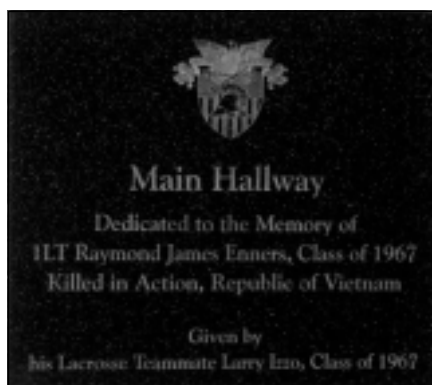
- ▲ Inscription plaque outside the Foley Center.

- ▼ The Foley Athletic Center, West Point.





Class of '67 dedication plaques in the Kimsey Athletic Center.



◀ Dedication plaque for the Gary Carlson Pistol Range in the Indoor Marksmanship Center.

◀ Joe Casey's Army Sports Hall of Fame plaque in the Kimsey Athletic Center.

► *Once again we must temper our fun and games with some serious news, the all too frequent updates on classmates and family members dealing with medical issues. The Class Prayer Team Warriors are working overtime for these good folks; all the rest of us need to do the same. Since the last newsletter, I've been informed of the following news:*

In early February, BUD SHUMATE was admitted to the DeWitt Army Hospital at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He complained of sharp chest pains on the left side, followed by numbness along the left side, and inability to take deep breaths. Initial checks showed some spots on the left lung, and there is no indication of pneumonia. (Bud is not a smoker). No mention of any heart-related issues. After a bunch of tests, it was discovered he had an advanced case of pneumonia and a lung infection. Generally, the pneumonia could be treated on an outpatient basis, but the infection required hospitalization. Ultimately required surgery to drain his lungs. He was discharged from Walter Reed around the 19th of February, but will be recuperating for some time yet. Tough month for Bud; keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Got a short e-mail from JACK WOOD on 11 December saying that he had just returned from the hospital after having hip replacement surgery. All was going well at the time, and I haven't heard anything to the contrary since then. JUDI will take good care of him. Of course, by now Judi is probably getting sick and tired of taking good care of him.

You may remember that shortly after the reunion (7 October), WARREN DEMPSEY had a "major cardiac event," which required emergency coronary artery bypass surgery. I'm happy to report that he's had a great recovery. Got a nice e-mail from him not long ago and all is well, or as well as one can expect after that type of event.

In late December, I learned the disturbing news that JOHN SEVERSON had recently been diagnosed with prostate cancer. Here's what Sevo has to say about his experience:

LESSONS LEARNED ABOUT PROSTATE CANCER

On 4 December 2007, I was diagnosed with prostate cancer. In late February I underwent brachytherapy (seed implants) to treat my cancer. I have learned a lot and would like to pass on some information to classmates.

1. Prostate cancer is a prevalent and deadly disease. It is the second highest cause of cancer death in this country for men after lung cancer.
2. **Get your PSA checked at least once a year and track the level yourself.** You should do this in addition to the normal prostate check done by your doctor. When you get your blood checked, tell your doctor you want to also check your PSA level. You must pay attention to the level of PSA and any increase.



"Well, I guess that explains the abdominal pains."

The PSA test has been a wonderful tool to fight prostate cancer as it leads to early detection. Early detection is the key to fighting this disease. In-depth studies done at Johns Hopkins University show that early detection can result in a cure rate of 99% while extremely late detection can result in cure rates of 25% or less.

3. Often one's PSA increases due to an infection which can be combated with drugs. So an increase in PSA does not mean cancer. If drugs do not reduce the PSA, often a biopsy is performed in which core needle samples are taken from one's prostate. In the past, only 6 or 8 samples were taken. Now 12 are taken. Ensure you get that number from your doctor.
4. There are several successful treatments for prostate cancer. If detected early one has more options than if detected later. Successful treatments include surgery, surgery with a device called a DaVinci

Machine (a robot), external radiation, and radioactive seed implants. My research showed they all work. The problem is the side effects/complications differ by treatment. I chose my form of treatment (radioactive seeds) based on the favorable cure rate, short recovery time, and side effects/complications.

5. Get educated. You must become educated on this since every doctor will tell you it is your choice on what to do. However, remember to a man with a hammer everything is a nail. That is, if you seek the advice of a surgeon he will advise surgery, a seed doctor will advise seeds, etc. I read two books on prostate cancer: *Dr. Patrick Walsh's Guide to Surviving Prostate Cancer* (surgery biased) and *The Prostate Cancer Treatment Book* (seed biased) by Dr. Peter Grimm. I spoke to about 15 men who have had prostate cancer treatment. Regardless of their treatment type, each seemed to have been pleased with his choice of treatment. Prostate cancer is like a snowflake — each is different. Hence, one has to choose the treatment best for him.
6. Seek survivors. As mentioned above, I made known my situation and asked for any input I could get. I just used classmates and the response was outstanding. I got more information from our class than I ever expected. I consulted three doctors in our class — SAVORY, PARR, and HARDY. Each was generous with his time and provided much insight. I also interviewed five other doctors regarding treatment options.
7. Get the Prayer Warriors on your side. We have at least three Warriors praying for classmates each day of the year. I let the Warriors know what was going on and the peace of mind that followed was instrumental in my treatment. Do not pass this up.
8. Get the best doctor. I interviewed one doctor who had performed 50 seed implants. He was a local with an excellent reputation. I opted to fly to Seattle and have a doctor at the Seattle Prostate Cancer Institute perform my procedure. He had performed more than 3,000 implants and his team has trained more than 6,000 other doctors on seed implant procedures. He also authored the book mentioned above (Dr. Grimm).



Plans are shaping up for the wedding of ALTON & CAROLYN DONNELL's son Tyler to Dena Fabre here at West Point. The wedding is planned for 10 May in the Cadet Chapel, so there will be plenty of room for all of you! Make your travel plans now. Tyler, by

the way, returned from his second tour in Iraq with the 1st Cav — a 15-month deployment — on 9 January.

Got a nice photo from MIKE SHELTON of the wedding of his and MARY's daughter Jessica to Luke Wilson last July. As you can

see, a couple of classmates showed up to get free food and drink.

Also married last July was BILL & MILLIE FRECCIA's daughter Stephanie to a gent named Aidan; the wedding was at the Silverado Resort in Napa, California.



▲ The Freccias' daughter Stefanie's wedding.



▲ Tyler Donnell, with dad Alton and sister Ashley, the night Tyler returned from Iraq.

► Mike Shelton's daughter Jessica's wedding.



THE OLD CORPS

► We're going to vary our routine a bit this time, and instead of giving you one of PAUL HASEMAN's delightful "Mule Memories" from our halcyon cadet days, I thought you'd enjoy the current Corps of Cadets' view of our days. This piece was written recently by a cadet; I think it's great — and remarkably accurate! Enjoy.

The Old Corps

1. In the Old Corps, Plebes were hazed all the time, but upperclassmen did whatever they wanted. They didn't have homework in the Old Corps. They just read books and sipped brandy in front of *fire places*. That's right, each room had a fire place. Upperclassmen could sit by a roaring fire with a plebe foot rest, a plebe butler, a plebe fire tender, and other plebe accessories and spend their evenings at leisure after a hard day of classical learning and hazing.

2. Everyone wore Dress Gray all the time in the Old Corps. "But what about for PT?" you ask. They didn't have time for PT in the Old Corps. They were too busy being Old Corps. And looking it. That's why they canted their garrison caps and leaned against everything.

3. All knowledge was totally useless in the Old Corps. There was none of this "Maximum Effective Range of the M16A2" nonsense. It was all about lights in Cullum Hall, gallons in the Lusk Reservoir, the definition of leather, etc. This produced the great leaders who destroyed the Nazis. Obviously, it was better.

4. In the Old Corps, there were no engineering sequences or majors. They all had one major. That way their GPAs corresponded better and they all learned the same classical Old School stuff, none of this "Leadership/Management" or "Environmental Engineering."

5. In the Old Corps, there were elevators that plebes worked (hoisted manually). Plebes scrubbed whole barracks with toothbrushes. Plebes had to shower at attention, eat square meals, and fight each other for the amusement of the upper class. People did Old Corps stuff like spinning Sedgwick's spurs, and there was always a plebe on duty doing the rocket in Central Area. Plebes could get smacked for even breathing wrong. Plebes also braced all the time, even during the 5 minutes of sleep they got every night. Plebes squatted over bayonets and could be fed weird



things. After one year of this, they were molded into the finest leaders ever, ready to haze the new plebes. That's another great thing about the Old Corps: yearlings hazed indiscriminately. In fact, some thought they were the worst.

6. The Army Team was awesome back in the Old Corps. Other teams would just fall over in terror. West Point was more respected, too. If you wanted to be an officer with aspirations beyond captain, you went to West Point. Families would practically whore their daughters out in hopes of getting a West Point son-in-law. There was only one regiment, too. It had companies that went all the way up to "L." All the companies were based on height, even though in the Old Corps everyone was well over six feet tall and built like Hercules.

7. Also, upperclassmen's rooms were never inspected. Plebes made their beds. Uniform drills happened during plebe free periods. Upperclassmen smoked cigars wherever they wanted. If there was a day with no naked man, destruction of property, or plebe killed, then morale was very low. People who did these things to boost morale formed the ranks from which First Captains were chosen. The First Captain was #1 at everything in the Old Corps. He was the smartest, strongest, fastest, and coolest guy. He drank more than anyone and could make plebes shatter their rock-hard Old Corps discipline to collapse into a shivering, crying heap with the power of his mind alone. He was also the captain of the football team. There were no stupid intramurals in the Old Corps because everyone knew the First

Captain could take on whole teams and win, all while smoking a cigar, wearing Full Dress, giving a thoughtful speech on Aristotle, and making corrections on everybody.

8. Beast was super hardcore in the Old Corps. Whole companies of plebes were annihilated by starving, intense physical corrective training, and dehydration. No one drank water in the Old Corps. Dead plebes were thrown in the Hudson and could have all the water they wanted. When plebes screwed up during Beast they were whipped or bitch-slapped. Sometimes the upperclassmen would fight duels. They even fought duels on horseback. All the mess hall workers spoke English and regarded cadets with amazing reverence and averted their eyes in their presence.

9. One topic of debate is whether everyone was a tool in the Old Corps. Enforcing all the Old Corpness was very important, but the answer is "no." Plebes were the only ones who had to obey standards. In the Old Corps, all the upperclassmen acted Old Corps anyway. Besides, breaking rules that were meant to be broken was very Old Corps.

10. There were no calculators, Mathematica, or Excel in the Old Corps. People used personal plebe calculators. They also put tons of plebes out in the area and made them run around to simulate an abacus. Hours were very easy to avoid in the Old Corps. You only got hours if you screwed up and weren't cool. If you were cool, you could think of a clever one-liner to tell any investigating officer and he would laugh heartily at your spirited shenanigans.

DEAD FISH FLICKS

► Okay, sports fans, back by popular demand, page after page of photos of folks showing off their prowess as hunter-gatherers, strutting their stuff and proving they've got what it takes to put a good meal on the table. It doesn't get any better than this. This is dedicated to BOB WYSOCKI.



▲ George & Pam Dials show off a decent brook trout caught during the reunion fishing trip.

► Fred Shremp snags a nice rainbow trout.



▼ Freed the Magnificent with a HUGE brown trout from the Beaverhead River.



“There it goes again . . . that eerie music.”



▲ Jack Wood and his guide with a beautiful rainbow from the Blackfoot River in Montana.



▲ Chad Keck with a Middle Fork cutthroat caught on Great Adventure #1.

► Rich Adams shows off a Montana rainbow from the Great Adventure trip.

▼ Freed with a Connetquot River rainbow.



▲ Mike Cain, with a nice brown trout caught during the reunion fishing trip.

▼ Joe Jackson with an excellent Montana brown trout.



▲ Pam Dials trolls for trout in the Connetquot River of New York.

▼ Freed admires his bubba trout.



▲ Mike Hood and guide with a rainbow from the Madison River. Does anyone really believe Hood caught that thing?





▲ Joe Jackson shows off a New York brook trout.



► Dave Hale shows off a rainbow he poached out of a fish hatchery.



◀ Tom Lanyi with a nice brown caught during the reunion fishing trip.

▼ John Severson and Carl Craft with a nice bag of North Dakota pheasants (I know these aren't fish, but it's a nice photo).



◀ Fred Shremp again, this time with a tiny little brown trout.

▼ Bill Freccia, looking like a fisherman.



▲ Joe Jackson with a nice Beaverhead River rainbow.



Bob Wysocki, doing what he loved — and doing it far better than most.



CLASS OF 1967 ORAL HISTORY PROJECT BALLOT

This is important. Please take a moment to record your vote on this ballot regarding a Class gift to the USMA Oral History Center to support the Class of 1967 Project. Please return the completed ballot to:

Freed Lowrey
WPAOG
698 Mills Road
West Point, NY 10996

Ballots must be received NLT 1 May 2008.

- ☐ YES, I authorize the class officers of the West Point Class of 1967 to transfer \$150,000 from the current Class of 1967 gift account in the AOG/West Point Fund to the USMA Department of History Center for Oral History for the purpose of being used by the Center specifically for the Class of 1967 Oral History project.
- ☐ NO, I do NOT authorize the class officers of the West Point Class of 1967 to transfer \$150,000 from the current Class of 1967 gift account in the AOG/West Point Fund to the USMA Department of History Center for Oral History.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT *(continued from p. 8)*

dinary or pedestrian to be left out. This will be a book about the lives of humans and what West Point meant to them as they passed through time, not a book about West Point with humans in the background.

If you use e-mail, please forward your comments to patrick.jennings@usma.edu. If you wish to use letter mail, please send your correspondence to:

Dr. Patrick R Jennings
Center for Oral History,
Department of History
USMA
West Point NY 10966

If you send me something I will work it into the story. Thank you in advance for your participation. I look forward to your participation and to reading what you send.

Thanks for your support, classmates.
Unsurpassed!

EPILOGUE

Okay, sports fans, that's more than enough for this edition; probably way too many words, and not enough pictures, for ED DEWEY to deal with. I was hoping to get some classified ads but no one provided any input for that. I'm really disappointed none of the wives responded to my challenge in the last issue submit a "Wives Column" or a "Distaff Report," where the better halves of our nature can give us their insight on what it's like from their perspective to be part of the class family. I'd also like to reprise the "Points to Ponder" column — haven't had that for a long time. In the meantime, send me your input — dead fish and animal flicks are always appreciated, as is your poetry, want ads, accomplishments, miserable failures (it's been years since I've given anyone a Welsh Rarebit Award), Ball & Chain News — or anything else you want to see in print. As I always say, this is YOUR newsletter.

Ut ameris, amabilis esto!

— FREED

the CATCH of the day



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WELL DONE, *classmate, friend, brother*

